



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

DATE: TUESDAY, April 2, 2019

TIME: 6:00PM

LOCATION: NEWTON TOWN HALL, 2 TOWN HALL ROAD

PUBLIC MEETING MINUTES

I. Call to Order

Vice-Chairman Gonyer called the meeting to order at 6:01pm. In attendance were Selectmen, Lisa L. Gonyer, Vice-Chairman, Lawrence B. Foote, James L. Doggett, Matthew A. Burrill, Kathryn Michaels, Nancy J. Wrigley, Town Administrator and Diane M. Morin, Selectmen's Secretary. The non-public session was audio taped. The public meeting was audio and video taped. A portion of the non-public session minutes and the public meeting minutes were transcribed and typed by Diane M. Morin. A portion of the non-public session minutes were transcribed and typed by Nancy J. Wrigley.

Nonpublic Session under RSA 91-A:3 II (c) -- Reputation

Selectman Doggett moved to go into non-public session at 6:02pm under RSA 91-A: 3 II (c) Reputation. Seconded by Selectman Foote with a unanimous roll call vote: Gonyer – aye, Foote – aye, Doggett – aye, Burrill – aye, Michaels -- aye.

Selectman Burrill moved to close the non-public session at 7:24pm. Seconded by Selectman Foote with a unanimous roll call vote: Gonyer – aye, Foote – aye, Doggett – aye, Burrill – aye, Michaels -- aye.

Selectman Doggett moved that the Board just came out of a non-public session under RSA 91-A: 3 II (c) -- Reputation 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 Foote with a unanimous vote.

In attendance were Senator Tom Sherman, Captain Robert Zalenski, and Construction Manager Mike Pivero.

II. Scheduled Business

A. Senator Tom Sherman – Introduction

Senator Tom Sherman addressed the Board. He is here to introduce himself to the Board and Town. Senator Sherman stated that he is available to help the Town resolve issues at the State level.

Senator Sherman reviewed 3 areas that the State Senate is focusing on: 1) mental health crisis, 2) substance use and 3) DCYF. He further explained that in the DCYF

social case workers have 3x more cases than the national average. The Senate is working to resolve these issues. He stated that the State is number 3 in the amount of deaths related to opioid abuse. The Senate and State Officials are working on a program to help area Towns cope with this issue. On the mental health crisis, the nearest hospital is in Exeter. Wait times for treatment can be extremely long due to lack of beds in the State. The Senate is working on a bill, SB11, to resolve the issue.

The Senate is also working on returning money to the Towns to help offset property taxes. Back in 2010-2011 the State put the burden of 2 programs, Cost Sharing and Municipal Pensions, on to the local municipalities. The Senate is working on returning the funds to the Towns.

Selectman Gonyer asked how the Senator voted on SB 79. Senator Sherman stated that he voted in favor. He stated that this will help the State prepare for future solid waste disposal. Selectman Gonyer stated the Town does not have a way to weigh all the different elements that are in the SB 79. It would create an undue burden on the Town.

He stated that the bill is in the House for review. When it is presented to the Senate, he will address the issues that Selectman Gonyer put forth. Senator Sherman stated that the goal is not to burden the Town but to gather data.

Selectman Burrill asked what his position is on SB 67 which is the domicile requirement to register to vote in the State. Senator Sherman voted in favor of the bill. He stated that SB 67 is specific to 3 groups that would allow them to register to vote without having to register a vehicle within a specific time in New Hampshire. Selectman Burrill asked Senator Sherman if a person living in a different State and owning property in Town, would they be allowed to vote. Senator Sherman stated no. The bill is for specific groups such as students or temporary workers.

Selectman Burrill asked about the Senate bill that gives the Town Moderator the authority to postpone Town Elections if needed. Senator Sherman voted in favor of the bill. He worked with the Secretary of State on the bill.

Selectman Doggett stated that people who are living in the State and not paying to register their vehicles are not helping to maintain the roads they are using. Senator Sherman will take his concern under advisement.

Selectman Burrill would like to see more bipartisan voting. Senator Sherman stated that most of the bills passed by the Senate were not divided by party lines.

Selectman Burrill thanked Senator Sherman for his work and reminded everyone that the State Senators annual salary is \$100.00.

Senator Sherman thanked the Board for allowing him to address them. He stated that should they need his assistance to please reach out to him.

Senator Sherman asked Selectman Gonyer to send an email to him regarding her concerns about SB 79.

Senator Tom Sherman left the meeting at 7:55pm.

B. Fire/Rescue Station

a. Fire Inspector for sprinkler installation -- Tabled

b. Review quotes for sprinkler installation

Construction Manager (CM) Pivero addressed the Board. CM Pivero stated that the delay in getting the quotes for the sprinkler system were due to the Architect and Designer doing their due diligence. He has received some quotes from sub-contractors but is still awaiting a quote for a prebuilt pump house. Currently, the estimate to complete the sprinkler system is \$226,000.00. CM Pivero stated that he believes that the Bond for the station will be short \$70,000.00. CM Pivero stated that the Town does not have any options and that the sprinkler system must be installed per the State Fire code.

Selectman Burrill asked Town Administrator Wrigley how much funds were available in the Capital Reserve Fund Engineering and Renovation – 8 Merrimac Road. Town Administrator Wrigley stated that as of December 31, 2018 the balance is \$36,365.50. The Board will decide where the funds will come from at a later meeting.

Selectman Doggett moved to authorize Construction Manager Pivero to move forward with the completion of the sprinkler system per normal contractual procedures and not to exceed \$226,000.00. Seconded by Selectman Burrill for discussion.

Selectman Michaels asked CM Pivero when the quote for the pre-built pump house be ready. CM Pivero stated he is unsure when the contractors will provide the quotes. Selectman Michaels asked CM Pivero if there is any potential for savings using a pre-built versus on site construction of a pump house. CM Pivero stated that there is no difference in savings.

The motion passed with a unanimous vote.

Selectman Burrill stated that the sprinkler system is an addition and that the New Fire/Rescue Station is not being torn apart. CM Pivero stated that inside the building there will be 2 retrofits. The pump in the mechanical room and the 2 water tanks in the mezzanine will be removed.

Selectman Doggett asked if the Town will receive credit for the unused pump. CM Pivero stated that he believes credit is already being applied to the new pump but will verify.

CM Pivero left the meeting at 8:07pm.

C. Fire Department –

a. Engine 2 repair quote

Selectman Gonyer asked Captain Zalenski if there was an updated quote for the repairs recommended by Chief Alcainho for Engine 2. No updated quote was available. Captain Zalenski stated that some of the repairs were cosmetic. Captain Zalenski stated that Chief Alcainho wanted to inform the Board that his 2019 budget for equipment repairs and maintenance would be expended and that he still has 3 other vehicles that need service. Selectman Gonyer stated that the Board needs to decide whether Engine 2 should be repaired now or later. The Board discussed how to pay for the repairs of Engine 2 and the other vehicles. Selectman Doggett stated that Engine 2 is the only engine at Newton Junction Station. Secretary Morin stated that if Engine 2 is not repaired then there is no coverage at the Newton Junction Station.

Selectman Foote asked what the balance in the Capital Reserve Fund Fire Apparatus and Fire Equipment /Refurbish is. Town Administrator Wrigley stated the fund balance as of December 31, 2018 is \$52,600.65.

Selectman Foote moved to authorize Chief Alcainho to have Engine 2 repaired at a cost to not exceed \$11,000.00. The funds to come from the Capital Reserve Fund Fire Apparatus and Fire Equipment /Refurbish. Seconded by Selectman Burrill for discussion.

Secretary Morin stated that the \$11,000.00 did not include a repair item that was for time and materials. Selectman Foote stated that if the repairs go over the \$11,000.00, the remained should come from the Fire Department budget.

Selectman Michaels asked if the vehicle is repaired what is the life expectancy. Captain Zalenski stated the engine would be ok but that there is still \$6,000.00 in repairs recommended. Some of the repairs are cosmetic and added features.

The motion passed 4-1. Doggett – aye, Burrill – aye, Foot – aye, Michaels -- aye, Gonyer -- nay.

Selectman Gonyer stated that the she would like to see the updated quote.

b. SCBA fitting equipment -- TSI 8048 proposal

Captain Zalenski stated that the equipment is used to test that the seal on the firefighters SCBA for proper fit. The machine is portable and will be shared between the Towns of Newton, Kingston, Plaistow, and East Kingston.

Selectman Doggett moved to authorize the Chairman to sign the TSI 8040 proposal at a cost of \$3,037.50. Seconded by Selectman Foote with a unanimous vote.

Captain Zalenski left the meeting at 8:32pm.

III. Approval of Minutes

Selectmen's non-public and public meeting minutes dated March 19, 2019

Selectman Burrill moved to accept the non-public and public meeting minutes dated March 19, 2019 as written. Seconded by Selectman Doggett with a unanimous vote.

IV. Scheduled Business --- Continued

D. Re-Organization of the Board

Selectman Burrill moved to nominate Selectman Lisa Gonyer to the position of Chairman for a term of 1 year. Seconded by Selectman Foote for discussion.

Selectman Foote stated that he would like to see a policy in place for the selection of the Chairman's position. Past Boards have given the position to the Selectman that was up for re-election. Selectman Burrill stated that in some years there are 2 Selectmen up for re-election and the past ways does not work. Selectman Gonyer stated that the Board needs to decide who they want to be chair based on who is willingly to do the work. Selectman Doggett stated that every Selectman at some point should hold the Chair position. Selectman Foote stated that the Chair should not be making decisions on behalf of the Board.

The motion passed with a unanimous vote.

Selectman Burrill moved to nominate Selectman James Doggett to the position of Vice-Chairman for a term of 1 year. Seconded by Selectman Gonyer with a unanimous vote.

The Board discussed which Selectmen would be ex officio and liaison to other Boards, Commissions, Committees and Departments. Selectman Foote stated that he was not in favor of liaison.

Selectman Gonyer stated that she would remain the ex officio to the Conservation Commission and a liaison to the Cable Committee.

Selectman Doggett stated that he would remain the ex officio to the Planning Board and a liaison to the Fire Department.

Selectman Burrill stated that he would remain the ex officio to the Recreation Commission and liaison to the Police Department and Stewardship Committee.

Selectman Michaels will be liaison to the Gale Library Trustees and Transfer Station.

Selectman Burrill moved to keep the ex officio as stated above. Seconded by Selectman Foote with a unanimous vote.

Selectman Burrill moved to keep the liaison as stated above with the addition of Selectman Gonyer who will be the liaison to the Building Department. Seconded by Selectman Doggett. The motion passed 4-1. Gonyer – aye, Doggett – aye, Burrill – aye, Michaels -- aye, Foote -- nay.

Selectman Burrill stated that he was informed by former Selectman Donovan via a text message that he was the Highway Department liaison.

Selectman Burrill moved to make Selectman Michaels liaison to the Highway Department. Seconded by Selectman Doggett with a unanimous vote

E. Review – MS232 Appropriations as voted

Selectman Gonyer stated that the MS232 is a report given to the Department of Revenue that shows what the voters approved for fiscal year 2019.

Selectman Doggett moved to sign MS232. Seconded by Selectman Foote with a unanimous vote.

F. Fire/Rescue Station – Continuation

a. SFC Engineering invoice for sprinkler system

Selectman Burrill moved to authorize the Bookkeeper to pay the SFC Engineering invoice in the amount of \$1,190.00. Funds to come from the New Fire/Rescue Station Bond. Seconded by Selectman Foote with a unanimous vote.

G. Proposed changes to non-public session procedures

Selectman Gonyer reviewed when the Board should go into non-public session. She also stated that the Board should review non-public session minutes that are sealed and determine if they should be unsealed. She would like to add a line to future agendas to determine if non-public session minutes should be unsealed in accordance with RSA 91-A:3 III. The Board further discussed the procedure that would be followed to un-seal non-public session minutes. The majority of the Board agreed to add an agenda that considers un-sealing non-public session minutes.

Selectman Doggett stated that each time the Board goes into a non-public session under RSA 91 A:3 III, the proper procedure is to go in and out of non-public for each item. The non-public session minutes can be in one document.

H. Memorial Day Grand Marshall

Selectman Burrill nominated Robert S. Donovan Sr. to be the Grand Marshall for the Memorial Day Ceremony, posthumously. Seconded by Selectman Doggett with a unanimous vote.

V. Sign Manifests, Appointments

➤ Manifests

Selectman Doggett moved to sign vendor manifest dated April 2, 2019 in the amount of \$83,448.04. Seconded by Selectman Foote with a unanimous vote.

Selectman Doggett moved to sign vendor manifest New Fire/Rescue Station dated April 2, 2019 in the amount of \$3,817.08. Seconded by Selectman Foote with a unanimous vote.

Selectman Burrill moved to sign payroll manifest pay period March 17 – 30, 2019 with a pay date of April 4, 2019. Seconded by Selectman Foote with a unanimous vote.

➤ **Appointments**

Selectman Foote moved to appoint Molly Wilson as a member to the Conservation Commission for a 3-year term to expire April 30, 2022. Seconded by Selectman Doggett with a unanimous vote.

Selectman Michaels moved to appoint Trisha McCarthy as a member to the Conservation Commission for a 3-year term to expire April 30, 2022. Seconded by Selectman Doggett with a unanimous vote.

Selectman Michaels moved to appoint Richard Faulconer as a member to the Recreation Commission for a 3-year term to expire April 30, 2022. Seconded by Selectman Burrill with a unanimous vote.

VI. Announcements

Chairman Gonyer announced that Firefighter/EMT Robert Watson has completed his 1-year probation and is now a permanent Firefighter/EMT.

Selectman Doggett moved to go into non-public session at 9:03pm under RSA 91-A: 3 II (c) -- Reputation. Seconded by Selectman Foote with a unanimous roll call vote: Gonyer – aye, Foote – aye, Doggett – aye, Burrill – aye, Michaels -- aye.

Selectman Doggett moved to close the non-public session at 9:04pm. Seconded by Selectman Foote with a unanimous roll call vote: Gonyer – aye, Foote – aye, Doggett – aye, Burrill – aye, Michaels – aye.

Selectman Burrill moved that the Board just came out of a non-public session under RSA 91-A: 3 II (c) -- Reputation 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 Gonyer with a unanimous vote.

VII. Adjourn

Selectman Doggett moved to adjourn at 9:05pm. Seconded by Selectman Michaels with a unanimous vote.

Respectfully submitted,

Diane M. Morin
Board of Selectmen Secretary