

Town of Northumberland

Board of Selectmen

Meeting Minutes (Draft)

Date: Monday, March 1, 2021

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, Jim Weagle, Bill Caron

Others Present: Dennis Charron, Louise Charron, Glenn Cassady, Reggie Charron, Terri Charron, Robin Irving, Peter J Pelletier, Norm Cotter and Tom Meunier.

1. Chairman opens the meeting: Michael opens the meeting at 6pm.

2. Acceptance of Minutes: Michael asks for acceptance of minutes with correction of adding the approval vote of 3-0 for Public Hearing Minutes. Jim makes motion to accept minutes with correction of adding approval vote for Public Hearing Minutes. Bill seconds, all in favor, 3-0.

3. Selectmen Business:

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

Glenn Cassady reports for Highway. Not much going on. Even with Cody leaving things are getting done. Have used 4 loads of salt, water is creating pot holes for the annual pot hole season, but not as bad as in the past.

b. Chief Pelletier presents commendations to three people for their outstanding community service and valor.

Chief Pelletier recounted the date of Jan 29th when the Deforest's home was on fire. Mr. Deforest was able to escape but Mrs. Deforest was not.

Tom Meunier of Old Village Road, and Reggie Charron tried to look for Mrs. Deforest and were joined by off duty officer Zack Bishop, who lent assistance in the search and brought a fire extinguisher. Reggie who noticed the second floor picture window was about to blow out called for Officer Bishop to move away. The window blew out and caused a back draft and blew all three men several feet back into the driveway. At this point it was evident that Mrs. Deforest had perished. Mr. Meunier took Mr. Deforest into his home to care for him until fire and ambulance arrived. These were efforts of great personal risk to try and save Mrs. Deforest and outstanding community service. Chief Pelletier awarded the commendations of outstanding community service to Mr. Meunier and Reggie Charron. Chief Pelletier awarded the commendation of Valor to Officer Bishop.

c. Discussion/decision of letter of intent to implement plan for Grafton County Dispatch services

Michael explains that this is to transfer dispatch services from DOT to Grafton County, making this the new central command. Jim makes motion to sign letter, Bill seconds, all in favor, 3-0.

Robin Irving asks what the cost will be to upgrade the radios to

communicate with Grafton County.

Officer Pelletier replies that all that is need is an antenna put on top of Mann's Hill and there would not be any expenditure from the town.

d. Discussion of email received from Craggy Rd resident

Jim explained that there was a traffic backup at the race track. The performer's insurance company required everyone to sign in and there was only one sign in tool. The snowmobiles came in as well on the trails even when asked not to. Mike is going to try to rectify for the next event on March 6th, by getting people off Craggy Rd however best he can, using pits, etc. Officer Pelletier responded to Mr. Simino and will try to help as needed. They were overwhelmed and did not expect such a response. Select Board member Jim Weagle will contact Mr. Simino as well.

e. Discussion/decision/vote to authorize Paul Perras as acting representative for Transfer Station to sign annual facility report. Michael asks for motion to appoint Paul as acting representative for the Transfer Station. Jim makes motion to appoint Paul, Bill seconds, all in favor, 3-0.

f. Overtime billing to resident

Reggie explains situation that homeowner had significant water flowing in basement. Keith investigated and discovered it was not a town issue and that Fitch should be called. This resident had a "cocoon" of heaters going to keep things warm, as a result she tripped her hot water heater circuit and thought that Keith and Winston had done something, so there was a second call to Dispatch. Reggie received the 2nd call while on vacation. All in all 6 hours of overtime was accrued between Keith and Winston. Should we bill the homeowner for the overtime as it was not a town matter. Robin suggested to bill for the second call only, 3 hours. Contact lists have been sent out and will again. She is a relatively new homeowner.

Michael wants to bill for only 3 hours, this is a homeowner learning curve.

Further discussion on how Keith handled the situation. Situation with resident brought up as a reason for the manner in which it was handled. Notices to be sent out updating dispatch and contact names.

Jim makes motion to bill the resident for 3 hours instead of 6, Bill seconds, all in favor, 3-0.

4. Applications/Permits and Warrants:

a. Application for Abatement

Jerry and Christy Desautel, 9 Spring St. Regarding 50 Church St. The property is currently assessed for \$60,600 and they purchased for \$25,000. Motion by Jim to send to the assessors to look at, second by Bill, all in favor, 3-0.

b. Non-Resident Transfer Station Permit Application

1. John Gauthier, 74 First St. new application

2. Michael Currier, 14 Delay St. renewal

3. Mike Lebosky, 57 Covell Heights, renewal

Jim makes motion to approve, Bill seconds, all in favor, 3-0

Robin questions whether Gauthier is a resident or not.

Michael says his residence is listed as Auburn NH.

All agree that is fine.

5. Public Matters To Be Addressed By The Board:

Precinct meeting on March 2, at 6pm at 10 Station Square.

Town reports are due.

Town meeting and School Board next Tuesday in Gym. Will hold 800 people at social distancing.

Jim makes motion to go into non-pub, Bill seconds, all in favor, 3-0.

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

a. Personnel Matter – Sealed minutes.

b. Jim makes motion to come out of non-pub at 8pm.

7. Public Session: Jim makes motion to abate Deforest water bill as gesture of goodwill. Bill seconds, all in favor, 3-0.

8. Adjournment:

Motion to adjourn at 8:02pm by Jim, seconded by Bill, all in favor, 3-0.

Next meeting, March 15, 2021

Respectfully submitted,

Pam Kathan

Select Board Minute Taker

Minutes approved by Select Board Members on _____

X

Michael Phillips
Northumberland Select Board Chairman

X

William Caron
Northumberland Select Board Member

X

James Weagle
Northumberland Select Board Member