



Town of
Northumberland
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**Town of Northumberland
Board of Selectmen
Meeting Minutes (Draft)**

Date: Monday, December 5, 2022

Place: Town Meeting Room – 10 Station Square

Time: 6:00 P.M.

Select Board Present: Bill Caron, Keith Bronson (Chair), Jim Tierney

Others Present: Tammy Letson (Town Administrator), Al Rossetto, Norm Cotter, Glenn Cassady, Joseph Kennett, Judy Fox, Reggie Charron, Kathy Frechette, William Daisey, Dustin Supernois

1. **Chairman opens the meeting:** Keith asks for motion to approve minutes.
2. **Acceptance of Minutes:** Correction to Comstar receivables, it is \$142,000 and change, not \$14,000.
3. **Appointment paper of Forest Fire Warden.** Signed by the Select Board for Dustin Supernois to be appointed Forest Fire Warden.
4. **Department Head Business:**
 - a. Highway and Water/Sewer Depts.

Glenn Cassady gives report for Highway:
paving is finished, only small projects were done because of lack of personnel.
4 loads of salt purchased.
Received a couple of freezing rain calls, but weather cleared up next day.
Reggie and Glenn planning for jobs that can be done if mild weather continues.
Tammy tells Glenn that more treads were donated to the Town for stairs, 4 boxes.
Glenn continues with he and Tammy are working on the budget.
Glenn and Tammy had LPA training to become certified for DOT lending only.
Roach asks Glenn if he came in 2 months from now would he have a record of what he had done?
Glenn replies that he has daily logs to fill out.
Reggie Charron gives report for Water/Sewer Depts.
Water use is historical low, less than 200,000 gallons per day use.
Working on the 5-year lead and copper inventory.
Quarter 4 readings should start at the end of the month.
Both trucks out of commission. 2013 has emissions issues, nothing under warranty, Reggie's truck also out of commission. Randy did not want to work on the 2013.
Doing meter changeouts.
For Sewer: 50,000 to 75,000 average daily is a very low use.
Received a violation for effluent concentration, not a river violation. Too many people

dumping this time of year, need to spread it out.

Jim suggests changing prices to encourage earlier delivery.

Problem with rags on Brooklyn Street again.

Estimate is coming for 2023 grinder pump install.

Beattie is planning to tear down the house on Winter St. within 2 weeks, also looking at dredging the lagoon banks.

Have reports to do, catching up on some nuisance projects.

The building teardown on Winter will leave a ground water issue. Lots of water comes off the mountain and needs to be redirected.

Tammy brings up that DES reached out and reported that the Hill project was out of the running for funds, but USDA will give 20% AARPA and 30% from DES toward principal forgiveness.

Project is \$11 million, town impact 5 ½ to 6 million.

Reggie comments that ductile pipe will be unaffordable, may have to do PVC with specialty help.

Roach asks Reggie the same question he asked Glenn, do you keep track of everything you do every month.

Reggie replies: every hour of every day.

5. Matters from the public:

a. Discussion of lease renewal – R Dupuis - None

b. Kathy Frechette asks if there are inhabitants at the house on the corner of Maple.

Tammy replies there is supposed to be a house sitter. There is a request for the health officer to look at it.

Al says there are lots of problems, a pot belly stove with combustibles all around it.

Keith says that the health officer should be in contact soon.

c. Roach brings up incident of 2 weeks past that the Town Police did not respond to a call and the State Police had to come. Tammy will have an answer on schedule.

Norm says he is hearing rumors, did Chief Pelletier resign?

Jim: No.

Tammy: we do not have 24/7 coverage so State Police may come instead.

Norm: we have 1 officer 1 day, 2 the next and none the next.

Tammy: sometimes there are warrants that have to be served so for safety 2 officers go when warrants are being served.

Roach asks how many full-time officers are there?

Tammy: 3 certified full time, Chief is part time, and a couple other part time.

Roach??: How many hours per week is there coverage.

Tammy will find out.

From what Keith sees, there are 12 hours per weekday and weekends 8 to 17 hours.

Roach suggests a schedule.

Keith: The Chief makes the schedule

Bill: it would be a benefit to the public if they know how the town was being cleaned up.

Tammy: some things cannot be mentioned, there are press releases that go out to the papers that may or may not be printed.

Norm: all we hear is that people are trying to get a cop but can't.

Jim: they cover lots of calls.

Tammy: a report goes over calls and what they were for.

Kathy Frechette: The letter for cleanup must have gone out.

Tammy: yes, progress being made in the cleanups.

Kathy Frechette brings up the problem with lighting and people wearing dark clothing at night and crossing the street in the dark. Need lights.

Glenn: same thing happened to me.

Tammy: lights in sidewalk project is only over crosswalks.

6. Town Administrator Business:

- a. Opening/review/decision of Quotes received for Town Report Printing – only 1 quote available.

Jim asks how many copies are printed.

Tammy will look and find out.

Al: seems like there are more town reports left over. Are we over printing?

Tammy mentions that reports used to be hand delivered. Cost is \$1,808 gross, the school reimburses some, 450 copies ordered.

A discussion ensues on how there is a large lack of participation in the town now.

Jim makes motion to have Smith and Town print 450 books at the cost of \$1,916. Bill seconds, all in favor, 3-0.

