



Town of Newcastle

Workshop #2 – Newcastle Fire Company

Minutes– September 21, 2021

Present: Board members-Joel Lind, Rob Nelson, Tor Glendinning, Karen Paz, and David Levesque. Staff members-Sarah Macy-Town Manager, Michelle Cameron-Town Clerk, and Casey Stevens-Interim Fire Chief. Peter Drum, Attorney at law-legal counsel for town. Members and Trustees of the Newcastle Fire Company and their attorney, Stephen Langsdorf, were also present. Minutes transcribed by Michelle Cameron-Town Clerk

Lind opened the workshop at 6:59 p.m.

1. Insurance Update and Discussion

- History: Nelson reviewed the history of the Board looking into insurance liabilities regarding the relationship between the Fire Company and the town. The Select Board has concerns about compliance with the Maine Tort Act.

2. Ordinance Update and Discussion

- History: Nelson stated that the idea of an ordinance started with the previous Town Manager, Jon Duke. Duke suggested the Board investigate whether the town's relationship with the Fire Company was in compliance with Fire Department models set out in Maine statute.
- Special Town Meeting Timeline: Cameron gave a brief explanation for the timeline for the Board ordering a special town meeting.
- Proposed Edits: Langsdorf presented a new draft fire protection ordinance. The Board stated they had not seen or received a copy of this draft of the fire protection ordinance until it was presented at this meeting. Discussion ensued about the newly presented draft ordinance.

3. Discussion Regarding Timeline for Personnel Decisions

- The Select Board will have an executive session meeting to discuss personnel with the town attorney for the evening of October 4, 2021. The meeting will take place at the town office at 6:00 pm. The Board will also hold another workshop with the Newcastle Fire Company on October 5, 2021, at 7:00 pm at the fire station community room.

4. Any Other Items for Discussion-NONE