

Town of Newington, NH
Board of Selectmen Meeting Minutes
Monday, September 21st, 2020 Town Hall

Present: Chair Ted Connors, Selectman Mike Marconi, Selectman Ken Latchaw, Police Chief Mike Bilodeau, Police Commission Chair Brenda Blonigen, Fire Chief E. Hoyt, Resident Emily Savinelli, Martha Roy, Town Administrator and Eleanor Boy, Recorder.

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

Minutes: K. Latchaw moved to approve the minutes of August 17, 2020, August 27, 2020 and the minutes of September 9th, with suggested changes. M. Marconi seconded the motion with all in favor.

Manifest Approval: M. Marconi moved to approve the manifests for \$51,140.31 dated 8/20/2020, \$43,808.59 dated 8/27/2020, \$199,036.46 dated 9/3/2020, \$28,597.44 dated 9/10/2020 and \$93,965.48 dated 9/17/2020. K. Latchaw seconded the motion with all in favor.

Facility Use Requests:

K. Latchaw moved to approve the following facility use request:

Newington Police Department-Town Hall-October 26-28-Training

M. Marconi seconded the motion with all in favor.

M. Marconi moved to approve the following facility use request:

Newington Church-Drive Up Church Supper-October 17th-Town Hall

K. Latchaw seconded the motion with all in favor.

Reopening Guidance-Use of Town Buildings (Town Hall, Old Town Hall):

E. Boy reviewed the "Safer at Home" guidelines for weddings, catering & function halls. E. Boy is recommending that residents with events at the Town Hall or Old Town Hall sign off on the guidelines before their event takes place. The guidelines include; tables being six feet apart, no more than six people at a table, masks will be worn when guests can't be six feet apart and attendance at the event can only be 50% capacity of the venue, 87 for Town Hall and 36 for the Old Town Hall. **M. Marconi moved to adopt the "Safer at Home" guidelines for all events at the Town Hall and the Old Town Hall. K. Latchaw seconded the motion with all in favor.**

Halloween:

K. Latchaw recommended that the Newington School Supporters be included in the decision and thought that the decision about Halloween should be delayed until the Board receives their input.

Face Mask Ordinance:

The Police Chief said that his department has had no issues in town pertaining to the wearing of face masks. The Fire Chief agreed that there have been no issues and thought that residents were doing a good job. M. Marconi agreed that residents are wearing masks. The Board of Selectmen agree and want to keep everything "status quo" for now. No need for a face mask mandate at this time.

Tennis Courts-Crack Repair/Net Storage:

B. Wright has contacted the Town Hall and asked when the tennis court cracks will be repaired and has offered to do a temporary repair on the cracks. K. Latchaw stated that the town should accept B. Wright's offer to repair the cracks because the cracks could get bigger during the winter. B. Wright also asked that the nets be taken down later in the year to allow for longer play into the fall. M. Roy will ask R. St. Laurent to take down the nets later.

Facility Fee for Old Town Hall and Town Hall:

M. Roy asked the Board of Selectmen to consider lowering the facility fee from \$250 to \$100 for the Town Hall during the Covid-19 state of emergency. This would encourage residents to rent the bigger space at the Town Hall which will allow more space for social distancing and not penalize them for choosing a larger space when it was a better alternative during the pandemic.

M. Marconi moved to lower to facility fee for The Town Hall to \$100. While the Covid-19 state of emergency was in effect. K. Latchaw seconded the motion with all in favor.

Recreation Committee Tent Purchase:

The school is currently renting a couple of tents for outdoor learning. They would like the town to fund the purchase of an additional tent. The Recreation Committee would like to purchase this tent for the school to use this fall and for the town to use at other events. K. Latchaw likes the idea of the town having a tent for events, but people would have to be trained on how to put up the tent. T. Connors is concerned that it could be a big liability. Could the school use the auditorium? It is large and the kids could socially distance. M. Roy will contact the town's insurance company to see what kind of liability a tent would be. E. Savinelli asked if the school could get a grant for the tent? Parents want their children to be outside for as long as possible. If Covid continues for a year, the school will need something for outdoor education. T. Connors suggested that the Recreation Committee and the school get together and raise money for the

purchase of a tent. He asked that the School Board be involved in this decision. Do they have any funds available?

Wilcox Way Paving Recommendation:

The Town Engineer has recommended that the Town wait to put the final topcoat on Wilcox Way until next year. It is recommended that the new road go through one winter before the topcoat is put on. T. Connors talked to D. Hebert about this proposal and he agreed with the town engineer's recommendation. **M. Marconi moved to encumber the \$75,000 for Wilcox Way in the 2020 budget to be spent in 2021. K. Latchaw seconded the motion with all in favor.**

Adjournment: M. Marconi moved to adjourn at 5:25pm. K. Latchaw seconded the motion with all in favor.

Respectfully submitted,
Eleanor Boy
Recorder