

Wentworth Select Board

Meeting minutes

January 11, 2022

Those present: Arnold Scheller (via Zoom), Andrew Lasser, Jordan King, Chief Trott, Chief Ames, Paul Manson (via Zoom), Omer Ahern, Mike Leviss, Rick Ducheneau, Chris Fournier (via Zoom), Jeff McIver (via Zoom) and Linda Franz

Called to Order: Arnold Scheller called the meeting to order at 5:00PM.

The following documents were signed: payroll and vendor checks; meeting minutes for December 28, 2021, McGibben agreement; Bridge Expendable Trust check request.

Chief Trott presented his written report for WPD activity, and it is a part of these minutes.

Chief Ames presented his written report for WFD activity, and it is a part of these minutes.

Paul Manson presented his written report for Highway Department activity, and it is a part of these minutes. He also reported that a school bus slid on Atwell Hill Road today, and the driver reported to various authorities. It turned out to be a false alarm. A.Scheller recommends that the bus company improve their chain of communication with Highway Department and Chief Trott for emergencies. He also suggests that a memo of understanding be sent to the SAU stating that they may use the town's radio channel for emergencies only. Paul also formally thanked Brian DuBois and Chief Trott for filling in with snow plowing during a recent storm.

Jordan King did not have anything new to report on the gravel pit. There are four interested parties who requested maps but have not yet responded.

Chris Fournier from HEB Engineers joined the meeting and went over his findings on the North Dorchester Road bridge. The bridge deck is in very poor condition and has been posted for a 5-ton limit. Even with that limit, he feels that the deck will only last another two years. If limit is not enforced, the bridge will deteriorate at an even faster rate. P.Manson reported that there have been some violations with the 5-ton limit. It is not feasible to post an officer to enforce, and some alternatives were discussed. The three proposed repairs were discussed, and the one most favored is a glued-laminated timber deck with an estimated cost of \$400,000 to \$500,000. L.Franz will speak with the bond lawyer to see if this is possible to include on a 2022 warrant article. As there are many details and deadlines in the bond process, Chief Ames suggested that it be put off until next year. The Road Agent can monitor the condition of the bridge and close it if necessary. We may be able to get started on engineering/permitting in 2022 by using the Bridge Expendable Trust Fund.

Chris Fournier also discussed the status of FEMA RFIs regarding the Frescoln and Cross Road bridges. He reviewed, revised and added to the responses that were prepared by the town. He

will forward the responses to the office for S.B. review, and L.Franz will send to HSEM. The other FEMA project RFI for emergency repair is still awaiting a letter from DES regarding permitting. DES has been given the information they need to get that letter to us. If need be, we will have to request another 30-day extension.

Jeff McIver from Consolidated Communications joined the meeting to discuss broadband infrastructure. Two public hearings were tentatively scheduled and will be posted with times and location. He and his associate, Mary Ellen, suggest that we continue with the bond process. If passed at town meeting, hold off on applying for the bond as there may be some grants and state funds available. Wentworth is a good candidate for these as it is 100% unserved. Consolidated will work with the town on applying for funding. Mary Ellen will help with wording for a warrant article.

A.Lasser made a motion to accept the RFP refresh results that Jeff McIver provided to us and will continue with Consolidated Communications as the selected vendor for the infrastructure buildout. Seconded by A.Scheller. All three voted in the affirmative, and the motion carried.

Steve Davis, Wentworth Cemetery Association joined the meeting to discuss the Town taking over the finances of the Foster Cemetery. The Cemetery Trustees have not been able to find anyone to handle the Foster Cemetery account since the retirement of their treasurer. He proposes to set up an Expendable Trust Account to be in the custody of the Trustees of the Trust Funds and to turn the administrative function over to the town's Administrative Assistant. He stated that the responsibilities would basically entail writing a few checks and should take about 4-5 hours each quarter. The town would also provide liability insurance. The town would set up an expense and budget account, and would be fully reimbursed for the administrative function and insurance expense. The Cemetery Trustees would handle hiring of a sextant, sales and burials. He has prepared two petitioned warrant articles that can be found at the Town Clerks window.

Mike Levis, Library Trustee announced that the library has new hours: Monday 1-6; Tuesday 4-7; Wednesday 10am story time then 11-1 and 2-4; Saturday 9-12.

Chief Trott announced that he just contacted the school bus company and instructed them to re-route around the North Dorchester bridge that has a 5-ton weight limit. They will comply immediately.

At 7:30 PM, 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 7:40 PM.

A.Scheller made a motion to seal the minutes of the just concluded non-public session. Seconded by K.King. All three voted in the affirmative, and the motion carried.

