

**WARREN BOARD OF
SELECTMEN REGULAR MEETING
Wednesday, June 2, 2021**

CALL TO ORDER:

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

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

Staff/Officials Present: Town Administrator – Austin Albro, Fire Chief – Art Heath, WWSB Chairman – Don Bagley,

Public Present: Merv Newton, Marlene Wright, Jeremy Hair, Donna Hopkins, and Tom Babbit

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

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

APPROVAL OF MINUTES: C. Sackett *moved approval of the May 12 and May 19 meeting minutes. T. Bixby seconded the motion. Vote: Sackett – yes, Bixby – yes, Chandler – yes, and the motion passed 3-0-0.*

PUBLIC COMMENT: Chairman of the School Board, Don Bagley, stated that it appeared there would be approximately \$50,000 remaining of the school's budget. The amount is subject to change based on the final audit. Don Bagley also expressed that the School Board is interested in working with the Town to install a message board for school/town activities. The Board expressed that they were interested but concerned with the cost of the project. Tom Babbit informed the Board that the funds for the Assistance to Firefighters Grant have not been awarded and that more information about whether Warren qualified for funding this year should be coming soon. Tom Babbit also noted that the boat launch at the Warren/Wentworth Town Bridge is no longer an acceptable parking location for ATV trail users.

TREASURER'S REPORT:

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

The Town of Warren Operating Account balance is \$201,209.41 before tonight's approved manifest total of \$119,622.19.

The Tax Collections Account balance is \$300,100.00

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

passed 3-0-0.

ROAD AGENT REPORT:

The Road Agent was not present at the meeting but Selectman Chandler noted that the residents seem happy with the work that is being done by our Road Agent.

TAX COLLECTOR'S REPORT:

The Tax Collector provided receipts to the Board for review.

FIRE DEPARTMENT:

Fire Chief, Art Heath reported a mutual aid call for a fire in Groton. There was a 2-man crew that responded to the scene of the fire call and another crew ready at the Station. Selectman Chandler asked if fire permits were available. Chief Heath responded yes and that he was paying particular attention to the drought conditions in our region.

CHIEF OF POLICE REPORT:

Chief John Semertgakis reported recent activity to the Board of Selectmen. Civil Standby, Studio Road; standby for a prior tenant to retrieve belongings from residence. Motor Vehicle Lock-Out, Rock Pile Motor Sports, Pine Hill Road; report of a person at the track locked out of their vehicle, resolved upon arrival. Suspicious Activity, Plymouth; report of a Subaru who threw something out of the vehicle while driving in Plymouth and the tire exploded. Vehicle came back to a Warren Resident, working with State Police and Plymouth PD on this item. Animal Complaint, Fish Hatchery Road; report of a nuisance bear, reported to Fish & Game, as well. VIN Verification, Pleasant View Drive; VIN Check on homemade trailer. SOR Completed, Sex Offender Registry paperwork complete. Concerned Citizen, Lake Tarleton Road; met with resident to discuss domestic issues. Animal Complaint, Mountain Meadow Road; report of 2 loose dogs, not found, picked up later that evening on Route 25. Trespass, Route 118; report of person using motorized dredge in Baker River to pan for gold, gone on arrival. Domestic Disturbance, Route 118, domestic incident, one involved party taken to H.O.C. for PC, under investigation. The Chief provided a brief OHRV update.

47 Motor Vehicle Stops, 8 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.

Grounds: G. Russell reported that all lots are now being mowed on a weekly basis. He continues to assist the road agent, as needed. G. Russell also reported that he and the Administrator sent additional information to NH DOT for the Welcome to Warren signs, soon to be installed.

Transfer Station: G. Russell reported that he had shipped out 6300 pounds of baled

plastic. G. Russell reported that he is working on shipping out cardboard next. He reported that the Transfer Station baled 1 bale of aluminum cans and also, that the scrap metal will be shipped out next week.

TOWN ADMINISTRATOR:

The Town Administrator informed the Board that he had been working to get the tax warrant prepared for the Board's signature at this meeting. He continues to assist the other departments monitor their budget and offer assistance on projects. The Administrator reported that there was a large amount of reporting due to Primex by the end of June. Lastly, the administrator offered a quick update stating that the State of NH DES has not returned the request for Brownstone Review for the Town owned building on Route 25.

NEW BUSINESS:

- a) The Board signed and reviewed the Tax Warrant for the 1st billing of 2021.
- b) The Administrator presented an abatement request for the interest and penalties for property owned by Kristin Ramos. The owner purchased multiple lots but only received a tax bill for one parcel. The assessor updated the system but during that time interest and penalties accrued. *C. Sackett moved to approve the administrative abatement for property owned by Kristin Ramos. T. Bixby seconded the motion. Vote: Sackett – yes, Bixby – yes, Chandler – yes and the motion passed 3-0-0.*
- c) Selectman Sackett stated that he had requested we begin discussion about the town's vote to change the position of Road Agent from elected to appointed. There was brief discussion. The Selectman requested that the administrator reach out to PRIMEX, the NH Municipal Association and NHRS to gather more information about the change from elected to appointed.
- d) C. Sackett moved to grant Police Chief John Semertgakis signature of authority to enter into a grant agreement with New Hampshire Fish and Game for OHRV detail. T. Bixby seconded the motion. *Vote: Sackett – yes, Bixby – yes, Chandler – yes and the motion passed 3-0-0.*

OLD BUSINESS:

a) COVID-19 Update:

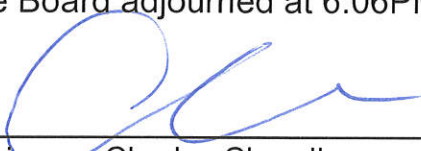
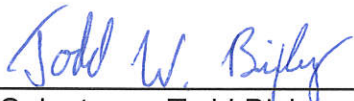

- a. New Hampshire Municipal is urging all towns to resume in person meetings, if they have not already done so.
- b. American Rescue Plan Act – there is a webinar that was put on by ICMA and NHMA to address FAQ's regarding the ARPA funds that will be made available to Towns and Cities throughout the country. The Administrator will provide an update after reviewing the webinar.
- c. The Selectman had a brief discussion regarding the Town's current recommendation that masks/face coverings be worn within all town buildings. The question of comfortability about removing masks was posed to the residents in the audience. The audience resoundingly responded in favor of removing the mask recommendation. Selectman

Chandler moved to rescind to the Selectboard's recommendation that masks are to be worn in all town owned buildings. C. Sackett seconded the motion. *Vote: Sackett – yes, Bixby – yes, Chandler – yes and the motion passed 3-0-0.*

ADJOURN:

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

The Board adjourned at 6:06PM.

		
Chairman, Charles Chandler	Selectman, Todd Bixby	Selectman, Charles Sackett, Jr.