

1 **TOWN OF NEWMARKET, NEW HAMPSHIRE**

2 **TOWN COUNCIL REGULAR MEETING**

3 May 4, 2022 7:00 PM

4 Council Chambers

5 Draft Minutes

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8
9 **Councilors Present:** Council Chair Toni Weinstein, Councilor Megan Brabec, Councilor Scott
10 Blackstone, Councilor Katanna Conley, Councilor Brian Ward, Councilor Joe Lamattina and
11 Councilor Colin White, Sr.

12
13 **Staff Present:** Town Manager Stephen Fournier.

14
15 Chair Weinstein convened the meeting at 7:00 PM and led the Pledge of Allegiance.

16
17
18 **AGENDA**

19 **PUBLIC FORUM**

20
21 Chair Weinstein opened the Public Forum at 7:08 PM.

22
23 Kristin Berthiaume spoke on behalf the non-profit Project Prom/Project Graduation group and
24 asked permission to install the Senior Class Picture banners on the light poles downtown like they
25 were displayed the past two years.

26
27 Chair Weinstein closed the Public Forum at 7:10 PM.

28
29 **PUBLIC HEARING**

30
31 **1. Reclassifying the Class VI Portion of Neal Mill Road to a Class A Trail.**

32
33 Chair Weinstein opened the Public Hearing at 7:10 PM.

34
35 Glenn Dodds, 21 Neal Mill Road, said the property cannot be developed and questioned the
36 necessity to reclassify the Class VI portion of the road to a Class A Trail.

37
38 Ellen Snyder, Johnson Drive, spoke on behalf of the Conservation Commission and said the
39 Commission fully endorses the change. She explained that the Town of Newfields changed their
40 portion of the road to a Class A Trail 2 years ago and it makes sense for Newmarket to convert its
41 portion of the Class VI Road to a Class A Trail.

42
43 Chris Rowe, Tasker Lane, said he is the Vice President of the local snowmobile club. He voiced

44 concern over the change and said he felt it was not necessary. He felt it would eliminate access to
45 cyclists and snowmobilers that currently use the road for recreation. He said the bridge installed
46 was put in by one of his organizations who also contributed \$20,000. toward it. He is against the
47 change. He said he and his volunteer groups maintain the road and there doesn't need to be
48 improvements to it; it's in good shape. He doesn't see the need to reclassify the road.
49

50 Ellen Snyder explained that the access will not be changed and everyone using the road now will
51 be able to continue to use it. The change to the Class A Trail will give the Conservation
52 Commission an opportunity to apply for grants to make improvements to the trail, like adding
53 gravel and drainage improvements.
54

55 Chair Weinstein reminded everyone that the public hearing was for Councilors to hear public
56 comments; it is not a debate.
57

58 Chair Weinstein closed the Public Hearing at 7:16 PM.
59

60 **TOWN COUNCIL TO CONSIDER ACCEPTANCE OF MINUTES**

61 **April 20, 2022 Meeting Minutes**

62 Councilor White made a motion to Approve *the April 20, 2022 Meeting Minutes*, which was
63 seconded by Councilor Conley.
64

65 Motion was Passed by a vote of 7-0.
66

67 **REPORT OF THE TOWN MANAGER**

68
69 **Request – Pole Banners:** Town Manager Fournier said that at the beginning of the pandemic the
70 Town worked with the school of find ways to celebrate graduation because Seniors were not
71 permitted to hold a traditional graduation ceremony with the understanding that it would end when
72 regular celebrations returned. The Town allowed the senior class portrait banners to be installed
73 on the light poles. The Town Manager explained that there is no policy for non-governmental
74 entities to put banners on the light poles downtown. The Council has to take into consideration
75 liability, cost and fairness. The Town Manager drafted a policy for the Councilors to consider. He
76 suggested they approve the current request under “no policy”, but moving forward, future groups
77 will have to follow an approved application process.
78
79

80
81 Councilor Ward said he has no problem allowing the banners to be installed this year but agrees
82 that a policy should be put into place for future requests.
83

84 Chair Weinstein asked that the current Project Graduation Group relay this information to next
85 year's group.
86

87 The Town Manager will let the Public Works Director know of the decision and to work with this
88 year's group to install the banners.
89

90 **Policy Enactment:** The Town Manager is currently looking at a number of internal policies that
91 deal with the day-to-day operations of the town, including “work from home policy”, IT policy
92 manual as well as other operational guidelines. In other communities these are considered a rule
93 or regulation, not a policy. A policy is traditionally a high-level overall plan supporting general
94 goals and acceptable procedures. The Town Manager proposes to amend the administrative code
95 allowing the Town Manager or Department Heads to enact a rule or regulation. He will propose
96 an amendment to the administrative code at a future meeting.
97

