



**Town of Newington
Board of Selectmen
September 24, 2001 Meeting Minutes**

Present: Board of Selectmen (BOS), Chairman John (Jack) O'Reilly (R) & Selectman Cosmas Iocovozzi (I); also, Executive Assistant (EA) Robert M. Belmore.

Chairman O'Reilly called the meeting to order at 5:35 p.m.

The pledge of allegiance was recited.

- The Board voted 2-0 to issue the following Press Release.

The Town of Newington Selectmen announced today that a planned special town meeting to take action upon the petition submitted to them by a group of Newington citizens to invoke Article 10, Part 1 of the New Hampshire Constitution (guarantying the peoples' right to reform government) would not be held on its tentatively scheduled date of October 16, 2001. Chairman O'Reilly stated, "In this time of crisis, all Americans need to come together. We did not feel it would be appropriate to sponsor a public discussion which might be misconstrued by our enemies as evidence that we were not united as a nation."

The Selectmen, however affirmed their continuing opposition to the statewide education property tax. They said that they have been in consultation with legal counsel and representatives of the other "donor communities", searching for responsible ways in which the Town of Newington and other citizens of New Hampshire could exercise their constitutional rights to resist an unfair tax. The Selectmen expressed their desire to complete a plan of action within the next month and then to present it to the voters at a more appropriate time this Fall.

- The Board approved a Draft volunteer application form for use by the Town. The Board also announced that they were accepting letters of interest from qualified Newington residents for appointment to the vacancy on the Board of Selectmen.
- The Board issued a Selectmen Newsletter regarding an update of current town events for publication in the Newington Neighbor.
- The Board opened two sealed bids received for the sale of the 1986 Chevy Suburban. Gary Trefethen bid \$250.00. Rick Stern bid \$576.00. The Board voted 2-0 to award the town surplus Chevy suburban to Rick Stern for \$576.00 – "as is, where is, with no guarantee or warranty".
- The Board discussed a variety of town issues very briefly such as recent damage to the old RR depot building, Mrs. Sweeney's complaint of noise from Sprague's facility, and the school bus route transportation issue. The Board agreed to have the town planner look into the Sweeney complaint. The Board authorized the repair of the town hall kitchen meat slicer.

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- Christopher Cross gave the BOS an update of the town building department and a one page outline of pending projects needing permit finalization.
- Town Personnel Plan: the Board reviewed Draft changes to the town personnel plan and tentatively approved several changes pending feedback from various town departments. The BOS decided to send the Draft to the Fire Chief and Fire Engineers, Police Chief and Police Commissioners, and to the town planner, and ask for comments to be returned to the Board by Friday, October 12, 2001.
- Town Purchasing Policy: the Board reviewed a Draft town purchasing policy and approved changes to the threshold purchase amounts needing comparison quotes and/or a purchase order approved by the Selectmen. The Board completed a Draft purchase order form. The BOS decided to send the Draft to the police and fire departments for informational purposes only.

Meeting was adjourned at 6:55 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Robert M. Belmore