

Newport Selectboard
Regular Meeting & Budget Workshop Session#3 Minutes
April 21, 2021
5:30 Budget Session
6:30 Regular Board Meeting

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

1. Call to Order

- a. Pledge of allegiance

2. Budget Session

a. Fire Department

a. Ambulance service discussion

Last year's budget was \$250,190 and this year's budget is up to \$343,590
Ambulance calls reimbursement at \$60.00/call.
Special Revenue Account at \$60,000 right now, by next year \$102,000. (if continuing with the ambulance service now.)

Ambulance service discussion

Ambulance will cost- Proposal #1=\$431,613 /Proposal#2=\$506,613 (see attached).

-1000 to 1200 (Ambulance calls per year)
-Personnel is down

-Towns involved with the ambulance service-Newport/Palmyra/Detroit/Plymouth

-Getting the ambulance could use covid money. This is something to look into with the amount of \$140,000 to \$150,000 per year over a two year period.

-Recommendation

-Budget without ambulance-will need more information and stats
-Invite some administrators from other towns and businesses to see what they say. This would give information from successful and unsuccessful ambulance ventures. By doing so it would give different perspectives.

b. Recreation

Budget up from \$55,000 to \$68,000.

The increased budget would include coaches, recreation stipends/interns/officials-referees-umpires. Extra money would keep the recreation building open during the day.

The money would help generate more fields, full basketball court and the skating rink.

The summer program would help supervise the building from 7 am to 3 pm. The hours for the summer employees could be adjusted. The Recreation department would be looking for students that have graduated and looking for summer work before going to college. Also 17-year-old who are just looking for some work. This would be 40 hours and split between a couple of people.

The summer program could also bring back the food program (bag lunches) for those kids in need.

Once school is out (June to August) for Vacation—There will be things for kids to do.

Money would be used out of this operating budget for the basketball court measuring 84' x 50'.

The second field will need to be finish and Paradis will need to be paid his annual payment this year of \$9,000. .

Regular Meeting resumes

3. Public Access-None

4. Consent Agenda

a. Approval of minutes from meeting held 4-7-21

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

b. Communications

1. Lake status

Level is up a little (1 inch per day).

2. Budget committee review

The Budget meeting will be held on Tuesday, May 4 at 6 pm in the Public Safety Building.

-Without the County Tax the budget is up \$225,000

-Paving Budget is up \$75,000 to \$475,000

-\$93,000 fire increase with substantial decreases due to ambulance reimbursement

-\$62,000 PW increase for a 4th person

-1/2 mill increase in budget (flat mill rate with revenue sharing increase).

-Total Budget \$3,910,602 to \$4,161,982 increase of \$251,380

\$600.00 taken out Admin Budge for Clothing Allowance and a \$5000 increase in Recreation budget.

-Budget Review-Moved by K. Rush, seconded by D. Berry, no further discussion, all in favor, unanimous.

c. Dedication of Town Report

The Town Manager recommended K Hartsgrove. Motion on the floor by K. Rush, seconded by D. Berry, no discussion, all in favor, unanimous.

5. Old Business

a. Streetlights-Nothing yet-no response

6. New Business

a. Presentation by Kyle Russell and Garrit McKee re: marijuana moratorium

Looking to put an article in the Town Report. Marijuana is here to stay. They want an article to allow store fronts. They would be putting high-end dispensaries. They say is a need for this in the market with an accessible and safe way to get it. This would be a grow/process with straight cannabis for both medical and recreational usage. These stores would only be in commercial and village commercial zones. Kyle Russell said they would like it on Main Street and Route 7.

The Town Manager will network with the attorney and MMA. Will bring back the information to the Selectboard meeting on May 5th at 6:30 pm.

b. Selection of membership for the Committee of Water Regulation

Needs to be reschedules to the agenda of May 5th.

c. Rest room facilities at the Grove Street ball diamond and Boat Launch.

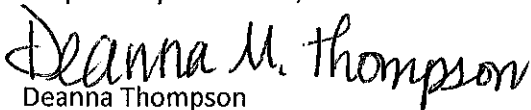
Bathrooms at the boat launch will need to be torn down and replaced by a porta potty. The restroom there now is terrible. Having Porta potties at all 3 locations will cost about \$1500 (Handicap only).

7. Warrant

Motion on the floor to accept the warrant by G. Demos, seconded by B. Clarke, no discussion, unanimous.

8. Adjourn

Respectfully submitted,

Deanna M. Thompson

Deanna Thompson
Treasurer