

**Town of Northumberland**

**Board of Selectmen**

**Meeting Minutes (Draft)**

**Date: Tuesday, September 7<sup>th</sup>, 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\***

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

**Others Present:** Al Rossetto, Nancy Mellow, Glenn Cassady, Pete Marshall, Reggie Charron, Pam Kathan, Peter Pelletier, Joseph Kennett

- 1. Chairman opens the meeting:** Jim opens the meeting and asks for a motion to accept minutes with corrections. Minutes should reflect that a motion was made to vote and sign the warrant.
- 2. Acceptance of Minutes:** Keith makes motion to accept minutes with change as noted above. Bill seconds, all in favor, 3-0.
- 3. Selectmen Business:**

a. Department Head Business: Highway and Water/Sewer

Glenn Cassady, Highway gives report.

-Paving to start Thursday with base and the topcoat will be put on Friday.

-Mowing and striping the parking lot of the Town Building

-Salt Shed should be done by end of month

-14 cords of firewood delivered.

-moving to Reggie's projects soon.

-Pool leak

-Paved streets have 9 manholes to fix.

-Weed trimming.

Al Rossetto tells Glenn that he was pleased to see the new guys working out in the rain patching holes on Page Hill and not complaining about it.

Bill asks if either of the guys have gotten their CDL license yet.

Glenn replies no. Have to work on it. Lack of experience not helping.

Discussion of CDL licensing, written exam, driving skill.

Bill also mentions that the clearing of the airport looks good.

Reggie Charron Water/Sewer, gives report.

-The Route 3 project will start borings in a couple of weeks.

-Well cleaning will start October 25<sup>th</sup>, time is running out for the projects.

-Pool leak has used 2.1 million gallons of water, and they have a good idea of where the leak is located, under concrete. Original piping work was incorrect.

-When asked Reggie mentions that the screens in the wells are being cleaned.

-Leach field wood delivery from White Mt. Lumber will be soon and the replacement work, which should be straight forward, will begin.

-Quarter 3 water use readings to start September 20<sup>th</sup>.

-Everything is happening at once, cemetery lines have to be drained and dried, along with hydrants, etc.

Glenn wants to add that 2 culverts are being backed up by Beavers. The Red Dam Conservatory will have to look and assess, then Beaver dams to be removed slowly and then the Beavers trapped.

Nancy Merrow wants to know if there will be a work session to discuss water rates.

b. Pam Kathan – Ampersand Brooklyn Hydro – Discussion of hydro drawdown

As previously mentioned, Ampersand Brooklyn Hydro will be doing a drawdown of water in October to let the Hydrogen Plant fix water pipes and to perform some maintenance on Brooklyn Dam.

c. Discussion of Saturday September 11<sup>th</sup> hearing. No discussion to be made tonight, have a couple of plans to present. Discussion of gradual rate change, who will bear the costs. Project is needed but can't afford. More talk on residents that pay for water and cannot use the water, suggestions of either not giving them a bill or fixing the problem. At this time flushing the hydrants is all that can be done, but that cannot be done in the winter. The system needs to be looped. Monies supposedly available for water/sewer projects is only good on new projects.

Discussion on Guildhall and how they need to pay their fair share. There is a contract with them on rate, need to negotiate. On another note, there needs to be a discussion of impact fees imposed for new businesses.

Monies available are not free and they come with a lot of rules, regulations and conditions. Discussion that the project includes new water and sewer projects, but not drainage.

2 options proposed.

1. All taxpayers have a \$1.92/\$1000 increase in taxes.
2. Increase to cover would go to only water/sewer users

Another option was suggested but not agreed upon by the Select Board.

Hearing and vote are on Saturday Sept. 11 at 10AM for the \$7 million dollar project.

d. Review/vote of Annual Road Toll Requests received

2 requests received, one from the American Legion and several from the High School

1. American Legion for June 18, 2022 from 10AM to 2PM to sell poppies.
2. High School Sophomore Class on Oct 2, 2021 on Craggy Road, but must ask for permission from the race track.
3. National Honor Society will use Church St on Oct 9 or 10(rain date) 2021 and
4. The Student Council will use Church St on May 28 or 29(rain date) 2022.

Nancy Merrow asks if all the deadlines have been met for the Toll requests.

Jim answers yes.

e. Vote/Announcement of Sidewalk Project Design Engineer

The Board met with the engineers and did calculations and decided to go with HEB.

Bill makes a motion to accept HEB, Keith seconds, all in favor, 3-0.

f. Review/discussion/decision of new lease agreement – 10 Station Square

New lease for Sept 1, 2021 to August 31, 2022.

Rent changes from \$1400 to \$1500 per month

Security deposit of \$1500 is now required

Discussion of dissatisfaction with lease agreement. Bill and Keith will not sign. Need to have a discussion with the landlords on negotiating the lease agreement. Questions of 30 day notice of selling building and imposition on Town safety. Discussion of Eminent Domain prevailing for public safety.

g. Review/discussion/decision of Lufkin Proposal for monitor upgrades at townoffice

Credit from Lufkin for \$75 per 2 monitors. Cost of \$944 to upgrade Town for better capacity to observe people entering the Town Building. Min suggests taking from her budget, but Covid money if available should be used.

Keith makes motion to accept contract, with stipulation that Covid money be used before Min's budget money. Bill seconds, all in favor, 3-0.

h. Announcement of decision of part time to full time employee-Assessing Office

Liz Ball to become full time Assessing and Welfare Clerk, Keith makes motion to accept, Bill seconds, all in favor, 3-0.

i. Discussion/decision of Board membership by Police Chief to Aetius Group

Chief Pelletier explains that Aetius Group assists small Police Departments in getting equipment, that they have access to grants, so he would like to be part of the Steering Committee to help with case to case situations. There no compensation for being on the Steering Committee and no fee to the Town, he does it for free and does not feel there is any conflict of interest with his job. Keith makes motion for Chief Pelletier to join the Steering Committee of Aetius Group, Bill seconds, all in favor, 3-0.

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

a. Building Permit Application – 82 Alice Drive – Collins. They have paid fee and Al has signed. Keith makes motion to approve application, Bill seconds, all in favor, 3-0.

b. Stratford Road – Johnson. Al brings up his concerns that there is no right of way nor a driveway permit area designated on Route 3. Discussion ensues, no right of way is needed if applicant owns both properties. However, if applicant were to sell property he would have to get a right of way or driveway permit from the State in order to sell. Al signs permit, Bill makes motion to approve, Keith seconds, all in favor, 3-0.

c. Non-Resident Transfer Station Permit Application – 356 Brown Road

Glover – CT - \$15. Bill makes motion to accept, Keith seconds, all in favor, 3-0.

#### **5. Yield Tax**

Fregeau, \$642.44, Bill makes motion to accept, Keith seconds, all in favor, 3-0.

#### **6. Notice:** Northumberland Voters Notice. Voters of the Checklist to meet Saturday Sept. 09, 2021, 11am to 11:30am at 19 Main Street.

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

Pete Marshall ask how much before you have to get a building permit? \$5,000.

Motion to go into Non-Public session by Bill, Keith seconds, all in favor, 3-0. Roll call to go into Non-Public.

**8. Non-Public Session: (Pursuant to RSA'S 91-A:3,II (e):**

a. Resident Matter – CB

Bill makes motion to come out of Non-Public at 7:53pm, Keith seconds, all in favor, 3-0.

Motion to approve Building Permit Request of \$250, pending payment, by Bill, seconded by Keith, all in favor, 3-0.

Motion to approve Ice Cream Shop sign by Bill, seconded by Keith, all in favor, 3-0.

Motion to approve Village Store Sign for beer, ice and wine. Motion by Keith to approve, seconded by Bill, all in favor, 3-0.

**9. Adjournment:** Motion by Bill to adjourn at 8:03pm, second by Keith, all in favor, 3-0.

Next meeting, September 20, 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

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