

Town of Warren

Minutes for June 17, 2025

The Town of Warren Meeting at the Masonic Hall June 17, 2025 was opened by Doug Pope at 7:00p.m.

Article 1: Election of Moderator - To choose a moderator by written ballot to preside at said meeting.
Doug Pope was elected as moderator with 5 ballots cast.

Article 2: Election of Officers – To elect all necessary Town Officers as are required to be elected by secret ballot:
One (1) members of the Board of Selectmen, for three (3) year terms.

Election results Selectman Seat #1, [3] year term, expires 2028 Nik DeMaria was elected with 305 Votes.

Two [2] members of the RSU #40 Board of Directors, for a three [3] year term, to expire 2028.

Election results Randy Kassa was elected with 314 votes.

Election results Richard Butler was elected with 236 votes. Julie Swindler had 235 votes there will be a recount on June 24, 2025.

Chairman Luce, announced that the Board of Selectman nominated the Town Election Workers and Volunteers as the Recipients of the Spirit of America Award. He would also like to thank everyone that was on the Rifle Range Advisory Committee.

Doug Pope, recommended that everyone take a survey for the Comprehensive Plan on their way out tonight.

Article 3: To choose all necessary Town Officials for the ensuing year, other than those now required to be elected by ballot under the provisions of Maine law.

Seven [7] members of the Budget Committee: Six [6] for three [3]-year terms to expire 2028, one [1] for one [1] year term to expire 2026

Three-year term to expire 2028 Travis Copeland was nominated and seconded by show of hands.

Three-year term to expire 2028 Bradley Beverage was nominated and seconded by show of hands.

Three-year term to expire 2028 Mark David was nominated and seconded by show of hands.

Three-year term to expire 2028 Helene Rondeau was nominated and seconded by show of hands.

Three-year term to expire 2028 Helen Russell was nominated and seconded by show of hands.

Three-year term to expire 2028 -No nomination

One-year term to expire 2026 - No nomination

Two [2] Fish Wardens for one [1] year terms, to expire 2026

Ike Johnson, and George Knutson were nominated and seconded by a show of hands.

Article 4: To see if the Town will vote to authorize the Selectmen pursuant to 12 MRS § 6131 to promulgate such regulations compatible with the General Laws of the State to govern the time when and the manner in which alewives shall be taken therein. (Note: Municipal rights in existence on January 1, 1974, which are not exercised for 3 consecutive years shall lapse 12 MRS §6131.)

Article 4 was moved and seconded. It was passed as written, by a show of hands.

Article 5: To see if the Town will authorize the Selectmen to sell surplus alewives for one or more years, or take any action relative to the same.

Article 5 was moved and seconded. It was passed as written, by a show of hands.

Article 6: To see if the Town will vote to have the Town's portion of the surplus alewives transferred into the Capital Building Reserve.

Article 6 was moved and seconded. It was passed as written, by a show of hands.

Article 7: To see what sum the Town will vote to raise and appropriate for The Board of Selectmen for the period July 1, 2025 to June 30, 2026.

Board of Selectmen recommends: Vote 3-0 \$62,838

Budget Committee recommends: Vote 11-0 \$62,838

Article 7 was moved and seconded. It was passed as written, by a show of hands.

Article 8: To see what sum the Town will vote to raise and appropriate for Administration for the period July 1, 2025 to June 30, 2026.

Board of Selectmen recommends: Vote 3-0 \$312,198

Budget Committee recommends: Vote 11-0 \$311,998

Article 8 was moved and seconded for \$312,198. It was passed as written, by a show of hands.

Article 9: To see what sum the Town will vote to raise and appropriate for Town Clerk for The period July 1, 2025 to June 30, 2026.

Board of Selectmen recommends: Vote 3-0 \$63,903

Budget Committee recommends: Vote 11-0 \$63,903

Article 9 was moved and seconded. It was passed as written, by a show of hands.

Article 10: To see what sum the Town will vote to raise and appropriate for Assessing for the period July 1, 2025 to June 30, 2026.

Board of Selectmen recommends: Vote 3-0 \$77,255

Budget Committee recommends: Vote 11-0 \$77,255

Article 10 was moved and seconded. It was passed as written, by a show of hands.

Discussion: Faith LaFlamme, why the increase. There is an increase in his services and Web upgrade.

Article 11: To see what sum the Town will vote to raise and appropriate for Code Enforcement & Planning for the period July 1, 2025 to June 30, 2026.

Board of Selectmen recommends: Vote 3-0 \$131,219

Budget Committee recommends: Vote 9-1-1 \$131,219

Discussion: Faith LaFlamme, why the increase. Funds are being moved to this Article so it's in the same place for Town Planner. iPad for CEO for out in the field, can be used by Assessor and Planner too.

Article 11 was moved and seconded. It was passed as written, by a show of hands.

