

Town of Newington, NH  
Board of Selectmen Meeting Minutes  
Monday, November 17, 2014 Town Hall 6:30pm

Chair Jan Stuart called the meeting to order at 6:30 pm

**Present:** Chair Jan Stuart, Selectman Rick Stern and Martha Roy, Town Administrator.

**Minutes Approval:** R. Stern moved to approve the public and non public minutes of November 3rd. Jan Stuart seconded the motion and all were in favor.

**Manifest Approval:** R. Stern moved to approve manifests for \$124,348.66 dated 11/4/14 and \$132,582.01 dated 11/12/14. Jan Stuart seconded the motion and all were in favor.

**Historic District Commission (HDC) Budget Review:** Rick Stern questioned the sign cost listed in the budget. Gail Pare, HDC Chair, advised that these signs are proposed to be in the Historic District. Three signs developed by Portsmouth Sign Company are the same etched steel as the sign there now. **Rick Stern motioned to approve the Historic District Commission for \$14,058. Jan Stuart seconded the motion and all were in favor.**

**HDC Over expenditure request:** The HDC requested permission to over expend their Operating Expenses budget line. This line would be over expended by \$249.87. **Rick Stern moved to allow the Historic District Commission to over spend their Operating Expense budget line. Jan Stuart seconded the motion and all were in favor.**

**Transfer Station Budget:** M. Roy reported that the Transfer station would like to have the residential hauling and collection expense lines split. Craig Daigle will work on the budget and meet on Friday with M. Roy and the Finance Director, Anita Treloar, about it. The Board will revisit the budget on Monday November 24<sup>th</sup>.

**Fire Department Budget:** The Fire Department has a 1.51% increase in their overall budget. A \$31,666 increase in the salary line is anticipated. The Fire Chief presented their plan for working on the hiring/staffing to keep expenses at a minimum. He notified the Board of Selectmen that the Fire Department is going to overspend their overtime expense line.

Discussion ensued about the bids the Fire Chief received for drug testing new hires at Occupational Health at Pease.

The Fire Chief introduced a new budget line for Legal Fees-Attorney Joseph McKittrick will charge the Town \$6,000. for all legal work in 2015. This will include any grievances, Standard Operating Procedures etc.; but not negotiations work.

The Fire Department expects to require five to ten thousand dollars to insure the 1996 Engine 3 pump will pass inspection next year.

M. Roy was directed to have John Stowell put a rush order on the parking lot lights. M. Roy will call Maldini Electric to let them know that the town is taking a different tact.

Jan Stuart commended the Fire Department on their excellent job keeping the percentage budget increase low moving in to 2015.

Darin Sabine commended the Fire Chief on the extra 300 hours he has worked this year. This has saved the department 300 hours of supervisory overtime.

**R. Stern moved to approve the Fire Department's budget of \$1,510,882., contingent on Union negotiations. Jan Stuart seconded the motion and all were in favor.**

It was the consensus of the Board of Selectmen to wait to address the Cemetery budget until a Trustee was present.

#### **Facility Use Requests:**

**R. Stern moved to approve the following Facilities Usage requests:  
Newington Recreation Committee-OTH-December 14<sup>th</sup>, 12-8, Christmas Party  
UNH Marine Docent (John Lamson)-TH-December 11<sup>th</sup>, 9-3, Holiday Lunch  
Portsmouth Yacht Club-OTH-December 11<sup>th</sup>, 6-10pm, Holiday Party  
Paula Akerley-OTH-12/7/14-Baby Shower changed location from OTH to TH  
J. Stuart seconded the motion and all were in favor.**

#### **Old Business:**

The Board directed that the light on the brick entryway at the Town Hall, be placed on the December 1<sup>st</sup> agenda. It is only working intermittently.

**Cost of Living Adjustment:** M. Roy informed the Board that the Social Security COLA was 1.7%. **Rick Stern moved to approve the 1.7% COLA increase. J. Stuart seconded the motion and all were in favor.**

**R. Stern requested that M. Roy** research and purchase a recorder similar to the tape recorder the Town of Seabrook uses.

**Tax Rate:** Rick Stern moved to approve the tax rate of 9.72 with the use of \$500,000. in unassigned fund balance pending approval from the DRA. **J. Stuart seconded the motion and all were in favor.**

The Board will look at health insurance options at the November 24<sup>th</sup> meeting. R. Stern and M. Roy will meet with the HealthTrust representative and review their various proposals as well as the Interlocal Trust health insurance options already received.

**Adjournment:** R. Stern moved to adjourn at 8:37pm. J. Stuart seconded the motion with all in favor.

Respectfully submitted,

Martha S. Roy  
Town Administrator