



**Office of the Board of Selectmen
2 Town Hall Road, Newton, NH 03858
Tel: 382-4405 Option 5 Fax 382-9140**

www.newton-nh.gov

**NEWTON BOARD OF SELECTMEN
DATE: TUESDAY, September 3, 2019
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, 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. Excused this evening was Selectmen Matthew A. Burrill and Lisa L. Gonyer, Chairman.

Nonpublic Session under RSA 91-A:3 II (b) – Hiring Public Employee (c) – Reputation

Selectman Foote moved to go into non-public session at 6:01pm under RSA 91-A: 3 II (c) – Reputation. Seconded by Selectman Foote with a unanimous roll call vote: Foote – aye, Doggett – aye, Michaels – aye.

Selectman Foote moved to close the non-public session at 6:30pm. Seconded by Selectman Foote with a unanimous roll call vote: Foote – aye, Doggett – aye, Michaels – aye.

Selectman Foote moved to go into non-public session at 6:31pm under RSA 91-A: 3 II (b) – Hiring Public Employee. Seconded by Selectman Doggett with a unanimous roll call vote: Foote – aye, Doggett – aye, Michaels – aye.

Selectman Foote moved to close the non-public session at 6:50pm. Seconded by Selectman Michaels with a unanimous roll call vote: Foote – aye, Doggett – aye, Michaels – aye.

Selectman Foote moved that the Board just came out of a non-public session under RSA 91-A: 3 II (b) – Hiring Public Employee and (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 Michaels with a unanimous vote.

II. Scheduled Business

A. Greenie Park

a. Fund raising for playground equipment

Ms. Erin Stevens addressed the Board seeking approval to raise funds for playground equipment at Greenie Park. Ms. Erin Walker stated that the residents are not using the playground because of the outdated equipment. The organization would like to help the Town by fund raising for the purchase of new equipment.

Ms. Stevens from Friends of Newton Recreation provided a presentation with the goals and options for new playground equipment that the group is proposing. They have received monetary donations from Northern Construction, \$1,000.00 and Fitzgerald Real Estate, \$250.00.

Selectman Foote asked if they were planning on updating the skateboard park. Ms. Stevens stated the group's priority is the playground. Mr. Jim McCarthy addressed the Board and stated that a study would need to be done before the group would propose any changes to the skateboard park.

Selectman Doggett asked if the organization has met with the Recreation Commission and Ms. Stevens stated that they have met with the Recreation Commission.

Selectman Doggett stated that he would hope the Town would be able to help fund the project. Selectman Foote suggested a warrant article could be put forth before the voters at the next Town meeting to raise the additional needed funds to complete the project. Mr. McCarthy stated it is the intention of the group to limit the tax impact on residents and to be able to fund any repairs needed in the future. Selectman Doggett stated that it is Town property and the Town should be handling the upkeep via the Recreation Commission Budget.

Ms. Stevens announced that Mr. Coleman McDonough just handed her a check for \$2000.00.

The Board acknowledged that the Friends of Newton Recreation will be raising funds to replace the Greenie Park playground equipment.

b. Expanding parking area

Mr. Pivero addressed the Board about the limited parking area at Greenie Park. He suggested that some of the conservation area could be used for expanding the parking area. Selectman Doggett stated that the Conservation Commission would need to be involved.

Selectman Michaels asked who determines how much parking space is needed. Selectman Doggett stated the Town Engineer would be able to assist.

Chief Jewett addressed the Board about his concern with parking during opening day for the Newton Baseball Softball Association. He stated that the Kingston and Newton

have joined a new league and that there are more vehicles on that particular day and because of this, Chief Jewett made the decision to make Heath Street a one-way street for the duration of the event.

Mr. Pivero stated he was concerned that there is enough room for the proposed new playground equipment and expanding the parking area. Ms. Stevens stated that the playground equipment will fit in the same space that the current equipment now occupies.

Selectman Doggett would like to see a separation between the skateboard park and playground equipment.

Selectman Foote will speak to the Conservation Commission about expanding the parking area on to conservation land.

