

**Newport Selectboard  
Regular Meeting Minutes  
June 26, 2024 @ 6:00 PM**

**Present:**

**Town Manager, James Ricker**

**Deputy Clerk, Kathleen Kemp**

**Selectboard: Vice Chair, Donna Berry, Bruce Clarke, Adam Russell, Andrew Colford via Zoom.**

**Guests:**

**Mark Sawyer, Selectboard elect**

**Maxine Pare, Planning Board**

**Rick Peck, Planning Board**

**Ed McLaughlin**

**Alice Peck**

**Dee Terrio**

**Don King**

**Cheryl King**

**Linda Stevens**

**Sarah Dow**

**Tammy Oldenburg**

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

**a. Pledge of allegiance**

**2. Public Access:** Maxine Pare positively commented on the new electronic sign. Alice Peck asked if meetings would be displayed on the sign, the Town Manager replied that they would be. Donna Berry inquired about the sign protocol, the Town Manager stated that would be worked on and provided when completed. The Town Manager also stated that the sign planter and plants would be forthcoming and that a possible Town of Newport sign for the top of the electronic sign has been discussed. Also being discussed are plans for beautifying the lot surrounding the sign.

**3. Consent Agenda**

**a. Approval of minutes from meeting held June 5, 2024:** D. Berry made a motion to approve the minutes, B. Clarke so moved, A. Russell seconded, motion carried.

**b. Communications**

**1. New Public Works Employee (Ralph Shaw):** The Town Manager announced a new hire for Public Works, Ralph Shaw. Mr. Shaw was previously the Town Foreman for the Highway Department at the Town of Herman.

**2. Service Agreement with ABM Mechanical:** The Town Manager discussed the renewal of the service contract of \$6,416.00 with ABM Mechanical for the Public Safety Building.

**3. 2024 Audit:** The Auditor will start the auditing process on August 22, 2024.

#### 4. Old business

**a. MDOT Agreement: Roundabout:** The Town Manager discussed the MDOT Agreement for the Roundabout. The only change indicated was that the Town maintain the curbing and center of the Roundabout. The Town Manager stated that a local business has volunteered to do this for the Town. They will present their ideas to the Board, date TBD. The Palmyra Bridge Project was also discussed. The Town Manager has spoken to Mark Parlin from the DOT. There will be a collective meeting (date/time TBD) with the Town's of Newport and Palmyra Selectboards and Dysart's to discuss the Project.

#### 5. New Business

**a. Off-Premise Liquor License: Atwater Holdings, LLC, event (wedding) to be held**

**@ The Grove, June 29, 2024:** Selectboard signatures requested. D. Berry made a motion to approve and sign the license, B. Clarke so moved, A. Russell seconded, motion carried.

**b. Discussion of possible moratorium on new Cannabis Licensees:** In a very well attended meeting, most present spoke in favor of a moratorium, some even suggesting that when the current businesses leave Newport that no new licenses be issued for that location. The Town Manager and the Board discussed the pros and cons of the comments made and it was unanimously decided to have a Public Hearing during the Selectboard Meeting on July 17 at 6:00 pm, to be held at the Public Safety Building.

**6. Warrant:** D. Berry made a motion to accept the warrant, B. Clarke so moved, A. Russell seconded, motion carried.

**7. Adjourn:** D. Berry made a motion to accept the warrant, B. Clarke so moved, A. Russell seconded, motion carried.

#### ADDENDUM

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#### New Business (cont.):

**c. Appointment of Sarah Dow to RSU 19 School Board:** Ms. Dow has agreed to volunteer for the School Board. She is presently on several committees and very active in the community. D. Berry made a motion to accept the appointment, B. Clarke so moved, A. Russell seconded, motion carried.

Respectfully submitted,

*Kathleen Kemp*

Kathleen Kemp, Deputy Clerk

#### Next Meetings:

- There will be a meeting on Wednesday, July 17<sup>th</sup> at 6:00 pm
- There will be a meeting on Wednesday, August 21<sup>st</sup> at 6:00 pm
- Starting in September, Selectboard Meetings will be held on regularly scheduled dates, the 1<sup>st</sup> and 3<sup>rd</sup> Monday of each month (unless otherwise indicated).

