

**Town of Northumberland
Board of Selectmen
Meeting Minutes
Date: Monday, March 5th, 2018
Place: Town Meeting Room – 10 Station Square
Time: 6:00 P.M.
Draft Copy**

Board Member present: Michael Phillips, Jim Weagle, Chris Wheelock
Others: Al Rossetto, Glenn Cassady, Julie Boisselle, Larry Meservey, Robin Irving, Jesse Hern, Reggie Charron, Tonya St. Cyr, Lauryn St. Cyr, Matthew St. Cyr, Bailee Lambert, Nodia Davenport, Kenzie Pape, 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 February 20, 2018 minutes by: M. Phillips
2nd by: C. Wheelock, All in Favor 3-0

3. Selectmen Business:

a. Department Head Business: Highway and Water/Sewer Depts.

G. Cassady – Highway

The overtime has been high with the call ins for the bad weather. We were in 11 different times. We went through 2 more loads of salt, used 86 – 90 ton of sand on the back roads. Last Monday we had a quick mud season thaw, there were some big sink holes (a lot on Page Hill). We used some of the material we had stored and then built the stockpile on Page Hill back up.

Went through approx. 3 ton of cold patch over the past 2 weeks; will go to Berlin for another load.

Assisted R. Charron on the major water leaks a couple weeks ago.

Getting ready for the Nor'easter on Wednesday. The backside of the river road has been closed, the ice is mostly gone, he plans to start working on it tomorrow.

C. Wheelock had a couple of people ask if we can talk with Stark to put the "Road Closed" sign closer to the end instead of at the town line.

M. Phillips was glad to see Page Hill was taken care of right away. This week it was all greasy again; with the ledge pack in there. G. Cassady said it's the choice of materials but depends on how it dries out. On the salt, we've spent \$11,000 of \$20,000 budget. Cassady still feels they are ok, there is still a load and a half in the shed. We've been conservative and are keeping good documentation.

Phillips asked how we are doing with the current overtime budget. Cassidy hasn't received the updated report from Becky Craggy yet. No one has control over the weather, the conditions of the asphalt roads with the freezing and thawing it keeps popping the asphalt. Cassidy further discussed. The longevity for most asphalt roads is from 8 – 10 years; that's why he's doing the crack sealing to help them last longer. Phillips said we have a goal of \$100,000 paving budget, we don't do that, it's hard to make it work.

b. R. Charron – Water / Sewer

Charron said we've been holding back on some of the W/S projects, some of the newer paved areas we're starting to get into some of the asphalt. He's hoping we are finding all the weak links with the new system, we knew there was a leak, but it hadn't surfaced. Saturday it surfaced. We are trying to be conscience of what we are doing. Last week he spent several hours recycling meters, we want to get some money out of them to help with the cost of the new ones. Keith and Winston, have gone through most of the budget for putting in new meters.

The water line has been cut off the bridge, since then we have been running well.

We should be ok with the overtime and will keep an eye on it.

The mill project – they are progressing on the backside, he didn't get a chance to speak with anyone for an update. Charron scheduled some testing, which we've talked about, there is concern on the other end near where the piers are. They have been very good working with us.

c. Grant Applications-Notice of Intent, Certifying/Authorized Official, Grant Administrator(s)-(RI) - R. Irving sent the Board an email about a grants NBRC; CDBG is the block grant and the Tillotson Fund. She spoke with each of them last week. There are no grants for "for profit" organizations, however there are some ways to get around it, for example Chapman is developing an Industrial Park, Irving is trying to use that model for the MOM's expansion, since they plan to have approx. 20 jobs; the block grant will allow approx. \$20,000/job; NBRC requires job creation and/or retention. Irving reviewed with Michelle at NCC, she thinks this might be an opportunity to pursue. Irving brings it to the Board for a vote to pursue, a letter of intent, grant application (3) and grant authority as the authorized official for all 3 to be able to submit. R. Charron asked what the Towns responsibility is? Irving said we would need to be the owner of the utility.

