

**Town of Northumberland  
Board of Selectmen  
Meeting Minutes  
Date: Monday, June 4th, 2018  
Place: Town Meeting Room – 10 Station Square  
Time: 6:00 P.M.**

Board members present: Michael Phillips, Jim Weagle, Chris Wheelock  
Others: Glenn Cassady, Pete Marshall, Karen Grant, Addy Hall, Susan Marineau, Al Rossetto, Sam Oakes, Brian Hurlbutt, Joseph Kennett, Donna Ramsdell, Steve Early, Rebecca St. Cyr - Recorder

**1. Chairman opens the meeting:**

J. Weagle opened the meeting at 6:00 pm.

**2. Acceptance of Minutes:**

Motion to approve the May 21, 2018 minutes by: M. Phillips  
2<sup>nd</sup> by: C. Wheelock, All in Favor 3-0

**3. Selectmen Business:**

a. Department Head Business: Highway and Water/Sewer

G. Cassady – Highway

Since the last report - the crew has done the shoulder work on Brooklyn St., we have been working on small spring repair jobs; attended 3 project meetings. We put out several loads of gravel, the grader came the 3<sup>rd</sup> week of May. With the rain there are some holes again on Page Hill, Cassady will go out and hand fill those. We repaired a hydrant for R. Charron, we worked at the pool pressure washing and cleaning, it should finish filling on Wednesday. Cassady wanted to start line painting this week, but it's on hold for now.

Sounds like the Church St. project isn't a go. After vacation Cassady wants to finish the sidewalk and curbing in front of the restaurant and then have the street ground and re-paved. He is concerned about money left over after the project paving is done (Roaring Brook & behind the monuments). He would like to then do the Park St. area behind the High School.

M. Phillips asked about swapping State St. and Church St. with the State. J. Weagle said we are working on a proposal, it will be submitted to Lancaster and then to main headquarters. If they approve, it either has to go to Town Meeting or a Public Hearing, Weagle is waiting to hear from Sean on that. If the State isn't willing to do it, a Public Hearing won't be needed. We are putting it in "as is" on both sides. If it's approved, State St. will need to be ground before paving again. Cassady said they will probably say the sidewalks on Church St. might still be the Towns responsibility.

Cassady is looking forward to getting some of the projects closed out, but it's a slow process.

Transfer Station employee Brian Hurlbutt is retiring and is working on a letter of resignation. Hurlbutt said he hopes to have it done by Friday. An ad for the position was posted in the paper; there has been some response. M. Phillips said Hurlbutt would like to stay on part-time (32 hrs.). C. Wheelock commented that we're talking about some changes at the transfer station, he reviewed the changes. It's not just a plug n play position, there are some certifications the employee will need to get. Keeping Hurlbutt working part time, will keep us in compliance until a new person gets certified. Wheelock would like to meet with G. Cassady and Hurlbutt this week or next to map it out. M. Phillips further discussed.

J. Weagle read the W/S report from Reggie Charron

Replaced a fire hydrant near Norm Achillies, still has a drainage issue, R. Charron and G. Cassady will be looking at it. Fixed a hydrant in Dean Brook, rotated a hydrant on Winter St., hopes to start flushing on June 12. Assisting many homeowners replacing W/S lines and water turn-on's.

Has been working with Coleman on the mill project. Is assisting engineers and Paul Crane with punch list. The leach field John Deere tractor has been sold through a private sale for \$16,500; which will be used with \$6,000 in the budget to purchase the new tractor. It should be here this week.

DRA water sampling will be done this week. Charron is working on month end reports.

M. Phillips asked J. Weagle for an update from the change order meeting with the engineers. J. Weagle said the budget still looks good. There could be some issues in the end, Bob Chapman will keep the un-suitables; he's looking into helping to fund the project. We asked him if he would be willing to contribute. If he helps with the offset, we should be ok. Phillips asked about the change orders; Weagle said they have been told that one won't be accepted. We're telling them change orders can't be submitted weekly. Weagle and Phillips further discussed.

- b. Discussion of Junk Yards – J. Weagle – It's about license renewal time; some have asked if we can allow additional licensed junk yards. C. Wheelock commented we currently have several un-licensed junk yards. At the last meeting, he asked G. Cassady to generate a list; Cassady found 60 locations. Becky Craggy is willing to send out letters to residents. This applies to more than just vehicles. The State regulation is for 500 sq. ft.; the Town adopted 200 sq. ft. of junk (by definition) as the area limit. We can be stricter but must meet the State reg.

Wheelock recommended getting the list to Becky Craggy. She will work on a Letter, a copy of ordinance should go out with it. We can fine up to \$100.00 per day; give them up to 60 days – they contact us when they are in compliance. If any questions, they should contact the Board.

G. Cassidy said the list was generated based on what was visible from the road; some had plastic bags stacked up – not knowing what’s in them; some had several lawn mowers, abundance of tires, etc. Cassidy understands that we adopt what’s in the State reg.

Permits – there is a lot of criteria to meet for a junk yard that’s in compliance. J. Weagle discussed a couple of locations as examples that wouldn’t meet the criteria. We have a mandate that we won’t allow any new ones. Discussion ensued regarding the criteria. Currently, we have 3 – Sonny Cummings, Wayne Gilcris, Pete Marshall.

K. Grant asked if the letter goes out, is someone going to follow up? C. Wheelock said we had Chief Pelletier check into enforcement. If the resident doesn’t comply and incurs a fine, the Town can put a lien on the property. All we can do is strongly suggested, but we can’t force them. If the property is sold the Town’s lien will be there.

Wheelock suggested a 2-3 week clean up time; and discuss exempting items from the transfer station cost to dispose of. A free disposal day could be an option; if advertised those that normally pay could take advantage.

J. Kennett commented; in Lancaster, they charge for tires when registering a vehicle. A. Hall said he was talking with someone in Maine, they have an amnesty day once or twice / year. Wheelock said we don’t have the manpower or the funds to do it. J. Weagle asked A. Rossetto if he could get a list of other towns and how they manage; amnesty day, fees, etc. Rossetto said he will send an email to Sharon at AVRDD.

P. Marshall said Chris Caron has cleaned some of his up; they were supposed to start on Dave Potters this afternoon. C. Wheelock commented the crusher won’t come unless there are 100 cars. Rossetto mentioned that there was a neat pile of tires stacked up on Page Hill. M. Phillips - we ask residents to get a \$5.00 dump sticker yearly, some do, and some don’t, it’s not necessarily an easy thing to enforce. Then some want to bring in tires and pay \$25.00. Wheelock said they should be required to have a valid dump sticker. We don’t make money on it but need to meet the cost. Discussion ensued re: the price of the dump sticker, cost for tires, etc.

The tires being dumped aren’t coming from households; if a business is dumping (bulk tires) on private land, it’s not a Town problem; it’s a crime / investigation. Brian Hurlbutt has had residents ask about bringing tires in. The Board can further review and bring back to another meeting.

A. Hall said there is one person in Town with a permit, he was told it was a hobby, which isn’t doing much. If it’s not being used as a junk yard, what’s the purpose. J. Weagle read the description - Junk yard means – storing, selling, trading or otherwise transferring old or scrap items (Weagle listed).

A. Hall asked how many in Town are in compliance with the State. C. Wheelock said we don't go out and inspect them to assure they are complying. A. Hall reviewed some of the regs. P. Marshall said the State does inspections on occasion. There is a license renewal form that's signed by the owner. The Board will further research and report back.

- c. Test Pits – Discussion / Vote on who digs and budget line to fund –  
J. Weagle discussed. With the work done on Winter St; a resident now has water going into the basement. 2 years ago, there wasn't water to this extent. If we do 3 test pits and they are all dry, then it's probably not that problem. If it shows water where there hasn't been, then it probably from stuff that's been moved.

