

TOWN OF NEWPORT, NEW HAMPSHIRE
Board of Selectmen Minutes - June 21, 2021 6:30 pm
Regular Business Meeting, Municipal Building, 15 Sunapee Street, Newport, NH 03773
Remote Access: Zoom.com - Meeting ID: 816 1061 5386 Passcode: 811809
+1 (253) 215-8782 US (audio only, long-distance fees may apply)

SELECTMEN PRESENT: *BOS Room:* Jeffrey Kessler, Chairman; Barry Connell, Keith Sayer, Herbert Teller, Jr.

SELECTMEN ABSENT: John Hooper II, Vice Chairman

STAFF PRESENT: *BOS Room:* Hunter F. Rieseberg, Town Manager; Brent Wilmot, Newport Police Chief; Dakota Titorenko, Sargent Police Department; Liselle Dufort, Town Clerk

COMMUNITY MEMBERS PRESENT: *BOS Room:* Dick Wentzell, Bert Spaulding, Sr.; Ray Kibbey, Mariah, Aiden and Luca Titorenko

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: Pass over Action Item: Request Removal of Right-Of-Way, Map 116 Lot 005 Located at 39 Unity Road-Christina Donovan (Rieseberg)

POLICE DEPARTMENT PRESENTATION: Police Chief Brent Wilmot addressed the Selectboard and stated he was in attendance with Officer Dakota Titorenko. Officer Titorenko had just been promoted to the office of Sargent and would be sworn in as such at the June 21, 2021 BOS meeting by Town Clerk Liselle Dufort. Before the swearing in, Police Chief Wilmot explained the hard work of police officers, the rigorous process the candidates undertook and the vetting of candidates for promotions in the department. The last hurdle in this process was an oral board interview staffed by out-of-town officers and a community member; of the candidates who applied for the promotion, Officer Dakota Titorenko was recommended. Town Clerk Liselle Dufort swore in Officer (Sargent) Dakota Titorenko; after which Mariah, Aiden and Luca came forward and pinned his Sargent badge. The Selectboard congratulated Sargent Titorenko and thanked Police Chief Wilmot.

MINUTES FROM PREVIOUS MEETING(S): May 17, 2021 - On a motion by Selectman Teller, seconded by Selectman Connell; *the Board voted to approve the minutes of the May 17, 2021 BOS meeting as presented. The motion passed 4-0-0.*

CONSENT AGENDA: On a motion by Selectman Connell, seconded by Selectman Teller; *the Board voted to approve the Consent Agenda of the June 21, 2021 BOS meeting as presented.* In discussion, Chairman Kessler explained what the Consent Agenda was. *The motion passed 4-0-0.*

OPEN FORUM: Mr. Wentzell spoke to the Board members about concerns he had about assessing and tax abatement in the Town.

Mr. Bert Spaulding, Sr. addressed the Board members concerning the Newport School Board. He inquired about the BOS policy and procedure of having Board members add agenda items to a meeting. He then explained the School Board's policy requirement, which included the Board voting in favor of adding items to their agenda. After a discussion between Mr. Spaulding, Sr. and the BOS concerning this

policy and other procedures; Chairman Kessler invited the viewing public to speak before the BOS during Open Forum as opposed to at the School Board's meeting if they would like to bring up a concern. Mr. Spaulding, Sr. thanked the Board for the time.

COMMUNICATIONS: Selectman Tellor had nothing to share at this time.

Selectman Connell had nothing to share at this time.

Selectman Sayer had nothing to share at this time.

Chairman Kessler stated that:

- ❖ The Newport Chamber Brewfest was on Saturday, June 19, 2021 from 10 AM to 4 PM. It was good to see crowds on the Common.
- ❖ The Farmers Market is back on the Common on Fridays from 3PM to 6 PM.
- ❖ The library is open without restrictions.
- ❖ The Concerts on the Common will begin its abbreviated scheduling on Sunday, June 27, 2021 at 6 PM

Town Manager Rieseberg had nothing to share at this time.

INFORMATIONAL: Garden Club Update: Town Manager Rieseberg updated the BOS on the Town Garden Club.

- Whiskey Barrels are out with flowers; managed by the Rec Center and the School.
- proposed Tree Farm
- He told them about the landscaping being done to Town properties.
- Opera House
- County (Ruger) Parking Lot
- Tot Lot
- The Welcome signs (north/South/east/west entrances to Town)

When asked, he explained the latest information he had on the tree replacement project initiated by the Conservation Commission. Town Manager Rieseberg stated that the arborist and Town will be entering into a Tree Management and Maintenance Program.

Selectman Connell asked Town Manager Rieseberg to explain the work being done on the sidewalks on Main Street. Town Manager Rieseberg explained there had been structural material failures. The sidewalk work was under warranty and was being replaced by the contractor at no cost to the taxpayers. Additional work on sidewalks (one of the 2021 Capital Projects) would be done in addition to the current work.

User Fees & Parking on the Town Common - Town Manager Rieseberg addressed the BOS and asked if they would like to continue to have User Fees for the use of the Common since many waivers had been issued. The Board concurred to continue with the case-by-case situation they had in place. Those requesting waivers could address the Board at a BOS meeting.

Town Manager Rieseberg asked about the habitual parking on the Common along Park Street. He asked what action the BOS would like to take. The BOS concurred that the Common proper along Park Street will remain a No Parking Zone. They asked that local police enforcement be increased to enforce the ordinance.

ACTION ITEMS: Request Approval to Build Manufactured Home on Private Road, Map 233 Lot 025 Located at 28 Brown Road - Mr. Ray Kibbey addressed the BOS and explained he was acting as a proxy to request the approval for Mr. Sam McNeel to build a manufactured home on a private road, Map 233

Lot 025 located at 28 Brown Road. He stated that he and Mr. McNeel had been at the last Planning Board meeting. Mr. Kibbey explained a house had already been there, a well was already on the property, electricity is already at the property and the applicant has a state approved septic system plan for the property. The request had been approved:

*From the Planning Board minutes of June 8, 2021: Mr. Merrow made the following decision; under advisement of the Planning Board (to the Board of Selectmen): Mr. Merrow made a motion **to approve the application for Newport Waiver for Class VI Road: Request a final review for a waiver to construct a manufactured home on 28 Brown Road identified as Map 233 Lot 025 with the following conditions:***

- 1. **Applicant must get a Road Maintenance Agreement***
- 2. **Applicant must upgrade road to the Town's minimum road standard (for private roads: Articles 13 & 14 in the Newport zoning regulations under Subdivisions).***

*It was seconded by Mr. Menard. **The motion passed 5-0-0.***

Mr. Kibbey addressed the BOS and stated the applicant had a road maintenance agreement which abutters and people on the private road had signed; the road had been upgraded to the Town's minimum road standard. All that was needed was the BOS's waiver in order for the applicant to get a building permit from the Planning and Zoning Office. The waiver will also allow the applicant to go to the bank for financing. Selectman Connell made a motion, seconded by Selectman Sayer; that ***the Board recommend to approve a waiver subject to the stipulations of the Planning Board and final review.*** It was seconded by Selectman Sayer. Chairman Kessler asked Mr. Kibbey several questions. Selectman Connell stated that the applicant met all the stipulations in place for the final review. He did not believe the applicant needed to come back to the BOS. Selectman Connell restated his motion. Selectman Connell ***moved that the Board approve the request for the approval to build a manufactured home on a private road, Map 233 Lot 025 located at 28 Brown Road with the stipulations that were put forth by the Planning Board with final approval by the building inspector and fire chief*** (the road maintenance agreement, the liability for the Town. Mr. Kibbey informed them the document was called the "Acknowledgement of Limits of Municipal Responsibilities" which will be filed with the deed.). Selectman Tellor seconded the motion. ***The motion passed 4-0-0.***

Approval of Public Works Collective Bargaining Agreement - Chairman Kessler stated the voters had agreed on the Public Works Collective Bargaining Agreement at Town Meeting 2021. Town Manager Rieseberg gave a synopsis of the Agreement. Selectman Connell ***moved to approve the Town of Newport and 1348-Public Works Collective Bargaining Agreement effective July 1, 2021 through June 30, 2024.*** It was seconded by Selectman Sayer. In discussion, Town Manager Rieseberg informed the BOS that in the 2021-2024 agreement the Public Works Director had been given the authority to declare a state of emergency during unforeseen, special, seasonal or emergency situations. This would potentially affect the number of hours and week days required/requested of union employees to work (Article 7 on Page 7). ***The motion passed 4-0-0.***

APPOINTMENTS: Zoning Board of Adjustment: Bert Spaulding, Sr. Full Member, 3-year term to Expire June 2024 - On a motion by Selectman Connell, seconded by Selectman Tellor; ***the Board appointed Mr. Bert Spaulding, Sr. as a full member to the Zoning Board with a term to expire June 30, 2024.*** Chairman Kessler called for a vote. ***The motion passed 4-0-0.***

Mr. Spaulding, Sr. addressed the BOS and stated that he would be willing to be appointed as an alternate to the Planning Board to help ensure there was always a quorum for applicants. He stated the Board of Selectmen had appointed two new members. He was quite impressed with them; therefore, he would only be interested in an Alternate position.

Annual Appoints to Boards & Committees - The Selectboard appointed the following individuals to Town Boards, Commission and Committees: On a motion by Selectman Tellor, seconded by Selectman Connell; ***the Board reappointed Mr. Russell Kelsea and Mrs. Jacqueline Cote as full members to the Airport Advisory Board for three years with a term to expire June 30, 2024.*** Chairman Kessler called for a vote. ***The motion passed 4-0-0.***

On a motion by Selectman Tellor, seconded by Selectman Connell; ***the Board reappointed Mrs. Linda Dennis as a full member to the Conservation Commission for three years with a term to expire June 30, 2024.*** Chairman Kessler called for a vote. ***The motion passed 4-0-0.***

On a motion by Selectman Tellor, seconded by Selectman Connell; ***the Board reappointed Mrs. Virginia Irwin as a full member to the Heritage Commission for three years with a term to expire June 30, 2024.*** Chairman Kessler called for a vote. ***The motion passed 4-0-0.***

On a motion by Selectman Tellor, seconded by Selectman Connell; ***the Board reappointed Mrs. Virginia Irwin as a full member to the Monuments & Memorials Committee for three years with a term to expire June 30, 2024.*** Chairman Kessler called for a vote. ***The motion passed 4-0-0.***

On a motion by Selectman Tellor, seconded by Selectman Connell; ***the Board reappointed Mr. Larry Flint as a full member to the Rec Advisory Council for three years with a term to expire June 30, 2024.*** Chairman Kessler called for a vote. ***The motion passed 4-0-0.***

Resignations to Boards & Committees: The Selectboard accepted the following resignations: Conservation Commission: Mr. Clifford Richer; Planning Board: Mr. David Burnham; Recreation Advisory Council: Ms. Jessica Rothbart. Letters of thanks for their service to Newport will be mailed to each of them.

After a brief discussion, on a motion by Selectman Connell, seconded by Selectman Tellor; ***the Board appointed Mr. Bert Spaulding, Sr. as an alternate member to the Planning Board with a term to expire June 30, 2024.*** Chairman Kessler called for a roll call vote. ***The motion passed 4-0-0.***

There being no further business in the public meeting, on a motion by Selectman Tellor, seconded by Selectman Connell; ***the Board voted unanimously by roll call vote to enter into nonpublic session pursuant to RSA 91-A:3II(c)Reputation and RSA 91-A:3II(d)Real Estate at 7:58 pm.*** ***The motion passed 4-0-0.***

Present were Selectboard members Jeffrey Kessler, Keith Sayer, Herbert Tellor, Jr.; and Barry Connell. Town Manager Hunter Rieseberg was also in attendance in the BOS Room.

On a motion by Selectman Tellor, seconded by Selectman Connell, ***the Selectboard exited nonpublic session at 8:38 p.m.***

No votes or decisions.

On a motion by Selectman Connell, seconded by Selectman Tellor; ***the Board voted unanimously to adjourn at 8:38 p.m.***

Respectfully submitted,



Maura Stetson, Scribe

The next regular meeting of the Board of Selectmen is scheduled for July 5, 2021 at 6:30 p.m.

Approved on: July 19, 2021