

## WALDEN SELECTBOARD MEETING MINUTES

December 30,2024

Present: Robert Hatch, Brenda Huntoon, Randolph Wilson and Debbie Messier with Roger Fox via Zoom

The meeting was called to order at 6:30 pm

The minutes of the December 16,2024 meeting were approved.

Public Comment: Roger Fox announced that he will no longer be Walden's Town Moderator. Roger also commented about the FY26 budget development.

Road Report: The old 6-wheel truck has been sold. Bob Bell researched the timing of truck replacements and found that it is back to six months from ordering to receiving. The timing of a new body is still unknown but also is improving. Walden began discussing coordinating the paving of Cabot Road and Route 215 with Cabot. Everyone agrees that it would save both money.

Town Clerk's Report: Beginning in 2025 all municipal officers will be required to have Ethics and Conflict of Interest training. Every town will have a representative to the State Ethics Commission and have a designated reporting recipient (Town Office). Additional training will be required every three years. The office is busy with the Town Report and continued FEMA paperwork which is complicated by the size of the damage to town roads and bridges. The office held its first meeting with outside Auditing Firm to begin process of the upcoming FY 2024/2025 audit.

Year end employee bonuses were discussed with the Board agreeing on \$350.00 per person for 2024.

Our current FY25 budget was discussed. We will once again need a short-term operational loan while waiting for FEMA re-imbusement. Our FY26 budget development continued. Our General Budget has about a 1% increase with \$281,743.61 needing to be raised by taxes, and the Highway Budget will be presented without an increase and \$439,835.00 needing to be raised by taxes.

Bills and the 250<sup>th</sup> year Anniversary Resolution were signed

The Meeting adjourned at 7:25 pm

Submitted by R. Wilson