

Town of Newington, NH
Board of Selectmen Meeting Minutes
Monday, April 8th, 2019 Town Hall

Present: Chair Ted Connors, Selectman Mike Marconi, Selectman Ken Latchaw, Planning Board Chair, Denis Hebert, Residents: Emily Savinelli, Chris Cross and John Chamberlain, Karen Anderson, Special Project Coordinator, Martha Roy, Town Administrator and Eleanor Boy, Recorder.

T. Connors called the meeting to order at 6:00pm, followed by the Pledge of Allegiance.

Minutes Approval: M. Marconi moved to approve the minutes of March 18th, 2019 and March 25th, 2019. K. Latchaw seconded the motion with all in favor.

Manifest Approval: K. Latchaw moved to approve the manifests for \$63,524.21 dated 3/19/2019, \$71,447.15 dated 3/26/2019 and \$171,962.99 dated 4/2/2019. M. Marconi seconded the motion with all in favor.

Facility Use Requests:

M. Marconi moved to approve the following request:

Linda Khalsa-Fox Point-Wedding-August 24th

T. Connors seconded the motion with all in favor.

M. Marconi moved to approve the following request:

Jacob Crosby & Rachel Vigneault-Fox Point-Wedding-June 15th

K. Latchaw seconded the motion with all in favor.

M. Marconi moved to approve the following request:

Great Bay National Wildlife Refuge-deRochemont Room-Meeting-May 15th

T. Connors seconded the motion with all in favor.

Adjunct Committee Updates: This item was tabled until the next meeting

Grounds Care Bid Openings: K. Latchaw opened the bids. Going Green for \$26,250, JLG Landscaping for \$9,490 and Fabyan Point Grounds Care for \$21,200. K. Latchaw noted the wide variance in the bid amounts and requested that the bids be reviewed to insure that the specifications were being met. The Selectmen will review the bids and make a selection soon. M. Roy confirmed that JLG Landscaping is the current contractor.

Fox Point Rental Application Openings: K. Latchaw recused himself from the rental openings. T. Connors opened the applications.

Johnnie Wu \$1,100

Peter Latchaw no amount listed-would like to meet with the Selectmen

Aidan Sobel & Kim Walker \$1,300

Patrick LaVoie \$1,500
Lexi Gorski \$1,500

M. Roy will provide the Selectmen with an analysis spreadsheet to show all the applicants and details of proposals.

Discussion of Committee and Board Appointments:

T. Connors moved to appoint Jane Hislop to the Conservation Commission for a 3-year term. M. Marconi seconded the motion with all in favor.

T. Connors moved to appoint Jane Kendall to the Conservation Commission as an alternate for a 3-year term. M. Marconi seconded the motion with all in favor.

The Board of Selectmen will keep taking applications for all other volunteer positions in Town until the end of April.

Basement Flooding-Little Bay Road Drainage: M. Marconi expressed concern that a couple of basements of houses on Little Bay Road were flooding this winter. It could be a culvert problem. M. Roy explained that Altus Engineering is currently doing a report on all the culverts in Newington. When the report is completed there will be recommendations for the culverts that are having problems. K. Latchaw would like Altus to check the culverts near these properties to see if the flooding was caused by the culverts.

Controlled Burns: The Fire Department has learned that the State has money for controlled burns. The Fire Department has completed controlled burns in town before and would like to do one on Fox Point to control the tick population and the invasive species. K. Latchaw would like to see a portion of land off McIntyre Road that has a lot of invasive species included in the controlled burn project. The Selectmen asked M. Roy to contact Fire Chief Darin Sabine and ask him to send the Selectmen a proposal for the controlled burn on Fox Point.

Volunteer Dinner Date: The board discussed several dates for the dinner. Since Paul Roy is involved with cooking the dinner, the Board asked M. Roy to ask Paul when a good date for him was. M. Roy will check and let the Selectmen know.

DES PFAS Comment Letter:

Karen Anderson reviewed the letter the Selectmen are sending to the NH DES about the new proposed limits on PFAS levels. The letter asks the NH DES to move forward with the proposed new levels of 38 ppt for PFOA, 70 ppt for PFOS, 85 for PFHxS, and .23 ppt for PFNA. The request is also to have NHDES keep looking to reduce the levels further. NHDES is also proposing a limit of 70 ppt combined for PFOA and PFOA and Newington is requesting that the 70 ppt limit be inclusive of all four PFAS chemicals in this rule making process. This letter will be part of the Public Comment on this issue.

