

**Town of
Northumberland Board
of Selectmen
Meeting Minutes (Draft)
Date: Monday, August 2nd, 2021
Place: Town Meeting Room – 10 Station
SquareTime: 6:00 P.M.**

During the meeting wearing of masks is strongly encouraged for unvaccinated individuals

Select Board Members Present: Jim Weagle, Chairman, Keith Bronson, Bill Caron

Others Present: Norm Cotter, Pete Marshall, Elizabeth Bergquist, Jim O'Brien, Glenn Cassady, Robin Irving, Al Rossetto, Reggie Charron, Terry Charron, Edwin Mellett, Peter Pelletier, Michael Phillips, Tammy Letzin

1. Chairman opens the meeting: Jim asks for a motion to approve minutes with a date correction to Household Hazardous Waste Collection Day to August 7th not October 7th.

2. Acceptance of Minutes: Bill makes motion to accept minutes with date correction, Keith seconds, all in favor, 3-0.

3. Selectmen Business:

a. Department Head Business: Highway and Water/Sewer

Glenn Cassady gives Highway update.

Worked with Reggie to replace 76' of sewer line in one day.

Roadside mowing is complete.

Repairing manholes with new frames and covers in anticipation of paving.

Filling pot holes on the dirt roads.

Waiting for paving quote for Village to come in.

Robin brings up that she needs extra labor hours to fill a match requirement.

Discussion on stone cutting for bridge, pipe work, etc.

Glenn asks if the Selectmen will approve \$95,900 out of budget to spend on paving. Bill makes motion to approve, Keith seconds, all in favor, 3-0.

Reggie Charron gives Water/Sewer Update.

Lots of irons in the fire.

The contract for the Route 3 asbestos abatement contract has been rewarded. State has approved.

Scada system being finalized.

Performed Back Flow Device inspections.

Working with the road crew on curbs and shut offs.

Big sewer root intrusion is fixed.

Sewer cleaning truck is here.

DES meeting regarding pre-industrial treatment for breweries.

Fish Studies

Fixed a lateral leak on Wemyss Drive.

- b. Water/Sewer Rate Presentation—UNC & Robin
Study being done by University of Northern Carolina on fee structure and one demand fee for all classes of water use, residential, commercial, industrial.
Video presentation by Elsa Marie Barnes, Project Director at UNC Environmental division. The need for waste/water rate increases. Studies done with estimating resources based on demographics, income, unemployment.
Keith expresses concern over not having the information on this before that afternoon. Discussion ensues between Select Board, Tammy Letzin, Michael Phillips, Reggie Charron on the need to look at this raise in rates, to ensure the department is not in the red, to insure future infrastructure work can be done without getting in the hole, financially.
- c. Vote to submit application to DWGTF-Robin
Robin asks the Selectmen if they are willing to vote to submit an application to DWGTF for a source water grant for the drinking/groundwater trust fund. Keith makes motion to approve, Bill seconds, all in favor, 3-0.
- d. Source Water Protection Project – Jim O’Brien and Elizabeth Bergquist of the Nature Conservancy presented the need for the Town to write a letter of support for the conservation, preservation, restoration and agriculture on Grey Mist Farm acquisition.

Much discussion between Selectmen and Nature Conservancy on uses, regulations, taxes. Much concern on whether property will still be open for hunting and fishing, yes, but no motorized or recreational vehicles, i.e., snowmobiles, ATVs, etc.

Robin asks if the Selectmen are in favor of writing a letter of support. Motion to support by writing a letter made by Keith, seconded by Bill, Jim opposed. Vote passes 2-1.
- e. Discussion/vote – Review of updated LEOP—Robin
Some changes are still pending but a motion can be made to accept pending changes. Keith makes motion, Bill seconds, all in favor, 3-0.
- f. Review/Discussion/Vote of Fuel Quotes received for 2021-22 heating season
7 quotes sent, 4 responses
Al’s Plumbing 4,500 gal. of #2 heating fuel - \$11,560.50, any overage would be at then current price with 5% discount.
Irving Fitch Fuel \$2.449 per gal of #2 heating fuel, \$2.13 per gal of propane.
CN Brown \$2.489 per gal of #2 heating fuel, \$1.89 per gal of propane.
Doolin Fuel \$2.339 per gallon of #2 heating fuel.

Discussion by Select Board on pro’s and con’s. Motion to select CN Brown made by Keith, seconds by Bill, all in favor, 3-0.
- g. Discussion/decision of business sign – Lancaster Rd
Shawn Swallow. Discussion on size of sign, incorrectly stated. Shawn corrects and initials change. Business sign on residential property conversations. Motion to accept by Keith, seconded by Jim, opposed by Bill. Vote passes 2-1.

4. Applications/Permits and Warrants:

- a. Annual application for reimbursement for Federal and State Forest Land situated in Northumberland
Cape Horn State Forest valued at \$733,823, White Mt. National Forest valued at \$388,900. Tammy Letzin explains that this is actually a payment in lieu of taxes to the Town to provide town services if necessary. Keith makes motion to approve, Bill

seconds, all in favor, 3-0.

b. Building Permit Applications:

Jonathan & April Hatch – 95 Lost Nation Rd – Al has signed, Keith makes motion to approve, Bill seconds, all in favor, 3-0.

Mark Degennaro – 608 Lost Nation Rd – Keith makes motion to approve, Bill seconds, all in favor, 3-0.

Edwin Mellett – 1165 Lost Nation Rd – Keith makes motion to approve, Bill seconds, all in favor, 3-0.

Charles Boisclair – 637 Lancaster Rd – Min makes note that there is a payment plan with Town, but has paid fee. Bill notes policy that all delinquent taxes must be paid before any permit approved. Keith makes motion to deny, Bill seconds, all in favor, 3-0.

Al Rossetto expresses concern that he signed and was not aware of delinquent taxes. Jim says that is ok for him to sign if he sees fit, before coming to the Board.

Shawn Swallow building permit, paid fee. Motion to accept with Al's signature by Keith, seconded by Bill, all in favor, 3-0.

Al says that a licensed electrician needs to sign off for work done.

c. Sign Permit Applications – 637 Lancaster Rd

Permit for Ice Cream Shop and permit for Store. Keith makes motion to not accept, Bill seconds not to accept on both permits, all in favor, 3-0.

d. Abatement – Robert & Susan Gauthier – 7 Paper St – water/sewer – Bill makes motion to approve, Keith seconds, all in favor, 3-0. Some follow-up discussion as to rolling back the old way of charging the rate, will be decided in September.

5. Public Matters To Be Addressed By The Board:

a. Announcement Marty Kelley and Steve Blunt Program Event

Library presents, free of charge, on Saturday Oct. 7th, rain date of Oct 9th at the small ballfield.

Tammy Letzin brings up ARPA funds that are available, can be used for loss of revenue, to offset costs on water/sewer, etc. Also mentions asking Coos County for money soon for broadband, water/sewer.

ARPA funds need approx. 20% match, not repaid and have until 2024 to use and until 2026 to report. Robin has done preapplications. You can also use to give to any Town employee that was an essential worker during Covid.

Select Board thanks Tammy for the information.

Bill makes motion to go into Non-Public, Keith seconds, all in favor, 3-0. Roll call.

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

a. Personnel Matter

b. Property Matter

Bill makes motion to come out of non-pub, Keith seconds, all in favor, 3-0.

7. Adjournment:

Bill makes motion to adjourn, Keith seconds, all in favor of adjournment at 8:34pm, 3-0.

Next meeting, August 16th, 2021

Respectfully submitted,

Pam Kathan

Select Board Minute Taker

Minutes approved by Select Board Members on _____

X

James Weagle
Northumberland Select Board Chairman

X

Bill Caron
Northumberland Select Board Member

X

Keith Bronson
Northumberland Selectboard Member

****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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