

**Town of Northumberland
Board of Selectmen
Meeting Minutes
Date: Monday, October 1st, 2018
Place: Town Meeting Room – 10 Station Square
Time: 6:00 P.M.**

Board Members present: Michael Phillips, Jim Weagle, Chris Wheelock
Others present: Nancy Mellow, Al Rossetto, Addie Hall, Karen Grant, Sam Oakes, Glenn Cassady, Jodi Paradis, Harold Marshall, Gordon Gray, John & Tina Collier, Jim Tierney, Reggie & Terri Charron, Julie Boisselle, Norm Cotter, Dan Gray, Charles Jordan – Colebrook Chronicle, Donna Jordan – Colebrook Chronicle, Brian Bresnahan, 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 Sept. 17, 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

G. Cassady – Highway

September is our inspection month; Randy Potter was busy (for a week) making sure everything was correct and sending them out for inspection.

We thought we were done with manholes, we went through the checklist and found 2 more to work on. We had to rebuild 2 more manholes, one was intense. It was all built with red brick, we had close to 300 bricks before we were done reconstructing.

We had to do some cold patching and there is a lot more to do before winter, around manholes and the roads. We got another 6 ton, hopefully that will be enough to do what we want to do. There is some in the storage shed that we use during the winter.

We put up the sand pile, stock piled gravel on Page Hill. There is money in budget to purchase a little bit more.

Keith Knapp did some mowing at the cemetery with the new mower. He wasn't comfortable doing the ravine, it was mowed in the past. We mowed what we could, the new deck has worked out well.

We've been cleaning up in the shop and working outside on the grounds.

Ed Stanley will be here tomorrow to give us a quote for more paving near the recycling bins, then we are going to Gadwahs to decide on what needs to be done there and then to Wheelock's to see about correcting a sag in front of their walkway.

Helped Reggie on a few items, pulled a pump in Northumberland. It looked like a mop head had been flushed down.

Received an email from N. Merrow regarding the window wells at the Library, which is on the list and Cassady hopes to have it completed in a couple of weeks. Cassady discussed a cheaper way to build them.

Another issue he had in his notes, Jodi Paradis had brought forward that there are some planks missing on fence near the covered bridge, which she would like to get replaced. Cassady will have the crew look at it tomorrow. Kids are climbing on them and they've broke. We've been putting up 1" rough cut planks, we changed them several times and will start using 2" x 6" planks. Paradis also asked about the hole in the top face board. C. Wheelock is working on scheduling a weekend where we can get it taken care of.

The pool and rec grounds need to be winterized.

J. Weagle asked about the handicapped ramp at the bank, there is a pretty good hole there. Cassady said they could probably put some cement into it. Cassady discussed a project report from the State and spoke with them about some concerns.

J. Weagle asked Cassady about moving the diesel tank and is he comfortable doing it. Cassady said anyone doing will need have it drained and it could require some placarding and we don't have a low bed. Cassady said they could do the fence removal. It's gone out to bid and a couple of local businesses have asked about it, but they haven't come back yet. There is also electrical that would need to be removed.

Reggie Charron – Water / Sewer

Keith and Winston got the 3rd quarter meter readings done last week in 4 days. We got behind schedule with all the new programing and new stuff that's going on. They did an impressive job.

We put a new tap in for a new water service line and sewer line in at 61 Cumberland St. Al did very well with Glenn and Al's team to get it done. We have the 2nd new tap on Crow Hill scheduled for Wednesday. Late today Charron was notified about a leak at 8 Central St. and we'll have to dig up on the sidewalk there.

We've been doing well keeping up with all the maintenance. We've winterized the cemetery's. He wants to finish up these projects that were planned to be done before winter and will also be flushing some of our dead-end's, so we don't

waste any water. He's looking at the wells again; he needs to get more data but thinks we may have lost some of the stack head due to the dry spell. We have dropped approx. 20 gallons. We aren't losing the water that we were and have tightened up the system. He said there is approx. \$5,000 in the water budget and is looking at purchasing a laser mark water level indicator, which will help with the wells and the daily readings to look at future endeavors for the wells. We aren't in jeopardy but wanted to let the Board know that he has seen a little bit of change. He needs some help from FX Lines to put the pumps in, they are working on a quote.

We've been working on the gate valves, getting them cleaned out. Some of the boxes are 16' in the ground are full of dirt. We couldn't have got to them if we needed to. He's got north, east and south pretty well, and is working on the ones in Town and the hill. It takes a lot of time, with the new plugs the dirt won't get into them.

Sewer –

Our contractor came in and cleaned the septic tanks on Perras Rd, Keith Venture (who is State certified) came up and calibrated all the flow meters. Our part time helper (Paul Putin *sp*) has been working hard bush hogging the fence lines at the leach field. He also helped at the cemetery. Keith has been working with Glenn on the bush hogging, the new deck is working out well. It cost \$4,000, but we are saving by cutting down on the work that Beattie used to do.

M. Phillips asked if anything has happened this year with an engineering study looking for alternative sites for wells. R. Charron said we did this last year, it was very expensive. He's not sure that we can wait, he's looking at chemically cleaning or trying to mechanically clean.

C. Wheelock – We had a Rec Committee meeting, there was some concern about usage at the pool. The usage is checked daily. Kerry hadn't heard anything negative. R. Charron said it was good, they are using approx. 30,000/month. It's better than last year. This year we are doing the back wash manually and getting better results. Discussed the brush on Cumberland St., Dennis Croteau did some spraying at Perras and it hasn't come back. What he is using is State approved, etc.

- b. Troy Merner/Phil Beaulieu - Brown Road Venture – T. Merner said there was a conversation with DEA regarding the road. They had some concerns about getting to the site, basically the company is responsible for the road. Using a State formula, it would cost approx. \$800,000 to fix the road. Merner said there was a chain of calls to discuss the options to work this out. They want to have a building there in December, but Rotobec hasn't submitted the driveway permit, so there isn't a lot the State can do until it's filed. Horizon Engineering is working on it but hasn't submitted. Merner said we have it at all levels to get this worked out. Merner, Wayne Moynihan and Joe Kenney are working on it.

C. Wheelock said Joe Kenney has been working closely with MOM's on several issues. Larry Meservey heard about the issues with Rotobec and contacted Wheelock about having him facilitate a meeting between Wheelock and Joe Kenney. Danny Gray, Operations Manager for Rotobec met with Kenney on Friday. The hang up has been the Spring weight restriction on Brown Rd. Rotobec is requiring 1-2 trucks per day at 15 ton or less and 1 per month at 80,000 lbs. (ish). During the Spring it would put them over the restriction. Rotobec is looking to put up a 31,000 sq. ft. building up to be completed by the first of the year. It would be operational with 50 employees in the April time frame.

Wheelock asked D. Gray about the driveway permit. Gray said it has been submitted now. Wheelock said they are looking for a waiver on the road. The Town trucks with plows and sanders weight approx. 25 ton; the State trucks approx. 20 ton; School buses (empty) approx. 15 ton; Container trucks going to the Transfer Station, etc. Where these are all going are within feet of the proposed Rotobec entrance.

Joe Kenney made some calls and set up a meeting with the Commissioner of DOT, Wheelock and Rotobec in Concord at 1:00 pm on Wednesday. Wheelock has a concern about losing 50 jobs immediately and potentially losing the option for another 50 jobs and an additional 30,000 sq. ft., which is part of Rotobec's short term (5 year) plan. Wheelock said we constantly hear "what can we do for you" to get jobs back into the North Country; between NSA, MOM's and potentially Rotobec we are ¾'s of the way back to when the mill was here.

M. Phillips asked if the company doesn't locate in Groveton; are they looking at other NH sites or out of state? D. Gray said they are looking in South Carolina, and Missouri they have buildings that are almost ready. It's hard to come to the State of NH with this building, Gray further discussed. Wheelock said in August they were led to believe the road was a signature away. Currently the building and machinery is ordered. The drop-dead date is October 10th. Wheelock appreciates the help getting meetings set up.

