

**Select Board Meeting Minutes  
Town of Wentworth  
December 12, 2023**

Those present: Arnold Scheller, Richard Ducheneau, Brian DuBois, Chief Trott, Chief Ames, Izzy Mercier, and Erin Ganzel

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

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

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

Chief Ames reports we had 2 members resign from the Fire Department due to personal reasons.

R. Ducheneau reported on a recent School Board meeting. There were 3 kids with high honors and dozens more on honor roll. The school has hired a dedicated math teacher which has helped increase grades. He reports the school will be closed on Tuesday, January 23<sup>rd</sup> for the primary elections. The school is working on a grant to get 911 compliant phone systems.

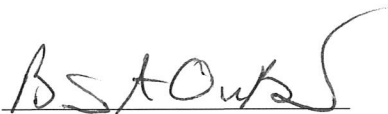
**A. Scheller makes a motion to rescind the prior motion made at the November 28, 2023 Select Board meeting, which stated “to transfer the money received from FEMA for the 2017 Disaster be transferred into the Bridge Fund Capital Reserve to help offset costs for upcoming bridge repairs.” Seconded by R. Ducheneau. All voted in the affirmative, and the motion carries.**


Chief Trott shared that the Police Department will receive a total of \$11500 in grant moneys from the NH Department of Safety.

**A. Scheller makes a motion to adjourn the meeting at 5:52pm. Seconded by B. DuBois. All voted in the affirmative, and the motion carried.**

Respectfully submitted by: Erin D. Ganzel, Town Administrator

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Arnold Scheller, Chairman

  
\_\_\_\_\_  
Brian DuBois

  
\_\_\_\_\_  
Richard Ducheneau

**WPD Activity Report**  
**Presented 12/12/2023**

**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 conducted a welfare check on a Wentworth resident on behalf of a friend who had been unable to contact the resident. They expressed that it was very unusual for them not to be able to make contact with him so they were concerned. Chief Trott was able to make contact with the resident, who was sick at the time but requiring no services. Chief Trott requested that he contact his concerned friend which he assured Chief Trott he would do.

Chief Trott was contacted by a local towing company of a vehicle was being going to be repossessed. The person associated with the vehicle being repossessed was aware that it was going to happen and the process was completed without incident.

Chief Trott met with staff at the Wentworth Elementary School recently regarding some tobacco products that were taken from a student. Chief Trott took possession of the tobacco products to dispose of them later and after discussing the matter with staff it was determined that this would be handled administratively within the school and the SAU per their school policy.

Chief Trott was contacted by the Woodstock Police Department in regards to a person that I had stopped during a proactive speed patrol. There was a stalking order in place that needed to be served on a sperate person that was associated with the person stopped and WPD was looking for assistance in getting that order served. The order was sent over to Chief Trott and after some short follow up work the person that needed to be served was located by Chief Trott in Wentworth and he was served the stalking order and WPD and the Plymouth Family court were both notified.

Updates on our Highway Safety Grants. We have successfully completed the entire grant process one of our grants which was for equipment. We have received two new portable radar signs which will be deployed in target areas within Wentworth to help in reducing speeding complaints/concerns. These two signs and associated equipment are valued at \$6,500.00, of which, the town of Wentworth has only had to contribute 25% percent of.

Update on our second Highway Safety Grant. We have been approved for a total amount of \$5,000.00 to utilized in mobilization patrols. These patrols are divided into 4 different patrol areas and are as follows: Speed Details, NH Clique Patrols (Seat Belt Safety Checks), Drive Sober or Get Pulled Over (DWI Patrols) and UDrive, UText, UPay Patrols (Texting and Driving). This grant as well is a 75% 25% match. Because we are utilizing our cruiser during these campaigns we are able to meet our 25% hard matching part of this grant. As of this writing Chief Trott has conducted two speed details which have proven to be very productive.

Chief Trott took part in another monthly prosecutorial meeting last week. Also taking part was the Grafton County Attorney Marcie Hornick, the Prosecutor handling our cases and the cases associated with the Plymouth Court Jurisdictional Association, Garrett Bartlett, as well as numerous other Chiefs and OIC's for local departments who are members of the association. This was a very informational meeting discussing in detail what the future holds for our court process with the Felonies First Program going away and being replaced with pretty much what used to be in place which was probably cause hearings.

Chief Trott took part in a four(4) hour training regarding The Use of Deadly Force. This is yearly mandatory training for all law enforcement officers in the state of New Hampshire and is hosted by numerous agencies throughout the state. These are not cookie cutter trainings and vary from agency to agency. This training was organized through our prosecutorial association and was presented by the New Hampshire Attorney Generals Office and was conducted at the Owls Nest in Thornton thanks to Chief Dan Gilman of the Thornton Police Department who is a member of our organization. Also instrumental in organizing this training was Chief Dave Sickling from the Alexandria Police Department who is also a member of our organization.

As some of you already know Chief Trott did receive a couple of complaints regarding the sled dogs running on Frescoln Road, North Dorchester Road, and Thayer Mountain Road. Because there is so much misinformation out there, to clarify, there were two legitimate complaints that were made. Chief Trott addressed those two issues with the owners/handlers of the sled dogs and it was done very constructively. The conversation that I had with the sled dog owners/handlers was well received and productive and I feel that they will do their best to address the issues brought to them that they have control over. Because it was so well received and productive I elected not to take any type of an enforcement action and feel confident that it was addressed accordingly.

On another note, but same topic, and also for the purpose of clarification, I feel compelled to address more misinformation. There has been some speculation that Wentworth residents Eric and Amy Merluzzi were involved with making these complaints. I want to make this absolutely clear to all involved. NEITHER Eric nor Amy Merluzzi had anything to do with the reports made to my agency regarding the sled dogs and their owners/handlers.

Administratively our office has been busy with year end compliance reports, training documentations, budgetary preparations, and other regular administrative duties such as 911 address requests and pistol permit applications and renewals.

The Wentworth Police Department has received and processed two new applications for 911 address assignments in Wentworth.

(No Subject)

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

To: jlredbones@yahoo.com

Date: Tuesday, December 12, 2023 at 03:11 PM EST

Calls for service

12/1 assist ambulance patient lift assist east side rd

12/1 co inhalation hazmat, assist patient care and used a gas meter for checks in the home to figure out the issue with co. The home owners heating service sent out their service people to do further testing.

12/8 Automatic response to Warren for a building fire Mountain meadow road, Wentworth had 2 engines 8 fire fighters respond, there were multiple town departments involved. We were on scene approx 5 hours and were back in service at 3 am

12/9 LP leak mutual aid to Warren Swain hill road. Cancelled in route

Training

12/5 Lithium ion battery and ev car fires training, New Hampton hosted the program

12/6 Engine 2 and engine 3 rescue tools training combing rescue teams with two different designed tools

12/9 and 12/10 Fire investigation at the fire academy.

Other

Several members attended Funeral services for Ari who passed in a trailer accident here in town, he was a friend of the department and his son was at one time a member.

We regret to announce that we had two members resign from the department due to some changes in their life We wish Morgan and Tracy Currier well and thank them for their service to the department and community, they will for sure be missed

Jeffry Ames

Chief Wentworth Fire Department

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