

**TOWN OF WARWICK**  
**In Person Meeting of the Warwick Selectboard**  
**Warwick Community School**  
**September 9, 2024**  
**6:00 p.m.**  
**MEETING MINUTES**

**Selectboard Members Present:** Keith Ross, Chair; Brian Snell, Vice-Chair; Alan Genovese, Clerk

**Others Present:** David Young, Town Coordinator; Amanda Carey, Selectboard Secretary; Bruce Kilhart, Highway Commission; Kevin Alden, Highway Commission, Tracy Styles, Board of Assessors and Highway Commission Clerk

**Present via Zoom:** Diana Noble, Finance Committee Chair

**I. CALL TO ORDER**

Keith Ross called the meeting to order 6:02p.m.

**II. ANNOUNCEMENTS – None**

**III. MINUTES**

**Snell MOVED to approve the minutes of the July 22, 2024 meeting as presented. SECONDED by Genovese. Motion CARRIED. 3-0-0.**

**IV. CITIZEN’S CONCERNS AND SUGGESTIONS FOR FUTURE AGENDA ITEMS**

Diana Noble requested input from the Board as to a policy/procedure for who will be allowed to use the school’s new bus. Noble suggested forming a working group to establish a policy/procedure. Young questioned whether we even want anyone else to be able to use it for things other than school use. Snell requested this item be on the next agenda so the Board has time to review and discuss further.

**V. ITEMS UNANTICIPATED AT TIME OF POSTING**

Kevin Alden indicated that the Highway Commission recently held a performance review with the Highway Superintendent. The Commission recommends keeping Matt Dorgan in the position. Matt requested an increase in pay of \$32.00/hour. The Commission voted 2-1 to keep him at his current rate of \$29.67/hour. This rate includes a 3% cost of living raise that all town employees received at the beginning of this fiscal year. The one Commissioner that voted against keeping him at his current rate suggested giving him \$31.00/hour. The Board accepts the Commission’s recommendation to keep Dorgan at his current rate of \$29.67/hour.

Kilhart presented the Board with a potential new (used) truck for the Highway Department. Kilhart explained that this truck will not fit in the Highway Garage. It will have to be stored in the salt shed. The cost of the truck is \$79,900. There is further discussion regarding payment/available payment for the truck. Young suggests purchasing it out of the Highway's machinery account. Borrowing will require Town Meeting approval. Another option would be to pay for it out of the Highway's budget and then go to Town Meeting with an article to request to transfer funds from stabilization back into the budget to replenish it. The Fair Share account that is awarded outside of Chapter 90 funds currently has \$124,000 but Young does not support using these funds to purchase a truck because he feels that funding should be used for paving projects. Noble indicated that she supports reimbursing the machinery account with stabilization funds rather than using other funds but she cannot speak for the entire Finance Committee.

## **VI. DISCUSSIONS AND REPORTS**

### **a. Six Town Regional Planning Board – update on the work of DRAS subcommittee**

Genovese reported that the DRAS Subcommittee has been working on the next steps for the Six Town Regional Planning Board. DESE will not even look at establishing a new district unless it has a name first, so a working group has been brainstorming to come up with a name. Another topic they have discussed is how to close a school. If five out of the six towns vote to close a school, the school closes. They ended their discussions with a long review of how Warwick does not want to close our school. Gill has concerns because they have a small school as well. Genovese suggested that the Town that is voted to be closed must vote in the affirmative in order for that school to be the one to close. Another option discussed was if a school is voted to be closed, they could allow that community to pay extra funding to stay open if they chose to.

### **b. Coordinator Report**

Young suggested granting the Wagon Wheel Campground's request for an extension on their two-year grandfather clause. The Board agrees.

### **c. Selectboard Reports – nothing**

## **VII. ACTIONS**

### **a. Surplus property declarations**

Young indicated that there is a telescope at the school that needs to be declared as surplus property.

**Snell MOVED to declare the telescope at the school as surplus property. Genovese SECONDED. Motion CARRIED. 3-0-0.**

**b. Approve concept Community Compact grant to support Senior Social Isolation measure**

**Genovese MOVED to approve the support of pursuing the Community Compact grant. Snell SECONDED. Motion CARRIED. 3-0-0.**

**c. Appoint Phil Harris Deputy Local Building Inspector**

**Genovese MOVED to appoint Phil Harris as Deputy Local Building Inspector with the stipulation that Harris reports to the Selectboard. Snell SECONDED. Motion CARRIED. 3-0-0.**

**d. Approval of administrative actions taken, if any – nothing**

The next regularly scheduled meetings will be September 30<sup>th</sup>, October 21<sup>st</sup>, and November 4<sup>th</sup>.

**Genovese MOVED to adjourn the meeting at 7:11p.m. Snell SECONDED. Motion CARRIED. 3-0-0.**

Respectfully submitted,

Amanda Carey  
Selectboard Secretary

*Documents consulted at this meeting:*

- \*Meeting agenda dated September 9, 2024
- \*Coordinator Report dated September 5, 2024
- \*Draft Selectboard meeting minutes dated July 22, 2024
- \*FY24 facilities task list by Tony Streeter
- \*Free Cash Certification 536,646 August 2024
- \*Mass Cities-Towns Contact List
- \*Phil Harris cert