

**Newington Board of Selectmen's Meeting  
Wednesday, October 31, 2012  
Town Hall 6:30pm**

***Chr. O'Reilly called the meeting to order at 6:35pm***

**Present:** Chairman Jack O'Reilly, Selectmen Rick Stern and Jan Stuart. Also present was AA Beatrice Marconi. Road Agent Len Thomas arriving at 6:30 for public portion of meeting (beginning at 7:05pm) and Dave Sweeney arriving at 7:40pm.

**Nonpublic:** *S. Stuart moved to go into nonpublic under RSA 91:A-3, II reputation. Seconded by S. Stern and on a roll call vote, the motion passed 3-0.*

At 7:05pm, *S. Stuart moved to come out of nonpublic. S. Stern seconded and on a roll call vote, the motion passed 3-0.* The Board rose to recite the pledge of allegiance.

***S. Stern moved to seal the minutes. S. Stuart seconded. Motion passed 3-0 on a roll call vote***

**Minute Approval:** *S. Stern moved to accept the minutes of Oct 15. S. Stuart seconded. Motion passed 2-0-1 with Chr. O'Reilly abstaining due to absence that evening.*

**Manifest Approval:** *S. Stern moved to approve the manifests of Oct 23 for \$ 165,516.60 and of Oct 30 in the amount of \$ 10,800.29. Seconded by S. Stuart. Motion passed 3-0.*

**Trees going in to Fox Point:** Road Agent Len Thomas will be addressing the small trees and spindly growths along road. There are a couple maples he and his staff can address. S. Stuart asked if Aspenlund was done in town as she still sees some trees tagged with their pink ribbons. Len will look into contacting them. He told the Selectmen that the roads need to be cleaned up due to Sandy as they are tattered with leaves.

**Gundalow Road** is on this year's schedule for a top coat and Patterson Lane has yet to be finished.

**Wood along Roadside:** If it is within the town's ROW, Len can take it to the transfer station and it should be done before the snow flies. Wood on private property should not be removed by his crew.

**Fox Point's North Field:** S. Stuart thanked Len and his staff for their work on North Field as it looked much better and was such an improvement for the walkers. She also mentioned the fire pit and wood stock piled on Dutchess Point and told the Board that both the Police and Fire departments were notified that no fires are authorized.

**Granite Bench** across from Mott Cove Road in trail is covered with poison ivy. Len will take care of that and will move the bench to Clam Shell pond as there may be skating there this winter. S. Stuart also thanked Len for the removal of that tree in the pond as more people will utilize it with it cleaned up.

**Paving 2013:** Chr. O'Reilly suggests that Fox Point Road be finished as it is just partially paved at the present time. He went on to suggest the Town do 1/3 of Old Post, 1/3 of Shattuck and consider Hodgedon Farm Road. Len will check out Hodgedon Farm Road and report back on its condition.

**Mott Pond Restoration Project:** Len asked about its status and Chr. O'Reilly stated that the DES is holding the project up with it now being rated as a dam, there are more regulations to follow. The Board is concerned about not having a contract in place to encumber the funds at year's end. Len informed the Board that a new grate is necessary and will get a new one made.

**Facility Insurance:** The AA reviewed the letter received from our liability insurance carrier and stated that the town is exposing itself to more liability when private party events are held. The town's insurance cannot take public funds to insure private events and forwarded information on a T.U.L.I.P. program offered over the internet for private parties. Costs range from \$95 to \$200. The Selectmen hoped to find alternate means to insure these events without the residents bearing another cost yet were concerned about liability exposure. S. Stern will contact an independent agent to see if the Town can purchase a rider or umbrella.

**Gas Burner Left On in Town Hall Kitchen:** After the last supper event 2 weekends ago at Town Hall, the auditorium was overtaken with gas odor due to a burner being left on and the pilot blowing out. The Fire Department was called over on Sunday and aired the room. The AA was asked to create signage reminding folks to be sure the stove is off. The Fire Department will be asked if there is a 'gas detector' available on the market that could be installed and S. Stern will speak to the party involved.

**Election Day-Selectmen Attendance:** Matt Mavrogeorge of the Attorney General's Office is the State's election expert. The majority of the Selectmen are required by State Constitution to be on site at the polls on election day. Basically, the Selectmen are required to be present to trouble shoot any issues that may arise and are there to ensure the State's voting regulations are followed. The Moderator may ask a Selectman to check IDs. If that happens, there would be no problems with that person reading or working on a laptop to pass the time between duties.

