



TOWN OF **NEWMARKET** NEW HAMPSHIRE

Town Council/School Board Joint Meeting
Wednesday, August 23, 2023
Immediately following the Non-public Session
Town Hall Auditorium
186 Main Street, Newmarket, NH 03857

Town Councilors Present: Chair Katanna Conley, Vice-chair Brian Ward, Scott Blackstone, Justin Glazebrook, Colin White.

Town Councilors Absent: Sönke Dornblut and Joe LaMattina.

School Board Members Present: Chair Gary Swanson, Vice-chair Amy Tilton, Philip Nazzaro, Andrew Haemker, Dan Smith.

Staff Present: Town Manager Stephen Fournier, School Superintendent Todd Allen, Town Moderator Christopher Hawkins.

Council Vice-chair Ward made a Motion to seal the August 23, 2023 Non-public Joint Meeting Minutes for security reasons.

Councilor Glazebrook Seconded the Motion.

The Motion passed unanimously (10-0-0).

Council Chair Conley convened the meeting at 6:21 PM. Councilor White led the Pledge of Allegiance.

Forms of Government Overview

Town Manager Fournier presented a PowerPoint presentation explaining the different forms of Government.

Voting Machine Discussion

Town Moderator Chris Hawkins gave an overview of the new voting machines that will be vetted by the Secretary of State's Office. It's hopeful that the town will purchase a new machine next year.

Current Projects

Town Manager Fournier explained that the town has been working on a facility study over the past year. Placework is the architectural firm completing the study. The two main facilities that need to be addressed are the Police Department and Town Hall. Town Manager Fournier explained some of the proposed renovations and expansions of the two facilities.

Potential Town/School Collaborations

Superintendent Allen reminded everyone that the school has community space for meetings and to keep that in mind for future town needs.

Town Manager Fournier said that the town and school have been working well together. Some shared positions have worked out and others did not. If the school needs engineering services from the town engineer or help from the public works departments we will provide those services to the school.

Goals – What do we want for the Town?

Superintendent Allen said that Newmarket has defined itself as a great community to raise a family. It has an excellent Recreation Department. It's good to think about when moving forward to the next 25 years.

School Board Nazzaro commented that there should be meetings with the chairs of the School Board, Town Council and Planning Board on some kind of regularity to ensure we are in line with our shared vision. The Master Plan is the guiding document, but that gets updated every 10 years. He spoke in favor of continued collaboration with the School, Recreation Department and the Library.

Town Manager Fournier said that he is setting up a meeting with all the boards and commissions Chairs' to explain their roles and discuss what projects they are interested in working on.

There was discussion on the lack of affordable housing and the mistaken understanding of how school funding works.

Council Chair Conley adjourned the meeting at 7:56 PM without objection.

Respectfully submitted,

Wendy V. Chase
Recording Secretary