Town of Newry Selectmen Meeting Minutes

September 19, 2023 @ 5:00pm

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

**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, Eliot Henley, Robert Lowell

**Signing of Warrants:** all approved

**Approval of Meeting Minutes:** Selectman Conkright made a motion to approve the minutes from the September 5, 2023 meeting. Selectman Berry 2nd the motion; unanimous vote.

**Adjustment to the Agenda:**

**~FY 2024 Tax Supplements~**

Selectman Berry made motion to approve the supplemental for R12-14. Selectman Conkright 2nd the motion; unanimous vote.

**~FY2024 Tax Abatements~**

Selectman Wight made a motion to grant the abatements as listed. Selectman Berry 2nd the motion; unanimous vote.

**Public Comment**: None

**Announcements**: None

**Public Hearings and Possible Action:**

**Business Agenda:**

**~BID opening for Simonds Bridge~**

Calderwood Engineering sent bid packet to 34 contractors and no bids were received. They are going to reach out to a few contractors and find out why they did not bid.

**~Discuss fees/fines for building permits ~**

Selectman Berry made a motion to update the fee schedule to include a fine of 5x the assessed permit for construction started before obtaining a permit. Selectman Conkright 2nd the motion; unanimous vote.

**~Cemetery Discussion**

Robert Lowell from the Cemetery Committee was present. It was decided that the Cemetery Ordinance needs to be updated. Discussing the possibility of a Green Burial Site with other local towns.

**~Approve Inter Local Agreement for Tri-Town Transfer Station ~**

Progress was made at the last Solid Waste meeting. Code Enforcement is proposing a flat rate of $500 be added to building permits for new houses and for renovations it would be based on square footage.

**~Discuss ARPA~**

The Generator for the Sunday River Fire Station would be $10,500. We are waiting on a quote from Community Energy for the rest of the project.

**~Review Preliminary 2024 State Valuation-Amended. ~**

Report was given to the Selectmen. The Assessor reviewed and said we are in good shape. We will need to make some changes next year.

**~FOAA training needs to be completed. ~**

Packet/email will be given/sent out again.

**Road Commissioner/Code Officer Report:**

See Report

**Clerk Report:**

Tax payments continue to come in.

Laurie and I attended Networking Day. The Secretary of State was there and it was nice to hear her discuss issues as the No Labels party as I’ve had some difficulties. Just trying to stand up for voter integrity.

We will be going to the MMA Conference coming up.

Certified letters have been sent to landowners that we need Tree Growth Applications for. I have built a spreadsheet to get it under better control.

Talked to the assessor about PILOT agreements for tax exempt property owners.

**TAdmin Report:**

Working on a date for a special town meeting.

Auditor is starting next years audit next week.

Will have a copy of an updated Personnel Policy for next meeting.

Working on Spirit of America. Found what was previously given out. Will order and present at special town meeting.

The window has been ordered for the Grange Hall.

Selectman Berry made a motion to adjourn the meeting at 6:17PM. Selectman Conkright 2nd the motion; unanimous vote.

**Next Meeting**:

October 3, 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

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

Mandy Berry