

Town of Northumberland
Board of Selectmen
Meeting Minutes (Draft)
Date: Tuesday, July 6th, 2021
Place: Town Meeting Room – 10 Station Square
Time: 6:00 P.M.

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

Selectmen present: Jim Weagle, Chairman, Keith Bronson, Bill Caron

Others present: Owen Leighton, Melinda Kennett, David Blanco, Pete Marshall, Reginald Charron, Terri Charron, Glenn Cassady, Robin Irving

- 1. Chairman opens the meeting:** Opens the meeting and asks for a motion to accept minutes.
- 2. Acceptance of Minutes:** Motion to accept minutes as read by Bill, seconded by Keith, all in favor, 3-0.
- 3. Selectmen Business:**

a. Dept. Head Business – Highway and Water/Sewer

Glenn Cassady reports: Several smaller items like striping ongoing, the big stuff of crosswalks is done. Brush cutting, covered bridge sewer line remove, Maple Street sewer job, Pike Street water leak, possible private lateral. Railroad tracks are done, estimate for blacktop to pave West Street and the rest of the paving is coming. Sealing cracks, will check old seals, grinding helps prevent cracks. Soon to start Northumberland Village grinding, the manholes will have to be rebuilt after the grinding. Roadside mowing is done and Jason Canton will start placing the trusses for the salt shed.

Robin explains why they removed the sewer line on the Bridge. Time constraints caused the sewer line to be removed as a match for the grant, it was supposed to be Bridge painting but have no history on Lead paint and there was too much chipping paint.

Discussion ensues on whether it is proven to be lead paint. Where is the report? There does not seem to be one. JTC will be doing a full blown archeological and architectural research with lead and asbestos testing as is required.

Robin gives 3 proposals for the sidewalk project to the Select Board. Interviews with the Engineers need to be scheduled. Three nights, one for each Engineer. An early August date was planned for the interviews.

To finish up Glenn lets everyone know that Page Hill driveway permits were signed for culvert work for the power pole replacement project.

Reggie gives his report: Second quarter water meter readings are done. Keith and Hayden worked well on this. Keith really made this an efficient job so the readings are done earlier than expected.

Route 3 asbestos removal to begin, Horizons engineered this project and the State approved all permits. Need to find a contractor to get this done before winter. Would like to have a local contractor do the work.

Reggie discusses that this asbestos removal is on Brown Road. That there was a

section of old 6" line that was made inactive and not replaced with the other pipe. Consequently, this leaks and they are big leaks.

On water usage, we are up 34,000 gallons per day, but this is usual for summer. We are still a million gallons less than last year, even with this summer usage.

Scada changeover is in its final phases, will happen in the very near future. The Winter Street tank was cleaned as recommended by our last survey.

Chlorine tabs are needed but hard to find. The price has risen from \$2/lb to \$6/lb. Found online 100 pounds to try, have 300 pounds on hand and should be good until fall. All budgets are being shot by price increases.

The Leach field project is up \$1,600. \$4,500 was budgeted, now \$6,100 but it has to be done.

Liquid chlorine pricing is coming. Material prices are skyrocketing.

We have the Maple Street project which is a root intrusion issue.

The new guys have really helped us catch up on projects that are years old. We are staying busy and have even gotten the parts room cleaned out.

Bill asks about the foliage on the fence at the lagoons.

Reggie replies that he has had no report from DES so maybe OK. Beattie will be cutting in September/October. State was told to come by April.

b. David Blanco – Big Ball Field Proposal

David Blanco is head coach at the high school. He would like to utilize space at the ballfield to build a batting cage, bullpen by removing the tennis court area.

Discussion by Board and Blanco and Robin on lack of use of the tennis court, how long it has been there, the logistics of removing pavement and disposal, utilization of the chain link fence and posts. Blanco believes he can find equipment and volunteers to make the cost minimal. This would also help the parking which is a safety concern. There is a concern brought up to check the deed and to see who is the actual owner of the property and the wording of the property's use. Select Board is in agreement if Robin finds out that the deed allows this use.

c. Request to use Gazebo – July 24th, 2021

One hour use, approximately 10 people. Keith makes motion to allow, Bill seconds, all in favor, 3-0.

d. Use of Big ball field request – Rec Center – July 28th and August 11 for Drive-In night. Lots of discussion of concern of how the ball field will fare. Not feeling comfortable with this. Discussion of asking Mike Humphrey of Riverside Race Track. May be beneficial to Riverside as well.

Bill brings up to Glenn the situation of the "no parking" signs. They are being covered for the summer and will revisit later.

Ballfield use motion. Motion by Keith to deny, 2nd by Bill with recommendation to use raceway.

e. Review/discussion/decision of complaints received – West St and 2nd St.

West St. Complaint by Jeff Normandeau that it looks like a junk yard. Unregistered vehicles. Jim and Keith have also witnessed and agree. Jim will have letter sent. Bill asks what the ordinance says. Jim says there is only to be

one unregistered vehicle and the fine is \$100 per day for violating.

Someone asks about multiple vehicles registered but not inspected. Jim to look into the wording, thinks it says vehicles have to be registered and inspected.

Corner of 2nd and Crow St. Complaint by Tyson and Hanna Stockwell. Property was maintained until a camper was placed on property. There are 4 unused junk vehicles and lots of input traffic. Bill shows a picture to Keith and Jim. Letter on ordinance and fine to be sent.

- f. Review of ramp and roofing at rear entrance of Town Offices. There was a quote of \$45,000 and there is only \$23,000 in Municipal Fund. Will have to look into next year. Min explains the hazard of the stairs. Keith suggests an awning over the door temporarily. Awning is a good idea.

- g. Cash Summary Rpts – May – June

Jim gives Cash Summary.

June began with \$973,542.26

Revenues were \$1,852,942.33

Total Expenses were \$438,568.60

Road Fund transfer out \$980.00

Actual End of Month Cash is \$2,386,935.99

Please see attached Trust Fund Reconciliation.

Town of Northumberland - Trust Fund Reconciliation
Jun-21

| <u>Trust Fund Name</u> | <u>Ending Balance</u> |
|------------------------------|-----------------------|
| Cemetery Fund | \$116,885.59 |
| Road Fund | \$27,402.31 |
| Police Cruiser | \$22,282.38 |
| Ambulance Fund | \$84,053.14 |
| Water Tanks | \$13,923.24 |
| Sludge Removal ETF | \$89,396.90 |
| Transfer Station | \$16,987.36 |
| Water System CRF | \$6,420.56 |
| Municipal Buildings Fund CRF | \$23,006.61 |
| Public Works Equipment | \$55,744.96 |
| Recreation Facilities ETF | \$5,076.46 |
| W/S Short Lived Assets CRF | \$34,846.44 |
| Ambulance Equipment CRF | \$10,816.98 |
| Health Trust Fund | \$15,000.87 |
| Total | \$521,843.80 |

4. Applications/Permits and Warrants:

- a. Supplemental Warrant – Town wide sewer

\$8,750, Jim asks for motion to sign. Bill makes motion to sign, Keith seconds, all in favor, 3-0.

b. Building Permit Applications-ARELP 3 LP- 156 Mechanic St.

\$250 permit fee paid. Bill makes motion to approve, Keith seconds, all in favor, 3-0.

Al & Terry Beland – 34 Riverside Dr – Bill makes motion to approve, Keith seconds, all in favor, 3-0.

PSNH dba Eversource Energy – existing lines between Lancaster & Northumberland and Lost Nation Station

They have paid \$250 fee, Bill makes motion to approve, Jim seconds, Keith opposed. All in favor, 2-1.

c. W/S Abatement- Susan Peel - \$120 water/sewer rebate. Bill makes motion to approve, Keith seconds, all in favor, 3-0.

d. Al and Terry Beland \$60 abatement for water/sewer. Bill makes motion to approve, Keith seconds, all in favor, 3-0.

e. Non-Resident Transfer Station Permit Application – New – 53 Brown Rd has paid fee. Bill makes motion to approve, Keith seconds, all in favor, 3-0.

f. Richard and Tracy Dupuis, \$219 tax assessment abatement.

Much discussion regarding Thompson Rd about campers, containers, vehicles and rentals. Al Rossetto is the Building Permit Facilitator, not the Building Inspector. Jim makes motion to approve, Bill seconds, all in favor, 2-1, Keith opposed.

5. Public Matters To Be Addressed By The Board:

a. Robin Irving reminds everyone of the meeting on July 8th from 6 to 8pm to fulfill some of the match hours, some editing in Emergency Operations Plan to be done.

Robin has pursued several funding sources including USDA, NBRC, and THUD in order to fund the Public Safety Building through grants. The Town needs to match the NBRC grant with \$200,000 and can use both in-kind and cash. Robin has approached some prospective donors and calculated some in-kind match and is roughly \$40,000 short. She is seeking assistance with searching for donors.

QHydrogen is conducting a tour demonstrating their ability to run the generator and generate electricity. QHydrogen is inviting the Board to attend the tour so they will be informed. QHydrogen will be needing beefed up security, town police and ambulance once they are in operation. This will be the first phase of operation with plans to expand as demand increases.

Jim asks if there is anything else for public then asks for motion to go into non-pub. Motion by Bill to go into non-pub, seconded by Keith, all in favor, 3-0. Approx. time into non-pub is 7:18pm.

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

a. Personnel Matter

b. Resident Matter

Motion to come out of non-pub by Bill, seconded by Keith, all in favor, 3-0. Jim asks for motion to seal minutes. Bill motions to seal minutes, Keith seconds, all in favor, 3-0.

7. Continuation of Public Session

Robin and the Select Board discuss the public safety building further, why the budget has increased, building modifications, the need to have a building committee.

Jim asks for roll call to seal minutes, roll call done.

8. Adjournment: Jim asks for motion to adjourn at approx. 8:15pm. Bill makes motion to adjourn, Keith seconds, all in favor, 3-0.

Next meeting, July 19, 2021

Respectfully submitted,

Pam Kathan

Select Board Minute Taker

Minutes approved by Select Board Members on _____

X

James Weagle
Northumberland Select Board Chairman

X

William Caron
Northumberland Select Board Member

X

Keith Bronson
Northumberland Select Board 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.***

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