

TOWN OF WENTWORTH NEW HAMPSHIRE  
OFFICE OF THE SELECTMEN  
Selectmen's Business Meeting  
October 24, 2017

Present: Chris Bassingthwaite, Tracy Currier and Arlene Patten

Also Present: Chief Trott, Janice Thompson, Kay Bailey, Kevin Gilbert, Morgan Currier,  
George Morrill, Jeff Ames, Jordan King, Noel King, Richard Borger,  
Ricky Borger, Glenn Campbell

Chris motioned to open the meeting at 6:03 pm, seconded by Tracy and approved.

Selectmen reviewed and/or signed the following:

- Payroll & Vendor Checks
- Preliminary 2018 Tax Rate (not Finalized)
- Health Insurance / Health Trust <Decrease of 8%
- Timber Intent to Cut OP # 17-475-13 & 17-475-14
- Petition Plan – NH Electric Co-op
- Signatures for Keys / 3 Selectmen

The Selectmen announced with sadness and deepest condolences, the passing of Tim Brown, Transfer Station Attendant. Chris made a motion for Glenn Campbell to fill this position, seconded by Tracy Currier. Glenn Campbell, who had been the (fill-in) was asked if he would accept the part-time Principal Operator position, whereas he was doing a great job. Glenn gladly accepted.

Chief Trott was invited to give a status update. The Chief said He's been busy and things are going fairly well. He's been busy with many things, but unfortunately did not have time to prep an activity report. He's done his usual, (2) VT Sex Offender Travel Permits, assisted with a couple of ambulance calls, vehicle stops, school patrols and a couple of domestic calls.

Arlene Patten, Administrative Assistant gave a status update. The Administrative assistant gave some preliminary forms that had the rates and percentages done to assist in the Selectmen's decision for the tax rate. She also mentioned that she received paperwork from Health Trust, our Medical Insurance provider that the insurance went down approx. 8%. The rate was \$871. To \$817. The Administrative also mentioned that she was following up with an issue she been suffering with and will be taking a medical leave for a short time while having surgery, but will know more in the weeks to come.

Kevin Gilbert, Road Agent gave a status update on the roads and bridges. He mentioned that recent cracks had been done on the asphalt roads with a rubberized material to help prevent any further breakdown. He also mentioned that he removed some guardrails on Buffalo Road, around the corner, on the Dam Site-side of road. The poles are being stored at the old pit. He stated they weren't in good shape and really weren't needed there. It looks better he said.

Glenn Campbell, gave a status update on the Transfer Station. He said that the operation plan for the Transfer Station was outdated and must be re written ASAP. He also noted that the permit to operate was also outdated. Glenn has been working on a job description to reflect the daily

responsibilities of the operators. Primex will be doing a safety inspection. A new pricing sheet is being worked on to reflect the new electronic pricings. Glenn is looking into many options for a Cardboard Compactor/Bander. 7 families in Town has committed to donating to the purchase of a used unit for the Town. Randy Ruger and Glenn attended a training, on Oct 18<sup>th</sup> in Lancaster. This will prepare the Town for the State Inspection. Items to purchase are: (3) first aid kits, eye wash stations, and signage. New Log sheets have been developed to track the incoming materials for inventory and disposal purposes. New colored stickers will be issued for all residents in early 2018, and will be good for three years. In progress: staining of buildings, electronic pick up, repair swap area (free Lumber from King's Mill), and repair compactor doors, removal of used waste oil from facility.

Chief Jeff Ames, Fire Warden presented and discussed the status update on the Fire Permit to kindle fire for the Transfer Station. The Category IV Fire Instructions must be hung on wall in Transfer Station Facility Building along with the actual permit for the Town of Wentworth, issued on 10/24/17 with exp. Date of 12/31/17.

Noel King, Richard & Ricky Borger, and Jordan King: discussed the Plummer's Forest and Markings for the Timber Cut. These gentlemen spoke of a conservative cut, which keeps the forest healthy, but from what they see, it's heavily marked with blue paint, from Ryan Harvey, forester which was hired by the Trustees of the Trust Fund. The gentlemen also discussed and questioned if the principal is invested and the interest is paid out? They questioned if this was for the two mile hiking trail and is that what's marked, because the forester's intention should be to manage not harvest. Mr. Borger asked if the blue paint was actual stump marks, which is total opposite from what he's accustomed to. They went on to say that this doesn't make any sense. Why would they use someone from out of Town.

The Selectmen listened and stated they will get back with them about this matter. They need to invite the Trustees to the meeting and let them speak on this matter. Chris stated that back in July he told the Plummer Trustees that their forester was to *Cease and Desist* all work being done, from this point forward, on the Plummer Forest. The Selectmen invited the gentlemen back to the next meeting, in hopes for some answers from Chairman, Chip Stata.

The Select Board discussed the preliminary Tax Rate figures that they had before them. The Tax Rate was initially 26.82, which was agreed too high. The Board looked at the Unreserved Fund Balance and took note of what was available and what could be used to lower the rate. After a lengthy discussion, Chris motioned to use \$110,000.00 of the unreserved fund balance, bringing the new tax rate to 25.66, leaving a 10.47% left in the unreserved fund. This was accepted and seconded by Tracy.

The Selectmen asked Kevin Gilbert, Road Agent to check on the "Presentation for Poles" on Atwell Hill Road. Kevin agreed and said he would speak with Scott. They ask that he have an answer for Nov. 7<sup>th</sup>, 2017 Business Meeting.

Chief Ames spoke of the Radios that he and Officer Chirichetti have been working on. The Fire Station, Town Highway Dept. and Police, all need this done, sooner than later. Tracy made a motion to move forward with the completion of getting this done and all radios set up ASAP. This was approved and seconded by Chris.

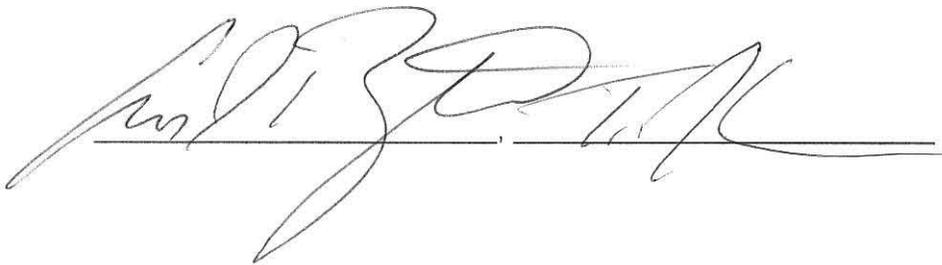
Ms. Kay Bailey requested that the Trustees Appropriation Check for November be that less the monies paid out for the fire extinguisher of \$153.00.

Chris motioned to come out of the Public Meeting and go into the Non-Public at 7:40 pm, seconded by Tracy and approved.

Chris motioned to adjourn at 7:45 pm and seconded by Tracy and approved.

Respectfully Submitted by Arlene Patten

Minutes accepted by:

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to be 'Arlene Patten', is written over a horizontal line. The signature is cursive and somewhat stylized.