

Town of Newry Selectmen Meeting Minutes
November 26, 2024 @ 9:00am

Select persons Present: Virgil Conkright, Gary Wight, Mandy Berry

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

Others present: Becky Bean

Signing of Warrants: all approved

Approval of Meeting Minutes: Selectman Conkright made a motion to approve the minutes from the November 12, 2024 meeting. Selectman Berry 2nd the motion; unanimous vote.

Adjustment to the Agenda:

Public Comment:

Announcements:

Public Hearings and Possible Action:

~Renewal of Barker Mountain Lodge, The Peaks Lodge, Shipyard Brewhaus II and Jordan Auxiliary Liquor Licenses~

Selectman Berry made a motion to renew all 4 liquor licenses. Selectman Conkright 2nd the motion; unanimous vote.

Items for Discussion and Possible Action:

~Tree Growth Penalty~

Selectman Berry made a motion to sign the supplemental for two tree growth removal penalties (R13-027 & R13-027-C). Selectman Conkright 2nd the motion; unanimous vote.

~Health Insurance ~

Increase of 9% for health insurance and 1% increase in dental insurance premium beginning January 1, 2025.

~Paid Family Medical Leave~

This is not optional. Loretta and Laurie have a Zoom meeting next week regarding this.

~Join Bethel Chamber~

Selectman Wight made a motion to join the Bethel Chamber for 1 more year. Selectman Berry 2nd the motion; 2 in favor, 1 opposed.

~Stipend Pay for FD ~

Selectman Berry made a motion to pay the Fire Department Stipends as in the past and give them notice will be paying fiscally in the future. Selectman Conkright 2nd the motion; unanimous vote.

~Day after Thanksgiving ~

Selectman Berry made a motion to allow staff to use the day after Thanksgiving as a floating holiday to be used by the end of February until the handbook is updated. Selectman Conkright 2nd the motion; unanimous vote.

~SR Fire Station Generator update~

Generator is up and running. David Berry started building the roof to cover it yesterday. ARPA reporting has to be done in December.

~Road Study for SR Road ~

Ideally we would conduct a traffic study in the winter but are unsure if the equipment would operate during the colder wet weather. Will continue to look into.

~Sunday River estimated cost~

Quote of \$371,631.08 to repair Sunday River erosion. There are grants available. Ideally need to budget for at least consultant and engineer costs.

~Comprehensive Plan update~

Loretta to attend Planning Board meeting on December 2, 2024 and will obtain some highlights and revisit this topic.

Road Commissioner/Code Officer Report:

River monitor would be \$32,000 to install and \$16,000 per year to maintain. Looking into working with surrounding communities to contribute. There are grants available as well to look into.

Clerk Report:

Tax payments continue to trickle in with some already paying the next installment. Dog licensing still going on.

TAdmin Report:

Pat Feeney will do gravestone work in the spring.

John Reilly thanked us for the use of the Grange Hall for Senior Players rehearsal.

Went to a craft fair in Windham and there was a nice stage curtain. Sent an email to Windham to get information on for replacement of the Grange Hall stage curtain.

FEMA approved \$117,000. Have only used approximately \$200,000 from the loan so far but waiting on some bills.

Medicare going up \$3/per capita for a total of \$43/capita.

Selectman Berry made a motion to adjourn the meeting at 9:53AM. Selectman Conkright 2nd the motion; unanimous vote.

Next Meeting:

December 3, 2024, 9:00 am at the Town Office.

Refer to audio recording for verbatim discussion of meeting.

Minutes Approve by:



Gary Wight Chairman

Date: 12-17-24



Virgil Conkright

Date: 12-17-24



Mandy Berry

Date: 12/17/2024