WARREN BOARD OF SELECTMEN REGULAR MEETING Wednesday, April 7, 2021

CALL TO ORDER:

Selectmen Chandler called the meeting to order at 5:00 PM.

Select Board Members Present: Todd Bixby, Chuck Sackett and Charles Chandler were present.

Staff/Officials Present: Town Administrator – Austin Albro, Police Chief – John Semertgakis, Fire Chief – Art Heath, Treasurer – Sheila Foote

Public Present: Shirlie McCartin, Bryan Flagg, Jeremy Hair, Dalton Scott

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

SELECT BOARD MANIFEST: C. Sackett moved approval of the manifest. C. Chandler seconded the motion. Vote: Chandler – yes, Sackett – yes, Bixby – yes, and the motion passed 3-0-0.

APPROVAL OF MINUTES: C. Chandler moved approval of the March 10, 2021 meeting minutes. C. Sackett seconded the motion. Vote: Chandler – yes, Sackett – yes, Bixby – abstained, and the motion passed 2-0-1.

C. Sackett moved approval of the March 24, 2021 meeting minutes. T. Bixby seconded the motion. Vote: Chandler – yes, Sackett – yes, Bixby – yes, and the motion passed 3-0-0.

PUBLIC COMMENT: Don Bagley, Warren School Board, updated the Board of Selectmen on proposed projects at WVS and asked if the Road Agent would be able to assist on preparation for road construction or paving projects. The Board indicated that they had no objections. Shirlie McCartin shared an uptick in COVID-19 cases in the Towns surrounding Warren.

TREASURER'S REPORT:

Treasurer, Sheila Foote provided a report to the Board for review.

The Town of Warren Operating Account balance is \$258,926.23 after tonight's approved manifest total of \$132,044.50.

The Tax Collections Account balance is \$315,059.82

C. Chandler moved to acknowledge receipt of the Treasurer's Report. T. Bixby seconded the motion. Vote: Chandler – yes, Sackett – yes, Bixby – yes, and the motion passed 3-0-0.

ROAD AGENT REPORT:

The Road Agent was not present at the meeting. The Town Administrator provided a brief report to the Board. Selectman Chandler commended Mr. Corso for his work since being elected.

TAX COLLECTOR'S REPORT:

The Tax Collector provided receipts to the Board for review.

FIRE DEPARTMENT:

Fire Chief, Art Heath reported a motor vehicle accident on Beech Hill Road, no injuries.

CHIEF OF POLICE REPORT:

Chief John Semertgakis reported recent activity to the Board of Selectmen. Drug items, Studio Road; report of used needles on the ground, found and disposed of. Animal Complaint, Route 25; report of loose dogs, found and returned to owner. Vehicle Collision, Beech Hill Road; State Police responded to a car off the road at 4AM, no injuries. Mental Health Issue, Route 25; report of a person having a mental episode, EMS called, left in care of daughter. VIN Verification, Route 25, verification for pick-up truck. Welfare Check, Station Road; father called for a wellness check on his 2 children who live with the mother. No issues. 911 Hang Up Call, Scott Hill Road; call generated from an old disconnected line, resolved. Road Rage Incident, Route 25; report of a road rage altercation and verbal argument on Route 25, under investigation.

21 Motor Vehicle Stops, 3 Citations

TRANSFER STATION/BUILDINGS & GROUNDS REPORT:

The Manager, George Russell was not present at the meeting but provided the Select Board a report of recent activity.

<u>Grounds:</u> G. Russell reported that he completed and posted bid proposals for office and town hall ramp. Picked up the material to service the mower. Helping John move equipment to different areas in town. Went to Bradford and Barre, Vermont with John for truck repairs.

<u>Transfer Station:</u> G. Russell reported that he completed the final Post Closure reporting for DES. Cleaned up and pushed back burnt brush pile. Baled 1 bale of plastic. General Spring clean-up to start around the Transfer Station soon.

TOWN ADMINISTRATOR:

The Town Administrator requested authorization from the Board to pursue the State's Brownfields Grant Program for the town owned property Route 25. We are working on creating a solution to the problem debris and well head behind the property. *Charlie moved to authorize the Town Administrator to pursue the Brownfields Assessment Grant Application. C. Sackett seconded the motion. Vote: Chandler – yes, Sackett –*

yes, Bixby – yes, and the motion passed 3-0-0. The Town Administrator also informed the Board that inventory forms were mailed last week. Thank you to Don, Donna and Marlene for their help. Lastly, the Administrator reported that DRA had approved all of the Town Meeting Warrant Articles without corrections!

NEW BUSINESS:

- a) Mr. Babbit, Trail Administrator of the Moosilauke ATV Club, requested permission from the Selectmen to make improvements to the Town owned portions of trail and provided a brief overview of the proposed projects. C. Sackett moved to authorize the Chairman of the Board to sign the trail work permission slip. T. Bixby seconded the motion. *Vote: Chandler yes, Sackett yes, Bixby yes, and the motion passed 3-0-0.*
- b) The Board reviewed and signed the Warren Wentworth Ambulance Service Contract and noted the incredible value of having that service located in our communities. T. Bixby moved to authorize the Chairman of the Board to sign the Warren Wentworth Service Agreement. C. Chandler seconded the motion. Vote: Chandler yes, Sackett yes, Bixby yes, and the motion passed 3-0-0.
- c) The Town Administrator presented the annual health insurance renewal to the Board of Selectmen and noted that rates were increasing by 6% this year. C. Chandler moved to authorize the Chairman of the Board to sign the annual Health Trust Renewal. C. Sackett seconded the motion. *Vote: Chandler yes, Sackett yes, Bixby yes, and the motion passed 3-0-0.*
- d) The Board of Selectmen reviewed and signed the Intent to Cut for Map 228, Lot 001, owned by the Hillbrunner Family, Logger: Jordan King.

OLD BUSINESS:

- a) The Board of Selectman continued the discussion about the use of the Sanford Memorial Ballfield by adult softball teams. After a brief discussion, C. Sackett moved to authorize use of the field pending a signed agreement and a \$200 security deposit per team. Selectman Bixby seconded the motion. Vote: Chandler yes, Sackett yes, Bixby yes. The motion passed 3-0. The members of the softball team thanked the Board of Selectmen and Administrator
- b) Selectmen Chandler asked the Town Administrator to look into a re-opening plan for the Town Hall for use by the general public. The Administrator replied that he would do that, starting with a chat with Primex.
- c) The Town Administrator informed the Board that they would receive a hard copy of the letters of interest at the meeting on April 21. The Board will review the letters individually between Selectboard meetings and the discussion of naming a replacement would begin on May 5. There will be an opportunity to schedule a public meeting between May 5 and May 19, if the Board would like to meet with the candidates. The Administrator suggested that this timeline would allow the Board to fulfill the vacancy at the May 19 meeting, if not sooner.

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ADJOURN:

C. Chandler moved the adjournment of the regular meeting of the Select Board. The motion was seconded by C. Sackett. Vote: Chandler – yes, Sackett – yes, Bixby – yes, and the motion passed 3-0-0.

The Board adjourned at 5:42PM.

Chairman, Charles Chandler

Selectman, Todd Bixby

Selectman, Charles Sackett, Jr.