

Newington Board of Selectmen Meeting

**January 31, 2005
Newington Town Hall
6:00 p.m.**

In attendance: Chairman Jan Stuart, Selectman Jack O'Reilly, Selectman Cos Iocovozzi, Town Planner Tom Morgan and Administrative Assistant Cynthia Gillespie

Pledge of Allegiance

Meeting was called to order at 6:05 p.m.

Miscellaneous

Selectman O'Reilly made a motion to accept the donation of land by Wilcox Industries for the future extension of Shattuck Way to Gosling Road. Details of this land acquisition were reviewed and discussed at two separate public hearings held by the Board of Selectmen, one being January 3rd and the other January 17th, 2005. The motion was seconded by Selectman Iocovozzi. Vote 3-0. The Board of Selectmen signed an agreement between the Town of Newington and Wilcox Industries Corporation to accept the same.

Town Planner, Tom Morgan discussed the computer budget with the Selectmen. He pointed out there are four computers in the Town office that are in various stages of failure. The hardware replacement line budgets for four new computers and two new printers. Mr. Morgan also added that he plans to replace some UPS in 2005, because they are all over five years old.

Mr. Morgan discussed Bay Ring Communications with the Board. He stated that the Town of Newington is coming upon the end of its contract for telephone service with Conversent Communications. AA Cyndi Gillespie and Planner Tom Morgan have been investigating other companies that provide telephone service, as well as internet access. Bay Ring, a locally run company located at the Trade Port has provided the Town with a Telecommunications Proposal. Bay Ring is currently providing service to the City of Portsmouth and Dover. Mr. Morgan added that the Town Clerk must be upgraded for registration purposes due to a new State mandate. The speed of the Town's internet service will not support the online registrations. Mr. Morgan pointed out that for the additional speed of the new internet service the Town is looking at an increase in cost of about 10 percent, however the telephone service will cost less. Another benefit is that the Town will be consolidating the number of vendors that provide this service to the various departments. AA Gillespie said the plan is to connect all three buildings through an underground cable. Mr. Morgan stated that the installation of the underground cable was not included in the price, because the conduit that is currently in place is full of cables and there will be a need to put in another underground conduit. Mr. Morgan asked for

**Newington Board of Selectmen
Meeting**

**January 31, 2005
Newington Town Hall
6:00 p.m.**

Selectman Iocovozzi's input on what the digging would cost. Selectman Iocovozzi stated that it will cost around \$5,000 to bring the cable into the Town Hall from the road. In addition there will be costs to connect the other two buildings. Mr. Morgan pointed out the hardware for the new system includes a Cisco router and 2 sets of transceivers which are a one time cost of \$3,800. Selectman Iocovozzi asked that Bay Ring give him a call to discuss the underground connections. Mr. Morgan stated that this plan is laying the infrastructure for the future. Chairman Stuart asked Town Planner Morgan to stop by the General Government Budget meeting on Saturday to discuss the Bay Ring service.

6:30 p.m. - Non- Public in accordance with RSA 91 A: 3, II Personnel

7:00 p.m. - Non- Public Adjournment. No Votes were taken.

Selectman O'Reilly made a motion to accept the minutes of January 17th, 2005.
Seconded by Selectman Iocovozzi. Vote 3-0.

A memo from the Conservation Commission was read. The Conservation Commission recommended to the Board of Selectmen a program for the protection and better utilization of marshlands, swamp and other wetlands. The commission proposed the undertaking of a study to mitigate the use of salt on the roadways that is leaching into the wetlands, by substituting brine solution or similar product on the Town roads. Selectman Iocovozzi stated that this is a pre-treatment only and that it is very expensive. Selectman Iocovozzi made the motion to table this issue until after the State completes its study on the use of similar products. Seconded by Selectman O'Reilly. Vote 3-0.

