

Town of Newington, NH
Board of Selectmen Meeting Minutes
Thursday, January 3rd, 2019 Town Hall

Present: Chair Ted Connors, Selectman Mike Marconi, Selectman Ken Latchaw, Fire Chief, Darin Sabine, Assistant Fire Chief, EJ Hoyt, Planning Board Chair, Denis Hebert, Budget Committee Chair, John Lamson, Fire Engineer, John Klanchesser, Residents; Emily Savinelli and Jon Chamberlin, Martha Roy, Town Administrator and Eleanor Boy, Recorder.

T. Connors called the meeting to order at 2:30pm, followed by the Pledge of Allegiance.

Minutes Approval: K. Latchaw moved to approve the minutes of December 27th, 2018. M. Marconi seconded the motion with all in favor.

Manifest Approval: K. Latchaw moved to approve the manifest for \$215,368.80 dated 12/31/2018. M. Marconi seconded the motion with all in favor.

Emily Savenelli voiced her concern of not being included in the Fabyan Point meeting on December 18th. K. Latchaw apologized for not reaching out to her before the meeting. Town Planner, Gerald Coogan and Martha Roy will set up a meeting to hear her concerns and update her on the project.

M. Roy updated the Board of Selectmen on the \$75,000 encumbrance for Wilcox Way. This money was encumbered in 2016, but has not been paid out yet because of the slow progress of the Wilcox Way road construction. The auditors have suggested that the \$75,000 be returned to the Highway Department budget. **M. Marconi moved to place the \$75,000 Wilcox Way encumbrance back into the 2019 Highway budget. K. Latchaw seconded the motion with all in favor.** K. Latchaw asked to have an explanation in the budget line for this.

The Fire Department's 2 defibrilator units have failed and need to be replaced right away. D. Sabine has found a good deal from a company that refurbishes defib units and would include the auto pulse and refurbishing the ambulance stretcher. It is a 3 year lease to purchase, with a four year warranty. The first year (2019) payment of \$28,194.13 will be taken out of the Ambulance capital reserve account. The 2020 and 2021 payments will be taken out of the Fire Capital Outlay account. This would mean a reduction in the 2019 Fire Capital Outlay account from \$73,470 to \$43,470. **M. Marconi moved to approve the 3 year lease for 2 refurbished defib units, auto pulse and stretcher refurbishment and further to authorize the Chair to sign.** K. Latchaw seconded the motion with all in favor.

D. Sabine would like to now put \$20,000 in a warrant article for the Fire Department Vehicles Capital Reserve account.

K. Latchaw moved to go into a nonpublic session at 2:51pm per RSA 91-A:2 II (a). 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 3:03pm.

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.

K. Latchaw moved to take \$5,000 out of the Fire Department Vehicle capital reserve account to fix the Fire Department command car's transmission and fuel pump. M. Marconi seconded the motion with all in favor. K. Latchaw asked the Fire Chief to order the transmission today.

K. Latchaw moved to add a warrant article for \$20,000 to be placed in the Fire Department Vehicle capital reserve account. M. Marconi seconded the motion with all in favor.

M. Marconi moved to appoint Police Chief Mike Bilodeau and Assistant Fire Chief EJ Hoyt as Co-Directors of Emergency Management. K. Latchaw seconded the motion with all in favor.

Budget Review:

Executive Office- The Board of Selectmen did not take the 3% Cola for 2019. Wages are up due to the new Finance Director's wage and the new safety requirement to have two people in Town Hall at all times. Overall, the Executive Office's budget is down \$20,000.

Elections- Down due to only one election in 2019.

Town Clerk/Tax Collector- The Town Clerk's salary has increased to \$38,000. K. Latchaw would like another salary survey to be done before additional funds are added.

Finance & Assessing- Assessing budget has increased because 2019 is a revaluation year.

Legal- \$50,000 has been set aside for the Eversource transmission line expansion fight.

Town Buildings- The bricks at Town Hall will be sealed in 2019. The Fire Station has a broken sewer line under the building. Plans for a ventilation room will be done in 2019.

Insurance- these numbers are set by Primex.

Regional Associations- COAST funding is down \$3,000. Denis Hebert would like to know why it was reduced. The Selectmen explained that all the nonprofits were cut by 10%.

Code Enforcement- Stipends for the Electrical and Plumbing inspectors were increased due to a heavy work load.

T. Connors recessed the budget review part of the meeting to listen to the Road Survey presentation.

Road Survey Report: Christian Matthews and Meredith Houghton from the Rockingham Planning Commission presented their Road Survey for Newington. Over the past several months they have been documenting the condition of every road in Newington. In general the roads in Newington look very good. The Road Agent and the Board of Selectmen have done a good job. They ranked the roads in order of importance (to the town), amount traveled and condition. This list showed which roads should be repaired/paved now and in future years. Newington has 14.1 miles of paved roads and .35 of dirt roads. In general, roads are good for 6 years after they are paved. At that time, if repairs are made then the life of the road is extended. If no repairs are done, the road will deteriorate quickly. Repairing cracks when they are small is very important. Developing a three year paving plan should be done. A written report with all the information will be available soon and sent to the Selectmen.

Budget Review Continued:

Street Lighting- this budget has decreased due to the new LED lights installed in 2018.

Transfer Station-Collection-Budget has increased due to the increased contamination of the recyclables.

Residential Waste- 3% increase.

Pest Control-decreased

Health-New item in 2019. K. Latchaw asked M. Roy to include an announcement about blood testing in the April newsletter.

Welfare-decrease in 2019.

Land Management-Care of trees consolidated into this expense line.

Debt/Capital Outlay-Debt has decreased due to payoff of the Library bond.

Adjournment: M. Marconi moved to adjourn at 4:56pm. K. Latchaw seconded the motion with all in favor.

Respectfully submitted,
Eleanor Boy
Recorder