

Town of Newington, NH
Board of Selectmen Meeting Minutes
Monday April 25th, 2022

Present: Chair Ted Connors, Selectman Bob Blonigen, Selectman Brandon Arsenault, Police Chief Mike Bilodeau, Fire Chief EJ Hoyt, PDA Representative Peggy Lamson, Newington Residents; Emily Savinelli, Meagan Wayss, Will Gilbert, Lulu Pickering, John Lamson, Ann Hyland Hebert, Huddy Grandy, Martha Roy, Town Administrator and Eleanor Boy, Recorder.

T. Connors called the meeting to order at 5:30pm. Followed by the Pledge of Allegiance.

Minutes Approval: B. Blonigen moved to approve the minutes of April 11, 2022 and April 18, 2022. B. Arsenault seconded the motion. All were in favor.

Manifest Approval: B. Blonigen moved to approve the manifests for \$121,790.93 dated 4/14/2022 and \$46,067.63 dated 4/21/2022. B. Arsenault seconded the motion. All were in favor.

Facility Use Requests:

B. Blonigen moved to approve the following facility use request:
North Star AMEZ Church-Town Hall-May 1st-Gathering After Funeral
B. Arsenault seconded the motion. All were in Favor.

Mike Bilodeau-Body Cameras and J-1 Grant Cruiser Equipment:

M. Bilodeau explained that the J-1 Grant is for J-1 equipment (bar scanners and printers) for four cruisers. The cost of the equipment is \$9,217.70. The State will pay for approximately 50%. The Town's portion of the cost will be taken out of the Police Equipment Capital Reserve Account. B. Blonigen expressed his concern that the information would be uploading to the State without any supervisory review. M. Bilodeau said that the reports would be kicked back if there were mistakes. B. Blonigen would like M. Bilodeau to look into getting a feature for the equipment that would allow a review of information before it would be uploaded to the State.

B. Blonigen moved to apply for, accept and expend the FY22 Highway Safety Equipment Grant and authorize the Chair to sign the grant application on behalf of the Board. B. Arsenault seconded the motion. All were in favor.

M. Bilodeau explained that body worn cameras weren't a mandate now, but could be soon. The cost would be over \$100,000 for cameras, software, docking systems, batteries and training. He is in the process of looking for grants to fund this. He is

looking to get four cameras in cruisers in 2023 at a cost of around \$53,000. M. Bilodeau recommends to continue to put funds in the Capital Reserve account for body cameras until it is mandated. B. Arsenault asked if the equipment could be transferred to the new cruisers. M. Bilodeau said yes. B. Blonigen asked if M. Bilodeau thought the body cameras would be useful. M. Bilodeau said that they had two complaints last year and camera footage were used to clear the officers. He thought it kept everyone honest.

Election of Officers:

B. Blonigen moved to elect Ted Connors as Chair for the Selectmen. B. Arsenault seconded the motion. All were in favor. T. Connors recommended that the Board have a Vice-Chair this year and moved to elect Bob Blonigen for Vice-Chair. B. Arsenault seconded the motion. All were in favor.

The Board discussed the Selectmen's Reps for several committees. It was a consensus of the Board that B. Blonigen would be the Planning Board Rep, the HDC Rep and the Highway Safety Committee Rep. B. Arsenault would be the EDC, Budget and Recreation Committees Rep, T. Connors would be the Coakley Landfill Rep and B. Blonigen would be the Gulf of Maine Rep along with Mike Donahue.

Appointments:

Historic District Commission

B. Blonigen moved to appoint Becky St. Germaine, John Chamberlain, John Lamson and Alan Wilson to the Historic District Commission for three years. B. Arsenault seconded the motion. All were in favor.

Conservation Commission

B. Blonigen moved to appoint Jane Hislop for three years, Jim Weiner for two years and Jane Kendall as Alternate for three years. B. Arsenault seconded the motion. T. Connors was opposed to the Jim Weiner appointment because he is already on another land use board. All were in favor of the Jane Hislop and Jane Kendall appointments. B. Blonigen and B. Arsenault in favor of the Jim Weiner appointment. T. Connors opposed.

Library Trustees

B. Blonigen moved to appoint Lillian Wilson as a Library Trustee Alternate for one year. B. Arsenault seconded the motion. All were in favor.

Recreation Committee

In the previous years this committee's terms were all for one year. This year the Board of Selectmen decided to appoint for longer terms and to stagger the terms of the members.

B. Blonigen moved to appoint Adrianna Huggett, Kat Johnson and Bill Wright for three years, Rebecca Navelski and Jillian Semprini for two years and Dana Nowell and Jack O'Reilly for one year. B. Arsenault seconded the motion. All were in favor.

Zoning Board of Adjustment

B. Blonigen moved to appoint Jennifer Kent Weiner for three years, Bob Raymond for one year, Roger Dieker as an alternate for three years and Peter Welch as the Planning Board Rep for two years, which matches his Planning Board term. B. Arsenault seconded the motion. All were in favor.

Highway Safety Committee

B. Blonigen moved to appoint Mike Bilodeau, EJ Hoyt and Len Thomas. B. Arsenault seconded the motion. All were in favor.

Emergency Management Committee

B. Blonigen moved to appoint Mike Bilodeau and EJ Hoyt. B. Arsenault seconded the motion. All were in favor.

Health Officer

B. Blonigen moved to appoint Steven Paquin as Health Officer and Pat Moynihan as Deputy Health Officer. B. Arsenault seconded the motion. All were in favor.

Dock Master

B. Blonigen moved to appoint Peter Welch. B. Arsenault seconded the motion. All were in favor.

Fire Warden/Deputy Fire Wardens

B. Blonigen moved to appoint EJ Hoyt as Warden and Pat Moynihan, Jonathan Connors, Brandon Lisowski, Jonathan March, Andrew Belair, John McCooey, Jessica Plante and David Corcoran as Deputy Wardens. B. Arsenault seconded the motion. All were in favor.

Shattuck Way-Spaulding Turnpike Drainage Update:

The town heard back from Jennifer Reczek from the NHDOT asking for more historical data about the Shattuck Way drainage issues from the Eric Weinrieb, the town engineer.

Old Town Hall Playground-Zip Line:

B. Blonigen moved to approve the bid from Burke Zip Venture for up to \$26,000, as recommended by the Recreation Committee. B. Arsenault seconded the motion. All were in favor.

Summer Camp Program Update:

B. Arsenault will meet with the Recreation Committee to discuss what they want to recommend to the Board to do with the money allocated in their budget for the Summer

Camp program. **B. Arsenault** moved to ask the Recreation Committee to present a plan to the Board of Selectmen on what to do with the Summer Camp budget line money. **B. Blonigen** seconded the motion. All were in favor.

HDC Grant Application-Stone School:

This grant would be for an update to the 2003 Stone School Historic Structure Report. It would cost \$4,500. This report was originally done to support a warrant article for \$800,000 for Stone School improvements. The warrant article didn't pass because it needed a 2/3 majority. **B. Blonigen** asked where the money would come from. **L. Pickering** said it would come from the CLG grant line in the HDC budget. **B. Arsenault** asked why this update was needed. **L. Pickering** said that this study would create a plan for the Stone School going forward. **T. Connors** said that the study is important because the Town needs a report, so we know what we are talking about to bring the building up to code. Discussion ensued about the deed and the restrictions in it, the National Register and the transfer agreement with the Air Force. **B. Blonigen** moved to expend \$10,000 for the updated 2003 Stone School plan. **B. Arsenault** seconded the motion. **T. Connors** and **B. Blonigen** in favor, **B. Arsenault** opposed.

B. Blonigen moved to apply for, accept and expend the CLG Grant for the Stone School and authorize the Chair to sign the grant application on behalf of the Board. **B. Arsenault** seconded the motion. All were in favor.

Building Safety Month:

B. Blonigen moved to proclaim May 2022 Building Safety Month. **B. Arsenault** seconded the motion. All were in favor.

Transfer Station Compactor and 3-Phase Power:

M. Roy said that in order to have a compactor at the Transfer Station it would need 3-phase power and that would cost \$100,000. It would take 15 years of payback to justify the cost. **B. Blonigen** said that in the Capital Improvement Plan there is a section that talks about having a solar array in town near the transfer station. If that happens then there will be 3-phase power there and then the Town can consider a compactor. **T. Connors** said that he would like to get a copy of the Capital Improvement Plan so the Board can see what's coming up. **B. Blonigen** said that Town Planner **John Krebs** is working on it and will get a copy as soon as it is completed.

M. Roy left the meeting.

Huddy Grandy-PDA Letter:

T. Connors thanked **Huddy Grandy** for preparing a letter for the Board of Selectmen. **T. Connors** said it was a good letter, but wanted to consult with the Town's attorney before the Board of Selectmen prepare a letter to be sent to the PDA. **B. Arsenault** would like to set up a meeting with the Greenland Board of Selectmen so they can get a

public position on the issue. L. Pickering said that the Town's needs to get an attorney who works on FAA noise issues. What the Town is currently doing won't have any effect on the outcome. Senator Sheehan could help the Town. When the PDA accepts federal funds there are always strings attached. B. Blonigen pointed out that a vote was taken at the April 18th Board of Selectmen's meeting and everyone, but one, was opposed to the cargo development at Pease. It's not only about noise concerns, there are many other impacts to the Seacoast that are concerns. B. Arsenault said that Huddy Grandy has done a lot of research and the Board of Selectmen will be forming a position in the near future.

Adjournment: B. Arsenault moved to adjourn at 6:36pm. B. Blonigen seconded the motion. All were in favor.

Respectfully submitted,
Eleanor Boy, Recorder

