

Town of Newington, NH  
Board of Selectmen Meeting Minutes  
Friday, September 25th, 2020 Town Hall

**Present:** Chair Ted Connors, Selectman Mike Marconi, Newington School Principal Peter Latchaw, School Board Member Samara Robertson and Martha Roy, Town Administrator.

T. Connors called the meeting to order at 9:00am.

**School Tent Purchase:**

P. Latchaw explained that part of the school's reentry plan was to be able to have a space for the children to have "mask breaks". This plan included spending extended amounts of time outside.

In the initial plan the Newington School Supporters had picked up the cost (\$5,000) of the tents, chairs and desks for outdoor learning. The school budget is very tight because of extra expenses for cleaning, plumbing etc.

The school rented two tents from Taylor Rental cost \$3,550. Volunteers set up the tents. The wind has caused problems with the stability of these tents.

The school is now looking to purchase a 20' X 30' tent that would cost between \$2,000-\$4,000. The bigger tent would be better in the weather elements. The school would like the town to consider purchasing this tent for the school.

M. Marconi expressed concern about liability for the town and storage of the tent after the outdoor learning season.

S. Robertson said that families would be unable to go to work if the school changed to remote learning. The purchase of the tent would be a community investment and other committees could use the tent in the future.

T. Connors asked why the purchase of the tent couldn't come out of the school budget. T. Connors thought that there would be some extra money because the school buses were only running four days instead of five. T. Connors explained that we are all working for the same town and he would like the school to look at their budget first. S. Robertson agreed.

P. Latchaw explained that the school board isn't saying that they won't pay for the tent.

S. Robertson asked if the tent would be of value to other departments in town? T. Connors explained that it is too much of a liability to the town. Who would be responsible for putting it up properly? The town has offered it's building to the school for their use.

P. Latchaw said that he will go before the school board and ask them to purchase the tent. The tents will be set up on town property outside of the school by volunteers.

M. Marconi asked about the storage of the tent. P. Latchaw said he would find a space.

P. Latchaw explained that he wanted to meet to make sure that everyone was on the same page.

**M. Marconi moved to enter a nonpublic session at 9:20am per RSA 91-A:3 II (a&e). T. Connors seconded the motion and T. Connors asked for a roll call vote: M. Marconi- Yes, T. Connors- Yes. All were in favor.**

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

The Board returned from the nonpublic session at 9:30am

**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.**

**Adjournment: M. Marconi moved to adjourn at 9:31am. T. Connors seconded the motion with all in favor.**

Respectfully submitted,  
Martha S. Roy  
Town Administrator