



Town of
Northumberland
Office of Selectmen
19 Main St
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www.northumberlandnh.org

Town of Northumberland

Board of Selectmen

Meeting Minutes (Draft)

Date: Monday, October 17th, 2022

Place: Town Meeting Room – 10 Station Square

Time: 6:00 P.M.

During the meeting wearing of masks is encouraged for all individuals

Selectmen present: Keith Bronson (Chair), Jim Tierney, Bill Caron

Others present: Tammy Letson, Norm Cotter, Pete Marshall, Jodi Paradis, John Marshall, Sean Durkin, Alan Rossetto, James Gibson, Jennifer Goulet, Judy Fox, William Daisey, Peter Pelletier, Reginald Charron, Kathy Frechette, Ronna Has-Brouck

- 1. Chairman opens the meeting:** Keith opens the meeting at 6pm and asks for a motion to accept the minutes from the October 3rd meeting.
- 2. Acceptance of Minutes:** Jim makes motion to accept minutes, Bill seconds, all in favor, 3-0.
- 3. Department Head Business:** Ambulance and Police Department

James Gibson reports for the Ambulance: 380 calls to date in 2022, 453 calls in 2021 at this time, down 73 calls. Breakdown of calls: 238 Groveton, 362 911 calls, 183 ALS.

Comstar has no update until Wednesday.

Radio's are arriving finally after all the delay, programming and instructions to follow.

A3 unit needs the front end done, has an antifreeze leak and is up for diesel service.

A2 is emptied out and ready to go out for bid. Bill asks what is wrong with A2? James replies that the suspension and exhaust are bad and the underside punky. Bill suggests trading in. Jim says sell and may get more than a trade-in. James to get an estimate of worth from North Country Ford.

Peter Pelletier reports for Police Department: 300 calls for service since the last meeting, State took 9 of those calls. Opened 13 new investigations 6 of which are felonious, made 14 arrests of which 9 are felonious, investigated 4 crashes. Year to date calls for service were 1559, State Police took 104 of those calls, Northumberland PD has responded to a net of 1,455 calls.

Participated with Lancaster for sobriety check points, there were no DWI, but there were other charges. Between 250 to 300 cars passed thru the check point. Each stop was given a card with a website survey, positive responses for the most part. Lt. Daisey organized. Tammy says the press release did not give enough credit to Northumberland or Lt. Daisey.

Peter continues with mentioning participation in 3 multi-jurisdictional training sessions. 1 on use of force, 2 are DWI related trainings.

4. Matters from the public:

Judy relays the importance to take the banners down for the winter, they are vinyl, and the cold weather makes them brittle.

Tammy reports that the road crew is helping with taking those down and putting up the blue

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banners.

Judy reports that there are not many Christmas banners, there is no money. Right now, fruit baskets are the priority.

Tammy says this will give time to research pole permissions.

5. Town Administrator Business:

- a. Discussion of NH DOS Grant – Lt. Daisey worked on this, the money would offset patrol and check point costs, and buy radar equipment to help with those. The Town will have to have a public hearing when we receive the \$15,392.50 grant, but first the board must vote to approve the application. Jim makes motion to move approve the grant, Bill seconds, all in favor, 3-0.
- b. Follow up on Health Officer appointments – there are 3 valid candidates, Ted Jewett, currently the Lancaster Health Officer and he can cross town lines. He would be thrilled to help Northumberland and there is talk with the precinct about fire inspection as well. Fred Moe, helps homeless or not terrific living conditions, people find better places to live so is aware of what a health officer would see. Jen Goulet who works for the North Country Health consortium on substance use disorder, disorders of the aged, uninhabitable living conditions. All 3 candidates are good, need to decide on Officer and Deputy. Appoint Ted as the Officer and Jen as the Deputy. Jim asks Jen if people come to her or if she goes to them. Jen replies “both”. Jim asks Jen if she is comfortable with going to homes. Jen replies “yes”.

Tammy tells the Select Board that none of the 3 candidates are in it for the money. Discussion of next year’s budget. Jim agrees that Ted should be primary and Jen the Deputy, \$275 for primary, \$100 for Deputy this year.

Jim makes motion to nominate Ted Jewett as Health Officer and Jen Goulet as deputy, Bill seconds, all in favor, 3-0.

This needs to go to the State for final approval.

- c. Discussion of estimate for paving leach field road – Tammy reports that Glenn got a quote for paving the leach field road. Discussion of using ARPA funds. The cost would be \$33,000 to pave Route 3 to midway. Discussion by Reggie, Jim, Tammy, and Sean on where to pave to, if money is available this year, how to spend ARPA funds, and the sliding into traffic on Route 3 safety concern.

Norm Cotter: was mentioned before that the road was steep and no one wanted to pave then.

Pete Marshall asks if it will be going out to bid. Keith answers “yes”. Pete suggested waiting to start black top.

Reggie shocked at the price of pavement.

Discussion turns back to ARPA funds. Tammy explains that you have until 2024 to decide how to use, and to 2026 to spend it.

Norm wants to know why the big rush to pave, why is everyone worried now?

Bill replies that it is a loss of life issue.

Discussion of road conditions and salting. Sean Durkin is concerned with runoff that could ruin the pavement.

More ARPA discussion regarding other towns that need paving.

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Tammy relays that there is \$200,000 or a little less in ARPA funds remaining. She will revisit the capital assets restrictions on the funds.

Discussion on other roads and sewer lines to be done, ledge an issue, grinding and paving of Old Village Road.

Jim tables the discussion until the November meeting.

- d. Discussion of propane tank ownership – Tammy said Irving Oil looked at the tanks. Only one is owned by the Town, the one on Mechanic Street. The other tanks are owned by the service companies, CN Brown and Rymes. If the pool tank were to be replaced it would have to be dug up. The good news is that the Town is not responsible for testing or replacement parts on those tanks.

Sean asks the size of the tank. Tammy thinks it is a 1,500-gallon inground tank.

Decision made to keep CN Brown for propane and Irving for oil. Select Board is good with that.

- e. Other – Tammy lets everyone know that the Groveton chemical waiver has been approved, like Northumberland. A letter will have to go out to the tenants regarding toxic releases.
- f. Response to one of the Zoning Violation letters sent out. The “squatter” house will be redone next year and boarded up this year. Al suggests verifying the boarding up process. Select Board answers yes and to ask owner’s permission to do so.

6. Applications/Permits and Warrants:

- a. Building Permit Applications (4) –

Map 104, Lot 080, Laney Excavation, Jack Murgatroy, demo house, send asbestos to Berlin. Tammy says it is the burnt building. Fee is paid. Jim makes motion to sign, Bill seconds, all in favor, 3-0. Reggie expresses his concern with dumpsters in the road, snowstorms. Kathy Frechette notes that they will need to use reflective tape, discussion on safety continues.

Map 104, Lot 069, Keith and Samantha Young, roof over garage, fee is paid, discussion of the project and possible sidewalk snow removal problem. Jim makes motion to approve if no impediment to sidewalk snow removal, Bill seconds, all in favor, 3-0. Tammy to research.

Map 227, Lot 021, John Holden, 10x16 chicken coop on existing pad and an 8x12 utility building, paid fee, discussion of setbacks. Al says Liz has worked a deal for all permits. Jim makes motion to sign, Bill seconds, all in favor 3-0.

Jim makes motion for Tammy to speak to Liz on “deals” and to approve if she concurs, if not, it will go to the Select Board. Bill seconds, all in favor, 3-0

Map 104, Lot 152, Jim Tierney, bathroom renovation, fee paid. Jim to abstain. Bill makes motion to sign, Keith seconds, all in favor, 2-0, Jim abstains. Al signs.

- b. Supplemental Warrant – Town Drains – 3rd quarter - \$8,750. Jim makes motion to sign, Bill seconds, all in favor, 3-0. This is for town wide drains.
- c. Non-Resident Transfer Station Permit Application – Jason Monley new application, fee paid. Northumberland does not want to lose the metal they receive from Jason, but only metal, to be reevaluated. Jim makes motion to sign, Bill seconds, all in favor, 3-0.
- d. Land Use Change Tax – Map 219, Lot 11 – currently 14.9 acres in current use, want to take 1.22 acres out of current use, leaving 13.68 acres in current use. Jim makes motion

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to sign, Bill seconds, all in favor, 3-0.

- e. Intent to Cut – Map 209, Lot 001 – Albert & Norman Cloutier, 95 acres to cut, start 10-20-2022, located near the Stark town line. Jim makes motion to sign, Bill seconds, all in favor, 3-0.

7. Announcements:

Tammy mentions there is to be a public hearing on Tuesday November 1st at 6pm. This is regarding the sidewalk project.

November 7th is the next Select Board meeting, which is the night before elections. Things will be set up for elections. Select Board to work around the setup as has been done previously.

Bill makes motion to go into non-Pub at 7:17pm, Jim seconds, all in favor 3-0. Roll call vote.

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

- a. Personnel Matters

Jim makes motion to come out of non-pub at 8:21pm, Bill seconds, all in favor, 3-0

In public session resumed, Jim makes motion to seal minutes regarding Police, Bill seconds, all in favor, 3-0. Roll call vote.

9. Adjournment: Jim makes motion to adjourn at 8:22pm, Bill seconds, all in favor, 3-0.

Next meeting, November 7, 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