

**Selectmen Minutes
Town of Newburgh**

DATE: 05-04-2015

CALL TO ORDER: 6:04p.m.

ROLL CALL: X Leonard (Bud) Belcher, X Renee O`Donald,
 X Stanley (Skip) Smith, X Cynthia (Cindy) Grant (Town Manager)

**WARRANTS: PY # 19 = \$6,478.91 AP # 20 = \$1,301.50 AP # 21 = \$1,650.50 PY # 22 = 4,074.56
AP # 23 = \$1,956.78 AP # 24 = \$ 99,443.83** – Bud motioned to accept each warrant individually,
Renee' seconded, all warrants approved 3-0

MINUTES: 4-6-2015, 4-16-2015 Bud motioned to accept the minutes as written for 4/6/15, Skip seconded,
approved 3-0. Bud motioned to table the minutes of 4/16/15 until the next meeting, Renee' seconded, approved
3-0.

DEPARTMENT REPORTS:

Fire- Galen reported that there were 3 calls in March.

- Glen reported that all trucks are in good running order. The pumps have been recertified and tested better than required.
- Glen said they have been cleaning the yard at the fire station including the debris that was down over the bank.
- Bud questioned if the drains are all set now. Glen said that they have been used quite a bit and it appears to be working fine. Glen said he dumped 1,000 gallons of water down and it worked fine.
- Cindy said she checked prices on carpeting for the fire station to cover the floor repair. The price to piece in will be between \$50-\$70. The price to replace and install carpet on the whole floor would be about \$1,020. Glen said it is necessary to replace all of the carpet. Skip questioned why it was necessary and where the funds should come from to pay for this. Glen suggested that the money come from the funds raised for the drain repair. Glen was advised that the drain project was way over budget. The dry hydrants still need to be repaired as this is what the Town approved the funds for. Glen would like to forego the dry hydrant project and do the carpets. The Board unanimously agreed to move forward on the dry hydrants. There needs to be a written plan on which dry hydrants need to be done and the extent of work to be done. If there is money left after the repair to the dry hydrants, then the carpet replacement can be considered. Renee' questioned if the Auxiliary would be willing to purchase the carpet, Galen said no, they are almost broke. There will be another Selectman Meeting on 5/18. Bud requested that Glen have a written plan for the Board to review at the next meeting. Glen said he doesn't see the urgency in repairing the dry hydrants as they can still get water when needed. It was decided by the Board to repair the fire pond hydrant first and possibly one other, if funds allow. Cindy pointed out that the dry hydrant repair was necessary to complete a grant that was received years ago.

- Glen advised the Board that he has been in discussions with Hermon to serve as their mutual aid for structure fires. He explained that Hermon has automated paging and has requested that Newburgh assist with structure fires. Newburgh's equipment is beneficial for these types of fires. Glen explained that over the years that Hermon has been very helpful in issues with trucks, equipment, etc. Cindy questioned what the additional cost would be to agree to this agreement. Glen said that there would not be any additional cost. There is a set amount of money each year to be divided among the fire fighters regardless of the number of calls. The Board agreed that this would be fine and just to keep track of the number of times we are called out for Hermon.
- Rescue- Auction Items - Cindy asked the Board if it would be ok to offer for the auction five of the old bench seats from the old Town Hall. There is also an old cash register that could be offered as well. The Board unanimously agreed to donate these items for the auction.
- Roads- Brent reported that he has been inquiring about grading the dirt roads. Kurt Taylor has agreed to grade the roads for \$75/hour. Brent advised that Kendall has no interest in doing the grading. Scott Preston was at the meeting and said Wellman Paving charges \$80/hour. Glen requested that when the paving project is done, that in front of the fire station be paved. Renee' requested that Glen provide square footage for that project. Cindy questioned where the funds would come from to do this project. It was agreed to have Kurt Taylor do the grading. He could begin at the end of this week. Scott said if Kurt couldn't get there quickly to call Wellman Paving and they could do it. Brent questioned if culverts on the Town maintained roads were the responsibility of the Town or the homeowner. It is the Town. Brent has removed all of the posted signs.

