

WARREN, NH  
TOWN MEETING MINUTES  
MARCH 10, 2020

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. Warren Village School Principal, Michael Galli, led the meeting in the Pledge of Allegiance.

Motion made by Donald Bagley Sr, Seconded by Charles Chandler to recess Warren Town Meeting and open the deliberative session of the Warren School District Meeting at 9:03am. Warren Town Meeting returned from recess and called to order by Moderator Giuda at 10:00am.

Correction of Town Report Page 52 Trust Fund Report: Someone bought a lot for \$150 and the item was put in the wrong column of "Glencliff Cemetery Created"

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 10, 2020

Time: 9:00am

Location: Warren Town Hall

**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:

Selectboard - 3 year term

Moderator - 2 year term

Treasurer - 1 year term

Chief of Police - 1 year term

Road Agent - 1 year term

Planning Board Member - 3 year term

Planning Board Member - 3 year term

Cemetery Trustee - 3 year term

Library Trustee - 3 year term

Trustee of Trust Funds - 3 year term

Supervisor of the Checklist - 6 year term

**Moved by:** Charles Chandler

**Second:** Donald Bagley Sr

**Discussion:** None

**Disposition of Article:** Passed

## **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:** None

**Disposition of Article:** Passed

Page 49 of the Town Report, Income Statement, the print was inadvertently moved a line down so the descriptions are not in line with the dollar amounts.

Motion made by Charles Chandler, Seconded by Donald Bagley to allow Town Administrator, Austin Albro to speak during the Warren Town Meeting. All In Favor.

## **ARTICLE 03 GENERAL GOVERNMENT**

To see if the Town will vote to raise and appropriate the sum of three hundred thirty five thousand six hundred and seventy eight dollars (\$335,678) for the following:

### **GENERAL GOVERNMENT**

|                             |        |
|-----------------------------|--------|
| a. Executive                | 64,450 |
| b. Elections/Registration   | 20,325 |
| c. Financial Administration | 22,880 |
| d. Tax Collector            | 20,025 |
| e. Assessing Services       | 20,000 |
| f. Legal Expenses           | 25,000 |
| g. Personnel Administration | 31,250 |
| h. Planning Board           | 600    |
| i. Buildings & Grounds      | 62,800 |
| j. Cemeteries               | 18,500 |
| k. Insurance                | 49,597 |
| l. Town Clock               | 250    |
| m. Contingency Fund         | 1      |

**Moved by:** Charles Chandler

**Second:** Donald Bagley Sr

**Discussion:** None

**Disposition of Article:** Passed

#### **ARTICLE 04 ADVERTISING AND REGIONAL ASSOCIATIONS**

To see if the Town will vote to raise and appropriate the sum of three thousand seven hundred seventy one dollars (\$3,771) for the following:

|                                      |       |
|--------------------------------------|-------|
| a. Advertising                       | 500   |
| b. NHMA                              | 1,082 |
| c. North Country Council             | 1,051 |
| d. Pemi-Baker Solid Waste            | 688   |
| e. Baker River Watershed Association | 300   |
| f. NH Assoc. of Assessing Officials  | 20    |
| g. NH Tax Collectors Assn.           | 40    |
| h. NH Town Clerks Assn.              | 20    |
| i. NH Finance Officer Assn.          | 35    |
| j. NH Health Officers Assn.          | 35    |

**Moved by:** Charles Chandler

**Second:** Patricia Wilson

**Discussion:** None

**Disposition of Article:** Passed

#### **ARTICLE 05 PUBLIC SAFETY**

To see if the Town will vote to raise and appropriate the sum of one hundred sixteen thousand eight hundred and fifty dollars (\$116,850) for the following:

|                         |        |
|-------------------------|--------|
| a. Police Department    | 77,526 |
| b. Fire Department      | 35,472 |
| c. Emergency Management | 3,501  |
| d. Animal Control       | 1      |
| e. E-911                | 350    |