M. Marconi moved to send the Public Comment letter about PFAS chemical levels to the NHDES. K. Latchaw seconded the motion with all in favor.

K. Anderson updated the Selectmen on several other issues:

She stated that the Haven Well at Pease has a second stage filter. The water is now testing below 38 ppt. Pease is the first location in the country that has introduced a successful second stage filtration system and is being looked at by water departments across the country to deal with the national issue of PFAS contamination.

Representatives from the ATSDR (Agency for Toxic Substances and Disease Registry) are coming to meet with the Selectmen on Monday April 15th at 6pm. They have completed the study of exposure to contamination from the Haven Well, focus on the people employed at Pease and the children attending two daycares at Pease from 1993 to the present. The report will be explained in detail, however the conclusions do indicate that from 2014 to the present the levels have been low and would not be expected to cause harm to the public.

The Selectmen would like for everyone in Newington that has a well to be tested and to have the deer in the wildlife refuge tested. The Board has sent a letter to the Air Force requesting financial assistance with these projects and has not had a response to date. The town did receive a copy of a letter sent by Senator Shaheen urging the Air Force to look at these projects carefully. T. Connors is planning on attending the next RAB (Restoration Advisory Board) meeting to try and put more pressure on the Air Force. The results from the testing during the deer hunt will be helpful to the rest of the country.

Chris Cross asked if you can get contaminated by just touching the water. K. Anderson responded that, so far, the test results show that you can't by just touching the water. No standards have been set for dermal contact. K. Anderson explained that PFAS chemical have been found to bind easily to water.

T Connors asked K. Anderson for an update on her recycling research. She explained that with the change in the market for recyclable materials, many towns in the region are evaluating their recycling programs to make sure that it is cost effective for the town to continue to recycle. Newington's cost for waste in 2018 averaged \$270.21 per ton for regular garbage that gets picked up on Wednesdays and is brought to Waste Management in Rochester. Single stream recyclables that are brought to the Transfer station and hauled to EcoMaine on a weekly basis averaged \$178.19 per ton. for Single Sort recyclables. The costs associated with the Transfer Station employees, electricity, etc. was not factored into the average since it would be expected that the Transfer Station would still operate for the same hours for demo and other materials if recycling were discontinued.

K. Anderson is researching purchase or lease (through a grant) of a compactor that would reduce the number of loads sent to EcoMaine and thus reduce the town's hauling cost. Ecomaine has proposed two options for the new contract which would still make it cost effective to continue recycling. She recommends that Newington continue to recycle but invest in a compactor. She will be reviewing this information with Craig Daigle and returning with a complete report.

John Flynn from Fiesta Shows has contacted the Town Hall about having a festival at the Mall. M. Roy emailed the mall management and asked them to submit the proper paperwork for this event. M. Roy reviewed the fees that would be charged for this event. K. Latchaw wanted to make sure that the Fire and Police Departments and the Health Officer were involved in the process. M. Marconi asked that M. Roy review and update the ordinances for this kind of event.

K. Latchaw would like to update the Veteran's list that is displayed in the case at the Town Hall. He would like to put an announcement in the newsletter and on the website.

K. Latchaw would like to see more detail included in the minutes.

K. Latchaw mentioned that he had talked to the Newington School Supporters, who are the sponsors of the race, and they explained that the finish line can't be moved to accommodate the Eversource laydown area for their upcoming projects, because it is a sanctioned race.

T. Connors moved to go into a nonpublic session at 7:05pm per RSA 91-A:3 II (a & e personnel and legal). M. Marconi seconded the motion and T. Connors asked for a roll call vote: M. Marconi- Yes, K. Latchaw- Yes, T. Connors- Yes. All were in favor.

The Board returned from the nonpublic session at 8:06pm.

M. Marconi moved to seal the non-public minutes indefinitely. K. Latchaw seconded the motion and T. Connors asked for a roll call vote: M. Marconi- Yes, K. Latchaw- Yes, T. Connors- Yes. All were in favor.

Adjournment: M. Marconi moved to adjourn at 8:07pm. K. Latchaw seconded the motion with all in favor.

Respectfully submitted,
Eleanor Boy
Recorder