



Town of
Northumberland
Office of Selectmen
19 Main St
Groveton NH 03582
Phone (603) 636-1450
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www.northumberlandnh.org

**Town of Northumberland
Board of Selectmen
Meeting Minutes - Draft**

Date: Monday, April 17, 2023

Place: Town Meeting Room – 10 Station Square

Time: 6:00 P.M.

Board Members present: J. Tierney, J. Weagle, B. Caron – Teleconference

Others present: Tammy Letson, Jeremy Monahan, Norm Cotter, Al Rossetto, Steve Collins, Melinda Kennett, Judy Fox, Kathy Frechette, Amanda Anderson, Ernest Roy, Peter Pelletier, William Daisey, Ryan Shannon, Ronna HasBrouck, Ann Corthell, Rebecca St Cyr – Minute Taker

1. Chairman opens the meeting:

J. Tierney opened the meeting at 6:02 pm.

2. Acceptance of Minutes:

Motion to approve the 04/03/23 Minutes by: J. Weagle

2nd by: B. Caron, All in Favor 3-0

3. Department Head Business:

a. Ambulance and Police Depts.

Ambulance – J. Tierney read the Ambulance report as written below.

1. 2023 to date we have had 128 calls at the writing of this report. (Print out included)
2. 2022 at this time we had 142 calls. (Print out included)
3. Comstar report for January and February, net payments of \$47,193.24. (Print out included)
4. Almost all the contracts have been signed and returned with payments. Jim Gibson didn't advise who has not returned their contract yet.
5. This year is a revalidation year for Medicare. All paperwork has been signed and will be sent in. This will allow us continued billing for services. Part of the revalidation process includes an inspection of our facility by Medicare. No date has been given so far.

*UPDATE: We have received word that we passed revalidation and are good for another 5 years. One complaint they had was there isn't a 911 number on the building (10 Station Square) and would like to see that addressed. J. Tierney commented that we will get one to put up.

Police Department – Chief P. Pelletier reported: 290 calls for service, 58 of them were MV stops, 4 crash investigations; opened 26 new criminal investigations and made 14 arrests. 10 were drug arrests, 4 were for other reasons.

Later this week we will be cooperating with 3 other PD's doing a sobriety check point in the Town of Gorham. It will be a mix of Northumberland, Lancaster, and Colebrook. It's the first of several planned for this year, it's paid for using highway safety grant money. Last year the one done with Lancaster was successful. There are some grants coming up – speed safety,



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speed control, DWI patrols as well as others with specific enforcement objectives. State Police will also have some extra paroles out to assist with the checkpoints to assist with traffic, etc.

J. Monahan asked if there will be coverage in Town during the checks, P. Pelletier said yes.

J. Tierney asked if bicyclists have to follow the rules of the road, Pelletier said that's what it says in the RSA. Jim - So they are not allowed to skip the stop sign, pass a MV that's already crossing the tracks to speed by them and then scoot down the middle of the road. Hopefully they can be arrested next time.

K. Frechette was driving by the elementary school and the light on the flag blinded her. P. Pelletier will check into it. J. Weagle said when it's windy it will move.

4. Town Administrator Business:

- a. Discussion/Decision of waiver of Commercial Transfer Permit requirement – T. Letson said that D4 does our curbside pickup. We are required in the DES rules for the Transfer Station that anybody dropping off waste with us must have a permit. They need to have a commercial sticker; she has reached out to D4 and all they bring to the Transfer Station is the Town Curbside. To comply with DES rules, Tammy recommended that we issue them a commercial permit at no cost. J. Tierney suggested getting something written and signed by D4 to cover it.
- b. Discussion of street signs - T. Letson received a call this morning. The Sawmill Rd. sign (across from the Pine Tree Motel) is lying down and Spruce Rd (off Sawmill) has never had a sign. Both are private roads. The Road Agent indicated that a previous Board had approved getting them for 911 purposes. J. Tierney said to ask Glenn to get them with the PVT and smaller letters and have them put up.
- c. Discussion of complaint received regarding a skateboarder - this has already been addressed with the Chief. We will have the PD keep an eye out for the skateboarder. J. Tierney commented, this happened to him tonight with a bicyclist that was coming off the hill. B. Caron said he read the complaint, his thought was to make it a 3-way intersection and discussed the options. J. Tierney said there are people that don't pay attention to the signs either.

A Anderson lives on the hill and pays taxes, she objects to putting up another stop sign to go onto the hill.

- d. Discussion of grant acceptance – The Board has signed off on a grant for radios in the office. T. Letson said we need it in the minutes that the Board made a motion to approve. It is to upgrade the police radios. T. Letson said they also recommend that if the grant is accepted then authority to sign should be assigned to one person as well.
Motion to accept and give T. Letson authorization to sign by: J. Weagle
2nd by: B. Caron, All in Favor 3-0
- e. T. Letson - We have a resident who had sewer backing up into their house. They believe it was a Town issue; Reggie didn't think it was but can't say for certain. Reggie worked with the person and cleaned the blockage out. He also told him how to clean out the dirt cellar to get rid of it. The homeowner asked to be reimbursed (\$65.00) for supplies he bought to clean up the mess. J. Weagle said when it happened at his house, he had to pay for it himself. We have never reimbursed for supplies. B. Caron asked where the clog was if



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the sewer is backed up? He feels the burden of proof is on the homeowner. It's located on the hill in an area that needs to be re-done.

Ryan Shannon asked if the Town has cameras and/or augers, T. Letson said we do but doesn't think they were used in this instance. In his opinion we don't know if it's the Town's side or not. J. Tierney said in this location the pipe isn't that deep – it's approx. 3.5' down due to ledge. B. Caron asked where does the Town's responsibility stop. Tammy said under normal circumstances, it ends at the junction in the street. But if something has happened to the pipe where we are pushing other people's waste into somebody's home or not letting theirs out; then in Tammy's opinion, it would be our responsibility. J. Tierney said there is a lot of ledge in the area and some trees, but not on the edge of the street. He said he would be willing to split the bill with him. \$64.95 is the amount of the request. B. Caron didn't want to say that we needed to bear the full brunt of it. J. Tierney said they are our pipes. J. Weagle said until it connects to the main pipe it's the homeowner's responsibility.

A Anderson said if someone is taking the time to come down and fill out the paper work there's probably a good chance it's the Town, knowing how bad the pipes are. Beyond that we have cameras that weren't utilized. T. Letson commented that's because a flush cleared it out. Anderson offered to pay the \$65.00, they obviously need it.

J. Monahan asked if it was a Town issue, wouldn't it have affected others? – T. Letson said that's why Reggie didn't think it was a Town issue. J. Tierney asked the Board what they wanted to do. B. Caron said he would say no to reimbursement since there were no other issues. K. Frechette made a valid point, R. Charron helped with the clean out which cost approx. \$300.00, at no charge.

Norm Cotter asked when the Town goes up to clean out a clog, if it's not the Town's problem, we pay for it and not the person. J. Tierney said we would have to know that the person caused it. It wasn't proven one way or the other in this case; we can't say it was the Town's fault, it went down quickly.

A Anderson commented if we have cameras why didn't they utilize them; J. Tierney said they don't carry them in the truck; he said we can suggest this to R. Charron. R. Shannon commented you never know if it's a bigger problem.

f. Other Business – There was none.

5. Applications/Permits and Warrants:

a. Supplemental Warrant – Town wide sewer drains – first quarter \$8750
Motion to approve by: J. Weagle, 2nd by: B. Caron, All in Favor 3-0

b. Non-Resident Property Owner Transfer Station Permit Applications (10)

Map 251, Lot 013 – Diane Krohn, Michael & John Francis - paid fee.

Motion to approve by: J. Weagle, 2nd by: B. Caron, All in Favor 3-0

Map 237, Lot 025 – Mark & Kelly Yelle – renewal

Motion to approve by: J. Weagle, 2nd by: B. Caron, All in Favor 3-0



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Maps 104 & 253, Lots 204, 203, 283 and 001 – Diane Bessette – Renewal
Motion to approve by: J. Weagle, 2nd by: B. Caron, All in Favor 3-0

Map 229, Lot 27 – Ricky & