

Town of Newington, NH  
Board of Selectmen Meeting Minutes  
Monday, January 22, 2018 Town Hall

**Present:** Chair Jan Stuart, Selectman Mike Marconi, Selectman Ted Connors, Martha Roy, Town Administrator and Eleanor Boy, Recorder.

J. Stuart called the meeting to order at 4:00pm, followed by the Pledge of Allegiance.

**Minutes Approval:** M. Marconi moved to approve the minutes of January 8th, 2018. T. Connors seconded the motion with all in favor. The approval of the January 18<sup>th</sup>, 2018 was postponed until the next meeting.

**Manifest Approval:** T. Connors moved to approve the manifests of 1/9/18 in the amount of \$100,533.71 and 1/16/2018 in the amount of \$35,260.91. M. Marconi seconded the motion with all in favor.

**Facility Use Request:**

T. Connors moved to approve the following request:

Recreation Committee-3/23 & 3/24/18 (3/25 rain date)-Old Town Hall-Egg Hunt

M. Marconi seconded the motion with all in favor.

**General Sullivan Bridge Future Plan:**

The Selectmen received a letter from the Department of Transportation about the bridge. The letter invites the town to become a participating agency with the FHWA and NHDOT in the development of the SEIS. The SEIS will evaluate alternatives to rehabilitating the General Sullivan Bridge. T. Connors thought that Newington should participate. M. Roy will contact the NHDOT and let them know that Newington is interested.

**Statewide Education Property Tax:** The Coalition Communities are mobilizing to have their voices heard in opposition to HB 1802. The House Ways and Means Committee has set HB 1802 for a hearing at 1:30pm on January 23, 2018. It was a consensus of the Board to write a letter to the Committee and have it presented at the meeting tomorrow.

**Encumbrances:**

**M. Marconi moved to approve the following 2017 encumbrances:**

|                |                     |                   |          |
|----------------|---------------------|-------------------|----------|
|                | Fire Department     | Motorola          | \$16,476 |
| 01-4312-21-395 | Highway Resurfacing | Bell & Flynn      | \$70,000 |
| 01-4316-23-410 | Street Lighting     | Affinity Lighting | \$20,662 |
| 01-4194-02-430 | Town Hall           | Quality Flooring  | \$30,000 |

**T. Connors seconded the motion with all in favor.**

**Old Town Hall Summer Events During Day Camp:**

M. Roy explained that in 2018 the day camp is going to be 5 days a week instead of four days like last summer. She explained that it is very hard to get the Old Town Hall cleaned and organized for events in the summer while the camp is going on. **M. Marconi moved to not have events at the Old Town Hall during the Day camp weeks. In addition, the price to rent the Town Hall will be reduced to \$100 during this time. The picnic area at the Old Town Hall can still be rented for events. T. Connors seconded the motion with all in favor.**

T. Connors reminded M. Roy about purchasing chair covers before camp begins.

**Cabinet in Lobby Future Placement:**

M. Roy will research the origin of the antique cabinet in the lobby of the Town Hall and have it moved to the Old Town Hall.

**NHMA Request-Town Hall Auditorium Usage: M. Marconi moved to approve the use of the Town Hall by the NHMA for their Local Officials Workshops on a date to be determined in May. T. Connors seconded the motion with all in favor.**

**Website Update:** The Selectmen discussed the recommendations for updating the Town website from Michael Bergeron, State Bureau of Economic Affairs. J. Stuart requested that there be a "softer" bridge between the Town and the economic development ideas. She likes some of the ideas that were presented, but not all. The Economic Development Committee will be making recommendations for the website update.

**National Health Study-Newington Residents:** The NH delegation is pushing for Pease to be included in a national health study. T. Connors wants to send a letter to our Senators to include Newington in the study. Newington well owners are exposed to the water 24/7 and should be included. **M. Marconi moved to have M. Roy prepare a letter for the Selectmen to sign. T. Connors seconded the motion will all in favor.**

**Coakley Landfill:** M. Roy will contact John Ahlgren to find out the recent details surrounding the Coakley Landfill matter. T. Connors moved to have M. Roy

write a letter to Portsmouth City Atty. Robert Sullivan asking to meet with the Selectmen.

**Moderator Resignation:** Ruth Fletcher sent a letter to the Selectmen resigning as moderator. She has served for 33 years. The Supervisors of the Checklist will appoint someone for the March election and meeting.

**CLG Grant:** The final language was delivered to Concord on Friday January 19<sup>th</sup>, 2018. J. Stuart stated that she wants measurements, from the water inland, to be included in the national register application. J. Stuart did not wish to be recorded as voting in favor of the grant should it include the whole abutment. **The consensus of the Board was that J. Stuart's vote will be reflected as negative for the grant.**

The next Selectmen's meeting will be on February 5<sup>th</sup>, 2018 at 4pm. The cable attorney, Kate Miller, will be attending the meeting. K. Miller negotiates cable contracts for many municipalities.

**Town Budget Review:** M. Roy reviewed the 2017 budget with the Board. The Executive Office engineering line was overspent due to the purchase of the Economic Development video . The 2018 budget shows an increase in the Town Clerk salary line due to the increased hours for the assistant. Insurance costs have increased by \$48,000. The legal budget has decreased by \$67,000. The assessing budget has decreased because of the abatement settlements reached with Sprague and Eversource. Further funds have been placed in the debt service line in case Newington receives unexpected bills in regards to the Coakley landfill. The Sewer budget has increased as it includes the first bond payment for the Waste Water Treatment Facility upgrade. T. Connors shared some information on COAST with the group. COAST has started a new program that is similar to Uber. You have to call ahead and they will come pick you up. M. Roy will include more information in the next newsletter.

**Adjournment:** M. Marconi moved to adjourn at 5:21 ½ pm. T. Connors seconded the motion with all in favor.

Respectfully submitted,  
Eleanor Boy  
Recorder