



**Office of the Board of Selectmen
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NEWTON BOARD OF SELECTMEN

DATE: Tuesday, March 5, 2024

TIME: 6:00PM

**LOCATION: NEWTON TOWN HALL, 2 TOWN HALL ROAD and
ZOOM CONFERENCE CALL**

PUBLIC MEETING MINUTES

Zoom Conference phone number 929-205-6099

Meeting ID 818 7979 5674

<https://us02web.zoom.us/j/81879795674>

1. Call to Order

Chairman Marchand called the meeting to order at 6:01pm. Selectmen in attendance were Chairman Robert Marchand Jr., Vice-Chairman Michael Connolly, and Joseph Simone. Also in attendance were Interim Town Administrator (ITA) James O'Mara Selectmen's Executive Assistant (EA) Robyn Sparks. The public meeting minutes were transcribed and typed by EA Sparks. Selectman Daniel Guide was excused from this meeting.

2. Pledge of Allegiance

Chairman Marchand announced that the Town Reports are now available at town hall and town election. Also, a voter's guide is listed on the town website and is being mailed to residents.

3. Citizen's Input

No discussion.

4. Administration

4.1 Emergency Management Recognition

Emergency Management Director (EMD) Trisha McCarthy wanted to recognize the brave acts of a few of Newton's first responders. Sargent Arron Mounsey of Newton Police was chosen as a champion for children by the Child Advocacy Center of Rockingham County. He is being acknowledged for his dedicated work to help protect children.

EMD McCarthy acknowledged the daily heroic acts of Newton's Fire and Police Department. She then acknowledged the brave participation of Newton's Firefighters during a house fire in nearby Kingston, NH. She then stated that Lieutenant Justin Kane performed a lifesaving action on the resident, while other members saved animals while helping put the fire out.

The Selectboard recognized the brave actions the first responders of Newton and in all locations.

5. Approvals

5.1 Release of Bond 26 and 28 Thornell RD

Please check subsequent minutes for approval of and/or amendments to these minutes

Selectman Simone moved to authorize the Treasurer to instruct Lowell Five Cent Saving's Bank to release the Landscaping Performance Guarantee Bond held against Robert R. Scally, LLC, 26 Thornell Rd. Seconded by Selectman Burrill with a 4-0 vote.

5.2 Appointments-Recreation

A.1

Selectman Burrill moved to reappoint Sue Mears as a member of the Recreation Commission with a term to expire on April 30th, 2027. Seconded by Selectman Simone with a 4-0 vote.

A.2

Selectman Burrill moved to appoint Amanda Aiello as a member of the Recreation Commission with a term to expire on March 31, 2026. Seconded by Selectman Simone with a 4-0 vote.

5.3 Re-appointment-Cable Committee

A. Marilyn Landry

Selectman Simone moved to reappoint Marilyn Landry as a member of the Cable Committee with a term to expire on April 30th, 2027. Seconded by Selectman Burrill with a 4-0 vote.

5.4 Veteran Tax Credit X2

Selectman Simone moved to approve the application Elderly Exemption Tax credit for Tax Map 7-2-1-10 beginning tax year 2024. Seconded by Selectman Connolly with a 4-0 vote. Seconded by Selectman Connolly with a 4-0 vote.

Selectman Simone moved to approve the application for Veteran's Tax Credit for tax map 16-5-9 beginning tax year 2024. Seconded by Selectman Connolly with a 4-0 vote.

5.5 Electrical Estimate: 8 Merrimac RD

Chairman Marchand stated that the Police and Fire Station were having power surges, which makes the equipment vulnerable. Then stated the solution would entail electrical work to be performed at the Fire Station and Police Station, installing surge protectors, per electrical national code. Engineering & Renovation 8 Merrimac RD Capital Reserve Account Number 423583, Withdrawals: Current Balance is approximately \$58,870.00.

Selectman Simone moved to award the electrical work to Kingston Electric in the amount of \$1,682.50. Funding to come from the Engineering and Renovation, 8 Merrimac, Account # 423583. Seconded by Selectman Connolly with a 4-0 vote.

5.6 Manifests

Selectman Simone moved to approve payroll manifest in the amount of \$52,547.35 for pay period -February 11- 24, 2024, with a pay date of February 29 ,2024. Payroll includes \$0.00 in ARPA costs. Seconded by Selectman Burrill with a 4-0 with vote.

Selectman Simone moved to approve Vendor Manifest in the amount of \$1,172,365.68 with a pay date of February 27, 2024. Payment includes \$1,030,695.00 to the Sanborn Regional School and \$33,682.33 to Municipal Resources, Inc. Seconded by Selectman Connolly with a 4-0 vote.

Selectman Burrill stated that the Voter's Guide has a chart which shows in which way the taxes are divided among the school and town.

Selectman Simone moved to approve a withdrawal in the amount of \$3,875.49 from the Cable Revolving Fund, to pay an invoice to Hewlett Packard Financial Services. Seconded by Selectman Connolly with a 4-0 with vote.

Selectman Simone moved to approve Vendor Manifest in the amount of \$1,482.00 with a pay date of March 5, 2024. Payment is to Rick Gonyer for snowplow services. Seconded by Selectman Connolly with a 4-0 with vote.

5.7 Minutes

Selectman Simone moved to approve and accept the public meeting minutes for the Public Hearing dated January 15, 2024, as written. Seconded by Selectman Connolly with a 4-0 vote.

Selectman Simone moved to approve and accept the public meeting minutes dated February 6, 2024, as written. Seconded by Selectman Connolly with a 4-0 with a vote.

Selectman Simone moved to approve and accept the non-public meeting minutes dated February 6, 2024, as written. Seconded by Selectman Connolly with a 4-0 with a vote.

6. Action Items New/Old Business

ITA O'Mara stated that the Town Engineer recently went to Greenie Park and walked the parking lot. He then flagged the area for wetlands and additional parking. ITA O'Mara stated Road Agent Mike Pivero, spoke with a logging company that could use the lumber.

This project has several components which will require time. However, ITA O'Mara wanted to remind everyone it's in the works.

EMD McCarthy stated she is working with the Road Agent and FEMA to get reimbursed for areas affected by storms. One area being the back area of the baseball field which now has a divot as a result of the July storm. The reimbursed funds would repair the lawn with seed and bring it to level ground.

ITA O'Mara announced that the Facilities Maintenance Tech has worked with Aladdin Home Improvement to replace the roof on the concession stand and repair the dugout roofs.

Chairman Marchand encouraged residents to vote next Tuesday at the polls.

ITA O'Mara stated that the Police Department will be signing over a car to the Emergency Management Department.

Selectman Simone moved to authorize the Police Chief to set the paperwork in motion to transfer the retired vehicle the (EMD) Emergency Management Department. Seconded by Selectman Connolly with a 4-0 vote.

Chairman Marchand stated he wants to make sure the vehicle is inspected and safe for the department.

EMD McCarthy stated the town report does not include the Stewardship report, it was left out in error. This includes information on Hidden Acres Conservation, in which the owner is looking for volunteers to help maintain the property, due to the recent loss of her husband. She would like to help maintain the community garden and easement. Please email conservation conservation@newtonnh.net

Selectman Burrill stated that after 10 years of service, this is his last meeting. Further stating he values the town and being a resident. The Selectboard has seen many changes within 10 years, and he is happy to be a part of that. He then encouraged residents to make an educated vote next week. Selectman Burrill then thanked the Selectboard for their hard work and support.

Chairman Marchand adjourned the meeting at 6:35pm

Respectfully submitted,

Robyn Sparks

Robyn Sparks
Executive Administrative Assistant