

Town of Newington, NH
Board of Selectmen Meeting Minutes
Monday February 12th, 2024

Present: Selectman Brandon Arsenault, Selectman Chris Wayss, Town Administrator Martha Roy and Eleanor Boy, Recorder.

B. Arsenault called the meeting to order at 5:35pm. Followed by the Pledge of Allegiance.

Minutes Approval: C. Wayss moved to approve the public and non-public minutes of January 16, 2024. B. Arsenault seconded the motion. All were in favor.

Manifest Approval: B. Arsenault moved to approve the manifests for \$127,903.91 dated 1/4/2024 and \$229,735.62 dated 1/11/24. C. Wayss seconded the motion. All were in favor.

Facility Use Requests:

C. Wayss moved to approve the following facility use request:

Rebecca St. Germaine-Party-Old Town Hall-2/23/24-5pm-9pm

B. Arsenault seconded the motion. All were in favor.

C. Wayss moved to approve the following facility use request:

William Gilbert-2 events-Social-Old Town Hall-3/22 & 4/19/24-All Day

B. Arsenault seconded the motion. All were in favor.

C. Wayss moved to approve the following facility use request:

Recreation Committee-Easter Egg Hunt-Old Town Hall-3/23/24-11am-3pm

B. Arsenault seconded the motion. All were in favor.

C. Wayss moved to approve the following facility use request:

Recreation Committee-Easter Egg Hunt-Old Town Hall-3/23/24-11am-3pm

B. Arsenault seconded the motion. All were in favor.

C. Wayss moved to approve the following facility use request, but need to have questions answered about having a licensed bartender at the event and who would be buying the alcohol for the event. M. Roy will follow up with these questions:

Recreation Committee-Senior Dinner-Town Hall-5/4 & 5/5/24-12pm-8pm

B. Arsenault seconded the motion. All were in favor.

C. Wayss moved to approve the following facility use request:

RAB (Restoration Advisory Board) Meeting- Town Hall-4/9/24-4:30pm

B. Arsenault seconded the motion. All were in favor.

C. Wayss moved to approve the following facility use request:
Heather Willis (Perkins Wedding)- Fox Point-6/29/24-12pm-8pm
B. Arsenault seconded the motion. All were in favor.

C. Wayss moved to approve the following facility use request:
Gurubhai Khalsa (Julia Carter)- Fox Point-8/17/24-2pm-10pm
B. Arsenault seconded the motion. All were in favor.

Public Hearing-Unanticipated Revenue Acceptance RSA 31:95b:

M. Roy said that the Town will be receiving \$170,000 from the US Department of Justice for the COPS Grant. This money will be used to update the communication equipment for the Emergency Management Department. There is no matching amount required from the Town.

C. Wayss moved to open the Public Hearing at 6:06pm for the unanticipated revenue acceptance. B. Arsenault seconded the motion. All were in favor.

There was no public comment.

C. Wayss moved to close the Public Hearing at 6:06pm for the unanticipated revenue acceptance. B. Arsenault seconded the motion. All were in favor.

C. Wayss moved to accept the unanticipated revenue of \$170,000, from the US Department of Justice, in accordance with RSA 31:95b. B. Arsenault seconded the motion. All were in favor.

Public Hearing-McIntyre Road-Parking Ordinance:

C. Wayss explained that Police Chief Mike Bilodeau had come before the Selectmen to ask for a no parking ordinance for McIntyre Road. M. Bilodeau was concerned with cars parking on the side of the road, where there wasn't enough room and their cars stuck out into the road. There was also concern about cars potentially damaging conservation lands.

This ordinance would be for no parking on McIntyre Road along both east and the west side of the roadway, from the north side of the Merrimac Drive over pass to Newington Road. There would be a total of twelve signs, six on each side of the road.

B. Arsenault moved to open the public hearing on the no parking ordinance for McIntyre Road at 6:10pm. C. Wayss seconded the motion. All were in favor.

There was no public comment.

B. Arsenault moved to close the Public Hearing at 6:10pm for no parking ordinance for McIntyre Road. C. Wayss seconded the motion. All were in favor.

B. Arsenault moved per the authority granted by RSA 41:11 regulating the use of public highways, which includes the authority to adopt such bylaws and ordinances necessary to control the parking of automobiles within city limits. McIntyre Road, parking is prohibited along both the east and west side of the roadway from the north side of Merrimack Drive Over Pass to Newington Road at the State DOT line to the south. C. Wayss seconded the motion. All were in favor.

2015 Ford Explorer Bid Opening:

B. Arsenault opened the one bid the Town received. The bid included two different amounts. In one part of the bid \$1,288 was written and in another part of the bid \$1,088. was written. B. Arsenault moved to table the award of the 2015 Ford Explorer bid until M. Roy can get further clarification on the bid amount. C. Wayss seconded the motion. All were in favor.

Non-Public Sealed Minutes Review:

The Board reviewed the non-public minutes from September 6, 2005 and August 7, 2006.

B. Arsenault moved that the non-pubic minutes from August 7, 2006 remain sealed. C Wayss seconded the motion. All were in favor.

B. Arsenault moved to unseal the Board of Selectmen non-public minutes from September 6, 2005. C. Wayss seconded the motion. All were in favor.

Dog Ordinance Committee Update:

B. Arsenault updated the Board on the committee's recommendation. It was decided that the current ordinances needed to be clearer. The new ordinance follows the State RSA for the definition of a dog "under control" and "at large". The committee decided that the new ordinance would be as follows; Leased dogs would be allowed on the following town properties: Old Town Hall, Grove Picnic Area, all ballfields and around the tennis courts. No dogs are allowed in the cemetery without getting the Cemetery Trustees' permission. Off leash-under control dogs would be allowed at Fox Point and the Town Forest. Under control dogs are defined as the dog is within the owner's site and the dog responds to the owner after up to three calls. This ordinance will be voted on at the Town meeting in March. The town will take feedback on the new ordinance over the next 12 months. B Arsenault said that the committee thought it was very important to educate the public on the new ordinance to make sure all residents understand it. A copy of the ordinance will be given to each dog owner when they register their dog in April.

M. Roy said that Brian Goetz had contacted her about the water line agreement, now that they are just going to do a valve replacement. B. Arsenault said that he would like

to get a refresher about the agreement because it has been a while and would like to address the 1965 water agreement with Portsmouth at the same time.

Public Comment:

There were none.

B. Arsenault moved to adjourn at 6:31pm. C. Wayss seconded the motion. All were in favor.

Respectfully submitted, Eleanor Boy, Recorder