Town of Newry Selectmen Meeting Minutes

August 15, 2023 @ 5:00pm

**Selectpersons Present:** Virgil Conkright, Mandy Berry

**Staff present**: Loretta Powers (Town Administrator), Amy R. Henley (Deputy Clerk, Rec. Sec.), Joelle Corey (Code Enforcement/LPI/Road Commissioner)

**Others present:** Brooks Morton, Ed Powers, Ted Baker

**Signing of Warrants:** all approved

**Approval of Meeting Minutes:** Selectman Berry made a motion to approve the minutes from the July 13, 2023 meeting. Selectman Conkright 2nd the motion; unanimous vote.

**Adjustment to the Agenda:**

**Public Comment**: None

**Announcements**: The Bethel Area Chamber sent a thank you for helping make the Summerfest possible and a congratulations to Mandy Berry for winning first place in the float competition.

**Public Hearings and Possible Action:**

**Business Agenda:**

**~Discuss the Comprehensive Plan redo~**

Will check with AVCOG to get an estimate on when they could fit this in and an approximate price. There is $8,742 left in the budget that has been being carried over.

**~Approval of JAMY Enterprises, LLC Cannabis Renewal~**

Selectman Conkright made a motion to renew the cannabis license for JAMY Enterprises, LLC. Selectman Berry 2nd the motion; unanimous vote.

**~Nuisance Alarm Ordinance~**

If there is 3 calls to the same residence in a calendar year there is a fee of $250. If there is 4 or more calls to the same residence in a calendar year there is a fee of $500 for each alarm call. Selectman Berry made a motion to accept the ordinance as written and move on to the next step. Selectman Conkright 2nd the motion; unanimous vote.

**~Tax Commitment FY24 choose mil rate~**

Selectman Conkright made a motion to accept a mil rate of $8.50. Selectman Berry 2nd the motion; unanimous vote.

**~Sign County Tax ~**

Selectman Berry made a motion to sign the county tax. Selectman Conkright 2nd the motion; unanimous vote.

**~Discuss a revaluation account being short $39,690 from 2021~**

Money was not properly assigned and will need to move from undesignated funds but will have to be approved at a town meeting.

**~ARPA make decision for use of funds~**

Tabled until next meeting to get an accurate estimate on the full cost of a generator for the Sunday River Fire Station. The funds could also be used for the heat pumps installed at the Town Office as well as turn out gear for the Fire Department.

**~Cemetery concerns ~**

It was decided that the Town Office staff will keep track of cemetery plot information. Going to request a meeting with the Cemetery Committee. Selectman Conkright made a motion to approve getting signs and posts stating you must contact the Town Office before any burials. Selectman Berry 2nd the motion; unanimous vote.

**~FOAA training required ~**

Within 120 days of being appointed FOAA training must be completed. The FAQ were provided which must be read and a certificate filled out.

**~Paine Bride Inspection Report ~**

A couple of bolts are missing from the guardrail and will be replaced.

**~Request use of Grange Hall (Mandy Berry) ~**

Mandy Berry would like to use the Grange Hall the last Saturday in October for a craft fair. Selectman Conkright made a motion to let Mandy Berry use the Grange Hall as requested. Selectman Berry abstained.

**~Discuss possibility of a Special Town Meeting~**

A few items will require a special town meeting: where to put the church money, how to write-off or what to do with uncollectable personal property (waiting to hear from auditor), additional money not originally budgeted for storm damage.

**Clerk Report:**

9 liens are remaining on 5 accounts with a balance total of approximately $4200

**Road Commissioner/Code Officer Report:**

See report. Bids on the Simons Brook Bridge will be coming in.

**TAdmin Report:**

Senior Players does have insurance.

Betsy, HR Consultant is working on the Personnel Policy and I have a Zoom with her Thursday.

Church money received now where to apply it.

Oxford County Commissioners sent a letter stating their caucus is scheduled for 6PM on Wednesday, August 30 with the purpose of electing two selectman to serve on a budget committee.

Selectman Berry made a motion to adjourn the meeting at 5:47PM. Selectman Conkright 2nd the motion; unanimous vote.

**Next Meeting**:

September 5, 2023, 5:00 pm at the Town Office

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

Minutes Approve by***:***

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Gary Wight Chairman

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Virgil Conkright

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Mandy Berry