

Town of Newington, NH  
Board of Selectmen Meeting Minutes  
Tuesday April 30th, 2024

**Present:** Chair Brandon Arsenault, Selectman Chris Wayss, Selectman Bob Blonigen, Town Planner John Krebs, Planning Board Chair Denis Hebert, Fire Engineer Ann Hyland Hebert and Town Administrator Martha Roy.

B. Arsenault called the meeting to order at 5:45pm.

**Appointments:**

B. Arsenault explained that Newington has a full representative on the PDA and half of another member that Newington shares with Greenland. B. Arsenault said that the Selectmen received five applications for the Newington position and thanked everyone who submitted an application and encouraged them to think about joining other committees in Town. **C. Wayss moved to appoint Brian Semprini as the full Newington representative on the PDA. B. Blonigen seconded the motion. All were in favor.**

**C. Wayss moved to reappoint Susan Parker for the Newington/Greenland position on the PDA. B. Blonigen seconded the motion. All were in favor.**

C. Wayss said that the Board has a good discussion with the Greenland Selectmen about this position. Both Boards have been happy with the work that Susan Parker has been doing and would like her to continue her work on the PDA.

B. Arsenault said that he thought having continuity at this position would benefit both Newington and Greenland.

B. Blonigen said that it was a unanimous vote of the Planning Board to nominate Peter Welch for appointment as the Planning Board Representative on the Newington Zoning Board of Adjustment.

**B. Blonigen moved to nominate Peter Welch as the Planning Board Representative to the Zoning Board of Adjustment. C. Wayss seconded the motion. All were in favor.**

**Letter of Resignation:**

B. Arsenault said that the Board had received a letter of resignation from Jennifer and Jim Weiner from the Budget Committee, Planning Board and the Zoning Board of Adjustment.

B. Arsenault acknowledged Jennifer and Jim Weiner's service and dedication to the Town over many years. They have spent a lot of time and dedication volunteering for this Town. The community wouldn't be where it is today without these volunteers committing themselves to the Town. B. Blonigen acknowledged the Wieners length of service to the Town, it is very much appreciated. C. Wayss said it was disheartening when he saw the resignation come in. C. Wayss served on the Budget Committee with Jennifer and thought that she had great insights and knowledge to pass on to other members.

**B. Arsenault moved to accept, with regret, the resignation of Jennifer and Jim Weiner from the Planning Board, Zoning Board of Adjustment and the Budget Committee. B. Blonigen seconded the motion. All were in favor.**

**Public Comment:**

A. Hyland Hebert thanked the Selectmen for bringing the floating oyster cage issue "to light". Comments to Fish & Game are due by Tuesday May 7<sup>th</sup>. The fear of this being granted is that one fisherman, on 2 ½ acres, would have the floating cages and then the other fisherman would follow his lead and Newington's coastline would be surrounded by floating fishing gear, which would dramatically impact our views, our navigability and our recreational use.

B. Arsenault thanked A. Hyland Hebert for her comments and said it is a very important issue. There is a lot more to this issue than what was originally presented. There have been a lot of issues with these floating cages in surrounding communities and other states. B. Arsenault said that he anticipates that if floating cages are allowed around Fox Point there will be a lot of debris and trash trapped out there.

C. Wayss said that Comcast/Xfinity will be at the May 6<sup>th</sup> Board of Selectmen's meeting to hear the issues that residents are having with their internet, cable and phones.

B. Arsenault said that the Town trash pickup day is scheduled for May 14<sup>th</sup>. More information to come on this.

**B. Blonigen moved to enter a nonpublic session at 5:58pm per RSA 91-A:3 II (e) Legal. B. Arsenault seconded the motion. B. Arsenault asked for a roll call vote: B. Blonigen-Yes, B. Arsenault-Yes, C. Wayss-Yes. All were in favor.**

Respectfully submitted, Eleanor Boy, Recorder