

**Wentworth Select Board  
Meeting Minutes  
May 4, 2021**

**Those present:** Arnold Scheller, Jordan King, Andrew Lasser, Chief Trott, Chief Ames, Paul Manson, Omer Ahern, Adam Kewley, Dave Clark and Linda Franz.

**Called to Order:** Arnold Scheller, Chairperson, called the meeting to order at 5:03pm.

The following documents were signed: Payroll and vendor checks; Meeting minutes for April 4, 2021; Timber Tax for Sevenko; Land Use Change Tax for Patten; Current Use application for Mack; Three purchase requests for the Highway Department; Raffle form for BRVSC; McKibben Environmental agreement; Loan release for Wright; and employee review and wage change.

The Select Board acknowledged Municipal Clerks Week and thanked Deborah Ziemba, Sarah Vittum and Darlene Oaks for their excellent service.

**J.King made a motion to accept the meeting minutes from April 6, 2021 as written. Seconded by A.Lasser. All three voted in the affirmative, and the motion carried.**

**A.Lasser made a motion to increase the hourly wage of a Highway Department employee from \$19.50 to \$21.00 effective on the employee's one year anniversary. Seconded by J.King. All three voted in the affirmative, and the motion carried.**

The need for excavator service was discussed. A.Lasser suggested renting from Scheller Farm. He will check with the N.H. Municipal Association to see if this is allowed.

A.Scheller reported that the Planning Board has finished the questionnaire for the Master Plan. It will soon be mailed out to all residents to complete.

In conjunction with the Town's state mandated five-year revaluation, Current Use and Veterans Tax Credit updates have been mailed to residents. These updates will become a part of each property file and will help us to have more complete information in the files.

The Farmers Market will be held again on Saturdays from July 10<sup>th</sup> to October 9<sup>th</sup>.

Highway Department will cut down trees/brush that are blocking the view at Riverside Park.

The treasurer of the Foster Cemetery has resigned and the old cemetery records will be stored in the Town Hall.

There will be a Memorial Day celebration at the Veterans Memorial. The committee is working on getting bricks installed and having a bag piper play.

Chief Trott presented his written report for the Wentworth Police Department, and it is a part of these minutes.

Chief Ames presented his written report for the Wentworth Police Department, and it is a part of these minutes.

P.Manson presented his report for the Highway Department, and it is a part of these minutes. He also discussed the requirements of the N.H. Department of Environmental Services to document GPS locations of the Town's culverts. It was suggested that perhaps a high school or college student may want to be involved with this project to earn credit. He would like to order a hand-held GPS.

Regarding the gravel pit, J.King reported that the HEB Engineers contract for \$5,000 for deed research is ready for signature. The concern about the paragraph that addresses liability is moot as this contract is for deed research. If a full survey is warranted, then the Town will enter into another contract and address the liability issue then. Before the agreement is signed, the Select Board is planning to walk the gravel pit site for their own evaluation.

J.King addressed the issue of FEMA funds obligation for the Frescoln and Cross Road bridges. The sketches provided by HEB Engineers are not adequate for FEMA. This was not previously communicated to HEB and will require another agreement to draw up new sketches.

An anonymous complaint about noise at the race track was read aloud. No action to be taken.

Omer Ahern gave an update of the Grafton County Commissioners' Office. The County Nursing Home and the Correctional Facility are looking for staff. There will be a .56% increase in County tax this year. For more County information, go to "Just Omer" on ~~Face-Book~~ *YouTube*.

The Select Board would like to look into getting department heads a credit card for purchases that cannot be invoiced to the town. L.Franz will discuss with the Town Treasurer, D.Vlk.

**At 6:31pm, A.Scheller made a motion to enter into a non-public session pursuant to RSA 91-A:3, II(c) Matters which, if discussed in public, would likely affect adversely the reputation of any person, other than a member of this board, unless such person requests an open meeting. This exemption shall extend to include any application for assistance or tax abatement or waiver of a fee, fine or other levy, if based on inability to pay or poverty of the applicant. Seconded by J.King. By roll call vote, A.Scheller voted yes, J.King voted yes, A.Lasser voted yes. All three voted in the affirmative, and the motion carried.**

Re-entered the public meeting at 6:50pm

The just concluded non-public session was in regard to a Land Use Change Tax dispute. The tax determination process was explained to the resident, and it was agreed that the tax was billed correctly, and that the tax is due. The Select Board agreed to waive the accumulated interest, and resident will pay the tax in two installments.

**J.King made a motion to waive the interest on a Land Use Change Tax invoice that was discussed in the just concluded non-public session. Seconded by A.Lasser. All three voted in the affirmative, and the motion carried.**

At 6:54pm, A.Scheller made a motion to enter into a non-public session pursuant to RSA 91-A:3, II(c) *Matters which, if discussed in public, would likely affect adversely the reputation of any person, other than a member of this board, unless such person requests an open meeting. This exemption shall extend to include any application for assistance or tax abatement or waiver of a fee, fine or other levy, if based on inability to pay or poverty of the applicant.* Seconded by J.King. By roll call vote, A.Scheller voted yes, J.King voted yes, A.Lasser voted yes. All three voted in the affirmative, and the motion carried.

Re-entered the public meeting at 7:03pm


The just concluded non-public session was in regard to a resident's complaint about obstructions on Wentworth Village Road. Chief Trott will speak with the resident.

**A.Lasser made a motion to have Chief Trott use his best discretion in resolving the complaint from a resident regarding Wentworth Village Road. Seconded by A.Scheller. All three voted in the affirmative, and the motion carried.**

**J.King made a motion to seal the minutes of both of the just concluded non-public sessions. Seconded by A.Lasser. All three voted in the affirmative, and the motion carried.**

**A.Scheller made a motion to adjourn. Seconded by J.King. All three voted in the affirmative and the meeting was adjourned at 7:05pm.**

Respectfully submitted by: Linda Franz, Administrative Assistant

  
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Arnold Scheller, Chairman

  
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Andrew Lasser

  
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Jordan King

**WPD Activity Report**  
**Presented 05/04/2021**

**Please note that the following is a summary of notable activity conducted by the Wentworth Police Department, (WPD), but does not reflect “all” of WPD’s activity during this time frame.**

The last few weeks have been exceptionally busy.

Chief Trott took part in another safety meeting with the Wentworth Elementary School (WES) regarding their Emergency Management Plan. This has been a plan that the WES, the SAU-48, The WPD and the WFD have been working on for over 9 months now. Chief Trott also participated in two drills at the WES a walk-away drill and a fire drill both were executed very well.

Chief Trott has also coordinated with the WES and the 8<sup>th</sup> grade students regarding an effort to make people and traffic more aware of the WES school zone. Chief Trott delivered the WPD radar trailer to the WES and the 8<sup>th</sup> grade students are responsible for putting out the radar trailer and setting it up in the morning and brining it back in just prior to the end of the school day. The direction of the radar trailer will alternate from day to day, facing East one day and then West the next day. This is a joint effort to also make vehicular traffic aware of their speed in that area.

The WPD administrative assistant has been very busy with the processing of resident pistol permits as well as the assignment of new 911 addresses. Having said that Chief Trott wants to remind Wentworth residents how important it is that their property have a 911 number clearly visible to first responders in case they need to respond to their residence, business, or property.

Chief Trott was called out and responded after hours for a vehicle verses deer accident that had occurred earlier in the morning. The deer was severely injured but still alive, due to the severe injuries Chief Trott had to dispatch the animal. It was done so safely and quickly so the animal would not continue to suffer.

Chief Trott responded to Wentworth after hours on a weekend to take of a civil standby and assist with the return of some personal property. The civil standby was completed without incident and all parties went their separate ways.

Chief Trott assisted the Yale University Police Department with some information they needed from our agency in order to comply with a disclosure policy they have regarding criminal statistics related to their student body and or staff and faculty.

