Present: Chris Bassingthwaite, Tracy Currier and Arlene Patten

Also Present: Chief Trott, Janice Thompson, Kay Bailey, Sharon Sanborn, Kevin Gilbert, George Morrill, Doug Campbell, Chip Stata

The Selectmen agreed that next Meeting would be on **January 9th at 5:00 pm**, for the Second Budget Workshop Meeting.

Chris motioned to open the Budget Workshop Meeting at 5:15 pm, seconded by Ray and approved.

**First Budget Workshop Meeting Minutes:**

Chief Ames, canceled for the preliminary budget for the Fire Dept. He was unable to make the meeting.

The Webster Memorial Library Trustees presented a preliminary budget. They agreed that he budget still needed some work, and should be finalized soon. The Selectmen agreed that there was some work needed, and stated they were doing a great job.

Chief Trott, presented the Police Dept. preliminary budget. He stated he would have a small increase in the budget, rough figure, of $2500, which would be approximately a $2.15 increase per year, to each tax payer. The Chief did mention that he wanted to fine tune the budget and would present the final in next week or two.

Chris motioned to come out of the Budget Workshop at 6:00 pm, seconded by Tracy and approved.

**Business Meeting:**
Chris motioned to open the Business Meeting at 6:00 pm, seconded by Tracy and approved.

The Selectmen agreed that next Meeting would be on January 9th at 5-7:00 pm, for the Second Budget Workshop Meeting.

Selectmen reviewed and/or signed the following:

- Vendor/Payroll Checks
- Primex Membership Property Liability/Workers Comp
- State of NH DOT approval
- Cap Budget RSA 32:5 A-C
- Warren/Wentworth Ambulance Budget approval “increase”
- Dec. 19th, 2017 Minute approval
- Timber Intent Op #17-475-17 approval
- Abatement Application approval M/L 13-4-20
- McKibben Environmental LLC, required sampling – follow up needed
Chief Trott was invited to give a status update. The Chief mentioned he didn’t have a report to hand out, but he’s been busy. He’s had a couple of domestics, One (1) arrest made, assisted with a fire in the Town of Warren, which was great with mutual aid. He also stated he’s been busy with the upcoming budget, trying to keep numbers low.

Arlene Patten, Administrative Assistant gave a status update. Arlene mentioned that permission was granted by the Select Board to allow the local Pemi-Baker Centennial Lions Club to use the Meeting Room on the fourth (4th) Wednesday of each month. The local club consists of the following Towns; Warren, Wentworth, Rumney, Groton, and Plymouth. Lions serve and help the local communities in many ways. A posting / invitation was put on the Town's webpage for any resident to join and find out more information as to how they can help or join. Arlene also spoke of an upcoming meeting she was having on the 12th at 9:00 am with FEMA. This will help to finalize and close out the July Storm of 2017.

Kevin Gilbert, Road Agent gave a status update on the roads and bridges. He mentioned things were going okay. Icy roads are being cared for, and the new Employee, Andrew Hanley is working out great.

Glenn Campbell, Transfer Station Attendant was unable to make it tonight.

George Morrill mentioned the MS9 was filed with DRA. He also asked the Selectmen if there was a possibility to do a warrant article for Special Needs, under Capital Reserves. He said there was an upcoming School Board Meeting on Monday, at 4:15 pm, if anyone was interested in going.

The Selectmen asked the Administrative Assistant about the Contractual Agreement paperwork on the (WWAS) Warren Wentworth Ambulance Service. Arlene spoke of the new request from WWAS asking for signing of new contract of $30,400. The Board mentioned that they would like to do a quarterly payment schedule / contract of $7600, paid at the beginning of each quarter. The Admin. Assistant will call and speak with Robert Clay, president at the WWAS about the Board’s request. Chip Stata mentioned to the Board that they should have a warrant to move and close the account of all remaining funds in the Ambulance Capital Reserves, and possibly apply to new contracted amount. The Admin. Assistant will look into this.

George Morrill mentioned he would bring in an updated list on totals of the Capital Reserve Funds at next meeting, for the Ambulance and Transfer Station so that warrant articles could be written. The Board questioned if the Transfer Station testing with McKibben’s should continue as often, and is it a state requirement, if so, how often. The Administrative Assistant will look into this.

The Board asked about Avitar deferral of 1 year contract that the Admin. Assistant placed in their folder. A discussion was that the Town of Wentworth usually binds in a contract with Avitar for 3 yrs. and it was noticed that they had only signed the contract for 1 year. After speaking about this with the Administrative, they decided to make a correction, initial and change to a 3 year which offers a savings, and the package includes many benefits such as; updating, digital delivery & mapping. This allows a savings of roughly $500.
Chip Stata mentioned he had concerns with the Capital Reserve Funds and would like to discuss at Town Meeting about getting a Financial Advisor to help with the investment management. He would like to use someone with more experience to help increase the funds, and he said that the Town of Rumney pays to have this type of investment work done. Mr. Stata also mentioned that he would like to seek legal help with a Tax & Finance Lawyer. He stated the tax id number is invalid (since 1968) and would also like to have Ellie’s name removed. Mr. Stata will look into this more. Ms. Kay Bailey was also given permission by the Board of Selectmen to speak with her own attorney about the legalities of this matter, if she so chose too. Mr. Morrill will research a letter from Terry Knowles on the proper wording for a Warrant Article for the Trustees of the Trust Fund, voting for a Financial Advisor.

Ms. Bailey questioned if she should write a letter to the AG & Assist. Charitable Director and invite them to meet in person to discuss with the Board of Selectmen, about the Trustees of the Trust Funds, Plummer Funds, Library and Cemetery Funds.

Chris said he would personally make a call to Terry Knowles on Thursday, January 4th around 10:00 am. Chris also said he would personally make a call to NHDOT about Roads and would contact the County Forester for advisement and question fees.

Chris motioned to come out of the Public Meeting and go into the Non-Public at 7:23 pm, seconded by Tracy and approved.

Respectfully Submitted by Arlene Patten

Minutes accepted by: