

**Town of Northumberland**  
**Board of Selectmen**  
**Meeting Minutes (Draft)**  
**Date: Monday, July 19<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:** Trevor Gibson, James Gibson, Al Rossetto, Glenn Cassady, Peter Pelletier, Rose Menzies, Doug Menzies

**1. Chairman opens the meeting:** Jim opens meeting at 6pm.

**2. Acceptance of Minutes:** Jim asks for motion to accept meeting minutes from July 19 meeting. Bill makes motion to accept, Keith seconds, all in favor, 3-0.

**3. Selectmen Business:**

- a. Department Head Business – Ambulance and Police – 1)Dispatch Agreement, 2)Discussion of plan for decommissioned EMS, PD vehicles

James reports that currently they have covered 271 calls, down 36 from last year which was 307. Revenues from Comstar \$103,403.95. No known Covid cases reported. #1 Ambulance needs and oil change and the brakes looked at. There are still staffing concerns although a few people have stepped up, including a new EMS person.

Ambulance out front has been decommissioned by NH DOT, failed inspection. Estimates of \$6 to \$8,500 to make compliant.

From the last dispatch meeting, the switch over to Grafton will go live September 13, 2021 at 3pm.

Jim says they have to sign the agreement with Grafton.

Bill asks if the ambulance should be fixed or sold.

James reported that it does start and drive fine.

Bill suggests that it be started and moved every week to keep things from freezing up mechanically.

Al asks James about the 911 issues with 2 streets named Longview Drive.

James mentions there is an issue with changing names of the streets and Al offers to take a consensus of the residents to see if they will change the name of the street. James tells Al that would be great if he could do that. The road is a private road and can be renamed to anything.

Jim tells James that Liz is willing to help with that change.

Peter reports for Police and says they have had 189 calls for service, 59 of which were car stops, 2 investigations, 10 arrests and 4 car crashes. Another module for recovery coach training has been completed and the last one will be at the end of the month for certification. Would like to thank Michelle who has been instrumental with this program, she has stepped up

and taken the lead.

Discussion on the decommissioned cruiser, has received a sell price from Randy. Discussion on whether is it better to move to the Town Garage with a 4-sale sign or put up for auction? Try the 4-sale sign first.

- b. Kilkenny Trail Riders – Richard Cotter asks the Select Board if there would be a possibility of reopening Page Hill for ATV's. The club is willing to buy lime for the dust and to patrol.

Bill asks what the major complaints were.

Richard said hours of operation and dust.

Al Rossetto is opposed to reopening. The quality of life for the residents is being taken, horses are being harassed, 24 hour operation, unable to be patrolled. Page Hill does not connect to any trails, just Lancaster. On Lost Nation Road there are hundreds of ATVs screaming up and down the road. Town does not benefit, Lancaster does. Residents deserve peace and quiet.

Doug Menzies very opposed and cannot believe this is being brought up again. It was voted to close at Town Meeting by 2/3 vote. Enough.

Peter tries to fill in the new Select Board members on the history. That for 7 years the Select Board opened Page Hill and the State opened Lost Nation Roads temporarily until a trail could be found. That was not achieved. The only property owner that was uncooperative was the State of NH.

Richard says there were many meetings, looked for trails, but all were too wet.

Bill says wet can be fixed if you have the money.

Further discussion by all on the fact that the ATVs are speeding and creating dangerous situations for all, not all of them, just some bad apples. Also, the information that there is a trail being worked on at Mom's. A partial compromise may be to not allow night riding. A special town meeting maybe, but most likely March.

Discussion among all that the state of NH will not open up their property for trails but encourages ATV use.

- c. Horizon Engineering and abandoned water line. Steve from Horizons speaks for Reggie on the Rt. 3 bid to replace the abandoned pipe. \$42,000 was estimated, one contractor too busy and another, Paul Crane came in at \$62,000. Some part of the project was cancelled for now and the price was brought to \$55,000. Reggie has money. Town agrees this should be done because it is a time bomb. Steve will relay the message to Reggie and ask if he wants to contact Paul Crane to proceed.
- d. Review of updated information and follow up discussion of big ball field request – Movie Night – Recreation Dept. Disappointment by Select Board that no one showed up from the Rec Dept to talk about this. Too much possible destruction to the big ball field so Selectmen will offer the small ballfield.
- e. Follow up discussion of position title/duties description of Building Permit Facilitator

Al starts the discussion that the fact that the position of Building Inspector was turned into Building Permit Facilitator due to previous Selectman. Both positions have same job duties. State says we need to have a Building Inspector.

