

**Town of Newport, New Hampshire
Board of Selectmen
Minutes for Meeting of January 8, 2018
6:00 pm Regular Business Meeting
Municipal Building**

SELECTMEN PRESENT: Jeffrey Kessler, Chairman; Todd Fratzel, Vice Chairman; William Wilmot, Jr.; Barry Connell

STAFF PRESENT: Hunter Rieseberg, Town Manager; Larry Wiggins, Director of Public Works; Joanne Dufour, Executive Assistant

COMMUNITY MEMBERS PRESENT: Bert Spaulding, Sr.

CALL TO ORDER: Chairman Kessler called the meeting of the BOS to order at 6:00 p.m. followed by the Pledge of Allegiance.

NON-PUBLIC SESSION: RSA 91-A:3, II (d) Real Estate - On a motion by Selectman Fratzel, seconded by Selectman Connell; *the Board voted by roll call vote to enter into nonpublic session (NPS) pursuant to RSA 91-A:3, II (d) Real Estate at 6:03. The motion passed 4-0-0.*

On a motion by Selectman Wilmot, seconded by Selectman Fratzel; *the Board voted unanimously to come out of NPS at 6:07 p.m.*

There was no action taken during Non-Public Session #1.

Out of Order of Agenda

On a motion by Selectman Fratzel, seconded by Selectman Wilmot, *the Board voted unanimously by roll call vote to enter into Non-Public Session 91-A:3, II (a) Compensation of a Public Employee at 6:12 p.m.*

On a motion by Selectman Connell, seconded by Selectman Fratzel, *the Board voted unanimously to come out of Non-Public Session at 6:37 p.m.*

There was no action during Non-Public Session #2.

CALL TO ORDER: Chairman Kessler called the regular meeting of the BOS to order at 6:38 p.m. followed by the Pledge of Allegiance.

ACTION/DISPOSITION of TAX DEEDED PROPERTIES:

TAX DEEDED PROPERTIES: Chairman Kessler stated that the Town of Newport had several properties for sale. The bids for properties had not been opened. The Selectmen read aloud the bids for the different properties. The Selectboard voted on each property in turn.

The Selectmen voted in public session to grant the following properties: On a motion by Selectman Fratzel, seconded by Selectman Connell; *the Board voted to accept the bid and award the property on 60 Summer Street (111-184) with a bid amount of \$12,500.00 to River House Properties. The motion passed 4-0-0.*

On a motion by Selectman Fratzel, seconded by Selectman Wilmot; *the Board voted to accept the bid and award the property on 4 Willow Street (118-034) with a bid amount of \$2,000.00 to Heidi Patten. The motion passed 4-0-0.*

On a motion by Selectman Wilmot, seconded by Selectman Fratzel; *the Board voted to accept the bid and award the property on East Green Mountain Road (223-008) with a bid amount of \$1,900.00 to Ryan Bushway. The motion passed 4-0-0.*

On a motion by Selectman Fratzel, seconded by Selectman Connell; *the Board voted to accept the bid and award the property on 198 Summer Street (227-026) with a bid amount of \$32,570.00 to Randy Willey. The motion passed 4-0-0.*

On a motion by Selectman Wilmot, seconded by Selectman Fratzel; *the Board voted to accept the bid and award the property on 326 Maple Street (231-005) with a bid amount of \$7,600.00 to Jeffrey Starcher. The motion passed 4-0-0.*

On a motion by Selectman Fratzel, seconded by Selectman Connell; *the Board voted to accept the bid and award the property on 365 John Stark Highway (253-012) with a bid amount of \$6,500.00 to the John C. McCrillis Family Trust. The motion passed 3-0-1 (Kessler abstained).*

On a motion by Selectman Fratzel, seconded by Selectman Wilmot; *the Board voted to accept the bid and award the property on Old Goshen Road (245-050) with a bid amount of \$1,500.00 to Jeffrey Starcher. The motion passed 4-0-0.*

There were no bids for properties on John Stark Highway (116-024), South Main Street (117-034), and N/A (220-006). This concluded the disposition of tax deeded properties at the January 8, 2018 BOS meeting.

AGENDA REVIEW: Accepted as presented.

MINUTES FROM PREVIOUS MEETING (S): Minutes of December 18, 2017: On a motion by Selectman Wilmot, seconded by Selectman Fratzel; *the Board voted to approve the minutes of the December 18, 2017 meeting as presented. The motion passed 4-0-0.*

CONSENT AGENDA: On a motion by Selectman Fratzel, seconded by Selectman Wilmot; *the Board voted to approve the Consent Agenda of January 8, 2018 as presented. The motion passed 4-0-0.*

OPEN FORUM: Mr. Bert Spaulding, Sr. addressed the Board and stated they had earned \$64,570.00 through the tax deeded properties at the January 8, 2018 meeting. He asked what the BOS intended to spend it on. Chairman Kessler stated it would go into the General Fund; there was now property back on the tax roll.

COMMUNICATIONS: Selectman Wilmot had nothing to share at this time.

Selectman Connell had nothing to share at this time.