Some of the options are maybe a short-term waiver and then look for development money for the road. Merner said it's a slam dunk, because of the job creation and expansion on the property, but we are in a dead zone right now, the money wouldn't be available until next summer. Wheelock said the construction will be over the course of the winter, which isn't an issue. They are looking to be operational in April, it might not be an issue in 2019, but more so in 2020. Wheelock said it's progressed a lot further since he contacted Merner. Groveton and Rotobec are a lot more positive today than we were a week ago.

M. Phillips reviewed the State's 10-year plan for Brown Rd.

For those that don't know, the entrance for Rotobec will be directly across from the new 2nd entrance to Transfer Station. A letter went out last week to the abutters regarding the sale to Rotobec. The School Board has talked about

selling their lot; it would be restricted by the road also. The 60-acre lot will allow Rotobec to expand, where the lot at the mill site is 1-2 acres. They would have outgrown it quickly.

J. Tierney discussed the weight restriction on the Brown Rd., the south end he can understand, it's soggy in the Spring; the north end is well above the water table. The State could put the restriction on the south end and use the north entrance for truck traffic. Wheelock can bring it up at the meeting.

N. Merrow knows the local State Representatives are working with you, is there anyone higher and are they aware of what's going on? B. Bresnahan said we are concerned about it and will support it, but it's a State issue. We can support it but can't enforce or influence any decisions. Wheelock said on the 13th he has an audience with the Governor as well.

- c. Short term asset - Water/Sewer – M. Phillips discussed, he's been trying to understand how we can use the money. Robin has said it has to be a project that's \$25,000 or less, which doesn't make sense because W/S projects are a lot more. If it's just for redoing what was done on Brooklyn and Roaring Brook; that's not in context. Phillips said on our level we have been talking about where it goes; the accountants want it to be in PDIP accounts. Phillips would like an answer to what it can be used for. J. Weagle said he's gotten 4 different answers. Based on the definition, Charron said it can be used for emergency W/S items. Wheelock said that's what it says. J. Weagle it's been hard to nail it down – what we can and can't do. We are still working on it.
- d. Discuss/vote - Mill Contract Amendment – J. Weagle reviewed the final numbers – Project construction completion budget was \$905,601.50; allowances - \$17,500; anticipated items: unsuitable excavation - \$10,000, removal/disposal - \$37,500, borrowed fill - \$10,000, 3 phase power extension - \$5,000, trench patch paving - \$18,750. Total \$98,750; Hoyle & Tanner Const. Service - \$77,800, Hoyle & Tanner anticipated requests - \$49,200. Total \$127,000. Total overall \$1,032,601.50. M. Phillips said we talked about a shortfall of \$226.00; and there was a \$3,000 item was discovered that wasn't allowed. The engineers would like that amount for the extra time they incurred. A. Rossetto asked if this means the mill project came in over or under budget. It came in under.

Motion to sign the final contract agreement by: M. Phillips
2nd by: C. Wheelock, All in Favor 3-0

- e. Discuss/sign - NHDOT Municipal Work Zone Agreement – G. Cassady discussed this earlier in the meeting. J. Weagle reviewed agreement: Work on section of Route 3 involves 1 ½ leveling course, 1 ½ overlay, 1 ½ full width inlay, upgrades to sidewalk curb ramps, replacement of guardrail sections as needed within project limits. Beginning at the Lancaster/Northumberland town line proceeding north 6.5 miles to Arlington Avenue. We don't have a say about this, but it doesn't mean that we can't negotiate a swap.

