

**Town of Newington
Board of Selectmen
September 17, 2001 Meeting Minutes**

Present: Board of Selectmen (BOS), Chairman Christopher Cross (C), Selectmen Cosmas Iocovozzi (I), & John (Jack) O'Reilly (R); also, Executive Assistant (EA) Robert M. Belmore. (Note – Chairman Cross resigned shortly after the start of the meeting.)

Chairman Cross called the meeting to order at 6:30 p.m.
The *Pledge of Allegiance* was recited.

Moment of Silence: Chairman Cross asked everyone to observe a moment of silence to honor the victims of the recent terrorist attacks and to acknowledge the on-scene heroes for their rescue & recovery efforts.

Chairman Cross commented on the current national state of affairs; and, now turning 50 years old he shared his thoughts of Newington first as a young pilot and later as a Selectman. (Copy attached to the minutes)

Letter of Resignation: Chairman Christopher Cross then read his letter of resignation from his position as Selectman for the town of Newington effective immediately. (Copy attached to the minutes) Mr. Cross then left the meeting. Selectmen O'Reilly and Iocovozzi tabled any discussion on the resignation.

- United States Department of the Interior, Fish & Wildlife Service
Mr. Jimmie Reynolds, Great Bay National Wildlife Refuge Manager

Mr. Reynolds thanked the Town of Newington for supporting the establishment of the refuge and allowing refuge staff the use of town buildings as administrative office space since 1990. He then presented the Board with a recognition plaque from the US Dept. of the Interior.

Letter of Resignation: The Board discussed the Chairman's resignation. Motion by Selectman Iocovozzi, second by O'Reilly, 2-0 vote to appoint Selectman O'Reilly as Chairman. Chairman O'Reilly scheduled a workshop meeting for the Board to discuss a town purchasing policy and revisions to the personnel plan – next Monday, September 24th at 5:00 p.m.

1. Minutes. Motion by R, second by C, 2-0 vote to accept the meeting minutes of September 5, 2001 and September 10 public session, and September 10 sealed minutes 2001 as drafted.
2. Signature Folder.
 - a. The Board reviewed and approved town (hall) facility use application/s and approved an application for the use of the ball field.
 - b. Motion by C, second by R, 2-0 vote to renew the town's State of NH Fire Warden and Deputy Fire Warden appointments.

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3. Proposals / Bids.

- a. Fire Station – the BOS reviewed a revised proposal received from R.G. Young & Son to renovate the former police side of the fire station. Discussion. Selectman Iocovozzi said that it would take more time and more money than budgeted to have an engineer spec out the project for formal bidding. He also thought it would be very difficult to get other qualified contractors to bid the job. Motion by O'Reilly to award the project to Young & Son at the proposed cost of \$52,847.00, second by Iocovozzi. Motion passed, 2-0 vote.

4. New Business & Correspondence.

- a. The Board discussed Fire Chief Wahl's request that the Selectmen accept a \$12,240 grant received by his department and authorize the purchase of a forestry skid unit and two portable radios. The Board set Monday, October 15, 2001, 6:30 p.m. as the date/time for a public hearing to act on the acceptance of this grant.
- b. The Board decided to forward the Superior Court Order of Notice, Richard Gorse v. Town of Newington property tax abatement law suit to Attorney Robert Upton II for town representation.
- c. The Board acknowledged receipt of Larry Wahl's resignation letter as the town's assistant building inspector.
- d. The Board approved the police department moving weight equipment to the 2nd floor of their facility.
- e. The Board discussed the town docks and it's accessibility in relation to ADA requirements. The Board will research the matter with the town docks coordinator and will contact the State for any necessary permits (i.e. DES).
- f. The BOS decided to contact Mike Morrison to spray the ball field for weeds.
- g. Bad Check fee: Discussion. Motion by I, second by R, 2-0 vote to increase the town charge for bad checks (returned for insufficient funds) from \$10.00 to \$25.00, effective immediately, in order to cover administrative costs and charges incurred by the town.
- h. Old Town Hall: The BOS discussed a request to open the facility for public use such as dances. Motion by I, second by R, 2-0 vote to deny the request due to fire safety concerns and to offer the use of the town hall.
- i. The Board discussed several other issues and projects including the Little Bay Road reconstruction and issuance of building permits.

Meeting was adjourned at 7:50 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Robert M. Belmore