2007 Town Meeting Minutes

To the inhabitants of the Town of Wentworth, in Grafton County, in the State of New Hampshire, qualified to vote in Town affairs:

You are hereby notified that the Annual Town Meeting of the Town of Wentworth, New Hampshire will be held at the Wentworth Elementary School, 1247 Mt Moosilauke Hwy, Route 25, Wentworth on March 13, 2007, at 11:00 AM to act upon the following subjects:

The polls will open at 11 AM and close at 7 PM to vote on:

   Article 1 (the election of Town Officers),
   Article 2 (amended floodplain ordinance), and
   Article 3 (two sessions for the annual town meeting).

All other articles will be presented, discussed, and acted upon beginning at 7 PM.

1. To choose all necessary Town Officers for the ensuing year.

   Selectman for 3 Years    Randy C. Morrison
   Town Treasurer for 2 Years Deborah Vlk
   Library Trustee For 3 Years Donna Herlihy
   Town Trustee For 3 Years  Eleanor R. Murray
   Town Trustee for 2 Years  Kevin M. Kay
   Cemetery Trustee for 3 Years Kenyon Karl
   Cemetery Trustee for 2 Years Stephen Davis (Declined)
   Cemetery Trustee for 1 Year  Francis Muzzey
   Planning Board for 2 Years  Francis Muzzey
   Planning Board For 3 Years  Helen Downing
   Fire Commissioner for 1 Year  Jeffrey Ames
                                 R. “Pete” Chierichetti
                                 Kevin M. Kay
2. To See if the municipality will vote, by official ballot, to adopt the amended floodplain ordinance, so as to bring the Town into compliance with the requirements of the National Flood Insurance Program, provided that map date and references shall continue to refer to the existing maps, in the manner of the former regulations adopted March 3, 2003, until such time as new maps are accepted by the Selectmen. The following question will appear on the ballot:

“Are you in favor of the adoption of the amendment to the existing floodplain ordinance, for the purposes of complying with the requirements of the National Flood Insurance Program, as proposed by the Planning Board?”

YES  85
NO   28

3. Are you in favor of having (2) sessions for the annual town meeting in this town, the first session for choice of town officers elected by an official ballot and other action required to be inserted on said official ballot, and the second session, on a date set by the Selectmen for transaction of other business? The Selectmen recommend this.

YES  39
NO   77

4. To receive reports from the Selectmen, Town Clerk/Tax Collector, Treasurer, Auditors, and other Town Officers; and to vote on any motion relating to these reports.

Janice Thompson requested an accounting of monies received from logging the Town Forest.

Eleanor Murray, Trustee, responded “there was a blow down problem, any monies received went to library and cemeteries”.

Motion to accept was made by Stephen Davis
2nd by Adam Rick
Voice vote in the affirmative.

5. To see if the municipality will vote to establish a GASB 34 Expendable Trust Fund under the provisions of RSA 31:19-a for the purpose of becoming GASB 34 compliant, and further to raise and appropriate the sum of $4,000 to be placed in this fund, and to appoint the Selectmen as agents to expend this fund. The Selectmen recommend this appropriation.
Motion made by Joshua Leiter
2nd by Penni Davis

Motion to table made by Francis Muzzey,
2nd by Kate Rick.
Motion then was withdrawn.

Motion to table was made by Richard Borger Jr.
2nd by Tim Minear.

Hand count: Yes 45 No 33

Motion to table did not pass, majority vote was needed.

Hand count to pass original article was defeated.

Yes 32 No 46

6. To see if the municipality will vote to raise and appropriate the sum of $300,498 for general municipal operations for the purposes detailed in the operating budget posted with the warrant. This article does not include any amounts contained in any other article. The Selectmen recommend this appropriation. (Majority vote required).

Motion made to accept by John Millican
2nd by Linda Brown
Motion to amend was made by Tim Minear
2nd by Francis Muzzey

Amendment 1: To see if the town will raise and appropriate the sum of $271,753, for the general municipal operations for the purpose detailed in the operating budget posted with the warrant.

Hand count YES 46 NO 28

Motion made to amend the amendment made by Adam Rick.
2nd by Paul Davis Jr.
Amendment 2: To see if the municipality will vote to raise and appropriate the sum of $271,753 for general municipal operations for the purposes detailed in the operating budget posted with the warrant, of this total $35,000 to come from fund balance surplus with the remaining $236,753, to come from general 2007 taxation.

This article does not include any amounts contained in any other article.

