

**Town of Northumberland
Board of Selectmen
Meeting Minutes
Date: April 2nd, 2018
Place: Town Meeting Room – 10 Station Square
Time: 6:00 P.M**

Board Member present: Michael Phillips, Jim Weagle, Chris Wheelock
Other: Al Rossetto, Nancy Mellow, Larry Meservey, Julie Boisselle, Sam Oakes, Glenn Cassidy, Reggie Charron, Terri Charron, Melinda Kennett, Joseph Kennett, Randy Verrier, Tyler Verrier, Bob Wright, Dick Therrien, Dr. Walker, Rebecca St. Cyr - Recorder

1. Chairman opens the meeting: J. Weagle opened the meeting at 6:00 pm

2. Acceptance of Minutes:

Motion to accept the March 19, 2018 minutes by: M. Phillips
2nd by: C. Wheelock, All in Favor 3-0

3. Selectmen Business:

a. Appointment of Chairman of Board of Selectmen & Department assignments

Motion to appoint Jim Weagle, Chairman by: C. Wheelock
2nd by: M. Phillips, 2 in Favor -1 Abstained

Motion for the Board to continue with the same Department assignments by: M. Phillips, 2nd by: C. Wheelock, All in Favor 3-0

b. Dept. Head Business: Highway/Water/Sewer Depts.

Glenn Cassady – Highway

The crew hasn't had to be out plowing over the past few weeks. There was an issue getting salt, but we have some in the shed, which we've utilized. Will not need to purchase any more until fall.

Randy Potter striped his truck, got the plows painted and the plow frame, put the tailgate back on, it's ready haul material as needed. The crew has started the spring clean-up, we had to purchase another 4 ton of cold patch to fill the pot holes.

We opened the back side of river road today. Page Hill has been a constant battle for the past couple of weeks, as it's thawing. Cassady worked Saturday hauling stone to fill in on the corner at the Town line. We've tried to keep ahead of it, some areas are struggling to get their roads tightened up. Cassady was talking with Tim Brown of the Lancaster Town crew about them grading Page Hill; the Board suggested Cassady ask the Board in Lancaster.

Cassady said Robin Irving sent an email from the State with their intentions for paving in Town and the schedules, which was minimal. A prior email talked about paving from Riverside Dr. to Arlington Ave., which was done approx. 5 years ago. Cassady said we didn't budget to raise the manholes and redo everything. The Board had stepped in then and said they wouldn't allow anymore paving. They wanted to put 1 ½ in down and they would be up to the sidewalks this time. We wanted them to come in and grind. C. Wheelock commented that in the winter the plan was from

the bridge to the Lancaster town line. Cassady said now all they have is 2 tenths of a mile from the Kwik Stop to Winter St. Cassady previously spoke to them about grinding. Talked about putting money into Church St. and the trucks ruining it. It may take a letter from the Board with the concerns. The State does provide some funding for paving, but we are responsible for Church St. The State has Route 3, which is State St. The money was voted/appropriated for Church St., the money is in a CPR. It can be used where recommended. C. Wheelock commented that Eames St. is bad, he's not sure what we are capable of with the truck traffic. M. Phillips said if there is another area that needs to be done, we change it. The Board further discussed.

C. Wheelock asked if the right of way for the State on Church St. is an issue. There's one house that sits very close to the street. Cassady will start working on it and come back with recommendations.

T. Charron asked if the crosswalk near her property could be painted this year, it wasn't done last year.

Dr. Walker talked about Page Hill, he saw people working on the road. Lancaster is optimistic about a partnership. They expressed the idea if we haul the materials in, you could maybe swap. When they run the grader, half the time it's sitting there waiting for materials. There might be something that's swappable and a win/win for everybody. J. Weagle said we did ask them a couple years ago without any luck, we can ask them again.

R. Charron – Water/Sewer

We got all the 1st quarter readings done, Keith Knapp and Winston Hawes did a good job getting them done. Winston Hawes is finalizing the numbers. We have just recycled all the meters that have been taken out, (over 300 meters). We just purchased another 24. M. Phillips asked about residents being able to use a mobile phone to monitor the meter. Charron said we didn't get into that, but we can do that on the crew. Charron further discussed.

He has been monitoring the water usage; right now, we are (at a minimum) saving 25,000 gallons per day. We are being accurate with the readings and are seeing a big improvement.

Working on spring clean-up; the gate valves, will be vacuuming them out and putting on debris stoppers. This is a big part of our maintenance program. We have a hydrant to replace, we are going to wait until the end of the month.

R. Charron has some proposals for the new water truck; a local dealership has met the price of one of the bigger southern dealers. It's the best price that we will see. We have a diesel now; which is 12 years old. We went away from the service body, because we have one already. We do a lot of plowing; the mechanic would like to see us get away from the diesel. After discussing with the dealerships, the return value is higher on a diesel; there are a lot of pro's vs cons for a diesel. The average mpg is higher with the diesel vs. gas. The Board further discussed the proposals with R. Charron. We would save approx. \$5,000 by purchasing gas vs. diesel. Charron doesn't have a preference. A. Rossetto discussed issues with the diesels, AVVRRD had issues with one they had. The warranty is 100,000 miles for the diesel vs 60,000 miles with the gas. When they go into the shop it seems to be emissions. M. Phillips had also talked to Vicki at No. Country Ford. The original quote from No.

Country Ford was approx. \$46,000. Their new quote is less. Charron made a trip to Portsmouth over the weekend for a quote.

C. Wheelock asked if the gas will do what they need to do; Charron discussed the areas they have to go to and the grades. The diesel doesn't have to work as hard as the gas powered. The warranty is 100,000 miles, which covers the drive train, motor. The advantage of buying local is the convenience for maintenance. R. Verrier asked how long we keep these trucks. Charron said the one we have is 12 years old. Verrier further discussed his experience with diesels and the longevity.

M. Phillips is fine with the diesel. Charron said it's built to spec, the price is all inclusive with undercoating, linex and a 9 1/2' Fisher stainless steel plow. The only thing that he would need to add is a rack system.

Motion to authorize the purchase from North Country
Ford in Lancaster by: M. Phillips
2nd by: J. Weagle, All in favor 3-0

Charron is also in the process of getting a quote for the tractor.

- c. Engineering Service Agreements for 2018 (3) – With Horizon Eng.
 - 1. Groveton Municipal Landfill
 - 2. Groveton Water Waste Treatment Facility
 - 3. Northumberland Waste Treatment FacilityMotion to approve all 3 by: M. Phillips
2nd by: C. Wheelock, All in Favor 3-0
- d. Appointment of Road Agent
Motion to re-appointment Glenn Cassady as Road Agent by: M. Phillips
2nd by: C. Wheelock, All in Favor 3-0
- e. Discussion of Meeting House Attendant ad for summer season
Robert Roby has applied for the job. A. Rossetto said that Roby comes to the Library and researches the history. An ad for the position will not be posted.
Motion to approve hiring Robert Roby by: C. Wheelock
2nd by: M. Phillips, All in Favor 3-0
- f. Road Toll Request - Boy Scouts - Sat., April 21, 2017 - 10:30 am - 3 pm
Troop 233 – this is for boys to attend a NH jamboree in May. They didn't get the letter regarding the policy; the request came to Becky Craggy for review. J. Weagle said we are going to put the Road Toll process on the web-site.
Motion to approve by: M. Phillips
2nd by: C. Wheelock, All in Favor 3-0

C. Wheelock suggested the Board designate 10 Saturday's for Road Tolls and space them out ourselves.

4. Applications/Permits and Warrants:

- a. Review, vote on Elderly Exemptions that do/don't qualify to continue
 - 9 – Do qualify currently.
 - 5 - pending, because they haven't submitted all the paperwork.
 - 2 – Don't qualify.

Motion to approve the 9 – qualified and not to approve the 2 – not qualified applications by: M. Phillips
2nd by: C. Wheelock, All in Favor 3-0

The exemptions are based on income and assets.

b. New Elderly exemption application (1)

1. The applicant didn't qualify

Motion to deny by: M. Phillips, 2nd by: C. Wheelock, All in Favor 3-0

c. Appointments - JLMC (4) - Joint Loss Management Committee – Safety Committee

1. Glen Cassady
2. Jim Gibson
3. Robin Irving
4. Becky Craggy

Motion to approve 4 - appointments by: M. Phillips

2nd by: C. Wheelock, All in Favor 3-0

d. Solar Exemption Applications (7) – The State allows municipalities to offer an exemption to residents, ours is capped at \$10,000.

A. Rossetto has solar for his hot water; does he need to apply? The Board said yes. J. Kennett asked if we know what the total amount of the exemptions are? They vary depending on the system, J. Weagle reviewed some of the amounts. J. Kennett asked where the exemption money comes from? M. Phillips said essentially it comes from everyone.

