

Town of Northumberland

Board of Selectmen

Meeting Minutes (Draft)

Date: Monday, October 18th, 2021

Place: Town Meeting Room – 10 Station Square

Time: 6:00 P.M.

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

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

Others Present: Norm Cotter, Pete Marshall, Mario Audit, James Gibson, Al Rossetto, Courtney McLain, Reggie Charron, Terri Charron, Kathy Frechette, Chief Pelletier

- 1. Chairman opens the meeting:** Jim opens the meeting and asks for a motion to approve minutes from October 4th meeting.
- 2. Acceptance of Minutes:** Keith makes motion, Bill seconds, Jim abstains as he was not present. Motion passed 2-0.

3. Selectmen Business:

- a. Department Head Business: Ambulance and Police Depts.

James reports for Ambulance: 454 calls to present down 15 from last year.

Comstar: \$126,643.92 received. Becky's amount will be different as she includes billing and billing contracts, etc.

Covid 19: all counties still up substantially. Hospitals are full, ambulance often diverted to other hospitals. Staffing is still a problem.

A2 at garage being looked over.

A3 involved in small fender bender with parked school bus. Ambulance wheel accent damaged, bus small scratch.

No other questions for James.

Chief Pelletier reports for Police Dept.

10 new investigations opened, 5 arrests, 2 crash investigations.

22 inhouse calls for service, those that come to the Police Dept.

32 car stops, dispatch took 397 calls and 1 person out with Covid.

Keith starts conversation with Chief Pelletier on not being able to reach him or anyone on a car parked in front of the Moody Mug.

Chief Pelletier responds to the comment, explaining he was on vacation and off-grid.

Keith again starts a conversation on the lack of Police coverage on the weekend, town was packed, no Police call backs except one full time officer working in Colebrook. He should be working here if he is full time. Keith getting phone calls and lots of public input on how unhappy people are with the Police Dept.'s lack of presence.

Peter responds that he has a new guy starting Monday, it is a long process

and hopes to get it remedied soon.

- b. Discussion of Trunk or Treat Event – Courtney McLain reports that this event will be held in the parking lot by the old Eagle Hotel as the small ballfield was taken.

Jim and Bill converse on the REC committee already being established so can use the small ballfield. Bill says he has never been called by the REC committee as to meetings and he is the Select Board Representative.

Kathy Frechette makes a comment that there is a problem with coordination, but they should be done by 3.

More discussion on the parking lot not being fully open for use because of 4 wheeler trailers and cars.

Jim asks for a motion, Bill makes motion to allow the Town sponsored event of Trunk or Treat at the old Eagle Hotel parking lot on Sunday October 31st from 3 – 5:30pm. Keith seconds, all in favor, 3-0.

New discussion starts on the need to reduce the speed on Brooklyn Street. Courtney has a petition signed by 17 of 24 homes to reduce the speed from 30 to 20mph. Discussion of whether the signatures need to be registered voters. Two thirds of the signers are registered voters. Reggie explains that the sidewalk had been removed due to snow removal issues but a white line could be painted to designate sidewalk area. More conversation on reducing speed on Route 3 was brought to the Board by residents. The State says the Town would have to send a new letter endorsing that, the one previously sent won't work. Discussion on speeding, dangerous situation, flashing sign that no pays attention to. State refused to approve speed change before. More discussion on Brooklyn Street, enough registered voters to qualify, question of need a Warrant, no because it is a Town owned street. The question of whether or not there is a "dead end" sign, need to check.

Keith makes motion to reduce the speed limit from 30 to 20mph on Brooklyn Street. Bill seconds, all in favor, 3-0.

Bill makes motion to table discussion of Route 3 for later discussion. Keith seconds, all in favor, 3-0.

Chief Pelletier may be able to get information from the radar signs that will report speeds, times of day and can then give to the Select Board. Talk of taking pictures, a questionable thought, too controversial.

- c. Results of USDA Rabies Vaccination Program for Northumberland

80 Raccoons captured, 76 tested, 38 considered positive for Rabies.

Groveton is 42.90% positive for Rabies. Lyman had the lowest, Lisbon had the highest. Rabies medicine drop seems discontinued, too controversial.

4. Applications/Permits and Warrants:

- a. Supplemental Warrant – Quarterly Town wide sewer drains - \$8,750.

Keith makes motion, Bill seconds, all in favor, 3-0.

18 Summer Street building permit request. Fee has been paid. Keith makes motion to approve, Bill seconds, all in favor, 3-0.

Terri asks if the apartment building across from her has a permit? Discussion on whether the work is over \$5000 and warrants a permit.

5. Public Matters To Be Addressed By The Board:

Bill wants to discuss camper issues.

Kathy Frechette wants to compliment the Town on the nice job of removing trees.

Discussion resumes on camper on First Street, owner has been advised of only 3 weeks to remedy. Further discussion on other camper issues, Mario brings up there is skirting around the trailer and does not look like there are any intentions to remove. This is believed to be the same camper as was on Route 110, which was supposed to be removed.

Al tells all that the trailer does not meet any kind of code and needs the Selectmen to tell him what to do. Discussion on codes and time limit to move otherwise \$100/day fine. More added on naked resident, gross electrical addressed, many deficiencies remain, Al working with resident. Also this residence has renters, lots of issues, woodstove in basement, owner leaving for Arizona.

Another property brought up that junk is now overflowing onto Town property, renters living with deceased animal in box. Other properties in Town need to be addressed. Selectmen agree they need to be more proactive in dealing with the issues.

Bill makes motion to go into non-pub. More discussion on lighting for Station Square, owners responsibility.

Finally Keith seconds, all in favor, 3-0, roll call vote.

Reggie submits a NH DES list for requirements for the Trust Fund, Jim to copy and send to the other Selectmen.

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

a. Personnel Matter

Motion to come out of Non-Pub by Bill, seconded by Keith, all in favor, 3-0.

Discussion on whether he would be allowed to remove siding from a Town owned building to be demolished.

Jim says he can have Becky write a waiver. Jim makes motion to allow Bill to remove siding from Town owned building to be demolished at his own risk. Keith seconds, Bill abstains. Motion passed 2-0.

7. Adjournment: Bill makes motion to adjourn at 7:15pm?????????, Keith seconds, all in favor, 3-0.

Next meeting, November 1, 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.***

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