Warwick Community Newsletter

Administrative Details

All articles, ads and correspondence may be emailed to warwicknewsletter01378@gmail.com (or call Andrea Woods at 544-6844 eves.) or left at the Library book/drop-box or the envelope just outside the kitchen on the first floor of the Metcalf Chapel by the 20th of the month before the article will run. Please note the we are no longer accepting FULL PAGE inserts at all for commercial ads, and are asking every organization in Town to keep their event flyers to 1/2 page or less. If a full page event for news flyer is desired, the organization may print the flyer themselves for insertion (call Nancy Hickler at the Library for the number of copies required—544-7866) or call Andrea Woods, editor, if the information cannot be fit to 1/2 page and a waiver is desired. ADVERTISING NOTE: All Advertisements should be sent to Beth Gilgun at bethgilgun@gmail.com. You may also call her to make arrangements to drop off a hard copy business card. Her number is 544-3464. Business card size ads are $7/month or $70/year. All material may be edited for length, ink intensiveness, or content and may not be anonymous. Some logs and minutes provided may only be available on the Warwick Website at www.warwickma.org due to space limitations. ELECTRONIC SUBSCRIBERS WILL GET FULL SELECTBOARD MINUTES. ANOTHER REASON TO SUBSCRIBE ELECTRONICALLY AND HELP US SAVE MONEY!!

Phone Directory

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Thank you to the following Donors and Advertisers!

Earl & Eleanor Koester  Ann Miner  Kristin Wallock
Total: $145

Please help us keep the Newsletter going! If you would like to make a donation, please make your check out to WCN and mail it to 32 Athol Road, Warwick, MA 01378.

GUILD

Gloria Varno has graciously invited the Guild to her Moores Pond home for our Tuesday, July 3 meeting, which will be held at 1:30 rather than our usual 1:00 meeting time.
Guild members are asked to bring a folding chair and, if they wish, a snack to be shared by all. Those attending should meet at the Town Hall at 1:20 to car pool, as parking is limited at Gloria’s home.
- Martha Morse

Letter of Thanks

THANK YOU to all the Election Workers for the Annual Town Election: Constables George Day and Calvin Fellows; Poll Workers Sheryl Fontaine, Dan Dibble, Barbara Walker, Freddie Fellows, Judy Johnson, Martha Morse, Liz Whipple, Diana Tandy and Rod Whipple; Warden Beth Gilgun. Together you made a great team that allowed for everything to run smoothly. The Town Clerk "runs" all elections, but cannot do it without #TeamElection—Rosa Fratangelo
The Gathering has returned to Warwick Town Hall as a monthly event. The next Gathering will be Friday, 06 July, 10:00 AM to 1:30 PM. There will be soup, quiche, sandwiches and a variety of desserts. Looking forward to seeing previous attendees and hopefully some new faces as well. Watch for the menu to be posted on the Warwick -L email list and Warwick L-ternative Facebook page, Wednesdays prior to the The Gathering. All are welcome. -Diana Tandy

Tracy Gaudet, Outreach Coordinator for Orange COA and Shine Counselor, (Serving Health Insurance Needs for Everyone) will be at Town Hall Tuesdays, 10 and 24 July, from 10:00 AM until Noon. Stop by if you need help with health insurance or to talk about available programs. Contact her, 978-544-3481 or @townoforange.org, she will be bring application forms.

On Thursdays from 6:30 to 7:30 ish there will be DROP-IN KNITTING at the Library. Bring your projects and sit and knit, get help if you need it. Beginner and experienced knitters welcome! All ages welcome! Crocheters welcome! - Julie Severance

Eaden Marti graduated from Greenfield Community College and will attend the Honors College at UMass Boston.

Warwick Scholarship Committee

-A. George Day, Jr.
2018 Scholarship Awards:

Pioneer Valley Regional School - Class of 2018
Warwick Community Scholarship
Dana McRae $700.00
Adrian Paul $700.00
Alice, Eric, Oscar Anderson Scholarship
Eli Koester $700.00
Elizabeth Lambert $700.00
Wade Williams $700.00
Anita L. Pike Memorial Scholarship
Dana McRae $700.00

Northfield Mount Hermon
Alice, Eric, Oscar Anderson Scholarship
Samuel Stone $700.00

Students in college (2nd award)
Warwick Community Scholarship
Marina Gibbons $700.00
Eaden Marti $700.00

2018 total $6,300.00

Scholarship Committee Members
A. George Day, Jr. Warwick Firemen's Association
Kathy Connelly Trinitarian Congregational Church
Erika Nygard Warwick PTO
Linda Gale Women's Auxiliary to Fire Dept.
Arlene (Lincoln) VanderStelt First Parish and Religious Society
Martha Morse Warwick Historical Society
Carol Foote Warwick Women's Guild

Donations may be made to any of the 3 scholarships funds at any time. The committee will be very grateful for any assistance towards keeping the scholarship funds a continuing program for our college students.

DOG LICENSES: As of July 1st there will be a $10 per license late fee assessed to 2018 Warwick dog licenses. Exceptions: new dog, new resident, or dog under 6 months of age.
-Rosa Fratangelo
The following is a third installment of "Voices from the Past"

Mildred Barber Bowers (1902-1988) lived on the corner of Rt. 78 and the Northfield Road in the white house across from the Library. She was the wife of Olin and mother of Arthur, Mae, Jean and Francis, but she was also a community minded person. When someone passed away she would call those in town to tell them of the passing and also ask if they would like to donate to the family. Sometimes it would be 25 cents, 50 cents, and often $1.00. She would then write each person’s name on a card and gather the money and donate it to the family. I don’t know when this started or ended but I personally saw cards with 25 cent donations, so it had to be when 25 cents was worth something. A thing of the past but truly appreciated by many people. Thank you, Mildred.