**Moved by:** Donald Bagley Sr

**Second:** Patricia Wilson

**Discussion:** None

**Disposition of Article:** Passed

#### **ARTICLE 06 HIGHWAYS AND STREETS**

To see if the Town will vote to raise and appropriate the sum of one hundred seventy eight thousand six hundred and thirty six dollars (\$178,636) for the following:

|                         |        |
|-------------------------|--------|
| a. Administration       | 54,940 |
| b. Highways and Streets | 50,600 |
| c. Bridges              | 4,000  |
| d. Vehicles & Equipment | 52,395 |
| e. Sub-contracted Work  | 3,000  |
| f. Street Lights        | 8,500  |
| g. Equipment Rental     | 5,000  |
| h. Mileage              | 200    |
| i. Other                | 1      |

**Moved by:** Patricia Wilson

**Second:** Charles Chandler

**Discussion:** Condition of town roads and the plans in place to fix problem roads (i.e. Pine Hill and Breezy Point Road) and maintain the roads after they are fixed. Selectman Chair, Charles Sackett Jr, reported the Town still has not received all expected payments from FEMA for the 2017 Storms.

Motion made by Donald Bagley Sr, Seconded by Charles Chandler to return to this article after subsequent article(s) in order to allow time for a proposed amendment to be written out. All In Favor

**Amendment:** Motion made by Norman Roulx, Seconded by Arthur Heath to charge the selectmen and road agent to bring a proposal to rebuild one section of town road to next year's 2021 town meeting. Proposal to include price and road.

**Discussion of Amendment:** Discussion of whether this amendment is binding due to the Road Agent being an elected official.

**Disposition of Amendment:** Passed

**Disposition of Amended Article:** Passed

## ARTICLE 07 SANITATION

To see if the Town will vote to raise and appropriate the sum of forty eight thousand three hundred and sixty dollars (\$48,360) for the following:

|                                     |        |
|-------------------------------------|--------|
| a. Transfer Station Administration  | 17,729 |
| b. Recycling                        | 7,720  |
| c. Solid Waste Collection/Compactor | 20,310 |
| d. Clean-Up/Monitoring/Tires        | 2,601  |

**Moved by:** Donald Bagley Sr

**Second:** Charles Chandler

**Discussion:** None

**Disposition of Article:** Passed

#### **ARTICLE 08 NON-PROFITS/HEALTH**

To see if the Town will vote to raise and appropriate the sum of fifty nine thousand seven hundred and forty nine dollars (\$59,749) for the following:

|   |        |
|---|--------|
| a. Ammonoosuc Community Health Services (ACHS)    | 4,500  |
| b. Warren Wentworth Food Pantry                   | 1,000  |
| c. WW Ambulance Services                          | 38,872 |
| d. Visiting Nurse & Hospice (VNH)                 | 2,940  |
| e. Red Cross                                      | 425    |
| f. Grafton County Senior Citizens                 | 2,000  |
| g. Tri-County CAP                                 | 1,200  |
| h. Warren Historical Society                      | 2,100  |
| i. White Mt. Mental Health                        | 1,122  |
| j. Transport Central                              | 90     |
| k. Pemi-Baker Home Health & Hospice               | 4,000  |
| l. Willing Worker's Society                       | 1,500  |
| m. Communities for Alcohol/Drug Free Youth (CADY) | 0      |
| n. The Bridge House                               | 0      |
| o. Mid-State Health Center                        | 0      |
| p. Good Shepherd Food Pantry                      | 0      |
| q. Court Appointed Advocates                      | 0      |

**Moved by:** Charles Chandler

**Second:** Arthur Heath

**Discussion:** None

**Disposition of Article:** Passed

#### **ARTICLE 09 WELFARE**

To see if the Town will vote to raise and appropriate the sum of three thousand five hundred and one dollars (\$3,501) for the following:

|                      |       |
|----------------------|-------|
| a. Direct Assistance | 1     |
| b. Vendor Payments   | 3,500 |

**Moved by:** Charles Chandler

**Second:** Sheila Foote

**Discussion:** None

**Disposition of Article:** Passed

## ARTICLE 10 CULTURE AND RECREATION

To see if the Town will vote to raise and appropriate the sum of fifty two thousand five hundred and eight dollars (\$52,508) for the following:

|                                      |        |
|--------------------------------------|--------|
| a. Parks and Recreation              | 4,450  |
| b. Library                           | 38,358 |
| c. Patriotic Purposes: Old Home Days | 9,200  |
| d. Flags                             | 500    |

