

TOWN OF NEWPORT, NEW HAMPSHIRE
Board of Selectmen Minutes of April 4, 2022; Regular Meeting 6:30 pm
Municipal Building, 15 Sunapee Street, Newport, NH 03773
Remote Access: Zoom.com - Meeting ID: 846 5869 0024 Passcode: 117358
+1 (253) 215-8782 US (audio only, long-distance fees may apply)

SELECTMEN PRESENT: *BOS Room:* Jeffrey Kessler, Chairman; John Hooper II, Vice Chairman; Keith Sayer, Herbert Tellor, Jr.; Barry Connell

SELECTMEN ABSENT: none

STAFF PRESENT: *BOS Room:* Hunter Rieseberg, Town Manager; Paul Brown, Finance Director

COMMUNITY MEMBERS PRESENT: Bert Spaulding, Sr.; Steve Morris, Tim Beard, Virginia Irwin, Town Moderator

NCTV: John Lunn, Executive Director NCTV

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

AGENDA REVIEW: accepted as presented

MINUTES FROM PREVIOUS MEETING(S): March 21, 2022 - Selectman Connell made a motion *to approve the minutes of the March 21, 2022 BOS meeting as presented.* It was seconded by Selectman Tellor. *The motion passed 4-0-0.*

CONSENT AGENDA: On a motion by Selectman Tellor, seconded by Selectman Sayer; *the Board voted to approve the Consent Agenda of the April 4, 2022 BOS meeting as presented. The motion passed 4-0-0.*

Selectman Hooper arrived at the meeting at 6:31 p.m.

OPEN FORUM: (for complete Open Forum Statements, go to: www.nctv-nh.org) - Mrs. Virginia Irwin, Town Moderator; addressed Mr. John Hooper II and thanked him for his service to the Town. She then addressed the Selectboard and gave a synopsis of the preparations for the April 5, 2022 Deliberative Session and gave logistics for the public. She confirmed that people could view the Deliberative Session live on NCTV, but would not be able to participate unless they were in the building (the governor's state of emergency has expired and there will not be any modification to the meeting).

Mr. Spaulding, Sr. spoke at length concerning the Newport School Board, School District and their administration. He voiced his concerns and opinions concerning the School District. Mr. Beard addressed the Board and voiced his frustration concerning the Newport School District. He spoke negatively about the district and about things that he believed needed to change. He asked that the Board watch the NCTV taping of the most recent meeting. When asked, Mr. Steve Morris introduced himself to the Board members. The BOS members engaged Mr. Beard and Mr. Spaulding, Sr. in conversation concerning the Newport schools. Mrs. Irwin addressed the BOS and stated their conversation was inappropriate at the BOS meeting. Any concerns or opinions should be brought to the School Board and Superintendent. Mrs. Irwin also negated and corrected much of the information that had been directed at the School Board. Mr. John Lunn addressed the Board members and stated that the assessment of the meeting and the School Board and Administration by Mr. Spaulding, Sr. and Mr. Beard was incorrect. He stated that it was not a terrible (school) environment and that poverty was part of the (educational) discussion in Newport. Mr. Lunn also encouraged the Selectboard to watch the meeting (www.nctv-nh.org) and make their own decision.

COMMUNICATIONS: Selectman Tellor informed the Board he had passed out a draft article to be presented for printing in The Newport Times. He asked for comments, stating the deadline for printing was Friday, April 8,

2022. Selectman Connell had nothing to share at this time; Selectman Hooper had nothing to share at this time; Selectman Sayer had nothing to share at this time. Chairman Kessler reminded the viewing public that the Town Deliberative Session will be held in the Middle High School gymnasium on Tuesday, April 5, 2022 at 6 p.m.

Town Manager Rieseberg informed the Board and public that there would be drainage work done by the state (DOT) on the east side (of the road) on Central Street to Sunapee Street.

INFORMATIONAL: Community Center Update - There was a brief discussion on the Community Center. Finance Director Brown stated Town Counsel advised that a Selectman not amend Warrant Article (#6). There was a brief discussion on it being amended by a citizen (voter) at the April 5, 2022 Deliberative Session.

Review and Assignment of Warrant Articles - The Selectboard discussed and assigned the Warrant Articles to be presented at the Deliberative Session. Chairman Kessler explained the role of the Selectmen (at the Deliberative Session) to those who were new. A sheet explaining the articles would be provided to the Selectmen to assist with any voter questions.

- 1) No one
- 2) No one
- 3) No one
- 4) No one
- 5) John Hooper
- 6) Jeff Kessler-will be modified on floor by a voter
- 7) Barry Connell
- 8) Jeff Kessler
- 9) John Hooper
- 10) Barry Connell
- 11) Herb Tellor (Hooper alternate)
- 12) Keith Sayer
- 13) Herb Tellor

ACTION ITEMS: Golf Course Discretionary Easement - After a brief discussion, on a motion by Selectman Connell, seconded by Selectman Sayer; *the Board voted to renew the discretionary easement for the Newport Golf Course. The motion passed 5-0-0.*


On a motion by Selectman Tellor, seconded by Selectman Hooper; *the Selectmen voted by roll call to enter into non-public session(NPS) pursuant to RSA 91-A:3II (c) Matters which may affect the reputation of another at 7:46 p.m. The motion passed 5-0-0.*

The Board exited non-public session at 8:11 pm.

There was no action taken.

The Board voted unanimously to adjourn at 8:11 p.m. The motion passed 5-0-0.

Respectfully submitted,



Maura Stetson, Scribe

The next regular meeting of the Board of Selectmen is scheduled for April 18, 2022 at 6:30 p.m.

Approved on: April 18, 2022