

Agenda  
Warren Selectboard  
December 11, 2018  
Warren Municipal Building  
7:00 PM

✓ 7:00 PM – Public Comment

✓ 7:05 PM – Highway Budget

✓ 7:30 PM – Planning Commission Budget

✓ 7:50 PM – Warren Library Budget

8:20 PM – Approval of Minutes for December 4, 2018

8:25 PM – Approval of Payroll and Payable Warrants

8:30 PM – Other Business

\$ 58,301.27 \$ 51,688.23

\*\*Agenda Subject to Change\*\*

## Warren Selectboard Minutes

December, 11, 2018

Warren Municipal Building

7:00 PM

**Members Present:** Andrew Cunningham, Chair, Bob Ackland, Vice Chair, Randy Graves & Mary Ellen Alberti.

**Members Absent:** Luke Youmell.

**Others Present:** Marie Schmukal, Patti Kaufmann, David Ellison, Kate Wanner, Liz Raddock, Chelsea (TV 44/45), Ruth Robbins, Katie (VR), Ray Weston, Perry Bigelow, Alan Hartshorn and Cindi Jones.

**7:05 PM – Public Comment** – Mr. Hartshorn had some questions concerning the support of the Rice Parcel that the Green Mountain National Forest is trying to acquire. He commented that these 512 acres would coming off the tax rolls with some financial hit to the town and it taking the parcel out of logging that provides jobs and helps with land management. He also commented that he has a 300' right of way through the parcel which is documented as the forest service found out earlier in the year when the parcel was going to be logged. The Forest Service is in the process of acquiring the timber rights to the parcel with the purchase. Ms. Wanner did explain the decision on the interest of the parcel and the Land Water Conservation Grant that was being completed for funding the sale of the acquisition. Mr. Hartshorn also commented that the on his brother's land the Catamount Trail runs directly on the property line and that the trail has a section of the it that is too steep for skiers. They then ski down across private land into the sugar woods destroying valuable sugaring lines with no respect to the owner and through his sisters' yard. Ms. Wanner commented she did have a conversation with the Catamount Trail in regard to this and they did a year ago help to put up signs and get the word out to stay on the trail. if there is anything else, they can do, they are willing to help in anyway they can. It will not stop all the people but maybe just a few and even adding signage at the trail head might help. Mr. Hartshorn did comment that the Hanks Road is a Class 4 road and the Town is responsible for bridges and culverts which somewhere from 2003 and back the bridge was removed without consideration for the right of way. Mr. Cunningham commented that the Selectboard took action last meeting and agreed to write a letter of support for the project. At some point the Conservation Commission will be asking the town for some money out of the Conservation Fund as a small match to the project.

**7:25pm - Warren Highway Budget – Ray Weston** – Mr. Weston went through the budget and highlighted just a few increases. The salt budget was going up 11% which the price is up by \$9/ton. In diesel the budget actuals are over from last year due to the highway crew doing a lot of work this summer to the roads with various projects. The cost is always volatile with the market and with another busy planned summer, it was increased by 9%. Mr. Cunningham asked if the ice issue on German Flats by Briar Cliff had been taken care of. Mr. Weston responded that we did contact the owners and that the town took the backhoe up and made a berm along t he ditch line to direct the flow of water and an ice berm on the end of Carriage House Lane to direct any flow from their road towards the Fayston line into the ditch. The Town did salt and scrape all the ice buildup off the road and salted heavily the end of the drive way to remove the buildup. Mr. Ackland commented that he had received the paving/work plan and after he meets with Mr. Weston and Ms. Jones it will be presented at the December 11<sup>th</sup> meeting. Mr. Graves wanted to thank the road crew for all their hard work this summer and their attention to the roads this winter.

**7:35 PM – Planning Commission/DRB Budget – Ruth Robbins** – Ms. Robbins gave an overview of the budget and asked if the board had questions. Mr. Cunningham inquired in the increase in the Town Planning/Zoning Updates. This was an \$18,000 increase to facilitate in hiring the consultant who just completed the Town Plan to review, clean, rewrite the regulations in a simpler format for the public and for the officials of the town. The consultant would first do an audit for around \$2,500 to prepare and plan out the revisions. The board felt that the budget number should be \$10,000 in the general operation budget and \$8,000 of the Capital Account: Town Planning and Development. Ms. Robbins also explained that she would like to hire a Planning Assistant at 15 hours a week at \$18.00/hour to continue to take minutes of the PC/DRB, help out reorganizing the files etc. She may not use that person every week for 15 hours but if Sugarbush comes in with an application, she will need some help. She did comment that the Planning Commission has seen and already approved the budget.

