

Town of Warren

Minutes for June 20, 2017 Town Meeting

County of Knox, SS.

State of Maine

The Town of Warren Annual Town Meeting and Election began at the Warren Masonic Hall on June 13, 2017 and was opened by Town Clerk Melissa Sukeforth at 7:30 am

Article 1: Election of Moderator - To choose a moderator by written ballot to preside at said meeting. Mike Mayo 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:

Two [2] member of the Board of Selectmen for three [3] year terms.

Election results

Selectman Seat #1, 3 year term, expires 2020 Roger Peabody was Elected with 160 votes.

Selectman Seat #2, 3 year term, expires 2020 Wayne Luce was elected with 150 votes.

Two [2] members of the RSU #40 Board of Directors, one (1) for a three [3] year term and one (1) for the remainder of a term to expire in 2019

Election Results

RSU/MSAD #40 School Board Member, 3 year term, expires 2020 Dennis Wooster was elected with 152 Votes.

RSU/MSAD #40 School Board Member, remainder of a 3 year term, expires 2019 Curt Andrick was Elected with 21 votes.

Three [3] members of the Warren Sanitary District Trustees for three [3] year terms

Election Results

Warren Sanitary District, Seat #1 3 year term, expires 2020 Robert Graham was elected with 141 votes.

Warren Sanitary District, Seat #4, 3 year term, expires 2020 John Cooke was elected with 150 votes

Warren Sanitary District, Seat #5, 3 year term, expires 2020 Mark Anderson was elected with 157 votes

Bifurcated Town Meeting:

The Town of Warren Annual Town Meeting at the Warren Community School June 20, 2017 was opened by Town Clerk Melissa Sukeforth at 7:01p.m.

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.

Five (5) members of the Budget Committee for three (3) year terms (Change to 6 because one member was elected to the Board of Selectman)

Nominations made for Grant Watmough, Bradley Beverage, Joseph "Ike" Johnson, Bill Lufkin, and Jan MacDonald Nominations for Budget Committee were moved and seconded. It was passed, by a show of hands

One (1) member of the Budget Committee for the remainder of a term to expire 2019

No Nomination made

Two (2) Fish Wardens for one (1) year terms

Nominations made and seconded for Ed Courtenay & Joseph "Ike" Johnson. It was passed, 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 what sum the Town will vote to raise and appropriate for The Board of Selectmen for the period July 1, 2017 to June 30, 2018.

Board of Selectmen recommends: Vote 4-1 \$42,500

Budget Committee recommends: Vote 11-0 \$42,500

Discussion: Faith LaFlamme asked why the amount has gone up. Manager explained that it has gone down. What is this money used for? Board of Selectman wages, Board Secretary, Audits, Travel are all included in this.

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 Administration for the period July 1, 2017 to June 30, 2018.

Board of Selectmen recommends: Vote 5-0 \$238,033

Budget Committee recommends: Vote 10-1 \$238,033

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 Town Clerk for The period July 1, 2017 to June 30, 2018.

Board of Selectmen recommends: Vote 5-0 \$54,105

Budget Committee recommends: Vote 10-0-1 \$54,105

Article 8 was moved and seconded. 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 Assessing for the period July 1, 2017 to June 30, 2018.

Board of Selectmen recommends: Vote 5-0 \$44,800

Budget Committee recommends: Vote 11-0 \$44,800

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 Code Enforcement & Planning for the period July 1, 2017 to June 30, 2018.

Board of Selectmen recommends: Vote 4-1 \$53,181

Budget Committee recommends: Vote 6-2-3 \$53,181

This article brings code enforcement position to fulltime.

Discussion: What are these amounts for? CEO, Planning board, Board Secretary. This will bring the CEO to full time and will include paid vacation, sick time, and medical. How many permits were issued last year, total numbers can be found on pg. 38 of the Town report. Selectman Lufkin: right now CEO is at 30 hours a week this would bring it up to full time. When the Town reaches 4,000 residents, the Town will need the CEO as full time, believes this will be soon and would like to plan ahead as the number continues to rise.

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

Article 11: To see what sum the Town will vote to raise and appropriate for Fire ^{Dept} for the period July 1, 2017 to June 30, 2018.

Board of Selectmen recommends: Vote 5-0 \$71,844

Budget Committee recommends: Vote 9-0-2 \$71,844

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 Ambulance for the period July 1, 2017 to June 30, 2018.

Board of Selectmen recommends: Vote 5-0 \$179,902

Budget Committee recommends: Vote 11-0 \$179,902

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 Animal Control for the period July 1, 2017 to June 30, 2018.

Board of Selectmen recommends: Vote 5-0 \$11,730

Budget Committee recommends: Vote 11-0 \$11,730

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 Public Works for the period July 1, 2017 to June 30, 2018.

Board of Selectmen recommends: Vote 5-0 \$450,419
Budget Committee recommends: Vote 8-3 \$439,490

The difference in the dollar amounts was because the union contract for wages is at 3%. The budget committee compared the 3% with last year total wages which was incorrect.

Discussion: How many Public Works employees are in the Union? All four that are full time are in the Union. The increase is part of the Union contract to increase wages by 3%. Anthony Jameson mentioned that the other town employees are receiving a 2% increase.

Article 14 was moved and seconded for \$450,419. 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 Transfer Station for the period July 1, 2017 to June 30, 2018.

Board of Selectmen recommends: Vote 4-1 \$201,784
Budget Committee recommends: Vote 11-0 \$201,784

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 Library for the period July 1, 2017 to June 30, 2018.

Board of Selectmen recommends: Vote 5-0 \$36,967
Budget Committee recommends: Vote 9-0 \$36,867

The reason for the \$100.00 difference was in the incorrect calculations in PT Wages.

Article 16 was moved and seconded for \$36,967. 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 Recreation for the period July 1, 2017 to June 30, 2018.

Board of Selectmen recommends: Vote 4-1 \$50,807
Budget Committee recommends: Vote 6-5 \$50,807
This article brings the recreation director position to fulltime.

Discussion: Selectman Lufkin: this will also bring the Recreation Director to full time. Not much of an increase.

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 General Protection for the period July 1, 2017 to June 30, 2018.

Board of Selectmen recommends: Vote 5-0 \$218,218
Budget Committee recommends: Vote 10-1 \$218,218

Article 18 was moved and seconded. It was passed as written, by a show of hands.

Article 19: To see what sum the Town will vote to raise and appropriate for Social Services & Contributions for the period July 1, 2017 to June 30, 2018.

Board of Selectmen recommends: Vote 5-0 \$25,745
Budget Committee recommends: Vote 4-8 \$28,470

Social Service & Contributions:

<i>Community Services</i>	<i>11,745</i>
<i>General Assistance</i>	<i>10,000</i>
<i>Historical Society</i>	<i>4,000</i>
Total	25,745

Community Services:

<i>Broadreach</i>	<i>1,000</i>
<i>Midcoast Maine Community Action</i>	<i>1,000</i>
<i>New Hope for Women</i>	<i>1,155</i>
<i>Penquis Community Action</i>	<i>3,545</i>
<i>Red Cross</i>	<i>500</i>
<i>Sexual Assault Support Services</i>	<i>1,300</i>
<i>Spectrum Generations</i>	<i>2,245</i>
<i>Life Flight Foundation</i>	<i>1,000</i>
Total	11,745

Discussion: Why are there different amounts? Penquis had requested an increase but did not correctly follow procedure set by the Town to increase the requested amount, they sent a copy of a petition instead of the originals, so the amount they used was from the previous year.

Article 19 was moved and seconded for \$28,470. Motion failed by show of hands.

Article 19 was moved and seconded for \$25,745. It was passed as written, by a show of hands.

Article 20: To see what sum the Town will vote to raise and appropriate for Facilities & Grounds for the period July 1, 2017 to June 30, 2018.

Board of Selectmen recommends: Vote 5-0 \$52,100
Budget Committee recommends: Vote 9-2 \$52,200
The \$100.00 difference was portable fuel was removed from the budget during the Board of Selectmen Budget Meeting.

Article 20 was moved and seconded for \$52,200. Motion failed by a show of hands.

Article 20 was moved and seconded for \$52,100. 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 the Capital Improvement Plan Reserves for the period July 1, 2017 to June 30, 2018.

Board of Selectmen recommends: Vote 4-1 \$479,200
Budget Committee recommends: Vote 11-0 \$419,200

The Smart Stream Grant was approved after the Budget Committee met. The increase was due to be able to complete the Smart Stream project and take advantage of the \$95,000 grant.

Capital Improvement	Res Balance	FY-18 MGR	BC	BOS
Computer/Technology (Admin)	1500	1500	1500	1500
Assessment Review (Admin)				
Records Restoration (Admin)	6500	1500	1500	1500
Public Works Reserve (Plow Truck)	84909	60000	60000	60000
Ambulance Purchase	22265	15000	15000	15000
Bridge Repair (Sandy Shores)	5900	120000	60000	120000
BLDG Improvements				
CAP BLDG Res (Alewife)	246218			
Cemetery Improvements	299			
Comprehensive Plan	6000			
Dry Hydrant Install	2398			
FD Equipment Purchase (Fire Truck)	156544	25000	25000	25000
Ambulance Equipment Reserve				
Ambulance Equipment Reserve		3200	3200	3200
Stretcher		2000	2000	2000
Stair Chair		1000	1000	1000
Road Improvement	1864	250000	250000	250000
Recreation Reserve (0 Turn Mower)		2000		
TOTAL	534397	481200	419200	479200

Discussion: The Town received a grant of \$95,000. So the project needs to move forward to use this grant money. The original plan was to set aside a smaller amount at a time.

Article 21 was moved and seconded for \$479,200. 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 Personnel for the period July 1, 2017 to June 30, 2018.

Board of Selectmen recommends: Vote 5-0 \$186,515

Budget Committee recommends: Vote 5-6 \$185,515

Article 22 was moved and seconded for \$186,515. It was passed as written, by a show of hands.

Article 23: 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, 2017 to June 30, 2018.