Mike Morrison, Entomologist for the Town of Newington, discussed his budget with the Selectmen. Mr. Morrison gave the Selectmen his proposed budget for 2005. He explained that his company has a new machine that will allow them to test birds and mosquitoes for West Nile virus instead of sending them to Concord. Selectman Iocovozzi asked if Mr. Morrison could decrease his proposed budget by 2%, allowing a 3% increase instead of 5.1% increase. Selectman O'Reilly stated that the proposed budget would be changed to \$34,580. Mr. Morrison agreed with that. Chairman Stuart asked how often he comes through Town to spray. Mr. Morrison said that he comes at least once a week, or about 15 times a season.

Newington Board of Selectmen Meeting

**January 31, 2005
Newington Town Hall
6:00 p.m.**

Planning Board member, Jack Pare asked the Board for permission to install a combination whiteboard/ projection screen on the wall in the deRochemont room. The Board agreed to a permanent installation putting pins in all four corners. Mr. Pare stated that he will install the Board on Wednesday.

A memo from the Sewer Commission was read. The Commission stated that the State wants to purchase a small piece of land from the Town for \$500. The land is on River Road and is 350 square feet. The Sewer Commission recommended that the Town sell this land to the State and that the \$500 be turned over to the Sewer Commission to finish the paving around the pump station. There was discussion on the \$500. Selectman Iocovozzi made the motion to accept this agreement and sell the land to the State, depositing the money into the Conservation Fund. Seconded by Selectman O'Reilly. Vote 3-0. The agreement was signed by the Selectmen.

Gail Pare, Building Advisory Board representative asked the Board to confirm the Public Hearing on the Bonding for renovations for the Old Stone School and Old Town Hall. Chairman Stuart said this will be an informal hearing. The Selectmen will open the Public Hearing and the Building Advisory Committee will conduct the informational part of the Hearing.

Town Hall Use

Selectman O'Reilly made the motion to accept and sign the following Town Hall Use forms, Seconded by Selectman Iocovozzi, Vote 3-0;

A Town Hall Use form from Charlie Smart for an Electrical Inspector's Meeting in the deRochemont room on February 16th was approved and signed.

A Town Hall Use form from Richard Rines for a February 11th event was approved and signed.

A Town Hall Use form from Chris Cross for a February 23rd NHDOT meeting was approved and signed.

General Government Budget

The General Government Budget was reviewed and accepted by the Board.

**Newington Board of Selectmen
Meeting**

**January 31, 2005
Newington Town Hall
6:00 p.m.**

Warrant Articles & Capital Reserve Funds

ARTICLE 4. To see if the Town will vote to raise and appropriate up to the sum of Eight Hundred, Fifty Thousand Dollars (\$850,000) for the restoration and renovation of the Old Stone School, of such sum to be raised through the issuance of Bonds and/or Notes under and in compliance with the Municipal Finance Act, RSA 33:1et seq., and to accept federal, state, or other aid, if any, made available therefore, and to authorize the Board of Selectmen to issue, negotiate, and regulate such Bonds and/or Notes and to determine the rate of interest thereon, and the maturity and other terms thereof, and pass any vote relating thereto. (2/3 Vote Required)

After discussion, Selectman O'Reilly made a motion to recommend Article 4. The motion was seconded by Selectman Iocovozzi. Vote 1-Yes 2-No.

THIS ARTICLE IS NOT RECOMMENDED BY THE SELECTMEN

ARTICLE 5. To see if the Town will vote to raise and appropriate up to the sum of Eight Hundred, Fifty Thousand Dollars (\$850,000) for the restoration and renovation of the Old Town Hall, of such sum to be raised through the issuance of Bonds and/or Notes under and in compliance with the Municipal Finance Act, RSA 33:1et seq., and to accept federal, state, or other aid, if any, made available therefore, and to authorize the Board of Selectmen to issue, negotiate, and regulate such Bonds and/or Notes and to determine the rate of interest thereon, and the maturity and other terms thereof, and pass any vote relating thereto. (2/3 Vote Required)

After discussion, Selectman O'Reilly made a motion to recommend Article 5. The motion was seconded by Selectman Iocovozzi. Vote 1-Yes 2-No.

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ARTICLE 6. Shall the Town appropriate \$64,665 to fund First Responder's Safety and Response Enhancement? The Federal Emergency Management Agency will contribute \$64,665 from a 2004 Homeland Competitive Grant Award. This appropriation is in addition to the operating budget. (Majority vote required.)

After discussion, Selectman O'Reilly made a motion to recommend Article 6. The motion was seconded by Selectman Iocovozzi. Vote 3-0.

THIS ARTICLE IS RECOMMENDED BY THE SELECTMEN
Newington Board of Selectmen
Meeting

January 31, 2005
Newington Town Hall
6:00 p.m.

ARTICLE 7. To see if the Town will vote to raise and appropriate the sum of Fifty Thousand Dollars (\$ 50,000) to be placed in the existing Conservation Fund established in accordance with RSA 36-A:5 to be used for expenses associated with the purchase of conservation land and open space, easements, wetlands, and other land management acquisitions.

After discussion, Selectman O'Reilly made a motion to recommend Article 7. The motion was seconded by Selectman Iocovozzi. Vote 3-0.

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ARTICLE 8. To see if the Town will vote to raise and appropriate the sum of Fifty Thousand Dollars (\$50,000) to be placed in the existing Capital Reserve Fund for the purpose of major Municipal Building Emergency Repairs.

After discussion, Selectman O'Reilly made a motion to recommend Article 8. The motion was seconded by Selectman Iocovozzi. Vote 3-0.

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ARTICLE 9. To see if the Town will vote to raise and appropriate the sum of Fifty Thousand Dollars (\$50,000) to be placed in the existing Capital Reserve Fund for the replacement and/or repair of vehicles operated by the Fire Department.

After discussion, Selectman O'Reilly made a motion to recommend Article 9. The motion was seconded by Selectman Iocovozzi. Vote 3-0.

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ARTICLE 10. To see if the Town of Newington will vote to establish a Capital Reserve Fund under the provisions of RSA 35:1 for the purpose of replacement and/or major repairs of vehicles and equipment operated by the Highway Department and to raise and appropriate the amount of Forty Thousand Dollars (\$40,000) to be placed in this fund and to appoint the Board of Selectmen as agents to expend from this fund.

After discussion, Selectman Iocovozzi made a motion to recommend Article 10. The motion was seconded by Selectman O'Reilly. Vote 3-0.

THIS ARTICLE IS RECOMMENDED BY THE SELECTMEN
Newington Board of Selectmen
Meeting

January 31, 2005
Newington Town Hall
6:00 p.m.

ARTICLE 11. To see if the Town will vote to raise and appropriate the sum of Twenty-Five Thousand Dollars (\$25,000) to be placed in the existing Capital Reserve Fund for the Fox Point Pavilion.

After discussion, Selectman O'Reilly made a motion to recommend Article 11. The motion was seconded by Selectman Iocovozzi. Vote 3-0.

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ARTICLE 12. To see if the Town of Newington will vote to establish a Capital Reserve Fund under the provisions of RSA 35:1 for the purpose of maintenance, repair and improvements of Town Recreational Facilities and Equipment and to raise and appropriate the sum of Twenty Five Thousand Dollars (\$25,000) to be placed in this fund and to appoint the Board of Selectmen as agents to expend from this fund.

After discussion, Selectman O'Reilly made a motion to recommend Article 12. The motion was seconded by Selectman Iocovozzi. Vote 3-0.

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ARTICLE 13. To see if the Town will vote to raise and appropriate the sum of Twenty Five Thousand Dollars (\$25,000) to be placed in the existing Capital Reserve Fund for the purpose of payments of Severance to Town Employees in accordance with the Town's Personnel Policy.

After discussion, Selectman O'Reilly made a motion to recommend Article 13. The motion was seconded by Selectman Iocovozzi. Vote 3-0.

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ARTICLE 14. To see if the Town will vote to raise and appropriate the sum of Fifteen Thousand Dollars (\$15,000) to be placed in the existing Capital Reserve Fund for the replacement of the Town Ambulance and any major medical equipment.

After discussion, Selectman Iocovozzi made a motion to recommend Article 14. The motion was seconded by Selectman O'Reilly. Vote 3-0.

THIS ARTICLE IS RECOMMENDED BY THE SELECTMEN
Newington Board of Selectmen
Meeting

January 31, 2005
Newington Town Hall
6:00 p.m.

ARTICLE 15. To see if the Town will vote to raise and appropriate the sum of Ten Thousand Dollars (\$10,000) to be placed in the existing Capital Reserve Fund for Fire Department Communications.

After discussion, Selectman Iocovozzi made a motion to recommend Article 15. The motion was seconded by Selectman O'Reilly. Vote 3-0.

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ARTICLE 16. To see if the Town of Newington will vote to establish a Capital Reserve Fund under the provisions of RSA 35:1 for the purpose of funding capital improvements to the Town Cemeteries and to raise and appropriate the amount of Four Thousand Dollars (\$4,000) to be placed in this fund and to appoint the Board of Selectmen as agents to expend from this fund.

After discussion, Selectman Iocovozzi made a motion to recommend Article 16. The motion was seconded by Selectman O'Reilly. Vote 3-0.

THIS ARTICLE IS RECOMMENDED BY THE SELECTMEN

ARTICLE 17. Shall the Town of Newington vote to raise and appropriate Seventy Five Thousand Dollars (\$75,000) for the purpose of removal and replacement of the Town's tennis courts and fencing located on Fox Point Road. This appropriation is in addition to the operating budget. (Majority vote required.)

After discussion, Selectman Iocovozzi made a motion to recommend Article 17. The motion was seconded by Selectman O'Reilly. Vote 3-No.

THIS ARTICLE IS NOT RECOMMENDED BY THE SELECTMEN

ARTICLE 18. To see if the Town will vote to add one additional permanent full time police officer and to see if the Town will vote to raise and appropriate Forty Five Thousand, Seven Hundred Sixty One Dollars (\$45,761) to fund the position for the last nine months of the calendar year 2005. This article will re-establish an existing full time position that has not been filled in the last ten years. This appropriation is in addition to the operating budget. (Majority vote required.)

**Newington Board of Selectmen
Meeting**

**January 31, 2005
Newington Town Hall
6:00 p.m.**

After discussion, Selectman Iocovozzi made a motion to recommend Article 18. The motion was seconded by Selectman O'Reilly. Vote 3-0.

THIS ARTICLE IS RECOMMENDED BY THE SELECTMEN

ARTICLE 19. Shall the Town of Newington vote to raise and appropriate Forty Four Thousand Dollars (\$44,000) for the purpose of purchasing and installing new playground equipment to replace the existing playground equipment behind the elementary school, which has been deemed unsafe for use in the most recent playground safety audit, dated November 2004. This appropriation is in addition to the operating budget. (Majority vote required.)

After discussion, Selectman O'Reilly made a motion to recommend Article 19. The motion was seconded by Selectman Iocovozzi. Vote 3-No.

THIS ARTICLE IS NOT RECOMMENDED BY THE SELECTMEN

ARTICLE 20. Shall the Town of Newington vote to raise and appropriate Twenty Seven Thousand Dollars (\$27,000) for the purpose of replacing the town boat ramp at Fox Point. This appropriation is in addition to the operating budget. (Majority vote required.)

After discussion, Selectman O'Reilly made a motion to recommend Article 20. The motion was seconded by Selectman Iocovozzi. Vote 3-No.

THIS ARTICLE IS NOT RECOMMENDED BY THE SELECTMEN

There being no further business before the Board:

Adjourn 9:40 p.m.

Respectfully Submitted,

Cynthia Gillespie
Administrative Assistant