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

- f. Discuss/vote - Normandeau Inquiry - Diesel Tank – Barry Normandeau sent a letter re: the tanks that are on his property. The Town now owns them, he's asking who is responsible if the tanks rupture? The Town is responsible. Normandeau asked how the Town is doing with selling the tanks. They been put out to bid, a couple businesses have looked at them. We haven't received any bids to date. Another option would be to offer to Chapman for disposal as scrap, he would be responsible for emptying. Not sure he would be interested. We could ask Chapman, if he's not interested then we can get a price from Clean Harbors.
- g. Discuss/vote - JLMC Request Letter – J. Weagle read the letter from meeting on March 29th. The committee wants to go on record as strongly suggesting that the Select Board engages in meaningful conversation with the landlord regarding having a roof be built over the ramp at 10 Station Sq. The meeting room is used by several Town Boards, outside interests and for voting. In the winter it's not always cleared before meetings and the ramp needed to be fixed / repaired at least twice this year. The JLMC appreciates the Board bringing this forward. C. Wheelock asked if the building has been sold? J. Weagle said there has been inquiries. Richard Dupuis has indicated there will be a rent increase at the first of 2019, we need to know what the increase will be for the budget.

C. Wheelock suggested Dupuis attend the next meeting to work out these issues. Dupuis pays the W/S; the Town pays the property taxes.

- h. Discussion/decision - Christine Fillmore communication regarding NP Supreme Court Appeal. It shouldn't cost us anything, however if it goes longer than anticipated, it could cost \$2,000-\$3,000 more.
Motion to join this appeal as stated by: M. Phillips
2nd by: C. Wheelock, All in Favor 3-0
- i. George Sansoucy, PE, LLC proposed agreement to provide general consulting Renewal – approx. \$6,000 per Town.
Motion to approve by: M. Phillips, 2nd by: C. Wheelock, All in Favor 3-0
- j. Review/discuss/vote/signing of revised D4 Rubbish Removal Contract – reviewed by the Town attorney and insurance company. Dano's went back to their insurance for review and agreed to the revisions.
Motion to approve by: C. Wheelock, 2nd by: M. Phillips, 3-0
- k. Discuss/vote to ok planking of Covered Bridge for season by snowmobile club Jim Herbert was asking about it. This is to allow the snow machines to cross the bridge this winter.
Motion to approve the planking by: M. Phillips
2nd by: C. Wheelock, All in Favor 3-0
- l. Planning Board / Library Trustee vacancies – looking for people that might be interested in being on the Planning Board. N. Merrow said the Library Trustees

are also looking for alternates, she will get names to the Board for their review / approval.

4. Applications/Permits and Warrants:

a. Junk Yard License Application –

1. New – Jeremy Green, 31 Brown Rd. (Sony Cummings – junk yard). The current owners are selling the property to daughter and son-in-law. C. Wheelock would like to discuss further, if the junk yard is going to sit idle and there is someone else interested that can sell steel, etc. (have a business with it) then we need to look at it. We look at yearly but need to put some criteria on the permit. J. Weagle said Becky Craggy spoke with Green, he's aware that it might not be approved. He did say that he plans to start working on stuff. R. Charron said it's inactive now and could be for a reason. Due to wetlands, he's not sure it could be permitted. P. Marshall's is inspected by the State. We don't know if others in Town are inspected.

The original permit goes with the current owner. If we choose to continue with 3 junk yards, then we need to come up with a list of items to be met before approving. A. Hall commented when the Town administrator gave out the Cummings permit he stated that it was a hobby. C. Wheelock recommended that we don't sign it.

Motion to have Green re-apply in the spring by: C. Wheelock
2nd by: M. Phillips, All in Favor 3-0

b. Non-Resident Permit Application –

1. NEW -John Primavera (sp) – bought the Dupuis property.

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

c. Building Permit Application (2)

1. Joan Ramsay, 1305 Lost Nation Rd. – Repair sugar house. T. Bedell has signed.

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

2. Paul Mason, 32 Crow Hill – Screened gazebo, shed attached, Brian Meunier is doing the construction. T. Bedell hasn't signed.

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

d. Land Use Change Tax Warrant -

1. \$2,000 – current land tax change

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. Announcements:

- W/S users - Hydrant Flushing – 10/9 – 10/29.
- Columbus Day Holiday – 10/8 – Town Office is closed.
- Ordinance Review Committee – 10/8 – 6:00 pm

- Planning Board – 10/10/18 – 7:00 pm

- b. C. Wheelock – MOM's couldn't be here but asked if they need a sign permit to replace the current sign with a smaller one; J. Weagle said yes, just to cover it. They also asked if they need a permit for flag poles; J. Weagle said no.

