DRAFT WARREN BOARD OF SELECTMEN SPECIAL MEETING Tuesday, July 15, 2025

CALL TO ORDER:

Chairwoman McCartin called the Warren meeting to order at 9:00 AM and Wentworth Selectman Brian DuBois led the audience in the Pledge of Allegiance.

Warren Select Board Members Present: Shirley McCartin and Chuck Sackett

Staff/Officials Present: Town Administrator – Austin Albro, Fire Chief – Arthur Heath, Police Chief – John Semertgakis, Treasurer – Sheila Foote

Plymouth Staff/Officials Present: Plymouth Town Manager – Scott Weden, Plymouth Fire and Rescue Chief – Kevin Pierce

Wentworth Select Board Members Present: Arnold Scheller and Brian DuBois

Public Present: Numerous members of the public were present.

NEW BUSINESS:

Wentworth Selectman Brian DuBois thanked everyone for coming and explained that the purpose of the meeting was to allow the Select Boards to meet with Plymouth Town Manager Scott Weden and Plymouth Fire and Rescue Chief Kevin Pierce to formalize an agreement ensuring continued EMS coverage. Mr. DuBois stated that there would be no public comment at this meeting and that Chief Pierce would attend the next Select Board meeting in Wentworth and would also schedule a time to meet with Warren to answer public questions.

Plymouth Town Manager Scott Weden introduced himself and provided an extensive background regarding his experience in emergency services and local government. Town Manager Weden emphasized local control and expressed his willingness to help the communities, noting that decisions ultimately rest with the local Select Boards.

Plymouth Fire Chief Kevin Pierce provided information to the audience regarding the abrupt notification that Warren Wentworth Ambulance Service was unavailable and the prompt emergency measures he put into place to ensure continued coverage for Warren and Wentworth.

Town Manager Weden informed the Select Board that Plymouth would charge each municipality \$1,500 per call. He clarified that this rate was non-negotiable and that funding received through insurance billing would be reimbursed to the towns. The average recovery rate is approximately 38%.

It was clarified that calls responded to since Wednesday were covered under mutual aid, and that a contract would be necessary moving forward.

Chief Pierce stated that, based on a preliminary review of available data, the busiest months for the area were July and December, with up to 12 calls per month. He projected approximately 68 calls between the current date and the end of March.

C. Sackett moved to enter into the agreement with Plymouth Fire and Rescue for EMS coverage. The motion was seconded by S. McCartin. Vote: McCartin – yes, Sackett – yes, and the motion passed 2-0-0.

The Wentworth Board entered into the agreement with Plymouth Fire and Rescue, as well.

Wentworth Fire Chief Jeff Ames informed the public that the local fire departments were also responding immediately to medical calls, highlighting that someone would be there while waiting for the ambulance. Warren Fire Chief Heath reiterated the same sentiment.

Plymouth Fire and Rescue Chief Pierce expressed that many of his employees were pleased with the coordination between onsite responders from local fire departments and his crew over the weekend.

Wentworth Fire Department member Steve Welch shared a personal emergency experience and expressed appreciation for the towns signing the contract, noting the quality of the response.

ADJOURN:

S. McCartin moved to adjourn the special meeting of the Select Board. The motion was seconded by C. Sackett. Vote: McCartin – yes, Sackett – yes, and the motion passed 2-0-0. The Board adjourned at approximately 9:45 AM.