

Select Board Meeting Minutes
Town of Wentworth
January 10, 2023

Those present: Arnold Scheller (via Zoom), Rick Ducheneau, Brian DuBois, Chief Ames, Chief Trott, Jennifer Carroll, Jordan King, Steve Davis, Keith Buskey, Chris Fournier (via Zoom), and Erin Ganzel

R. Ducheneau called the meeting to order at 5pm.

R. Ducheneau reported the damages he saw on Hamilton Field. It appears a vehicle drove onto the field. Rick reported he closed the gate but did not lock it. If it is to be locked, a key must be given to the Fire Department and Police Department.

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

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

C. Fournier reported the North Dorchester Rd is officially out to bid. Bids have been received from Winterset Inc, RM Piper, Daniels Construction, and Scott Construction. Chris reports that bearing pads have a 4–6-month lead time for delivery, which is concerning to some contractors given the requested project completion date. Chris requests an addendum be put into the agreement to allow for two bids: a base bid including rehab of the bearing pads as they are, and an alternative bid including complete replacement of the bearing pads, which will take into consideration the lengthy lead time on the parts.

C. Fournier reports that bearing pads are traditionally replaced in a project like this. Without replacing the bearing pads, the deck may not make it to the estimated 50-year lifetime expectancy.

P. Manson reports that should the bearings only be rehabilitated, it can be assumed that they will need to be replaced within the next 20 years. This would entail another project which would require the bridge being entirely jacked up, etc.

C. Fournier reports he will make an addendum to the contract to receive bids both ways.

P. Manson requests an Ad be put out through NHMA to hire for the 3rd open position at the Highway Department.

R. Ducheneau made a motion to put an Ad out to hire for the 3rd position currently open at the Highway Department. Seconded by B. DuBois. All three voted in the affirmative, and the motion carried.

A. Scheller reported that he viewed the damages on Hooper Hill. He discussed with Steve Goodin that the waterbars originally put in should have held, however it appears they were not built back up after grading to sufficiently to prevent the culverts from failing with the heavy rains. He stated that in the case of residents/landowners making alterations, all Class 6 roads must be returned to the specifications made by the Road Agent.

A. Scheller reports that the snowmobile club did not contact the Select Board regarding grating the road.

P. Manson reported he was in contact with Andrew Carroll about a Driveway Permit in the past. He was also in contact with Steven Davis. He reported their conversation involved discussions of excavator work being done for the Baker River Snowmobile club, which included putting in a culvert and removing waterbars. Paul stated that he believes he stated the culvert being put in around September or October 2021 would not be big enough for the area.

- S. Davis reports he did meet with the Road Agent to discuss what needed to be done for the snowmobile club and that they did follow all the required guidelines put forth. Steven states that the waterbars being removed had nothing to do with the club.
- J. King reports that the waterbars were not down to get the dump trucks in to put stone in for the culvert, however a few of the larger ones were knocked down significantly as part of the clubs work to get trucks up. He reports that in April of 2022 he noticed the waterbars were knocked down and contact Steven Davis.
- J. Carroll states that Andrew Carroll took the crest of the waterbars off for trucks to get through, but did not remove the entire things.
- A. Scheller reports that whomever took the waterbars down or altered them is responsible for the damages done.
- J. Carroll states that Mother Nature is responsible for the damage, with so much rain and snow on the ground.
- A. Scheller reports that the waterbars there would have been sufficient to keep the water off the road.
- J. Carroll states that the bigger issue is when logging happened several years ago. The initial drainage and overflow ditch from the stream was filled with slash due to the logging operation.
- S. Davis reported that the culverts filled with silt.
- A. Scheller reports that the culvert failed either because of insufficient size and not being put in deep enough because of the ledge, which is why waterbars are so important.
- R. Ducheneau reports that the waterbars should have been put back to the way they were.
- J. Carroll states that the waterbars weren't removed and they aren't near the culvert in discussion.
- A. Scheller states that a waterbar should have been put directly next to the culvert.
- S. Davis stated that it was a cost shared project between the club and the Carrolls.
- J. King inquired if anyone had gotten a Wetlands Permit for this work due to the major brook nearby.
- S. Davis stated he did what was required by the Town.
- J. Carroll states the 18-inch culvert was a temporary fix.
- R. Ducheneau made a motion at 5:07pm 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 R. Ducheneau. All three voted in the affirmative and the motion carried.**
- R. Duchenedau made a motion to exit the non-public at 5:09pm. Seconded by R. Ducheneau. All three voted in the affirmative, and the motion carried.**
- R. Ducheneau made a motion to seal the minutes of the just concluded non-public session. Seconded by R. Ducheneau. All three voted in the affirmative, and the motion carried.**
- R. Ducheneau inquired who paid for the gravel and work done.
- S. Davis stated that the culvert and grading was done by the club, however the waterbars being referenced have nothing to do with the club.