**Moved by:** Charles Chandler

**Second:** Lesa Romano

**Discussion:** None

**Disposition of Article:** Passed

## ARTICLE 11 CONSERVATION/DEBT SERVICE

To see if the Town will vote to raise and appropriate the sum of fifteen thousand nine hundred and forty seven dollars (\$15,947) for the following:

|                              |        |
|------------------------------|--------|
| a. Care of Trees             | 1      |
| b. Principal - Bonds & Notes | 14,388 |
| c. Interest - Bonds & Notes  | 1,556  |
| d. Interest on TAN           | 1      |
| e. Other Debt Service        | 1      |

**Moved by:** Donald Bagley Sr

**Second:** Veronica Mueller

**Discussion:** None

**Disposition of Article:** Passed

## ARTICLE 12 ETF/CRF APPROPRIATIONS

To see if the Town will vote to raise and appropriate the sum of ninety seven thousand five hundred dollars (~~\$97,500~~) (\$102,500) to be placed into the following Funds: The Selectmen recommend this appropriation, 3-0.

|                              |        |        |
|------------------------------|--------|--------|
| a. Fire Truck CRF            | 40,000 | 50,000 |
| b. Highway Building Fund CRF | 15,000 |        |
| c. Highway Equipment CRF     | 5,000  |        |
| d. Police Cruiser CRF        | 5,000  |        |
| e. Missile CRF               | 500    |        |
| f. Joseph Patch ETF          | 500    |        |

|                                   |         |
|-----------------------------------|---------|
| g. Community Development ETF      | 500     |
| h. Paving Fund ETF                | 25,000  |
| i. Major Road Projects ETF        | 1,000   |
| j. Fire Department/Pub Safety CRF | 5,000 0 |

**Moved by:** Arthur Heath

**Second:** Charles Chandler

**Amendment:** Motion made by Donald Bagley Sr, Seconded by Arthur Heath to increase (a) Fire Truck CRF from \$40,000 to \$50,000 and reduce (j) Fire Department/Pub Safety CRF to \$0 for a net increase of \$5,000 and the amount of the article to be amended to \$102,500.

**Discussion of Amendment:** Motion made by Charles Chandler, Seconded by Donald Bagley to suspend voting on amendment until a vote is taken on Article 26 which passed.

**Disposition of Amendment:** Passed

**Discussion:** None

**Disposition of Amended Article:** Passed

#### **ARTICLE 13 FIRE DEPARTMENT EXPENDABLE TRUST FUND**

To see if the Town will vote to raise and appropriate the sum of seven thousand six hundred and thirty four dollars (\$7,634) to be added to the Fire Department Expendable Trust Fund with said funds to come from unassigned fund balance as of December 31, 2019, with no funds to be raised from taxation. This amount represents a portion of the surplus of the Fire Department 2019 budget. The Selectmen recommend this article, 3-0.

**Moved by:** Arthur Heath

**Second:** Donald Bagley

**Discussion:** None

**Disposition of Article:** Passed

#### **ARTICLE 14 EMERGENCY MANAGEMENT EXPENDABLE TRUST FUND**

To see if the town will vote to raise and appropriate the sum of one thousand seven hundred and nineteen dollars (1,719) to be added to the Emergency Management Expendable Trust Fund previously established. This sum to come from unassigned fund balance. No amount to be raised from taxation. This amount represents the surplus in the Emergency Management 2019 budget. The Selectmen recommend this article, 3-0.

**Moved by:** Donald Bagley

**Second:** Sheila Foote

**Discussion:** None

**Disposition of Article:** Passed

#### **ARTICLE 15 BINGO**

Shall the Town adopt the provisions of RSA 287-E relative to the conduct of games of bingo and the sale of lucky 7 tickets?

**Moved by:** Sheila Foote

**Second:** Bryan Flagg

**Discussion:** This article will not need to be voted on every year. Clarification that this article allows any organization in town to host Bingo games.

**Disposition of Article:** Passed

#### **ARTICLE 16 LIBRARY PAVING**

To see if the town will vote to raise and appropriate the sum of five thousand dollars (\$5,000) for the purpose of repaving the library parking lot and walkway. The Selectmen recommend this article, 3-0.

**Moved by:** Charles Chandler

**Second:** Arthur Heath

**Discussion:** Repaving would accommodate correct handicap parking and access approach and an updated walkway to the front entrance of the library.

**Disposition of Article:** Passed

#### **ARTICLE 17 ONE TON TRUCK**

To see if the town will vote to authorize the selectmen to enter into a 5 year lease agreement in the amount of seventy thousand dollars (\$70,000) for the purpose of leasing a truck to replace the Highway Department's Ford F-550, and to raise and appropriate the sum of fourteen thousand (\$14,000) for the first year's payment for that purpose. This lease agreement contains an escape clause. The Selectmen recommend this article, 3-0.

**Moved by:** Charles Chandler

**Second:** Patricia Wilson

**Discussion:** None

**Disposition of Article:** Passed



## **ARTICLE 18 BODY WORN CAMERA**

To see if the town will vote to raise and appropriate the sum of one thousand seven hundred dollars (\$1,700) for the purpose of purchasing a body worn police video camera system. This amount to come from the unreserved fund balance. The selectmen recommend this appropriation, 3-0.

**Moved by:** Arthur Heath

**Second:** Donald Bagley

**Discussion:** The amount includes Cloud storage of body cam footage. Upgrade and yearly maintenance amounts will be included in the Police budget. Privacy issues and concerns will follow a written procedure and protocol based on NH law.

**Disposition of Article:** Passed

## **ARTICLE 19 ESTABLISHING A DAM MAINTENANCE FUND**

To see if the town will vote to establish a Dam Maintenance Expendable Trust Fund per RSA 31:19-a, for the purpose of performing maintenance on the Week's Crossing Dam including state inspections and permitting costs, and to raise and appropriate the sum of one thousand dollars (\$1000) to put in the fund, with this amount to come from the unreserved fund balance; further to name the Board of Selectmen as agents to expend from said fund. The Selectmen recommend this article, 3-0.

**Moved by:** Charles Chandler

**Second:** Bryan Flagg

**Discussion:** Parameters of the dam and the ensuing pond, minimal maintenance amounts and benefits of recreation when the pond is recreated.

**Disposition of Article:** Passed

## **ARTICLE 20 ELECTRICAL WORK AT TRANSFER STATION**

To see if the town will vote to raise and appropriate the sum of one thousand dollars (\$1,000) for the purpose of replacing the electrical meter box at the Transfer Station Facility. The Selectmen recommend this article, 3-0.

**Moved by:** Charles Chandler

**Second:** Patricia Wilson

**Discussion:** None

**Disposition of Article:** Passed

## **ARTICLE 21 CONTAINER PURCHASE**

To see if the town will vote to raise and appropriate the sum of three thousand three hundred and sixty five dollars (\$3,365) for the purpose of purchasing a shipping container for the storage of recyclables. The town has received a grant for one thousand eight hundred dollars (\$1,800). The Selectmen recommend this article, 3-0.

**Moved by:** Charles Chandler

**Second:** Patricia Wilson

**Discussion:** None

**Disposition of Article:** Passed

#### **ARTICLE 22 TAX MAP UPDATE**

To see if the town will vote to raise and appropriate the sum of twelve hundred fifty dollars (\$1,250) for the purpose of paying for the 2017, 2018, 2019 and 2020 tax map updates with said funds to come from unassigned fund balance. The Selectmen recommend this article, 3-0.

**Moved by:** Patricia Wilson

**Second:** Donald Bagley Sr

**Discussion:** None

**Disposition of Article:** Passed

#### **ARTICLE 23 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 a mobile motor vehicle radar sign to be used throughout town. This amount to come from the unassigned fund balance representing the amount raised at the 2019 Town Meeting. The Selectmen recommend this article, 3-0.

**Moved by:** Charles Chandler

**Second:** Bryan Flagg

**Discussion:** None

**Disposition of Article:** Passed

#### **ARTICLE 24 CEMETERY MAINTENANCE**

To see if the town will vote to raise and appropriate the sum of five thousand dollars (\$5,000) for the purpose of cemetery maintenance with said funds to come from the Cemetery Expendable Trust Fund. No funds to come from taxation. The Selectmen recommend this article, 3-0.