Selectman Fratzel had nothing to share at this time.

Chairman Kessler commented on the Budget Advisory Committee (BAC) meeting held Wednesday, December 13, 2017 at 6 p.m. in the Lou Thompson Room of the high school. He explained his statements to the school board and SAU about hiring a business manager for their financial affairs and statements made by the Superintendent to him. Mr. Spaulding, Sr. made additional comments on the discussion that was held.

Town Manager Rieseberg addressed the Chair and stated there was one item with the tax deeded properties that had been neglected. He requested the BOS authorize Town Manager Rieseberg to sign any and all documents relative to the transfer of real estate the Selectboard had approved on January 8, 2018. He explained that otherwise he would have to repeatedly contact each Selectman to sign documents.

On a motion by Selectman Wilmot, seconded by Selectman Fratzel; ***the Board voted to authorize Town Manager Rieseberg to sign any and all documents required for the transfer of properties. The motion passed 4-0-0.***

There was a short discussion about whether or not to hold the 2nd BOS meeting in February 2018 (President's Day). A final decision would be made the first BOS meeting in February 2018.

INFORMATIONAL: Overview of Public Works Department - Director Wiggins reviewed the use of salt and sand over the winter, the equipment that was down and personnel changes.

Employee Achievement: Road Scholar Program: Robert Gonyea and Craig Sartwell - Robert Gonyea and Craig Sartwell were acknowledged by the BOS for achieving the status of Road Scholar One.

Mr. Spaulding, Sr. addressed the Chair and stated that he had seen Mr. Sartwell working in Town and commended his knowledge and expertise.

Chairman Kessler addressed Mr. Wiggins and asked him to explain the Road Scholar Program. Mr. Wiggins gave a short synopsis of the program held by the University of New Hampshire (UNH) and explained that many of the Town PWD employees took it.

KENO 603: The State of New Hampshire (NH) has been in contact with Newport and asked if KENO would be allowed in Newport. It was only an informational agenda item. The BOS would decide whether to put it on as a Town Warrant Article for the 2018 Town Meeting vote. It could also be put on by petition.

After a general discussion about putting KENO on the ballot, on a motion by Selectman Wilmot, seconded by Selectman Fratzel; ***the Board voted to add a Warrant Article to allow KENO in Newport on the 2018 ballot. The motion passed 4-0-0.***

Meeting with School Board: Town Manager Rieseberg stated that the Town and School traditionally met annually. The School was looking for a date from the BOS. Saturdays or weekdays were both available to them. There was a general discussion on the joint meetings, the BOS dissatisfaction with them and what would be on the agenda.

Town Manager Rieseberg addressed the BOS and informed them the Town of Newport had been approved for a 50/50 grant match for water, waste water and storm water. Chairman Kessler asked who had applied for the grant. He then asked the dollar amount of the grant. Town Manager Rieseberg stated he would obtain information during the next week and get it to the Selectboard.

ACTION ITEMS: Renewal of District Court Lease and to Authorize the Town Manager to Sign Any Related Documents - Town Manager Rieseberg addressed the BOS and explained the tentative new lease arrangements with the District Court. The Court would like the BOS approval at the January 8, 2018 meeting so the lease document could be sent to the Governor and Council for their next meeting.

On a motion by Selectman Fratzel, seconded by Selectman Wilmot; ***the Board voted to authorize Town Manager Rieseberg to sign any documents related to the renewal of the District Court lease. The motion passed 4-0-0.***

Accept New Hampshire Moose Plate Conservation License Plate Grant of \$8558.00 and to Authorize the Town Manager to Sign Any Related Documents - Town Manager Rieseberg explained the use of the Moose Plate grant.

On a motion by Selectman Fratzel, seconded by Selectman Connell; *the Board voted to accept the New Hampshire Moose Plate Conservation License Plate Grant of \$8558.00 and to authorize Town Manager Rieseberg to sign any related documents. The motion passed 4-0-0.*

APPOINTMENTS: None.

NON PUBLIC SESSION: RSA 91-A:3, II (a) Compensation of a Public Employee - On a motion by Selectman Fratzel, seconded by Selectman Wilmot; *the Board voted by roll call vote to enter into nonpublic session (NPS) pursuant to RSA 91-A:3, II (a) Compensation of a Public Employee at 7:49 p.m. The motion passed 4-0-0.*

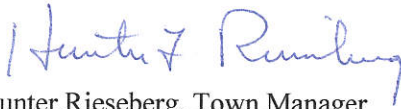
On a motion by Selectman Wilmot, seconded by Selectman Fratzel; *the Board voted unanimously to exit NPS at 8:24 p.m.*

There was no action taken during Non-Public Session #3.

On a motion by Selectman Fratzel, seconded by Selectman Connell; *the Selectmen voted unanimously to adjourn at 8:25 p.m.*

The next regular meeting of the Board of Selectmen is scheduled for Monday, January 22, 2018 at 6:30 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,



Hunter Rieseberg, Town Manager



Maura Stetson
Scribe

Approved on: February 5, 2018