

Newport Selectboard  
Regular Meeting Minutes  
08-17-22 @ 6:30 PM  
Newport Town Office

Present: Town Manager, James Ricker

Selectboard:

Chair: Kate Rush, Vice Chair: Donna Berry

Adam Russell, Andrew Colford

Absent: Bruce Clarke

1. Call to order
  - a. Pledge of allegiance
2. Public Access
  - Maxine Pare stated the Sebasticook Lake quality has been quite good recently to which several others agreed.
  - Adam Russell noted Little League was extended 5 weeks and he wanted to express gratitude toward some folks who donated their time to the kids this year:  
Coaches: Adam Hawthorne, Bryan Smith, Jay Demchak, Ryan Parker and Volunteer Umpire: Jeff Chretien
3. Consent Agenda
  - a. Approval of minutes from meeting held 7-20-22  
Motion to approve minutes by D. Berry, seconded by A. Russell, all in favor, motion carries.
  - b. Communications
    1. Ambulance  
Chief Chretien was present to discuss how the Newport ambulance has been operational since Sunday at 6am already with several calls and transports and much success. Town Manager proposed a plan to the Board to enter into a contract with Plymouth to include: ambulance services of an estimated 30-35 calls per year and in turn Plymouth would provide a driver for 1 shift per week and paramedic for 1 day per month. K. Rush suggested we revisit this after 30 days when there is some real data to analyze.  
A. Colford inquired the status of the grant where Chief Chretien replied that Sam.gov has made some updates which has delayed the process and extended the decision to possibly January.  
Town Manager would like Board's permission to hire a 3<sup>rd</sup> full time paramedic since there are funds available in budget. No motion necessary. Board agreed.
    2. Annual Festival  
Everyone agreed that the Riverwalk Festival was another great success taking in more money than initiated and created a large sense of community. The committee put in a lot of hard work and did a tremendous job!
    3. Katahdin Valley Boys  
They are to perform 8/18 at 6pm at the Riverwalk, rain destination will be the Rec Center. This band has quite a following so a good turn out is expected.

4. Former Walgreens Building

This building has sold and the nature of the business is unknown at this time.

5. Former Key Bank Bldg

This building has sold and will be converted into apartments which means the town will lose their public parking across the street.

4. Old Business

a. Re-phrasing Cannabis / Marijuana Ordinances

Town Manager noted the State of Maine will be renaming all "Marijuana" to "Cannabis" in their documents. The Town of Newport is not mandated to do so at this time but to remain in line and to be proactive Mr. Ricker thought it a good idea to do the same. No motion necessary. Board agreed.

5. New Business

a. Ratification vote: Liquor License Renewal c/o Anglers Restaurant  
(manager signed as applicant forgot to renew)

Motion on floor to authorize ratification by D. Berry, seconded by A. Russell, all in favor, motion carries.

b. Drop Box for absentee ballots

Town Manager explained how the State Elections are promoting the absentee drop boxes. The State will supply these boxes and each town will install, more details to follow from Shenna Bellows. Motion on floor to authorize to accept these boxes by D. Berry, seconded by A. Colford, all in favor, unanimous.

c. 2021 / 2022 Audit

Town Manager elaborated that the auditor has been in our office and is still in correspondence with us. She should be reaching out to the Selectboard soon as well. The audit should be ready by the middle of September.

d. Annual Lake drawdown

Meeting is scheduled for 8/23 @ 5pm where they will decide the date of the drawdown.

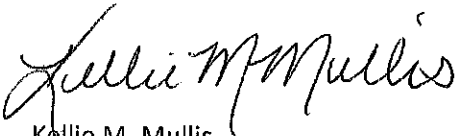
6. Warrant

Motion to approve warrant by D. Berry, seconded by A. Colford, all in favor, motion carries.

7. Adjourn

Motion adjourn at 7:05 by D. Berry, seconded by A. Colford, all in favor, meeting adjourned.

Respectfully Submitted,



Kellie M. Mullis  
Municipal Clerk