October 13, 2018 is their Grand Opening, they've asked for the Boards support to have access from the storage sheds (contingent on State approval) for weekend access. 12th – 14th, Friday, Saturday, Sunday. The Board supports as a special event.

October 13th, Meservey has spoken with Chief Pelletier and the Governor will be here along with State Police to escort some wounded warriors and the Governor to MOM's for a flag raising ceremony.

- d. Ordinance review committee – M. Phillips asked if there is Litter Ordinance, if not he would like them to check into drafting one. Boisselle said they will review and bring back to the Board. If it's a new one, it needs to go before Town meeting. She will check with other Towns to see what they are using.
- e. T. Charron asked if the Board could check into getting the funds released; she gets a different answer whenever she asks. J. Weagle will follow up.
- f. J. Boisselle – The Groveton Beautification Committee just put out fall decorations, pumpkins, lights, etc. The pumpkins have been taken, the solar light has been smashed, the lights that go around the gazebo have been destroyed. J. Weagle said we are looking into putting up a camera. Boisselle said she's heard that some hang out there because of free wi-fi.

N. Cotter asked what our police coverage is: J. Weagle reviewed. In the spring we will be up to 2 full time – Pelletier is on for his shift during the day; Dennis is working varied shifts.

- g. John Collier asked about neighbor not mowing the lawn. J. Weagle said it's a property owner issue.
- h. C. Wheelock talked about the curbside pick-up contract. We made it clear to the Dano's they would have it until the new contract comes out. If the bids go out and the current provider isn't the lowest bidder, can we negotiate with them. J. Tierney commented that 4-5 years it was put on the warrant as 2 separate Articles and let the voters decide. The Board reserves the right to choose, it's doesn't have to be the lowest bidder. J. Weagle said we can't negotiate unless it's with each bidder. If it's a multi-year contract, it goes through Town Meeting.

Julie wanted to say thank-you to D-4; they have on several occasions picked up the pet stations without being asked.

M. Phillips asked if the contract can be amended when on the floor for vote at Town Meeting. J. Tierney said you can choose who you want, it's put on as a warrant article to approve the \$ amount and length of contract. Previously, when the Board didn't want to choose, it wasn't for curbside – it was for hauling to AVR RD.

6. Non-Public Session: (Pursuant to RSA'S 91-A:3,II (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 7:19 pm

Board Members present: MP, JW, CW
Others present: TC, JC, RS

a. Resident Matter (JC)

JW – reviewed the information, resident paid back taxes in full including the interest; they are now looking for a rebate on the interest. JW recommended issuing a credit to their account.

The Board met with the residents – paid off \$8,900 - \$400 was interest; they would like a rebate on the interest. He has a savings account labeled as escrow and shouldn't have any issue going forward. A credit will be issued and applied to their next property tax and/or W/S bills.

Motion to waive / abate the interest and issue credit for
future bills by: M. Phillips
2nd by: C. Wheelock, All in Favor 3-0

b. Personnel matter (MP) – reviewed PD wages – part time and full time. Will check the previous minutes for the amounts discussed. MP – budget season is coming soon, further discussed PD wages.

c. Other – email from Melinda Kennett regarding phones – JW is following up with Don on this.

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

Non-Public Session adjourned at 7:36 pm

Into Regular Session at 7:36 pm

a. The Board discussed a Resident Matter and Personnel matter during Non-Public Session. Motion made on the Resident Matter:

Motion to waive / abate the interest and issue credit for
future bills by: M. Phillips
2nd by: C. Wheelock, All in Favor 3-0

- b. C. Wheelock will ask MOM's to stop and fill out the sign permit application. J. Weagle said it just can't be LED. C. Wheelock discussed the issues they've had with the State permitting, etc.
- c. Wheelock briefly reviewed the Brown Rd. – Rotobec – there is water, the sewer they will have their own system, they recycle the water.

7. Adjournment:

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

Meeting adjourned at 7:41 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.*

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