**7:50 PM – Warren Public Library – Marie Schmukal** – Ms. Schmukal presented charts on foot traffic to the library and circulation traffic were right on par from last year. She highlighted that they have been doing more programs and they have been very well received and very successful. She also commented that she is also reaching out to organizations to expand communication. One board member asked about postage as there was no cost. Ms. Schmukal commented that the State has a courier program where they pay ½ the cost and the friends pay the other ½. They used to ask for donations, however, if you are the State courier program you cannot accept donations. She also pointed out that the digital collection has increased, but she has taken small bits out of other costs to compensate for this.

Ms. Kauffman asked if she could ask about the Capital Account. Mr. Cunningham commented that they can ask any questions they want. The Library would like to continue to see the Town fund the Capital Account at the \$5,000 as it as for a number of years now that expenses are being taken out of the account. She also would like to have a plan on the emergency shelter if it is being used as a shelter and if the Library plays any role and if the Library floor is going to be used. Mr. Cunningham commented that would be Mr. Campbell's area as he is the Emergency Management Coordinator. Ms. Kauffman also commented that she and Ms. Raddock are stepping down at March Town Meeting after many years of service to the Town. The board thanked both of them for their service to the Town.

**8:15 PM – Approval of Payroll Warrants** – Motion by Mr. Ackland to approve the payroll warrants as presented for \$58,301.27, second by Mr. Graves. All in Favor: VOTE:4-0.

**8:17 PM – Approval of Accounts Payable Warrants** – Motion by Mr. Ackland to approve the accounts payable warrants as presented for \$51,623.23, second by Ms. Alberti. All inf Favor: VOTE: 4-0.

**8:18 PM Approval of Minutes for December 4, 2018 Rescheduled from November 27, 2018** – Motion by Mr. Ackland to approve the Minutes of December 4, 2018, second by Mr. Graves. All in Favor: VOTE: 3-0. Ms. Alberti was not present at that meeting.

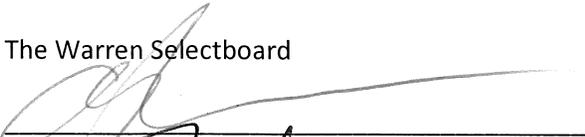
**Other Business:**

Mad River Flow Meeting at the Waitsfield meeting house Thursday, December 13, 2018 from 7:00-9:00 PM to discuss the Local Option Tax.

8:30 PM – Motion by Mr. Ackland to adjourn, second by Ms. Graves. All in Favor: VOTE: 4-0.

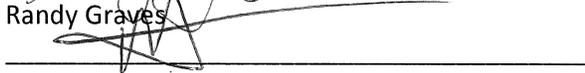
Minutes Respectfully Submitted by,  
Cindi Jones, Warren Town Administrator

The Warren Selectboard

  
\_\_\_\_\_  
Andrew Cunningham, Chair

  
\_\_\_\_\_  
Bob Ackland, Vice Chair

  
\_\_\_\_\_  
Randy Graves

  
\_\_\_\_\_  
Mary Ellen Alberti

\_\_\_\_\_  
Luke Yomell

PAYABLE TO:  
MAIL TO:

# TOWN OF WARREN 2018

PO BOX 337  
WARREN VT 05674

This is the only bill you will receive.

## TAX BILL

802-496-2709

PARCEL ID	BILL DATE	TAX YEAR
003006.4	07/13/2018	2018

Taxes unpaid after Nov. 15, 2018 are delinquent and will be placed in the hands of the Tax Collector. Interest of 1% per month in addition to collector's fee of 8% as allowable by law.

Description: 532 ACRES:

Location:

SPAN # 690-219-12429 SCL CODE: 219  
TOTAL PARCEL ACRES 532.00

OWNER RICE GERALD L JR  
WRL PROPERTIES INC  
C/O RICHARD ALBERTELLI  
1215 N OLIVE DR  
WEST HOLLYWOOD CA 90069

FOR INCOME TAX PURPOSES

ASSESSED VALUE		NON RESIDENTIAL	
REAL	483,100		483,100
<b>TOTAL TAXABLE VALUE</b>	<b>483,100</b>		<b>483,100</b>
<b>GRAND LIST VALUES</b>	<b>4,831.00</b>		<b>4,831.00</b>
For more information about how education tax rates are determined, go online to: <a href="http://tax.vermont.gov/property-owners">http://tax.vermont.gov/property-owners</a>	<b>TAX RATE NAME</b>	<b>TAX RATE x GRAND LIST =</b>	<b>TAXES</b>
	Municipal	0.4200 x4,831.00=	2029.02
	NON RESIDENTIAL EDUCATION	1.6155 x4,831.00=	7804.48
<b>TOTAL TAX STATE PAYMENTS</b>			9833.50
PAYMENT DUE	08/15/2018	<b>NET TAX DUE</b>	9833.50

