

**TOWN OF NEWFIELDS BOARD OF SELECTMEN
MEETING MINUTES
TUESDAY, MARCH 20, 2018**

Present: Selectmen: Chris Hutchins, Jamie Thompson and Michael Sununu. Others include: Jay Somers- Comcast and Gerard Porteus.

James Thompson was sworn in as Selectman by Sue McKinnon at 6:59 PM on 3/20/18.

Call to order at 7:00pm.

The Selectmen reviewed and signed:

- ✓ Checks Pd 03/16/18: Accts. Pay. Manifest - \$29,458.02
Payroll Manifest - \$9,651.04
- ✓ Checks Pd 03/23/18: Accts. Pay. Manifest - \$10,080.69
Payroll Manifest - \$10,605.07

The Board met with Jay Somers, Comcast, to review the contract renewal with the Town. Michael discussed the public access channel option for the Town for the possibility of taping meetings. It would cost approximately \$40,000.00. Streaming it on the web would cost less. Other topics were discussed: the amount of the performance bond has increased to \$25,000.00, the free internet is at the Elementary School and the Library, only. Business services are not offered for the Town Hall, Fire Dept. or Police Dept. The contract will be for 10 years. Jay will forward amended contract for signature with the language on 8.3b reinserted.

The Selectmen reviewed the Payroll Change Notice - Hourly increase for Chris Hutchins, Part Time Police Officer and was approved by Michael and Jamie.

The Selectmen reviewed and discussed the PA-29 All Veterans' Exemption for Keefe (104-30), Ryan (210-8), Fontaine (208-4.9) and Conner (213-2.22). Chris made a motion to approve the PA-29 All Veterans' Exemption for Keefe, Ryan, Fontaine and Conner, seconded by Jamie. All were in favor and the motion passed.

The Board reviewed and discussed the Elderly Exemption (104-1.2) which was disqualified. A letter of decision was forwarded by mail.

The letter of Approval for the Liquor License for the Squamscott Vineyard was discussed by the Board. Jamie made a motion to approve the Liquor License for the Squamscott Vineyard, seconded by Chris. All were in favor and the motion passed.

Michael updated the Selectmen that he will be checking in with the Boards and Commissions who their representative will be on the Ad-Hoc Agritourism Commission.

The Board of Selectmen voted Chris Hutchins to remain Chairman. Jamie made a motion to accept Chris Hutchins as Chairman, seconded by Michael. All were in favor and the motion carried.

The Board Representatives are as follows: Planning Board & Zoning Board of Adjustments – Jamie Thompson, Conservation Commission – Chris Hutchins, Welfare - Michael Sununu.

The Selectmen discussed the pay increases for Pam Burch and Lauren Maclachlan. At the 2018 Budget Library meeting with the Selectmen, Win said the raises were needed to maintain and retain the current employees and the raises were approved. Michael was notified by Win Fream, Library Trustee, at the Deliberative Session on Feb.6, 2018 that Pam and Lauren would be leaving. Donna will notify Pam Burch that the increase is being held and to please speak with Win, upon his return from business travel.

Jamie made a proposal that all payroll increases would be on March 15th, which will be discussed at a future date.

Gerard Porteus met with the Board on the follow-up on the Vernon Family Farm complaint on the Anderson easement decision. Gerard wanted to know the position of the Board of Selectmen. Michael stated that under the Agritourism Commission, a framework needs to be established for what falls under agritourism, town ordinances are needed for agritourism and concerns addressed by abutters and town residents. Since the Conservation Commission holds the administration of the easement and violations on the Vernon Family Farm, the Board suggested that Gerard attend a meeting of the Conservation Commission.

Minutes of the January 23rd meeting were read. Chris made a motion to accept the minutes as written, seconded by Jamie. All were in favor and the motion passed.

Minutes of the February 13th meeting were read. Chris made a motion to accept the minutes as written, seconded by Michael. All were in favor and the motion passed.

Minutes of the February 20th meeting were read. Chris made a motion to accept the minutes as amended, seconded by Michael. All were in favor and the motion passed.

At 7:55pm, Chris made a motion to adjourn the meeting. The motion was seconded by Michael. The motion passed with all in favor.

Respectfully submitted,

Donna C. Newman