Article 12: To see what sum the Town will vote to raise and appropriate for Fire for the period July 1, 2025 to June 30, 2026.

Board of Selectmen recommends: Vote 3-0 \$121,150

Budget Committee recommends: Vote 8-1-2 \$121,150

Article 12 was moved and seconded. It was passed as written, by a show of hands.

Article 13: To see what sum the Town will vote to raise and appropriate for Ambulance for the period July 1, 2025 to June 30, 2026.

Board of Selectmen recommends: Vote 3-0 \$706,268

Budget Committee recommends: Vote 9-1-1 \$706,268

Article 13 was moved and seconded. It was passed as written, by a show of hands.

Article 14: To see what sum the Town will vote to raise and appropriate for Animal Control for the period July 1, 2025 to June 30, 2026.

Board of Selectmen recommends: Vote 3-0 \$14,218

Budget Committee recommends: Vote 11-0 \$14,218

Article 14 was moved and seconded. It was passed as written, by a show of hands.

Article 15: To see what sum the Town will vote to raise and appropriate for Public Works for the period July 1, 2025 to June 30, 2026.

Board of Selectmen recommends: Vote 3-0 \$616,576

Budget Committee recommends: Vote 11-0 \$616,576

Article 15 was moved and seconded. It was passed as written, by a show of hands.

Article 16: To see what sum the Town will vote to raise and appropriate for Transfer Station for the period July 1, 2025 to June 30, 2026.

Board of Selectmen recommends: Vote 3-0 \$422,253

Budget Committee recommends: Vote 11-0 \$422,253

Article 16 was moved and seconded. It was passed as written, by a show of hands.

Article 17: To see what sum the Town will vote to raise and appropriate for Library for the period July 1, 2025 to June 30, 2026.

Board of Selectmen recommends: Vote 3-0 \$46,249

Budget Committee recommends: Vote 11-0 \$46,249

Article 17 was moved and seconded. It was passed as written, by a show of hands.

Article 18: To see what sum the Town will vote to raise and appropriate for Recreation for the period July 1, 2025 to June 30, 2026.

Board of Selectmen recommends: Vote 3-0 \$ 71,720

Budget Committee recommends: Vote 10-0-1 \$ 71,720

Article 19: To see what sum the Town will vote to raise and appropriate for General Protection for the period July 1, 2025 to June 30, 2026.

Board of Selectmen recommends: Vote 3-0 \$315,743

Budget Committee recommends: Vote 11-0 \$315,743

Article 19 was moved and seconded. It was passed as written, by a show of hands.

Discussion: CEO asked what General Protection includes. Knox Communications, Insurance, Fire Hydrants, Dispatch, Street lights.

Article 20: To see what sum the Town will vote to raise and appropriate for Social Services & Contributions for the period July 1, 2025 to June 30, 2026.

Social Service & Contributions: Community Services \$14,415
General Assistance \$30,000
Historical Society \$ 4,000
Total \$48,415_

Community Services:

	<i>Board of Selectmen recommends</i>	<i>Budget Committee recommends</i>
<i>New Hope for Women \$1,530</i>	<i>Vote 3-0 \$1,530</i>	<i>Vote 10-0 \$1,530</i>
<i>Penquis Community Action \$3,279</i>	<i>Vote 3-0 \$3,279</i>	<i>Vote 10-0 \$3,279</i>
<i>Spectrum Generations \$2,668</i>	<i>Vote 3-0 \$2,668</i>	<i>Vote 10-0 \$2,668</i>
<i>Lifeflight \$2,116</i>	<i>Vote 3-0 \$2,116</i>	<i>Vote 10-0 \$2,116</i>
<i>Healthy Kids \$1,000</i>	<i>Vote 3-0 \$1,000</i>	<i>Vote 10-0 \$1,000</i>
<i>WCAP \$3,322</i>	<i>Vote 3-0 \$3,322</i>	<i>Vote 10-0-1 \$3,322</i>
<i>NAMI \$500</i>	<i>Vote 3-0 \$500</i>	<i>Vote 11-0 \$500</i>

General Assistance *Vote 3-0 \$30,000* *Vote 10-1 \$30,000*

Historical Society *Vote 3-0 \$4,000* *Vote 11-0 \$4,000*

Article 20 was moved and seconded. It was passed as written, by a show of hands.

Article 21: To see what sum the Town will vote to raise and appropriate for Facilities & Grounds for the period July 1, 2025 to June 30, 2026.

Board of Selectmen recommends: Vote 3-0 \$121,429

Budget Committee recommends: Vote 11-0 \$121,429

Discussion: Faith LaFlamme, what is NAMI. Motion Made and seconded to allow representee from NAMI to speak.

NAMI stands for National Alliance on Mental Illness. We are the nation's largest mental health organization.

Article 21 was moved and seconded. It was passed as written, by a show of hands.

