

Town of Newington, NH
Board of Selectmen Meeting Minutes
Tuesday, June 16th, 2020 Town Hall

Present: Chair Ted Connors, Selectman Mike Marconi, Selectman Ken Latchaw, Police Commission Chair, Brenda Blonigen, Board of Fire Engineers Chair John Klanchesser, Resident; Emily Savinelli, Martha Roy, Town Administrator and Eleanor Boy, Recorder.

T. Connors called the meeting to order at 5:00pm, followed by the Pledge of Allegiance.

Minutes Approval: M. Marconi moved to approve the minutes of June 1st, 2020. K. Latchaw seconded the motion with all in favor.

Manifest Approval: K. Latchaw moved to approve the manifests for \$296,347.68 dated 6/4/2020 and \$80,508.65 dated 6/11/2020. M. Marconi seconded the motion with all in favor.

Facility Use Request:

M. Marconi moved to approve the following requests.

Police Department (Mike Sullivan)-TH-June 26, 2020-Training

K. Latchaw seconded the motion with all in favor.

Appointments:

K. Latchaw moved to appoint Lulu Pickering to the Historic District Commission. M. Marconi seconded the motion with all in favor.

M. Marconi moved to appoint Bill Wright to the Recreation Committee. K. Latchaw seconded the motion with all in favor. The Board of Selectmen thanked Bill Wright for all the work he has done on the Tennis Court and the parking lot.

M. Marconi moved to appoint Katie Moody to the Historic District Commission. K. Latchaw seconded the motion with all in favor.

K. Latchaw asked M. Roy to send letters out to all the appointees and the Chair of the Committees that they were appointed to.

Fox Run Mall Payment Plan:

The Fox Run Mall management group has asked the Town if they could make monthly payments for their taxes. The Board of Selectmen asked to meet with the mall management and had not heard anything. T. Connors would like to meet with the mall owners to talk about their finances and their future plans for the mall.

Budget Discussion:

There is still a budget freeze for all departments. T. Connors would like to continue the freeze for another 30 or 60 days until after the taxes come in, and the school gives the Town back some money. At that time, the Board of Selectmen would like to sit down with all the department heads and discuss the budget going forward. The meeting will take place at the end of June or the beginning of July. K. Latchaw thought the Town should be very cautious with future spending because the virus may come back and we would have another shutdown.

Board of Fire Engineers Chair, J. Klanchesser asked if the Fire Station addition would be going forward with the budget freeze in place. T. Connors said it would be going forward because it is a health and safety issue.

Police Commission Chair, B. Blonigan agreed that the Town should be cautious with its spending but questioned why the Town was going forward with the Hannah Lane drainage project that is not a health and safety issue. K. Latchaw thought that it was a safety issue because the poor drainage is causing water to go across Nimble Hill Road and in the winter it freezes. T. Connors thanked B. Blonigan for her input and will take it into consideration.

Fox Point Erosion Control Improvements:

T. Connors thanked everyone who came together to get the project completed. It was a joint effort between the Dock Masters, Chip Taccetta and Peter Welch, the Highway Department and the Fire Department, who watered down the area several times. Bourassa donated the use of a roller and a front-end loader.

Alarm System Ordinance Revision:

The Police Department reviewed the Alarm System Ordinance and cleaned up some of the language. The new administrative assistant, Keri Wareing, completed the project. The Police Chief would like the ordinance to be included in the 2021 Town Warrant. **M. Marconi moved to approve the revised Alarm System Ordinance and place it on the Town Meeting warrant in March 2021.** K. Latchaw seconded the motion with all in favor.

Fireworks Plans 2020:

M. Marconi asked for this item to be on the agenda because he wanted to start the discussion about the Town having a small display for the residents. Not for the 4th of July, but another time. E. Savinelli thought a display at Fox Point would be the best idea. T. Connors suggested that M. Roy put together a meeting between the Fire Chief, Police Chief, M. Marconi and E. Savinelli to discuss the idea.

Facility Use Agreement-Primex Recommendations:

Primex has reviewed our Facility Use agreement and has recommended several changes. M. Roy recommends that the Town's legal counsel review the changes. It was a consensus of the Board to have the Town's attorney review the recommended changes.

Sprague Odors:

There was an article in the paper about a \$350,000 settlement about the odors that Sprague had reached. The US Government get \$250,000 and the State of Massachusetts gets \$100,000. The State if NH did not know anything about the lawsuit. T. Connors is frustrated because Newington has sent letters to the EPA, State of NH DES, our two senators, our congressman and the governor for two years and have heard nothing. Not only nothing has been done, the odors have gotten much worse. The Board will have to review how they want to move forward.

The Board of Selectmen will have a meeting with the two church groups tomorrow at 5pm to discuss the opening of the Meeting House.

T. Connors made a statement about the recent protests across the country about racial injustice. He has talked to the Police Chief about their training and feels confident that the Police Department is handling this situation. The Police Department is doing outreach to different groups. K. Latchaw thought the Town should be proactive. E. Savinelli thought that the Police Department or the Town should be addressing the issue and making a statement. K. Latchaw suggested that the Police Department should write up an article for the July newsletter.

Adjournment: M. Marconi moved to adjourn at 5:31pm. K. Latchaw seconded the motion with all in favor.

Respectfully submitted,
Eleanor Boy
Recorder