This was the only bid received.

- b. Other – Dupuis went over list of repairs, stairs to top floor must wait until the tenant moves out.

Al met with Dupuis who was not happy with Al being there. Al mentioned that standards are probably higher for municipal buildings. There were lots of issues per Al. The furnace, ramp, building supports, fuel tank leaking.

Tammy did not see a leak, there was a problem, but they said they fixed it. The list has been gone over, have addressed many but still some to be done over time.

Discussion on the furnace boiler, state approval, is a master plumber doing the work, the pipe from the boiler to the chimney has been retrofitted, Dupuis' plumber doing work, does all the work, questionable repairs, life safety issues.

Reggie asks what will happen if someone dies?

Jim: we will get sued because we have the deepest pockets, property owner will also get sued.

Roach asks who pays for the furnace to be cleaned?

Tammy says that she believes the landlord is responsible.

Roach: does he use the same plumber

Tammy: he uses his plumber for all his work.

Al is concerned that the furnace may not have a tag.

Norm: we shouldn't be doing anything

Tammy: R. Dupuis is doing everything; we just made the list.

Discussion on boiler install, too many shutdowns, need a fire chief to inspect.

Tammy suggests someone take a picture of the most recent paperwork and will send to her contact at Dept. of Labor.

7. Applications/Permits and Warrants:

- a. Building Permit Application: Map 107, Lot 129 – Baxley – 17 Rich Street. J4 Energy Solutions – solar panels. Jim makes motion to sign, Bill seconds, all in favor, 3-0.
- b. Building Permit Application: Justin Begin, 51 Cumberland, Demo, and cleanup. Jim makes motion to sign, Bill seconds, fee not paid. Tammy says that a copy of the receipt needs to be found before work begins. Bill rescinds his second. Jim makes motion to sign when money comes in, Bill seconds, all in favor, 3-0.
- c. New Non-Resident Transfer permit. Justin Begin, paid fee. Some concern on lead and asbestos. Tammy to speak with Paul about materials. Jim makes motion to sign, Bill seconds, all in favor, 3-0.
- d. Veteran's Tax Credit Application – Map 205, Lot 002 – Jim makes motion to accept Veteran Tax Credit application, Bill seconds, all in favor, 3-0.

8. Announcements:

a. Next Board Meeting Date: December 19, 2022

b. Holiday Schedule announcements

Transfer Station Holiday Hours: Dec 24, 8am to 2pm

December 31st, 8am to 2pm

Town Clerk/Tax Collector closes Friday @ 12:30, for month end/year end wrap up. Reopens Tuesday 1-3-2023.

Town Building closes noon on Fri, Dec 23rd and reopens at 8am on Tues, Dec 27th.

Select Board closed Monday Jan 2 and reopens Tuesday Jan 3 at 8am

Tammy: the 24th is a town holiday, closing at noon, only requesting 2 hours.

Jim feels it is ok to close early New Year's Eve.

Jim makes motion to approve request for Christmas Eve and New Year's Eve at 2pm or close Christmas Eve at noon. Bill seconds, all in favor, 3-0.

c. Discussion of questions on the lighting of the bridge, train, and tree.

Terry Beland says she is not sure who will do that, Al Beland does the Memory Tree, just not sure about the rest.

The Beautification Committee requested 40 strands of light to be removed from the tree because they are in disrepair. Only lights remaining are on top 3rd of tree and the top.

Kathy Frechette suggests a new tree.

Bill wants to know the condition of the lights for the tree and bridge.

Tammy to check on that.

Further discussion on money to buy lights, who will put up lights, liability to town. Beautification Committee money used for fruit baskets, none left.

Jim would like to put up what decorations there are and see if any money can come from the Patriotic fund.

Norm suggests several people who may put up lights.

Al returns from the basement to report the smell of the oil burner and that October of this year the Dept of Labor signed off. However, the atmospheric damper is blocked off, needs to be looked at and certified. The Emergency Switch is hanging and not mounted.

Roach: seems as though the bank brought us into this mess, get the license # of the person doing the work.

Al: some things are fixed but not all, why not?

Bill makes motion to go into Non-Public at 7:47pm, Jim seconds, all in favor 3-0. Roll call vote.

William Daisey asks Tammy for the Highway Safety rate of pay so they may schedule blocks of 4-hour details.

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

Jim makes motion to come out of Non-Public at 8:16pm, Bill seconds, all in favor, 3-0

Jim makes motion to seal minutes until the matter is fully resolved. Bill seconds, all in favor, 3-0. Roll call vote to seal minutes.

Public resumes: Min needs to know but not thru Roach, Select Board to notify Min.

Roach comes in and asks the Select Board if there is any answer to the email that was sent.

Bill: she will be informed.

Roach: thank you.

10. Adjournment: Jim makes motion to adjourn at 8:19pm, Bill seconds, all in favor, 3-0.

Next meeting, December 19, 2022

Respectfully submitted,

Pam Kathan
Select Board Minute Taker

Minutes approved by Select Board Members on _____

X

Keith Bronson
Northumberland Select Board Chairman

X

Bill Caron
Northumberland Select Board Member

X

Jim Tierney
Northumberland Select Board Member

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