YES 72          NO 1

Article passed in the amount of $271,753

7. To see if the municipality will vote to raise and appropriate the sum of $ 9,032 for the following Health Agencies and Organizations:

American Red Cross (provides help for emergencies & disaster relief) $ 270  
Mt. Moosilauke Health Center (provides healthcare & counseling) $ 2,500  
Voices Against Violence (education for domestic and sexual violence) $  617  
Tri-County Cap (provides fuel, food, electric & referral assistance) $ 1,650  
Visiting Nurse Alliance of NH/VT (Homecare/Hospice/Family Health) $ 1,733  
Pemi-Baker home Health Care (Homecare, Hospice & Family Health) $ 1,062  
Grafton County Senior Citizens (meals, transportation & day services) $ 1,200

Motion made to accept by John Millican  
2nd by Tim Miner  
Voice vote in the affirmative in the amount of $9,032.

8. To see if the municipality will vote to raise and appropriate the sum of $500 to sponsor a Free Clean Up Day at the Transfer Station. This will allow each resident to discard items free (up to $10) per the posted fees.

Motion made to accept made by Stephen Davis  
2nd by Ernie Vlk  
Motion was then withdrawn.

Motion to table was made by Jeff Ames.  
2nd by Richard Borger Jr.  
Show of hands    Yes 39     No 33  Motion to table failed.

Back to original motion.  
Hand count for original article    YES 17     NO 58  Article defeated.
9. To see if the municipality will vote to raise and appropriate the sum of $2,000 to be expended by the Planning Board in connection with its activities for such purposes and such uses as deemed necessary by the Planning Board.

   Motion made to accept by Francis Muzzey  
   2nd by Paul Davis Jr.  
   Voice vote in the affirmative in the amount of $2,000

10. To see if the municipality will vote to raise and appropriate the sum of $20,100 for the maintenance of the Fire Department.

   Motion made to accept by Pete Chierichetti  
   2nd by Tim Minear  
   Vote in the affirmative in the amount of $20,100

11. To see if the municipality will vote to raise and appropriate $224,650 for town highways and lighting for the ensuing year; of this total, up to $73,686 is to come from fund balance (surplus) with the remaining $150,964 to come from general 2007 taxation.

   Motion to accept made by John Millican  
   2nd by Palmer Koelb

   Motion to amend the article made by Randy Morrison  
   2nd by John Millican

   Amendment 1: To see if the municipality will vote to raise and appropriate $184,800 for town highways and lighting for the ensuing year: of this total up to $65,000 is to come from fund balance (surplus) with the remaining $119,800 to come from 2007 taxation.

   Voice vote on amendment passed.

   Motion to amend amendment made by Francis Muzzey  
   2nd by Ray Welch
Amendment 2: That an additional $270 be added to the highway budget as read, or a total of $224,920, the $270 to be spent for the express purpose reimbursing Bob Cass for 10 hours of overtime labor expended, but not paid for by the selectmen. It is mindful that there are additional costs in FICA, workmen’s comp and other incidental charges that are not included in this amount, but shall be found elsewhere in the existing budget.

Bob Cass asked to speak and wanted to drop the amendment.
Paul Davis Jr. asked to withdraw the amendment
2^ND by Deb Gelsi

Move to vote on amended amount of $184,800, ($65,000 to come from fund balance surplus the remaining $119,800 from general taxation).

Voice vote passed in the amount of $184,800

12. To see if the municipality will vote to raise and appropriate the sum of $1,200 for the upkeep and maintenance of the Wentworth Historical Society Museum (Boston & Maine Railroad Depot) and the grounds on which it is situated.

Motion made to accept by Randy Morrison
2^nd by John Millican
Voice vote in the affirmative in the amount of $1,200

13. To see if the municipality will vote to raise and appropriate the sum of $164,000 to be placed into the following Capital reserve Funds: The selectmen recommend these appropriations
14. To see if the municipality will vote to raise and appropriate the total sum of $65,910 to pay for the disposal and handling of solid waste using the Town Transfer Facility.

Motion to accept was made by John Millican
2nd by Palmer Koelb
Voice vote in the affirmative in the amount of $65,910
15. To see if the municipality will vote to raise and appropriate $500 to be expended by the Conservation Commission in connection with its activities for such purposes and such uses as deemed necessary by the Conservation Commission.

    Motion to accept was made by John Millican
    2nd by Palmer Koelb
    Voice vote in the affirmative in the amount of $500.

16. To see if the municipality will vote to raise and appropriate the sum of $71,587 for the maintenance of the Police Department for the ensuing year; of this total, up to $16,500 is to come from fund balance (surplus), with the remaining $55,087 to come from general 2007 taxation.

    Motion made to accept by Brian Dupois
    2nd by Kevin Kay
    Motion to amend made by Kevin Kay
    2nd by Pete Chierichetti

    Amendment 1: To see if the municipality will vote to raise and appropriate the sum of $78,647 for the maintenance of the Police Department for the ensuing year; of this total, up to $16,500 is to come from fund balance (surplus), with the remaining $62,147 to come from general 2007 taxation.

