

Town of Newington, NH DRAFT
Board of Selectmen Meeting Minutes
November 18, 2013- Town Hall
5:30pm

Call to Order: Chair Rick Stern called the meeting to order at 5:32pm.

Present: Chair, Rick Stern, Selectman Jan Stuart, Selectman Cosmas Iocovozzi and Town Administrator Martha Roy.

Non-Public Session: Jan moved to enter non-public session at 5:32pm in accordance with RSA 91-A3:II (a) personnel. Cosmas seconded the motion and all were in favor on a roll call vote.

The Board returned to public session at 6:04pm. and entered a non-meeting.

The Board returned to public session at 6:32pm.

Non-Public Minutes sealed: Rick moved to seal the non-public minutes indefinitely, seconded by Jan. All were in favor on a roll call vote.

Minutes Approval: Jan moved to approve the minutes of the October 28, November 6 and November 13, seconded by Cosmas. Motion passed 3-0.

Amendment to Previous Motion: Cosmas moved to amend the previous motion of the Board and set the tax rate at \$8.99 per thousand using \$500,000. of the general fund and \$19,452. of Overlay funds, seconded by Jan. All were in favor.

Manifest Approval: Cosmas moved to approve manifests dated 10/29/13 for \$8,220.14, 10/29/13 for \$53,344.86, 10/31/13 for \$513.32, 11/5/13 for \$616,209.50 and 11/12/13 for \$109,030.42., seconded by Jan and the motion passed, 3-0.

Health Insurance: The Board discussed the Blue Choice plan reviewed at a previous work session. Cosmas moved to approve the Health Trust Anthem BC3T5RDR-RX 10/20/45 plan for all full time, non-union filing employees, COBRA and elected officials. This included continuing the 10% premium contribution for all new employees, and 100% premium contribution for all active elected officials and eligible regularly scheduled, 24 hours per week part time employees. All union filing employees will remain with the status quo pay and benefits. Further, Cosmas added that Benefit Strategies is

approved to provide administration of the Comp 2500 plan for those remaining on it for an amount not to exceed \$2,200. Jan seconded the motion and all were in favor.

Library- Rick reported that the Library is having a separate water meter installed for the Meeting House and Cemetery.

Computer Contract: Rick recommended that the Computer contract for 2014 include server maintenance at \$200. per month and to purchase maintenance as issues arise in 10 hour blocks. He also recommended the Town Clerk/Tax Collector's computer be replaced. The Board was in favor of proposing these items to the Budget Committee in the Town budget.

Welch's Cove: Cosmas reported that Welch's Cove catch basin was filled with rocks and did not need any further work completed to it. He stated that the pipes leading in and out of it are clear. Jan requested that Martha draw up a letter for the Board to send to the surrounding residents indicating that it had been inspected and found to be a non-hazard.

Habitat for Humanity: The owners of Habitat for Humanity had requested a tax abatement. The town's contract appraiser had stated that according to Title IX and NH RSA 76:16 they were not entitled to an abatement. The Board agreed to confer with the appraiser and review the matter in 2 weeks.

Appointments: Cos moved to appoint Brian Haberstroh to the Recreation Committee, seconded by Jan. During discussion Jan suggested to the Board that a time limit be placed on applications to the Boards and Committees. The Board agreed with this new procedure. **All voted in favor.**

Fencing Across Back Hallway of Town Hall: The Board discussed people accessing the back section of the Town Hall when renting the Auditorium. **Cosmas moved that fencing should be purchased to prevent this access in the future, seconded by Jan. All were in favor.**

Facility Use Request:

The Board received a request from Diana Moulton of the Recreation Committee to use the Town Hall on November 17 for a Seacoast Youth Cheer Banquet. The Board deferred voting on the matter as it had already occurred.

The NH Department of Energy requested use of the Town Hall for an Informational Meeting on December 9, 2013 (9-12 noon). **Cosmas moved to approve the request and Jan seconded. All were in favor.**

Martha Roy requested that the Portsmouth Yacht Club Officers hold a dinner at the Old Town Hall & Kitchen on December 12, 2013 from 5-10pm. **Cosmas moved to approve the request and Jan seconded. All were in favor.**

Martha St. Amand requested that the Portsmouth Yacht Club Board of Directors be allowed to hold a meeting in the deRochemont Room on December 12, 2013 (5-6pm) **Cosmas moved to approve the request and Jan seconded. All were in favor.**

Thomas Morgan requested that Rescue Great Bay be allowed to hold a meeting in the deRochemont Room on November 20, 2013 (9-11am). **Cosmas moved to approve the request and Jan seconded. All were in favor.**

The Board agreed to discuss the Cemetery Paving at the next meeting.

Old Business:

New Business:

Alfred Smith asked when the Town Website was last updated as the tax rate was listed as \$8.95 per thousand. He offered screen shots to the Board of items that he believed needed to be updated on the website for their review.

Theresa Tomlinson asked for the status of her request to the Board regarding paperwork. Rick stated that the information would be forthcoming shortly. One letter would be available tomorrow.

Adjournment:

Jan moved to adjourn at 7:20pm, seconded by Cosmas. Motion passed 3-0.

Respectfully submitted by:

Martha S. Roy, Town Administrator