

TOWN OF NEWPORT, NH
Minutes of the Planning Board Meeting
January 8, 2019 – 6:00 P.M.
Board of Selectmen’s Room
15 Sunapee Street
Regular Meeting and Public Hearing

MEMBERS PRESENT: David Burnham, Chairman; Ken Merrow, Vice Chairman; Bert Spaulding, Sr.; Ray Kibbey

MEMBERS ABSENT: Barry Connell; John Hooper, BOS Ex Officio

VIDEOGRAPHER: Louis Cassorla, NCTV

STAFF PRESENT: Steve Schneider, Planning Administrator

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

NEW BUSINESS: Town of Newport – Hunter Rieseberg:

Town of Newport – Hunter Rieseberg: The Town of Newport will potentially acquire property owned by the Newport Youth Activities under RSA 31:3. The property is located at the corner of Meadow and Ash and is identified as Map 114 Lot 159.

Mr. Rieseberg explained the Town has maintained and used the property for baseball purposes since the 1940’s. The Town is considering developing a community center that would reside on this property, after ownership is acquired. The legal representatives of the Newport Youth Activities have since past and/or moved away. Newport Youth Activities Association is currently listed as a tax-exempt property. Mr. Rieseberg explained, over the years, fellow citizens administered the necessary paperwork to continue the tax exemption status quo. The Town’s Attorneys are in the process of clearing the title, initiating a litigation process on grounds of Eminent Domain, posting the property in local newspapers, and will assist in the filing of a ten-thousand-dollar bond required in the litigation process. The bond will not be returned upon closure of litigation.

On motion by Bert Spaulding, Sr., and seconded by Ken Merrow: the Board unanimously voted the Town of Newport move forward with establishing ownership and removing the cloud of title from the property located at the Corner of Meadow and Ash and is identified as Map 114 Lot 159, and with the continuation of the seventy (70) plus years of ongoing recreational use of the property for public usage by Eminent Domain litigation.

CONTINUED BUSINESS: Commercial Growth and CIP

General discussion continued regarding Commercial Growth. The Board revisited Town maps and outlined potential proposed zoning regulation changes. The Board discussed Facebook community input,

appropriateness of current regulations, rezoning what is existing, researching destination-based influences, and seeking outside professional guidance. The Board requested Mr. Schneider provide the Board a Town map to include wetland locations and conservation locations.

MINUTES: December 11, 2018

Mr. Chairman introduced minutes dated December 11, 2018.

On a motion by Chairman Burnham, and seconded by Bert Spaulding, Sr.; *the Board unanimously voted and approved the December 11, 2018 minutes with the following edit: under New Business, third paragraph, replace the word “represented” with presented.*

ADMINISTRATION: CIP

CIP discussion continued. As a member of the CIP, Mr. Spaulding requested a detail description of the CIP role. Mr. Schneider explained the Board has authority to make definite description of the CIP duties. Mr. Chairman explained CIP should review *facility assessments* and not equipment needs. One example provided: Road repairs. CIP should prioritize projects based on the public’s safety as a beacon of concern.

Mr. Schneider explains surrounding Towns have defined the CIP role and responsibilities and the Board should considering doing the same. For some towns, any request under thirty (30) thousand dollars is automatically covered in the Town’s budget and over thirty (30) thousand dollars gets referred to the CIP for review. He continued to explain, regardless of CIP management, the Town Meeting can disassemble the current CIP by creating a separate CIP.

COMMUNICATION: None

On a motion by Ray Kibbey, seconded by Ken Merrow; *the Board voted to adjourn at 8:13 p.m. The motion passed with complete consensus.*

Respectfully submitted,

Kymerly Kenney

Scribe

Approved on: