



**Office of the Board of Selectmen  
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**NEWTON BOARD OF SELECTMEN  
DATE: TUESDAY, FEBRUARY 18, 2020  
TIME: 6:00PM**

**LOCATION: NEWTON TOWN HALL, 2 TOWN HALL ROAD**

**PUBLIC MEETING MINUTES**

**I. Call to Order**

Vice-Chairman Doggett called the meeting to order at 6:00pm. In attendance were Selectmen James L. Doggett: Vice-Chairman, Lawrence B. Foote, Matthew A. Burrill, Kathryn Michaels, Town Administrator Nancy J. Wrigley and Selectmen's Secretary Diane M. Morin. The non-public session was audio taped. The public meeting was audio and video taped; the public meeting minutes and a portion of the non-public session minutes were transcribed and typed by Secretary Morin. A portion of the non-public session minutes were transcribed and typed by Town Administrator Wrigley.

**Nonpublic Session under RSA 91-A:3 II (a) – (c)**

**Selectman Foote moved to go into non-public session at 6:00pm under RSA 91-A: 3 II (c) -- Reputation. Seconded by Selectman Michaels with a unanimous roll call vote: Doggett – aye, Foote – aye, Burrill – aye, Michaels – aye.**

**Vice-Chairman Doggett moved to close the non-public session at 6:15pm. Seconded by Selectman Burrill with a unanimous roll call vote: Doggett – aye, Foote – aye, Burrill – aye, Michaels – aye.**

**Selectman Burrill moved to go into non-public session at 6:15pm under RSA 91-A: 3 II (b) – Hiring Public Employee. Seconded by Selectman Foote with a unanimous roll call vote: Doggett – aye, Foote – aye, Burrill – aye, Michaels – aye.**

**Selectman Foote moved to close the non-public session at 6:21pm. Seconded by Selectman Burrill with a unanimous roll call vote: Doggett – aye, Foote – aye, Burrill – aye, Michaels – aye.**

**Selectman Burrill moved to go into non-public session at 6:21pm under RSA 91-A:3 II (a) – Compensation. Seconded by Selectman Foote with a unanimous roll call vote: Doggett – aye, Foote – aye, Burrill – aye, Michaels – aye.**

Chairman Lisa L. Gonyer joined the meeting at 6:22pm.

**Selectman Foote moved to close the non-public session at 6:57 pm. Seconded by Selectman Burrill with a unanimous roll call vote: Gonyer – aye, Doggett – aye, Foote – aye, Burrill – aye, Michaels – aye.**

**Selectman Foote moved to go into non-public session at 6:57pm under RSA 91-A:3 II (c) – Reputation. Seconded by Selectman Michaels with a unanimous roll call vote: Gonyer – aye, Doggett – aye, Foote – aye, Burrill – aye, Michaels – aye.**

**Selectman Foote moved to close the non-public session at 7:12pm. Seconded by Selectman Burrill with a unanimous roll call vote: Gonyer – aye, Doggett – aye, Foote – aye, Burrill – aye, Michaels – aye.**

**Selectman Foote moved to go into non-public session at 7:12pm under RSA 91-A: 3 II (b) – Hiring Public Employee. Seconded by Selectman Michaels with a unanimous roll call vote: Gonyer – aye, Doggett – aye, Foote – aye, Burrill – aye, Michaels – aye.**

**Selectman Doggett moved to close the non-public session at 7:20pm. Seconded by Selectman Foote with a unanimous roll call vote: Gonyer – aye, Doggett – aye, Foote – aye, Burrill – aye, Michaels – aye.**

**II. Scheduled Business**

**A. Girl Scouts – Turtle crossing signs**

Members of Troop 12959 addressed the Board to ask if they could place turtle crossing signs on Smith Corner Road after Kenwood Drive. Their goal is to warn drivers that turtles frequently cross the road moving from one wetlands area to another.

The Board asked Road Agent Pivero if the Highway Department had any concerns with the signage. Road Agent Pivero stated no and that the Highway Department would install the signs for the Girl Scouts.

**Selectman Doggett moved to authorize the placement of signs warning drivers of turtle crossing on Smith Corner Road near Kenwood Drive. Seconded by Selectman Burrill with a unanimous vote.**

**Selectman Doggett moved that the Board just came out of a non-public session under RSA 91-A: 3 II (a) - (c) and that they keep all matters discussed confidential until in the opinion of the majority of the Board the circumstances no longer apply. Seconded by Selectman Burrill with a unanimous vote.**

**B. Fire/Rescue Station**

**a. Sprinkler System update**

Construction Manager Pivero informed the Board that the designs and cost analysis should be ready the week of February 24, 2020 for the Board to review. The Board will review the plans at their next meeting, March 3, 2020.

**C. Review quotes for floor maintenance at Police Station and Fire Station –  
TABLED**

**D. Chief Jewett:**

**a. E-Ticket/E-Crash Safety Grant agreement**

Chief Jewett addressed the Board. He explained that the grant for \$4,000.00 would allow the Police Department to equip cruisers with the ability to electronically write tickets and crash reports from the vehicles. The grant is for equipment and does not require a match from the Town.

**Selectman Doggett moved to authorize Chairman Gonyer to sign the grant for E-Ticket and E-Crash equipment in the amount of \$4,000.00. Seconded by Selectman Foote with a unanimous vote.**

**b. BLOCK5 completion letter**

Secretary Morin asked the Board to authorize Chairman Gonyer to sign the completion document for the work completed by BLOCK5 for the Police Department software upgrade.

**Selectman Doggett moved to authorize Chairman Gonyer to sign the document stating that BLOCK5 has completed the software upgrade for the Police Department. Seconded by Selectman Michaels with a unanimous vote.**

**c. Exterior doors for Police Station and rental unit**

Chief Jewett informed the Board that the exterior doors on the Town building that houses the Police Station and rental unit are in need of replacement. He provided 2 quotes to replace the doors. The Board reviewed the quotes and asked Chief Jewett to speak with the local vendor to see if he could match the lower quote.

**Selectman Burrill moved to authorize replacement doors, per quoted, in the amount not to exceed \$6,811.00. Funds to come from the Capital Reserve Fund, Engineering and Renovation – 8 Merrimac Road. Seconded by Selectman Foote with a unanimous vote.**

**d. Safety Complex signage**

Chief Jewett is recommending that signage be placed at the Safety Complex directing people to the Police and Fire Station, where to park and speed limit in the parking lot. He is recommending a stop sign be placed at the end of the driveway as well. Road Agent Pivero agreed with Chief Jewett that signage is needed. He stated that it would be temporary until the site work is completed.

Both Chief Jewett and Road Agent Pivero will work together on getting the correct signage.

**Selectman Doggett moved to authorize the purchase of signage at the Safety Complex, not to exceed \$800.00. The funds to come from the Capital Reserve**

**Fund Engineering and Renovation – 8 Merrimac Road. Seconded by Selectman Burrill with a unanimous vote.**

Road Agent Pivero asked if there needs to be a public hearing for the speed limit in the parking lot in order to enforce the limit. The Board asked the Town Administrator and the Secretary to research the RSA on speed limits for parking lots.

**E. Chief Alcaldinho – Removal of Facebook posting**

Chief Alcaldinho addressed the Board and would like confirmation that the Board does not get involved in any Facebook groups. The Board confirmed that the Town does not have an official Facebook page and is not used for Town purposes. However, some Selectmen will post on certain Facebook pages public information as a public service.

Chief Alcaldinho stated that previously a post on Facebook was defamatory towards his family concerning the purchase of a radio, that was owned by his late father-in-law. He asked the Board to help set the record straight that it was the Board that chose to purchase the radio and not him. The Board, at that time, stated that they do not have any authority over social media, such as Facebook. Chief Alcaldinho stated that he was told that a Selectman requested a post be removed from a Facebook group that was derogatory towards a Selectman. Each member of the Board stated they did not ask for a posting to be removed as a Selectman.

**F. Continuation – Town Hall security and fire alarm systems upgrades**

Secretary Morin explained that the current fire alarm contract is for 5 years and is not the same company as the quote the Town received to upgrade the security system at the Town Hall.

She went on to explain that the security system does not monitor for fire. There is a fire button on the security panel that could be pressed should there be a fire.

Chief Alcaldinho addressed the Board and expressed concerns that the Town has a 5-year contract whereas he was told that any contract could not be extended more than 1 year. Chairman Gonyer stated that the contract has an escape clause should the proposed budget not pass. The Chief was under the impression that the Town could not enter a multi-year contract and now he is being told that that the Board signed a 5-year contract. Selectman Burrill stated that the escape clause would allow the Town to end the contract.

Secretary Morin stated that the cellular radio was installed last Friday. The fire panel needs to have its own dedicated electrical circuit. An electrician has been hired and will install a new circuit for the fire panel.

The Board discussed with Chief Alcaldinho which vendor he would recommend handling both security and fire alarm systems. Chief Alcaldinho stated that the current vendor that does the Fire and Police Stations would be his recommendation.

Selectman Burrill will meet with the current fire alarm monitoring company that is monitoring the Town Hall to discuss the contract.

**G. Tax Collector – Yearly contract for property searches**

**Selectman Doggett moved to authorize Chairman Gonyer to sign the contract with Sanders Searches per request from the Town Tax Collector. Seconded by Selectman Foote with a unanimous vote.**

**H. Liquor license request – CDM Duke's Country Store**

Chairman Gonyer explained the request is from the new owner asking the Town to submit a letter to the State Liquor Commission that the Town has no objections to selling liquor at CDM Duke's Country Store. The store has been selling liquor for decades.

**Selectman Doggett moved to sign the letter to the State Liquor Commission indicating the Town does not have any objections to CDM Duke's Country Store selling liquor. Seconded by Selectman Foote with a unanimous vote.**

**I. Review 2020 Voter's Guide**

The Board reviewed the 2020 Voter's Guide and found no issues. The guide will be posted on the Town's web site. Hard copies will be available at the Town Hall.

**J. HP Lease acceptance**

Secretary Morin stated that the Town has received the PC's replacements.

**Selectman Foote moved to authorize Chairman Gonyer to sign the letter of delivery and acceptance from HP Financial Services. Seconded by Selectman Doggett with a unanimous vote.**

**III. Other Business**

**A. Manifest**

**Selectman Foote moved to sign vendor manifest dated February 18, 2020 in the amount of \$853,099.02 of which \$777,877.00 goes towards the March Sanborn Regional School District payment. Seconded by Selectman Doggett with a unanimous vote.**

**Selectman Foote moved to sign payroll manifest for pay period February 2-15, 2020 with a pay date of February 20, 2020. Seconded by Selectman Doggett with a unanimous vote.**

**B. Veterans Credit**

**Selectman Michaels moved to sign Veterans Tax Credit for tax map 13-3-11-13 for tax year 2021. Seconded by Selectman Foote with a unanimous vote.**

**Selectman Michaels moved to sign Veterans Tax Credit for tax map 12-2-10 for tax year 2020. Seconded by Selectman Foote with a unanimous vote.**

IV. Announcements

Chairman Gonyer announced that on February 19, 2020 beginning at 7:00pm the Cable Committee will hold a Candidate's Night in the Town Hall.

V. Approval of Minutes

**Selectman Doggett moved to accept the non-public and public meeting minutes dated February 4, 2020 as written. Seconded by Selectman Michaels with a unanimous vote.**

VI. Adjourn

**Chairman Gonyer adjourned the meeting at 8:27pm.**

Respectfully submitted,

Diane M. Morin  
Board of Selectmen Secretary