Submitted by Kristin Wallock

In an attempt to elicit and invite new membership, the Warwick Historical Society (WHS) is embarking upon this monthly column. We hope that Warwick folks, young or old, newbies or old-timers, will consider joining the Society. We meet quarterly and the yearly dues are $10.00. The Society Building is open Sundays during the summer months from 2-4 PM or by appointment. We are planning to do a Cemetery Tour 3:00-4:00 PM on August 25, 2018 during Old Home Days. If you have a particular request of a person/gravesite for that tour, please mention it to a member of the Society.

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High Tides Seafood Restaurant
2291 West St. (Rt. 122 right after the entering Barre sign)
Barre, Massachusetts
(978) 355-6715
Mon, Thu, Sun 12PM to 8PM
Fri, Sat 12PM to 9PM
Closed Tues and Wed

I have been seeing their ad in the Athol Daily News so recently went there for a birthday lunch. Wow, what a great find. The seafood is excellent. I had a lobster salad roll, which was in a foot long hotdog roll, toasted with not too much mayonnaise, served with home cut French fries and coleslaw for $16.99. My friend had the Baked Haddock and said it was excellent, served with a baked potato and coleslaw for $15.99.

I watched the platters of fried seafood dinners come out and they all looked fabulous. I will have to try some next time. Prices for seafood vary on some with ‘market price’ indicated. And they only serve seafood chowder in the winter (seasonal). Two tables nearby ordered the homemade onions rings for an appetizer and they came out piled sky high.

But the final straw hooked me for good. The waitress recited they had homemade pies, chocolate cream and coconut cream (2 of my favorites) so we got one of each and split them so we each got a good side slice of both. The coconut cream was the best I have ever had. Chocolate was great but the coconut was to die for. We rolled out of there we were so full. I can hardly wait to go back.

Fresh seafood and homemade desserts are their specialties and well worth the ride to Barre. Not far, just take Rt. 122 out of Orange and follow it thru Petersham and as soon as you pass the Entering Barre sign, it’s on the right. I don’t think you will be disappointed. Bon Appetite.

Bon Appetite -Gloria Varno

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Old Home Days is coming Aug 25th and 26th

That time is coming up fast!

Are you crafty or have some stuff you want to sell? Please set up in the common for our tag/craft sale.

Also we are looking to grow the parade. Anyone wanting to help or make a float, please contact me at 978-544-0014

The boat race is back on Sunday and we are working on getting a fireman muster going with area fire depts as we have no junior team this year. For more info call me and leave a message I will get back to you. Thanks, Colleen Paul
RECREATION COMMITTEE

YOGA  Saturday 9:15-10:30 am  At Warwick town hall  $5
An all level Hatha Yoga class to meet students needs, with an emphasis on proper alignment, Pranayama - breathing technique, deep relaxation and meditation. A dynamic, yet harmonious approach to cultivate strength, physical awareness and inner balance. Led by Kalliope Kalombratsos

Zumba is a Latin inspired dance fitness program that anyone can do. My class is low to no impact and provides an excellent cardio workout. Zumba is adaptable for all ages and fitness levels. It may take a couple of classes to learn the rhythms and some basic moves, but once you do it's JUST PLAIN FUN! Hope you will join us Thursdays at 6:00pm at the Town Hall. Led by Susan Krieger $5

EXTRA ZUMBA CLASSES JULY 18TH AND AUG 1ST 6pm (WEDNESDAYS) taught by new town resident Nao Ishibashi. $5 class fee. Super energetic, but you can adjust intensity to match your needs!

Tuesday 6pm STRONG and Sunday 8am ZUMBA classes have moved out of Warwick to the Boiler Room in Tully. Only 10 minutes away and a great work out. Led by Christine $5

Clinical Somatics Learn how to resolve even long-standing pain and mobility issues, improve your posture, and gain surprising awareness of your body's potential for function and peace ... whether you are a teenager playing sports or long past retirement. Anyone can do it (though younger children are not quite ready), and you get to take what you learn home with you! Come dressed comfortably/to move (no jeans), and please refrain from wearing fragrances. You'll need a body-length blanket or towel, optimally with a yoga mat underneath, if you have one. Classes will be at the Warwick Town Hall on Sundays from 1:00-2:30pm starting May 20th. Cost is $10-15 sliding scale.
*PLEASE check the Facebook page regularly in case a class gets canceled for any reason and/or connect with me by email for class updates.

Hike up Mount Grace on Wednesdays July 11, 18, 25. Meet in Ohlson field parking lot. We will Leave promptly at 8:30 am. we will cancel if raining Enjoy our beautiful Mt. Grace and get a free work out. The latest research for longevity and good health recommends “forest bathing”. Ha! So basically walking in the woods enjoying the clean air, peaceful sounds, and surrounded by beauty. Please join us

Any questions call Leanne -5553 or email leannelimoges@gmail.com -Leanne Limoges

LIBRARY

The Library will be closed on Saturdays beginning June 30 through Labor Day. It will be open the Saturday of Old Home Days, August 25, from 10 to 1. All other Library hours will remain the same – Monday 10 to 4, Tuesday 1 to 8 and Thursday 5 to 8.
Summer Reading will be from June 25 to Aug 6. Stop by and get a log book and keep track of your reading this summer.

Museum passes are available once again. New this summer is the Springfield Museums with the new Dr. Seuss museum and gardens. Available also are State Park Passes, Tower Hill Botanic Gardens, Eric Carle Museum, Worcester Art Museum, Clark Museum, Mass Moca and Magic Wings.

New Books: Death of Mrs. Westaway by Ware, Tangerine by Mangan, World Ending Fire by Berry, How Hard Can It Be by Pearson, By Invitation Only by Frank, Gay, Left and Green by Young.

Drop in for knitting or crocheting on Thursday from 6:30. Help is available and everyone has a good time. Here’s a chance to get that project finished.

-Nancy Hickler
Dear Warwickians,

Doc and I want you to know how to get a new wood stove, or upgrade your home heating system, for short money.

The Massachusetts Clean Energy Center—http://www.masscec.com/commonwealth-woodstove-change-out—has a Woodstove Change-Out Program. Last year, through the program, we replaced a very old and leaky wood stove with a new one. The grant paid $2,500 of the cost of the stove and installation. As a result, last winter was our first comfortable one in Warwick, after five rough ones. Yahoo!

It gets better.

This spring we traded in our kitchen woodstove. Our dealer, Friends of the Sun, informed us of a program through The American Lung Association that has an easier application process and is more generous with the money: http://www.lung.org/our-initiatives/healthy-air/indoor/indoor-air-pollutants/woodstove-changeout-program.html. The approval of our application was in our mailbox in less than a week.

The ALA-administered program gives vouchers to purchase high efficiency wood, pellet or gas stoves to replace old woodstoves or hydronic (radiator and baseboard) heaters. Residents of Franklin County that use older woodstoves are eligible for a voucher of up to $5000 (yes, five thousand dollars!) depending on what’s getting replaced and your income level. If you’re low income and buy a high efficiency unit, you can get as much as $3,500 toward a new wood stove...and that aint chicken feed.

We now have a second new stove. We got both stoves through Friends of the Sun in Brattleboro. Other stores carry other brands, but Friends of the Sun is careful in its installation and answered all our questions, even after the purchase, so we think they’re pretty good.

Otherwise...just another lovely day in beautiful Warwick.

-Doc Pruyne and Cheri Robartes

**ICE CREAM SOCIAL**

**SUNDAY, JULY 8   2 – 4 PM**

This is a wonderful summer tradition with people gathering on the Town Hall lawn to eat Ice Cream Sundaes, made the way you want, with Snow’s ice cream and loads of toppings, listen to music and chat with friends. Bring a chair to sit on and plan on spending a lazy summer afternoon.

-proceeds benefit Trinitarian Congregational Church/Metcalf Chapel

**The COA Foot clinic dates for the rest of 2018**

All are on Fridays and at the Metcalf Chapel at 8 a.m.

July 13    August 10   Sept 14
Oct 12         Nov 9    Dec.14th

www.warwickma.org is the Town’s website. Along with things like Permit Applications, Police Logs, Meeting Agendas, Town Hall Office Hours, you can find this newsletter and lots of other very useful information! If you would like post something to the webpage, contact Ed Lemon, Webmaster at elemon@tiac.net.
Commissioner anyone? The Town has a vacancy on the Cemetery Commission and one on the Transfer Station Commission following the recent town election. The Selectboard could appoint someone to fill the office until the May 2019 election. If you are interested, contact the Selectboard office. If you think you just might be interested, please call to talk about it.

Beginning July 11, the Transfer Station will be open 5 p.m. to 8 p.m. and on subsequent Wednesdays. These summer hours continue until September 5. The “dump” remains open Saturdays 8 to 3 as ever. We haven’t settled on who will operate the additional Wednesday hours. Last year the Commissioners and I staffed the Wednesday hours. Once again, we will not accept bulky / construction waste on Wednesdays, unless our regular attendant is available as there is too much financial risk having inexperienced folk price this waste.

The Selectboard voted to grant Verizon an easement on a 20 x 20-foot square piece of land next to the existing telephone cabinet. Warwick Broadband is acquiring a motorized lift to more safely work at the heights (33’) that we modeled the rebuild. As we rebuild we continue to welcome new customers to our fold.

As part of a national public safety wireless internet system called “First Net”, I have been in conversations with site location scouts about this AT&T system locating on a tower in Warwick. We told them we welcome them and there are indications that these facilities, when built, can be available for pedestrian use (you and I) when there is not an emergency. Even though there is no cellular located in Warwick, things are slowly improving from builds around us. I have been testing mobile virtual network operators who operate on Sprint, T-Mobile, AT&T and Verizon Wireless. There is a strong AT&T presence on Manning Hill in Winchester. If you get coverage from that tower there is an MVNO called Freedompop that offers “LTE only” prepaid service for about ¼ the cost of Verizon. They work only on iPhones and Android devices. You don’t want their CDMA product unless you want to be on Sprint. I have had success with another carrier called Mintsim who operate from T-Mobile and are similarly priced. At this point the key is having Wi-Fi calling capability so your phone works at your home, because you have wireless internet access.

Our paved roads suffered this winter and are breaking up. That’s caused by water getting into the road and freezing. The Selectboard decided we will fill potholes and level and then overlay pavement to treat more road miles this summer construction season. This is a change from our past, superior, cold in place recycling reconstruction where we grind the roadway at much higher cost, but restore the road for more years. The old tar and stone method was investigated at my insistence and found to be almost as costly as 1 ½ inch asphalt overlay.

Pioneer School District has laid off 22 employees in the current year and next fiscal year to have a budget in balance. At the meeting 6/19 the School Committee voted quite decisively to request deficit spending authority of the MA legislature for next year, in an amount of up to $450k, while we as a community figure our way forward. —David Young
Dear Friends,

“Jesus then said... `if you continue in my word, you are truly my disciples and you will know the truth, and the truth will make you free.’”  John 8: 31 – 32

“Pilate said to him, ‘What is truth?’”  John 18: 32

Pilate, like any accomplished political operative, knew that “Truth” is an elusive and highly malleable thing, especially in the hands of the rich and powerful. The cynical declaration, “A lie well told (or told often enough, or loudly enough) becomes the truth” appears to have come into full fruition. In a time in which “alternative facts” are an acceptable debating tactic, it would seem that “Truth” can be whatever serves to preserve and advance the interests of the powerful.

Unfortunately, this is not new. In the mid 1400’s, Pope Nicholas V issued a papal decree, that has become known as the “Doctrine of Discovery”, that declared that any “Christian Nation” was justified in taking possession of any lands they might “discover” if the inhabitants were non-Christian. That and other selected verses in the Bible were used to justify slavery and continue to be used today to justify policies that do more to disenfranchise and enslave whole categories of individuals than expand “liberty and justice for all”.

The Massachusetts Conference of the United Church of Christ recently held its 219th Annual Meeting. Part of the business of that meeting was the adoption, by an overwhelming majority, of a “Resolution of Witness: On Becoming an Immigrant-Welcoming Conference”. The “Biblical, Theological and Ethical Rational” section of the resolution states:

“Our Jewish and Christian traditions honor the text from Leviticus 19: 33-34...: `When an immigrant resides with you in your land, you shall not oppress the immigrant. The immigrant who resides with you shall be to you as a citizen among you; you shall love the immigrant as yourself, for you were immigrants in the land of Egypt’. In Matthew 25 Jesus speaks of those who will receive the kingdom: `When I was thirsty, you gave me something to drink. When I was a stranger you welcomed me...’

This resolution is in keeping with the commitment of the UCC to provide an extravagant welcome to all God’s children. As negative stereotyping of immigrants increases, becoming an ‘immigrant welcoming’ church provides a critical alternative witness rooted in Biblical and theological principles the UCC deeply values.’”

The current administration paints immigrants seeking entry into the US, especially those crossing the southern border illegally, as rapists, drug dealers, and gang members. This is their “truth”. This is the same category of “truth” that claims people of color are more often criminals than whites, that poor people are poor because they are lazy, that the wealthy are wealthy because of superior intellect and hard work. In each assertion there may be a tiny kernel of truth, but the larger truth is that the vast majority of immigrants are women and children fleeing violence and oppression at home, that people of color are statistically far more likely to be prosecuted for crimes than whites, that poor people have to work harder to simply maintain their lives than the wealthy and that wealth conveys privileges of health, education and social status that is not necessarily tied to intellect, ability or hard work.

Resistance to injustice is supposed to be the foundation of our nation. Love of God and neighbor and care for the marginalized is supposed to be the foundation of most of the world’s great religions; will we live up to either measure?

In hopeful faith,  Dan
UP COMING EVENTS

ICE CREAM SOCIAL  SUNDAY, JULY 8  2 – 4 PM
Come visit with friends and neighbors while eating your very own ice cream sundae creation and listening to music on the Town Hall lawn. Bring a lawn chair and an appetite for ice cream.

ORANGE COMMUNITY MEAL  (postponed from June)  Thurs, July 12
The meal the Mission Committee will provide was postponed a month. If you would like to help in any way, call the Chapel (4-2630)

COMING IN AUGUST

“FILL THE BELLY BUS”  FRIDAY, AUG 3
This is a project of the Franklin County Hunger Task Force to raise money and collect food donations for the wider Franklin County region. We will be accepting donations of both during the week before Aug 3, and taking them to Greenfield between 3 & 5 PM.

VACATION BIBLE DAYS  AUG 13 – 17
We will be visited this year by Bobby Curley of the North Quabbin Trails Assoc. He will lead us on a hike around the Richards Reservoir and possibly a swim there. Tom Ricardi who rehabilitates injured birds of prey will join us for another day. We will also learn more about our local and world environment and how we can help heal it. We will also make a float for the Old Home Days parade.

OLD HOME DAYS  SAT & SUN  AUG 25 & 26
The Church will have a table on the Town Hall lawn as well as providing the Supper on Sat evening. See you there!

OTHER UP-COMING EVENTS

MEAL & CAMPFIRE SING-A-LONG  in September
APPLE PIE SALE & CROP WALK  in October
A Bigger & Better HOLIDAY FAIR @ the WCS in NOVEMBER

ON-GOING ACTIVITIES AT THE METCALF CHAPEL

FOOD PANTRY DONATIONS
Nonperishable food, personal hygiene & baby care items and household cleaning supplies are collected in the front hall of the Chapel.

MEDICAL SUPPLY LIBRARY We have crutches, wheelchairs, walkers and many other medical supplies for free loan at the Chapel. Check us out before buying new.
CONGRATULATIONS ARE IN ORDER! Please join us in congratulating our amazing young graduates, Rabya Dar, Ellianna Goulston, Erin Killay, Joseph Kirley, Ross Nygard, Luke Picard, Hailey Ring, and Otis Waggenbeek who stepped up to the podium on Wednesday evening, June 20th to receive their sixth grade diploma! It was a wonderful evening of celebration, with musical performances by every class and the debut of the new WCS song! Our thanks to community, which has supported these marvelous children and our school over the years!

ANOTHER WONDERFUL YEAR OF LEARNING at WCS wrapped up with field trips, concerts, presentations, special assemblies, and celebrations! Final data team meetings revealed very strong student growth and achievement over the year, sending us all off into the summer with feelings of accomplishment! Parents and friends have been graciously joining us to appreciate and applaud all our learning efforts and achievements. And none of this would be possible without the help of our generous and supportive community. Thank you!

HAPPY SUMMERTIME from WCS!
SELECTBOARD MINUTES—June 4, 2018

Members present: Dawn Magi, Lawrence Pruyne Member absent: James Erviti

Others present: Town Coordinator David Young, Highway Superintendent Larry Delaney, School Committee members Martha Morse and Sue O’Reilly McRae, Steve Ruggiero, Brian Miner, Bob Croke, Diane Miller, Jim McRae, Tom Wyatt, Susan Wright, Jennifer Core, Shauna Mallet, Sarah Wells, Anita Alden, Kevin Alden, Claudia Lewis, Pam Kimball, Zack Marti, Nadia Marti, Adam Holloway, Erika Nygard, Marcy Robitaille, Bill Foote, Diane Miller, Ronald Gates, Michael Mankowsky, Jessica Marshall, Barbara Walker, Christian Hains, Reece Hains, Candence Hains, Paul Davis, former Accountant Janice Barrett

Pruyne MOVED that Dawn Magi be Chair of the Selectboard. Magi SECONDED. Motion CARRIED 2-0-0.

Magi MOVED that James Erviti be Vice Chair of the Selectboard. Pruyne SECONDED. Motion CARRIED 2-0-0.

Magi MOVED that Lawrence “Doc” Pruyne be Clerk of the Selectboard. Pruyne SECONDED. Motion CARRIED 2-0-0.

Magi MOVED to approve the minutes of April 23, 2018 as printed. Pruyne SECONDED. Motion CARRIED 2-0-0.

Pruyne MOVED to schedule a nuisance dog hearing on Monday, July 2, 2018. Magi SECONDED. Motion CARRIED 2-0-0.

Magi MOVED to go ahead with the Orange Road, Northfield Road and Athol Road Chapter 90 projects. Pruyne SECONDED. Motion CARRIED 2-0-0.

Pruyne MOVED to grant Verizon’s requested easement with the proviso that the conduit is buried at least 3 feet deep. Magi SECONDED. Motion CARRIED 2-0-0.

Pruyne MOVED to appoint Barbara Noel as Democrat Registrar of Voter effective now until June 30, 2020. Magi SECONDED. Motion CARRIED 2-0-0.

At 8:32 p.m. Magi MOVED to adjourn. Pruyne SECONDED. Motion CARRIED 2-0-0.

UNIVERSALIST CHURCH—ORANGE, MA
Do you ever feel as if life is just rushing on by? Do you need a minute to catch your breath and realign yourself? We can help! Our sanctuary will be open every Sunday for silent meditation from 10~11AM, 31 North Main St. Orange Ma

—submitted by Janice Nowicki
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Jones & Erviti

Brent Walker

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Seasoned firewood for sale

AJ’S AUTO SALES
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<td>Library Open 10-4</td>
<td>Library Open 1-8pm Sr. Mealsite 11:45</td>
<td>Library Open 1-8pm Sr. Mealsite 11:45</td>
<td>INDEPENDENCE DAY</td>
<td>Library Open 5-8pm DROP IN KNITTING 6:30-7:30 Library Zumba 6pm Town Hall</td>
<td>The Gathering Place 10am</td>
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**JULY, 2018**
Don’t Miss these July events

GUILD MEETING—July 3
THE GATHERING PLACE—July 6
ICE CREAM SOCIAL—July 8
HIKE MT GRACE—Weds 11th, 18th, 25th
DROP IN KNITTING—Thursday eves
FOOT CLINIC—July 13
Town of Warwick
Selectboard
June 4, 2018
Minutes

Members present: Dawn Magi, Lawrence Pruyne

Member absent: James Erviti

Others present: Town Coordinator David Young, Highway Superintendent Larry Delaney, School Committee members Martha Morse and Sue O’Reilly McRae, Steve Ruggiero, Brian Miner, Bob Croke, Diane Miller, Jim McRae, Tom Wyatt, Susan Wright, Jennifer Core, Shauna Mallet, Sarah Wells, Anita Alden, Kevin Alden, Claudia Lewis, Pam Kimball, Zack Marti, Nadia Marti, Adam Holloway, Erika Nygard, Marcy Robitaille, Bill Foote, Diane Miller, Ronald Gates, Michael Mankowsky, Jessica Marshall, Barbara Walker, Christian Hains, Reece Hains, Candence Hains, Paul Davis, former Accountant Janice Barrett

I. Call to Order

Chair Pruyne called the meeting to order at 6 p.m. in the Town Hall.

