

Newport Selectboard
Regular Meeting Minutes
May 3, 2023 @ 6:30PM

Present: Town Manager: James Ricker

Selectboard:

Chair: Kate Rush, Vice Chair: Donna Berry, Bruce Clarke, Adam Russell, Andrew Colford

Attendees:

Debra Ricker, Maxine Pare,

1. Call to order

K. Rush called meeting to order at 6:30pm.

a. Pledge of allegiance

2. Public Access

None

3. Consent Agenda

a. Approval of minutes from meeting held 4-19-23

Motion to approve minutes made by D. Berry, seconded by A. Colford, all in favor, motion carried.

b. Communications

1. Newport Clean -up

a. May 9-13 Clean up week

1. Discounts at transfer Station

Town Manager supplied flyer/ad for Board to review which showed dates and discounts. This is the same as the last 2 years.

b. May 13 Team up Clean up 08:00 Newport Rec

Town Manager announced they are in need of volunteers for the Saturday clean up. All will meet up at the Rec Center unless they want to start in their own areas.

2. Watershed Survey Synopsis

Town Manager stated the Engineer, DEP and the volunteers did a great job last Friday and Saturday. Everything went excellent including the interactions with homeowners. They will be back on the 6th or 9th to do the roads. The biggest issues were with the 4 season trail which showed poor drainage and culverts caving in. The Department of Conservation will be depositing 8-10 inches of crushed ledge for 1.68 miles in the section where the arsenic is encapsulated.

c. Town Report Dedication

Town Manager suggested that we dedicate the annual town report to Linda Miller for all her contributions to the town and others. The Board agreed that if Jim Miller is comfortable with it, she should be recognized. Motion to dedicate town report to Linda Miller made by D. Berry, seconded by B. Clarke, all in favor, motion carried.

d. Speed Trailer for Police Department

Town Manager informed the Board that PD was approved to get a speed trailer for the MDOT from May 22-June 2 to be placed in several locations. This is an electronic board which shows motorists what their speed is and if they are over the speed limit. One of the biggest concerns from the Comprehensive Plan surveys was speed and safety so this will be a welcome temporary addition to the Town.

4. Old Business

a. 23/24 Budget as reviewed and approved by the budget committee

Town Manager noted that the new reduced budget number is \$4,784,713.00 due to reduction in the Cultural Center position, paving/gravel budget and additional debt service. A. Colford raised the question about the reduction in paving but it was the opinion of the PW Director and Budget Committee that the Town could still complete the roads with the new budget number. Board agreed with PW and Budget Committee's recommendation. Motion to accept the new budget number with recommendations at \$4,784,713.00 made by D. Berry, seconded by A. Russell, all in favor, motion carried.

b. New Fire Truck and Public Works Vehicle Budget

Town Manager has been exploring leasing options from several banks with little response for a new Fire truck and Public Works vehicle. Both are desperately needed. Estimated pricing is as follows:

Fire Truck: \$ 708,209 – 10 years at approximately \$ 85,159 per year

PW Vehicle: \$ 135,000- 5 years at approximately \$ 28,692 per year

The figures are estimated using an approximate APR.

Final payment:

\$113,851 for first 5 years for both the Fire truck and PW vehicle

\$85,159 for remaining 5 years for just the Fire Truck

There was some urgency to move forward on both due to supply chain demand which could lead to a possible 2 ½ year wait. Also this was the only Fire truck found at this price point. The vendor wants a letter of intent sent tonight to hold the vehicle which may be contingent on Town Meeting. Board discussed options and came to agreement that the time is now to purchase both vehicles. Board also discussed a maintenance account possibly be established for the departments in the future for unexpected repairs or purchases of vehicles to avoid large expenditures like this. Motion to accept lease agreement to secure purchase of new Fire truck.(Public Works vehicle to be ordered as there are none available until after Town Meeting.) made by A. Colford, seconded by B. Clarke, all in favor, motion carried.

5. New Business

a. Annual Victualers, Special Amusement and Pawn Broker License renewals (complete list attached to this agenda)

Town Manager provided Board with full list and also read list aloud. Motion to approve renewal made by D. Berry, seconded by A. Russell, all in favor, motion carried.

b. Animal Control licensing protocol

A. Colford brought forth his concerns about our ACO contacting citizens who were late in registering their dogs saying that this might be too forceful and unnecessary for the Town to participate in such practices to obtain extra money. Town Manager replied that the Town is following State law procedures and we are not required to send reminders or make phone calls to our residents. We could just issue court summons but we prefer not to treat our citizens that way. Also, prior to license expiration date we mail reminder post cards as well as post an ad in the newspaper to give dog owners a chance to respond. The Board responded by commenting on their appreciation of the ACO and took no action on the matter.

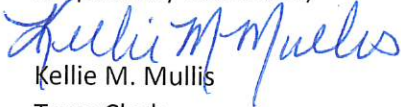
6. Warrant

Motion to approve the warrant made by D. Berry, seconded by A. Russell, all in favor, motion carried.

7. Adjourn

Motion to adjourn made by D. Berry, seconded by B. Clarke, all in favor, meeting adjourned at 8:02 am.

Respectfully submitted,

A handwritten signature in blue ink that reads "Kellie M. Mullis". The signature is written in a cursive style with a large initial "K".

Kellie M. Mullis
Town Clerk

**Town of Newport
Public Hearing Notice**

The Municipal Officers of the Town of Newport hereby give notice in writing to that there will be a public hearing held on Wednesday, May 3, 2023, at 6:30 p.m. at the Town Office located at 23 Water Street for the consideration of the following:

GRANTING A RENEWAL VICTUALER'S LICENSE TO THE FOLLOWING:

368 NUTRITION
ANGLERS RESTAURANT
BARROWS-SKIDGEL (AMERICAN LEGION)
CERVESAS
CHINAWAY
COUNTRY WHISK
FAMILY HOUSE OF PIZZA
FRESHIES-ELM ST
FRESHIES-NEWPORT
GRAZE 207
HARVEST MOON
HOT DOG LADY
MCDONALD'S
NEWPORT DINER
NEWPORT BIG STOP
PIZZA HUT
SAWYER'S DAIRY BAR
SUBWAY
WHATS ON IT

CHRISTIE'S CAMPGROUND
MOOSEHEAD TRAIL CAMPGROUND
NEWPORT ENTERTAINMENT CENTER
SEBASTICOOK LAKE CAMPGROUND

GRANTING A RENEWAL PAWNBROKERS LICENSE TO THE FOLLOWING:

THE MONEY SHOP
MAINE PAWN & GUN

GRANTING A RENEWAL SPECIAL AMUSEMENT LICENSE TO THE FOLLOWING:

NEWPORT ENTERTAINMENT CENTER-Video & Parlor Games, Entertainment
MOOSEHEAD TRAIL CAMPGROUND – Video Games, Live Music & Swimming Pool
CHRISTIE'S CAMPGROUND – Video Games to be used by the Public
SEBASTICOOK LAKE CAMPGROUND – Entertainment, Live Music & Games

All interested parties are encouraged to attend said hearing to show just cause why these licenses should or should not be granted.