

**WARREN BOARD OF
SELECTMEN REGULAR MEETING
Wednesday, August 20, 2025**

CALL TO ORDER:

Chairwoman McCartin called the meeting to order at 5:00 PM and led the audience in the Pledge of Allegiance.

Select Board Members Present: Shirley McCartin, Chuck Sackett and Jeremy Hair.

Staff/Officials Present: Town Administrator – Austin Albro, Tax Collector – Maria Sanders, Deputy Tax Collector – Karen Youngman, Treasurer – Sheila Foote, Fire Chief – Arthur Heath, Police Chief – John Semertgakis, Warren Village School Board Chairman – Donald Bagley Sr.,

Public Present: Tracie Wheeler, Ed Shanshala, Tom and Lisa Mantz

SELECT BOARD MANIFEST: C. Sackett *moved to approve the August 6, 2025 manifest as presented. J. Hair seconded the motion. Vote: McCartin – yes, Hair – yes, Sackett – yes, and the motion passed 3-0-0.*

APPROVAL OF MINUTES: J. Hair *moved to approve the August 6, 2025 minutes as written. C. Sackett seconded the motion. Vote: McCartin – yes, Hair – yes, Sackett – yes, and the motion passed 3-0-0.*

PUBLIC COMMENT:

Ed Shanshala, CEO of Ammonoosuc Community Health Services (ACHS), explained that ACHS serves as the fiduciary agent for the Warren Wentworth Food Pantry and expressed his willingness to assist the Town in finding a new location for the organization if necessary. He also voiced concerns regarding the recent loss of the Warren Wentworth Ambulance Service. Mr. Shanshala noted that earlier in the day he had met with Senator Shaheen to discuss rural food insecurity, regional food deserts, and Warren's current challenges related to both the food pantry and ambulance service.

Don Bagley, Chairman of the Warren School Board, reported that the balance of the FY2025 budget is \$114,000. He further explained that the school is projected to begin the year with a deficit estimated between \$160,000 and \$180,000. Chairman Bagley also provided an update on bussing.

TREASURER:

Treasurer Sheila Foote was present at the meeting and provided a report to the Board for review.

The Town of Warren Operating Account balance is \$605,959.46 after tonight's

approved manifest of \$236,137.58.

The Town of Warren Town Clerk Account balance is \$4,930.84.

The Tax Collections Account balance is \$435,288.46.

TAX COLLECTOR:

Tax Collector, Maria Sanders was present and provided the following reports and information for the Board's consideration.

Collections Summary for the month of August 2025 (Printed Aug 20, 2025)

- a. \$10,024.93 has been collected in Gross Receipts for the month of August. (\$8,586.76 in principal; \$263.17 in interest and penalties; and \$1,175.00 in credits to be applied to 2025 P02 bill.)

Collections Summary for 2025 (1/1/2025 through 8/20/2025)

- a. \$1,965,237.48 has been collected in Gross Receipts for 2025. (\$1,941,118.39 in principal; \$10,329.66 in interest and penalties; and \$13,789.43 in credits to be applied to 2025 P01 bill.)

The Tax Collector informed the Board that deeds will be executed at 5:00 PM on September 4, 2025.

BUILDINGS AND GROUNDS:

Manager George Russell was not present but submitted a written report. He noted that all fire extinguishers in Town buildings have received their annual inspection. He assisted John with moving equipment on Swain Hill and Old Glendcliff Road. Mr. Russell also reported that tree limbs behind the library are being pruned because they were hitting the roof.

At the Transfer Station, Mr. Russell reported that he is temporarily allowing the Old Home Day Committee to store items on site. He is working to extend the interval between compactor shipments from three weeks to four weeks. One bale of cardboard was produced.

FIRE CHIEF:

Fire Chief Arthur Heath reported on recent department activity. He noted that no community members attended the informational sessions on emergency medical responder training opportunities. Six members of the Fire Department, including the Chief of Police, are participating in the course.

There was also discussion regarding equipment purchased from Warren Wentworth Ambulance Service (WWAS). The Administrator noted that at the August 6 meeting, the Board approved payment of \$2,100 for communication equipment and an AED.

