



**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](http://www.newton-nh.gov)

**NEWTON BOARD OF SELECTMEN  
DATE: TUESDAY, JUNE 16, 2020  
TIME: 6:00PM NONPUBLIC  
TIME: 7:30PM PUBLIC  
Zoom Conference Call**

**PUBLIC MEETING MINUTES**

**I. Call to Order**

Chairman Burrill called the meeting to order at 6:00pm.

Using Zoom video was Chairman Matthew A. Burrill, Selectmen Lisa L. Gonyer, Kathryn Michaels, Town Administrator Nancy Wrigley, and Secretary Diane Morin. Using the phone dial-in option were Selectmen Lawrence B. Foote and Charles R. Melvin Sr. The public session was videotaped. A portion of the nonpublic session minutes and the public meeting minutes were transcribed and typed by Secretary Morin. A portion of the nonpublic session minutes were typed and transcribed by Town Administrator Wrigley.

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

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

**Selectman Melvin moved to close the non-public session at 7:07pm. Seconded by Selectman Gonyer with a unanimous roll call vote: Burrill – aye, Foote – aye, Gonyer – aye, Michaels – aye, Melvin – aye.**

**Selectman Gonyer moved to go into nonpublic session at 7:07pm under RSA 91-A:3 II (a) Compensation. Seconded by Selectman Melvin with a roll call vote: Burrill – aye, Foote – aye, Gonyer – aye, Michaels – aye, Melvin – aye.**

**Selectman Gonyer moved to close the Non-Public Session at 7:32pm. Seconded by Selectman Foote with a roll call vote: Burrill – aye, Foote – aye, Gonyer – aye, Michaels – aye, Melvin – aye.**

Chairman Burrill called the public portion of the meeting back to order at 7:37pm.

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.

II. Scheduled Business

**A. Forestry bill from May 22, 2020**

Town Administrator (TA) Wrigley explained that Chief Alcaidinho is ok with the Board signing the bill. TA Wrigley stated that the Bookkeeper and Chief Alcaidinho spoke and once the State reimburses the Town for half the cost of extinguishing the forest fire, those funds will go back into the Fire Department payroll budget.

Fire Warden William Ingalls stated that the Fire Department has been paying the salary for firefighters working a forest fire for over 30 years. The reason is the State does not pay the regular hourly rate that a firefighter receives.

**Selectman Gonyer moved to sign the Forestry bill from May 22, 2020 in the amount of \$345.57. Seconded by Selectman Michaels. Burrill – aye, Gonyer – aye, Michaels – aye, Foote – aye, Melvin – aye.**

**B. Lease agreement for new police cruiser**

**Selectman Gonyer moved to authorize the Chairman to sign the lease agreement for a new Ford F150 cruiser for the Police Department. Seconded by Selectman Melvin. Burrill – aye, Gonyer – aye, Michaels – aye, Foote – aye, Melvin – aye.**

**C. Release of road bond – 4 Wilder's Grove**

Secretary Morin stated that Road Agent Pivero has inspected the road and did not find any issues. He is recommending the road bond be released.

Selectman Melvin asked why there was a road bond. Secretary Morin explained that a trench was dug across Wilder's Grove to repair a septic issue.

**Selectman Gonyer moved to authorize the Treasurer to release the road bond and any interest that accumulated to Joseph Borowy. Seconded by Selectman Melvin. Burrill – aye, Gonyer – aye, Michaels – aye, Foote – aye, Melvin – aye.**

**D. July meeting schedule**

The Board discussed whether to hold a meeting on July 6, 2020. The Board agreed to cancel the July 6, 2020 meeting.

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

**E. Fire/Rescue Station**

**a. Sprinkler update**

Construction Manager Pivero addressed the Board. He informed the Board that the technical verifications were completed. He has ordered the tanks and there is a 4-6-week lead time. Once he has a delivery date, he will need to rope off the back area of the Fire Station for several months while under construction.

**b. Estimate to redo some wiring in bay area**

Secretary Morin explained that there are some wires in the bay area that need to be redressed.

**Selectman Gonyer moved to authorize Kingston Electric to do the electrical work for estimate number 3118 and not to exceed \$1,000.00. Funds to come from the General Government budget. Seconded by Selectman Melvin. Burrill – aye, Gonyer – aye, Michaels – aye, Foote – aye, Melvin – aye.**

**F. Continuation – Center line on Smith Corner Road**

Road Agent Pivero addressed the Board about painting a center line on Smith Corner Road. He stated that the road's narrowest point is 19' which is not wide enough to paint a double yellow line per the MUTCD manual. The road is considered a Class V and does not require stripping. No single lines are permitted on this class of road.

He went on to state there would be a cost associated with having to widen the road. Should the road be widened, the annual cost for stripping just Smith Corner Road would be roughly \$2,200. He is concerned that if the Town does line stripping, that other requests will come in asking to line stripe other roads within the Town. He estimates the cost to line stripe these roads would be \$14,000.00 yearly. The Highway Department budget would need to be increased.

Chairman Burrill, Selectman Gonyer and Melvin suggested a petition warrant article could be submitted by residents to have other roads line stripped. Road Agent Pivero expressed concern that there would be numerous petitioned warrant articles each year requesting funding for line stripping on roads. He believes that the money spent on line stripping would be better used on other road projects.

Road Agent Pivero stated that the Highway Department budget has not increased in several years.

Secretary Morin will send a letter to the Sargent Woods Board informing them the road is not wide enough.

**G. Energy Supplier – U-source Energy Advisor Michael Connolly**

Michael Connolly from U-source Energy Advisor presented to the Board how it might be possible to purchase energy from different sources to reduce the cost of utilities. His presentation included how his company interacts with the utilities market and how to secure energy through U-source.

Selectman Melvin left the meeting at 8:24pm.

Chairman Burrill stated that the Town is under a 2-year contract from another energy supplier. The Board will use the information provided by Mr. Connolly when the contract expires.

**H. Review Commercial Trash Hauler Sunday drop off**

Chairman Burrill explained that the Board had granted Newton Waste Company the option to drop off residential household trash on Sundays. The Board asked Transfer Station Manager (TSM) Gagnon for an update via email. Chairman Burrill stated that the email from the Manager stated no issues with the Sunday drop off. The Board asked to be kept apprised should any issues arise.

**I. Selectman Gonyer per RSA 31:95-b moved to accept and expend unanticipated funds to the Food Pantry from Charlotte Sentner in the amount of \$30.00.**

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

**J. Selectman Gonyer per RSA 31:95-b moved to accept and expend unanticipated funds to the Food Pantry from James Marino in the amount of \$50.00. Seconded by Selectman Michaels. Burrill – aye, Gonyer – aye, Michaels – aye, Foote – aye.**

**K. The acceptance of cash donation for Greenie playground equipment**

TA Wrigley explained that she spoke with the Auditor about accepting cash donations without having to hold a public hearing. She was informed that the Board can accept a cash donation if it is under \$10,000.00 in a public meeting without having to hold a public hearing and posting it in the newspaper. The funds can be placed in the Recreation Revolving Fund once accepted.

**III. Other Business**

**A. Mrs. Dolly Mansfield**

Mrs. Mansfield addressed the Board. Her dog was attack by another dog which ended her dog's life. She stated that the attacking dog has done this multiply times and she would like the dog to be euthanize.

Selectman Gonyer asked if she has contacted the Animal Control Officer. Mrs. Mansfield has notified the Police, Animal Control, State, and other agencies.

Chairman Burrill stated that this is a police matter and the Board does not have any authority when it comes to criminal matters. On behalf of the Board he expressed their condolences and wished they could do more.

**B. Thank you, letters,**

Chairman Burrill announced that several residents worked on cleaning the Town Beach and helped to spread beach sand. He would like to have the Board's permission to send thank you letters to each person.

**Chairman Burrill moved to authorize the Chairman to sign thank you letters to the volunteers that helped clean and spread sand at the Town Beach. Seconded by Selectman Gonyer. Burrill – aye, Gonyer – aye, Michaels – aye, Foote – aye.**

**C. Thank you to Employees**

Chairman Burrill stated the Board wanted to say thank you to all the Town employees by providing them with a free ice cream at Hodgies in Amesbury, MA. Each employee can go to the ice cream stand and present their ID for a free ice cream. The Board decided on June 19 – July 12, 2020 for employees to stop by and get their free ice cream. Any unused funds will go towards hand packed ice cream that can be stored in the Town Hall freezer.

**D. Manifests**

**Selectman Gonyer moved to sign vendor manifest dated June 16, 2020 in the amount of \$141,499.01 of that \$70,487.50 is for the annual Fire/Rescue Station Bond payment. Seconded by Selectman Michaels. Burrill – aye, Gonyer – aye, Michaels – aye, Foote – aye.**

**Selectman Gonyer moved to sign vendor manifest Cable Revolving Fund vendor manifest dated June 16, 2020 in the amount of \$11,376.00. Seconded by Selectman Foote. Burrill – aye, Gonyer – aye, Michaels – aye, Foote – aye.**

**Selectman Gonyer moved to sign vendor manifest Police Special Detail Revolving Fund vendor manifest dated June 16, 2020 in the amount of \$464.90. Seconded by Selectman Foote. Burrill – aye, Gonyer – aye, Michaels – aye, Foote – aye.**

**Selectman Gonyer moved to sign vendor manifest Highway Revolving Fund vendor manifest dated June 16, 2020 in the amount of \$3,900.00. Seconded by Selectman Foote. Burrill – aye, Gonyer – aye, Michaels – aye, Foote – aye.**

**Selectman Gonyer announced that the Board signed the payroll manifest for pay period May 24 – June 6, 2020 with a pay date of June 9, 2020.**

#### **E. Appointments**

**Selectman Gonyer moved upon recommendation from the Gale Library Trustees, to appoint Amanda Smart as an Alternate Library Trustee for the year 2020-21. Term to expire March 31, 2021. Seconded by Selectman Michaels. Burrill – aye, Gonyer – aye, Michaels – aye, Foote – aye.**

#### **IV. Approval of Minutes**

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

**Selectman Gonyer moved to accept the public meeting minutes dated June 10, 2020 as written. Seconded by Selectman Foote. Burrill – aye, Gonyer – aye, Michaels – aye, Foote – aye.**

Selectman Foote stated that Selectman Melvin was told that he could not read sealed minutes prior to his being on the Board. Selectman Gonyer stated that the Board must unseal the minutes or a portion of the minutes for any newly elected Selectmen to read. She also stated that Selectman Melvin should bring up the nonpublic minutes he wishes to have unsealed in a nonpublic session.

#### **V. Adjourn**

**Selectman Gonyer moved to adjourn at 9:20pm. Seconded by Selectman Michaels with a unanimous vote.**

Respectfully submitted,

Diane M. Morin  
Board of Selectmen Secretary