TOWN OF WENTWORTH NEW HAMPSHIRE  
OFFICE OF THE SELECTMEN  
Selectmen’s Working Meeting  
Final Budget & Warrant Article Review  
of February 6, 2018

Present: Chris Bassingthwaite, Tracy Currier, and Arlene Patten  
Selectman, Raymond Youngs will be present via speakerphone for (2) Non-Publics

Also Present: Chief Trott, Janice Thompson, Kay Bailey, Francis Muzzey, Kevin Gilbert, Palmer Koelb, Chip Stata, George Morrill, Glenn Campbell, Jordan King

Chris motioned to open the meeting at 5:07 pm, seconded by Tracy and approved. The Board reviewed the Agenda and approved.

Selectmen reviewed and/or signed the following:
- Review Budget for 2018
- Review Warrant Articles
- Public Budget Hearing on February 07th will be postponed to February 13th at the Wentworth Elementary School. It will be noted on the Town Website, Town Offices Bulletin Board, Shawnees Store, Local Post Office, and on WMUR TV Channel 9 News, this is due to inclement weather.

The Selectmen received a copy of the Budget and Warrant Articles. The Town residents that were present were allowed to give feedback and comment. Each item was looked at beginning with Warrants #1, Choose Officers & Warrant #2, and Receive Reports which remained the same. Warrant #3, is to see if the Town will adopt the provisions of RSA 32:5-b. (This will be discussed at a Public Hearing that will be scheduled the week of the 20th of Feb.) Warrant #4, General Municipal Operations was discussed at length and a decision was made to separate, and post the articles individually, as in the 2014 Annual Report. The Selectmen asked for the General Municipal Operations, Parks & Rec., Welfare, and Patriotic line items to be combined together in Warrant #4 and the rest; Planning Board, Conservation, Ambulance and the Transfer Station to have their own Warrants. This was a consensus and the audience agreed. Warrant #5, Health Agencies were cut back to ¼ of what they were given last year in appropriations. Warrant #6, Fire Dept. was discussed and agreed to remove the monies ($110) from the warrant as it didn’t serve a purpose. Warrant #7, Highway & Streets remain the same. Warrant #8, 2014 Freightliner stays the same. Warrant #9, Expendable Trust Funds & CR remain the same. Warrant #10, Police Dept. and Animal & Pest Control, remain the same except changing the word in the warrant from maintenance to operations. Warrant #11, Webster Memorial Library was heavily discussed with questions and comments of how the Warrant was written and expectations were requested. It was asked that all budgeted items be placed back into the budget, to satisfy the Town residents, when asked how the expense were handled. Warrant #12, Rock Sculpture was discussed and there are many opinions on what should be done with this. The Article will remain the same as written, with no changes. Warrant #13, Trustees of Trust Funds will remain the same, except for a correction to spelling, word should be funds. Warrant #14, Gazebo – Electric Service will remain without corrections. Warrant #15, Adoption of Veteran’s Tax Credit will remain the same without changes. Warrant #16, Discontinue the Ambulance CR was discussed and thought that a monetary mention of approximate amount, should be included in the Warrant. The Admin. Assistant will check with DRA on rules. Warrant #17, Establish Celebration/Recreational Expendable Trust Fund was discussed and it was asked if the
highlighted recommendations required could be removed. The Admin Assistant said it was highlighted for the Selectmen, to make more visible for discussion.

**Warrant #18, Generator for Town Offices** was discussed and the Selectmen thought that it should be raised to $10,000 vs $5,000 to include labor, and an auto start feature, with possible propane. The Town lost power for 3-4 days and ability for employees to work, during disaster storm when phones and power were out. It was mentioned that quotes should be considered when making the purchase. **Warrant #19, Town Hall** discussion as to if Town wishes to continue repairs and maintenance of this old building. **Warrant #20, transact other business** no changes.

