Town of Newry Selectmen Meeting Minutes

August 4, 2020 @ 5pm

Conference Call

(425) 436-6372 Access Code: 531106

**Selectmen Present:** Gary Wight, James Largess, Virgil Conkright,

**Others present** Amy Bernard (Town Administrator), Laurie Walker (Deputy Clerk), Brooks Morton (resident), Gretchen Strauss (Tax Payer), Bill Strauss (Tax Payer), Steve Wight (Resident), Kirk Siegel (MLT)

**Selectman Wight made a motion that this meeting is being held in person and electronically, Selectman Conkright 2nd the motion,** **roll call vote all approved, so moved.**

**Signing of Warrants:** all approved

**Approval of the Meeting Minutes**:

Selectman Largess made a motion to approve the June 29th & 30th Minutes. Selectman Conkright 2nd the motion, roll call vote all approves, so moved.

Selectman tabled approving July 21st minutes until August 25, 2020 to read and review.

**Adjustments to Agenda: ~Discuss and Consider a permit for Half Acre Catering. ~**

Previous authorize town Administrator to sign.

**Announcements:** None

**Public Comment**: None

**New Business:**

**~Consider and discuss a joint (MLT and Town) approach to the Step Falls trail over use~**

Kirk Siegal from Mahoosuc Land Trust attended the meeting to discuss how to move forward with the overcrowding, parking, and trespassing issues at Step Falls. As of August 7,2020, Step Fall will be closed to the public. Kirk Siegel address the selectmen with MTL plans, and residents also gave their input. The Selectmen directed Town Administrator to inquire about sheriff details for this area and contact MDOT about additional signage.

**~Discuss and Consider authorizing the chair or administrator to sign the Assessing contracts for the town. ~**

Selectman Largess made a motion to sign the Assessing agent contracts for the town. Selectman Conkright 2nd the motion, roll call vote all approved, so moved.

**~Discuss and Consider the FY2020-2021 budget updates ~**

Selectman Largess made a motion to accept the 2020-2021 budget with adjustments. Selectman Conkright 2nd the motion, roll call vote all approved, so moved.

**~Discuss and Consider town meeting options. ~**

Options for town meeting 2020, A= hold town meeting outside, B= Ballot Vote by referendum,

C= commit taxes off last year budget. The Board discussed at length about the logistics of holding Town Meeting and the cost doing so outside. The Board also discussed committing taxes without a Town Meeting, especially when MMA instructed the Town that the Board can commit less than last year.

Chairman Wight made a motion to go with option C (to commit off last year taxes). Selectman Conkright 2nd the motion, roll call vote all approved, so moved.

**~Discuss and Consider mowing of the town buildings. ~**

Kirk White informed the town that he is no longer interested in mowing the town properties lawns. A bid was summitted by Charles Bean of $3,600.00 for mowing of the Town offices & Fire Station ($150.00 each), Grange Hall ($100.00 each), Sunday River School House ($45.00 each), Sunday River Fire Station($65.00 each) with the approximately of 10 mowing’s a year.

Selectman Wight made a motion to award the mowing contract to Charles Bean through June 30, 2021. Selectman Largess 2nd the motion, roll call vote all approved, so moved.

**~Discuss and Consider appointing James Sysyko to the Veterans Memorial committee. ~**

Chairman Wight made a motion to accept James Sysyko to the Veterans Memorial committee. Selectman Conkright 2nd the motion, roll call vote all approved, so moved.

**Reports:**

**Administrator Report:** see attached

Kirk Wi

**CEO Report**: see attached

**Committees Report:** None

**Selectmen’s Report:** None

**Other Business:** None

**Next Meeting**: August 25, 2020 @ 5:00 pm at the Town Office and by Tele-Conference.

Selectman ­­­­­­­­­­­­­­­­­­­­Largess made a motion to adjourn the Select board meeting. Selectman Wight 2nd the motion, roll call vote all approved, so moved.

**Adjourn*: 7:15 PM***

**Refer to audio recording for verbatim discussion of meeting.**

Minutes Approve By***:***

\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ Date: \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

Gary Wight

\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ Date: \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

Virgil Conkright

\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ Date: \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

James Largess