

APPROVED

WARREN BOARD OF SELECTMEN REGULAR MEETING Wednesday, January 17, 2018

CALL TO ORDER:

Chairman Sackett called the meeting to order at 5:30 PM.

Selectmen Present: Charles Sackett and Charles Chandler.

Staff/Officials Present: Office Administrator – Judith Tautenhan, Treasurer - Sheila Foote, Police Chief - John Semertgakis, Chair Warren School Board - Don Bagley, and Fire Chief - Art Heath.

Public Present: Rosanne Petelle, Jody O'Callaghan, Victoria Saucier, Lesa Romano, Janice Sackett, and Robert Giuda..

Meeting C. Sackett led those present in the pledge of allegiance to the flag.

SELECT BOARD MANIFEST:

C. Chandler moved approval of the manifest. C. Sackett seconded the motion. Vote: Chandler-yes, and Sackett-yes. 2-0.

APPROVAL OF MINUTES

C. Chandler moved approval of the 12-5-2017, 12-20-2017, and 1-3-2018 minutes. C. Sackett seconded the motion. Vote: Chandler-yes, and Sackett-yes. 2-0.

PUBLIC COMMENT:

1. Janice Sackett stated all the paperwork from the first submission is now in the hands of FEMA. The Town should have FEMA approval and begin to receive money soon.
2. Jody O'Callaghan requested to be allowed to speak without interruption of her concerns about residents without water in Warren. She stated she did not understand why the insurance company would not cover the situation. It is unthinkable that after two months the Town has left the people without water. She proposed the Town donate the money in the account instead of offering a no interest loan to the people in need. Actions speak louder than words. C. Chandler responded by saying please do not suggest that this Town does not care about the residents. That is unfair, wrong, and insensitive. The Board is here to protect the Town. Donating the funds can only be done by preparing a warrant article to change the loan to a gift by presenting it to the residents to vote at the Town meeting. The Board members and the Town Administrator have been doing everything they can to alleviate the lack of water for some of our residents. We have met with and been on the phone with the state, well companies, insurance underwriters, attorneys and any one else we can think of to help. This is a very difficult situation. Rosanne Petelle said some man has been walking around in her back yard. She has not given permission for anyone to be on her property. C. Sackett said that could be some one from the state, as they are responsible for anything done on the river banks. Mrs. O'Callaghan commented that she heard Chris Witcher was being paid \$100,000.00 for the work he is doing on the river. Why can't some of that money be put into the fund for residents, considering the work he has done may be at least partially responsible for the river/water problem. C. Sackett said the money Mr. Witcher is to receive was a contract voted and approved at an open meeting. What and how he has done the work was set out and agreed upon. Mr. Witcher will not receive one nickel until the Town receives money from FEMA.

MUNICIPAL OFFICERS REPORTS:

ROAD AGENTS REPORT:

Road Agent Bobby Cass was not at the meeting sent the following report: He has been dealing with frozen culverts as a result of the rain and freezing temperatures. The sander was broken down, but was fixed today. He filed the shed back up with winter sand last Wednesday. We were half out and due to get more freezing rain.

TREASURER'S REPORT:

Treasurer Sheila Foote reported Checking Account balance is \$15,000.00 after tonight's approved manifest of \$25,507.95. The December 2017 reconciliation report was provided for the Board's review.

The Tax Collections Money Market Account \$148,186.28. The December 2017 reconciliation report was provided for the Board's review.

The Town of Warren's Money Market Account balance is \$361,996.71. The December 2017 reconciliation report was provided for the Board's review.

The Town of Warren's Passbook Savings Account balance is \$229,632.55. The December 2017 reconciliation report was provided for the Board's review.

Due to inclement weather, the Town auditor canceled his appointment on January 4th. He will reschedule.

C. Chandler asked if the property tax payments are coming in as they should be. The Treasurer responded they were slowing down. She said the date of the tax bill is well beyond the 30 days.

C. Chandler moved to accept and approve the Treasurer's report. Seconded by C. Sackett. Voting in favor of the motion were Sackett-yes and Chandler-yes. The motion passed 2-0.

TAX COLLECTOR'S REPORT:

The Tax Collector provided a report to the Board for review.

FIRE DEPARTMENT REPORT: Fire Chief Heath reported they had a mutual aid call from Rumney, but it was canceled. There was a fire call on Beech Hill Road.

CHIEF OF POLICE REPORT: Chief John Semertgakis reported there had been 11 ongoing 911 calls from an abandoned house on Rt. 118. It is somewhat of a mystery, since there is no phone service to the house and it is locked up, so vandals can not get in. There were 4 loose horses on Beech Hill Road. Sue Flagg helped round them up and get them back where they belonged.

The issues with the cruiser have been repaired; windshield washer leak, tires rotated, oil change, and damage from falling ice on Thursday night. There was a single car off the road on Rt. 25 by AppleKnockers with no injury. The Chief responded to plow impediment on Rt.118. DOT wanted the vehicle removed, request denied. There was also a plow impediment on Lake Tarleton Road (Piermont), involving a person without a license, a citation was issued.

A wellness check was made on Red Oak Hill, a family with no heat. A wellness check was also made on Mountain Meadow Road. The person was distraught about her dog going in for surgery. The Chief responded to an incident at the Mountain Valley Treatment Center. One resident will be sent back to Youth Detention. Assisted Wentworth with an overdose on East Side Road. Assisted DOT with a road hazard clean up of a tree down on Rt.118.

The Chief made 18 traffic stops for various violations and issued 3 citations.

TRANSFER STATION/BUILDINGS & GROUNDS REPORT:

Manager, George Russell was not present, but submitted a report.

Transfer Station: G. Russell said he burned the brush pile. He has been clearing snow from roofs. He has put the wire bins out for glass.

Building and Grounds: G. Russell stated he had been helping the Road Agent with snow plowing. He and the Road Agent met with the generator technician about the generator at the school. He made the following recommendations: increase the pipe size and install it's own 1,000 lb. tank for expansion rate. The switch at the water department was apparently not wired correctly and 90- 95% of generator failure to start was fuel related. G. Russell asked if he could assist Randy Whitcher with the installation of a new stove hood at the Pythian Hall.

TOWN ADMINISTRATOR REPORT:

- a. The Town Administrator stated the Go Fund Me account currently has a balance of \$6,844.00.
- b. The Town Administrator said there is an auto claim.
- c. J. Tautenhan said the Town auditor rescheduled when he would be in the office.
- d. J. Tautenhan announced the W-2 had been sent out to all employees.
- e. J. Tautenhan informed the Board she had received an e-mail that some fuel companies were having problems/delays with delivery of propane/fuel oil due to weather and road conditions.
- f. J. Tautenhan stated she and Carol Smith from SAU 23 have coordinated and made arrangements for the advertisement and posting of the Budget Hearing on February 13, 2018.
- g. The Town Administrator advised the Board she had received a warning of suspicious activity of individuals in a silver pick up truck. Town folks are being asked to be aware and if they observe anything to notify the police, but do not approach the truck. Chief Semertgakis reported he to had been contacted. The truck with a man driving and woman as a passenger have been seen in Piermont and Wentworth. Since both of these towns have had some home break ins, the truck is of interest. The individuals in the truck appear to be casing potential homes to break into by driving by and stopping in front and taking videos. They have been noticed primarily in the early evening.

No other departments were represented at the meeting

NEW BUSINESS:

- a. Updates for residents without water - There will be a meeting February 18th with the Capitol Well Company and the Board to discuss any arrangements they can make to alleviate the problem of a lack of water by a number of Warren residents. The company will guarantee their work and supply good water. They are willing to take a down payment and work with the remainder of the cost. This is a working meeting, so final arrangements have not been set. They have indicated they were willing to negotiate.
- b. Cemetery Deed - *C. Chandler moved to approve the cemetery deed as presented. Seconded by C. Sackett. Voting in favor of the motion were Sackett-yes and Chandler-yes. The motion passed 2-0.*
- c. Warrant Article Review: The two additional warrant articles for the road project and Keno games were reviewed for the wording of the articles. There was no discussion.

OLD BUSINESS:

- a. Report of Cut - None

CORRESPONDENCE: None

OTHER BUSINESS:

a. Don Bagley Sr. brought up the subject of selection of pictures on the Town Report. There are two pictures for discussion, the one of Weeks Crossing and the one of the old house with the gas pumps in front. The choice was for both. It isn't the first time we have used two photo's, one in front and one in back. C. Chandler said OK, if Weeks Crossing was used for the front.

b. R. Giuda brought to the attention of the Board a Vermont business he visited that produces wood pellets/chips. He is proposing energy changes for the Town of Warren to save on energy costs. He recommends consolidation of heating requirements for the Town Offices, the Fire Station, the Town Hall, and School. R. Giuda is trying to push legislature for continuity of electricity and heat supply. The School Board agreed to inviting the VT business owner to come and present his energy program and the cost of the transition. The School Board members felt the presentation should be after the Town Meeting in April. The Selectmen agreed to a presentation in April.

c. R. Giuda announced the reorganization of the State Department of Resources & Economic Development into two departments, the Department of Resources and the Department of Business & Economic Affairs (BEA). Under BEA, the Division of Economic Development (DED) has been established with a new Director, Will Arvelo. The state has also passed legislation that supports the programs of the new department/division. As an incentive to interest businesses and industrial activity to start up or relocate to New Hampshire, the state is offering 50% off new construction or renovation of existing businesses with up to 10 years to pay back. R. Giuda said this is Warren's opportunity to move ahead as the new Director has money in his hands to start new projects. R. Giuda brought sample warrant articles and other information for the Board to review. C. Chandler said they would look it over and discuss it at the next meeting.

UPCOMING MEETINGS & EVENTS:

Appraiser in Office, January 31, 2018

Board of Selectmen Meeting, Town Offices, January 31, 2018 at 5:00 PM

Appraiser in Office, February 7, 2018

Community Lunch, February 7, 2018

WVSB Regular Meeting, February 13, 2018 at WVS 5:00 PM

BOS/WVSB Budget Hearing, February 13, 2018 at WVS 6:00 PM

NON-PUBLIC SESSION:

Motion by C. Chandler, seconded by C. Sackett that the Board of Selectmen enter into a non-public session in accordance with RSA 91-A:3, for the purpose of discussing issues, if discussed in public, would likely affect adversely the reputation of any person, other than a member of this board. Vote: Chandler–yes and Sackett–yes. The motion passed 2-0.

The Board entered into a non-public session at 6:20 PM

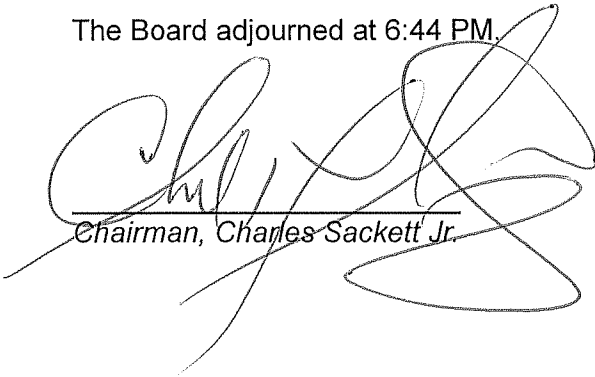
Motion by C. Chandler, seconded by C. Sackett that the Board of Selectmen exit non-public session in accordance with RSA 91-A:3. Vote: Chandler–yes and Sackett–yes. The motion passed 2-0. Motion by C. Chandler, seconded by C. Sackett that the Board of Selectmen seal the minutes of the non-public session in accordance with RSA 91-A:3 for forty years. Vote: Chandler–yes and Sackett - yes. The motion passed 2-0.

The Board ended the non-public session at 6:40 PM.

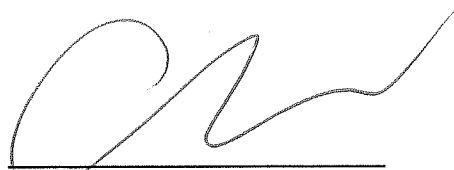
ADJOURN:

C. Chandler moved that the Selectmen adjourn regular meeting of the Board . The motion was seconded by C. Sackett. Voting in favor of the motion were Sackett-yes and Chandler – yes. No one opposed. The motion passed 2-0.

The Board adjourned at 6:44 PM.



Chairman, Charles Sackett Jr.



Selectman, Charles Chandler