**The Board extended an invitation to Privilege of the Floor at 6:15 pm:**

Ms. Janice Thompson asked the Selectmen if she may speak about a matter that is of concern. The Board agreed and the question was asked. Ms. Thompson wants to know, “what was going to be done with the drainage on the proposed Dollar Store Lot” (on the corner of Rt. 25A). During this discussion, it was mentioned that some residents felt they didn’t get the answers they were looking for from Austin Turner, a representative from Bohler Engineering. He came out to do a question and answer, informational session on the project that is planned for April – May timeframe. Mr. Turner estimated it would take roughly 4 months to complete. The concern with residents in the area is that; the extra water on the corner lot has always been an issue and the underground culvert that passes to an area of Pond Brook Rd. crosses the road to the brook and will only get worse, if this isn’t addressed. Ms. Thompson is quite fretful with this project. The additional water, could potentially affect this area, with the already saturated and wet grounds. This could theoretically be more damaging, causing Pond Brook Road to the wash out, and perchance add more destruction as it floods or storms. She is requesting for the Board to give some support and help in researching with the State DOT or Dept. of Environmental Services. Ms. Thompson mentioned that a walk through was never done on this property. She would like a report or study completed. There are many concerned residents who want answers on how the proposed cistern is going to stop the excess water from pooling and leaching out into abutter’s properties. The Select Board gave permission to Glenn Campbell to assist; and make calls and research this project, for them.

The Select Board closed the Public meeting at 6:50, motioned by Chris, and seconded by Tracy and approved.

The Board motioned to go into Non-Public at 6:58 pm.

**Non-Public Meeting #1**

At 6:58 pm, Chris motioned to go into a Non-Public Meeting - per 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 the body or agency itself, unless such person requests an open meeting, seconded by Tracy and approved. Select Board member, Raymond Youngs was present via speakerphone for the discussion. The Chairman, with the Trustees of Trust Funds discussed a personal matter. The Select Board provided their interpretations of some written letters provided from the Assistant Director, Charitable Trusts Unit Dept. of Attorney General. All present, decide from the discussion and interpretations that the Trustees of the Trust Funds will continue to manage the Plummer Forest, as they have in the past, and the Selectmen have no authority. Chris motioned to come out of the Non-Public at 7:07 pm seconded by Tracy and approved. Select Board member, Raymond Youngs remained on the speakerphone for the next Non-Public Session.
Non-Public Meeting #2

At 7:10 pm, Chris motioned to go into a Non-Public Meeting - per 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 the body or agency itself, unless such person requests an open meeting, seconded by Tracy and approved. Select Board member, Raymond Youngs was present via speakerphone for the discussion. The Board discussed a personal matter with the Forester regarding the management of the Plummer Forest. A decision was made and agreed upon by all present. The Forester will continue as hired, to work for the Town of Wentworth, but will not be managing the Plummer Forest, unless otherwise stated by The Town’s Legal Counsel. The Forester also mentioned to The Board, a rough estimate cost of $3600 would be needed for the Budget. The Select Board agreed and the number will be added as a line item, under the Conservation Commission. Chris motioned to come out of the Non-Public at 7:22 pm seconded by Tracy and approved. This concluded the speakerphone session with Raymond Youngs, Selectmen.

Non-Public Meeting #3

At 7:27 pm, Chris motioned to go into a Non-Public Meeting - per 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 the body or agency itself, unless such person requests an open meeting, seconded by Tracy and approved. The Road Agent discussed a personal matter with The Board. The Board made a decision to move forward with a Parking Ban on the Town Common, due to difficulty plowing. This ordinance will be looked into and possibly provided at next meeting to be signed by The Board. Chris motioned to come out of the Non-Public at 7:35 pm seconded by Tracy and approved.

The Board returned back to public meeting discussion at 7:40.

The Board discussed the Transfer Station Budget. The Board was happy with the savings of about $20,000.00.

The Board also discussed the Selectmen’s budget briefly, along with the Warrant Articles that were being combined this year, for a change in Medical Insurance & Medical Reimbursements. They made a few adjustments to how the Articles would be combined and what line items would be added to the budget. It was agreed that the State Highway Block Grant would be added under the Highway budget to show the income gained and how it was expended.

Chris motioned to adjourn at 7:59 pm and seconded by Tracy and approved.

Respectfully Submitted by Arlene Patten

Minutes accepted by: