



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

DATE: TUESDAY, August 27, 2019

TIME: 6:15PM

LOCATION: NEWTON TOWN HALL, 2 TOWN HALL ROAD

PUBLIC MEETING MINUTES

I. Call to Order

Chairman Gonyer called the meeting to order at 6:15pm. In attendance were Selectmen, Lisa L. Gonyer, Chairman, James L. Doggett, Vice-Chairman, Lawrence B. Foote, Matthew A. Burrill, Kate Michaels, Nancy J. Wrigley, Town Administrator and Diane M. Morin, Selectmen's Secretary. The non-public session and the public meeting were audio taped. The non-public session minutes were transcribed by Selectman Burrill and typed by Secretary Morin. The public meeting minutes were transcribed and typed by Diane M. Morin.

Selectman Doggett moved to go into non-public session at 6:15pm under RSA 91-A: 3 II (a) - Compensation. Seconded by Selectman Foote with a unanimous roll call vote: Gonyer – aye, Doggett – aye, Foote – aye, Burrill – aye, Michaels – aye.

Selectman Doggett moved to close the non-public session at 6:26pm. Seconded by Selectman Foote with a unanimous roll call vote: Gonyer – aye, Doggett – aye, Foote – 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 (a) – Compensation 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. Fire/Rescue Station Sprinkler System Update

Present at the meeting were Construction Manager (CM) Mike Pivero and Jeff Murphy from SFC Engineering. CM Pivero provided an overview of the project thus far. He stated that in May there was a meeting with Mr. Murphy, a representative from Breen & Sullivan, Selectmen Burrill and Doggett to discuss the project. At that time the project was on schedule. The delay has been with the mechanical design engineer who was hired by Breen & Sullivan. Mr. Murphy has been receiving designs from the mechanical design engineer that Breen & Sullivan hired. Mr. Murphy stated that communications between the mechanical design engineer and himself has been sporadic. Mr. Murphy reviews the designs sent to him by the mechanical design engineer. He then sends the updates required and does not receive the changes in a timely manner. Due to this lack

of response from the mechanical design engineer, the project may not be finished by the end of 2019.

CM Pivero stated that he needs the designs approved by the State Fire Marshall before he can begin work. Mr. Murphy stated that this extra step will require more documentation in order to present the design to the State Fire Marshall. If the designs are not ready within 3 weeks, CM Pivero does not foresee beginning the project until the spring of 2020. He may be able to order the storage tanks, but the installation of the tanks may not be done until the ground thaws in the spring.

Chairman Gonyer asked if the Town had a contact with Breen & Sullivan. CM Pivero stated that no contract has been signed because the Town has not received the mechanical design plans which is needed to provide a quote.

Chairman Gonyer asked if it would be best to find another contractor. CM Pivero and Mr. Murphy have been in contact with Carter Sprinkler System whom Mr. Murphy has worked with before. They are waiting for the company to provide a quote for the design and installation of the sprinkler system. They anticipate having a quote from Carter Sprinkler System later this week. If the quote is in the ballpark as Breen & Sullivan, the recommendation would be to move forward with Carter Sprinkler System.

CM Pivero will issue a change order once for the Board to sign once he has the mechanical design and quote from the company chosen to do the work. CM Pivero stated that he believes the sprinkler installation is beyond the original scope of the project and will cost more. CM Pivero will still be the one to sign the contract with the company chosen to install and design the sprinkler system.

Selectman Michaels expressed concern that if the sprinkler system is not finished by August 30, 2019, would the Fire Department need to relocate. Mr. Murphy stated that if the Town shows progress in getting the system installed, he does not see an issue. Chairman Gonyer stated that the deadline to install the system was self-imposed by the Town and can be extended if need be. Once a contract is signed with either Breen & Sullivan or Carter Sprinkler System, Mr. Murphy will send the updated project schedule to the State Fire Marshall.

Chairman Gonyer stated that the next step is for CM Pivero to inform the Board when he has a contract. Should the process be delayed, CM Pivero will inform the Board that the sprinkler system project will be further delayed.

Mr. Murphy stated that the Breen & Sullivan issue is not workmanship but lack of communications. Chairman Gonyer stated that it was poor business practice for Breen & Sullivan to not communicate with CM Pivero. If the company was unable to fulfill the project, they should have let the Town know as soon as possible.

CM Pivero and Mr. Murphy will keep the Board informed of any updates.

Chairman Gonyer will reach out to the Building Department to extend the Certificate of Occupancy to August 30, 2020 with the condition that the sprinkler system will be installed. Mr. Murphy will notify the State Fire Marshall that the sprinkler system project will not be installed by August 30, 2019.

III. Adjourn

Selectman Doggett moved to adjourn at 7:26pm. Seconded by Selectman Michaels with a unanimous vote.

Respectfully submitted,

Diane M. Morin
Board of Selectmen Secretary