

**TOWN OF NEWMARKET, NEW HAMPSHIRE
TOWN COUNCIL ORGANIZATIONAL MEETING
ELECTION OF OFFICERS**

March 30, 2017 6:30 PM

TOWN COUNCIL CHAMBERS

Approved April 19, 2017

PRESENT: Council Chairman Dale Pike, Council Vice Chairman Toni Weinstein, Councilor Amy Thompson, Councilor Gretchen Kast, Councilor Kyle Bowden, Councilor Amy Burns, Councilor Casey Finch

ALSO PRESENT: Town Administrator Steve Fournier

AGENDA

Town Administrator Steve Fournier welcomed everyone to the March 30, 2017 Newmarket Town Council Special Organizational Meeting and called the meeting to order at 6:33 pm. He explained for the public that pursuant to the Town Charter, in the absence of a Chair and Vice-Chair, the recording secretary would call the meeting to order and said he would be the acting recording secretary for the meeting. He started the meeting with the Pledge of Allegiance.

ELECTION OF OFFICERS

Town Administrator Fournier stated that the meeting tonight was for the election of officers and the adoption of Council Rules. He said he had reviewed Robert's Rule of Order and that nominations did not required seconds. He said they would call the roll and have each councilor state their preference for a candidate. The candidate with the majority of votes would win, and if no one was chosen they would reopen the nominations and start over.

Election of Chairman and Vice-Chairman

Councilor Bowden nominated Councilor Thompson as Chairman of the Town Council and Councilor Weinstein nominated Councilor Pike as Chairman.

Discussion: Councilor Bowden said he nominated Councilor Thompson as she had always been very professional and when it came to rules and how the meeting was run, and said he nominated her for her organization and professionalism. Councilor Weinstein stated that she had been urging Councilor Pike to run as Chairman and said he was thoughtful, even, and engaged and he worked hard for the betterment of the Council and the Town.

Town Administrator Fournier polled the Council and *Councilor Pike* was elected as *Chairman of the Town Council* by a vote of 5-2.

Chairman Pike opened nominations for Vice-Chairman of the Town Council. Councilor Burns nominated Councilor Weinstein as Vice-Chairman of the Town Council and Councilor Bowden nominated Councilor Thompson.

Town Administrator Fournier polled the Council and *Councilor Weinstein* was elected as *Vice-Chairman of the Town Council* by a vote of 4-3.

ADOPTION OF TOWN COUNCIL RULES 2017-2018

Chairman Pike said they would next adopt the Town Council Rules for 2017-2018.

Discussion: Vice-Chair Weinstein said that she wanted to bring up the issue of Workshop Meetings, and said there was a procedure for that in the rules. She said it gave them the chance to talk about issues that needed more discussion and more work after the first reading of a resolution or an ordinance. Chairman Pike clarified that it did not need to be after a first reading, but it gave them the chance to have a larger discussion on an issue. He said it was also possible to make a Workshop part of their regular business meeting. Councilor Thompson asked if there had been any changes to the rules and Town Administrator Fournier said there were none.

Councilor Burns made a motion to adopt the Town Council Rules for 2017-2018, which was seconded by Councilor Bowden. Town Administrator Fournier polled the Council and the motion to adopt the Town Council Rules for 2017-2018 were approved by a vote of 7-0.

TOWN COUNCIL COMMITTEE ASSIGNMENTS

For Committee Assignments, Chairman Pike said they would go around and ask each councilor to voice their preferences and the reasons for the committees they chose.

Vice-Chair Weinstein said she had served on the Budget Committee which had been a sizeable commitment and that she would like to continue on that committee. She also said she also had an interest in the CIP Committee or the Economic Development Committee.

Councilor Bowden said he was interested in Highway Safety or the Cable Franchise Negotiations, with the CIP Committee a possible third choice.

Councilor Kast said she was interested in serving on the CIP Committee, the Conservation Commission, or Planning Board.

Councilor Thompson said she was already serving on the Highway Safety Committee and was happy to stay there. She said she had also served on the Economic Development Committee and would appreciate being on that committee again.

Councilor Finch said he was flexible and would fill in where the need was. He said in terms of interest he would say the Conservation Commission and also the Economic Development Committee or the Macallen Dam.

Councilor Burns said she had served on the Planning Board last year and would like to continue. She said she was also interested in the Economic Development Committee.

Chairman Pike said he was on the Planning Board and the Planning Board Sub-Committee, and also on the Macallen Dam Committee, but said as Chair he was reluctant to take those on again. He said he had met with former Councilor Phil Nazzaro, and since the CIP Committee was a major interest of his, he expressed an interest in serving on that committee. He said he would definitely stay interested in the Planning Board as it was one of the more active and important committees for the Town coming up. He added that one of the other Councilors interested in the Planning Board could also serve on the Sub-Committee. He said he would like to stay with the Macallen Dam Committee as they were close to taking a vote in the not too distant future. He said once they had met their goals, a solution could be brought to a warrant article, after which they could discuss how to improve the area and make the dam another asset for their waterfront.

Town Administrator Fournier stated that the Council had changed the rules last year to require the whole Council to approve all nominations rather than members being appointed by the Chair. He said the Economic Development Committee and the Budget Committee each had a full member and an alternate. Councilor Thompson recommended that one of the new councilors be an alternate on the Budget Committee as it was a good way to learn about the Town.

After further Council review and discussion, the following committee assignments were recommended:

Macallen Dam – Chairman Pike

Highway Safety – Councilor Thompson

Budget Committee – Full member Vice-Chair Weinstein, Alternate Councilor Finch

Cable Franchise Renegotiations – Councilor Bowden

Capital Improvement Plan (CIP) – Full member Councilor Kast, Alternate Chairman Pike

Conservation Commission – Councilor Finch

Economic Development – Full member Councilor Thompson, Alternate Councilor Bowden

Planning Board – Full member Councilor Burns, Alternate Chairman Pike

Councilor Burns made a motion to approve the Committee Nominations as listed, which was seconded by Councilor Bowden.

Town Administrator Fournier polled the Council and all the appointments to committees were approved by a vote of 7-0.

COMMENTS

Councilor Burns welcomed all the new members to the Town Council.

NEXT MEETING: Town Administrator Fournier said the next meeting would be held on April 5, 2017 at 7:00 pm and packets would be made available.

ADJOURNMENT

Vice-Chair Weinstein made a motion to adjourn the meeting, which was seconded by Councilor Bowden. The meeting was adjourned at 7:01 pm.

Respectfully submitted,

Patricia Denmark, Recording Secretary