

WARREN, NH  
TOWN MEETING MINUTES  
MARCH 12, 2019

Moderator Giuda displayed the empty ballot box, locked it in front of those present and opened the polls.

Moderator Robert Giuda called the meeting to order and opened Town Meeting at 9:00am. Donald Bagley Sr led the meeting in the Pledge of Allegiance. Moderator Giuda led the meeting in prayer of thanks.

Motion made by Charles Chandler, Seconded by Donald Bagley Sr to recess Warren Town Meeting and open the deliberative session of the Warren School District Meeting at 9:05am Warren Town Meeting returned from recess and called to order by Moderator Giuda at 9:30am. Moderator Giuda read the Warrant as follows:

TO THE INHABITANTS OF THE TOWN OF WARREN in the county of Grafton in the State of New Hampshire, qualified to vote in town affairs are hereby notified that the Annual Town Meeting will be held as follows:

Date: Tuesday March 12, 2019

Time: 9:00am

Location: Warren Town Hall

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**Article 01    Election of Town Officials**

To bring in your votes to elect all town officers which appear on the official ballot for the ensuing year, as follows:

Selectmen	3 years
Treasurer	1 years
Tax Collector	3 years
Town Clerk	3 years
Chief of Police	1 year
Road Agent	1 year
Planning Board	2 years
Planning Board	3 years
Cemetery Trustee	3 years
Library Trustee	3 years
Trustee of Trust Funds	3 years

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**Article 02    Hear and Accept reports**

To hear and accept the report of the Selectmen and other Town Officers and to vote on any subject relating thereto.

**Moved by:** Charles Chandler

**Second:** Donald Bagley Sr

**Discussion:** Selectboard Report Shows Chelsie Lent was appointed as Deputy Tax Collector, it should read she was appointed as Deputy Town Clerk.

The Warren Quilters Guild had their 2019 Kyle Quilt on display in memory of Kyle Mooney. Raffle tickets are available from the members to benefit the Prouty Fund, the winner will be drawn at this year's Old Home Day.

**Disposition of Article:** Passed

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**Article 03      General Government**

To see if the Town will vote to raise and appropriate the sum of three hundred twenty seven thousand nine hundred fifty dollars (\$327,950) for the following:

**GENERAL GOVERNMENT**

a. Executive	59,050
b. Elections/Registration	18,800
c. Financial Administration	22,330
d. Tax Collector	20,025
e. Assessing Services	20,000
f. Legal Expenses	30,000
g. Personnel Administration	31,250
h. Planning Board	600
i. Buildings & Grounds	60,830
j. Cemeteries	14,399
k. Insurance	50,415
l. Town Clock	250
m. Contingency Fund	1

**Moved by:** Charles Chandler

**Second:** Patricia Wilson

**Amendment:** Motion made by John Newton, Seconded by Jeffery Donnell to remove the sum of \$5,000 from (i)Buildings and Grounds (\$55,830) and add it to (j)Cemeteries

(\$19,399) to be used to purchase equipment, gas and oil and repairs to the people who maintain the cemetery instead of coming out of their own pocket.

**Discussion of Amendment:** Clarification and discussion of what the budgeted money in the cemetery account is used for and where equipment would be stored if it was owned by the town and how payment of gas and oil would be tracked.

**Disposition of Amendment:** Failed

**Disposition of Article:** Passed

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#### **Article 04     Advertising and Regional Associations**

To see if the Town will vote to raise and appropriate the sum of four thousand ten dollars (\$4,010) for the following:

##### **ADVERTISING & REGIONAL ASSOCIATIONS**

a. Advertising	775
b. NHMA	1,071
c. North Country Council	1,061
d. Pemi-Baker Solid Waste	688
e. NH Assoc. of Assessing Officials	20
f. NH Health Officers Assn.	35
g. NH Tax Collectors Assn.	40
h. NH Town Clerks Assn.	20
i. Baker River Watershed Association	300

**Moved by:** Charles Chandler

**Second:** Sheila Foote

**Discussion:** None

**Disposition of Article:** Passed

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#### **Article 05     Public Safety**

To see if the Town will vote to raise and appropriate the sum of one hundred seventeen

thousand eight hundred forty nine dollars (\$117,849) for the following:

**PUBLIC SAFETY**

a. Police Department	77,526
b. Fire Department	35,972
c. Emergency Management	3,501
d. Animal Control	500
e. E-911	350

**Moved by:** Donald Bagley Sr

**Second:** Charles Chandler

**Discussion:** An accounting of the 2018 Emergency Management expenditures was asked for. All expenditures were for maintenance and upkeep of the generator servicing the school which is the designated as an emergency shelter for the Town of Warren.

**Disposition of Article:** Passed

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**Article 06     Highways and Streets**

To see if the Town will vote to raise and appropriate the sum of two hundred ten thousand six hundred and fifteen dollars (\$210,615) for the following:

**HIGHWAYS AND STREETS**

a. Administration	57,920
b. Highways and Streets	48,601
c. Bridges	4,000
d. Vehicles & Equipment	81,993
e. Sub-contracted Work	3,000
f. Street Lights	8,900
g. Equipment Rental	6,000
h. Mileage	200
i. Other	1

**Moved by:** Charles Chandler

**Second:** Donald Bagley Sr

**Discussion:** None

**Disposition of Article:** Passed

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**Article 07    Sanitation**

To see if the Town will vote to raise and appropriate the sum of forty six thousand four hundred ninety five dollars (\$46,495) for the following:

**SANITATION**

a. Transfer Station Administration	18,695
b. Recycling	7,700
c. Solid Waste Collection/Compactor	16,750
d. Clean-Up/Monitoring/Tires	3,350

**Moved by:** Charles Chandler

**Second:** Donald Bagley Sr

**Discussion:** None

**Disposition of Article:** Passed

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**Article 08    Non-profits/Health**

To see if the Town will vote to raise and appropriate the sum of fifty eight thousand four hundred eighty eight dollars (\$58,488) for the following:

**NON-PROFITS / HEALTH**

a. Ammonoosuc Community Health Services (ACHS)	4,500
b. Visiting Nurse & Hospice (VNH)	2,940
c. Pemi-Baker Home Health & Hospice	4,297
d. Red Cross	425
e. The Bridge House	2,000
f. Grafton County Senior Citizens	2,000
g. Tri-County CAP	1,200
h. WW Ambulance Services	33,934
i. Warren Historical Society	2,000
j. White Mt. Mental Health	1,122
k. Mid-State Health Center	610
l. Court Appointed Advocates	1,000
m. Transport Central	56
n. Communities for Alcohol/Drug Free Youth (CADY)	1,000
o. Warren Wentworth Food Pantry	904
p. Good Shepherd Food Pantry	500

**Moved by:** Charles Chandler

**Second:** Arthur Heath

**Discussion:** None

**Disposition of Article:** Passed

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**Article 09      Welfare**

To see if the Town will vote to raise and appropriate the sum of four thousand five hundred one dollars (\$4,501) for the following:

WELFARE

- |                      |       |
|----------------------|-------|
| a. Direct Assistance | 1     |
| b. Vendor Payments   | 4,500 |

**Moved by:** Charles Chandler

**Second:** Patricia Wilson

**Discussion:** None

**Disposition of Article:** Passed

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**Article 10      Culture and Recreation**

To see if the Town will vote to raise and appropriate the sum of forty seven thousand four hundred eighty two dollars (\$47,482) for the following:

CULTURE AND RECREATION

- |                                      |        |
|--------------------------------------|--------|
| a. Parks and Recreation              | 4,080  |
| b. Library                           | 33,702 |
| c. Patriotic Purposes: Old Home Days | 9,200  |
| d. Flags                             | 500    |

**Moved by:** Charles Chandler

**Second:** Arthur Heath

**Discussion:** None

**Disposition of Article:** Passed

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**Article 11      Conservation/Debt Service**

To see if the Town will vote to raise and appropriate the sum of three dollars (\$3) for the following:

CONSERVATION

a. Care of Trees                      1

DEBT SERVICE

i. Interest on TAN                      1

ii. Other Debt Service                      1

**Moved by:** Charles Chandler

**Second:** Patricia Wilson

**Discussion:** None

**Disposition of Article:** Passed

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**Article 12      ETF/CRF Appropriations**

To see if the Town will vote to raise and appropriate the sum of eighty five thousand eight hundred forty two dollars ~~(\$85,842)~~ (\$82,500) to be placed into the following Funds: The Selectmen recommend this appropriation (Yes 3, No 0).

a. Fire Truck CRF	40,000
b. Highway Building Fund CRF	15,000
c. Highway Equipment CRF	5,000
d. Police Cruiser CRF	10,000
e. Missile CRF	500
f. Emergency Management ETF	<del>1,000</del> 0
g. Joseph Patch ETF	500
h. Community Development ETF	500
i. Paving Fund ETF	10,000
j. Major Road Projects ETF	1,000
k. Cemetery ETF	<del>342</del> 0
l. Fire Department ETF	<del>2,000</del> 0

**Moved by:** Donald Bagley Sr to remove the following funds from the Article:

(f) Emergency Management EFT \$1,000, (k) Cemetery ETF \$342, (l) Fire Department ETF \$2,000 that reduces the total of the Article to \$82,500.

**Second:** Charles Chandler

**Discussion:** Explanation/Clarification of reduction of funds.

**Disposition of Article:** Passed as Corrected

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**Article 13      Fire Department Expendable Trust Fund**

To see if the Town will vote to raise and appropriate the sum of seven thousand two hundred fifty nine dollars (\$7,259) to be added to the Fire Department Expendable Trust Fund with said funds to come from unassigned fund balance as of December 31, 2018, with no funds to be raised from taxation. This amount represents ~~a portion~~ the entire amount of the surplus of the Fire Department 2018 budget. The Selectmen recommend this appropriation (Yes 3, No 0).

**Moved by:** Arthur Heath with correction on wording in the article: This amount represents the entire amount of the surplus of the Fire Department 2018 Budget.

**Second:** Donald Bagley Sr

**Discussion:** None

**Disposition of Article:** Passed as Corrected

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**Article 14      Cemetery ETF**

To see if the Town will vote to raise and appropriate the sum of three thousand three hundred seventy three dollars (\$3,373) to be added to the Cemetery Expendable Trust Fund with said funds to come from unassigned fund balance as of December 31, 2018, with no funds to be raised from taxation. This amount represents the surplus of the Cemetery 2018 budget. The Selectmen recommend this appropriation (Yes 3, No 0).

**Moved by:** Donald Bagley Sr

**Second:** Bryan Flagg

**Discussion:** None



**Disposition of Article:** Passed

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**Article 15     Reaffirm Class VI Roads**

To see if the Town will vote to reaffirm that the road from the end of the Class V road on Gould Hill to Meader Pond and the road from the end of the Class V road on Old Glencliff Road to Stimson Road are both Class VI roads owned by and under the jurisdiction of the Town of Warren.

**Moved by:** Charles Chandler

**Second:** Sheila Foote

**Discussion:** None

**Disposition of Article:** Passed

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**Article 16     Creating Handicap Accessible Bathroom**

To see if the town will vote to raise and appropriate the sum of fifteen thousand dollars (\$15,000) for the purpose of completing renovations to create a handicap accessible bathroom in the Town Office. The selectmen recommend this article (Yes 3, No 0). (Majority vote required)

**Moved by:** Charles Chandler

**Second:** Jeffery Tompkins

**Discussion:** None

**Disposition of Article:** Passed

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**Article 17     Permit Public Firework Displays**

To see if the Town will vote to permit the New Hampshire Pyrotechnic Association to have public firework displays twice per year on private property. The selectmen recommend this article (Yes 3, No 0).

**Moved by:** Charles Chandler

**Second:** Lesa Romano

Any amendment(s) and final disposition of Article by written request to be voted on by

Secret Ballot.

**Amendment:** Motion by John Newton, Seconded by Jeffery Donnell To see if the town will vote to permit the NH Pyrotechnic Association to have fireworks twice per year on private property with written permission from 99% of property owners within a one mile radius of where they are going to be held. With the Select Board being held accountable for making sure that all paperwork for this activity is correct and that all rules and regulations that apply are 100% followed and enforced, leaving the Town of Warren free from any and all liability.

**Discussion of Amendment:** Input from neighbors of the effects of past fireworks displays on pets, livestock and residents.

**Disposition of Amendment:** Failed (Yes 21, No 32)

**Discussion of Article:** None

**Disposition of Article:** Failed (Yes 27, No 30)

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**Article 18     Electronic Radar Purchase**

To see if the town will vote to raise and appropriate the sum of three thousand dollars (\$3,000) for the purpose of purchasing portable motor vehicle radar sign to be used throughout town, only if grant funds are available. The selectmen recommend this article (Yes 3, No 0). (Majority vote required)

**Moved by:** Charles Chandler

**Second:** Bryan Flagg

**Discussion:** None

**Disposition of Article:** Passed

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**Article 19     Buildings & Ground Vehicle**

To see if the town will vote to raise and appropriate the sum of four thousand dollars (\$4000) for the purpose of purchasing a vehicle to be used by the Buildings & Grounds Department. The selectmen recommend this article (Yes 3, No 0). (Majority vote required)

**Moved by:** Lesa Romano

**Second:** Charles Chandler

**Discussion:** Selectmen addressed the article that the vehicle will be a used/previously owned pickup, and possibly obtained from the State of NH, White Farm. The vehicle will be housed at the town garage.

**Disposition of Article:** Passed

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**Article 20     Tractor Purchase**

To see if the town will vote to authorize the selectmen to enter into a lease/purchase agreement of up to 7 years in the amount up to sixty five thousand dollars (\$65,000) for the purpose of leasing a multi-purpose tractor, and to raise and appropriate the sum of twelve thousand five hundred (\$12,500) for the first year's payment for that purpose. This lease/purchase agreement contains an escape clause. The selectmen recommend this article (Yes 2, No 1). (Majority vote required)

**Moved by:** Jeffery Tompkins

**Second:** Charles Chandler

**Discussion:** Pros and cons of long-term leasing and lease/purchase, versus daily or weekly leasing, the potential costs of maintaining the tractor and resale value of lease/purchase equipment.

**Disposition of Article:** Failed

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**Article 22     Seek Information on Solar**

To see if the Town of Warren will vote to authorize the Selectmen to investigate a solar project to help offset municipal energy costs. The selectmen recommend this article (Yes 3, No 0).

**Moved by:** Charles Chandler

**Second:** Donald Bagley Sr

**Discussion:** None

**Disposition of Article:** Passed

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**Article 23     Adopt the provisions of RSA 72:76, Commercial and Industrial Construction Exemption**

To see if the Town will vote to adopt the provisions of RSA 72:76, Commercial and Industrial Construction Exemption, to allow a four-year property tax exemption for new commercial or industrial construction, and renovation of vacant or blighted commercial or industrial structures. The exemption shall apply only to municipal and local school property taxes assessed by the municipality and shall exclude state education property taxes and county taxes. The exemption shall be as follows: 50% for the first year, 40% for the second year, 30% for the third year, and 20% for the fourth year. Subsequent years will be assessed at the full rate. The exemption will go into effect April 1 of the year it is adopted by the legislative body, and the percentage rate and duration of the exemption shall be granted to all properties for which a proper application is filed. A vote adopting RSA 72:76 shall remain in effect for a maximum of four tax years. Any application, for which an exemption has been approved prior to the expiration of the four-year tax period, shall continue to apply at the rate and for the duration in effect at the time it was granted. The selectmen recommend this article (Yes 3, No 0).

**Moved by:** Charles Chandler

**Second:** Sheila Foote

**Discussion:** None

**Disposition of Article:** Passed

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**Article 24     Reconstructing Batchelder Brook and Beech Hill Road**

To see if the town will vote to raise and appropriate the sum of \$170,000 for reconstruction of Batchelder Brook Road and Beech Hill Road and to authorize withdrawal of \$110,000 from the Paving Expendable Trust Fund created for that purpose, and to authorize the issuance of not more than \$60,000 of bonds or notes in accordance with the provisions of the Municipal Finance Act (RSA 33) and to authorize the municipal officials to issue and negotiate such bonds or notes and to determine the rate of interest thereon; The Selectmen recommend this article (Yes 3, No 0). (2/3 ballot vote required)

**Moved by:** Charles Chandler

**Second:** Donald Bagley Sr

**Discussion:** One hour (12:05pm – 1:05pm) was delegated to vote by separate ballot on the warrant article

**Disposition of Article:** Passed (Yes 45, No 10)

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**Article 25     Conduct any other business**

To transact any other business that may legally come before said meeting.

**Moved by:** Lesa Romano

**Second:** Sheila Foote

**Discussion:** None

**Disposition of Article:** Passed

Administrator Austin Albro was recognized for his exemplary service and work for the town.

Senator Guida announced that \$600, 000 has been appropriated by the state to rebuild the Weeks Crossing Dam.

Motion to Adjourn made at 1:05pm

**Moved by:** Charles Chandler

**Second:** Donald Bagley Sr

**All in Favor**

Given under our hands and seal this 25<sup>th</sup> day of February, in the year of our Lord 2019.

BOARD OF SELECTMEN

Charles Sackett Jr.

Charles Chandler

Lesa Romano

A True Copy, Attest

Charles Sacket Jr.

Charles Chandler

Lesa Romano

Respectfully Submitted

Suzanne Flagg, Town Clerk