

Town of Newport  
Selectboard Meeting Minutes  
January 20, 2021 @ 6:30 PM

Present: B. Clarke, R. Davis, K. Rush, G. Demos, D. Berry

1. Call to Order

2. Public Access-None

3. Consent Agenda

a. Approval of minutes from meeting held 01-06-21

Motion on the floor to accept the minutes by B. Clarke, seconded by K. Rush, no discussion, all in favor, unanimous.

b. Communications

Four Firefighters with Covid will be returning to work on Monday. Covid time was added to payroll through 12/31/2020, per executive order from the US Dept of Labor. Motion on the floor to extend the COVID-19 time through March of 2021. Motion by K. Rush, seconded by B. Clarke, some discussion. It was noted that two of the firefighters can be working from home. Also all firefighter meeting from this time forward will be zoom meetings. No further discussion, all in favor, unanimous.

Cost Recovery, a private organization who collects outstanding bills for fire and rescue was brought up again by the manager. He supports a contract between the Town and Cost Recovery to be endorsed by the Selectboard. An ordinance will be drafted for our next annual town meeting to solidify the Boards resolve. The Town Manager will create certain guidelines for the next Selectboard meeting for review.

4. Old Business

a. School Project

The attorney wants to know what the Selectboard wishes are. This would be in regard to land uses and what would happen if the school were sold in the future. Covenants would need to be put in the deed to follow it forever. Everyone wants the same protection for the future. Members were requested to share ideas via email with the manager.

b. 2020 Audit Commitments and Contingencies inquiries

This should have been included in our annual audit, however overlooked by our auditor. It will now be placed in the audit folder.

c. Website

Donna asked about the timetable for the new web site. She was told that all information has been received by the designer and we should have it up and running soon.

## 5. New Business

### a. Efficiency of Maine Project Application approval for Heat Pump installation at the Town Office.

An application has been submitted that would support up to 3 systems within the Town Office costing between \$7600 to \$7800. The heat pumps are very efficient. We are waiting for contractors to get back to us with quotes. The money comes from Efficiency of Maine and targets towns with under 4,000 population. Motion on the floor to put the heat pumps in by B. Clark, seconded by K. Rush, no discussion, all in favor, unanimous.

### b. Industrial Park lot#6

Newport Structure "Old Hickory" is looking at this lot for future renovations.

### c. Personnel Policy Update

The personnel policy needs to be updated to include the complete leave act which has now been interpreted that the town must provide 1 hour off for every 40 hrs. worked for part time personnel. (The old standard was based on the total workdays @ 125 per year (This will also be discussed at the next Selectboard meeting).

## 6. Warrant

Motion on the floor to accept the warrant by D. Berry, seconded by G. Demos, no discussion, all in favor, unanimous.

## 7. Adjourn

Motion on the floor to adjourn the meeting by K. Rush, seconded by D. Berry, no discussion, all in favor, unanimous.

Respectfully submitted,



Deanna M. Thompson  
Treasurer