

Town of Newport, New Hampshire
Board of Selectmen
Minutes for Meeting of April 23, 2018
6:30 pm Public Hearings and Regular Business Meeting
Municipal Building

SELECTMEN PRESENT: Jeffrey Kessler, John Hooper II, William Wilmot, Jr.

STAFF PRESENT: Hunter Rieseberg, Town Manager; Lisselle Dufort, Town Clerk

COMMUNITY MEMBERS PRESENT: Edith Marie Bugbee, Ted Niboli, Kathryn Mosley Niboli, Lesley Niboli Scheele, Jackson and Olivia Scheele, Kate Niboli Luppold, James Luppold, Bert Spaulding, Sr.

NCTV: Nancy Meyer, videographer

CALL TO ORDER: Chairman Kessler called the regular meeting of the BOS to order at 6:04 p.m. followed by the Pledge of Allegiance.

AGENDA REVIEW: ADD: Dedication of the Town of Newport 2017 Annual Report (by Board)
ADD: To accept list of Election Day workers for the May 11, 2018 Town Meeting voting as prepared by the Newport Town Clerk (by Kessler), ADD: Communications (by Wilmot)

DEDICATION OF THE 2017 TOWN REPORT: Chairman Kessler asked Mrs. Edith Marie Bugbee to go to the front of the Board of Selectman's room. He addressed Mrs. Bugbee and informed her and all present that the 2017 Town Report was dedicated to her. He thanked her for all she had done for the Town. Mrs. Bugbee stated that the Town had done an awful lot for her, too. Mrs. Bugbee addressed Chairman Kessler and thanked him for the honor (to be continued).

LIST OF ELECTION DAY WORKERS: On a motion by Selectman Wilmot, seconded by Selectman Hooper; *the Board voted to accept the list of Election Day workers as presented. The motion passed 3-0-0.*

COMMUNICATIONS: Selectman Wilmot informed the Board and public that the Newport Middle High School (NMHS) would be having a Community Expo on Thursday, May 3, 2018 at 5p.m. It would showcase various aspects of NMHS. All were welcome to attend.

Selectman Hooper had nothing to share at this time.

PUBLIC HEARINGS: Chairman Kessler read aloud the Notice of Public Hearing for the April 23, 2018 BOS meeting. "The Town of Newport will hold a public hearing on Monday, April 23, 2018 at 6:00 p.m. in the Board of Selectmen meeting room, 15 Sunapee Street, Newport, NH 03773, to address the adoption of the local option to allow KENO games to be played in the Town of Newport, pursuant to NHRSA 284:51, as proposed by Article 23 of the 2018 Town Warrant."

Chairman Kessler opened the Public Hearing. He explained that the public hearing was a requirement to permit KENO to be allowed in the Town of Newport. KENO was an electronic game played in establishments with a liquor license. A percentage of the proceeds would go toward helping to pay for full day kindergarten programs throughout the state. Chairman Kessler then opened the hearing to the public in attendance.

Mrs. Lucy Wells addressed the BOS. She had the following concerns and questions: From her research, it was not a good game for the participants; was a good game for the recipients of the money. It is a game of chance, people like it because taking a chance is a gamble. Mrs. Wells was concerned about where the games might be played in Newport and who has oversight of KENO.

Mrs. Wells asked the BOS to explain KENO and its benefits and detriments. *There was no answer from the BOS members.*

Mrs. Wells asked why it was on the warrant if no one knew what it was. Chairman Kessler stated it had been requested that the question be put on the warrant. It is regulated by the State of NH. Equipment put in is put in by the State.

Mrs. Wells asked if KENO was currently offered in any other town in NH. *She was told yes. Establishments with liquor licenses could have KENO.*

Selectman Hooper gave additional information explaining KENO. Mrs. Wells asked if the NH Lottery would control the proceeds of KENO. *She was told yes.*

Mrs. Wells asked if there was an age limit to play KENO. *She was told 21 years of age.*

Mrs. Wells asked why the Public Hearing was happening now, after the April 3, 2018 Deliberative session. Selectman Wilmot read aloud the state regulations to hold a public hearing on KENO stating, "fifteen days but not more than 30 days before the question is to be voted on."

Mr. Bert Spaulding, Sr. asked if the Town did not approve the Warrant Article concerning KENO (did not contribute to the "pot of money" for kindergarten); would the Newport School District still receive money for their kindergarten program. *He was told yes.*

After discussion, Mr. Spaulding, Sr. reiterated that if the Town did NOT approve KENO, the Newport School District would still receive money (for kindergarten). Chairman Kessler concurred with his statement.

Town Manager Rieseberg read aloud from the state website concerning KENO and the percentage of money distribution.

Mrs. Wells then asked the BOS how many establishments in Newport would be able to have KENO, who were they and were there rules for qualifying. She was told that all regulating was between individual establishments and the State of NH.

Mrs. Wells asked how many establishments had contacted the Town Office, Town Manager or BOS members with questions or indicating their support of having KENO available in Newport. *She was told none.*

Town Manager Rieseberg read aloud from the state website as to qualifying establishments for KENO.

There was a short explanation on the restrictive nature of having a KENO machine on site as well as the exhaustive undertaking needed to go through to receive approval to have one.

Mrs. Wells concluded her comments by stating; "Don't Do It."

There being no further questions or comments from the public, Chairman Kessler closed the Public Hearing.

DEDICATION, CON'T.

Town Clerk Liselle Dufort addressed Mrs. Edith Marie Bugbee and her family present. She read aloud the dedication in the 2017 Town Report to them, the BOS and the viewing public (please see the Dedication page in the Town Report). Afterward, pictures of Mrs. Bugbee with four generations of her family present were taken.

On a motion by Selectman Wilmot, seconded by Selectman Hooper, *the Board voted to adjourn at 6:38 p.m.*

The next regular meeting of the Board of Selectmen is scheduled for Monday, May 7, 2018 at 6:30 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,



Maura Stetson
Scribe

Approved on: May 7, 2018