

Newport Selectboard  
Regular Meeting Minutes  
March 16, 2022 @ 6:30 PM

Present: Town Manager: J. Ricker

Selectboard: Chair: K. Rush, D. Berry, B. Clarke, Gus Demos, A. Russell

1. Call to Order

a. Pledge of allegiance

2. Public Access

None

3. Consent Agenda

a. Approval of minutes from meeting held March 2, 2022

Motion to approve minutes by D. Berry, seconded by B. Clarke, no discussion, motion carries.

b. Communications

Mr. Ricker brought forth a citizen's request brought to him by Paul Fernald to open more town ways to ATV access specifically County Rd. 500 ft is already allowed and no real issues have been apparent in the past. The board had some discussion and was receptive to this request.

c. Upcoming meeting with Water and Sewer Departments to discuss  
curb cuts and emergency repairs

Grove St and Park Ave have been ongoing problems that need to be repeatedly fixed and billed to the Water District. Town Manager recommended to board to have a contract and we pull the permit to hold the contractor responsible. Mr. Ricker will rewrite the ordinance if necessary and have it ready for the next board meeting.

d. Round About Schedule for Zoom Meeting

Mr. Ricker handed out notice to Selectboard detailing Zoom meeting and encouraged everyone to participate 3/23-4/6. Everyone is welcome to leave public comments as well.

e. Newly Elected Officials Workshop-MMA

Mr. Ricker encouraged G. Demos and A. Russell to attend this workshop on 4/5- 4-7pm and to inform him soon so he can set it up.

f. Auditor Resignation

Mr. Ricker noted our auditor has resigned and is taking any recommendations. Our audit is done. Mr. Ricker will be speaking to potential replacements and reach out to board.

g. Transfer Station work schedule:

Tues-Fri 7:30am-6:00pm

Sat- 7:30-4:00pm

Board in agreement.

#### 4. Old Business

a. Final recommendations regarding Tax Acquired Property Bid 69 High Street  
Geoffrey Clarke rescinded his bid with Mr. Ricker prior to meeting. Greg Lovley and Jason Wark/Crystal Anderson bids stand. Selectboard discussed awarding to highest bidder who was Mr. Lovley. Motion brought by D. Berry to award property to Greg Lovley, seconded by B. Clarke, all in favor, unanimous.

#### b. Budget workshops

April 6, 13, and 20<sup>th</sup> (before regular board meetings)

Board decided they would start budget workshops at 5:30 before SB meetings. 4/6- 5:30-6:30, 4/13- 5:30-7:30, 4/20- 5:30-6:30.

#### c. Budget Committee Meeting: Tuesday, May 10, @ 6:00 PM

d. Board recommendations for new budget committee members  
Mr. Ricker welcomes any suggestions the board may have.

#### 5. New Business

#### a. Quit Claim Deed to Harry Fleming re: 7 Adams Street

Harry Fleming thanked Board for granting the extension and has paid in full. Motion for quit claim deed by B. Clarke, seconded by G. Demos, all in favor, motion carries.

#### b. Quit Claim Deed for 38 Grove St from Town of Newport to Town of Newport

Motion by B. Clarke, seconded by A. Russell. Mr. Ricker noted that we will need to go back through all town owned/tax acquired property to ensure the town holds deed on all property.

#### c. Budget:

##### 1. Fuel costs

No contracts are available for negotiation right now.

##### 2. Paving,

Town Manager spoke with Northeast Paving today who informed him prices have increased 25-30% and \$100-150 /ton as opposed to \$68-\$72/ton last year. The best practice would be to pave your longest road rather than divide the work up. Other suggestions were made by Northeast and a representative of Pike to pave late or pave early or suspend paving this year all together due to budget constraints.

##### 3. Solid Waste Transportation sur charges

Bolster has increased from \$200 to \$230/trip due to diesel fuel rates. Mr. Ricker stated we could increase our rates from \$1 to \$2. A positive note, metal recycling has gone from \$70 to \$150/ton paid to us.

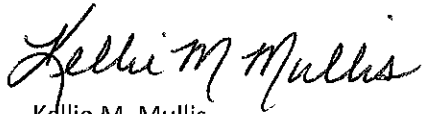
6. Warrant

Motion to approve warrant by G. Demos, seconded by D. Berry, all in favor, motion carries.

7. Adjourn

Motion to adjourn by D. Berry, seconded by A. Russell , all in favor, motion carries.

Respectfully Submitted,

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "Kellie M. Mullis". The signature is written in black ink and is positioned above the printed name and title.

Kellie M. Mullis  
Town Clerk