**Next Meeting:** Optional Monday November 12 if needed. S. Stuart cannot attend any meeting scheduled for Nov 5 or 6<sup>th</sup>. The AA was asked to contact Attorney Upton to schedule a consult with the Board.

**C.O.L.A.:** *S. Stuart moved to offer a 1.7% Cost of Living Adjustment to full time employees for 2013 based on the Federal allowance. S. Stern seconded. Motion passed 3-0 on a roll call vote. The AA was asked to notify the Departments.*

**Tank Removal at 144 Old Dover Road:** *S. Stuart moved to approve C.A.B. proposal for tank removal in the amount of \$300. S. Stern seconded. Motion passed 3-0.*

**Kidder Demo:** *S. Stern moved to accept the Kidder proposal for demolition of 144 Old Dover Road not to exceed \$ 6,250. S. Stuart seconded. Motion passed on a roll call vote 3-0.* Regarding varmints that may be residing within the building, the Board did not vote to proceed with a removal process.

**Facility Use Requests:**

- Old Town Hall – Moon Birthday Party – November 3 – S. Stern cautioned that due to the tile situation, it may not be wise to approve this request. With it being an adult party and after discussion, it was decided that S. Stern and our custodian go to the site to see what needs to be placed over the problematic tiles until they are replaced. *S. Stuart moved to approve this request based on the town being able to address the tile concerns. S. Stern seconded. Motion passed 3-0.*
- Old Town Hall – Sweeney Birthday Party – December 8 – With Mr. Sweeney present, the Board asked him if he would mind having this Town Hall Auditorium as a backup. He did not mind. *S. Stuart moved to approve this request based on the town being able to address the tile concerns at Old Town Hall and the Sweeneys using this Town Hall as a backup if needed. S. Stern seconded. Motion passed 3-0.*
- DeRochmont Room – Incident Mgmt – Chief Tretter – Nov 7 – 10:00am-noon – Waive fee and dep – *S. Stuart moved to approve. Seconded by S. Stern. Motion passed 3-0.*
- Town Hall Audi – P. Symphony Orchestra - Nov 2 – 6:00pm-9:00pm – Waive fee and dep – *S. Stern moved to approve. Seconded by S. Stuart. Motion passed 2-0-1 with Chr. O'Reilly abstaining.*

**Electrical Inspector Appointment:** On an amendment from the Sept 17 vote, *S. Stern moved to appoint Michael Regan as Newington's Electrical Inspector effective immediately. S. Stuart seconded. Motion passed 3-0.*

**Audio Recorder for Meetings:** S. Stern asked the Board if they would like him to pursue costs on recording meetings via video recorder. S. Stuart said no as this had come up in discussion in the past. S. Stern informed the Board that there are some boards that conduct meetings without even recording them. This was a concern as the Selectmen felt if challenged in court, the audio recording would exist rather than a he said/she said misinterpretation challenge. He will be consulting with Mr. Wahl to get his input for a dependable, easy to use and convert to CD system. He thinks we might be looking at around \$700 plus microphones. S. Stern will report back.

**Tree on Fox Run Road:** Dave Sweeney asked the Board to address the pine on Fox Run Road as it is ready to come down. Chr. O'Reilly informed him that Mother Nature took care of it on Monday night.

**Gate Remote Request:** *S. Stuart moved to approve Lemieux request for a gate remote-seconded by S. Stern. Motion passed 3-0.*

**Altus Engineering:** Chr. O'Reilly informed the Board that Altus continues to work on Woodbury Avenue analysis and the bike path engineering.

**Portsmouth Water Department Grant Support Request:** As requested by the City of Portsmouth, the Board authorized the Chair to sign a letter of grant support to the DES of Portsmouth's efforts to seek funds to construct fencing in Greenland to protect vehicles from parking within so many feet of the wells.

**Hannah Lane Drainage:** *S. Stuart moved to approve the change order as recommended by Altus engineering to have Bourassa address the drainage problem on Hannah Lane not to exceed \$ 5,700. S. Stern seconded. Motion passed 3-0.* The AA was asked to notify Jim Kerrivan of Altus and Cliff Abbott.

**1713 Celebration:** The Board emphasized the importance of getting confirmation from Rec regarding the 2013 Sept Fest date. They also spoke of the Native Americans that Gail Pare and Elaina D'Orto are working with and stated that they did not want any event opened up to other than Newington because of the nightmare it would cause with parking and transportation. They preferred to, rather than take on event that could create issues, to have those that are easily manageable.

After hearing no objections, at approximately 8:40pm, ***Chairman O'Reilly closed the meeting.***

Respectfully Submitted,

*Beatrice Marconi*

Administrative Assistant