Article 22: To see what sum the Town will vote to raise and appropriate for the Capital Improvement Plan Reserves for the period July 1, 2025 to June 30, 2026.

Board of Selectmen recommends: Vote 3-0 \$ 1,067,500

Budget Committee recommends: Vote 11-0 \$ 1,067,500

	FY-26	BC	BOS
Capital Improvement	MGR		
Office Equipment Reserve (Admin)	3,000	3,000	3,000
Computer Technology	2,500	2,500	2,500
Assessment Review Reserve (Admin)	15,000	15,000	15,000
Records Restoration Reserve	3,000	3,000	3,000
Public Works Reserve	135,000	135,00	135,000

Ambulance Reserve	75,000	75,000	75,000
Bridge/ Culvert Repair Reserve	100,000	100,00	100,000
BLDG Improvements/Grounds Reserve	50,000	50,000	50,000
Dry Hydrant Reserve	2,000	2,000	2,000
FD Equipment Reserve	100,000	100,000	100,000
FD Digital Communication Reserve	2,000	2,000	2,000
Ambulance Equipment Reserve	25,000	25,000	25,000
Road Improvement/ Paving Reserve	500,000	500,000	500,000
Gravel Pit-Sand/Gravel Reserve	20,000	20,000	20,000
Park Reserve	25,000	25,000	25,000
Transfer Station Reserve	10,000	10,000	10,000
TOTAL	1,067,500	1,067,500	1,067,500

Article 22 was moved and seconded. It was passed as written, by a show of hands.

Discussion: Faith LaFlamme, why the increase. Park Reserve for shoreline at Payson Park. Sand And Gravel Reserve.

Article 23: To see what sum the Town will vote to raise and appropriate for Personnel for the period July 1, 2025 to June 30, 2026.

Board of Selectmen recommends: Vote 3-0 \$369,445

Budget Committee recommends: Vote 11-0 \$369,445

Article 23 was moved and seconded. It was passed as written, by a show of hands.

Discussion: Faith LaFlamme, why the increase. Ambulance going to two full time Employees, additional cost for Benefits.

Article 24: To see what sum the Town will vote to raise and appropriate for Warren Days for the period July 1, 2025 to June 30, 2026.

Board of Selectmen recommends Vote 3-0 \$6,000

Budget Committee recommends Vote 11-0 \$6,000

Article 24 was moved and seconded. It was passed as written, by a show of hands.

Article 25: To see if the Town will vote to reduce the amount to be raised by taxation using estimated revenues for the Municipal Budget for the fiscal year July 1, 2025 to June 30, 2026.

Revenue	FY 25-26
Administration Income	20,000
Ambulance Fees	160,000
Boat Excise	5,000
Building Permits	20,000
Cable Franchise	25,000
Recreation Programing Fees	8,000
Excise Tax	800,000
Property Tax Interest	15,000
Investment Interest	200,000
Transfer Station Fees	60,000
Trash Bags	85,000
Lien Costs	9,500
Planning Board	3,000
Tree Growth	12,000
Animal Control	1,200
Junk Yard Permits	150

Plumbing Permits	5,000
Cannabis License Fees	5,000
Town Clerk Fees	4,000
DOT/LRAP	60,000
General Assistance Reimbursement	17,500
Prison Hydrant Refund	7,500
Total:	1,522,850

Article 25 was moved and seconded. It was passed as written, by a show of hands.

Discussion: Rick Buttler asked if they would be using money to lower the MIL rate. Manager, yes it's further down in the Warrant.

Article 26: To see if the Town will vote to authorize the Selectmen to move up to 10% of unexpended balances, from various accounts as needed to provide for the continuity of public services.

Article 26 was moved and seconded. It was passed as written, by a show of hands.

Article 27: To see if the Town will authorize the Selectmen to expend such monies as they deemed necessary from Reserve Funds, or take any action relative to the same, so long as the funds are used for their intended purpose.

Article 27 was moved and seconded. It was passed as written, by a show of hands.

Article 28: To see if the Town will vote to fix the 15th day of November, 2025 and the 15th day of May, 2026 as the due dates when assessed taxes shall be payable and to charge 7.50% per annum interest on all unpaid taxes after that date.

Article 28 was moved and seconded. It was passed as written, by a show of hands.

Discussion: Faith LaFlamme, the date falls on a Saturday. Manager, yes they set the same date every year. Mail will go by Post marked date. There is also a drop slot at the Town Office.

Article 29: To see if the Town will authorize the use of funds from the Fund Balance to cover annual abatements, or take any action relating to the same.

Article 29 was moved and seconded. It was passed as written, by a show of hands.

Article 30: To see if the Town will vote to appropriate up to \$1,000,000 from Fund Balance to be used to reduce the 2025 Tax Commitment.

Article 30 was moved and seconded. It was passed as written, by a show of hands.

