

**Wentworth Select Board  
Meeting Minutes  
February 23, 2021**

**Those present:** Arnold Scheller, Jordan King, Paul Manson, Chief Trott, Bill Melanson, Francis Muzzey, Andrew Lasser, Linda Franz and Omer Ahern via Zoom.

**Called to Order:** Arnold Scheller, Chairperson, called the meeting to order at 5:00pm.

Payroll and vendor checks were signed as well as the meeting minutes for February 9, 2021.

**A.Scheller made a motion to accept the minutes for February 9, 2021 as written. Seconded by J.King. By roll call vote, A.Scheller voted yes. O.Ahern voted yes. J.King voted yes. All three voted in the affirmative and the motion carried.**

A.Scheller discussed his meeting with Robert Clay of the Warren-Wentworth Ambulance Service. He feels that they are running a good operation on a shoestring budget and paying down an IRS debt. The WWAS is more like a medical office and would benefit by coding their own services in-house rather than sending out. This would speed up the billing process and collections. There could possibly be someone in town that could help get this started. Robert is also willing to take a course. The WWAS also has an affordable (\$35 per person, \$50 per household) "Community Care Program" that provides participating residents service at no additional cost. The Select Board encourages participation in this program and will promote it on the Town's website.

Chief Trott introduced the new Animal Control Officer, Bill Melanson. He is all set up and ready for calls. Based on past work and life experience, Bill seems to be a good fit in this position. There was no written report presented for the Wentworth Police Department.

Chief Ames could not attend the meeting and did not send a written report for the Wentworth Fire Department.

P.Manson reported that he spent a good deal of time assisting Kevin Knapp install a new radiator in the International truck, and that it was a difficult job. The Highway Department has been busy with plowing, sanding and salting after the many small storms we have been experiencing. Now that the roads getting muddy, Paul would like to post all roads as of March 1, 2021. Drivers of vehicles over the weight limit will contact Paul to determine if they can use the road or not. Paul will keep in close communication with Chief Trott to enforce. There was no written report presented for the Highway Department.

**A.Scheller made a motion to post all Town roads as of March 1, 2021 per NH RSA 231:191. Seconded by J.King. By roll call vote, A.Scheller voted yes. O.Ahern voted yes. J.King voted yes. All three voted in the affirmative and the motion carried.**

J.King reported that HEB Engineers should have DOT approval for bridges within a week or so. When approval is received, the Town will review, sign and forward to FEMA. P.Manson will call

Charles Willeke at DOT to inquire about the process. J.King will keep in touch with Chris Fournier at HEB.

L.Franz discussed opening the Town Offices up to the public, following CDC safety guidelines for Covid-19.

**J.King made a motion to open the Town Offices to the public and to practice recommended CDC guidelines regarding masks and social distancing where necessary . A.Scheller seconded. By roll call vote, A.Scheller voted yes. O.Ahern voted yes. J.King voted yes. All three voted in the affirmative and the motion carried.**

Andrew Lasser announced that he interviewed a local resident to take over as videographer to live stream meetings. He feels that this is a good option for the Town, as it would be less expensive than using Pemi-Baker TV.

The Select Board agreed previously agreed to enter into a three-year contract with the Road Agent. Terms, salary and language were discussed. Responsibilities and benefits remain the same, and there is a cost-of-living salary increase of two percent in each year of the contract. The contract will be written and signed at a later date.

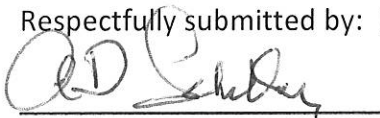
**At 5:52 pm, A.Scheller made a motion to enter into a non-public session pursuant to RSA 91-A:3, II (a) *The dismissal, promotion, or compensation of any public employee or the disciplining of such employee, or the investigation of any charges against him or her, unless the employee affected (1) has a right to a public meeting, and (2) requests that the meeting be open, in which case the request shall be granted.* Seconded by J.King. By roll call vote, A.Scheller voted yes. O.Ahern voted yes. J.King voted yes. All three voted in the affirmative and the motion carried.**

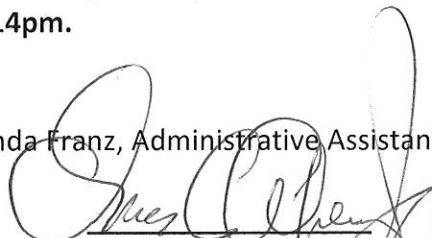
Re-entered the public meeting at 6:12pm.

**A.Scheller made a motion to seal the minutes of the just concluded non-public session. Seconded by J.King. By roll call vote, A.Scheller voted yes. O.Ahern voted yes. J.King voted yes. All three voted in the affirmative and the motion carried.**

**A.Scheller made a motion to adjourn. Seconded by O.Ahern. By roll call vote, A.Scheller voted yes. O.Ahern voted yes. J.King voted yes. All three voted in the affirmative and the meeting was adjourned at 6:14pm.**

Respectfully submitted by: Linda Franz, Administrative Assistant

  
Arnold Scheller, Chair

  
Omer C. Ahern, Jr.

  
Jordan King