Motion to approve all 7 Solar Exemptions by: M. Phillips

2nd by: C. Wheelock, All in Favor 3-0

A. Rossetto asked if the exemption needs to be applied for yearly? The Board wasn't sure, but it's on the tax card. J. Boisselle thought it was supposed to be yearly based on depreciation of the panels, which was discussed at Town Meeting. C. Wheelock said it might fall under the regular rotation for re-evaluations.

e. Meeting Room Use Applications (2)

1. Gail Rossetto – Library – July 19, 2018 – 2:00 pm – 4:00 pm
2. Gail Rossetto – Library - August 2, 2018 – 2:00 pm – 4:00 pm

Motion to approve the 2 Meeting Room Applications by: M. Phillips

2nd by: C. Wheelock, All in Favor 3-0

f. Blind Exemption Application

1. The applicant qualifies

Motion to approve the Blind Exemption Application by: M. Phillips

2nd by: C. Wheelock, All in Favor 3-0

g. Abatement Application to Municipality

1. Received after the deadline, J. Weagle recommends denying, the deadline is March 1st; it wasn't received March 21st.

Motion to deny the Abatement Application by: M. Phillips

2nd by: C. Wheelock, All in Favor 3-0

- h. Eversource Pole License Petitions (3)
They are replacing 3 poles
Motion to approve replacing 3 Pole License Petitions by: M. Phillips
2nd by: C. Wheelock, All in Favor 3-0
- i. Non-Resident Transfer Station Permit Applications (5)
5 – Renewals
Motion to approve 5 renewals by: M. Phillips
2nd by: C. Wheelock, All in Favor 3-0

5. Public Matters To Be Addressed By The Board:

- a. Speedway 51 - Car Show and Parade - May 12th, 2018 – 10:00 am – 1:00 pm
D. Therrien said Speedway 51 wants to try it downtown again this year; last year it was all moved back to the track due to some complaints. He said we had several requests from drivers and fans to have it downtown again. It's a great show and parade, there was a good turnout 2 years ago, Therrien isn't aware of any issues. They will ask for a police escort to lead the parade and one at the end of the parade. M. Phillips said this is a special detail, the Speedway pays for the service.

N. Merrow referred to the original complaint; she suggested we survey the businesses before approving. M. Kennett said there was a complaint about not having a porta potty; she thought 2 should be ok. The track would need to pay for the porta potties. Maybe some of the business would donate to the cost. J. Boisselle mentioned that she pays for porta potties for her events.

Motion to approve contingent on sending out letters to the businesses and the Speedway renting porta potties by: M. Phillips
2nd by: C. Wheelock, All in Favor 3-0

J. Weagle said the Town will send the letters to the businesses.

- b. Reminder – the snowmobile club will be taking the deck off the Covered Bridge on 4/7/18.
- c. Meeting Announcements –
Wed., 4/4/18 – Planning Board – 7:00 pm
Thurs., 4/5/18 – Go Solar 6:00 – 8:00 pm
- d. C. Wheelock re: The Transfer Station, (Normandeau) we can require whatever we want. Berlin doesn't get involved in the Town politics of it. We can allow everything from the commercial haulers or we can put restrictions on them that it needs to be clean. This is something that we decide.

EMS sent out an email re: putting a building committee together. C. Wheelock will be working with Sam Oakes to get some volunteers and set up some meetings to move forward with it.

- e. J. Boisselle commented the picnic table on the bridge was donated by the Groveton Beautification Comm. The table that was broken was picked up and repaired. The cost was approx. \$15.00. There are 2 tables on the bridge, but there should be 3; 1 is missing. R. Charron suggested putting up some cameras. J. Boisselle was asked about the graffiti on the bridge, she's not sure who is responsible to clean and paint and isn't sure about the regulations for the bridge. J. Weagle and C. Wheelock said

we will bring this back up in the spring. We need to fix the hole. J. Weagle said the pipe has been removed, but there are some structural issues with it. We are looking into what we can do with it.

- f. Terri Charron – Northumberland Cemetery Clean-up Schedule. Anyone having flowers/containers at the Northumberland Cemetery can walk in and pick them up until Sunday, April 22, 2018. The Town crew will do their clean up and the grounds will be ready for the placement of fresh flowers, etc. on Tuesday, May 1, 2018. Depending on road conditions at the time of opening, vehicle traffic may be limited to certain areas. It will be posted on the Town web site and Facebook.
- g. N. Merrow asked about the un-answered questions regarding the solar exemptions, will the Board report back on their findings? The Board will report back.

6. Non-Public Session: (Pursuant to RSA'S 91-A:3, II (A), (C):

Motion to go into Non-Public Session by: M. Phillips
2nd by: C. Wheelock, All in Favor 3-0

Into Non-Public Session at 7:16 pm

Motion to adjourn the Non-Public Session by: MP
2nd by: CW, All in Favor 3-0

Out of Non-Public Session at 8:22 pm

Into Regular Session at 8:22 pm

During the Non-Public session the Board met with a resident regarding a back-tax payment issue, agreed to a lump sum; meet with M. Kennett to review the payment plans; briefly reviewed a personnel matter.

No further business was discussed.

7. Adjournment:

Motion to adjourn by: M. Phillips
2nd by: C. Wheelock, All in Favor 3-0

Meeting adjourned at 8:24 pm

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