

**Town of Northumberland**

**Board of Selectmen**

**Meeting Minutes (Draft)**

**Date: Monday, November 16<sup>th</sup>, 2020**

**Place: Town Meeting Room – 10 Station Square**

**Time: 6:00 P.M.**

**\*During the meeting "social distancing" will be practiced and wearing of masks is strongly encouraged\***

**Select Board Members present:** Michael Phillips, Chair, Jim Weagle, William Caron

**Others present:** James Gibson, Groveton EMS, Al Rossetto, Robin L. Irving

**1. Chairman opens the meeting:** Michael opens the meeting.

**2. Acceptance of Minutes:** Michael asks for acceptance of minutes from Nov 9<sup>th</sup> meeting. Jim makes motion to accept minutes, William seconds, all in favor, 3-0.

**3. Selectmen Business:**

a. Department Head Business: Ambulance and Police

James Gibson: To date 501 calls, 28 more than last year. Comstar \$186,475.11 paid, \$165,869.59 payments received.

Covid 19 update: 1 active in Northumberland, 1 active in outlying town.

Ambulance 2 is out of commission. Looking for another.

Jim: explain what you have found for vehicles.

James: Looking for used ambulance, 2013 and up, between 20 and 50,000 miles, \$80,000 are the criteria.

Discussion between Board members and James on searching in southerly areas, firm who has vehicles deals all over. Where to get funds from, Capital Reserve and another amount by cutting corners on Ambulance fund, may be able to come up with the money. Will have to consult with Tammy on funding. Conversation on loss of revenue on having an ambulance down.

Michael introduces conversation on the per capita rate charged for ambulance call contracts. Other contracted towns pay \$14.50 and this should be raised to \$20. The national average is \$20 to \$25.

Jim makes motion to raise the per capita fee for contracted towns to \$20.

Michael asks what it means when a town goes without a contracted ambulance service.

Conversation on VT is required, NH is not. One town did not go with contracting Berlin but was not long before they contracted again with Berlin. No guarantee of service for a 911 call if not contracted.

Michael asks if there is anything from Police Dept. Maybe later.

b. Discussion of letter received from Chapman regarding protocol for public and town personnel.

Michael reads letter from Bob Chapman requesting that if his Groveton property is to be inquired about by media, that he requests Alex Ritchie be used as the proper outlet to answer inquiries.

- c. Michael brings up the representation letter from Blodgett and Sanderson for 2019 Auditors. It just points out the services to be performed.

Jim makes motion to have the Chair sign letter, William seconds, all in favor, 3-0.

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

- a. Follow up discussion of intent to cut matter

Select Board signed an intent to cut for the Call family. However the lawyers have since then asked the Select Board to hold off on releasing and certifying the intent as all the tenants in common have not signed. John Call is working on getting signatures.

- b. Follow up review of information and discussion of meeting room use application

Megan Littlehale of Neuro Institute of NH wants to use the meeting room on Thursdays at 3pm, if nothing else scheduled to see patients she cannot see at their homes because of the viral times. Requests to use until she can go back to patients homes. Jim makes motion to approve, William seconds, all in favor, 3-0.

Some follow up discussion on the sanitizing of the room before and after use, whose responsibility to do the sanitizing?

- c. Matter of House Keeping and Building permit

The Nature Conservancy bought the swamp land on Route 3, it came out of current use in the spring because it's less than 10 acres. It should have been adjusted because it is not buildable, the frontage is steep with guardrails and most of the rear land is covered in water with river setbacks. Asking for a \$217 abatement Jim makes motion to approve, William seconds, all in favor, 3-0.

Adam Jewell of 6 York St. has paid for and scheduled a 8 X 40 steel storage unit to be delivered. He has applied for a building permit and fee paid.

Much discussion by the Board and Robin Irving and Al Rossetto regarding storage containers and whether there is a building permit needed, taxation of such containers, under the threshold of \$5,000, different towns do not tax them, need assessor input, need more information. Will let Adam know it is ok to have the container delivered and will get back to him on whether he needs a permit or not, guidance from the Select Board on how to proceed.

- d. Surviving Spouse Veteran's credit application

Madelaine Cloutier, all conditions met, Jim makes motion to sign, William seconds, all in favor, 3-0.

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

- a. Holiday Announcement

Office of Selectmen closed Thursday Nov 26 and Friday Nov 27 for Thanksgiving. Reopens Monday November 30<sup>th</sup> at 8am.

Town Clerk/Tax Collector office is closed at noon on Nov 25 and reopens on Monday Nov 30<sup>th</sup>.

Building Committee meets on Nov 23.

- b. Robin has a question. She was contacted by Troy Merner congratulating Groveton for getting an L-Chip grant. She is curious on who applied for it. No

one acknowledges applying for the grant. Need to find out who applied or if this is an error. L-Chips can only be applied for by municipalities or non-profits and they are a 50/50 match.

Michael brings up one more announcement. Conservation Commission to meet on Wed Nov 18<sup>th</sup> at 7pm at 19 Main Street.

**6. Non-Public Session: (Pursuant to RSA'S 91-A:3,II (c): Nothing to go over.**

**7. Adjournment:** Jim makes motion to adjourn at 6:41pm, William seconds, all in favor, 3-0.

Next meeting, December 7, 2020

Respectfully submitted,

Pam Kathan  
Select Board Minute Taker

Minutes approved by Select Board Members on \_\_\_\_\_

X

\_\_\_\_\_  
Jim Weagle  
Northumberland Select Board Member

X

\_\_\_\_\_  
Michael Phillips  
Northumberland Select Board Chairman

X

\_\_\_\_\_  
William Caron  
Northumberland Select Board Chairman

***\*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.\*\*\*