

Town of Northumberland

Board of Selectmen

Draft Meeting Minutes

Date: Monday, March 7, 2022

Place: Town Meeting Room – 10 Station Square

Time: 6:00 P.M.

During the meeting wearing of masks is encouraged for all individuals

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

Others Present: Al Rossetto, Glenn Cassady, Tammy Letson, Sean Durkin, Reginald Charron, Terri Charron, Kathy Frechette, Jim Tierney

- 1. Chairman opens the meeting:** Jim opens meeting and asks for motion to approve minutes as read.
- 2. Acceptance of Minutes:** Bill makes motion to approve minutes as read, Keith seconds, all in favor, 3-0.
- 3. Department Head Business:**

a. Highway and Water/Sewer

Glenn Cassady reports for Highway: lots of hours have been put in because of the weather. Two loads of salt have been used in one month. Truck for dump body delivered to be worked on, there is a PTO issue, different transmission. Slight increase, mechanic to charge only half of the \$1750 as he should have checked the numbers of the transmission. Possibly ready by end of the week. Some coal patching done; 5 culverts frozen but opened up. Posted signs have gone up and equipment and supplies being moved immediately. Chimney Pro repaired the chimney on the Highway Dept building that got damaged when there was a large snow fall off of the building. Rain has caused there to be more overtime trying to keep the streets clean and drains open. The Conservation Commission emailed asking for large rocks to block the wood lot road to keep 4-wheelers from destroying the road. Three cords of wood to be moved to storage when time is available.

Bill Caron asks if signs for "no parking will be towed at owner's expense" could be put up.

Glenn has no parking signs only.

Tammy mentions that Bill Daisey came to the office and said that "no parking" signs present gives more chance to enforce. Discussion of vehicles running causing exhaust to go into windows of homes. Terri Charron suggests a sign prohibiting vehicles running. "No parking" signs to go up and parking lane lines to be removed.

Tammy brings to the Selectmen that a resident sent an email stating that the road crew accidentally dropped snow on her lawn. She would like it removed as she feels the salt will damage a tree on her property.

Reggie Charron for Water and Sewer reports:

325,000 gallons of water were dumped in Guildhall for 9 days before it was

discovered. Guildhall will pay for the water and leak detection services.

Tammy adds that Guildhall will also reimburse for the overtime. Reggie says Guildhall has been very good about this.

Reggie reports that all backflows have been tested, 1st quarter water reads are coming up, talks resuming on revitalizing the hill project. Sewer had a violation on concentration, but not to river, happened a couple of years ago. At Town Meeting Winston will be honored on Town Meeting Day he is retiring. Reggie on vacation from March 13 to March 28, returning to work on the 29th.

Terri Charron brings up a phone issue with water/sewer. Everyone calling her when there is a problem instead of calling Grafton. Reggie feels that people are not used to calling Grafton. Something needs to be done to get the phone calls to go to Grafton as they are causing problems with the funeral home, personal home, etc.

4. Matters from the public: None

5. Town Administrator Business:

a. Review/discussion/decision of Solid Waste Hauling Contract

Tammy asks if the Selectmen had a chance to look at the contract.

Bill says there is a large discrepancy in coverage amount, Tammy wants to follow up and get the COI to match the amount on the contract.

Tammy is also disappointed that they took out the discount for double haul, now pay full for all. Also need to reduce the number of hauls to break even with amount paid previously.

b. Review/discussion/decision of General Assessing Services Contract

Tammy did not review but should be the same fee. Discussion on quality of service. Jim Tierney adds more information to discussion and history of assessors used. Keith makes motion to sign, Bill seconded, all in favor, 3-0. Bill would like to look for other assessors at the end of this contract. Tammy recommends looking now.

Jim relays that town is up for reassessment this year.

Tammy and Bill mention that this is only part of the town.

c. Update on CDC and EMD recommendations for COVID protocol

Tammy says the recommendation is to go mask recommended, not required. Board is fine with that.

Tammy relays that Min would rather stay with appointment only. Discussion of how this is more control and security.

Al Rossetto says this is an added layer of security.

d. Review/discussion/decision of Planning/Zoning Board resignations

Jeffrey St. Cyr is resigning effective end of March from the Zoning Board.

Mario Audit is resigning from both the Planning and Zoning boards, he does not have the time he would like to devote to the Town.

Ryan Shannon can stay on both boards; per Tammy he fits the requirement of having one person serve on both boards.

There is an opening on the Zoning Board, Ted Caouette can become a full

member instead of an alternate.

Review/discussion/decision/signing of various committee/commission appointments

1. Winston Haus for the Conservation Commission
2. Jerry Crompton for the Zoning Board
3. Michael Simino for the REC commission
4. Ryan Shannon for the Planning Board
5. Al Rossetto for the Planning Board
6. John Norman from the Conservation Commission.

Keith makes motion to approve all 7, Bill seconds, all in favor, 3-0.

Other Tammy.

Spoke with USDA will hold the \$7 million until after Town Meeting 2023. Interest rate of 1.75% will also be held. Also contacted Cathy Conway give summary of project and how much of a difference will be made. Also suggested contacting DES. Apply to get almost 50% of grant depending on how rates go.

Reggie says they can now add grant money.

Tammy says the previous Asset Management Study more of a Master Plan than a management plan. ARPA funds available up to \$200,000. \$100,000 for water, \$100,000 for sewer a 100% grant, not a 50/50.

Upcoming meetings – ARPA webinar, ARCAP meeting, HEB, sidewalk plan, teach GFOA classes, department head meetings.

Made decision not to let town employee help at Town Meeting, would have left office shorthanded.

Reggie will have new sewer ordinance for Tammy soon to present to Select Board. This will cover everything, came from DES.

Still waiting on Q-Hydrogen

Jim brings up one more person to add to committee/commissions. Dale Covey for Conservation Commission. Bill makes motion to accept, Keith seconds, all in favor, 3-0.

6. Applications/Permits and Warrants:

- a. Meeting Room Use Application – G.R.E.A.T. to be held May 10th at 7pm until it ends. Non-profit, no fee. James Tierney here for questions, this will be for election of officers. Bill makes motion to approve, Keith seconds, all in favor, 3-0.
- b. Abatement Application to Municipality – Wireless LINC of NH & VT
Jim says normally sent to assessor, Skip Sansoucy.
Tammy asks if seen by assessor? Jim – no.
For wireless towers.
Tammy asks when received? By law within a certain window of time before bill. Keith asks if there should be a continuance to go over. Keith makes motion to send abatement to Skip Sansoucy, Bill seconds, all in favor, 3-0.
- c. Yield Tax Warrant – Map 216, Lot 3 for \$2,717.92 for William and Debra Joyce.

Tammy asks if anyone reviews these for accuracy?

Jim thinks Becky looks at it. Keith had question on that too.

Dave Falkenham is the forester. Keith makes motion to accept, Bill seconds, all in favor, 3-0.

7. Announcements:

Voting tomorrow from 11am to 7pm. Town Meeting on Saturday, 9am School, 10am Town, 11am Precinct

Al Rossetto update. Interviews for Sharon's job at Androscoggin Valley District and then pick a candidate. Will be tough to replace Sharon who has 30+ years' experience.

Ke B

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

Keith makes motion to go into Non-Public, Bill seconds, all in favor, 3-0. Roll call vote.

a. Personnel Matter

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

Motion to seal minutes by Bill, seconded by Keith, all in favor, 3-0. Roll call vote.

9. Adjournment:

Bill motion to adjourn at 7:23pm, seconded by Keith, all in favor, 3-0.

Respectfully submitted,

Pam Kathan
Northumberland Select Board Minute Taker

Next meeting March 21, 2022

Minutes approved by Northumberland 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