The WPD has conducted several VIN verifications for Wentworth residents over the last few weeks a service that the WPD provides for vehicles, trailers, boats and other vehicles requiring to be registered.

Chief Trott has completed another OHRV grant on behalf of the town of Wentworth and the WPD and Chief Trott will make the town and select board aware of the outcome when he has been notified. We are hopeful to receive another grant, but it is never a guarantee. Having said that WPD has had a couple of OHRV complaints in town. Please remember that no town roads in Wentworth are open to the operation of OHRV's.

Chief Trott has been working on what was first reported to be a burglary, then a reported theft of numerous items. After numerous interviews and follow ups this has been determined to be a civil matter. Numerous items that were first reported to have been stolen were recovered by Chief Trott and returned to their rightful owner. The remainder of the issues regarding property and ownership will be handled through the New Hampshire probate court.

The WPD has assisted the Warren/Wentworth Ambulance with several calls for service within the town of Wentworth and will continue to do as needed.

We assisted a neighboring agency with information pertaining to a reported stolen firearm from their jurisdiction. They were able to continue with their investigation and have been able to make contact with the involved parties. Please note that no one from Wentworth was directly involved and the stolen firearm is not known to be in our jurisdiction.

Chief Trott arrested a Wentworth resident on an arrest warrant from an outside agency at their request. The arrest was made without incident and the resident released on personal recognizance bail and ordered to appear before the Plymouth Circuit Court at a later date and time.

Chief Trott has received the schedule for the 2021 racing season for the Rumtown Speedway Racetrack. This is just a reminder that the hours of operation for the 2021 season will change from 4:00 PM to 8:00 PM to 2:00 PM to 6:00 PM.

Chief Trott was contacted by the Director of Camp Pemigewassetts requesting some assistance with traffic control on Saturday June 26<sup>th</sup> 2021 between 9:00 AM and 4:00 PM. Camp Pemigewassetts will not be shuttling in campers this year as a COVID-19 precautionary measure. Instead they will be requiring that parents, and or family members, provide transportation for the campers to Camp Pemigewassetts. They will be dropped off at a designated area minimizing any close contact with the other campers and they will then put into place COVID-19 safety measures that they have implemented. They have requested our assistance due to the expected increase in motor vehicle traffic on that day and we will be assisting them to ensure everyone's safety.

Chief W. Trott



Wentworth Fire activity

Calls for service

Mutual aid to Orford

Assisted the ambulance on two calls

Mutual aid to Warren outside fire

Training, We are in the middle of hose and nozzle training with the new recruits and have been training in forest fire with new and old combination.

Air pack training went very well, our members gained a wealth of information as well as strong hands on operations.

Other

We have finalized our schedule for race track coverage and ready for that season to begin

Working on getting our fire fighters lined up to help with our booth for the Warren old home days.

Discussing The plant sale and the coverage we will need at that

Keep an eye on facebook for upcoming dates for those functions!!!

Don't forget fire permits are required for any outside burning, The towns web site has a listing of people you can obtain permits from and we often post it on the fire department facebook page

The chief had a house inspection for a couple that are in the planning stages to adopt

# Road Agent report

May 4 , 2021

Spring has sprung since my last report on April 6<sup>th</sup>. We certainly have been very busy and that will continue thru the summer. We have graded most of our roads , with only 3 left for the first round of grading , we should finish up this week.

We have done some drainage work , cleaning and flushing culverts as well , we have finished cleaning and washing all bridges in town. On April 13<sup>th</sup> we hired cole Williams to join our highway department team! He has four years of experience working for the Lyme N.H Highway department , Cole is only 28 and may make a great long term employee for wentworth . We have a very aggressive and busy schedule for the summer and fall , we hope to be starting a project on ellsworth hill soon that will give greater visibility and lessen the corner past the power lines. We will also be revamping the wooden bridge on saunders hill rd and we could possibly start that next week , That project includes stripping down the bridge to the I beams , with all new wood substructure , new 6x6 decking and new bridge runners , Im looking forward to the challenge. Back to a full crew and we are headed onward and upward !

Paul Manson

Road Agent