98 **Sewer and Water Impact Fees:** The Town Manager has received the final presentation on the
99 proposed changes to the Sewer and Water Impact Fees. The Director of Environmental Services
100 and the consultant will be at the next meeting to present this to the Council.
101

102 **COMMITTEE REPORTS**

103

104 Councilor LaMattina reported on the Energy and Environment Committee meeting held last night.
105 He informed the Council that the Chair Peter Nelson is resigning from the Committee and Ellen
106 Snyder will assume his position until there is another committee appointment. There are now 4
107 vacant seats. The Committee will be meeting with Revision Energy next month to get updates on
108 the Solarize Newmarket campaign. They are also working on the Community Power coalition and
109 Peter is getting information from electric companies. They will be drafting a resolution with help
110 from the Town Manager on the verbiage for the Council to consider that basically states the town
111 would like to commit to using renewable energy by 2030.
112

113 **RESOLUTIONS IN THE 2ND READING**

114

115 **1. Resolution #2021/2022-30 – Debt Policy**

116

117 Councilor Conley made a Motion to Approve Resolution #2021/2022-30 – Debt Policy, which
118 was Seconded by Councilor Ward.
119

120 Town Manager Fournier explained that the town’s auditors and Municipal Resource Inc. advised
121 the Town to adopt a Debt Policy.
122

123 Motion was passed by a vote of 7-0.
124

125 **2. Resolution #2021/2022-31 – Reclassifying the Class VI Portion of Neal Mill Road to a Class 126 A Trail**

127

128 Councilor Conley Moved to Approve Resolution #2021/2022-31 – Reclassifying the Class VI
129 Portion of Neal Mill Road to a Class A Trail, which was Seconded by Councilor Brabec.
130

131 Town Manager Fournier explained that the change will ensure that it will remain a Trail and not
132 be converted to a Road.
133

134 Councilor Ward asked to confirm that people currently using the trail will not see any change to
135 accessing it. Town Manager Fournier said that was correct.

136 Motion was passed by a vote of 7-0.

137

138 **3. Resolution #2021/2022-33 - Naming of Certain Streets in Town**

139

140 Councilor Conley made a Motion to Approve Resolution #2021/2022-33 – Naming of Certain
141 Streets in Town, which was Seconded by Councilor White.

142

143 Town Manager Fournier said that the street names were approved by the E 911 Coordinator.

144

145 Councilor Brabec asked if the Council had authority to name town streets.

146 Town Manager Fournier said that the Council does have that authority and he thought it would be
147 a good way to honor certain individuals by naming a town street after them.

148

149 Councilor Ward put a plug in for Wentworth Cheswill and thought he would worthy of a street
150 named after him. He owned most of South Main Street and donated it all to the Town.

151

152 Motion was passed by a vote of 7-0.

153

154 **RESOLUTIONS IN THE 1ST READING**

155

156 **1. Resolution #2021/2022-33-Authorizing the Issuance of Refunding Well Water Treatment** 157 **Facility Bond**

158

159 Chair Weinstein read Resolution #2021/2022-33 into the record by title only without objection.

160

161 **CORRESPONDENCE TO THE COUNCIL**

162

163 Town Manager Fournier received correspondence from Kathy Zochi in reference to her great uncle
164 Henry Wajda who was a famous horse jockey and resident of Newmarket. The family is requesting
165 support from the town for them to apply for an historic marker to be placed near the Calvary
166 Cemetery in honor of Henry Wajda. The Town Council had no objections to the historic marker.
167 Town Manager Fournier will let the family know that they can proceed with the process through
168 the State.

169

170 **CLOSING COMMENTS BY THE TOWN COUNCILORS**

171

172 Chair Weinstein suggested having a running list of potential street names available for future
173 developers to consider when naming new streets. She will contact the Historical Society for
174 suggestions. Town Manager Fournier said that they can keep them on file at the Planning Office.

175

176 Councilor Brabec mentioned the recent Supreme Court Opinion regarding Roe v. Wade. She said
177 other communities are offering safe havens. She will investigate what other communities are doing
178 and look into what Newmarket can do.

179

180 Councilor White questioned a section of road near the Mobile Home Park off of New Road and
181 the name of the section, he thought was Central Street. Town Manager Fournier suggested he

182 contact the Public Works Director.

183

184 Chair Weinstein mentioned that May is “no mow may”. The month of May is when pollination is
185 crucial. She suggested the town pick a public town owned spot and not mow for the month of May
186 to promote “no mow may” and to put up signage explaining the benefits to nature.

187

188 **NEXT MEETING**

189

190 May 18, 2022

191

192 **ADJOURNMENT**

193

194 Chair Weinstein adjourned the meeting at 8:02 PM without objection.

195

196 Respectfully submitted,

197

198 Wendy V. Chase

199 Recording Secretary

200

201

202

203

204

DRAFT