

Town of Newport, New Hampshire
Board of Selectmen
Minutes for Meeting of June 26, 2017
6:30 pm Regular Business Meeting
Municipal Building

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

STAFF PRESENT: Hunter Rieseberg, Town Manager; Fire Chief Wayne Conroy

COMMUNITY MEMBERS PRESENT: Maura Stetson, President NSO; Venita Nudd, Publicity Chairman NSO; John Lunn, Executive Director, NCTV; Bert Spaulding, Sr.

CALL TO ORDER: Chairman Kessler called the BOS meeting to order at 6:30 p.m. followed by the Pledge of Allegiance.

AGENDA REVIEW: Add under Informational: A. Monetary Presentation by Newport Service Organization to the EMS Department and Add under Action Items: A. Consideration of Tax exemption for Tekoa Missions, Inc. (by Rieseberg)

MINUTES FROM PREVIOUS MEETING (S): May 1, 2017; June 5, 2017

Minutes from meeting of May 1, 2017:

On a motion by Selectman Wilmot, seconded by Selectman Hooper; *the Board voted to table the minutes of May 1, 2017. The motion passed 5-0-0.*

Minutes of June 5, 2017:

On a motion by Selectman Fratzel, seconded by Selectman Wilmot; *the Board voted to approve the minutes of June 5, 2017 as amended: Page two, paragraph three should read, "the BOS would have a working meeting" and the end of the minutes should state the last part of the NPS information to show when the BOS returned to public session and when they adjourned (ADD: 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 motion passed 4-0-1(Fratzel abstained).**

Minutes of NPS #1 of June 5, 2017:

The minutes of NPS #1 of June 5, 2017 were tabled to a future meeting.

CONSENT AGENDA: On a motion by Selectman Fratzel, seconded by Selectman Wilmot; *the Board voted to approve the Consent Agenda of June 26, 2017. The motion passed 5-0-0.*

OPEN FORUM: Mr. Jeff Nitzel, NCTV addressed the Board and introduced Mr. John Lunn, Executive Director of NCTV as of July 1, 2017. Mr. Lunn addressed the BOS and stated that if there were any videos of happenings around town to contact him and they would be aired on NCTV. He gave a brief overview of proposed changes on the NCTV channels. Chairman Kessler welcomed Mr. Lunn and thanked Mr. Nitzel for his twenty three years of service as Executive Director of NCTV.

Mr. Bert Spaulding, Sr. addressed the Chairman and stated that he had expected to see an item on the agenda about the auction of twenty four parcels of land in Newport. He asked where the Town stood with the process. Town Manager Rieseberg addressed Mr. Spaulding, Sr. and gave the tentative timeframe for demolition and/or sale of the parcels in question. He reviewed the process for Mr. Spaulding, Sr.

COMMUNICATIONS:

Selectman Hooper said he had been asked the status of Towle School and whether the facility was available to rent for functions. He was told it was a question for the school; Town Manager Rieseberg offered to inquire. Secondly, he asked about the Sunapee Street road out to Guild, and the small or nonexistent (road) shoulders. He asked if anything could be done about paving them for the protection of walkers and bikers. Chairman Kessler stated that in a 10 year plan it could be submitted to the Upper Valley Lake Sunapee Regional Planning Commission. Kessler continued, saying there might be alternative sources of NHDOT money that could be used.

Mr. Spaulding, Sr. addressed the Chair and asked who owned Towle School. After a discussion on the building, Town Manager Rieseberg was asked to find out who was responsible for the building.

Selectman Wilmot congratulated the Library Arts Center on their 50th Anniversary. They are an important part of the community. Kudos to them.

Selectman Connell congratulated the Richards Free Library on their successful kickoff of the 2017 Summer Reading Program (Build a Better World). The opening day was well attended. He was very impressed.

Selectman Fratzel had nothing to share at this time.

Chairman Kessler had nothing to share at this time.

Town Manager Rieseberg had nothing to share at this time.

INFORMATIONAL:

NSO Presentation

Maura Stetson, President of the Newport Service Organization (NSO) addressed the Board and stated that she had a check to award Fire Chief Conroy in response to a request for monies for a new Life Pac 15. President Stetson read aloud the NSO Mission Statement to the Board members and then the congratulatory letter to Chief Conroy and the Board. Chief Conroy addressed the BOS and stated he wanted to thank the Newport Service Organization for the awesome gift (he had not expected such generosity) and all they have done for the EMS throughout the years. The NSO has purchased equipment that the EMS would never have been able to afford otherwise. He again thanked them for their support. President Stetson then presented the Chief with the check for \$24,717.90.

Town Manager Rieseberg addressed President Stetson and stated that in his thirty-five years as a Town Administrator in various places he had never seen acts of generosity such as the NSO's. The Town of Newport was very fortunate to have the NSO; they were truly unique. Chairman Kessler stated that the Newport Service Organization steps up year after year and thanked her and the ladies of the NSO for all they did to financially support the EMS and other departments in Town. Fire Chief Conroy agreed, saying that the NSO was always looking out for the Town's interests.

