

**Town of Northumberland
Board of Selectmen
Meeting Minutes
Date: Tuesday, February 20th, 2018
Place: Selectmen Meeting Room – 10 Station Square
Time: 6:00 P.M.
Draft Copy**

Board members present: Michael Phillips, Jim Weagle, Chris Wheelock
Others present: Jim Gibson, Al Rossetto, Sam Oakes, Chief – Peter Pelletier,
Terri Charron, Transcribed from recorder by: Rebecca St. Cyr

1. Chairman opens the meeting:

J. Weagle opened the meeting at 6:00 pm

2. Acceptance of Minutes:

Motion to accept the Feb. 5, 2018 minutes by: M. Phillips
2nd by: C. Wheelock, All in Favor 3-0

3. Selectmen Business:

a. Department Head Business: Ambulance/Police

J. Gibson - Ambulance –

1. YTD – 68 calls, 2 transfers accepted, 12 declined
2017 – at this time – 88 calls, accepted 16 transfers and declined 9.

The 12 declined are from a lack of personnel, volunteers are becoming a thing of the past. We are down 20 calls from last year, not sure why.

2. Comstar - \$20,832.74 for the month of January.
3. EMT class is almost finished, approx. end date is March 14. Candidates will need to complete the State practical's and nationals for licensing.
4. All ambulances are currently on line, scheduled maintenance is up to date.
5. Comstar bills can be paid online through the Groveton Ambulance website. There is a link to Comstar to pay.

M. Phillips commented about the 20 less calls; Gibson said usually January is busier than February, this year it has been the opposite. Some of the frequent flyers have either moved or passed away.

C. Wheelock asked Gibson about the plan they spoke about. Gibson said he has reached out to other agencies and is getting the same stories. The

reason the private companies are growing is due to the money. They can dedicate their ambulances to certain things. They are paying a wage that is drawing from everyone else. They pay \$18.00 - \$20.00 per hour; we are paying a driver \$10.00 and EMT, paramedic - \$15.00. A. Rossetto asked about the reimbursement rates from the Feds. Gibson reviewed the rates. Rossetto asked if the private agencies have a way to avoid the squeeze. Discussion continued regarding the rates, reimbursement, Municipal vs. Private, coverage radius, dedicated transfers.

S. Oakes & Gibson talked about transitions from municipal to private. The business volume between Lancaster and Groveton. Eventually you might see a private agency looking at it. J. Weagle said we need to have a facility to house the staff (paramedics). Rossetto talked about working up a business plan for a multi-use facility to present to tax payers. C. Wheelock commented that we have had discussions about this already. S. Oakes further discussed, he feels it's feasible to present a plan for next year (2019).

Chief Pelletier - PD

There was an incident at the school last week. Someone had made a threat on face book about attacking the school. Mrs. Perras was notified by a student, Chief Pelletier was already speaking with a parent of the individual, he was arrested – Pelletier further discussed. There was some concern about a call put out by the Superintendent after the situation.

Since he last met with the Board – we opened 7 investigative cases, made 4 arrests, handled 4 accidents and 3 cases pending.

There looking into posting a training on April 25th through the US Atty Generals office. Pelletier would like to see a big attendance. He plans to invite Coos County Law Enforcement, EMS, Fire, DOT and others. Another training that Pelletier has been made aware of - Psychological First Aid. This can be a regional training session also. J. Weagle will reserve the meeting room for April 25.

C. Wheelock asked if there has been training or is there a process in place, if there is an issue at the school. Jake Pelletier has been over a few times to discuss safety plans, we did some basic training over the summer. He wants to set up a drill with Mrs. Perras, maybe during April vacation and ask students to volunteer to be victims. Pelletier discussed what they might include in a drill/simulated lock down.

M. Phillips – cruiser – in the Warrant we are asking for \$20,000 for the CRF fund. As agents to expend, if approved, we will be able to get a new cruiser. We decided not to put an article on the warrant for a lease option. Phillips said Jim Tierney pointed out that if there is money left in the budget; we could potentially use it. We have a cruiser line, but there isn't anything on it. As Phillips understands it, if there isn't a 1 on the line we do what J. Tierney said.

b. Continued discussion of Cemetery Mowing Bids

T. Charron said we had a meeting yesterday morning; she sent out 15 letters solicitating for mowing bids. We received 5 back – one was a thank you for contacting them; but couldn't do it this year. They range between \$17,000 and \$24,000.

1. Swallow & Sons - \$24,000
2. Gary Brown - \$17,000
3. Derick Croteau - \$18,300
4. Getty (sp) Yard Man, Jason Rella (sp) - \$19,800

Charron (excluding Jim Weagle) said that J. Weagle was our lock keeper last year; if there is money in the budget, she suggested that he should be compensated for gas. M. Phillips said this might be a discussion for the Cemetery Trustee's. Charron asked if they can use funds for that? J. Weagle said he didn't think they could, it might need to be under contract. C. Wheelock commented that it's in the PD plan that they will do it. He feels the way the PD is manned for this year they should be able to cover, once part time officers are hired.

4. Applications/Permits and Warrants:

- a. Supplemental Warrant – Town wide sewer - \$17,500 4th qtr.
Motion to approve by: M. Phillips
2nd by: C. Wheelock, All in Favor 3-0

J. Weagle – FYI - the pipe under the bridge has been cut and removed this past weekend. There were also 3 water leaks that the crew had to fix. They also found there wasn't much pressure on the hill; they found a gate valve that wasn't completely closed (approx. 90%), which has been corrected. Paul Crane's crew did the pipe removal under the bridge.

- b. Current Use Application
1. Tom Dittman – revising his current use; adding .6 acres and 1.5-acre parcel purchased from the Town into current use.
Motion to approve by: M. Phillips
2nd by: C. Wheelock, All in Favor 3-0

5. Public Matters To Be Addressed By The Board:

- a. Announce - Precinct Meeting – At the Fire Station on Tuesday, March 6, 2018 at 6:00 pm. To vote on warrant articles and any other matters for the village Precinct.

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: 6:44 pm

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

Non-Public Session adjourned at 6:55 pm

Into Regular Session at 6:55 pm

The Board discussed property matters and a personnel matter during the Non-Public Session.

7. Adjournment:

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

Meeting adjourned at 6:56 pm.

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