

Town of Newington, NH
Board of Selectmen Meeting Minutes
Monday, October 30, 2017 Town Hall

Present: Chair Jan Stuart; Selectman Mike Marconi; Selectman Ted Connors; Police Chief, Mike Bilodeau; Police Commissioners, Steve Prefontaine and Ken Latchaw; Road Agent, Len Thomas; Martha Roy, Town Administrator and Eleanor Boy, Recorder.

J. Stuart called the nonpublic meeting to order at 5:00pm.

J. Stuart moved to enter nonpublic session at 5:00pm per RSA 91-A: 3 II (a, c & e). M. Marconi seconded the motion with all in favor on a roll call vote.

The Board returned from the nonpublic session at 5:07pm.

M. Marconi moved to seal the non-public minutes indefinitely. T. Connors seconded the motion with all in favor on a roll call vote.

J. Stuart called the public meeting to order at 5:07pm, followed by the Pledge of Allegiance.

Minutes Approval: M. Marconi moved to approve the minutes of October 16th, 2017. T. Connors seconded the motion with all in favor.

Manifest Approval: T. Connors moved to approve the manifests of 10/17/17 in the amount of \$26,978.01 and 10/24/17 in the amount of \$50,054.39. M. Marconi seconded the motion with all in favor.

**Facility Use Requests: M. Marconi moved to approve the following request: Lori Arsenault-Town Hall-November 4th-Baby Shower- 9 to 5pm
T. Connors seconded the motion with all in favor.**

Appointments: M. Marconi moved to appoint the following people to the Economic Development Committee for 1 year terms:

Brandon T. Arsenault

Jennifer Kent Weiner

Bob Raymond

Jill Boynton

Jeff Hiatt

T. Connors seconded the motion with all in favor.

The Board did not appoint Elizabeth Durfee as a Conservation Alternate as she did not meet the one year residency requirement. M. Roy will send a letter.

Hunting on Town Property: This item was tabled until the next meeting.

Little Bay Road Status: Eversource is scheduled to move the electric pole wires this week and then Comcast and Fairpoint can move their wires. As soon as the wires are moved the road construction can continue.

M. Roy will research the 2019 Comcast contract.

Speed Limit Signs: The speed limit signs have been delivered and the Highway Dept. will be putting the signs up soon. M. Roy will let everyone know of the speed change in the November newsletter. J. Stuart would like to see the information on the sign in front of the Fire Station.

Stone School Update: The Birchtree School sent a letter to the Board listing the concerns with the Stone School at this time. T. Connors would like to find out who their broker is and ask for a meeting.

Letters of Support for Port Authority US DOT Grant: M. Roy stated that one letter is in the "to be signed" folder and the other is on its way.

Website Conversion to New Platform: M. Marconi moved to approve the website conversion to the new platform at a cost of \$600 per year for three years. T. Connors seconded the motion with all in favor.

Cost of Living Adjustment-Full Time Employees: M. Marconi moved to approve a 3% COLA in 2018 for all fulltime, non-union employees. T. Connors seconded the motion with all in favor.

LSR-Coakley Landfill: M. Roy gave the Board an update on new proposed legislation to require further remediation of the Coakley Landfill.

Tax Rate: M. Marconi moved to set the 2018 tax rate at \$9.10. T. Connors seconded the motion with all in favor. T. Connors congratulated the Town staff on keeping costs down.

Insurance: T. Connors moved to retain the same health and dental insurance programs (and percentage shares) as were in place for 2017. (6% reduction in costs for health, 2% increase for dental) Further to approve the continuation of Long Term Disability, Short Term Disability and Life Insurance programs for all full time employees (costs remained the same). M. Marconi seconded the motion with all in favor.

Woodbury Ave-Sewer infrastructure and Median landscape plan: The Sewer commission wants to install a forced main down a portion of Woodbury Ave. M. Roy , Eric Weinrieb and Denis Messier are meeting on 11/1/17 to discuss Woodbury Ave. plans.

Septic Design and Inspection Review Process: K. Kelley has recommended that the Town require that all septic designs and inspections are reviewed and completed by the Rockingham County Conservation District at the expense of the property owner. **M. Marconi moved to have the Rockingham County Conservation District approve all septic designs and complete all septic inspections for the town at the expense of the property owner. T. Connors seconded the motion with all in favor.**

Old Business:

HDC: The Board discussed the Historic District Commission position filled by Gail Pare. She had stated to many people that she has moved to Dover in June to a new residence they've built. They stay there and return to Newington to work on the house that they are selling. It is understood that they do not have an intention of returning to Newington to live. **T. Connors moved that the Gail Pare seat on the Historic District Commission be declared vacant since the residency requirements can no longer be met. M. Marconi seconded the motion with all in favor.** The Board expressed their appreciation for her many years of service on the HDC and Budget Committee.

Energy Saving Programs: The changeover to LED street lights has been approved. The Building Dept. will start to work on grant programs for the changeover to better insulation and LED lighting in town buildings.

Deeded Tax Land: The auditors will expect a report on Tax Deeded land. M. Roy will work with L. Coleman to make sure all is ready for the audit.

Plow RFP: M. Roy will prepare a Snow Plowing RFP for a plow driver and plow truck for the upcoming winter season. **M. Marconi moved to increase the CDL driver's hourly rate to \$25. T. Connors seconded the motion with all in favor.** The part time position of CDL Plow driver will be advertised.

Police Budget: The Police budget has a 4.2% increase. They have added three new expense lines.

1. A part time Prosecutor for \$39,000. M. Bilodeau explained that the department has always had a prosecutor but had included it in the regular salary line.

2. Education Reimbursement for \$4,450. The Chief explained that this line would reward officers for continuing their education.
3. Accreditation for \$10,000, the Chief feels that this is very important for safety and liability reasons. The accreditation process includes review and evaluation of the department's policies and procedures.

A new cruiser is scheduled to be purchased in 2018. Warrant articles were discussed. The Chief would like to add two more officers. He feels there is not enough coverage from 10pm-6am. Discussion ensued about the additional officer coverage, part timers, contracts and hunting on town property.

Highway Budget: The 2018 proposed Highway budget has a 1.9% increase. The budget includes a truck and plow driver for the 2018 winter season. Discussion ensued about the Oshkosh truck, a new working foreman position, condition of a Fox Point Rd. culvert and the current Highway equipment.

Adjournment: M. Marconi moved to adjourn at 7:50pm. T. Connors seconded the motion with all in favor.

Respectfully submitted,
Eleanor Boy
Recorder