



**Office of the Board of Selectmen**  
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NEWTON BOARD OF SELECTMEN  
**DATE: MONDAY, APRIL 13, 2020**  
**TIME: 5:30PM**  
CONFERENCE CALL

**PUBLIC MEETING MINUTES**

**I. Call to Order**

This meeting was held to bring the Selectmen and public up to date on the COVID-19 virus and to address nonpublic issues. The nonpublic and public meeting was held via conference call. On the phone was Chairman Matthew A. Burrill, Selectmen Lisa L. Gonyer, Kathryn Michaels, Lawrence B. Foote, Charles R. Melvin Sr., Town Administrator Nancy Wrigley, and Secretary Diane Morin. The nonpublic and public session was audio taped. The nonpublic session minutes were transcribed and typed by Town Administrator Wrigley. The public meeting minutes were transcribed and typed by Secretary Morin.

Other conference call attendees were Tina O'Rourke, Chief Alcacidinho, Trisha McCarthy, Terry Caswell, Pete Gagnon, Chief Jewett, Jack Kozec, and members of the public.

Chairman Burrill called the meeting to order at 5:38pm.

**Selectman Gonyer moved to go into non-public session at 5:38pm under RSA 91-A: 3 II (c) – Reputation. Seconded by Selectman Burrill. Burrill –aye, Gonyer – aye, Foote – aye, Michaels – aye, Melvin – aye**

**Selectman Gonyer moved to close the non-public session at 6:01pm. Seconded by Selectman Melvin. Burrill – aye, Gonyer – aye, Michaels – aye, Foote – aye, Melvin – aye**

Chairman Burrill started the public meeting at 6:02pm.

**Chairman Burrill moved that the Board just came out of a non-public session under RSA 91-A: 3 II (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 Melvin. Burrill – aye, Gonyer – aye, Michaels – aye, Foote – aye, Melvin – aye**

**II. Scheduled Business**

**A. Update – COVID-19 virus**

Chairman Burrill explained the reason for the meeting was to bring the Board and public up to date on guidelines to combat the spread of the COVID-19 virus.

Mrs. McCarthy briefed the Board with new updates from the State conference call held on Saturday, April 11, 2020.

The Attorney General's Office provided guidelines for upcoming elections.

Parking restrictions are now in place along Route 1A from the Massachusetts border to Portsmouth.

The State is waiting on a shipment of PPE's that should be arriving on Sunday.

Security has been enhanced around Food Banks and Food Pantries.

The State reminded everyone to use the proper disinfecting cleaners for surfaces.

A new video by the State will be released to law enforcement explaining how to arrest suspects while wearing PPE's.

Mrs. McCarthy briefed the Board with new updates from the State conference calls held on Sunday, April 12, 2020.

The State is working on alternative care sites due to concerns about flooding. They are also working to support local vendors and manufacturers with purchasing needed medical supplies such as swabs and gowns.

A plane filled with PPE's arrived and the State will begin distribution in the upcoming week to areas of greatest concern. The State purchased the supplies and will not be charging for them.

Mrs. McCarthy briefed the Board with new updates from the State conference calls held on Monday, April 13, 2020.

Mrs. McCarthy reviewed the statistics associated with COVID-19. The death rate remained the same at 23.

Governor Sununu thanked all the First Responders for their hard work. The Governor stated that we may have hit a plateau but to not let our guard down. To keep practicing social distancing and other methods to slow the rate of spreading the virus. He stated that the State may reopen within the next couple of months. Reopening schools is being looked at. All the hospitals in the State have PPE supplies. The State will be re-ordering PPE as needed. Federal funding should be coming to the State soon.

The Fire Marshall stated that guidelines on unprotected risks for First Responders has been released.

Currently FEMA is covering 75% of purchases and hoping to get 100%, but payroll has not been mentioned yet. Quarantine for Homeless will covered 100%. Seabrook drill in May has been postponed.

Guidelines for campgrounds is still forth coming from the State.

A lot of out of State plates are being seen at short term rentals. There is concern that these travelers are bringing COVID-19 into local communities. The State will investigate this matter.

The State will be reaching out to the Grocers Association to ensure all groceries stores are practicing proper social distancing.

Mr. Jack Kozec asked if the Transfer Station could get proper sanitizing products. Transfer Station Manager Gagnon stated that there is hand sanitizer available at the Transfer Station. Selectman Foote will check on surface sanitizer for the Transfer Station.

Chairman Burrill addressed the meeting explaining that at the Board's meeting on April 7, 2020 the Board voted to enter into a lease agreement with Pierce Manufacturing for a new fire truck. Since then a different manufacturer, E-One, has provided an updated quote which is less money.

**Selectman Gonyer moved to rescind the motion made at the Board of Selectmen's April 7, 2020 meeting to purchase a fire truck from Pierce Manufacturing. Seconded by Selectman Melvin. Burrill – aye, Gonyer – aye, Michaels – aye, Foote – aye, Melvin – aye**

**Selectman Gonyer moved to authorize Chief Alcaidinho to purchase the best suited vehicle that meets the departments needs not to exceed the warrant amount of \$649,000.00 and the terms with it. Seconded by Selectman Michaels for discussion.**

Selectman Gonyer stated that her motion allows the Chief to purchase the best vehicle for no more than \$649,000.00 that is suitable for the Town. The Chief would not have to come before the Board once again with another offer.

Town Administrator Wrigley stated that a name is needed to be associated with a manufacturer. Chairman Burrill agreed that a manufacturer should be in the motion. Chief Alcaidinho stated that the lease agreements which the Board has, names the manufacturer and dealer. He does not foresee getting more quotes as this is the best possible price.

**Selectman Gonyer rescinded her motion.**

**Selectman Foote moved to authorize Chairman Burrill to sign the lease agreement with Greenwood Emergency Vehicles, LLC for a new E-One custom pumper at cost of \$629,000.00. Seconded by Selectman Melvin. Burrill – aye, Gonyer – aye, Michaels – aye, Foote – aye, Melvin – aye**

Mr. Kozec addressed the Board and informed them that the Board of Appeals is looking to hold a public meeting in May 2020.

**Selectman Foote moved to accept the nonpublic and public meeting minutes dated April 7, 2020 as written. Seconded by Selectman Melvin. Burrill – aye, Gonyer – aye, Michaels – aye, Melvin – aye, Foote – aye**

**Selectman Foote moved to accept the public meeting minutes dated April 8, 2020 as written. Seconded by Selectman Melvin. Burrill – aye, Gonyer – aye, Michaels – aye, Foote – aye, Melvin – aye**

Chief Alcadinho thanked the Board on behalf of the Fire Department members for the gift cards.

III. Adjourn

**Selectman Melvin moved to adjourn at 6:35pm. Seconded by Selectman Gonyer. Burrill – aye, Gonyer – aye, Michaels – aye, Foote – aye, Melvin – aye**

Respectfully submitted,

Diane M. Morin  
Board of Selectmen Secretary