



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

**DATE: TUESDAY, JULY 21, 2020**

**TIME: 6:00PM**

**ZOOM CONFERENCE CALL**

**PUBLIC MEETING MINUTES**

**I. Call to Order**

Chairman Burrill called the meeting to order at 6:00pm. In attendance were Selectmen, Matthew A. Burrill; Chairman, Lawrence B. Foote; Vice-Chairman, Lisa L. Gonyer, Kathryn Michaels, Charles R. Melvin Sr., Town Administrator Nancy J. Wrigley, and Selectmen's Secretary Diane M. Morin. The non-public session was audio taped. The public meeting was videotaped; 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.

Utilizing Zoom Video Conferencing was Chairman Matthew A. Burrill, Selectman Lisa L. Gonyer, Kathryn Michaels, Town Administrator Nancy Wrigley, and Secretary Diane Morin. Utilizing Zoom Audio Conferencing was Selectman Lawrence B. Foote and Charles R. Melvin. The public session was videotaped. The public meeting minutes were transcribed and typed by Secretary Morin.

**Nonpublic Session under RSA 91-A:3 II (a) – Compensation, (c) – Reputation, (d) – Consideration of sale of Town property**

**Chairman Burrill moved to go into non-public session at 6:00pm under RSA 91-A: 3 II (d) – Consideration of sale of Town property. Seconded by Selectman Melvin. Burrill – aye, Foote – aye, Melvin – aye.**

**Selectman Melvin moved to close the non-public session at 6:12pm. Seconded by Selectman Foote. Burrill – aye, Foote – aye, Michaels – aye, Melvin – aye.**

**Chairman Burrill moved to go into non-public session at 6:12pm under RSA 91-A: 3 II (c) – Reputation. Seconded by Selectman Foote. Burrill – aye, Foote – aye, Michaels – aye, Melvin – aye.**

Selectman Gonyer joined the nonpublic session at 6:40pm.  
Chief Jewett joined the nonpublic session at 6:51pm.

**Chairman Burrill moved to close the non-public session at 6:58pm. Seconded by Selectman Michaels. Burrill – aye, Foote – aye, Gonyer – aye, Michaels – aye, Melvin – aye.**

**Chairman Burrill moved to go into non-public session at 6:58pm under RSA 91-A: 3 II (a) – Compensation. Seconded by Selectman Gonyer. Burrill – aye, Foote – aye, Gonyer – aye, Michaels – aye, Melvin – aye.**

**Selectman Gonyer moved to close the non-public session at 7:11pm. Seconded by Selectman Melvin. Burrill – aye, Foote – aye, Gonyer – aye, Michaels – aye, Melvin – aye.**

Chairman Burrill called the public portion of the meeting back to order at 7:12pm.

As Chairman of the Board of Selectmen for the Town of Newton NH, I find that due to the State of Emergency declared by the Governor as a result of the COVID-19 pandemic and in accordance with the Governor's Emergency Order #12 pursuant to Executive Order 2020-04, this public body is authorized to meet electronically.

Please note that there is no physical location to observe or listen contemporaneously to this meeting which was authorized pursuant to the Governor's Emergency Order. However, in accordance with the Emergency Order, I am confirming that we are:

Utilizing Zoom Conference Call for this electronic meeting. All members of the Board have the ability to communicate during this meeting through this platform, and the public has access to contemporaneously listen and, if necessary, participate in this meeting through dialing the following phone #646 876 9923.

Meeting ID number is 9040457732. Or using the link provided here:

<https://us02web.zoom.us/j/9040457732>

We previously gave the notice to the public of the necessary information for accessing the meeting, including how to access the conference call via phone.

If anyone has a problem, please email [BOSSecretary@newtonnh.net](mailto:BOSSecretary@newtonnh.net). In the event the public is unable to access the meeting, the meeting will be adjourned and rescheduled.

Please note that all votes that are taken during this meeting shall be done by roll call vote.

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

## II. Scheduled Business

### A. Update on Newton's census numbers – Rick Perrin

Mr. Rick Perrin, a representative from the US Census Bureau addressed the Board. He informed them that the 2020 Census is still progressing. He stated that 69.1% of the Town residents have responded to the census which is above the average statewide. The more residents that respond to the census the more Federal money could be allocated to the Town.

### B. Intent to cut – Tax map 12-2-22-4 and 12-2-22-5

Mr. Robert Scally addressed the Board and explained he was unaware of the requirement to file an Intent to Cut prior to clearing the land on Thornell Road. He has filed the proper paperwork with Town Administrator Wrigley.

**Selectman Gonyer moved to sign the Intent to Cut for tax map 12-2-22-4 and 12-2-22-5. Seconded by Selectman Melvin. Burrill – aye, Gonyer – aye, Michaels – aye, Foote – aye, Melvin – aye.**

### C. Residents request for firework ordinance

Ms. Kim Vaillant addressed the Board. She stated that she submitted a letter to the Board asking them to consider implementing a fireworks ordinance for the Town. She provided the Board with ordinances from surrounding towns for the Board to reference. She stated that the increase in the number of fireworks could be due to the population growth in town. She stated that she has received communications from other residents concerned with the loudness and late-night fireworks going off. Some of the residents that reached out to her stated that they were met with confrontation and total disregard for their concerns by person/s setting off the fireworks.