II. Annual Reorganization

Pruyne MOVED that Dawn Magi be Chair of the Selectboard. Magi SECONDED. Motion CARRIED 2-0-0.

Magi MOVED that James Erviti be Vice Chair of the Selectboard. Pruyne SECONDED. Motion CARRIED 2-0-0.

Magi MOVED that Lawrence “Doc” Pruyne be Clerk of the Selectboard. Pruyne SECONDED. Motion CARRIED 2-0-0.

III. Minutes

Magi MOVED to approve the minutes of April 23, 2018 as printed. Pruyne SECONDED. Motion CARRIED 2-0-0.

These minutes were also approved at the May 21, 2018 meeting.
IV. Presentations and Discussions

1. Nuisance Dog Hearing Request — Animal Control Officer Rosa Fratangelo said that between November 1, 2015 and April 26, 2018 there have been six complaints about dogs at 460 Richmond Road coming out into the road and chasing people walking, on bicycles or in cars. Erika Nygard said her son had also been chased by the dogs, which made for a 7th incident. Fratangelo said that the complainants had so far declined to be involved in a nuisance dog hearing, although their complaints warranted action. She said that while she was successful in getting the dog owner to obtain and maintain current rabies vaccinations and annual dog licenses on the dogs, no method of confinement or containment has been implemented to insure the dogs cannot get off of the property. Fratangelo said that there were 12 dogs at the time of the first complaint, but the owners have re-homed several of the dogs and currently have 6 licensed dogs at the property. She described the dogs as being young to middle aged Golden retriever or retriever/lab mixes and noted that in most of the complaints the person overestimated the number of dogs, most likely because they are large, boisterous and run together in a pack when they leave the property and go into the road. Fratangelo suggested the alternative of having the Board send a letter to the dog owner saying that several serious complaints have been made and if there is another incident there will be a nuisance dog hearing. Pruynne said that he had heard enough to make him want to schedule a hearing.

Pruynne MOVED to schedule a nuisance dog hearing on Monday, July 2, 2018. Magi SECONDED. Motion CARRIED 2-0-0

2. Road Conditions, Summer Construction and Paving Plan — Highway Superintendent Larry Delaney said that he was out two days last week due to training and illness, but he has been working on planning for Chapter 90 projects. He said that for the paving project from the Orange town line to Hockanum Road he has chosen to forego cold-in-place and will instead use the shim, level and overlay process at an estimated cost of just under $158,000.00. Delaney noted that while this is less smooth than the cold-in-place, he consulted with two construction outfits, both of which recommended budgeting for a 2-inch overlay. He also looked at the stretch of Orange Road from the intersection of Hockanum Road to the Whipple property, which he said would cost an estimated $163,000.00. Delaney said it would cost about $96,172.00 to repair Winchester Road from Northfield Road to the Gulf. He noted that sections of pavement were lifted up by using a leaf blower and he will be getting a price on the removal and milling of the bad pavement. The next project Delaney spoke about would be Northfield Road from the intersection of Route 78 to the area of Wendell Road repaired last year, about 10,050 feet at a cost of $214,457.00. He mentioned there are several sections of Athol Road that need repair as well, which is in worse shape and therefore should be a priority over the section of Orange Road from Hockanum to the Whipples. Delaney said he would need to calculate the cost but noted that chip seal is $4.50 per square yard and hot seal is $3.50 per square yard. He said that we have a total Chapter 90 balance of $822,626.00. Delaney said that Orange Road from the Orange line to Hockanum should be done first and that all paving would be done by going from one site to the next until all site repairs were completed. He believed this could happen by the end of July this year and said that pot holes would be repaired in the meantime.
Delaney said that he also wanted to look into the section of Wendell Road by the Moss Brook bridge. He said that for drainage, some areas would require that weak embankments be fixed. There was a consensus of the Board to put aside the stretch of Orange Road from Hockanum to the Whipples. The Selectboard told Delaney that the Route 78 to Wendell Road portion of Northfield Road should be a priority task.

Magi MOVED to go ahead with the Orange Road, Northfield Road and Athol Road Chapter 90 projects. Pruyn DISCERNED. Motion CARRIED 2-0-0.

3. Public Hearing: Verizon Right of Way and Underground Trenching Permit — Young explained that Verizon had submitted a right-of-way and conduit permit application for the new telephone cabinets site. Verizon is requesting a 20 x 20 ground space and a permit to run 4-inch conduit off both adjacent utility poles underground to the new cabinets. Brian Miner suggested that we make sure the trench is deep enough and recommended a minimum depth of 3 feet as opposed to the standard 2-foot depth. Diane Miller said that she was in favor of Verizon getting things working in town.

Magi declared the hearing closed.

Pruyn MOVED to grant Verizon’s requested easement with the proviso that the conduit is buried at least 3 feet deep. Magi DISCERNED. Motion CARRIED 2-0-0.

4. WCS and Pioneer — Young said that as a School Committee member he raised the idea of closing WCS and Leyden elementary schools based on cost per student data. He noted that the best legal and practical advice to follow the District agreement to close school, and that it is illegal to close WCS this year. He stated that there is no way WCS or Leyden will close for the 2018-19 school year. Young said that Warwick Community School is the highest rated school in the District, a Level 1 school with the best, newest building. Pruyn said that he found a copy of the lease agreement and discussed it with Town Counsel. He said that the District has to give the Town six months’ notice before closing a school building. Pruyn also pointed out that the children in grades K through 6 of each community should be educated in the town in which they live. Jim McRae said that in past School Committee meetings they have parsed terms which leads him to believe that they can functionally close a school even if the building stays open. Young said that he cannot find proof that the lease for the Warwick Community School was actually signed by a Warwick Selectboard.

Jennifer Core said that Young sounds so confident that WCS will stay open despite his having suggested the school closing in the School Committee meeting. Young said that special legislation, a state loan and oversight will allow them to work their way out of this. He noted that if PVRSD goes into receivership then all local control is lost to the receiver. Adam Holloway asked what this Selectboard would be willing to do to support WCS to keep it open and would they take legal action if the School Committee votes to close our school. He asked the Board to give the parents some reassurance. Pruyn said that a vote of the Selectboard is required to determine what direction to take and said that he would vote for legal enforcement and seek a legal remedy. Steve Ruggiero said that the residents are asking
whether or not the Board members stand behind them. Magi said that question is unanswerable because first there is the need to know more about what is actually going to happen.

Young said that the knowledge he has gained since the April 27th School Committee meeting would lead him to scuttle any proposed closings in committee.

Sue O’Reilly McRae said that the School Committee Counsel said that no school can be closed as the agreement states that the students are to be educated in their own towns. She said that the Thursday, June 7th meeting will entail thoughtful ways to move forward and discuss matters with the Department of Education. O’Reilly McRae said that the HEART Committee is talking with the DOR about a contract to hire two consultants to work with the towns to study school closure, ways to restructure within PVRSD, sustain the core mission and ways to share services.

O’Reilly McRae noted that Franklin County Tech School and Gill/Montague have gone in with us in a grant to share services and educational opportunities for students. She pointed out that the next HEART Committee meeting will be June 13th, and all meetings are open to the public. O’Reilly McRae said that as a School Committee member she is very reassured by all the letters from Warwick residents, that she is very proud of those who wrote letters and that they should be so proud of themselves. She gave a brief history of the HEART Committee, noting the District is not sustainable as costs rise and enrollment declines which makes funding unsustainable over time. The HEART Committee was formed to foster collaboration across towns and utilize the areas of expertise possessed by the diverse group of people who bring a wide range of skills to the table. Her hope is that this provides another layer of cooperation with the District and the School Committee.

School Committee member Martha Morse said that the PVRSD School Committee ultimately votes on issues, and that anyone writing a letter should be sure that every member of the Committee receives a copy. She said it is best to address letters to the entire committee and not just those from Warwick.

Pruyne said that those elected to the School Committee represent the interest of the District as a whole and not just their own town. O’Reilly McRae said that there are different models to look at, but currently this is true per the District Agreement.

Bill Foote said that he has heard several different numbers as to the cost per pupil and that we all need to know the accurate number as things move forward.

Young spoke about the possibility of a supplemental appropriation by Special Town Meeting vote. He said the Town could vote to bring the tax rate over $24.00 per thousand without an override (State caps is $25.00 per thousand). Young said if the Town sustains the PVRSD budget it could bring us to the limit each year.

Young said that his figure is $32,000.00 cost per pupil for Warwick. Jennifer Core suggested the formation of a citizens committee that reports directly to the Selectmen and not the Town Coordinator as he is also a School Committee member and she wanted a laser focus on Warwick’s interests. Shauna Mallet said that she wanted a Town Meeting to allocate funds to prevent WCS closing if it ever does come to that.

Morse explained that there are 3 categories that affect District costs: special ed., shared personnel and administrative costs. She divided the $1,274,412.00 Warwick assessment by 56 (31 Warwick and 25 school choice students at WCS) to arrive at a cost per pupil of $22,757.00. Morse noted that the District Treasurer has a higher figure. Core said she wants to know the cost of educating pupils only at WCS, and not the District costs. Morse said her figures are...
expenses only, and that the higher figures include school choice. Susan Wright echoed prior thoughts of needing to have correct, consistent and accurate figures. Pruyn said that by talking only about dollars and cents we are missing the value of the quality of life and education, and that it is clearly in our best interest to maintain our school. Young said that if WCS is closed Warwick would want to leave Pioneer District and look to Mahar to help alleviate their overcrowding. He said that we need to run WCS efficiently and closer to capacity and we should look at options including running our own school. Young said that we want our school and must find a way to keep it going. Jim McRae spoke about school choice reimbursement and how we are so under-reimbursed from a formula created long ago and wondered what is being brought to the State level about this great disparity. Young noted that while we will not create capacity with school choice, it does help us with some revenue for a classroom and teacher already there. O’Reilly McRae said that the impact of school choice on the District will be looked at by the consultant and that it is possible to negotiate an agreement with the towns for school choice. Wyatt suggested also addressing transportation reimbursement. Young explained that we have competitive grants pending for $50,000.00 for WCS and Northfield, plus $300,000.00 for electric and energy betterments at PVRS which are projected to reduce energy costs by $86,000.00. He pointed out that we cannot accept those grants if we know the School will close. Wright reminded everyone that parents of school choice students are also stakeholders and as a part of the school community these non-residents need to be included in our conversations and be welcomed to participate in the process. Kevin Alden suggested holding our Annual Town Meeting later in the year so as to get more information. Town Clerk Fratangelo explained that we have a by-law that requires our Annual Town Meeting to be held the first Monday in May and our Annual Town Election be held the third Monday in May. Alden asked how this could be changed: Fratangelo replied by a Town Meeting vote. Alden wanted that to be done. Young said that things need to be done earlier, and that PVRSD comprehensive schedules and financial reports need to be compiled sooner and not later. O’Reilly McRae said she has asked for transparency and accuracy in her year on the School Committee but has not received documents she trusts and stated she was both surprised and appalled by the $1,000,000.00 debt figure. She blamed this on mismanagement by failure to fund expenses plus inaccurate projections for choice and transportation reimbursements. O’Reilly McRae said that there was no accountability. Morse said that this was a slow-moving crisis that came to light now but had already started when she was first elected to the School Committee in 2010. She said that the figures shocked her as well, and that it is so difficult to make cuts we know will hurt the students. Morse said that we must take stock of where we are and go forward using our collective intellect and caring to keep WCS open. Holloway said that the prospect of WCS closing, from a parent’s perspective, has been Hell and has caused a grave emotional pull. Pruyn said the School Committee members should be asked to work on getting better accounting practices and that the problems began before Ruth Miller. He reiterated the need to push for better accounting. O’Reilly McRae said that in order to restore trust accurate, open, and timely reporting needs to be put in place. Young said that we need an integrated system to track expense and revenue. He noted that currently only the expense side of only the General Fund is on the computer and that
all other categories need to be established. Young cited as reasons for the debt revenue shortfall due to bloated numbers, choice and charter funds, school lunch, and transportation. He noted that the auditors were so alarmed by the FY 17 figures that they called for a meeting due to continued shortfalls. Young said the State overseer will get some results to get things on the right track.

O’Reilly McRae said that in the future at least one member of the School Committee besides Young should be present at all Selectboard meetings where the school is on the agenda. Young suggest it be O’Reilly McRae herself, as she and he often disagree.

Core said that she does not trust Young, as he wanted to close WCS and now claims to know that this cannot happen. She said that she did not and cannot believe him or what he says. Pruyned said that there is a conflict of interest for Young if the School Committee revisits closing WCS, as he cannot represent both the District and Warwick in this matter. He said that he was not comfortable with Young being a member of the School Committee and is tired of him wearing more than one hat despite his always being clear as to which one he is wearing at any given time. Pruyned said that he wants Young’s undivided concern and allegiance for Warwick.

O’Reilly McRae said that Young has tried to work with Ruth Miller to try and help her, but she is disturbed and finds the multiple reports of him being in Miller’s office concerning. Young said that he has been able to help Miller make deadlines and that he is trying to also become more familiar with the budget and to gain a better understanding of things while Miller is still the Superintendent.

Morse said that the animosity and division with the School Committee is crippling and going forward they need to work as a unit despite their differences. She said that there has been a serious breakdown in communication within the School Committee itself, and with the municipalities and the District. O’Reilly McRae said that it is inappropriate for any School Committee member to bypass the Chair before acting on something.

5. Selectboard Reports—None.

6. Coordinator Report—Young had the FY 19 MOU between the Franklin County Solid Waste Management District and Town of Warwick for the Board members to sign. There was a consensus of the Board to enter into the MOU; Magi and Pruyned each signed both copies of the document.

7. Public Comment— Town Clerk Fratangelo said that at the May 21st Annual Town Election there were two offices with tie votes for write-in candidates. She explained that unless there is a clear winner, a failure to elect is declared. The Board may appoint someone to fill a vacancy created by the failure to elect for a term to end at the 2019 Annual Town Election. Fratangelo said that Miryam Williamson had resigned as the Democrat Registrar of Voters, and that Barbara Noel had offered to serve out Ms. Williamson’s term through June 30, 2020. She respectfully requested that the Board make the appointment of Ms. Noel now and not wait until the slate of appointments are done at the next meeting.

Pruyned MOVED to appoint Barbara Noel as Democrat Registrar of Voter effective now until June 30, 2020. Magi SECONDED. Motion CARRIED 2-0-0.
Former Town Accountant Janice Barrett asked the Board to confirm receipt of her letter of May 18, 2018. Young said that on the advice of Town Counsel the Board will not be responding. There was a consensus of the Board to take Town Counsel’s advice.

8. New and Other Business Unanticipated at Time of Meeting Posting—None.

V. Adjournment

At 8:32 p.m. Magi MOVED to adjourn. Pruyne SECONDED. Motion CARRIED 2-0-0.

Documents consulted at this meeting:
* Draft Minutes of April 23, 2018 Selectboard meeting
* Coordinator Report dated May 31, 2018
* Email from Warwick ACO Rosa Fratangelo to Town Coordinator David Young dated May 29, 2018 RE: Request to Schedule a Nuisance Dog Hearing
* DRAFT FY 19 Selectboard Appointment List
* DLS Excess Levy Capacity and Override Capacity for Warwick FY 14 – FY 18
* Excerpts from PVRSD School Committee minutes of August 25, 2016; September 22, 2016; October 10, 2016; November 17, 2016; December 15, 2016; January 26, 2017; February 14, 2017; March 30, 2017
* Lease Agreement dated October 14, 2011: Lease of the WCS Building and Grounds to PVRSD 9/1/2011 – 9/1/2031
* MOU between FCSWMD and Town of Warwick for FY 19