

Town of Newington, NH
Board of Selectmen Meeting Minutes
Monday, July 29th, 2019 Town Hall

Present: Chair Ted Connors, Selectman Mike Marconi, Selectman Ken Latchaw, Police Chief, Mike Bilodeau, Assistant Fire Chief, EJ Hoyt, Fire Engineer, John Klanchesser, Planning Board Chair, Denis Hebert, Residents; Emily Savinelli and Tom Devincenzo, Martha Roy, Town Administrator and Eleanor Boy, Recorder.

T. Connors called the meeting to order at 6:00pm, followed by the Pledge of Allegiance.

Public Hearing-Acceptance of Unanticipated Donations:

T. Connors opened the Public Hearing at 6:00pm and read the public notice. The hearing is for consideration of acceptance of two donations in excess of \$10,000:

1. Eversource Historic District Improvements: \$20,000
2. Eversource Laydown Area Lease Payment: \$132,000

D. Hebert spoke in favor of accepting the money. E. Savinelli asked if the \$20,000 and the \$132,000 were one-time payments. M. Roy responded that the \$20,000 was a one-time payment, but the \$132,000 was the first of three payments.

T. Connors asked if there were any more questions or comments. There were none.

T. Connors closed the Public Hearing at 6:02pm.

Minutes Approval:

M. Marconi moved to approve the minutes of July 1, 2019 and July 15, 2019 as amended. K. Latchaw seconded the motion with all in favor.

Manifest Approval: K. Latchaw moved to approve the manifests for \$39,727.51 dated 7/16/2019 and \$40,404.60 dated 7/23/19. M. Marconi seconded the motion with all in favor.

Facility Use Requests:

K. Latchaw moved to approve the following requests:

Wendy Sweeney-Town Hall-August 3rd-Birthday Party
UNH Marine Docents (John Lamson)-Town Hall-August 6th, 2019-Meeting
Police & Fire Department Softball Game-August 8th-School Field

M. Marconi seconded the motion with all in favor.

K. Latchaw wished both the Fire and Police Departments "good luck" in the upcoming softball game.

Chip Tacetta, Dockmaster-Discussion of Fox Point Dock and Rules:

This agenda item was postponed to a later meeting.

Tree Replacement Program:

The Selectmen's Office have been consulting with Jane Hislop, Conservation Commission, Chair, to plan to plant trees around town to replace the ones that have been taken down by Eversource. The Board received an email from J. Hislop suggesting native red maples. The board decided to delay this project until the heat of summer is over.

D. Hebert wanted to make sure that the town wasn't going to make the same mistakes that they did 100 years ago by planting trees that were too tall in the town right of way that had to be cut down as they were interfering with electric lines. He suggested the trees on the Eversource tree recommendation chart be purchased and planted.

T. Connors referred to a letter to Town received from Rockingham County. The Town's taxes due to the County have gone down \$137,000.

The Board received a memo from Special Project Coordinator, Karen Anderson explaining that Lissa Bitterman, the Education Director at EcoMaine, visited the Newington Transfer Station. L. Bitterman noted that the Newington residents are very good at disposing the proper materials in the recycling container. It was noted that plastic bags can NOT go in the recycling bin and some people still are putting them there. She stated that having only one attendant on a busy Saturday made it hard for them to monitor the disposal of bulky waste and recycling at the same time. She suggested trying to find an intern who could help at the Transfer Station.

Fire Department Request:

The Fire Department is requesting additional funds for the repair for Engine 2's broken pump. In March the Fire Department requested \$37,500 for the rebuilding of the pump. The money would be taken out of the Fire Department Vehicle and Repair Capital Reserve account. Now that the pump has been opened up and looked at, the updated cost estimate is \$43,523.87. The department is now requesting a total of \$44,000 which is \$6,500 more than the original estimate. **M. Marconi moved to approve the increased amount of \$44,000, for the repair of Engine 2's pump, pending notification of the Budget Committee and their response within 72 hours. K. Latchaw seconded the motion with all in favor.**

T. Connors noted that there is approximately \$260,000 in the capital reserve account.

K. Latchaw asked about the separation of the vehicle purchase and repair capital reserve accounts. J. Klanchesser said he was working on it.

M. Marconi thanked the building inspector for putting the new a/c unit in the deRochement Room. D. Hebert liked the new unit too.

Police Commissioner Vacancy:

K. Latchaw nominated Bill Wright to fill the vacant Police Commissioner position until the next election in March 2020. M. Marconi seconded the motion with all in favor.

M. Marconi asked to be invited to the swearing in ceremony.

K. Latchaw would like a welcome article in the next newsletter and list B. Wright's qualifications for the position.

M. Marconi thanked K. Latchaw for building the kayak rack at Fox Point. K. Latchaw explained that he just held the measuring tape and Mike and Ted did all the work.

D. Hebert is concerned about the old telephone poles on the ground. He wanted to make sure that the Town was going to tax the old poles and the new poles. M. Roy commented that we can't tax them until next year. J. Klanchesser suggested that M. Roy call the town of Rye because they are going through the same thing right now. M. Roy said she had already called Rye.

E. Savinelli is concerned about the piles of wood that are very close to the edge of the road from the Eversource tree cutting. D. Hebert explained that he is already addressing that issue with Eversource.

D. Hebert also explained that Eversource had built a gravel road in the wrong location at the Flynn Pit. He brought it to their attention, and they will fix and discuss at the 7/31/19 meeting.

T. Connors thanked Denis Hebert for all his hard work on the Eversource project.

Adjournment: M. Marconi moved to adjourn at 6:20pm. K. Latchaw seconded the motion with all in favor.

Respectfully submitted,
Eleanor Boy, Recorder