

TOWN OF NEWPORT
Board of Selectmen
6:30 pm Regular Meeting & Public Hearing, Municipal Building
Minutes for June 1, 2015

SELECTMEN PRESENT: Gary Nichols, Todd Fratzel, David Hoyt, William Wilmot, Jeffrey Kessler

STAFF PRESENT: Paul J. Brown, Town Manager; Larry A. Wiggins P.E., Director of Public Works; Heath Marsden, Airport Manager

PUBLIC PRESENT: Ben Nelson, County Commissioner; Jeff Barrette, County Commissioner; Jessie Levine, County Manager; Virginia Irwin, State Representative; Douglas King P.E., NHDOT District 2; David and Kathy Barter, Kevin Onnela

CALL TO ORDER: Chairman Nichols called the meeting to order at 6:32 pm followed by the Pledge of Allegiance.

AGENDA REVIEW remove Committee and Board Appointments (Brown), add under Action Items Assessing Standards Board (Brown).

MINUTES FROM PREVIOUS MEETING: May 18, 2015.

On a motion by Selectman Hoyt, seconded by Selectman Fratzel; *the Board voted to approve the minutes of the May 18, 2015 meeting as presented. The motion passed 4-0-1 (Kessler abstained).*

CONSENT AGENDA

On a motion by Selectman Kessler, seconded by Selectman Wilmot; *the Board approved the Consent Agenda of June 1, 2015 as presented. The motion passed 5-0-0 (Attachment 1).*

FORUM: none

COMMUNICATIONS:

Board of Selectmen

Selectman Wilmot had nothing at this time.

Selectman Kessler had nothing at this time.

Selectman Hoyt had nothing at this time.

Selectman Fratzel had nothing at this time.

Chairman Nichols had nothing at this time.

Town Manager Brown stated that there had been a nice ceremony for Memorial Day. There had been a dedication of the statue with the newly cast rifles on the Common. Town Manager Brown extended his apologies and thanks to Cory Bevilaqua. Cory, one of the craftsmen of the rifles, had inadvertently been omitted by Town Manager Brown during his speech at the dedication; therefore Town Manager Brown wanted to apologize (for the omission) and publicly thank Cory for his work.

INFORMATIONAL:

Main Street Drainage

Mr. Douglas King, NHDOT District 2 engineer, addressed the Board of Selectmen and public present and gave a comprehensive presentation on the drainage project the NHDOT would be conducting on Main Street. The project would be to replace the existing system from the bridge crossing the Sugar River on South Main Street up 800 feet (to approximately Depot Street), on the west side of the main street. Five basins would be added to the system. Mr. King explained the preliminary work that had already been done, gave detailed steps in the work that the NHDOT would do and told the Board and public of the improvements that would be seen at the completion of the project.

During his presentation he informed the BOS and viewing public that certified letters would be sent to all building owners in the project area. The hours of construction work would be 6 am to 6 pm, Monday through Friday. He stated that the project was proposed to begin July 13 and that construction would be 4-8 weeks. Mr. King reviewed the current plan for traffic control. He addressed the Board of Selectmen and stated that the NHDOT would need a staging area for catch basin parts as well as a storage site for equipment (on the weekend).

Board members, Town Manager Brown and Mr. Larry Wiggins questioned Mr. King on different aspects of the project. He answered all questions.

He stated that the DOT understood there were apartments in the area of the construction site. Mr. Wiggins asked who people should contact if there were any concerns or problems. Mr. King said that the Town or individuals should contact the NHDOT field supervisor who would be on site in Newport. Mr. King did not have his name or number at the meeting. For clarification, Mr. Wiggins stated that there would be a NHDOT field supervisor on site in Newport (to call) if the Town or any resident had a concern or question. Mr. King said yes.

There was further discussion among the Board, Mr. Wiggins and Mr. King.

County Budget

Commissioners Nelson, Barrette and County Manager Levine addressed the Board of Selectmen and gave an overview of the year at the county level. They informed the BOS that the county would (hopefully) again be level funded tax wise. They informed the Board of the accomplishments at the county level. Infrastructure would be renovated. A CIP was now in place at the county level. Commissioners Barrette and Nelson addressed the BOS and explained the revised financial makeup of the county budget. They had a financial oversight committee made up of state representatives. Some Board members asked several questions pertaining to finances. State Representative Virginia Irwin (in attendance and a member of the Sullivan County Budget Oversight Committee) answered financial questions from the Board. Commissioner Nelson addressed the BOS and stated that the annual meeting of the County Commissioners would be held 06.02.15 at the Old Town Hall in Charlestown, NH at 7:15 pm. He invited people to attend. Chairman Nichols reiterated the information for the viewing audience. He then thanked the Commissioners for attending the meeting.

Legislative Update

State Representative Irwin addressed the Board of Selectmen and viewing audience and gave them a synopsis of the year's work in the NH State legislature. She told them very little legislature had been passed that would have a positive or negative impact on the Town.

Among the new laws she informed them of were the voting bill and a bill concerning worker compensation. She informed the Board that UNH was going to be level funded in the upcoming year and she informed them that several programs had been eliminated by the legislature.

