

**WARREN BOARD OF
SELECTMEN REGULAR MEETING
Wednesday, August 9, 2023**

CALL TO ORDER:

C. Sackett called the meeting to order at 5:00 and led the audience in the Pledge of Allegiance.

Select Board Members Present: Chuck Sackett, Todd Bixby, and Shirley McCartin

Staff/Officials Present: Fire Chief – Art Heath, Town Administrator – Austin Albro, Police Chief – John Semertgakis, Road Agent – John Corso, Treasurer – Sheila Foote, Tax Collector – Maria Sanders, Deputy Tax Collector – Marlene Wright, Road Agent – John Corso

Public Present: Jeremy Hair, Donna Hopkins, Tom Babbit, Peter Boncek, Ian Holm

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

APPROVAL OF MINUTES: The Town Administrator noted that the draft minutes were available at the Town Office and would be available for signature at the next meeting.

PUBLIC COMMENT:

Peter Boncek requested permission from the Board of Selectmen for residents of Stimson Road, particularly his elderly neighbor, to be able to utilize Stimson Road to access his property which connects to the Trail System. The Board expressed a bit of hesitancy, seeking time to consider the options before making a decision. After continued discussion, the Board agreed to allow permission as a trial, through the end of the 2023 season, reserving the right to end the trial at any time. The Board of Selectmen requested that Mr. Boncek pay for the cost to inform the residents of Stimson Road and the Administrator noted that he would work with Mr. Boncek to write the letter. Don Bagley, Warren Village School Board, noted that \$192,000 would be returned to the Town from the school budget.

TREASURER'S REPORT:

Treasurer, Sheila Foote was present at the meeting and provided a report to the Board for review. She offered a heartfelt thank you to the taxpayers of Warren.

The Town of Warren Operating Account has a balance of \$511,295.00 after tonight's approved manifest of \$183,230.66. The July reconciliation report is provided for your review.

The Tax Collections Account balance is \$320,825.85. The July reconciliation report is

provided for your review.

The Town Clerk Collections Account balance is \$3,000. The July reconciliation report is provided for your review.

On July 31st, we received the Highway Block Grant for FY24, Q1.

BUILDINGS AND GROUNDS: George Russell was not present at the meeting but provided a written report for the Board's review. G. Russell reported that he is still mowing and was caught up last week. He also reported that the brush hogged the hiking trail entrance and entrances to the trails. G. Russell also noted that the historical signs are installed and thanked Jeff Pfeiffer and Austin for their help. In regards to the Transfer Station, G. Russell reported that there was an electrical break down and the Transfer Station will be closed on Wednesday, August 9. The plastic was shipped out earlier today, August 9. Details on the yearly tire cleanup will be announced soon. 1 bale of cardboard is in production.

ROAD AGENT:

Road Agent John Corso provided a report of recent activity for the Board noting that he was grading roads as well as repairing washouts on Swain Hill and other spots around Town. He also noted that he had been helping George with a number of projects throughout Town.

TAX COLLECTOR:

Tax Collector, Maria Sanders was present and provided receipts for the Board's review. M. Sanders noted that 28 liens were redeemed and that she is gathering the information necessary to prepare for the Board of Selectmen for deeding properties later this year.

FIRE CHIEF:

Chief Heath offered a brief report of recent activity to the Board of Selectmen which included a fire alarm activation on Lake Tarleton Road on August 3rd, a motor vehicle collision near the Fish Hatchery on August 7th, and a fire alarm activation at the Glencliff Home. Chief Heath noted that the FEMA grant had been accepted.

CHIEF OF POLICE:

Police Chief John Semertgakis was present at the meeting and provided a written report of his recent activity to the Board of Selectmen. Suicidal Subject, High Street, State Police responded to a suicidal subject, transported to Dartmouth Hitchcock Medical Center. Noise Complaint, Scenic View Campground; report of multiple gun shots in the woods behind property. Shots came from Chase Road area, safe shooting, no criminal behavior, and advised against shooting at night. OHRV Complaint, Chase Road; report of underage person on OHRV on a closed road. Did not locate, spoke with residents in the area about OHRV laws. Report of Shots Fired, Route 118; report of person unsafe shooting. Spoke with the individual about the

requirements for safe use of firearms. Animal Complaint, Chase Road; Report of neglected dog, unfounded, will monitor.

