

Town of Newport, New Hampshire
Board of Selectmen
Minutes for Meeting of August 28, 2017
6:00 NPS Meeting
6:30 pm Regular Business Meeting
Municipal Building

SELECTMEN PRESENT: Jeff Kessler, Chairman; Todd Fratzel, Vice Chairman; William Wilmot, Jr; Barry Connell

NON-PUBLIC SESSION #1:

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 (d) Real Estate at 6:00 p.m. The motion passed 4-0-0.*

Selectman John Hooper arrived at 6:15.

On a motion by Selectman Wilmot, seconded by Selectman Fratzel; the Board voted unanimously to come out of NPS at 6:42 p.m.

No action was taken.

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

STAFF PRESENT: Hunter Rieseberg, Town Manager; Larry Wiggins, Director of Public Works; Bill Scanlon, Highway Superintendent; Joanne Dufour, Executive Assistant

COMMUNITY MEMBERS PRESENT: Richard King, Bruce Burroughs, Bert Spaulding, Sr.

CALL TO ORDER: Chairman Kessler called the regular meeting of the BOS to order at 6:45 p.m. followed by the Pledge of Allegiance.

TAX DEEDED PROPERTIES: Chairman Kessler stated that the Town of Newport had several properties for sale. Some lots had been bid on, some bids were not accepted by the BOS, and some bids were accepted. He listed the properties with bids that were accepted.

The Selectmen voted in public session to grant the following properties:

On a motion by Selectman Fratzel, seconded by Selectman Hooper; *the Board voted to award the property on Canal Street (111-245) with a bid amount of \$525.00 to Randy and Cheryl Willey. The motion passed 5-0-0.*

On a motion by Selectman Wilmot, seconded by Selectman Hooper; *the Board voted to award the property on Willow Street (118-033) with a bid amount of \$5,000.00 to Kenneth Merrow. The motion passed 5-0-0.*

On a motion by Selectman Fratzel, seconded by Selectman Hooper; *the Board voted to award the property on Cathole Road (210-002) with a bid amount of \$500.00 to Bruce and Goldie Burroughs. The motion passed 5-0-0.*

On a motion by Selectman Fratzel, seconded by Selectman Hooper; ***the Board voted to award the property on 116 Sand Hill Road (217-015) with a bid amount of \$1,050.00 to Newport Sand and Gravel. The motion passed 5-0-0.***

On a motion by Selectman Fratzel, seconded by Selectman Wilmot; ***the Board voted to award the property on Sand Hill Road (214-007) with a bid amount of \$1,050.00 to Newport Sand and Gravel. The motion passed 5-0-0.***

On a motion by Selectman Fratzel, seconded by Selectman Hooper; ***the Board voted to award the property on Reeds Mill Road (215-002) with a bid amount of \$2,300.00 to Heide Hubert Menard/Alan C. Menard. The motion passed 5-0-0.***

On a motion by Selectman Fratzel, seconded by Selectman Wilmot; ***the Board voted to award the property on 78 Chandlers Mill Road (234-015) with a bid amount of \$3,748.00 to Lawrence DeCristofaro. The motion passed 5-0-0.***

On a motion by Selectman Fratzel, seconded by Selectman Wilmot; ***the Board voted to award the property on N/A Backland (239-008) with a bid amount of \$12,003.00 to Richard and Beverly King. The motion passed 5-0-0.***

On a motion by Selectman Fratzel, seconded by Selectman Wilmot; ***the Board voted to award the property on Mosquito Schoolhouse Road (249-005) with a bid amount of \$10,000.00 to Michael Eastland. The motion passed 5-0-0.***

AGENDA REVIEW: Postpone INFORMATIONAL: Proposed Projects/Equipment-Highway Department to the September 18, 2017 meeting (Rieseberg).

MINUTES FROM PREVIOUS MEETING (S): August 7, 2017 Regular Minutes and NPS minutes Minutes of August 7, 2017:

On a motion by Selectman Fratzel, seconded by Selectman Connell; ***the Board voted to approve the minutes of June 12, 2017 as presented. The motion passed 5-0-0.***

Minutes of NPS for August 7, 2017:

On a motion by Selectman Wilmot, seconded by Selectman Fratzel; ***the Board voted to approve the NPS minutes of August 7, 2017 as presented. The motion passed 5-0-0.***

CONSENT AGENDA: On a motion by Selectman Fratzel, seconded by Selectman Hooper; ***the Board voted to approve the Consent Agenda of August 28, 2017 as presented. The motion passed 5-0-0.***

OPEN FORUM: In a follow-up to the Action Item Weisner Property at the August 7, 2017 BOS meeting; Mr. Bert Spaulding, Sr. gave the BOS members information he had obtained through deed searches on the property.

Mr. Spaulding, Sr. made a Right to Know request to view the Map #24. Mr. Spaulding, Sr. did not expect an extensive search for Map #24 under his Right to Know request. If it cannot be reasonably found it is not necessary for him to have it, he would take that as an explanation. Chairman Kessler asked if Map #24 was NOT in the book (available to all in the Town hall). Mr. Spaulding, Sr. explained it was an old map dating to the 60's and 70's. He explained the reasons for wanting the map.

Mr. Spaulding, Sr. reviewed the rest of his information. He addressed the Selectmen and stated he had shown them 50 years of ownership of the property. He asked them how it got lost in the tax rolls; why someone had not come forward before now.

Mr. Spaulding, Sr. thanked the Board for their time.

COMMUNICATIONS:

Selectman Hooper stated that the Apple Pie Craft's fair was wonderful. The LAC did a wonderful job again this year. It was good to see craftsmen and artisans in Newport.