State Representative Irwin spoke on Meals on Wheels, Medicaid, Service link and the state hospital. She told the Board that the House took out state bridge aid programs and highway match programs. There was a lengthy discussion between the Board and State Representative Irwin concerning the bills and cuts. She addressed the Board members, answered all questions, explained reasons for the (House) cuts and touched on revenue streams in the state.

Concluding, State Representative Irwin addressed the subject of septage and the controversy in Newport. She told the Board of her research of a license in NH and gave her recommendation. She told the Board of Selectmen that if asked, she would assist the Town. State Representative Irwin wanted to make sure that there were good laws that made our communities thrive.

The Board members thanked State Representative Irwin for attending the meeting.

Town Manager Search Update

Chairman Nichols stated that the BOS had entertained and interviewed the two candidates for the Town Manager's position (Chairman Nichols stated that State Representative Irwin accompanied them). He stated that all Board members had had a chance to speak with both candidates. The Board members would be voting for the new town manager in non-public session on 06.01.15. The new town manager would be announced at the 06.15.15 meeting of the BOS.

ACTION ITEMS:

Food Vendor on Town Property

Town Manager Brown stated that David and Kathy Barten approached the Town about setting up and serving hot dogs and more. The initial request was to park at the common. Due to logistics that area was denied. After researching properties around Town, the area in front of the county courthouse plaza had been tentatively chosen (there was a precedence of a hot dog food vendor in that location). There was a short discussion on times and days. The request before the Board was whether or not they could set up in the location. Town Manager Brown stated that any decision made at the 06.01.15 meeting would be subject to the judge. Mr. Barten stated the state regulatory licenses that he had for food vendors. There was a short discussion between Board members and Mr. Barten.

On a motion by Selectman Wilmot, seconded by Selectman Kessler, ***the Board voted to permit, 'Dave's Relish the Dog and More' hot dog stand to occupy a spot on the courtyard of the circuit court.***

Chairman Nichols asked for discussion. Selectman Fratzel asked if the Board's permission would be for only a trial basis. Town Manager Brown stated that it would be an annual approval. Selectman Wilmot added, ***"for the year 2015"*** to his motion. The revised motion then read: On motion by Selectman Wilmot, seconded by Selectman Kessler, ***the Board voted to permit, 'Dave's Relish the Dog and More' hot dog stand to occupy a spot on the courtyard of the circuit court for the year 2015.*** The Bartens agreed. Chairman Nichols called for a vote. ***The motion passed 5-0-0.***

Town Manager Brown stressed that their setting up would be subject to the judge (the circuit court was a paying tenant). There was a short discussion. The Bartens thanked Town Manager Brown.

Assessing Standards Board

Town Manager Brown explained the Assessing Standards Board for the BOS and the viewing public. Continuing, he stated that the Board had an opening. He explained his desire to be on the committee and the reason that he currently cannot. Town Manager Brown explained further. There was discussion. Chairman Nichols stated he would put his name forward for the committee. There was a short discussion.

APPOINTMENTS

Airport Study Committee

After a short discussion, on a motion by Selectman Fratzel, seconded by Selectman Wilmot; *the Board voted to appoint the following individuals to the airport study committee: Jeff Kessler (BOS Rep), Bert Spaulding, Heath Marsden (airport manager), Scott McCoy, Edmund Smith and Joe Branch. The motion passed 5-0-0.*

Selectman Kessler addressed Town Manager Brown and requested that he ask the appointed individuals if they could meet on 06.08.15 for an organizational meeting. There was discussion.

There being no further questions, on a motion by Selectman Fratzel, seconded by Selectman Wilmot; *the Board voted by roll call vote to go into non-public session RSA 91-A:3, II (d) Real Estate; (b) Hiring A Public Employee; and (c) Reputation of Another.*

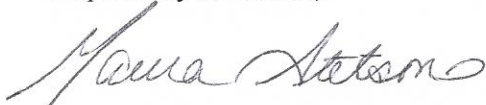
The public meeting adjourned at 8:40 pm. Chairman Nichols called for a five minute break before the non-public session.

The Board resumed open session at 9:50 pm.

On a motion by Selectman Hoyt, seconded by Selectman Kessler, *the Board unanimously voted to seal the minutes of the 06.01.15 NPS until 06.15.15.*

On a motion by Selectman Fratzel, seconded by Selectman Kessler; *the Board unanimously voted to adjourn at 9:52 pm.*

Respectfully submitted,



Maura Stetson
Scribe

Attachments (1)

TOWN OF NEWPORT
Board of Selectmen
CONSENT AGENDA
June 1, 2015

Department	Document Date	Document	Amount
Assessing	May 18, 2015	Current Use Application	\$0
Assessing	May 18, 2015	Two (2) Abatement Denials	\$0
Assessing	May 20, 2015	Timber Tax Warrant	\$9,137.99
Finance	May 20, 2015	AP Manifest	\$680,838.79
Finance	May 20, 2015	AP Manifest	\$193,443.70
Assessing	May 20, 2015	Jeopardy Tax Warrant	\$231.00
Assessing	May 26, 2015	Property Tax Warrant 1 st Bill	\$6,648,262.00
Assessing	May 29, 2015	Abatement Denial	\$0