

**Town of Newport, New Hampshire  
Board of Selectmen  
Minutes for Meeting of January 22, 2018  
6:30 pm Regular Business Meeting  
Municipal Building**

---

**SELECTMEN PRESENT:** Jeffrey Kessler, Chairman; William Wilmot, Jr.; Barry Connell, John Hooper II

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

**COMMUNITY MEMBERS PRESENT:** Bert Spaulding, Sr.

**CALL TO ORDER:** Chairman Kessler called the meeting of the BOS to order at 6:32 p.m. followed by the Pledge of Allegiance.

**AGENDA REVIEW:** Accepted as presented.

**MINUTES FROM PREVIOUS MEETING (S):** January 8, 2018

After a short discussion, the minutes of January 8, 2018 were tabled to the February 5, 2018 BOS meeting.

**CONSENT AGENDA:** On a motion by Selectman Connell, seconded by Selectman Hooper; *the Board voted to approve the Consent Agenda of January 22, 2018 as presented. The motion passed 4-0-0.*

**OPEN FORUM:** Mr. Bert Spaulding, Sr. addressed the Board and gave a synopsis of the recent School Board public hearings. Candidates for open School Board positions can sign up January 24 – February 2. He informed BOS members that another public hearing on the school budget would be held on Tuesday, January 23, 2018 at 6 p.m. in the Lou Thompson Room. The next Budget Advisory Committee (BAC) meeting on the school budget would be Wednesday, January 24, 2018 at 6 p.m. in the Lou Thompson Room.

**COMMUNICATIONS:**

Selectman Wilmot had nothing to share at this time.

Selectman Connell stated he had attended the Fireman's Pay Day Dinner. It was a nice dinner with good camaraderie.

Selectman Hooper stated that the Newport Historical Society (NHS) has started to put together a committee to organize a 25<sup>th</sup> year anniversary celebration of the rebuilding of the Corbin Covered Bridge. The celebration will be held in October 2019. In 1994 there was a large celebration with people attending from across the country to see the completion of the bridge. The Corbin Covered Bridge Committee is meeting on Wednesday, January 24, 2018 at 6:00 p.m. at the Nettleton House (Newport Historical Society Museum). The meeting is open to anyone who is interested.

Chairman Kessler stated that on Friday, January 26<sup>th</sup> and Saturday, January 27<sup>th</sup> at 7 p.m. "Dancing with the Newport Stars" would be held at the Newport Opera House. Tickets were still available.

Town Manager Rieseberg stated:

1. He was pleased with the progress for the 2018 construction season. The Oak Street and Coon Brook Bridges, roads and sidewalk work were all on schedule. Things were looking positive for First, Second, Third and Fourth Streets as well.

2. The budget is on schedule. The Board of Selectmen (BOS) would get it on time and it was within the parameters.
3. The wage study draft should arrive at the Town on January 23, 2018.
4. Officials are watching the river. There is an ice dam developing north of the waste water treatment plant.

## **INFORMATIONAL:**

### Report on Flooding

Town Manager Rieseberg stated localized flooding was experienced in and around Town last week. The Town has been working closely with the owners of the dam by Cross Street. Meetings with the Federal Energy Regulatory Commission (FERC) will be held to review emergency response plans in Newport as well as develop an improved communication system and advanced warnings during potential emergency events. Cameras on buildings such as the Newport Plaza (Shaws) will be looked into to watch the water level of the river. Town Manager Rieseberg will report to the BOS after his meeting with FERC.

Selectman Wilmot stated that the owner of the Sugar River Pharmacy had suggested that the owner of the property (Shaws Plaza) fund a webcam to monitor the water level at that portion of the river.

Chairman Kessler recognized the members of the Fire Department, Highway Department and Police Department who were out monitoring and diverting traffic away from flooded areas. He reminded people that Newport might have a repeat event on January 23, 2018.

### Receive/Review Facilities Report

Town Manager Rieseberg addressed the BOS and stated the Town had the completed facilities report. Finance Director Brown distributed thumb drives to the Selectmen that contained the extensive Facilities Report on the Town's buildings and told them a hard copy would be made available to them as well. Finance Director Brown gave a synopsis of the report. He explained the sections and inventory to the BOS which included word documents describing the buildings and excel spreadsheets which gave only monetary information for each building. There was also a combined excel spreadsheet on all buildings in the report and funding sources for repairs and replacements.

Town Manager Rieseberg stated it was the intent to migrate it into a larger CIP for the Town of Newport. There was a short discussion by the BOS on the future use of the Facilities Report. When asked, it was acknowledged that the Newport School System had a similar report on their buildings.

## **ACTION ITEMS:**

### United Way Opera House Rental-Dawn Ranney

Mrs. Ranney was unable to attend the BOS meeting. She was requesting a waiver of the rental agreement for the United Way's use of the Opera House. Town Manager Rieseberg stated that the current application stated that the BOS was the only body who could grant a rental fee waiver. After a short discussion, on a motion by Selectman Connell, seconded by Selectman Wilmot; ***the Board voted to delegate the authority for granting rental fee exemptions (of the Opera House) to the purview of the (Newport) Town Manager. The motion passed 4-0-0.***

### Town of Newport and Newport School District Agreements

1. Control & Use Agreement was tabled.
2. Field Maintenance Agreement was tabled.
3. School Resource Officer Agreement

After a short discussion, on a motion by Selectman Wilmot, seconded by Selectman Connell; ***the Board voted to renew the agreement for the School Resource Officer (SRO) between the Town of Newport and the Newport School District and to authorize Town Manager Rieseberg to sign any documents pertinent to the agreement on behalf of the Board of Selectmen. The motion passed 4-0-0.***

Selectman Hooper addressed Town Manager Rieseberg and asked who townspeople should call if there was extreme flooding in their neighborhood. Town Manager Rieseberg stated that the number to call for flooding and non-emergency situations would be the Newport Police Dispatch at 863-3232. If it was life safety or another emergency situation individuals should call 9-1-1.

**APPOINTMENT(S):** Recreation Advisory Council-Gavin Lovely

On a motion by Selectman Hooper, seconded by Selectman Wilmot; *the Board voted to appoint Gavin Lovely to the Recreation Advisory Council as a student representative to a one year term ending in June 2018. The motion passed 4-0-0.*

Chairman Kessler announced that the Board would enter into nonpublic session (NPS) pursuant to RSA 91-A:3, II (a): Compensation of a Public Employee. He called for a roll call vote. *The Board voted by roll call vote to enter into nonpublic session (NPS) pursuant to RSA 91-A:3, II (a): Compensation of a Public Employee at 7:03 p.m. The motion passed 4-0-0.*

**See NPS minutes for additional information.**


On a motion by Selectman Wilmot, seconded by Selectman Hooper; *the Board voted unanimously to exit NPS at 8:02 p.m.*

There was no action taken during Non-Public Session.

On a motion by Selectman Wilmot, seconded by Selectman Connell; *the Selectboard voted to adjourn at 8:03 p.m. The motion passed 4-0-0.*

**The next regular meeting of the Board of Selectmen is scheduled for Monday, February 5, 2018 at 6:30 p.m.**

Respectfully submitted,



Maura Stetson  
Scribe

Approved on: February 5, 2018