

Town of Newington, NH
Board of Selectmen Meeting Minutes
Tuesday, November 12th, 2019 Town Hall

Present: Chair Ted Connors, Selectman Mike Marconi, Selectman Ken Latchaw, Board of Fire Engineers Chair, John Klancheser, Emily Savinelli and Eleanor Boy, Recorder.

T. Connors called the meeting to order at 5:34pm followed by the Pledge of Allegiance.

T. Connors thanked all veterans for their service.

K. Latchaw thanked Karen Anderson for updating the veterans list that hangs in the Town Hall in time for Veterans Day.

Minutes Approval:

M. Marconi moved to approve the minutes of October 21st and November 6th, 2019. K. Latchaw seconded the motion with all in favor.

Manifest Approval: K. Latchaw moved to approve the manifests for \$28,331.16 dated 10/22/2019, \$32,290.09 dated 10/29/2019 and \$224,197.34 dated 11/5/2019. M. Marconi seconded the motion with all in favor.

Facility Use Request:

M. Marconi moved to approve the following requests.

Christian Wayss-Old Town Hall-November 16th-Going Away Dinner

UNH Marine Docents-Town Hall-December 12th-Holiday Party

K. Latchaw seconded the motion with all in favor.

Planner Discussion:

This item was tabled until a later date.

2020 Benefits:

Health rates increased 7.4% and the dental rates increased 3.2%. M. Marconi moved to retain the current health and dental insurances for 2020. K. Latchaw seconded the motion with all in favor.

Police Department Revolving Account:

This item was tabled until a later date.

Capital Improvements Plan:

T. Connors would like to see a timeline for the plan and would also like to have two selectmen and the Town Administrator on the CIP Committee.

Audit Letter Responses:

The Board reviewed the letter from the auditors for the 2018 audit. M. Roy prepared responses that she recommends that the Board adds to the audit management letter.

K. Latchaw moved to adopt the recommendations and add them to the audit letter responses. M. Marconi seconded the motion with all in favor.

Acceptance of Roads-Fabyan Point and Lydia Lane Status:

The Planning Board conducted a site walk at the two locations today, November 12th at 2pm. As soon as the Planning Board accepts the roads then the Board of Selectmen will hold a Public Hearing to get public input on whether to accept the two roads.

2020 COLA Discussion:

The federal government COLA increase for 2020 is 1.6%.

K. Latchaw moved to recommend a 1.6% COLA increase for town employees in 2020. M. Marconi seconded the motion with all in favor.

Woodbury Ave. Walkthrough Update:

Town Administrator Martha Roy, Road Agent Len Thomas and Town Engineer Eric Weinrieb walked Woodbury Ave. with the state highway representatives. The project looks good and is almost complete. The landscaper is going to send a letter to the state about the crabgrass in the medians and the need to adhere to the agreement.

Spirit of Newington Picture Update:

M. Roy has emailed the USAF to find out the progress of the picture of the new KC-46, named the Spirit of Newington; she hasn't heard anything back yet.

2020 Budget:

This item was tabled until a later date.

Mixed Use Study:

The Board of Selectmen would like to see a third-party independent study to outline the pros and cons about development of the mall area. After the study is complete, there would be a Public Hearing where the study would be presented. K. Latchaw explained that there is a lot of misinformation around town about this subject. A resident approached K. Latchaw and expressed concern about Section 8 housing in Newington. The resident had heard that the Selectmen were trying to put Section 8 housing at the mall site. K. Latchaw said that there have been discussions about Workforce Housing, not Section 8 housing. Workforce Housing is affordable housing for people such as police officers, fire fighters and teachers. Many of these people can't afford to live in the area.

Adjournment: M. Marconi moved to adjourn at 5:47pm. K. Latchaw seconded the motion with all in favor.

Respectfully submitted,
Eleanor Boy, Recorder