She stated that the Board could put in place an ordinance such as the one Plaistow has or that she could place a petitioned warrant article for the next Town meeting in March. She is looking to see if the Board will put forth a firework ordinance or if she should proceed with a petitioned warrant article. The Board discussed the option of implementing a firework ordinance.

Selectman Gonyer stated that only 2 residents have requested the Town implement a firework ordinance and she would like other residents to have the opportunity to voice their opinions by voting for or against the warrant article. Ms. Vaillant agrees that a petition warrant article is the way to proceed.

Selectman Foote would like to have a public hearing should the Board decide to propose the ordinance.

The Board is in favor of not taking any steps as a Board. Ms. Vaillant will proceed with a petitioned warrant article. Selectman Foote stated that the petitioned warrant article could be modified at the Deliberative Session. The article needs to be submitted by mid-December 2020.

**D. Fire/Rescue Station**

**a. Sprinkler system update**

Construction Manager Pivero addressed the Board. He informed them that the 3 tanks have been set in place. He asked the Board to remove this item from the agenda until there is a need. He will then ask to be on the agenda as needed. The Board agreed to remove the sprinkler system update from future agendas until there is a need.

Selectman Gonyer asked if there was an estimated time for completion. Mr. Pivero stated not at this time.

**E. Road Agent Pivero – Thornell Road**

Road Agent Pivero would like to select a paving company for Thornell Road. He is recommending Bell & Flynn for \$220,000.00. He stated that if we continually give the contract to the same company the other companies may not place bids the following year. He stated that Bell & Flynn provide the same quality of work as Brox and that they are \$3,000.00 more than Brox.

**Selectman Gonyer moved to sign a contract with Bell & Flynn in the amount not to exceed \$220,000.00. Seconded by Selectman Melvin. Burrill – aye, Gonyer – aye, Michaels – aye, Foote – aye, Melvin – aye.**

Selectman Melvin asked when will the paving begin. Road Agent Pivero stated that there is a lot of work that needs to be done prior to paving such as drainage. He expects to start the paving between August 17 and September 4, 2020.

**F. Fire Department – Standard for residential driveways (tabled)**

**G. Transfer Station**

**a. Cardboard**

Selectman Melvin suggested that the Transfer Station take cardboard from surrounding Towns for a flat fee of \$2.00 per resident based their 2020 census that would begin in 2021. The Town of Newton would issue some type of sticker to non-residents so they can bring their cardboard to the Transfer Station. A letter would be sent to the surrounding Towns explaining the program.

Selectman Gonyer agreed with charging non-residents for taking in cardboard to cover the hauling fee cost. She does not agree with issuing stickers. There is either a lump fee charged to the town or we have a set fee for non-residents.

Chairman Burrill stated that the Town should charge non-residents for any items brought to the Transfer Station to cover the cost associated with hauling fees.

The Board would like to have Transfer Station Manager Gagnon provide the Board with the amount of cardboard tonnage from 2019 and YTD tonnage for cardboard. Also, to develop a process to take in the cardboard from surrounding Towns.

**b. Non-residents bulky items**

Secretary Morin stated that she received a call from Kingston Board of Selectmen Administrator asking when the Town would start taking bulk items from non-residents.

Transfer Station Manager Gagnon recommends that we begin to take non-residential bulk items beginning August 1, 2020. They would need to bring exact change or personal check.

The Board discussed whether masks should be required to be worn by non-residents at the Transfer Station. The Board did not change their decision made back in April to enforce a mask be worn.

**Selectman Gonyer moved to open the Transfer Station to receiving non-resident bulky items effective August 1, 2020 with the provision that exact change or personal check only be accepted. Seconded by Selectman Foote. Burrill – aye, Gonyer – aye, Michaels – aye, Foote – aye, Melvin – aye.**

**H. Next Board of Selectmen meeting**

The Board agreed there will be no August 4, 2020 Board of Selectmen meeting.

**III. Other Business**

**A. Town Hall – Possible re-opening date**

Town Clerk McCullough addressed the Board and stated that she would be ready Monday, July 27, 2020 to start taking appointments if the signage and other needed safety items are in place. When ready the information will be posted on the Town's website.

**B. Manifests**

**Selectman Gonyer moved to sign payroll manifest for pay period July 4 – 18, 2020 with a pay date of July 23, 2020. Seconded by Selectman Michaels. Burrill – aye, Gonyer – aye, Michaels – aye, Foote – aye, Melvin – aye.**

**IV. Approval of Minutes**

**Selectmen's public meeting minutes dated July 15, 2020**

**Selectman Gonyer moved to accept the public meeting minutes dated July 15, 2020 as written.**

**Seconded by Selectman Melvin. Burrill – aye, Gonyer – aye, Michaels – aye, Foote – aye, Melvin – aye.**

Chief Alcadinho addressed the Board and requested they take up the residential driveway standard because the Board's regularly scheduled meeting is not for a month. He stated there are new home constructions starting before the next meeting and the standards need to be defined. He stated that the Town voted to adopt the NFPA Standards which includes standards for residential driveways. Chairman Burrill stated that the Board should vote on the residential driveway standard so there is no confusion. The matter will be placed on a COVID-19 agenda.

**V. Adjourn**

**Selectman Gonyer moved to adjourn at 8:19pm. Seconded by Selectman Melvin.**

Respectfully submitted,

Diane M. Morin  
Board of Selectmen Secretary