Revenue	FY 17-18
Administration Income	12000
Ambulance Fees	100000
Boat Excise	5000
Building Permits	8200
Cable Franchise	11000
Recreation Programming Fees	9000
Excise Tax	625000

Property Tax Interest	33000
Investment Interest	3400
Transfer Station Fees	3056
Trash Bags	86944
Lien Costs	10000
Concealed Weapons	350
Planning Board	600
Tree Growth	8500
Animal Control	2000
Junk Yard Permits	150
Plumbing Permits	3200
Town Clerk Fees	4800
DOT/LRAP	52000
General Assistance Reimbursement	5000
State Revenue Sharing	215000
Homestead Act	90000
Entertainment Fees	300
Library	100
BETE	6000
Veterans Exemption	2400
Scrap Metal	600
MEMA Reimbursement (Fema EMA D)	2700
Prison Hydrant Refund	6756
Total:	1,307,056

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

Article 24: 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 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 authorize the Selectmen to procure a temporary loan or loans, in anticipation of taxes, for payment of obligations of the Town; such loan or loans to be paid during the current municipal year by taxation or act thereon.

Discussion: Why is this needed? Board has not needed this for the last couple years thanks to the change in tax dates, but not quite ready to get rid of the backup. Would this allow the Selectman to buy a new truck? Board all agree this would not be used for anything else but what is written in the article.

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

Article 26: To see if the Town will vote to fix the 15th day of November, 2017 and the 15th day of May, 2018 as the due dates when assessed taxes shall be payable and to charge 7.00% per annum interest on all unpaid taxes after that date.

Discussion: What is the amount that loan interest would be for the Town, why is it so high at 7%? Board is unsure of current % as they have not had to take out a loan, the higher amount to encourage paying on time.

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 use of funds from the Fund Balance to cover annual abatements, or take any action relating to the same.

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, pursuant to 36 MRSA §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.

Discussion: Resident unclear what this is for. Jim Murphy: this is a standard article, it's included every year but in his 22 years as an assessor this has never been used.

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

Article 29: 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.

Discussion: What is the procedure for the Town to acquire these properties? The process takes some time, when taxes are not paid for a number of years the town forecloses on the property. Nine (9) properties were acquired last year, they were put out to bid, 8 out of the 9 were bid on and paid for with a higher amount than what was owed in taxes.

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 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 anything thereon.

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

Article 31: 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 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, pursuant to 30-A MRS §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.

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 Selectmen, pursuant to 30-A MRS §5654, on behalf of the Town, to conditionally accept conditional gifts of money or property in trust pending affirmative action by Town Meeting vote.

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 adopt changes to the Town of Warren "Shoreland Zoning Ordinance". If approved this ordinance will replace the existing "Shoreland Use Ordinance" enacted March 20, 1993.

Discussion: What are the changes? CEO Melody Sainio: the biggest change is that they are removing volume and going by square footage.

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 to choose the solid waste disposal facility.

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 prohibit commercial marijuana activities to include but not limit to marijuana processing facilities, testing facilities, cultivation facilities, retail businesses and social clubs.

Discussion: Selectman Lufkin: the State is trying to regulate this now, he would like to see it taken care of the way alcohol was; ban completely let the State and other towns sort out the issues with it then at a later time they may want to introduce it. This does not affect residents from possessing it, growing it or using it in their homes for personal use. Marijuana is still illegal on a federal level. Joseph Berkenbile: The only thing the Town would gain from allowing it is a startup fee. Cannot Tax it like they do elsewhere. Can still have it for personal use, recommends banning it. A resident involved with medical marijuana is not for the ban, he has had no issues currently and would hate to miss an opportunity. Resident, against this we collect taxes, wants it in the Town.

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 discontinue a portion Packard Mill Road Traveling from the intersection of Rte.90 onto the Packard Mill Road for 1868 feet to pole #7. This portion will remain a public way. The discontinued road starts at pole #7 and runs in a southeast direction for 1037 feet till it dead ends. The width of this road is 49.5 or 3 rod.

Discussion: Gerald Anderson asked why they wanted to close the road. Abutting land owners requested, it will save on maintenance to pave the portion of the road still owned by the Town. Anderson warned that closing the road would make it so no one would be able to go fishing down at the river and would stop access to the river if needed. A resident stated that the road does not go to the river. Anderson read from a book of Warren dated May 17 1845 that it does in fact go to the river, his family has owned property out on the river since 1897 his Dad built a camp out there in 1948. Resident wants it discontinued so she can ride her horse on a dirt road and enable them to get their equipment to the property without damage to a paved road.

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

Motion made to adjourn the meeting at 8:32p.m.

72 Residents, 5 non-residents attended the Warren Town Meeting on June 20, 2017.

Respectfully submitted by Board Secretary Sara K. Davis on June 21, 2017.

Given under our hands this 19th day of July, A.D.2017.

William Lufkin, Chairman

Wayne Luce

Wayne Luce, Vice Chair

Arnold D. Hill

Arnold D. Hill

James Kinney

James Kinney

Carole Courtenay

Carole Courtenay

Melissa A. Sukeforth
Melissa A. Sukeforth, Town Clerk