

**TOWN OF NEWPORT, NH**  
**Minutes of the Planning Board Meeting**  
**April 10, 2018 – 6:00 P.M.**  
**Board of Selectmen's Room**  
**15 Sunapee Street**  
**Regular Meeting and Public Hearing**

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**MEMBERS PRESENT:** David Burnham, Chairman; Ken Merrow, Vice Chairman; Bert Spaulding, Sr.; Barry Connell, BOS Ex Officio; Howard Dunn

**MEMBERS ABSENT:** Ray Kibbey and Bill Walsh

**VIDEOGRAPHER:** Louis Cassorla, NCTV

**STAFF PRESENT:** Julie M. Magnuson, Planning and Zoning Administrator absent

**CALL TO ORDER:** Chairman Burnham called the meeting to order at 6:00 p.m. followed by a roll call.

**NEW BUSINESS:**

**MINUTES: February 13, 2018, sealed minutes, and March 20, 2018**

Chairman Burnham introduced sealed minutes dated April 10, 2018 for review.

*On motion by Bert Spaulding, Sr., and seconded by Ken Merrow, the Board voted to table sealed minutes to next Planning Board Meeting. Motion passed. Howard Dunn and Barry Connell abstained.*

Chairman Burnham introduced minutes dated February 13, 2018 for review.

*On motion by Bert Spaulding, Sr., and seconded by Ken Merrow, the Board voted to table February 13, 2018 minutes to next Planning Board Meeting. Motion passed. Howard Dunn and Barry Connell abstained.*

Chairman Burnham introduced minutes dated March 20, 2018 for review.

*On motion by Bert Spaulding, Sr., and seconded by Ken Merrow, the Board voted to table March 20, 2018 minutes to next Planning Board Meeting. Motion passed. Howard Dunn and Barry Connell abstained.*

**ADMINISTRATION:**

General discussion of the accuracy of content found in the law books housed by the Planning Board meeting room. The said content is believed up-to-date.

General discussion of the substantial level of amendments voted on regarding the proposed regulation on hens in the last Planning Board meeting, permissive zoning applicableness, Ms. Magnuson noticing the proposed article with final amendments, Ms. Magnuson's original stand on

the said amendments being unsubstantial by nature and did not require noticing, and the acrimonious relationship between Mr. Spaulding, Sr., and Ms. Magnuson.

Hunter F. Rieseberg, Town Manager, discussed the following:

1. Ms. Magnuson resigns on May 4, 2018.
2. The Town will begin with hiring a part-time Zoning Officer.
3. The Town will outsource some of Zoning and Planning duties.
4. On site staff are trained well. Should Staff find themselves unable to answer window/call inquiries regarding zoning and planning regulations they will relay the information to the appropriate agency and/or Staff and such answers will be provided to the inquirer promptly.
5. The economic and application activity levels are below surrounding community levels.
6. The next two years the Town will be faced with hard financial times due to tax rate increases and overdue projects.
7. The Town of Newport needs to find their “sweet spot” to increase the economy.
8. The Town will provide the Board with a job description regarding the upcoming position in the Planning and Zoning Department.
9. Areas the Town is focusing on are schools, industries, housing and job opportunities to bring in economic flourishing.
10. Town is hiring an Economic Coordinator to address the economy level.

General discussion of client service failure concerns, who will post deadlines for the public regarding Zoning and Planning applications, and limited staff in the Zoning and Planning department is believed likely to galvanize the Town from the public, and the importance of developing ways to stream-line the processes Ms. Magnuson performed as to flow easily following her resignation.

General discussion of RSA 21 applying to this community. Mr. Spaulding, Sr., requested an investigation on RSA 21 applicableness and the said request be on record.

On a motion by Ken Merrow, seconded by Barry Connell; *the Board adjourned at 7:29 p.m. The motion passed with complete consensus.*

Respectfully submitted,

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Kymberly Kenney  
Scribe

Approved on: