

Town of Newington, NH
Board of Selectmen Meeting Minutes
Tuesday June 1st, 2021

Present: Chair Ted Connors, Selectman Mike Marconi, Selectman Bob Blonigen via Zoom, PDA Rep Margaret Lamson, PDA Rep Susan Parker and Martha Roy, Town Administrator.

T. Connors called the meeting to order at 3:00pm and informed everyone that Selectmen B. Blonigen is joining the meeting via Zoom.

T. Connors said that Arboretum Drive's pavement condition has gotten worse and there is a lot of trash along the sides of the road. M. Lamson said Arboretum Drive is the responsibility of the PDA and that she has pictures showing the condition of the road.

M. Roy explained that she had contacted Peter Rice, the Director of the Portsmouth Public Works, about the road. P. Rice said that Pease and Portsmouth had reached an agreement to not maintain Arboretum Drive because they thought that is just served the National Wildlife Refuge. M. Roy explained to him that this is one of three egresses we have out of town and used frequently by residents. P. Rice told M. Roy that he was going to reach out to Maria Stowell at the PDA about working on the road. M. Lamson said that she would follow up with both Maria Stowell and Peter Rice about Arboretum Drive.

B. Blonigen voiced his concern that he had heard that the Pease Greeters were being discontinued. S. Parker said that she had heard the same thing from an Executive Counselor. The subject will be on the July agenda for the PDA.

The Privatization agreement between Portsmouth and the PDA was discussed. At the time of the agreement Newington's Fire Chief didn't think his department could cover additional areas at Pease. M. Roy noted that the 2020 motion for privatization includes the Arboretum Drive industrial area. This would be a significant tax impact.

The Police PDA billing procedure was discussed.

T. Connors thought that the municipalities should sit down and review the current agreement. T. Connors will meet with Chief Bilodeau and discuss the bill.

Pease Air Show:

National Guard Major Ricker is in charge of the air show. B. Blonigen will be the town's contact and will be in touch with the Air National Guard to learn more details.

Water Contamination:

T. Connors discussed the ongoing problem with water contamination. There is an easy solution, hook up all the contaminated wells to Portsmouth Water. There are 20 of these wells, it would cost \$15,000 each to hook into Portsmouth Water, for a total of \$300,000.

T. Connors explained the history of water access from Madbury to Portsmouth. The main line comes through Newington to Portsmouth. Discussion ensued about all the concerns with the water.

M. Marconi still doesn't understand why the USAF spent \$30 million on the water pump and treat systems but wouldn't spend \$1 million to connect the 40 Newington wells (at the time) to Portsmouth Water. The State (not the USAF) has hooked up some houses on Coleman Drive

T. Connors also discussed the noise contamination from Pease. There is a rumor that Blackhawk helicopters will be coming to the north apron of Pease. B. Blonigen will look into this rumor. He believes that they are staying in Concord where their maintenance facility is.

Appointment:

M. Marconi moved to appoint Doug Ross as an At Large member to the Town Forest Committee. B. Blonigen seconded the motion with all in favor.

M. Marconi moved to enter a nonpublic session at 3:50pm per RSA 91-A:3 II (e). B. Blonigen seconded the motion and T. Connors asked for a roll call vote: T. Connors-Yes, M. Marconi- Yes, B. Blonigen-Yes. All were in favor.

M. Marconi moved to return to public session at 3:58pm, seconded by B. Blonigen. T. Connors asked for a roll call vote: T. Connors-Yes, M. Marconi-Yes, B. Blonigen-Yes. All were in favor.

M. Marconi moved to seal the minutes indefinitely. T. Connors seconded the motion. T. Connors asked for a roll call vote: T. Connors-Yes, M. Marconi-Yes, B. Blonigen-Yes. All were in favor.

Adjournment: M. Marconi moved to adjourn at 4:00pm. T. Connors seconded the motion with all in favor.

Respectfully submitted,
Martha S. Roy
Town Administrator