

**Newington Board of Selectmen
Meeting**

**November 1, 2004
Newington Town Hall
6:30 p.m.**

In attendance: Chairman Jan Stuart, Selectman Jack O'Reilly, Selectman Cosmas Iocovozzi, Building Inspector Charles Smart, Residents Colby and Helen Maldini, Resident Larry Wahl, Assessor Wil Corcoran and AA Cynthia Gillespie.

Pledge of Allegiance

Call to order 6:30 p.m.

Miscellaneous

Selectman O'Reilly made the motion to accept the minutes of October 18th. Seconded by Selectman Iocovozzi. Vote 3-0.

Mrs. Helen Maldini and her son, Colby presented a petition to the Board requesting that maintenance be done to the Town's tennis courts. This request would include resurfacing the courts and repairing the back board. The Selectmen requested that AA Gillespie gather estimates for resurfacing the tennis courts, to be used in preparing next years budget. They also suggested that Road Agent Lenny Thomas look into what needs to be done to the backboard to repair it.

Mr. Larry Wahl had two issues to discuss with the Board. The first issue was that of the ditch across the street from his house. He asked when the Town was planning to clean out the ditch. He stated that the water from that ditch is seeping under Nimble Hill Road, filling the ditch between Mr. Wahl's home and the home of his neighbor, Mr. Noseworthy. Selectman Iocovozzi said that Altus engineering is working on getting a Dredge & Fill permit. Nothing can be done until the Town obtains the permit. The second issue concerning Mr. Wahl was that of Nimble Hill Road. He asked when the Town will be taking over Nimble Hill Road. The Selectmen responded that the Town can not accept Nimble Hill Road without a Special Town meeting, and that there are a lot of other considerations to be dealt with before then. Mr. Wahl wanted the Selectmen to know that he highly recommends that the Town not accept Nimble Hill Road due to the expense it would create for the Town to maintaining it. The Board thanked Mr. Wahl for bringing his concerns to them.

Mr. Chris Cross spoke to the Board about rejoining the Rockingham Planning Board. Mr. Cross stated that the Planning Board agreed that the Town should rejoin and that the dues will be budgeted for in the Planning Board budget. The Selectmen told Mr. Cross that as

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long as the expense is under the Planning Board budget that the membership would have to be approved by the Planning Board, not the Board of Selectmen.

Mr. Wil Corcoran, Town Assessor presented an update of assessing issues to the Selectmen. Mr. Corcoran told the Board that 2005 is the certification year, not 2004 and that Mary Jane Souther is the new representative from the Department of Revenue. The Selectmen asked Mr. Corcoran what the Town can expect for assessing expenses for the upcoming year. Mr. Corcoran replied they can expect level funding for office support. The goal is to update the assessing records on an annual base, so that a complete revaluation will not be necessary. Mr. Corcoran presented the Board with a tax bill stuffer. He recommended that the Board send it out with the tax bills, to explain the tax bills to the Town's residents.

A maintenance request from the Library was read. The trustees listed the following:

- Cutting deadwood from large pines
- Trim bushes from out front
- Bring lawn to level of new pavement
- Lawn loaming, seeding and in ground water system

Selectman Iocovozzi said that Road Agent Thomas should bring in processed fill to bring the lawn to pavement level. Selectman Iocovozzi also said that when the water pipes for the cemetery are changed the irrigation system for the library will be put in. Road Agent Thomas will cut the deadwood and Rick St. Laurent will be trimming the bushes. Chairman Stuart mentioned the issue of the book drop box that the Library requested. Chairman Stuart said that under the Library's charter, this expense is the Library's responsibility and should be taken from their trust funds. Chairman Stuart said that she will get a copy of the Library Charter.

A memo from Town Planner Tom Morgan was read regarding the library computers. Town Planner Morgan took an inventory of the computer equipment and decided what was necessary and what needed to be updated. A copy of his findings was forwarded to the Library Trustees.

A letter from the D.E.S was read regarding the NH Seacoast Region Wastewater Management Study. Town Planner Morgan told AA Gillespie that the Planning Board will be looking into this study before the Town agrees to participate.

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A letter from Simone Masse was read regarding the Town Forest. Selectman O'Reilly asked AA Gillespie to set up a meeting with Ms. Masse and Lynn Hinchee of the PDA in order to get an update of the progress that is being made.

A Worker's Compensation package from LGC was reviewed. AA Gillespie stated that Tom Dunn from the Local Government Center said that the Town is already in the property liability and health and dental insurance pools with the Local Government Center. He added that by being in the Worker's Compensation Pool, the Town's property liability costs should drop. The quote for Worker's Compensation however, was comparable to the Town's current worker's compensation carrier, Primex. Chairman Stuart said she would prefer to wait on any decision until this year's quote is received from Primex.

AA Gillespie presented the Board with copies of the U.S. Department of Labor, Consumer Price Index, for U.S. city average and Northeast urban. The range was a twelve month percent change, effective September 2004. Based on this review, Selectman O'Reilly made a motion to set the COLA rate for 2005 at 3%. Seconded by Selectman Iocovozzi. Vote 3-0.

Building Inspectors Communication

There was discussion on a Junkyard Ordinance violation on Beane Lane. BI Smart recommended that the packet of correspondence between the property owner and the Town, be sent to Attorney Tanguay for review. Selectman O'Reilly made the motion to forward the information to Attorney Tanguay. Seconded by Selectman Iocovozzi. Vote 3-0.

Building Inspector Charles Smart reported on the Regional Health Network event that he attended. BI Smart said that all that is needed at this time is a letter of support from the Board of Selectmen. A general letter will be sent to BI Smart as an example of what is needed. Selectman O'Reilly made the motion to support the Regional Health Network. Seconded by Selectman Iocovozzi. Vote 3-0.

There was discussion on the formation of a Safety Committee (due to mandates from the Department of Labor). The State is now strictly enforcing the laws that were created in 1994. AA Gillespie and BI Smart met with David Witham, a representative from Primex Insurance. Mr. Witham explained how to set up the committee and what is required of that committee. The first training meeting of the Safety committee will be on November 16th at 9 a.m.

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Chairman Stuart mentioned her concerns about building maintenance expenses. Recently she has notice invoices coming in for repairs and maintenance on the buildings that the Selectmen did not authorize. The Selectmen requested that AA Gillespie send a memo to all the departments that repairs must be authorized by the Selectmen before the work is started.

Signatures and Approvals

Selectman O'Reilly made the motion to approve and sign the Application for a Veteran's credit from Elaina D'Orto based on the recommendation of Town Assessor Wil Corcoran. Seconded by Selectman Iocovozzi. Vote 3-0.

Town Hall Use

A Town Hall Use form for the UNH Marine Docents for a December 16th event was approved and signed.

There being no further business before the Board:

Adjourn 8:25 p.m.

Respectfully Submitted,

Cynthia Gillespie
Administrative Assistant