**Moved by:** Donald Bagley

**Second:** Veronica Mueller

**Discussion:** Purpose of the money is for cemetery stone cleaning

**Disposition of Article:** Passed

#### **ARTICLE 25 COMMUNITY MAP**

To see if the town will vote to raise and appropriate the sum of one thousand dollars (\$1,000) for the purpose of creating a community map for residents, tourists, and guests with said funds to come from the Community Development Expendable Trust Fund. The Selectmen recommend this article, 3-0.

**Moved by:** Charles Chandler

**Second:** Bryan Flagg

**Discussion:** None

**Disposition of Article:** Passed

#### **ARTICLE 26 FIRE TRUCK PURCHASE**

To see if the town will vote to raise and appropriate the sum of two hundred and thirteen thousand dollars (\$213,000) for the purchase of a new cab and chassis fire truck to replace E-1, 1985 GMC and to rebuild the body of said truck and to authorize the withdrawal of one hundred seventy eight thousand five hundred dollars (\$178,500) from the Fire Truck Capital Reserve Fund created for this purpose and the balance to come from the Fire Department Expendable Trust Fund. This is a non-lapsing article. No amount is to be raised by new taxation. The Selectmen recommend this article, 3-0.

**Moved by:** Donald Bagley Sr

**Second:** Charles Chandler

**Discussion:** None

**Disposition of Article:** Passed

#### **ARTICLE 27 COMPLETE SCOTT-PAK REPLACEMENT**

To see if the town will vote to raise and appropriate the sum of one hundred ten thousand and forty dollars (\$110,040) for the purpose of purchasing complete replacement of 14 Scott Air Pak Unit and Bottles. The Town is applying for a grant for one hundred four thousand five hundred and thirty eight dollars (\$104,538). Five thousand five hundred and two dollars (\$5,502) to be raised by taxation. This article is contingent upon receipt of the above grant. The Selectmen recommend this article, 3-0.

**Moved by:** Donald Bagley

**Second:** Arthur Heath

**Discussion:** Fire Chief Arthur Heath explained the life span of packs and bottles and the assistance he is receiving to procure a grant.

**Disposition of Article:** Passed

## **ARTICLE 28 ADOPT THE PROVISIONS OF RSA 72:81, COMMERCIAL AND INDUSTRIAL CONSTRUCTION EXEMPTION**

To see if the Town will vote to adopt the provisions of RSA 72:81, 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 72:81 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, 3-0.

**Moved by:** Charles Chandler

**Second:** Bryan Flagg

**Discussion:** NH Dept of Revenue Administration has disallowed previous versions of this article and this is why the town is voting on this article again.

**Disposition of Article:** Passed

## **ARTICLE 29 CONDUCT ANY OTHER BUSINESS**

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

**Moved by:** Arthur Heath

**Second:** Donald Bagley

**Discussion:** Question brought before the board if there is any property the town owns that can be sold. Thank you to the voters and people who attended the meeting, people who assisted in getting money from FEMA, the selectmen for keeping the town budget in control and taxation level. Commendation of the exemplary work and upgrades George Russell has done at the town transfer station.

**Disposition of Article:** Passed

**ARTICLE 29 CONDUCT ANY OTHER BUSINESS**

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

**Moved by:** Arthur Heath

**Second:** Donald Bagley

**Discussion:** Question brought before the board if there is any property the town owns that can be sold. Thank you to the voters and people who attended the meeting, people who assisted in getting money from FEMA, the selectmen for keeping the town budget in control and taxation level. Commendation of the exemplary work and upgrades George Russell has done at the town transfer station.

**Disposition of Article:** Passed

Motion to Adjourn made at 11:30am

**Moved by:** Charles Chandler

**Second:** Donald Bagley, Sr

**All in Favor**

Given under our hands and seal this 24<sup>th</sup> day of February, in the year of our Lord 2020.

BOARD OF SELECTMEN

Charles Sackett Jr.

Charles Chandler

Lesa Romano

A True Copy, Attest

Charles Sackett Jr.

Charles Chandler

Lesa Romano

Respectfully Submitted



Suzanne Flagg, Town Clerk