

NEWRY PLANNING BOARD
MINUTES OF BOARD'S ANNUAL MEETING
Wednesday, July 2, 2025
Raymond C. Foster Municipal Building

Full discussion on the topics below is available on audio recording at the Newry Town Office.

Members Present: Ted Baker (Board Chair), Bruce Pierce (Board Vice Chair), John (aka Gootsch) Gauthier (Board Secretary), Meredith Harrop (Alternate), Rob Kates (Alternate)

Members Late:

Staff Present: Joelle Corey (Code Enforcement Officer)

Members & Staff Absent:

Public Attendees: Peter Roberts, Carson Deeds, Rick Dunton, Chris Kennison

Call to Order: Chairman, Ted Baker, called the Annual Meeting of the Newry Planning Board to order at 6:00 PM noting that per the Planning Board's Bylaws, which were amended June 18, 2024, the annual organizational meeting is to be held during the first regularly scheduled meeting of the Planning Board in July. Ted explained that the primary purpose of the annual meeting is the election of officers: Chairperson, Vice Chairperson, and Secretary. Ted stated that the current Board is made up of three full members and two alternates, and the current membership roster is as follows:

Full Board Members:

- Bruce Pierce – term expires July 2026
- Ted Baker – term expires July 2027
- John (Gootsch) Gauthier – term expires 2028

Alternate Board Members (with one-year terms):

- Meredith Harrop
- Rob Kates

The Chair thanked Gootsch, Meredith and Rob for continuing their commitment to the Planning Board – Gootsch for another 3-year term; Meredith and Rob each committing to another one-year term.

The Chair asked if any members of the Planning Board had any comments or announcements. Bruce Pierce stated that he is feeling overextended in the organizations in which he sits and feels the need to scale down. He then respectfully submitted his letter of retirement from the Newry Planning Board, effective immediately. The Chair and other Board members thanked Bruce for his service over the years, and Bruce left his seat at the Board table and joined the other public attendees.

In view of Bruce's resignation from the Board, the Chair tabled nominations and elections of officers until the Board has a third full-time Board member appointment. The Chair asked both Meredith and Rob, if they would like to step up and become a full-time member of the Board. Meredith declined, and Rob asked to have some time to think about it before committing.

The Chair adjourned the Annual meeting of the Newry Planning Board at 6:04pm.