

**Newport Selectboard
Regular Meeting Minutes
Budget Committee
April 17, 2024**

**Budget Committee
5:00-6:00**

**Selectboard Meeting
6:00-7:00**

Present:

Town Manager: Jim Ricker

Deputy Clerk: Kathleen Kemp

Selectboard: Chair: K. Rush, Vice Chair: D. Berry, B. Clarke, A. Russell, A. Colford

Attendees:

M. Pare, Planning Board

Lou Harris, Abraham's Country Store

1. Call to Order

a. Pledge of allegiance

2. Public Access: M. Pare commented on the flashboards being down. The Town Manager further noted that the water is down two feet.

3. Consent Agenda

a. Approval of minutes from meeting held April 3, 2024: K. Rush made a motion to accept the minutes with the following edit of attendance: B. Clarke was not present at the 04.03.24 meeting as indicated in the minutes. A. Russell seconded the motion with the correction, motion carried.

b. Communications:

1. Erosion 5-yr report MeDEP: The Town Manager reported five years at \$1500.00. Dirigo Engineering will be conducting the updated erosion plan, as they are the original Project Engineers.

2. Dam: Kleinschmidt Associates will be assessing the condition of the dam. They will then provide their recommendations and cost.

3. Nomination papers update: Only three papers were returned: one for Selectboard, leaving one position open; one for School Board, and one for the Sanitary District. The open Selectboard position will be elected at the Town Meeting in June.

4. Old Business

- a. **Meeting with Dave Ledew:** Mr. Ledew will attend the May 22nd Selectboard Meeting.

5. New Business

a. **Tax Acquired Property:** The vacant lot across the river will go out to bid. K. Rush motioned to approve, so moved by A. Russell, D. Berry seconded, A. Colford abstained, motion carried.

b. **Approval to purchase by ARPA funds the following:** K. Rush motioned to approve the ARPA funds, so moved by D. Berry, seconded by A. Colford, motion carried – with the monetary verification of the buyout by the Town Manager.

1. Buyout option for Police Officer (\$25,821)

2. Purchase of Dam buoys: \$15,623.80

c. **Abraham's Country Store – On Premise Liquor License:** Lou Harris for Abraham's Country Store is requesting a beer and wine only On Premise Liquor License. K. Rush motioned to accept, D. Berry so moved, A. Colford seconded, motion carried.

d. **Travis Gould – Alternate CEO:** The Town Manager requested that the present Tax Assessor, Travis Gould, also be the Alternate CEO as needed. Mr. Gould has all of the necessary qualifications to execute the duties required. K. Rush motioned to approve, D. Berry so moved, B. Clarke seconded, motion carried.

6. **Target date for new electronic sign:** Target date(s) for the month of May.

7. **Warrant:** K. Rush motioned to approve the warrant, so moved by D. Berry, seconded by B. Clarke, motion carried.

8. **Adjourn:** K. Rush motioned to approve the warrant, so moved by D. Berry, seconded by B. Clarke, motion carried.