

Town of Newington, NH
Board of Selectmen Meeting Minutes
Monday, October 16, 2017 Town Hall

Present: Chair Jan Stuart, Selectman Mike Marconi, Selectman Ted Connors, Planning Board Chair, Denis Hebert, Planning Board Vice Chair, Chris Cross, Recreation Committee Members, Rebecca Navelski, Darryl Brown, Recreation Member and Library Trustee Chair, Jack O'Reilly, Library Director, Lara Croft, Fire Chief, Andy Head, Fire Engineers Chair, Jim Fabrizio, Fire Engineer Ruth Fletcher, Leonard Thomas, Road Agent, Martha Roy, Town Administrator and Eleanor Boy, Recorder.

J. Stuart called the public meeting to order at 5:30pm, followed by the Pledge of Allegiance.

Highway Department Work Session: Details of the upcoming plowing season were discussed. The Department will be short on plow drivers from last year. L. Thomas needs two (one in each truck) plow drivers for night work. He believes that the department can make due with one more person for the upcoming season. M. Roy discussed a 2016 bid to hold a truck/sander and driver at a cost of \$9,100 for the season. The Town supplies the salt. T. Connors stated that the contracted plow truck and driver are an insurance policy for the Town. M. Roy will check with other Towns to see if their contracted drivers load their own trucks and how much their contract is. J. Stuart would like to know who is responsible for damage to property in Town. L. Thomas would like to see a contracted truck and driver added for the 2017-2018 winter season. M. Roy will research to get the best price and check out the State bids.

L. Thomas will call Fairfield to order a plow for the Oshkosh truck. M. Marconi wanted to know when the backhoe would need to be replaced. M. Roy will check out the State bids for backhoes. T. Connors suggested that the Town contact a dealer and ask for a price on their "demo" models. M. Marconi reminded L. Thomas that he should purchase a chainsaw before the end of the year.

Minutes Approval: M. Marconi moved to approve the minutes of October 2nd, 2017 and October 6th, 2017. T. Connors seconded the motion with all in favor.

Manifest Approval: T. Connors moved to approve the manifests of 10/3/17 in the amount of \$224,558.62, 10/10/17 in the amount of \$37,404.36 and 10/10/17 in the amount of \$8,937.00. M. Marconi seconded the motion with all in favor.

The Selectmen discussed a letter sent by Mr. and Mrs. Borkland of Little Bay Extension expressing concern about a culvert near their home. L. Thomas will have the Highway Department review and work on the culvert this week. M. Roy will send a letter to the Borklands to let them know the status.

Speed limit signs are ordered and on their way. M. Roy will place a notice in the next Newsletter to notify residents that the speed limits are changing.

Economic Development Committee Appointments: This item was tabled until the October 30th meeting. The Selectmen decided to wait another week until all interested residents have come forward.

DOT Grant Discussion: M. Marconi moved to apply the remaining grant funds (after the Oshkosh plow purchase) to the Little Bay Road project. T. Connors seconded the motion with all in favor.

OTH Overnight Children's Party Request: T. Connors moved to deny the request for an overnight Children's Party at the Old Town Hall. M. Marconi seconded the motion with all in favor.

Meeting House Status: This item was tabled until the October 30th meeting.

Carriage House Update: The Town Engineer has received one bid and is waiting on further bids.

Hunting on Town Property: The Board discussed that there have been many hunters in odd places in Newington over the last couple of weeks. The Board believes that only Newington residents should be allowed to hunt on Town owned property. M. Roy will ask NHMA legal counsel for advice and will touch base with the Police Chief.

USAF Pipeline Removal: The DES is requiring the USAF to remove a fuel pipeline that traverses Newington. T. Connors expressed concern with the USAF and their continuously changing plans. He would like to see everything that they are planning on doing in writing. T. Connors is concerned with the USAF plans for unearthing the fuel line under Patterson Lane and would like something in writing that states that if the USAF harms Patterson Lane in any way, they will be

required to restore it to the Town's specifications. M. Roy will send a letter to the USAF expressing our concern with this project and its effects on Newington.

Planning Budget Review: The Planning Department 2018 budget has a 8% increase. The contracted services budget line increased by \$4,000 due to an hourly rate increase for the Planner plus increased administrative support. D. Hebert would like to encumber \$18,000 from his Master Plan budget line for work they will continue in 2018 and \$4,000 from his engineering budget line. D. Hebert does not want the Coast payment removed from his budget. M. Marconi explained that the Board of Selectmen had already taken a vote to move the Coast budget line from the Planning Department to the Regional Association section of the budget.

Fire Department Budget Review: The 2018 budget has an 1.92% increase. This increase is mostly due to a scheduled hourly rate increase for the union members. The Fire Chief is planning on cutting his weekly hours to 32 and increasing the Deputy Chief's hours to 40. The Chief will also be cutting his benefits. The department plans on purchasing a new defibrillator.

Recreation Committee Budget Review: The 2018 Recreation budget has a 5.7% increase. The increase is due to The Recreation Committee's proposal to increase the Summer Program from 4 days a week to 5. They would also like to see the "tuition kids" at the school be able to attend the summer camp, however only after all the Newington children are signed up. Last summer 30 children attended the summer camp. They are also trying to increase activities to include events for adults.

Library Budget Review: The 2018 budget has a 1.6% increase. The increase is due to the Library's proposal to start being open on Mondays beginning in July 2018. They have completed a couple of surveys and found that people wanted Monday hours. They will also be adding lighting along the walkway. The Library is also hoping to increase the parking lot in the future. There are many times when there are not enough parking spaces when they have events. The Library's attendance numbers are very strong and it looks like they are going to break records this year.

Adjournment: M. Marconi moved to adjourn at 8:15pm. T. Connors seconded the motion with all in favor.

Respectfully submitted,
Eleanor Boy
Recorder