Additional Notes: 28 Stops, 2 Citations

TOWN ADMINISTRATOR:

The Town Administrator offered a brief report to the Board. He noted that they were invited to pitch the highway garage project to the engineering students at UNH. A. Albro also noted that he was corresponding with DRA and the BTLA office in an effort to get appeal instructions to relay to the property owner relative to appealing the Board's religious exemption denial. The Administrator also noted the website kickoff was delayed until next week. Finally, the Administrator noted that the Audubon Society is coming to a future meeting to discuss their acquisition of a 550-acre property in Warren which is set to become a wildlife sanctuary.

NEW BUSINESS:

- a) *S. McCartin moved to enter into agreement with the New Hampshire Office of Highway Safety and accept \$5,000 for the Warren PD Safety Grant. C. Sackett seconded the motion. Vote: McCartin – yes and Sackett – yes, Bixby – yes, and the motion passed 3-0-0. S. McCartin moved to grant Chairman of the Board, Charles Sackett signature of authority to enter the New Hampshire Office of Highway Safety, Warren PD Safety Grant. T. Bixby seconded the motion. Vote: McCartin – yes and Sackett – yes, Bixby – yes, and the motion passed 3-0-0.*
- b) *S. McCartin moved to approve the Administrative Abatement Recommendation for Interest Associated with Invoice Numbers: 2023P01012206 and 2023P01012207. T. Bixby seconded the motion. Vote: McCartin – yes and Sackett – yes, Bixby – yes, and the motion passed 3-0-0.*

CORRESPONDENCE & NOTICES:

The Town Administrator and Board of Selectmen reviewed recent correspondence and notices.

- a) Subsurface Waste System Notifications
- b) The Administrator noted there will be public hearings for the acceptance of unanticipated grant funds on September 6, 2023.

OTHER: The Town Administrator introduced Erin Schlumpf, a public health student from SNHU who is working with Ammonoosuc Community Health Services on a project called Resilient American Communities. She described the project, explaining that she was there to get to know the community, conduct surveys and identify the community's wants and desires related to public health. The Town will be having a couple Public Forums ahead of a Simulated Solutions activity to be hosted in Littleton, in collaboration with the Town of Whitefield in September.

NON-PUBLIC(I):

S. McCartin moved to enter into nonpublic session, in accordance with RSA 91-A:3 II

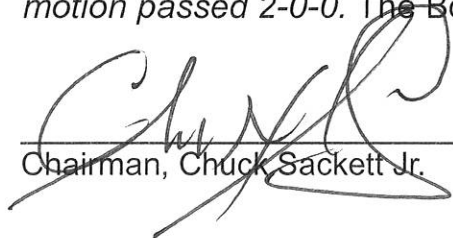
(e). The motion was seconded by T. Bixby. Vote: McCartin – yes, Bixby – yes, and the motion passed 2-0-0. The Board entered into nonpublic session at 6:05 P.M.

T. Bixby moved to leave nonpublic session and return to public session at 6:19 P.M. S. McCartin seconded the motion. Vote: McCartin – yes, Bixby – yes, and the motion passed 2-0-0.

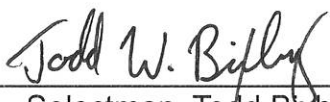
T. Bixby moved to seal the minutes for 40 years because it was determined that divulgence of this information would likely affect adversely the reputation of any person other than a member of the Board. S. McCartin seconded the motion. Vote: McCartin – yes, Bixby – yes and the motion passed 2-0-0.

ADJOURN:

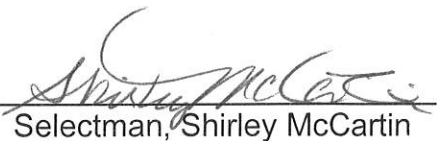
T. Bixby moved the adjournment of the regular meeting of the Select Board. The motion was seconded by S. McCartin. Vote: McCartin – yes, Bixby – yes, and the motion passed 2-0-0. The Board adjourned at 6:20 PM.



Chairman, Chuck Sackett Jr.



Selectman, Todd Bixby



Selectman, Shirley McCartin