Bud questioned what the plan is for installing 911 road number signs. Brent said he will donate his time to go with Glen and place the signs.

Scott Preston presented pricing for grading, paving, changing out culverts, etc. There was discussion about options for repairing the North Road in the bog.

- Recreation – Cindy reported that Kelly had given a list of vendors to send letters to. The Town Office sent the letters out today for donations. Hunter Safety Course is coming up. The class sold out at 40 participants. Community Café is held monthly. Newburgh Days will be held July 18th.
- Library – Gary reported \$48 was made on the book sale.
- Town Managers Report – Monthly Reports, Planning Board, Policies

Cindy provided packets with financials for the Board to review. She requested that each Board member review the financials monthly and then sign off that they have reviewed all reports.

Cindy mentioned that she will attend the next Planning Board meeting to discuss making the land ordinance more user friendly. Renee' said she will attend as well if she is able.

Cindy helped the Animal Control Officer with some issues with a deceased resident that had dogs left in his house. Apparently, the son was taking care of the animals. However, the landlord that owns the home went in with Amie and removed the dogs. They were in very bad shape and along with the three dogs, there were two wild turtles. Amie took them to the shelter. Amie has filed legal paperwork with the court so that this person's son will not be able to get the animals back.

Cindy attended the MRC meeting recently in Hampden. It appears that MRC is trying to get support from area towns to negotiate with PERC for tipping fees. Our agreement expires in 2018. It is still unclear what impact this will have on Newburgh, but Cindy will attend future meetings to see how best to proceed.

The Town Forester called today and Cindy needs Board approval for the Forester to move forward with working with Terry Whitcomb to harvest some Town owned properties. The Board approved 3-0.

Cindy reported that she has contacted a real estate agent about listing the Chapman Road property. They charge 10% commission for land only. There was discussion about the best way to dispose of the property. It was unanimously agreed not to list with the realtor, but to handle it on a local level. Cindy suggested that we put an ad in the newsletter that will be going out next week. After discussion, it was agreed to accept bids with a minimum bid of \$5,500 as is with a deadline of May 30th. The Board asked Cindy to advertise in the classified section of the local newspaper as noted above.

Cindy suggested that before any capital improvements are done to any town owned buildings, the plan be presented to the Board for approval before any work is done. Cindy noted that Emil has provided all blueprints and information on this building. She has started notebooks for each building with all information about the buildings and will keep this updated as needed.

Cindy informed the Board that she will be at a conference and out of the office on May 14th and 15th.

OLD BUSINESS:

1. Loan for Road Work –
Brent met with Sewall to ride the roads and get an idea of what needs to be done. We are still waiting for the report.

Machias Savings Bank came back with an interest rate of 3.99%. This would give us \$2,068,000. When Cindy was speaking with them, she mentioned the Maine Bond Bank was an option. Machias Savings would be willing to do a line of credit at 2.0% to carry over until the funds from the Bond Bank were received. Cindy drafted a letter in the event that we go through bond counsel. It was noted that Ed Bearor, the Town attorney is on the list of bond counsel attorneys. Cindy provided the Board with amortization schedules for different amounts from the bond bank. Renee' suggested that Cindy call Ed Bearor to get feedback on how the bond bank process works and what his fees would be.

Scott said he would try to get in touch with Todd at Machias Savings Bank and see what can be done to get the interest rate lower. The Board agreed to table any further discussion about this until the next meeting, May 18th.

2. Road Paving – Tabled until the next meeting.
3. Building/Planning Committee - Cindy presented a list of names for possible candidates for the Committee. Cindy will call everyone to see if they are willing and able to be members. This will be addressed at the next meeting.

NEW BUSINESS:

1. Plow Contract – Cindy provided a plow contract for review by the Board. This will be discussed at the next meeting.
2. Discount Towing Road Work - The Board agreed to send a letter of appreciation to Discount Towing for work done on the Red Schoolhouse Road. It was agreed that the Town receives a lot of donations of services, but we cannot send gift cards to each donator.

PUBLIC COMMENTS:

SELECTMEN'S COMMENTS:

ADJOURN: 8:22 p.m.