Selectmen agree.

Al tells the Selectmen that he works for the town and the Select Board are his boss.

Jim mentions that the reason they changed it was because they were under the impression that the State Fire Marshall would not come in to investigate if there was a Building Inspector, not the case.

Keith makes motion to change Al Rossetto's official title to Building Inspector, Bill seconds, all in favor, 3-0.

f. Recycling Protocol and resident

A resident has been found not recycling properly, mixing trash. A letter will go to the resident explaining the recycling protocol to follow.

Note: Clean cardboard and paper are the most valuable recyclables.

g. Update EOP – Robin submitted to Selectmen. Lengthy, need time to read. Date of signature is August 17<sup>th</sup> deadline. Have meetings of August 2 and 16 to approve.

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

a. Discussion/decision – Abatement of fixed amount on second half issue taxes – 14 State St

First half not second to be approved. Stone's Pizza, town owned, \$1,272 abatement. Keith makes motion to approve, Bill seconds, all in favor, 3-0.

b. Review/discussion/decision of release of 2012 Welfare Lien

Town took property, did not realize there was a Welfare Lien from previous owner, \$394.93 to be abated. Bill makes motion to approve, Keith seconds, all in favor, 3-0.

c. Non-Resident Transfer Permit Application – Cotton

Fee has been paid, Keith makes motion to approve, Bill seconds, all in favor, 3-0.

d. Meeting Room Use Application – Annual Tax Collector Meeting – Min Kennett, non-profit, no fee, Bill makes motion to approve, Keith seconds, all in favor, 3-0.

e. Abatement (s) Running Water Program – 65 State St., 37 Church St., 67 Wemyss Dr

Wemyss Drive - \$0, not eligible in 2021, Keith makes motion to approve, Bill seconds, all in favor, 3-0.

Groveton Fire District - \$4.95, Bill makes motion to approve, Keith seconds, all in favor, 3-0.

Northumberland School District - \$207.60, Bill makes motion to approve, Keith seconds, all in favor, 3-0.

f. Abatement (Housekeeping) 755 Lancaster Rd

\$60 abatement, demand charges change. Bill makes motion to approve, Keith seconds, all in favor, 3-0.

89 Old Village Road – fire, house demolished, hardship request. Saleable lot, sell and pay demand fees. Keith makes motion to deny, Bill seconds, all in favor, 3-0.

61 Cumberland Street, \$18.90, not potable water, new building and

plumbing. Reggie agrees but does not know if can be remedied. Keith makes motion to approve, Bill seconds, all in favor, 3-0.

Building permit – 11 Beard St. Demo outbuilding garage. Paid fee, Al to sign, Bill makes motion to approve, Keith seconds, all in favor, 3-0.

Building permit – 114 Hillside St. 16x16 shed. Jim makes motion to approve, Keith seconds, all in favor, 3-0. Paid fee, Al to sign.

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

- a. Announce Household Hazardous Waste Collection Day – October 7<sup>th</sup>, 8am – 1pm. At transfer station on West Milan Road.
- b. Glenn lets Selectmen know that Joseph Canton has started construction on the new Salt Shed. The sole plate has been installed, materials delivered and walls to be put up between rain showers.

Jim asks for motion to go into Non-Pub, Bill makes motion, Keith seconds, all in favor, 3-0.

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

- a. Personnel Matters (PP) Discussed
- b. Resident Matters - approved payment agreement

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

Jim asks for motion to seal minutes, Bill makes motion to seal, Keith seconds, all in favor, 3-0. Roll call made by all Selectmen.

**7. Adjournment:**

Bill makes motion to adjourn at 8:03pm, Keith seconds, all in favor, 3-0.

Next meeting, August 2, 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