Selectman Wilmot congratulated the staff and volunteers of the Richards Free Library for the outstanding 2017 Sarah Josepha Hale award event. Ms. Julia Alveraz was the 2017 honoree. The LAC was packed for the presentation. Kudos to the library.

Selectman Connell had nothing to share at this time.

Selectman Fratzel informed the Board and viewing public that Newport had hosted a Youth Football Jamboree. Nine schools and eighteen teams were represented. Newport hosted over 1,000 people at the football field.

Chairman Kessler:

- ❖ Complimented the Public Works Department on their recent paving projects
- ❖ Stated our Executive Councilor had flown in to Newport this past week
- ❖ The Apple Pie Crafts Fair was a huge success
- ❖ Reminded everyone that school started on Tuesday of next week; September 5, 2017

Town Manager Rieseberg had nothing to share at this time.

INFORMATIONAL:

Ace Camp-Heath Marsden-Airport Manager

The agenda item was postponed until Mr. Marsden was available to address the BOS. Selectmen Fratzel and Wilmot expressed that the camp went extremely well and was a wonderful experience for all the children that attended.

Airport Study Report Status

The agenda item was postponed until Mr. Marsden was available to address the BOS.

Proposed Projects/Equipment-Highway Department

The agenda item was postponed to the September 12, 2017 BOS meeting.

Summer Paving and Sidewalks Update

Mr. Larry Wiggins stated the paving was complete. Striping is proposed to begin on September 8, 2017. He listed the streets that had been paved this summer:

Bradford Road
Maple Street
River Road
Clark Street
Canal Street
Cross Street
Troy Hill
High Street

Mr. Wiggins told the BOS that all sidewalks that had been scheduled for replacement were in; all that remained to do was to add some loam and minor cleanup to the areas.

Chairman Kessler inquired as to future sidewalk projects. Town Manager Rieseberg stated that the development of a Masterplan of existing sidewalks for evaluations was being established. He explained his strategy for future sidewalk projects to the Board.

County Parking Lot Status Update

Town Manager Rieseberg stated that only lighting and landscaping remained to be done. The parking lot is now easier to navigate; good drainage was added to it during the project. He reminded the Selectmen that it was a County project.

There was general discussion among the BOS on the County project.

ACTION ITEM:

Updated Town Policy Against Harassment

Town Manager Rieseberg introduced the suggested language for inclusion to update the section of the Town Personnel Policy dealing with harassment in the workplace. The update was required by the Town's insurance carrier for its Primex Prime Program (to reduce the Town's premiums). Town counsel had reviewed the updated policy language and it was ready for implementation upon BOS approval. On a motion by Selectman Wilmot, seconded by Selectman Fratzel; ***the Board voted to accept the proposed policy against harassment as presented.***

Chairman Kessler stated that the BOS needed to have a line added to state when the policy was approved by the Board. Continuing, he stated that all policies should have a line stating the adopted date and/or the readopted date. Chairman Kessler stated that the new page 5 with the signature sheet had an adopted date line.

There was a general discussion by the Board and Ms. Dufour on workshops concerning harassment and how the policy would be implemented in the Town departments. The Chair called for a vote on the motion. ***The motion passed 5-0-0.***

Ms. Joanne Dufour, Executive Assistant, stated that another policy on slip, trip and falls needed to be added to the current Town Personnel Policy. The Selectboard members had copies of the policy in their packets. She explained the necessary policy to the BOS members for their approval.

Slip, Trip and Falls Policy

On a motion by Selectman Wilmot, seconded by Selectman Fratzel; ***the Board voted to accept the new Slip, Trip and Falls Policy as presented and to make it effective as of September 7, 2017. The motion passed 5-0-0.***

Acceptance of Ethics Letter for Audit

On a motion by Selectman Fratzel, seconded by Selectman Wilmot; ***the Board voted to authorize the Chairman of the Board of Selectmen, Mr. Jeffrey Kessler, to sign the ethics letter for the 2017 audit. The motion passed 4-0-1 (Kessler abstained because signee).***

Town Common Rental Agreement and Monuments

Town Manager Rieseberg explained the current Town Common rental agreement and the problems that have recently occurred with the mistreatment of the memorials on the Common. There was a general discussion among the Selectboard and Town Manager Rieseberg concerning the roping off of the memorials, signage around the monuments and prevention of mistreatment.

Ms. Dufour requested that the BOS members sign the policy agreements and the ethic letter for the 2017 audit before they went into NPS.

NON-PUBLIC SESSION:

On a motion by Selectman Fratzel, seconded by Selectman Wilmot; *the Board voted by roll call vote to enter into two non-public sessions pursuant to RSA 91-A:3, II (d) Real Estate and NPS pursuant to 91-A:3, II (c) Reputation at 8:38 p.m. The motion passed 5-0-0.*

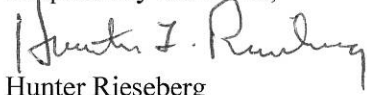
On a motion by Selectman Fratzel, seconded by Selectman Wilmot; *the Board voted unanimously to come out of NPS at 8:41 p.m.*


On a motion by Selectman Fratzel, seconded by Selectman Wilmot; *the Board voted unanimously to adjourn at 8:42 p.m.*

There was no action taken.

The next regular meeting of the Board of Selectmen is scheduled for Monday, September 18, 2017 at 6:30 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,


Hunter Rieseberg
Town Manager


Maura Stetson
Scribe

Approved on: October 2, 2017