DETACH THE STUB BELOW AND RETURN WITH YOUR PAYMENT

### TOWN OF WARREN 2018

PAYMENT DUE		TAX YEAR
08/15/2018		2018
OWNER NAME		
RICE GERALD L JR		
PARCEL ID		
003006-4		
AMOUNT DUE	9833.50	
AMOUNT PAID		

Town Office Use

Date Paid:

Amt. Paid:



**Deborah Brighton**

98 Shard Villa Road, Salisbury, Vermont 05769-9432  
802-352-9074 • debbrighton@myfairpoint.net

December 8, 2018

Select Board  
Warren Town Office  
Warren VT 05674

Dear Select Board Members,

Kate Wanner asked me to estimate the tax consequences of a possible acquisition of the Rice parcel by the U.S. Forest Service. As you know, the U.S. government does not pay property taxes on land it owns, but it does make two payments in lieu of taxes to the host communities: one payment to the town and another to the school district.

Town:

The parcel has a listed value of \$483,100. The municipal tax bill is \$2,029. If the parcel had been owned by the USFS this year, the town would have instead received \$1,442 in Payment in Lieu of Taxes (PILT)—resulting in a net revenue loss of \$587. To make up for this loss, the town tax rate would have increased by 1/100 of a penny. The annual tax bill on a \$200,000 property would have increased by about 16 cents.

School:

The school tax bill on the parcel is \$7,804. Because the non-residential tax rate is set statewide, and because the non-residential school tax is paid into the state Education Fund, the loss of the school tax on this parcel would be made up by all property taxpayers in the state, and not by Lincoln taxpayers alone. The federal government makes an annual payment to the school district of the host community. This payment was 65 cents/acre in 2018, which would have resulted in a \$346 payment if this parcel had been owned by the USFS. Theoretically this would lower the per-pupil spending in the district, thereby lowering the homestead rate of Warren residents. However since it is such a small amount that is spread over 1800 students in the new unified school district, the difference would be negligible.

If you have any questions about this, please let me know.

Sincerely,

*Deborah Brighton*

Deb Brighton

# TOWN OF WARREN

**Municipal Building**

**P.O. Box 337**

**Warren, Vermont**

**05674-0337**

Office of:

Town Clerk  
Town Treasurer  
Assessor-Listers  
Collector of Delinquent Taxes  
Administrative Assistant  
Zoning Administrator  
Selectmen

Hours:

9:00-4:30 p.m.  
Monday-Friday

Telephone: 802-496-2709

December 5, 2018

John Sinclair  
Forest Supervisor  
Green Mountain National Forest  
231 North Main St  
Rutland VT 05701

Dear John:

On behalf of the Town of Warren, we enthusiastically support the permanent protection of the strategic forestland in the Lincoln Peak Conservation Project in Warren and Lincoln, Vermont.

We believe federal ownership of these tracts are in the community's interest as it will protect and enhance recreation opportunities, wildlife habitat, water quality, carbon sequestration, flood resiliency, and protect a scenic viewshed from the majority of Warren and the Mad River Byway. Beyond the interests of our Town and the Mad River Valley, the property is of statewide conservation significance since it will secure 1.3 miles of the Catamount Trail and buffer .4 miles of the Long Trail. Protection of these tracts are also important to the long term health of Lincoln Brook and the Mad River, two vital waterways in our town and defining features of the town's landscape.

Tourism is Warren's dominant industry, thus our beautiful mountains, clean air and water, significant public lands, and varied recreation opportunities are essential to our economic future, as well as the quality of life for our residents. This project responds to many of the core values of our Town and addresses many of the goals and strategies in the Warren Town Plan, such as

- Maintain, preserve and enhance the town's natural resources and environmental quality;
- Ensure that critical wildlife habitat is protected from development and that fragmentation of forest land is minimized;
- Maintain and enhance recreational opportunities for residents and visitors; and
- Support the efforts of the Catamount Trail Association, U.S. Forest Service and other parties to create and maintain an integrated trail network throughout town.
- Encourage flood resilient communities

The Warren Select Board gives its full support of this property's permanent protection as an addition to Green Mountain National Forest, and recommend highest consideration for a grant from the Land and Water Conservation Fund.

Sincerely,



Andrew Cunningham  
Warren Select Board, Chair