

**Newport Selectboard  
Regular Meeting Minutes  
March 19, 2025 @ 6:00 PM**

**Present:**

**Town Manager, Jim Ricker**

**Deputy Clerk, Kathleen Kemp**

**Selectboard: Chair Donna Berry, Vice Chair Bruce Clarke, Adam Russell, Andrew Colford, Mark Sawyer**

**Guests:**

**Fire Chief Jeff Chretien**

**Deputy Fire Chief Jared LeBarnes**

**Planning Board, Maxine Pare'**

**1. Call to order: D. Berry called the meeting to order at 6:00 pm.**

**a. Pledge of allegiance**

**2. Public Access: Maxine Pare' appreciated the gates being open.**

**3. Consent Agenda**

**a. Approval of minutes from meeting held March 5, 2025: D. Berry asked for a motion to accept the minutes, B. Clarke so moved, A. Russell seconded, all in favor, motion carries.**

**b. Communications**

**1. Budget process status: The Town Manager stated that the process is going well and is two thirds through the first draft. He stated that there are not a lot of changes with minimal increases. The Paving will be similar to last year.**

**2. MDOT ADA Ramp improvement project 028846.00: Another request has been made for ADA ramps with rumble strips to be placed on Main Street. The Town Manager has signed and sent the request.**

**3. Safety Committee update: The Safety Committee is going well and already has an agenda prepared for the next meeting. They discussed hazards in the community and possible fixes. The Board is welcome to attend.**

**4. Triangle: Gordon Construction wants zero traffic through the Triangle so that they can finish sooner. Both the Town Manager and the Board said no. Possible Night Work was discussed.**

**4. Old Business**

**a. Fire / Ambulance account balances / transfers / callout protocol: Chief Chretien and Deputy Chief LeBarnes attended the meeting to explain prior questions from the Board regarding Fire response times and why our ambulance was in Stetson. Deputy Chief LeBarnes stated that on the date in question, the Town of Newport was requested for ALS (Paramedic) response in Stetson. Chief Chretien explained that the trailer fire was attended by twelve fire personnel and four apparatus within seven minutes of the call. He also**

stated that they were the only fire company that extinguished the blaze before the other departments arrived.

**5. New Business**

**a. New budget committee members: No new members as of yet.**

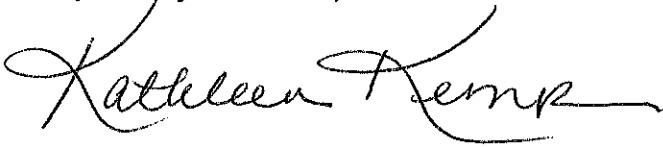
**b. Executive Session re: Personnel in accordance to Maine Statutes title**

**1 Section 405, subsection 6-1: D. Berry asked for a motion to open the Executive Session, M. Sawyer seconded. B. Clarke asked for a motion to close the Executive Session, D. Berry seconded. Once out of Executive Session, the Town Manager explained his decision to retire and stated that he will work with the Board to locate new candidates. The Board requested that the position be advertised in-house for one week, if no candidates are selected, the Board will immediately advertise outside.**

**6. Warrant: D. Berry asked for a motion to accept the warrant, B. Clarke seconded, all in favor, motion carries.**

**7. Adjourn: D. Berry asked for a motion to adjourn, B. Clarke seconded, all in favor, motion carries.**

**Respectfully submitted,**

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "Kathleen Kemp". The signature is written in black ink and is positioned below the "Respectfully submitted," text.

**Kathleen Kemp  
Deputy Clerk**