WARREN BOARD OF SELECTMEN REGULAR MEETING Wednesday, October 29, 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, Treasurer – Sheila Foote, Police Chief – John Semertgakis, Fire Chief – Arthur Heath, Road Agent – John Corso

Public Present: Jeff and Judy Tompkins, Kathy Archibald, Tom and Lisa Mantz, Jeff Pfeiffer, John Cyr, Christine Hytenin, Tom Babbit

SELECT BOARD MANIFEST: *J. Hair moved to approve the October 29, 2025 manifest as written. S. McCartin seconded the motion. Vote: McCartin – yes, Hair – yes, Sackett – yes, and the motion passed 3-0-0.*

APPROVAL OF MINUTES: C. Sackett moved to approve the October 15, 2025 minutes as written. J. Hair seconded the motion. Vote: McCartin – yes, Hair – yes, Sackett – yes, and the motion passed 3-0-0.

PUBLIC COMMENT:

Don Bagley, member of the Cemetery Trustees, informed the Board that 2 out of 6 trees have been removed and a new flag pole has been ordered for the Veteran's Cemetery.

John Cyr expressed concerns relative to a new resident in Warren, alleged to be an unregistered sexual predator, and separately expressed concerns regarding repeated criminal activity and the alleged abuse of another resident.

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 \$306,949.44 after tonight's approved manifest of \$211,148.14. The September reconciliation report was included for review.

The Town of Warren Town Clerk Account balance is \$3,500.00. The September reconciliation report was included for review.

The Tax Collections Account balance is \$444,552.78. The September reconciliation

report was included for review.

BUILDINGS AND GROUNDS:

Manager George Russell was not present but submitted a written report. He noted that the windows in the Town Hall have been repaired. The tent used for the Fall Festival has been taken down and placed in storage. Mr. Russell reported that he has begun work on the irrigation line project for the Common and continues to assist John with moving equipment.

At the Transfer Station, Mr. Russell reported that ten bales of cardboard were shipped out, and scrap metal will be shipped next week. Another bale of cardboard has been completed, and a bale of plastic is currently in progress.

ROAD AGENT:

Road Agent John Corso was present and provided a report of recent activity to the Board. He explained that he was working to complete the improvements to Swain Hill and replaced multiple culverts on Studio Road.

FIRE CHIEF:

Fire Chief Arthur Heath reported on recent department activity.

POLICE CHIEF:

Chief John Semertgakis provided the Board of Selectmen with a summary of recent department activity. He reported a motor vehicle complaint on Route 25 involving a vehicle overtaking a school bus with activated lights; the matter remains under investigation. A welfare check was conducted on Route 25, with no issues found. A house alarm on Beech Hill Road was determined to be a false alarm triggered by a contractor painting the home.

Chief Semertgakis also reported participation in the Warren Village School evacuation drill, which included a tour of the Masonic Temple as a potential temporary student hub during emergencies. A civil standby was conducted at the Warren Town Office during a custody exchange, with no issues reported.

In addition, there was a trespass complaint on Route 118 regarding bear hunting on private property, which remains under investigation. The Chief completed paperwork service for a resident's pistol permit and handled an Involuntary Emergency Admission (IEA) involving an individual temporarily staying in Warren who is currently at the hospital for a mental health evaluation.

Selectman Sackett asked Warren Village School Board Chairman whether the school busses had cameras. D. Bagley replied that the busses have cameras on the inside but not the outside.

22 Traffic Stops, 3 Citations Issued.

TOWN ADMINISTRATOR:

The Town Administrator provided a brief report on recent activity, noting that much of the work completed over the past several weeks would be addressed later in the meeting. The Administrator further noted that end-of-year activities, including budget preparation and the compilation of the Town Report, will begin to ramp up over the coming weeks.

NEW BUSINESS:

- a) The Administrator noted that there was an unanticipated delay regarding the Tax Rate and that the Warrant would likely be available for signature at the next meeting.
- b) The Board reviewed and signed two deeds for tax deeded property redeemed by the former owner.

OLD BUSINESS:

- a) The Administrator reported that he had not yet heard from Senator McHough's office regarding the HCPAC funding opportunity and noted that ACHS was being proactive in attempting to connect with the funders.
- b) The Administrator noted that the bid documents were nearly complete and there were ongoing discussions about demolition timing.
- c) Selectman Hair and Administrator Albro provided an update following the initial EMS regionalization meeting. They reported that preliminary discussions regarding funding had taken place. J. Hair and A. Albro noted that the group would reconvene in a few weeks to continue discussions related to funding and district operations. C. Hytenin recommended that the Warren representatives seek clarification on contingencies, staging, and the potential for per-diem shifts for local responders, as previously suggested by Chief Pierce as a means of mitigating costs.
- d) The Administrator reported that the Town Building Committee met to review available materials related to the highway garage project, including plans for the facility currently under construction in Bath. The committee discussed next steps for preparing a warrant article for consideration at the March Town Meeting and agreed to meet again in two weeks.
- e) The Board began its review of the qualification statements for bridge engineering services and will work to develop a shortlist of vendors to advance to the next stage of the selection process.

CORRESPONDENCE:

The Board reviewed recent correspondence and received a notice of deficiency for Beech Hill Road. The Administrator informed the Board that he and the Road Agent would inspect the area of concern and that he would consult with legal counsel as needed.

PUBLIC COMMENT:

Sue McLean, a member of the South Main Water District, attended the meeting to

request permission from the Board of Selectmen to install a chain-link fence marking the wellhead protection area. The Board agreed to meet with Ms. McLean on-site prior to the conclusion of the meeting.

NON-PUBLIC SESSION:

- J. Hair moved to enter into nonpublic session, in accordance with RSA 91-A:3 II (a). The motion was seconded by C. Sackett. Vote: McCartin yes, Hair yes, Sackett yes, and the motion passed 3-0-0. The Board entered into nonpublic session at 5:59 PM.
- S. McCartin moved to exit nonpublic session and return to public session at 6:09 PM. The motion was seconded by J. Hair. Vote: McCartin yes, Hair yes, Sackett yes, and the motion passed 3-0-0.
- S. McCartin 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 J. Hair. Vote: McCartin yes, Hair yes, Sackett yes, and the motion passed 3-0-0.

SITE VISIT:

The Board recessed the meeting at 6:10 PM to conduct a site visit at the Town Office property regarding the South Main Street Water District's request to install fencing around the wellhead protection area.

While on site, Sue McLean and members of the SMSWD amended their request to include only the installation of signage denoting the protection area. The Board unanimously agreed to the revised request.

Following the visit, the Board reconvened the meeting at 6:15 PM and formally acknowledged SMSWD's change from chain-link fencing to signage, unanimously approving the installation of signage on Town property marking the wellhead protection area.

ADJOURN:

J. Hair moved to adjourn the regular meeting of the Select Board. The motion was seconded by S. McCartin. Vote: McCartin – yes, Hair – yes, Sackett – yes, and the motion passed 3-0-0. The Board adjourned at 6:16 PM.

Selectman, Chuck Sackett Jr.

Selectman, Jeremy Hair

Chairwoman, Shirley McCartin