L. Meservey said they are in a situation of trying to do the right thing with the building. They plan to put an extension off the back, which means they need to move the existing septic system. It's a natural direction for them to see about connection to the Town's sewer system. They are coming to the Board to see if they can partner up with the Town. Irving said if it's extended the residents on the other side of the road would also be required to connect. This is bigger than just getting it to MOM's. M. Phillips – when we fund these type of projects, it takes the form of a bond, currently we have several with a \$2.85 tax impact. With our increase in the

budget of \$130,000, which is due to bond commitments, that's probably all we can afford until one is paid off, unless the situation changes.

L. Meservey asked what they can do as an entity (in need) to help the Town come to a decision that is fair. Phillips - this project is estimated at \$500,000 - \$600,000, R. Irving said that's based on 2009 numbers. She reviewed an old estimate of \$743,000 that was from the existing line to the school that was proposed on Brown Rd. She made some adjustment to get the estimate of \$500,000 - 600,000.

Charron said what about the whole Brown Rd. loop; there are other businesses up there as well. Irving said the biggest hurdle is the environmental study, which wasn't done in the feasibility study. There would need to be an engineer look at it. MOM's had Horizons look at the project for a lateral. Irving said a lateral is not paid through a grant. C. Wheelock commented for the Town, it's what the potential bond payment would be, responsibility of maintaining the system and requiring other residents tying into it.

R. Charron - if the water passes by a resident, they are required to connect, not sure about sewer. The engineering firm would decide if it's feasible and possible from MOM's business to the Town's main. With our policies as is, the cost would be on MOM's and not the Town. Any private lateral is on the property owner. Meservey commented from an environmental stand point, we can't come up the right of way, it would have to follow some of the wet lands. M. Phillips asked if the current leach field can accommodate the business. Meservey said when they expand the building - the leach field is in the way. Right now, there is one-bathroom downstairs and 3 upstairs, we need to be ADA compliant, we might exceed capacity.

After speaking with the grant funders, Irving suggested applying for the CDBG and NBRC grants, she further reviewed. R. Charron discussed another option, boring from the storage sheds all the way to MOM's. It's never been a priority to expand the system north of Town. Cassidy said whatever is put in, would need to be on the West side of the road. R. Irving commented on the time line, to break ground with a Federal grant, 2019 is probably the soonest. There are options with the grant route, but the Town needs to own the infrastructure.

Charron asked Meservey if they looked at relocating the current system; Meservey said potentially. C. Wheelock commented the grant is out of the picture for the time line. There would need to be a lot of engineering for the lateral and there could be issues with wet lands. For the time line it's not feasible. G. Cassidy suggested looking into boring - it's amazing what they can do.

If any of the grants are pursued, Irving needs to get the letters of intent in by March 15th. C. Wheelock asked if we apply and are awarded, but don't take it - does that hurt us for getting future grants. L. Meservey discussed other building they might put on the property. If we don't get penalized Wheelock feels we should go for it. If we go for the grant, we go for the main and not the lateral.

Motion to send the letters of intent for the grants by: M. Phillips

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

M. Phillips reviewed some of the numbers: 1 year ago – the checkbook balance was - \$210,000; 2 years ago - \$246,000; this year - \$1,043,000. Last year we had \$825,000 in back taxes, 2 years ago -\$810,000; this year \$684,000. RI said some of the money this year could be from the bond.

- d. Road Toll Request – Lauryn St. Cyr spoke for the AAU team. She said they want to raise money to help cover the cost for other’s that can’t afford to pay the fee. AAU is for basketball and helps them with their skills. The date requested is April 18th. The Board asked them to stop at the Town Office for an application.

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

Larry Meservey suggested having it on a day when there will be an influx of traffic. The dates are after the tournaments, L. St. Cyr said they would like the funds before the tournaments start. A. Rossetto suggested coming to the Library meeting on April 21st to ask for a donation.

4. Applications/Permits and Warrants:

- a. Yield Tax Warrant - \$72.10

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

- b. Non-Resident Transfer Station Permit Application(s)
1. Guy Mailhot Trust, 41 Brooklyn St. and 41 Rich St.
 2. Henry Dreyer Trust, 27 State St.
 3. Michael & Lena Boulanger, 521 Lost Nation Rd.
 4. Zac Morrison & Cynthia Rossi, 5 Cottage St.