    Hand count       YES  24           NO  44    Amendment failed

    Motion to amend by Tim Minear
    2nd by Kate Rick.

    Amendment 2: To see if the Town will raise and appropriate the sum of $35,087 with up to come from fund balance (surplus) with the remaining $18,584 to come from general 2007 taxation.

    Hand count       Yes  11           NO  48    Amendment failed.

    Motion made by Richard Borger Sr.
    2nd by Stephen Davis
To see if the municipality will vote to raise and appropriate the sum of $51,941 for the maintenance of the Police Department for the ensuing year, of this total $16,500 is to come from fund balance (surplus), with the remaining $35,441 to come from general 2007 taxation.

Hand Count      YES 49          NO 16  
Amendment passed in the amount of $51,941

17. To see if the municipality will vote to raise and appropriate the sum of $500 for the cost and expenses associated with pest and animal control.

   Motion made to accept by John Millican  
   2nd by Joshua Leiter  
   Voice vote in the affirmative in the amount of $500.

18. To see if the municipality will vote to raise and appropriate the sum of $9,000 for operating expenses for the Warren/Wentworth Ambulance Service. Note: this year, there is an increase of $2,000 for services.

   Motion made to accept by Richard Borger Sr.  
   2nd by Jeff Ames  
   Motion to amend article was made by Palmer Koelb  
   2d by Francis Muzzey

To see if the municipality will vote to reduce the proposed $9,000 to last year’s level of $7,000.

   Voice vote amendment failed.

   Motion to the original article amount of $9,000 was made by John Millican  
   2nd by Tim Minear  
   Voice vote passed in the amount of $9,000

19. To see if the municipality will vote to raise and appropriate the sum of $3,130 for the Parks and Recreation Commission for the maintenance of parks, including the Common, Library, Riverside Park, Hamilton Memorial Field, and mowing at the school.
Motion to accept was made by Penni Davis
2nd by Tim Minear
Voice vote in the affirmative in the amount of $3,130

20. To see if the municipality will vote to raise and appropriate the sum of $51,103 for the Webster Memorial Library expenses with $7,730 to come from Library income with the remaining $43,373 to come from general 2007 taxation.

Motion made to accept by Angie Kenneson-Comeau
2nd by Ricahrd Borger Sr.

Motion to amend made to amend by Tim Minear
2nd by Ray Welch

Amendment: To see if the Town will vote to raise and appropriate the sum of $40,000 for the Webster Memorial Library expenses with $7,730 to come from the Library income and an additional $1,000 from fund balance (surplus) with the remaining $31,270 to come from general 2007 taxation.

Hand count       YES   19            NO    29 Amendment failed.

Motion for the original article amount of $51,103 $7,730 to come from Library income and the remaining $43,373 to come from general 2007 taxation made by Stephen Davis
2nd by Kathleen Mack

Voice vote affirmative in the amount of $51,103

21. To see if the municipality will adopt under RSA 72:27-a an exemption from the accessed value, for property tax purposes, for persons owning real property which is equipped with a solar energy system and/or a wind-powered energy system as defined in RSA 72:61 and RSA 72:65. “The entire amount which the installation of the system adds to the market value of the property shall be exempt.”
Motion made to accept by Amy Friedrich
2nd by Kenyon Karl
Hand count; YES 22 NO 19 Article passed.

22. To see if the town will go on record in support of effective actions by the President and the Congress to address the issue of climate change which is increasingly harmful to the environment and economy of New Hampshire and to the future well-being of the people of Wentworth. These actions include:

   Establishment of a national program requiring reductions of U.S. greenhouse gas emissions while protecting the U.S. economy. Creation of a major national research initiative to foster rapid development of sustainable energy technologies, thereby stimulating new jobs and investment.

   In addition, the Town of Wentworth encourages New Hampshire citizens to work for emission reductions within their communities, and we ask our selectmen to consider the appointment of a voluntary energy committee to recommend local steps to save energy and reduce emissions.

   The record of the vote on this article shall be transmitted to the New Hampshire Congressional Delegation, to the President of the United States, and to declared candidate for those offices.

Motion to table was made by Stephen Davis
2nd by Ray Welch.
Hand count YES 31 NO 11
Article was tabled.
23. To transact any other business that may legally come before the meeting.

    Motion to make a resolution was made by Penni Davis
    2\textsuperscript{nd} by John Vlk

    “Resolution to have selectmen to list unpaid taxes in the Town Report.”

    Voice vote passed.

Stephen Davis made a motion to adjourn at 11:45PM
2\textsuperscript{nd} by Adam Rick