Don Bagley, member of the WWAS Board of Directors, reported that the IRS permitted WWAS to exchange its recently acquired 2003 Ford ambulance to satisfy the amount owed to the Town for services paid for but not provided from July 9 through July 31. Before accepting the ambulance, the Board of Selectmen requested a safety inspection and review by a third-party mechanic.

POLICE CHIEF:

Police Chief John Semertgakis provided a report of recent activity. He reported a disabled motor vehicle on Route 25 involving a juvenile driver whose vehicle overheated and was removed by AAA; the driver was picked up by a legal guardian. Chief Semertgakis also reported completing a VIN verification on Lund Lane for a boat and trailer combination. He reported a call for a disabled motorcycle at the intersection of Route 118 and Route 25 while responding to another matter. A tow truck was on scene upon his arrival.

26 Stops, 3 Citations.

TOWN ADMINISTRATOR:

Town Administrator Austin Albro reported that he had spoken earlier in the day with a promising new IT vendor. He noted that he intends to provide a year-to-date budget summary along with a review of the revised revenues submitted to DRA at the next meeting. The Administrator confirmed that the Board had no concerns with Steps of Grace Dance Group utilizing the Town Hall later this year for another session of youth dance classes. The Board agreed to allow use of the Town Hall.

NEW BUSINESS:

- a) The Board reviewed and signed intents to cut for Map 230, Lots: 001.

OLD BUSINESS:

- a) The Administrator reminded the audience of the public hearing scheduled for August 26 at 5:00 PM at the Town Hall to allow residents to discuss whether the Town should proceed with a Special Town Meeting to consider the purchase of 446 Route 25, the former Warren Wentworth Ambulance Service building. The Administrator further explained that he had consulted legal counsel, who outlined the procedure and timeline should the outcome of the public hearing be in favor of moving forward.
- b) The Administrator reported that he is working on the RFQ for engineering services and the FLAP application, and noted he would also attempt to complete the Timber for Transit application if time allowed. He further reported that he had communicated with NHDOT, which indicated it would await award confirmation before discussing the potential reallocation of Fish Hatchery Road funding.
- c) The Administrator expects to provide an update in September on demolition design, as well as demolition bidding and oversight, for the Main Street demolition project.

CORRESPONDENCE:

- a) The Board reviewed recent correspondence.

Scotty Brown thanked Fire Chief Arthur Heath and suggested that the school conduct a bus evacuation drill.

NON-PUBLIC SESSION:

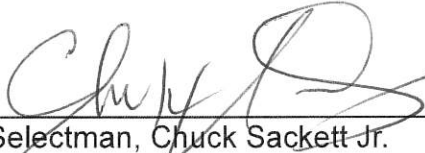
J. Hair moved to enter into nonpublic session, in accordance with RSA 91-A:3 II (c) The motion was seconded by S. McCartin. Vote: McCartin – yes, Hair – yes, Sackett – yes, and the motion passed 3-0-0. The Board entered into nonpublic session at 6:01 P.M.

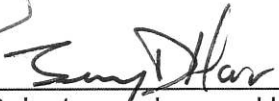
C. Sackett moved to exit nonpublic session and return to public session at 6:09 P.M. The motion was seconded by S. McCartin. Vote: McCartin – yes, Hair – yes, Sackett – yes, and the motion passed 3-0-0.

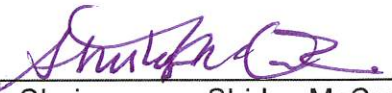
J. Hair moved to seal the minutes of the nonpublic session for 40 years, pursuant to RSA 91-A:3, III, as it was determined that the divulgence of the information discussed would likely adversely affect the reputation of an individual other than a member of the Board. Given the unique dynamics of a small-town community, where information can quickly become personal and impactful, the Board affirmed that long-term confidentiality is essential to preserving the privacy, dignity, and reputation of the individual involved. The motion was seconded by S. McCartin. Vote: McCartin – yes, Hair – yes, Sackett – yes, and the motion passed 3-0-0.

ADJOURN:

C. Sackett moved to adjourn the regular meeting of the Select Board. The motion was seconded by J. Hair. Vote: McCartin – yes, Hair – yes, Sackett – yes, and the motion passed 3-0-0. The Board adjourned at 6:10 PM.


Selectman, Chuck Sackett Jr.


Selectman, Jeremy Hair


Chairwoman, Shirley McCartin