

Town of Newington, NH
Board of Selectmen Meeting Minutes
Monday June 6th, 2022

Present: Chair Ted Connors, Vice-Chair Bob Blonigen, Selectman Brandon Arsenault, PDA Representative Peggy Lamson and Susan Parker, Newington School Principal Peter Latchaw, Police Chief Mike Bilodeau, Road Agent Len Thomas, Highway Employee Frank Burovac, Newington Resident Huddy Grandy, Fire Engineer Ann Hyland Hebert, Martha Roy, Town Administrator and Eleanor Boy, Recorder.

T. Connors called the meeting to order at 5:33pm. Followed by the Pledge of Allegiance.

Manifest Approval: B. Blonigen moved to approve the manifest for \$390,459.54 dated 6/2/2022. B. Arsenault seconded the motion. All were in favor.

Peggy Lamson and Susan Parker-Pease Development Authority Update:

P. Lamson said that the next PDA meeting is Thursday June 16th at 8:30am. Procon/Kane will be asking for a six-month extension on their agreement with the PDA at that meeting. At the May PDA meeting Procon/Kane said that they were no longer looking at air cargo development at Pease. However, at the May meeting EWA said that they intend to pursue air cargo development at Pease. EWA has not submitted anything to the PDA as of today. PDA Director, Paul Breen, has reached out to the sole proprietor of EWA, Captain Robinson, but has received no response. EWA does not have an option agreement with the PDA. B. Arsenault asked P. Lamson and S. Parker how they will be voting on June 16th on the six-month extension of the Procon/Kane option agreement. P. Lamson and S. Parker said that they will both be voting in favor of the extension because Procon/Kane have said publicly that they are no longer pursuing air cargo. Any further proposals have to be approved by the PDA Board. The PDA reps will get their packets for the June 16th meeting on Saturday June 11th. On Monday June 13th E. Boy will scan the information to the Board. There will be another Board of Selectmen meeting on Monday June 13th to discuss the information in the packets.

M. Roy entered the meeting.

Minutes Approval: B. Arsenault moved to approve the minutes of May 31, 2022. B. Blonigen seconded the motion. All were in favor.

School Signage During Session-Chief Mike Bilodeau and Newington School Principal Peter Latchaw:

M. Bilodeau and P. Latchaw discussed the need to have signage on the school grounds in regards to "no trespassing during school hours: 8am-5pm, because of the after-school care. B. Blonigen stated that this falls in line with the State policy. The town and school received a letter from the Governor about reviewing security matters. P. Latchaw said that the school has taken several steps, changed to shatterproof windows, a button to alert 911, increased patrols and active training at the school. When the school got inspected there were two findings; the no trespassing signage and there was no post in the middle of the front doors. P. Latchaw also would like to have a future conversation with about getting a resource officer for the school. He understands that it is a "big step" but would like to start the conversation. Discussion ensued about the locations of the signs, the wording of the signs, different hours in the winter because of the ice rink. **B. Arsenault moved to approve the "no trespassing" signage at the school, but to be sensitive to the winter hours because of the ice rink. B. Blonigen seconded the motion. All were in favor.** P. Latchaw and M. Bilodeau will work on the exact wording for the signs and will get back to the Selectmen.

Library Update-End of Year Returned Funds:

The amount that is returned to the Library from the town is not \$200 a year as stated at the last Board of Selectmen meeting by the library.

The Board reviewed a chart showing the unspent amount left in the library's budget at the end of the year and the Town has paid over to the library since 2015.

2015-\$4,451.79, 2016-\$995.49, 2017-\$1,674.10, 2018-The Library paid the Town \$240.57, 2019-\$8,684.42, 2020-\$0 (Covid), 2021-9,170.69.

B. Arsenault does not understand why the end of year left over budget money for every other department in Town goes back into the General Fund to reduce taxes, but the Town gives the library a check for their unspent budget amount.

J. O'Reilly contacted M. Roy and asked if there was any flexibility on the quarterly reports instead of the monthly reports that the Board requested.

The Board consensus was that they were not in favor of giving the library left over funds that they did not spend during the year. Further, since the town is required to give monthly detailed budget reports to all departments, they would expect the same reporting from the library.

B. Arsenault moved to table this item until a later date. B. Blonigen seconded the motion. All were in favor.

Woodbury Median by Pease Development Authority:

M. Roy checked out the median after the last Board of Selectmen meeting because there was a discussion about it being unkept. She clarified that the Town controlled median that runs along Woodbury Ave. in front of the Fox Run Mall is in good shape. The Newington Highway Department mows and takes care of this area.

The State of NH Dept of Transportation controlled the other median that is on the other side of the Spaulding Turnpike bridge. A few years ago, the Board of Selectmen sent the NH DOT a letter complaining about the median. DOT sent crews to weed in 2019, but now it looks bad again. T. Connors asked M. Roy to send the letter again.

B. Blonigen said that he is doing a site walk with the NHDOT and the Town Engineer about the culvert issue on Shattuck Way.

B. Arsenault moved to enter a nonpublic session at 6:22pm per RSA 91-A:3 II (a). B. Blonigen seconded the motion. T. Connors asked for a roll call vote: B. Blonigen-Yes, B. Arsenault-Yes, T. Connors-Yes. All were in favor.

B. Arsenault moved to return to public session at 6:55pm, seconded by B. Blonigen. T. Connors asked for a roll call vote: B. Blonigen-Yes, B. Arsenault-Yes, T. Connors-Yes. All were in favor.

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

Adjournment: B. Arsenault moved to adjourn at 6:58pm. B. Blonigen seconded the motion. All were in favor.

Respectfully submitted,
Eleanor Boy, Recorder