

Town of Newington, NH
Board of Selectmen Meeting Minutes
Monday, November 16th, 2020 Town Hall

T. Connors called the meeting to order at 3:02pm.

M. Marconi moved to enter a nonpublic session at 3:02pm per RSA 91-A:3 II (e). K. Latchaw seconded the motion and T. Connors asked for a roll call vote: T. Connors- Yes, M. Marconi- Yes, K. Latchaw-Yes. All were in favor.

M. Marconi moved to return to public session, seconded by K. Latchaw. T. Connors asked for a roll call vote: T. Connors-Yes, M. Marconi-Yes, K. Latchaw-Yes. All were in favor.

The Board returned from the nonpublic session at 3:58pm

M. Marconi moved to seal the non-public minutes indefinitely. K. Latchaw seconded the motion and T. Connors asked for a roll call vote: M. Marconi-Yes, K. Latchaw- Yes, T. Connors- Yes. All were in favor.

T. Connors recessed the meeting and moved it from the Board of Selectmen's office to the Town Hall auditorium.

Present: Chair Ted Connors, Selectman Mike Marconi, Selectman Ken Latchaw, Historic District Commission Chair Lulu Pickering, State Representative Joan Hamblet, State Senator Rebecca Perkins Kwoka, State Representative Dennis Malloy, Board of Fire Engineers Chair John Klanchesser, Fire Engineer Ann Hyland Hebert, Fire Chief EJ Hoyt, Assistant Fire Chief Pat Moynihan, Martha Roy, Town Administrator and Eleanor Boy, Recorder.

Chris Scott from Senator Shaheen's office attended the meeting via Zoom.

T. Connors resumed the meeting at 4:00pm followed by the Pledge of Allegiance.

Minutes: K. Latchaw moved to approve the minutes of November 2, 2020 and November 9, 2020. M. Marconi seconded the motion with all in favor.

Manifest Approval: M. Marconi moved to approve the manifests for \$188,395.55 dated 11/5/2020 and \$73,705.06 dated 11/12/2020. K. Latchaw seconded the motion with all in favor.

Facility Use Request:

M. Marconi moved to approve the following request:

Rachel Merchant-Old Town Hall-November 21st-Wedding

K. Latchaw seconded the motion with all in favor.

General Sullivan Bridge-Lulu Pickering:

L. Pickering gave a short history of the land at Bloody Point and the State-owned train depot and the land on both sides of the Spaulding Turnpike. The State is planning on selling the property and retaining the entire income from the sale. At the beginning of the Spaulding Turnpike expansion, there were plans to rehabilitate the General Sullivan Bridge for \$10 million dollars. The plan now is not to rehabilitate the bridge, but to destroy it. There would be no historic mitigation given to the town. L. Pickering would like to have the town voice their interest in having the State preserve the Bloody Point land and depot as compensation for not restoring the bridge and deciding to destroy it. L. Pickering would like to get some help from our State Senator and State Representatives who know how to talk to the State. The Town of Newington proposed to the State that they transfer the property to the Town and we would get a grant to renovate the depot. The bottom floor would be used for events and the top floor would be converted to a caretaker's apartment. There are 6 acres in the historic district at Bloody Point. T. Connors would like our state representatives to ask the NHDOT to look at this again and to represent Newington's interests. T. Connors thanked L. Pickering for all her hard work that is noticed and appreciated. L. Pickering let everyone know that this has to be done before the end of the year because the NHDOT is closing out this project. L. Pickering said that the depot needs to be in the record of decision. The NHDOT needs to honor their historic mitigation obligations. C. Scott said that Senator Shaheen's office will help any way they can. D. Malloy is concerned about the short timeline. D. Malloy will reach out to the new NHDOT director to set up a meeting. T. Connors thanked everyone for coming.

Acceptance of Highway Safety Grant Funds-\$4,779-Police Department:

M. Marconi moved accept the Highway Safety Grant for \$4,779. K. Latchaw seconded the motion with all in favor.

2021 Health Ins/Dental Ins/Short Term Disability/Long Term Disability/Life Ins:

The Town has received quotes for health insurance from Cigna and Harvard Pilgrim. M. Roy explained that the Fire union negotiations are still on going and didn't think that the health insurance should be changed for some of the town employees and not others. M. Roy recommends that the town stay with Blue Cross/Blue Shield to keep all employees on the same plan.

2021 COLA:

M. Marconi moved to approve the 2021 COLA at 1.3% and to distribute the increase evenly among the Town Hall and Highway employees. K. Latchaw seconded the motion with all in favor.

Board of Fire Engineers:

T. Connors thanked the Board of Fire Engineers for coming to the meeting to discuss the consultant's report on the Fire Department. J. Klanchesser told the Board that E. Hoyt is still going through the report and the BOFE would like more time to go over the report and discuss the report among themselves before discussing it with the Board of Selectmen. T. Connors asked the BOFE to let the Board of Selectmen know when they are ready to discuss the report.

Adjournment: M. Marconi moved to adjourn at 5:02pm. K. Latchaw seconded the motion with all in favor.

Respectfully submitted,
Eleanor Boy
Recorder

