

**Select Board Meeting Minutes
Town of Wentworth
September 6, 2022**

Those present: Arnold Scheller, Sonia Scheller, Richard Ducheneau, Chief Trott, Brian Dubois, Paul Manson, Duane Brown, and Erin Ganzel

A. Scheller called the meeting to order at 5:00pm.

A. Scheller discussed the outside maintenance around the old Town Hall. Brush clearing has been completed, with the window replacement being next to complete.

P. Manson discussed burning the brush pile at the Transfer Station as soon as possible.

A. Scheller makes a motion to burn off the wood pile at the Transfer Station. Seconded by S. Scheller. All three voted in the affirmative, and the motion carried.

A. Scheller is presenting a plaque to the Wentworth Fire Department recognizing their exceptional efforts during the fire at Kennebec Lumber.

R. Ducheneau reported that the state would decide who was to get the broadband grant on September 23rd.

S. Scheller reported that the Planning Board is still in need of people to join so that they can have a quorum to make decisions.

D. Brown reported that the Planning Board is short 2 members. D. Brown requested the Select Board's assistance in obtaining additional members.

D. Brown reported that there is a Planning Board meeting on September 12 at 6:30pm to discuss matters involving Lookaway Lane.

Chief Trott shared his report, which is attached to these minutes.

Chief Trott requested the Select Board allow for a lower bid on the old police cruiser. The Select Board approved.

R. Ducheneau made a motion to lower the minimum bid on the old police cruiser to \$1500.00 and seal the bid for one month. Seconded by S. Scheller. All three voted in the affirmative, and the motion carried.

P. Manson reported that paving on Turner Rd is complete and grass is beginning to grow in the swales. P. Manson reported that the Highway Department is repairing and/or rebuilding several headers that are collapsing due to lack of maintenance. P. Manson reported that culverts on Cape Moonshine Rd and Atwell Hill Rd will need to be repaired before winter weather.

P. Manson discussed the employment opening for the Highway Department. Due to lack of interest, P. Manson requested the Select Board consider hiring a subcontractor.

The Select Board discussed the Wentworth Elementary School budget, which includes the cost of maintenance. R. Ducheneau suggested that WES has their maintenance crew be responsible for snow removal during the winter.

A. Scheller made a motion that due to lack of manpower in the Town of Wentworth's Highway Department, Wentworth Elementary School must be responsible for winter snow removal (and associated costs) for their parking lot. Seconded by S. Scheller. All three voted in the affirmative, and the motion carried.

P. Manson requested new truck tires for the winter. P. Manson will wait to order the tires at least two weeks.

The Select Board discussed removal of the downed trees behind the library. Chief Trott reports that the library has the deeded right away, thus the town should be able to remove the trees. S. Scheller reported that Nancy Masterson of the Town Library must submit a bid to remove the trees before the matter can move further.

A. Scheller made a motion at 6:01pm 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 S. Scheller. All three voted in the affirmative and the motion carried.

A. Scheller made a motion to exit the non-public session at 6:19pm. Seconded by S. Scheller. All three voted in the affirmative, and the motion carried.


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

A. Scheller made a motion to adjourn the meeting at 6:21pm. R. Ducheneau seconded. All three voted in the affirmative, and the motion carried.

Respectfully submitted by: Erin D. Ganzel, Administrative Assistant


Arnold Scheller, Chairman


Sonia Scheller


Richard Ducheneau

WPD Activity Report
Presented 09/06/2022

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 report of a camper that looked to have abandoned on state property across from the damn on Buffalo Road. After some investigating Chief Trott was able to determine that the camper belonged to a Plymouth resident who had been ordered to remove the camper from a property in Plymouth. Chief Trott was able to make contact with the owner who was given a deadline to have the camper moved somewhere else or possibly face charges for abandoning a vehicle and be responsible for all associated tow charges and or storage fees. The camper was moved within the specified time frame and is no longer in Wentworth. This call was a classic example of the community model we have been promoting within the state titled, “It takes a community to protect a community” and our motto, “if you see something say something”. In this case a Wentworth resident saw something and contacted Chief Trott and this matter was resolved within 48 hours.

Ironically Chief Trott took another call from a Wentworth resident stating that someone had left a vehicle parked on their front lawn and they had no idea who it was or who the vehicle belonged to. Chief Trott responded to that call and after running the vehicle he was able to make contact with the vehicles owner who made arrangements to come and get her vehicle. The vehicle had allegedly been parked there earlier and the person who had the vehicle at the time could not remember where they had left it.

Chief Trott was called by two Wentworth residents who were having issues with each other regarding boundary disputes and other civil related matters. Chief Trott spoke with them and directed them to the civil court for direction if they were unable to resolve their differences amicably.

Chief Trott

Chief Trott received a call from a relative of a Wentworth resident who has been unable to make contact with their family member and they were concerned and asked if a welfare check could be completed. Chief Trott drove to the residence and was able to make contact with the Wentworth resident and found that their phone line had been damaged the night prior. Chief Trott returned to the police department and the calling party was contacted and notified that their family members were ok and that there was an issue with the phone lines.

On some administrative matters Chief Trott attended the yearly meeting with the Mount Moosilauke ATV Club. The meeting was very structured and informative. They voted in positions in the club and gave detailed reports ranging from trail updated and or repairs and a very detailed treasures report. They also discussed hopeful future ventures and the continued working relationships that they have not just with private property owners but with the state as well.

Having said that Chief Trott has been busy working the OHRV trails over the last few weeks, especially over the long Labor Day weekend, conducting patrols that have been paid for by the state of New Hampshire Department of Fish and Game via grant that Chief Trott wrote last year and received this spring.

Chief Trott covered a motor vehicle accident on Mount Moosilauke Highway last week where a delivery van left the roadway and crashed into some guardrails causing some extensive damage to the guardrails and the delivery van. Fortunately, there were no reported injuries and the scene was controlled and managed by Chief Jeff Ames and the Wentworth Fire Department while Chief Trott investigated the accident.

Chief Trott took a theft report where four catalytic converters had been cut from 4 parked vehicles at a local business in Wentworth. This is the first time that Wentworth has had one of these thefts although they are very well known in other communities. This matter remains under investigation.

Selectmen updated regarding no bids being received on the sale of the old cruiser. Chief Trott suggest that given the work that needs to be done they may want to consider lowering the minimum bid.

Chief Trott

Road Agent Report

9/6/2022

Its already September ! We lost one of our highway department employees in late July . we have no candidates for the job opening , no phone calls , no emails , no applications ! Dylan and I are plugging along and getting as much done as possible. We have completed the swail on turner road and we have grass growing to help with any erosion.

The last couple of weeks we have fixed , built and repaired culvert headers on buffalo road , north Dorchester road and roen town road. We still have one more to do on N Dorchester rd.

We have been cleaning out culverts and digging out run offs on various roads. Our focus for the next few weeks will be ditching some bad areas and doing some fall grading . we have a few roads that need attention , cape moonshine rd , parts of atwell hill rd and ellsworth hill rd. my plan to ditch roads before the rain season has been pushed off and I need to prioritize what we do for work from now until mid October when we get the winter equipment out and ready.

Paul Manson