G. Cassady said the area the resident wants us to dig is where the old service line was and the installation of a new service line and the existing main sewer line. They want us to dig a test pit and break into the old sewer line to see if there is standing water. Cassady said he was told the old lines were just broke off and potentially the 3 manholes – they took the top tile off and filled with gravel. With the heavy rains, we are wondering if it leached through the gravel and gone down the main and through the old line. Or it could be the French drain that we put down Roaring Brook. The plans called for foam to be put into the old lines, which might not have been done. If that's where the water is coming from, then it's from the project situation. Cassady needs direction from the Board on how to proceed. This started 6-7 weeks ago. If Cassady does any work on it – then the Town owns the issue. Paul Crane should be required to do the work, whether it's the cause or not. The Board and Cassady further discussed. The contractor is responsible for 2 years per the contract.

C. Wheelock has a concern that Paul Crane is cutting corners to reduce costs. Cassady commented that Robin Irving should be here to review the funding, but he is hearing the money is running out and they want to sign off and close the project. There is a lot of work to be done within 2 weeks. Wheelock suggested following up with Irving and meet with Paul Crane if necessary.

Cassady doesn't want the Town to have to take on any expense. He keeps hearing if the work doesn't get done it falls to the Town, he doesn't like that mentality. The Board further discussed. The Board said we haven't made the final payment. A. Hall asked if they can hold payment, Wheelock said the money is there, but we haven't made the last payment yet. We can hold until the contract is met.

#### **4. Applications/Permits and Warrants:**

- a. Yield Tax Warrant - \$962.00 – Gary Dupuis  
Motion to approve by: M. Phillips  
2<sup>nd</sup> by: C. Wheelock, All in Favor 3-0

b. Building Permits (3)

1. Joe and Tammy Montambreault, Railroad – 28 x 28 cape – seasonal home. T. Bedell hasn't signed.

Motion to approve contingent on T. Bedell signing by: M. Phillips  
2<sup>nd</sup> by: C. Wheelock, All in Favor 3-0

2. Charles Boisclair – Village Motel – converting a room to a temporary ice cream stand – needs to go to the Planning Board.

Motion to approve pending Planning Board and T. Bedell approval by: M. Phillips, 2<sup>nd</sup> by: C. Wheelock, All in Favor 3-0

3. Reginald and Kelly McLain – 24 Melcher St., replacing stairs, footprint change. T. Bedell hasn't signed.

Motion to approve contingent on T. Bedell signing by: M. Phillips  
2<sup>nd</sup> by: C. Wheelock, All in Favor 3-0

c. Warrant for unlicensed dogs – J. Weagle reviewed the RSA.

Motion to approve by: M. Phillips  
2<sup>nd</sup> by: C. Wheelock, All in Favor 3-0

d. Assessing Officials Response to Abatement Application (2)

1. Eversource
2. Fair Point Sansoucy recommend denying both.

Motion to deny both by: M. Phillips  
2<sup>nd</sup> by: C. Wheelock, All in Favor 3-0

**5. Public Matters To Be Addressed By The Board:**

- a. J. Kennett asked who is responsible for the Town office? J. Weagle is the rep. Kennett asked when we are going to fix the phone system. Skywire is the carrier. Kennett asked if we had issues with previous systems. Weagle said we haven't had the speed that we have now, and we haven't been more than a day w/o the system. There isn't a perfect system. Min Kennett has worked for the Town for approx. 13 years, since we took on Skywire its been a joke, when there isn't any phone the ladies have to go outside. Weagle said we are trying to rectify the issues. Kennett reminded him it's been 3 years!!
- b. Garbage collection – J. Weagle said we are meeting with the contractor tonight. Wheelock said we are hoping that we are taking the next step to getting a solution. There have been things done to address the issues; it's hasn't gone unchecked or un-noticed.

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

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

Into Non-Public Session at 7:04 pm

Out of Non-Public session at 8:09 pm

Into Regular session at 8:09 pm

During Non-Public Session the Board approved a payment plan for taxes, met with a contractor to discuss service issues; reviewed a legal matter and briefly discussed a property matter.

**7. Adjournment:**

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

Meeting adjourned at 8:10 pm

*\*The deadline for agenda items is noon on the Friday before the scheduled meeting.  
(Effective 7/11/05) by majority vote of the Board of Selectmen.*

*\*\*The agenda is subject to change.*

*\*\*\*This institution is an equal opportunity provider, and employer. \*\*\**