

Town of Newington, NH
Board of Selectmen Meeting Minutes
Monday, April 7, 2014 Town Hall 6:30pm

Chair Jan Stuart called the meeting to order at 6:40pm.

Present: Chair Jan Stuart, Selectman Rick Stern and Selectman Cosmas Iocovozzi. Also present was Martha Roy, Town Administrator.

Minutes Approval: C. Iocovozzi moved to approve the minutes of March 17 and March 26, 2014. R. Stern seconded this with all in favor.

Manifest Approval: C. Iocovozzi moved to approve Manifests dated March 18, 2014 for 49,094.44, March 18, 2014 for \$176,301.95, March 25, 2014 for \$26,533.34, April 1, 2014 for \$212,878.47, and April 1, 2014 for \$1,195.87. R. Stern seconded the motion and all were in favor.

Fire Department Grant Application: C. Iocovozzi moved to apply for, accept and expend the GP Gypsum grant for a portable radio for the Fire Department. R. Stern seconded the motion and all were in favor. C. Iocovozzi requested M. Roy research the details of where the funds were deposited and spent out of, in the budget.

Waste Water Treatment Plant Upgrade Grant Application: C. Iocovozzi moved to approve the Sewer Commissioners applying for and pursuing any private donations available to offset the cost of the plant upgrade contingent upon Selectmen's review. R. Stern seconded this and all were in favor.

Lucy Young -Request to Separate Involuntarily Merged Lots: Lucy requested that two lots merged via one tax bill in the 1980's be returned to their previous status. The Town's contracted appraiser agreed that the lot should be separated into its original dimensions. C. Iocovozzi moved that in accordance with RSA 674:39-aa II the Town restore the premerger boundaries as outlined in the letter of Lucy Young to the Board dated January 13, 2014. R. Stern seconded this and all were in favor.

V. Brawn- Request for Town to Repair Drainage System: In March of 2013 the Board had Town consultants review the Brawn property to determine if upstream activities increased the flow of water, exasperating the conditions in Ms. Brawn's basement. They notified the Board that these changes did not affect the basement conditions. Recently the Board received a letter of concern from Ms. Brawn about the conditions at her home. C. Iocovozzi moved to send both the Soil Scientist and the Town Engineer to the site and determine if any new

conditions existed that would change their previous opinion. **R. Stern seconded this motion and all were in favor.**

Ballot Clerk Rate of Pay for Town Meetings: Ruth Fletcher, Town Moderator explained to the Board that given the amount of hours that the ballot clerks are working at Town Meeting, they should receive an hourly rate rather than a stipend for the day. She reported that they worked eight hours at the Saturday Town meeting this year. The Board asked M. Roy to research the matter and see how neighboring communities compensate their Ballot Clerks on Town Meeting Day.

Cost of Living Adjustment (COLA) for Part Time Fire Fighters: Fire Engineers Ruth Fletcher and John Klanchesser along with Chief Head requested that the Board of Selectmen pay out the COLA to the part time fire fighters retroactively to January 1, 2014. This request was based on the new ruling of the NH Public Employees Labor Relations Board (PELRB), which named the Engineers as the employer. The Board explained that all other Town part time employees do not receive the COLA and that this would not be fair to all. The Board of Selectmen further stated that they were appealing the decision of the PELRB.

Health Insurance for Elected Officials: The Board received a letter from Theresa Tomlinson requesting that Elected Officials be covered by Town health insurance understanding that the elected officials would pay 100% of the premium. The Board requested that M. Roy research the overall financial effect on town premiums by allowing elected officials to join the plan. **C. Iocovozzi moved to table this item until research had been presented to the Board and they had discussed the policy. R. Stern seconded the motion and all were in favor.**

Cumberland Farms Drainage Easement and Sidewalk Agreement: In a letter to the Board, Attorney Bruton, on behalf of Cumberland Farms, requested that the Board affirm and sign the Sidewalk Agreement. **R. Stern moved that the Board retain legal counsel to review the sidewalk agreement. C. Iocovozzi seconded the motion and all were in favor.**

R. Stern moved to table action regarding the drainage easement to Cumberland Farms. C. Iocovozzi seconded the motion and all were in favor.

Mosquito Spraying Bids: The Board reviewed the bids submitted by Municipal Pest Management and Dragon Mosquito. After deliberation **R. Stern moved to approve Dragon Mosquito for mosquito spraying in 2014 contingent upon a monthly pay schedule and submission of an invoice outlining what had been accomplished in the prior month. C. Iocovozzi seconded the motion and all**

were in favor.

Appointment: Ann Morton requested appointment to the Conservation Commission. **C. Iocovozzi moved to appoint Ann Morton to the Conservation Commission. R. Stern seconded this motion and all were in favor.**

Gate Clicker Request: Sandra Westin requested a gate clicker due to a new position she had taken at the Pease Tradeport. **C. Iocovozzi moved to allow the rental of a gate clicker to Sandra Westin. R. Stern seconded the motion and all were in favor.**

Facilities Usage Requests: **R. Stern moved to allow all Facilities Usage requests as listed on the meeting agenda. C. Iocovozzi seconded the motion and all were in favor.**

Old Business: C. Iocovozzi reminded the Board that luncheons after burials could be held at available town facilities but that the certificate of insurance naming the Town as an additional insured was still required.

New Business: J. Stuart read a letter from James Weiner requesting that the Town allow a granite bench be placed at the end of Fox Point in memory of Paul Kent. **R. Stern moved that the bench be accepted and placed as described by James Wiener. C. Iocovozzi seconded the motion with all in favor.**

J. Stuart discussed the need for a tree that had been previously marked by PSNH contactors to be cut down. M. Roy will contact the necessary parties to insure this is taken care of.

C. Iocovozzi requested that Len Thomas, Road Agent have the Town backhoe taken to Chapel Tractor for annual maintenance.

Adjournment: **C. Iocovozzi moved to adjourn at 8:05pm. R. Stern seconded the motion and all were in favor.**

Respectfully submitted,

Martha S. Roy, Town Administrator