At 7:41 PM, 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 7:53 PM.

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

Andrew Lasser resigned from his position as Select Board Member effective immediately. He stated that he had too many commitments with work and WFD, but wants to remain active in the town. He will continue to head up the broadband committee. The Board expressed their thanks and understanding and wishes him well.

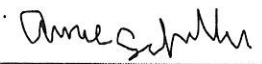
A.Scheller made a motion to accept A.Lasser's resignation from the Select Board. Seconded by J.King. Both voted yes, and the motion carried.

Pursuant to discussions with the Town Moderator, the Select Board has decided to nominate and appoint Richard Duchaneau as Select Board Member until the town meeting in March. The position will be on the ballot for the March elections.

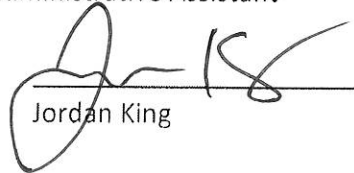
A.Scheller made a motion to appoint Richard Duchaneau as Select Board Member until the town meeting in March. Seconded by J.King. Both voted in the affirmative, and the motion carried.

J.King made a motion to adjourn. Seconded by A.Scheller. Both voted in the affirmative, and the meeting was adjourned at 7:56 PM.

Respectfully submitted by: Linda Franz, Administrative Assistant



Arnold Scheller, Chairman



Jordan King

**WPD Activity Report
Presented 1/11/2022**

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.

Chief Trott took a theft report from a local business. The theft took place sometime between the end of the year and the beginning of the new year. There were several tools taken to include some battery operated tools. The estimated value of the tools was between \$2,500.00 and \$3,000.00. The theft remains under investigation.

Chief Trott assisted a motorist on Cape Moonshine Road that was having trouble driving a camper style van down Cape Moonshine Road. Some chains were put on the van and Chief Trott escorted the van safely down to Rte # 25-A where it was able to continue on.

Chief Trott looked into a report of a suspicious vehicle in the area of Rte#25 and Hooper Hill Road. Chief Trott was able to determine that it was a local property owner who was unable to make it up Hooper Hill from Rte #25.

Chief Trott stopped to assist another motorists who was stopped on Rte#25 and looked to be broken down. The occupant was feeling ill and had stopped to get some fresh air. Chief Trot made sure that the motorist did not require any additional services and then the motorist continued on.

Chief Trott conducted a welfare check on a Wentworth resident on Rte#25A. The resident was found to be ok and Chief Trott cleared.

Chief Trott took part in and successfully completed two on-line training sessions which was added to his yearly training requirements needed to maintain his law enforcement certification and he has maintained that requirement.



wentworth Fire

Calls for service

Wires down rt 25a

Fire alarm activation 43 Buffalo Rd operator error testing the system

MVA mutual aid to Warren

Alarm activation Kiong Pine industries broken pipe/sprinkler

Assist ambulance with a lift and carry out

Meetings

Our regular Wed meetings /trainings other corespondance, discussions with a couple of Local department pertaing to Ambulance response.

Trainings

consisted of hose lays in the trucks, practiced various hose applications and proper deployment of the modified minuteman hose lay, practiced deployment into a building with out entanglement.

Cpr,BLS, and AED training in process with two of the members more soon to follow as some need to recert.

We have 3 members prepairing to do the state certified EMR course this will be a 6 week course consisting of some on line studies and 5 practicals will be done at the NH fire academy on Saturdays

tips, Check your detectors, clean chimneys and heating systems, follow direction on space heaters Dress acordngly for the bitter cold check on your neighbors be safe

ROAD AGENT REPORT

1/11/2022

over the last couple weeks we have had some challenges , between equipment break downs , ice storms and me being out with covid.

The freightliner has been repaired and is running great after a new Hydraulic pump and a new PTO totaling about \$6500 + kevin knapps bill which I have not received yet. This breakdown has cost my 2022 for the freightliner about \$1300.00 more than I had budgeted.

The recent ice events we have had this year has put a hit on our sand supply , the last two years we have used about 1200 yards total each year and at this point my estimation is we have used about 1100 yards and we are only in the second week of January , Im on pace to use about 2200 yards. I try and keep a stock pile of 2500 yards for this reason. Again im going to have to adjust my sand budget for 2022.

Last but not least we have had zack for about 3 weeks , he is learning and I know its going to be a work in progress for quite some time. I am teaching and as we go. I think he will be ok ! I am back to work and feeling ok , still some cold symptoms but nothing major. Alan and crew held down the fort. Big thank you to chief trott and brian Dubois for helping out plowing and sanding while I was out.

Paul Manson