Addressing the Board members, President Stetson said it was a group effort; and stated she would be remiss if she did not make them aware that June was membership month for the Newport Service Organization. New memberships and monetary donations to support the NSO's mission statement were always welcome. She then passed out 2017 membership forms to the Board members, Town Manager and Mr. Spaulding, Sr.

Town Manager Rieseberg stated there would be a public hearing in July 2017 to officially accept the \$24,717.90 donation.

ACTION ITEM:

Tekoa Mission Tax Abatement

After a short discussion on a request by Tekoa Missions, Inc. for an exemption of \$330,300 on their property taxes, Selectman Wilmot made a motion: ***That we authorize the exemption and give it consideration due to “accident, mistake, or misfortune”. We understand that and authorize their exemption.*** Town Manager Rieseberg asked for a point of clarification. He asked Selectman Wilmot if he was authorizing the BOS to accept their (Tekoa) application but not approving the exemption. Selectman Wilmot stated the motion was to approve the exemption. It was seconded by Chairman Kessler. After a short discussion on whether the Tekoa Missions, Inc. met the qualifications of a late submission, Chairman Kessler called for a vote. ***The vote was 3-2-0 (Connell and Fratzel voted no).*** The request from Tekoa Mission, Inc. would go to tax assessor, Mr. George Hildum for consideration.

APPOINTMENT(S): appointment/reappointments to Boards/Commissions/Committees for new terms were as follows:

Facility and Fields Committee

On a motion by Selectman Fratzel, seconded by Selectman Connell; ***Selectmen Wilmot and Hooper were appointed as BOS Representatives to the Facility & Fields Committee with a term to expire in June 2018. The motion passed 3-0-2 (Wilmot and Hooper abstained).***

Airport Advisory Board

On a motion by Selectman Wilmot, seconded by Selectman Connell, ***the Board appointed Jacqueline Cote as Alternate for the Airport Advisory Board with a term to expire in June 2018. The motion passed 5-0-0.***

Airport Advisory Board

On a motion by Selectman Fratzel, seconded by Selectman Wilmot; ***the Board reappointed Scott McCoy as Full Member of the Airport Advisory Board with a term to expire in June 2020. The motion passed 5-0-0.***

Conservation Commission

On a motion by Selectman Wilmot, seconded by Selectman Fratzel; ***the Board reappointed Stanley Hannum as Full Member of the Conservation Commission with a term to expire in June 2020. The motion passed 5-0-0.***

Heritage Commission

On a motion by Selectman Wilmot, seconded by Selectman Fratzel; ***the Board reappointed Dean Stetson as Full Member, Brian Kelly and Kenneth Vigue as Alternates to the Heritage Commission with terms to expire in June 2020. The motion passed 5-0-0.***

Planning Board

On a motion by Selectman Fratzel, seconded by Selectman Connell; ***the Board reappointed Bert Spaulding, Sr. and William Walsh as Full Members and Erna McCormick as Alternate to the Planning Board with terms to expire in June 2020. The motion passed 5-0-0.***

Rec Advisory Council

On a motion by Selectman Fratzel, seconded by Selectman Hooper; ***the Board reappointed Richard Cota and Kim Gaddes as Full Members to the Rec Advisory Council with terms to expire in June 2020. The motion passed 5-0-0.***

Zoning Board

On a motion by Selectman Fratzel, seconded by Selectman Hooper; ***the Board reappointed Ben Nelson as Full Member and Scott McCoy and Timothy Beard as Alternates to the Zoning Board with terms to expire in June 2020. The motion passed 5-0-0.***

Chairman Kessler listed vacancies remaining in the Town Boards. Selectman Hooper asked Town Manager Rieseberg if it was now possible to fill out applications online. Rieseberg would check to see if it was now operational.

Budget Advisory Committee applications should be filled out and would be forwarded to the Moderator for consideration.

On a motion by Selectman Fratzel, seconded by Selectman Wilmot; ***the Board voted by roll call vote to enter into non-public session pursuant to RSA 91-A:3, II (c) Reputation of Any Person at 7:09 p.m. The motion passed 5-0-0.***

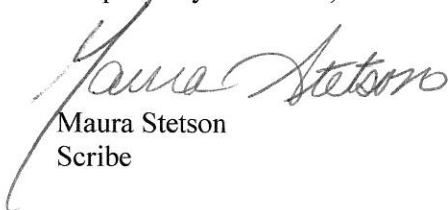
Present were Board members Jeffrey Kessler, William Wilmot, Barry Connell, Todd Fratzel and John Hooper. Also in attendance was Town Manager Hunter Rieseberg.

On a motion by Selectman Fratzel, seconded by Selectman Hooper; ***the Board voted to exit NPS at 7:57 p.m.. The motion passed 5-0-0.***

On a motion by Selectman Wilmot, seconded by Selectman Connell; ***the Board voted unanimously to adjourn at 7:58 p.m.***

The next regular meeting of the Board of Selectmen is scheduled for Monday, July 17, 2017 at 6:30 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,



Maura Stetson
Scribe

Approved on: July 26, 2017