Discussion: Rick Buttler, "damn shame" there is a 6.3-million-dollar school budget.

Article 31: To see if the Town will vote, pursuant to 36 M.R.S.A §506, to authorize the Tax Collector to accept pre-payment of taxes not yet due or assessed to pay 3% interest on any prepaid taxes that are abated or act thereon.

Article 31 was moved and seconded. It was passed as written, by a show of hands.

Article 32: To see if the Town will vote to authorize the Selectmen on behalf of the Town to sell and dispose of any real estate acquired by the Town for non-payment of taxes thereon, on such terms as they deem advisable, and to execute quit claim deeds for same. If sale is to anyone other than the former owner, the Board of Selectmen shall follow the special sale process required by 36 M.R.S §943-C.

Article 32 was moved and seconded. It was passed as written, by a show of hands.

Article 33: To see if the Town will vote to authorize the Board of Selectmen to sell or otherwise dispose of Town-owned personal property as it deems advisable.

Article 33 was moved and seconded. It was passed as written, by a show of hands.

Article 34: To see if the Town will vote to authorize the Selectmen and Treasurer, on behalf of the Town, to accept the proceeds of any payment on insurance claims for damage occurring to Town equipment and to allow the expenditure of funds as necessary to replace said equipment as they deem appropriate or act thereon.

Article 34 was moved and seconded. It was passed as written, by a show of hands.

Article 35: To see if the Town will vote to authorize the Selectmen, on behalf of the Town, to accept grants, insurance refunds, reimbursements or other funds received by the Town and apply these funds to the accounts the Selectmen deem appropriate.

Article 35 was moved and seconded. It was passed as written, by a show of hands.

Article 36: To see if the Town will vote to authorize the Selectmen, pursuant to 30-A M.R.S.A §5655, on behalf of the Town, to accept unconditional donations of property or money to supplement a specific appropriation already made, to reduce the tax assessment, to endow a municipal education fund, or to reduce permanent debt, and to accept dry hydrant easements for Fire Department needs.

Article 36 was moved and seconded. It was passed as written, by a show of hands.

Article 37: To see if the Town will vote to authorize the Selectmen, pursuant to 30-A M.R.S.A §5654, on behalf of the Town, to accept conditional gifts of money or property in trust pending affirmative action by Town Meeting vote.

Article 37 was moved and seconded. It was passed as written, by a show of hands.

Article 38: To see if the Town will vote to appropriate all of the money received from the State of Maine for snowmobile registrations to the Bog Brigade Snowmobile Club for the maintenance of their network of trails, on the condition that those trails are open to the public for the purpose of snowmobiling at no charge.

Article 38 was moved and seconded. It was passed as written, by a show of hands.

Article 39: To see if the Town will vote to apply the proceeds of sales from tax acquired property to the Capital Building Fund.

Article 39 was moved and seconded. It was passed as written, by a show of hands.

Article 40: To see if the Town will vote to authorize the Selectmen to apply the proceeds of sales of Town-owned personal property to the appropriate Department's Reserve Account.

Article 40 was moved and seconded. It was passed as written, by a show of hands.

Discussion: Rick Buttler, there is not a reserve for this. No.

Article 41. To see if the Town will vote to accept the Post Cemetery (previously on Dolham property, sold to the Ahlholm's.) so that the Town may continue to maintain the grounds and all lots under perpetual care and to allow Capital Improvements to be done to said property. (Boundary survey supplied by Ahlholm's done by Mark Ingraham)

Article 41 was moved and seconded. It was passed as written, by a show of hands.

Article 42. To see if the Town will vote to appropriate up to \$210,000 from Fund Balance to be used to build an additional bay on the Town Public Works Garage.

Article 42 was moved and seconded. It was passed as written, by a show of hands.

Article 43. Shall an ordinance entitled Georges River Regional Shellfish Management Ordinance be amended as discussed on May 14, 2025, at the public hearing? (The complete wording of the amendments can be viewed at the town office).

Article 43 was moved and seconded. It was passed as written, by a show of hands.

Manager, the Rifle Range property Brownfield Grant was accepted and we owe a lot to Dan Debord our Town Planner for writing up the Grant. Next steps will be developing the plan to remove material. Survey was done on the property.

Meeting was adjourned at 8:01 p.m.

37 Residents, 13 non-residents attended the Warren Town Meeting on June 17, 2025

Respectfully submitted by Board Secretary Sara K. Davis on June 18, 2025

Given under our hands this 25th day of June, A.D., 2025.

Wayne Luce
Wayne Luce, Chairman

Jan Macdonald
Jan Macdonald, Vice Chair

Roger Peabody
Roger Peabody

Justin Humes
Justin Humes

Nik DeMaria
Nik DeMaria

Selectmen for the Town of Warren

A True Copy Attest: _____
Town Clerk