- J. Carroll states it was a cost-share with the landowner and snowmobile club for the culvert.
- J. Carroll states she spoke with Ron Boucher, her neighbor, that in the spring he agrees to allow the Carrolls to make adjustments and repairs to the culvert.
- J. Carroll reported her attorney suggested signage be put up that there is a washout ahead.
- J. King estimates about 10 people have the right to use the road.
- J. Carroll reports that there is an alternative route for landowners that may be effected by the road closure.
- J. Carroll reports that the culvert put in failed because the other nearby culvert was clogged, and the nearby drainage ditch was filled.
- J. King suggests the culvert be pulled out to help prevent damming the road and sending water down.
- Chief Ames suggests the Select Board work with the Road Agent, who will work with the landowners to find a resolution because the Road Agent ultimately will make the call on what needs to be done.
- R. Ducheneau made a motion at 6:17pm 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 R. Ducheneau. All three voted in the affirmative and the motion carried.**
- R. Duchenedau made a motion to exit the non-public at 6:26pm. Seconded by R. Ducheneau. All three voted in the affirmative, and the motion carried.**
- R. Ducheneau made a motion to seal the minutes of the just concluded non-public session. Seconded by R. Ducheneau. All three voted in the affirmative, and the motion carried.**
- R. Ducheneau states the non-public was called to discuss Hooper Hill.
- B. DuBois makes a motion to close Hooper Hill for all use, and a sign be put up stating the road closure. Seconded by R. Ducheneau. All three voted in the affirmative, and the motion carried.**
- K. Buskit states closing the road completely will close off a state trail, Corridor 8, from the snowmobile trails.
- J. King describes where the bypass trail is for the snowmobile club, which could still be accessible if the entire road was not closed.
- B. DuBois made a motion to rescind the previously voted on motion. Seconded by R. Ducheneau. All three voted in the affirmative, and the motion carried.**
- B. DuBois made a motion to close the washed out part of Hooper Hill from end to end of the washout to all traffic. Seconded by A. Scheller. All three voted in the affirmative, and the motion carried.**
- E. Ganzel reported on the check for the cruiser, and will deposit it.
- E. Ganzel discussed putting an ad out for hiring at the Transfer Station and forming a contingency plan in case of emergency closure.
- R. Ducheneau stated that if the compactor were to break down, CM Witcher would allow them put the trash into the dumpster so that the dump will not be shut down again due to the compactor.

Chief Trott reported that the business who won the cruiser bid was legitimate. Ringwood Motors does to business with public bids and used cars.

O. Ahern reported on the Grafton County Commisioners meeting, which included leftover ARPA funds that may become available to the county.

R. Ducheneau made a motion to end adjourn the meeting at 6:54pm. Seconded by B. DuBois. All three voted in the affirmative, and the motion carried.

Respectfully submitted by: Erin D. Ganzel, Town Administrative Assistant

Arnold Scheller, Chairman

B. DuBois
Brian DuBois

Richard Ducheneau
Richard Ducheneau

WPD Activity Report
Presented 01/10/2023

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 from an elderly Wentworth resident concerned that both he and his wife may have been financially exploited by a family member. Chief Trott assisted the residents with following through with some safety measures to protect their finances as well as their identities in case they were attempted to be used in some type of identify fraud.

Chief Trott has covered an untimely death in Wentworth recently and without going into detail the police department and it’s members wish to convey their deepest sincere sympathy to the family who lost their loved one.

Chief Trott with the assistance of New Hampshire State Police also handled another untimely death in Wentworth which was the result of a work-related accident. No details can be released at this time but we wish to also express our deepest sympathy to the members of that family as well.

The Wentworth Police Department has processed several pistol permits and or pistol permit renewals over the last two weeks, and, we still continue to be busy with the assignment of new 911 addresses within our community.

The Wentworth Police Department responded to an alarm activation at a residence on the south side of town. Upon arrival it was determined to be an accidental activation and the alarm was reactivated.

Chief W. Trott

(No Subject)

From: j&l redbones (jlredbones@yahoo.com)

To: jlredbones@yahoo.com

Date: Tuesday, January 10, 2023 at 02:47 PM EST

Calls for service

Dec 31 alarm activation Congregational church

Jan 7th lift assist aid ambulance with patient

Jan 9th Assist Ambulance with DHART Landing zone at the school. Patient succumbed to his injuries from a industrial accident.

Training

Alarm system training at the elementary school

items covered System resets normal conditions, system resets while system is in trouble mode,

Went over procedure of Engine response to school

Other

Had run an add on fire department facebook page, a looking for help type add, we had Two people respond, they had discussions with the chief and joined the department the following Wed meeting.

Chief had a meeting with a Johnson controls service person to obtain information and processes for the school fire alarm system.

Met with the owner of the tractor from the previous tractor fire to get our reports to him and his insurance co.

Opened up a line of communication with the ambulance service for future combined training

Jeffry Ames

Chief Wentworth Fire Department