Motion to approve 4 – Transfer Station Permits by: M. Phillips
2nd by: C. Wheelock, All in Favor 3-0

- c. Renewals of Stewardship Plans & Tree Farm Management Plan(s)

1. Heather Gracie & James Petty
2. Harvest Moon, owners Heather Gracie & James Petty.

Motion to approve 1 & 2 by: M. Phillips, 2nd by: C. Wheelock

3. Eric & Margaret Jones, Silver Rd. - renewal
4. Dave Tellman, Lot 216
5. Robert & Cheryl Lottero

Motion to approve 3, 4, & 5 by: M. Phillips
2nd by: C. Wheelock, All in Favor 3-0

- d. Abatement Application(s) to Municipality

1. Terrance C. Smith, Dupuis Store -

Motion to send to the assessors by: M. Phillips

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

2. Eversource – standard

Motion to approve by: M. Phillips

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

3. NE Telephone – standard

Motion to approve by: M. Phillips

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

e. Intent to Cut -

1. Larry Meservey

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. Gazebo use request: June 14th & 28th, July 12th & 26th and August 9th & 23rd - Summer Music Series. Julie Boisselle is organizing.

Motion to approve by: M. Phillips

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

J. Weagle mentioned the “No Smoking” sign needs to be lowered, there are people that are still smoking in it. It needs to be more visible.

- b. Lawn at Covered Bridge use request: Sunday, August 26th, 9:00 am – 2:00 pm - Bridge Market - J. Boisselle is organizing.

Motion to approve by: M. Phillips

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

- c. Announcements: 2018-19 Transfer Station Permits are now available; GoSolar Info. Session (Tues., 3/6/18 – 6:00 pm at 10 Station Sq.); Town Meeting – (Sat., 3/17/18 – 10:00 am); Town Reports are now available; Planning Board Meeting (Wed., 3/7/18 7:00 pm).

- d. A. Rossetto asked about the warrant article for renewable energy. Phillips is waiting for a response from Town Counsel. By the end of the week we will have more info. Rossetto said if it passes, he has talked with Go Solar, but hasn’t made any decision until he can see that it’s cost effective. R. Charron said they would design a system to work for you; any excess is sold back to the grid, which you get credit for. To get it back you pay for it.

C. Wheelock reviewed the warrant regarding the times for voting. To clarify – if we vote YES – we are locked into 11 am – 7 pm and not 7 am – 7 pm. J. Weagle said this is to help reduce the cost, there are not always many people that come in to vote between 7 am and 11 am.

6. Non-Public Session: (Pursuant to RSA'S 91-A:3,II (a), (b), ©, (d), (e):

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

Into Non-Public session at 6:57 pm.

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

Out of Non-Public session at 7:04 pm.

Into Regular session at 7:04 pm.

- a. During Non-Public session the Board discussed a property tax matter.
- b. Other business –
Discussed having a Public Hearing to re-do the ATV ordinance. J. Weagle said the way he reads it, we need to have the Public Hearing to re-word the ordinance. Wheelock feels (with what is being heard regarding MOM's) we need to find a way to get the ATV's there. The State isn't doing anything, they are giving it to the municipalities to make it work. Stark has a warrant to shut down the ATV traffic on all their roads.

Phillips is in favor of connecting them to MOM's, but not necessarily into Town. Wheelock said if MOM's will be a destination, there will probably be a convenience store, food, gas, etc. The Board further discussed their proposed plans, which are enormous.

Weagle doesn't feel all the Town roads or streets should be open to the ATV's but travel to the nearest trail is ok. Education is a big thing. Wheelock talked about working with the clubs, signage, speed limit, age limits, etc. A single seat ATV is not meant for highway use, based on the manufacturers recommendation. J. Weagle said it's frustrating to work with the clubs and then listen to other complaints. C. Wheelock said we will let the Town people speak and will go from there. At a public hearing – it could reduce the stress in the room during an ATV Public Hearing. The Board discussed public hearings.

7. Adjournment:

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

Meeting adjourned at 7:21 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. ******