

TOWN OF NEWPORT, NEW HAMPSHIRE

Board of Selectmen

Minutes for Meeting of June 5, 2017

6:30 pm Regular Business Meeting

Municipal Building

SELECTMEN PRESENT: Jeff Kessler, Chairman; William Wilmot, Jr; John Hooper II, Barry Connell

STAFF PRESENT: Hunter Rieseberg, Town Manager

COMMUNITY MEMBERS PRESENT: Bert Spaulding, Sr.

CALL TO ORDER: Chairman Kessler called the BOS meeting to order at 6:31 p.m. followed by the Pledge of Allegiance.

AGENDA REVIEW: no changes.

MINUTES FROM PREVIOUS MEETING (S): May 1, 2017; May 15, 2017

Minutes from meeting of May 1, 2017:

Chairman Kessler stated it was the consensus of the Board to table the minutes of May 1, 2017.

Minutes from meeting of May 15, 2017:

On a motion by Selectman Wilmot, seconded by Selectman Hooper; *the Board voted to approve the minutes of May 15, 2017 as presented. The motion passed 4-0-0.*

CONSENT AGENDA: On a motion by Selectman Wilmot, seconded by Selectman Connell; *the Board voted to approve the Consent Agenda for June 5, 2017. The motion passed 4-0-0.*

OPEN FORUM: Mr. Bert Spaulding, Sr. spoke to the Board on the collection of taxes, on litigation with the Newport School, Freedom of Speech and other subjects. Board members responded to Mr. Spaulding, Sr.

COMMUNICATIONS:

Selectman Connell complimented the Public Works Department on their job of fixing the damaged roadways in Town after the rainstorm in Newport.

Selectman Wilmot congratulated the managers and staff of the Newport Airport (Parlin Field) on an outstanding Open House on June 3, 2017. It was well attended. A great time was had by all.

Selectman Hooper complimented the Town on the patriotic banners up in Town. He stated that the Town Social, put on by the Library Arts Center and the Library was well attended. Selectman Hooper informed the Board and viewing public of the free program on Town Meetings, "Moved and Seconded" by Rebecca Rule to be held at the Richards Free Library on Tuesday, June 6th at 6:30 p.m.

Chairman Kessler informed the BOS that:

- ❖ The Board of Directors of NCTV had met and hired a new Executive Director, Mr. John Lunn. He would replace Mr. Jeff Nitzel who was retiring. The transition would happen over the spring and summer. Chairman Kessler welcomed Mr. Lunn and thanked Mr. Nitzel for his years of service.

- ❖ He informed the BOS that NCTV would be holding a “Business After Hours” to welcome Mr. Lunn and thank Mr. Nitzel.
- ❖ He wanted to remind people that graduation was Wednesday, June 7th at 6 p.m. on the Common, weather permitting (otherwise it would be held in the Opera House). Chairman Kessler congratulated all the graduating seniors.

Town Manager Rieseberg addressed the BOS and viewing public with the following:

- The streetlight conversion would begin in about three weeks. Hopefully the 294 streetlights will be converted by the end of July 2017.
- After the conversion of the streetlights, eight of the Town buildings will be converted to LED lighting-completion date for the buildings is estimated for September 2017.
- The Town is awaiting bids on road paving and demolition of three tax-deeded buildings (approved by the BOS). Completion of the demolition is estimated in July 2017.
- 23 tax-deeded properties will be offered for public bid.

Scheduled for the next BOS meeting will be a demonstration of the new police body cams.

Chairman Kessler added that the BOS would have a working meeting on Monday, June 12th at 4:30 with Primex. It will be held in the BOS room. Town Manager Rieseberg concurred. Town Manager Rieseberg also stated that the Town auditor’s report would be presented to the BOS at the next meeting.

Mr. Spaulding, Sr. addressed the Chair and asked if there was a timeline for the liquidation of the 23 lots. Town Manager Rieseberg stated the Town planned to demolish the three buildings first and add them to the list of lots for liquidation. The Town hoped to have it all done by July. He explained the process to Mr. Spaulding, Sr.

INFORMATIONAL:

Selectboard Summer Meeting Schedule

Revised BOS meeting dates for the summer were discussed. The BOS agreed upon the following dates:

June: 5th, 12th (work session), 26th

July: 17th

August: 7th, 28th

September: 18th

The Board of Selectmen will resume with their regular meeting schedule in October.

ACTION ITEM: none

APPOINTMENT(S): none

On a motion by Selectman Wilmot, seconded by Selectman Hooper; **the Board voted by roll call vote to enter into non-public session pursuant to RSA 91-A:3, (e) Litigation at 7:00 p.m. The motion passed 4-0-0.**

Present were Board members Jeffrey Kessler, William Wilmot, Barry Connell and John Hooper, and Town Manager Hunter Rieseberg.

The Selectboard and Town Manager Rieseberg discussed potential litigation.

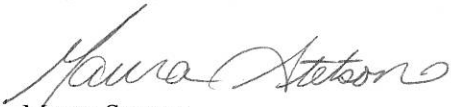
On a motion by Selectman Wilmot, seconded by Selectman Connell; *the Board voted to exit NPS. The motion passed 4-0-0.*

Public session reconvened at 8:17 p.m.

On a motion by Selectman Wilmot, seconded by Selectman Connell; *the Board voted unanimously to adjourn at 8:19 p.m.*

The next regular meeting of the Board of Selectmen is scheduled for Monday, June 26, 2017 at 6:30 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,



Maura Stetson
Scribe

Approved on: June 26, 2017