B. Fire/Rescue Station

a. Sprinkler update

Construction Manager Mike Pivero addressed the Board. He reviewed the status of the sprinkler system project. He stated that the original contractor that was working on the project has not provided the design and things seem to have stalled. Mr. Jeff Murphy from SFC Engineering and CM Pivero met with another contractor and received some preliminary numbers which are more than the original quote. CM Pivero is recommending that the Board go with the new contractor to move the project forward. The Board would like to review the contract before CM Pivero signs it.

CM Pivero expressed concerns that the storage tank requirements could increase the scope of the project as well as the cost. He stated that he would not know the cost until the design is completed. The new contractor will not do the designs until a contract is signed. The Board will meet with CM Pivero once he has the contract for them to review.

C. Review quotes for 2019-2020 Oil and Propane

Secretary Morin reviewed the quotes from various companies for 2019-2020 for oil and propane. The Board discussed the options available and asked for Secretary Morin's recommendation. Secretary Morin recommended going with Suburban Propane even though Irving was lower. Her reason for the recommendation was that Irving charges a fee for oil or propane that was not purchased under the agreement which is 6500 gallons of oil and 5000 gallons of propane. The Town would need to purchase at least 95% in order to not incur the fee.

Selectman Foote moved to accept the quote from Suburban Propane for oil and propane for the 2019-2020 heating season running from October 1, 2019 to September 30, 2020. Seconded by Selectman Michaels with a unanimous vote.

Selectman Michaels stated that the amount saved by changing providers could be around \$2,500.00.

D. Update on Central Fire Station zoning options

Town Administrator Wrigley stated that she spoke with Chairman McElroy of the Board of Appeals about re-zoning the old Central Fire Station from residential A to Commercial. She was told that the Board of Appeals does not have jurisdiction to re-zone property. It would need to go before the voters as a warrant article.

Selectman Doggett stated that the listing should be changed from commercial to residential.

Selectman Foote moved to change the current real estate listing from commercial to residential. Seconded by Selectman Michaels with a unanimous vote.

Selectman Doggett stated that should the property be under agreement for a commercial usage, the buyer could petition the Board of Appeals to allow the building to be used as a commercial property. Should the Board of Appeals refuse, the buyer would not be obligated to move forward with the purchase.

E. Update on Town Hall Flagpole

Secretary Morin stated that she had the Building Inspector inspect the flagpole and it does not need to be replaced immediately. The Board will take the cost of replacing the flagpole into consideration when working on the 2020 budgets.

F. Recreation – Olde Home Day program quote

Secretary Morin stated that the Recreation Commission is looking to have 500 black & white pamphlets printed to hand out on Olde Home Day. The total cost would be \$345.00.

Selectman Foote stated that if the Recreation Commission has it in their budget, it does not need to be approved by the Board.

III. Sign Manifests

➤ Manifest

Selectman Michaels moved to sign vendor manifest dated September 3, 2019 in the amount of \$64,039.19. Seconded by Selectman Foote with a unanimous vote.

Selectman Foote moved to sign payroll manifest pay period August 18 – 31, 2019 with a pay date of September 5, 2019. Seconded by Selectman Michaels with a unanimous vote.

IV. Announcements

Selectman Doggett announced that Selectman Foote will be the acting Ex-Officio to the Planning Board and that he will be the acting Administrator Assistant to the Planning Board until further notice.

V. Approval of Minutes

Selectmen's non-public and public meeting minutes dated August 20, 2019

Selectman Foote moved to accept the non-public and public meeting minutes dated August 20, 2019 as written. Seconded by Selectman Michaels with a unanimous vote.

Selectmen's non-public and public meeting minutes dated August 27, 2019

Selectman Foote moved to accept the non-public and public meeting minutes dated August 27, 2019 as written. Seconded by Selectman Michaels with a unanimous vote.

No non-public meeting minutes were released.

VI. Adjourn

Vice Chairman Doggett adjourned the meeting at 8:07pm.

Respectfully submitted,

Diane M. Morin
Board of Selectmen Secretary