

Town of Newington, NH  
Board of Selectmen Meeting Minutes  
Monday, June 1st, 2020 Remote Via Zoom Audio

**Attending Meeting by Phone:** Chair Ted Connors, Selectman Mike Marconi, Selectman Ken Latchaw, Dennis Malloy, State Representative, Laura Stone, Recreation Committee Co-Chair, Martha Roy, Town Administrator and Eleanor Boy, Recorder.

T. Connors called the meeting to order at 5:00pm, followed by the Pledge of Allegiance.

T. Connors read the following statement:

As Chair of the Newington Board of Selectmen, due to the COVID-19/Coronavirus crisis and in accordance with Governor Sununu's Emergency Order #12 pursuant to Executive Order 2020-04, this Board is authorized to meet electronically.

The meeting will start by taking a Roll Call attendance. When each member states their presence, also please state whether there is anyone in the room with you during this meeting, which is required under the Right-to-Know law.

T. Connors took attendance. T. Connors, K. Latchaw, Mike Marconi, Dennis Malloy, Laura Stone, M. Roy and E. Boy are in attendance.

**Minutes Approval:** M. Marconi moved to approve the minutes of May 15th, 2020 and May 18th, 2020. K. Latchaw seconded the motion. T. Connors asked for a roll call vote: M. Marconi-Yes, K. Latchaw-Yes, T. Connors-Yes. All were in favor.

**Manifest Approval:** K. Latchaw moved to approve the manifests for \$22,687.60 dated 5/21/2020 and \$22,821.44 dated 5/28/2020. M. Marconi seconded the motion. T. Connors asked for a roll call vote: M. Marconi-Yes, K. Latchaw-Yes, T. Connors-Yes. All were in favor.

**Appointments:**

M. Marconi moved to appoint Kathy Latchaw to the position of Zoning Board of Adjustment Alternate for a term of three years. T. Connors seconded the motion. T. Connors asked for a roll call vote: M. Marconi-Yes, K. Latchaw-Yes, T. Connors-Yes. All were in favor.

M. Marconi moved to appoint Benjamin Hutchins to be a member of the Conservation Commission for a term of one year ending on April 1, 2021. K. Latchaw seconded the motion. T. Connors asked for a roll call vote: M. Marconi-Yes, K. Latchaw-Yes, T. Connors-Yes. All were in favor.

K. Latchaw reported that he had met with B. Hutchins for about an hour and thought he would be a great addition to the Conservation Commission. K. Latchaw asked M. Roy to send a letter to B. Hutchins to let him know that he had been appointed and a letter to the Conservation Commission Chair, Jane Hislop, to let her know of the appointment.

K. Latchaw moved to reappoint Denis Hebert to be a member of the Rockingham County Planning Commission for a term of four years. M. Marconi seconded the motion. T. Connors asked for a roll call vote: M. Marconi-Yes, K. Latchaw-Yes, T. Connors-Yes. All were in favor.

M. Marconi moved to appoint K. Latchaw to be a member of the Rockingham County Planning Commission for a term of four years. T. Connors seconded the motion. T. Connors asked for a roll call vote: M. Marconi-Yes, K. Latchaw-Yes, T. Connors-Yes. All were in favor.

**Eversource Easement-Flynn Pit:**

Denis Hebert recommends that the Board of Selectmen approve the amendment to the Eversource Easement for Flynn Pit.

M. Marconi moved to approve the amendment to the Eversource easement for Flynn Pit and authorize the Chair to sign the amendment. K. Latchaw seconded the motion. T. Connors asked for a roll call vote: M. Marconi-Yes, K. Latchaw-Yes, T. Connors-Yes. All were in favor.

**Fox Point Invasives Treatment Recommendation-Eleanor Boy**

E. Boy met with both BioSpray and Ecoscape Goats at Fox Point to talk about the invasive problem. E. Boy recommends that the Board of Selectmen hire both companies to treat the invasives in different areas of the Point. BioSpray would treat the invasives alongside the span of trees between the north field and the middle field and Ecoscape Goats would treat the area along the walking path by the bay on the edge of the north field.

In the fall the Town can access the results of the two treatments and decide how to move forward in 2021. M. Marconi moved to approve E. Boy's recommendation for the treatment of the invasive plants on Fox Point. K. Latchaw seconded the motion. T. Connors asked for a roll call vote: M. Marconi-Yes, K. Latchaw-Yes, T. Connors-Yes. All were in favor.

**BOS Committee Appointments:**

Planning Board-Ken Latchaw

Budget Committee-Ted Connors

Monitoring of Pease Development Authority Board Meeting (Peggy Lamson serves as Newington's voting PDA Board member)-Ken Latchaw

Coakley Landfill Group-Ted Connors, Karen Anderson & Martha Roy

Restoration Advisory Group-Ted Connors, Lulu Pickering, Peggy Lamson, James Belanger, Karen Anderson & Mike Donahue

Historic District Commission-Mike Marconi

Bike/Safety Lane Committee-Mike Marconi

These appointments were agreed on by a consensus of the Board of Selectmen.

**Town Hall & Town Buildings Reopening Discussion & Draft Procedure:**

The Board reviewed the proposed procedure for reopening Town Hall.

Effective June 15<sup>th</sup>-Open to the public by appointment only.

All visitors will be required to wear a mask (masks will be provided if needed).

New Town Clerk hours: Tuesday & Wednesday 9am-1pm and Thursday 12pm-4:30pm.

Appointments will be held in the Kent Auditorium or front window depending on length of discussion.

Call the Town Hall to set up appointments.

**M. Marconi moved to accept the Town Hall reopening procedures. K. Latchaw seconded the motion. T. Connors asked for a roll call vote: M. Marconi-Yes, K. Latchaw-Yes, T. Connors-Yes. All were in favor.**

K. Latchaw asked M. Roy to include the new procedures in the June newsletter and post on the website and email to all subscribers.

T. Connors mentioned that all committees still have to meet via zoom until the Governor increases the number of people that are allowed to gather.

K. Latchaw mentioned that the school has purchased a machine that disinfects all surfaces and also can disinfect the air in a room. K. Latchaw thought that the Town should consider purchasing a similar machine so that the Meeting House, Old Town Hall and Town Hall can be cleaned once they are open and used again by the public. T. Connors agreed that the town needs a disinfectant machine.

#### **Tennis Court Repair Bids:**

The Town received two bids for the tennis court crack repairs. One from Vermont Recreational Surfacing & Fencing, Inc. for \$2,661 and one from Advantage Tennis for \$6,944. K. Latchaw thought that the project should not start until after July 1<sup>st</sup>. This would allow the Town the opportunity to better understand the Town's revenue. **K. Latchaw moved to award the tennis repair bid to Vermont Recreational Surfacing & Fencing, Inc for \$2,661. The work would not start until after July 1<sup>st</sup>.M. Marconi seconded the motion. T. Connors asked for a roll call vote: K. Latchaw-Yes, M. Marconi-Yes, T. Connors-Yes. All were in favor.**

#### **Old Town Hall Playground Bid:**

The Town received one bid for \$19,700. This project is for the health and safety of the children. The swings and the surface under the playground are currently not up to the safety standards. The recreation committee is hoping to expand the renovations in future years. These improvements were approved at Town Meeting and the funds will be taken out of the capital reserve account.

**M. Marconi moved to award the Old Town Hall playground repair bid to Ultiplay for \$19,710. K. Latchaw seconded the motion. T. Connors asked for a roll call vote: K. Latchaw-Yes, M. Marconi-Yes, T. Connors-Yes. All were in favor.**

T. Connors thanked Bill Wright for all his work on the maintenance of the tennis courts.

K. Latchaw thanked Chip Taccetta, Peter Welch and the Highway crew for the great job they did on the drainage issue at Fox Point. K. Latchaw asked M. Roy to send a letter to all three to thank them for their effort on behalf of the town.

#### **Newington's Own Zip Code:**

E. Boy has been researching the process for getting a new zip code assigned to Newington. About 20 years ago the Board of Selectmen had requested and were denied a zip code and a post office for the Town of Newington. E. Boy believes that the town has a better chance if we just ask for a zip code. E. Boy will reach out to the Town of Lee and ask for their advice because they got their own zip code a few years ago.

**Kayak Rack Request:**

The town has received a request for another kayak rack at Fox Point. The Board of Selectmen would like some residents to volunteer to build it. The town will pay for the materials.

**Meeting House Reopening Plan Meeting:**

T. Connors mentioned that he had received a request to open the Meeting House. T. Connors would like representatives for the two churches and the Board of Selectmen to meet so that they can discuss the new protocols in place. Larry Wahl and Fire Chief EJ Hoyt have put together a seating plan. T. Connors asked M. Roy to put together a meeting in the next couple of weeks.

**Summer Camp 2020:**

T. Connors thought that the town could move forward, cautiously, under the governor's guidelines for day camps. Recreation Committee Co-Chair, Laura Stone, would like to have a zoom meeting with the Board of Selectmen, the Recreation Committee Co-Chairs and Kelly, the Director of the YMCA. M. Roy will coordinate a day and time that will work for everyone. Dennis Malloy mentioned that he is on the board of the Seacoast YMCA and could help with anything the town needed.

L. Stone expressed concern for the parents that need to know what is happening with the camp so they can make childcare arrangements for the summer. L. Stone will post a survey on the Facebook page to try and get an idea of how many children might be interested in the summer camp. M. Roy will send a survey out to the Town Hall email subscribers. L. Stone will talk to the school to get a list of the parents. T. Connors thanked L. Stone for all her work on the summer camp issue and for all of her work in her profession during the pandemic.

**Transfer Station Recycling Area Reopening Request:**

Craig Daigle emailed M. Roy to ask about opening the reusable items area at the Transfer Station. M. Roy will check with the Emergency Management Co-Chairs, Police Chief, Mike Bilodeau and Fire Chief, EJ Hoyt and the Health Officer, Kevin Kelley, about the request.

**Sprague Noxious Fumes Lawsuit Settlement:**

M. Marconi mentioned the Sprague article that recently appeared in the paper. M. Roy stated that The US EPA and State of Massachusetts had brought suit against Sprague due to the noxious fumes being emitted at their facilities along the eastern seaboard. The EPA press release mentioned many New England states were included in the settlement. There is a comment period associated with this announcement. T. Connors is concerned that Newington has been complaining to the State about the Sprague odors for a couple of years and the State didn't let the Town of Newington know that this lawsuit was in the works. T. Connors would like to send a letter to the State asking why the Town of Newington did not know about this. M. Roy will develop a letter.

**Adjournment:** M. Marconi moved to adjourn at 5:49pm. K. Latchaw seconded the motion with all in favor.

Respectfully submitted,  
Eleanor Boy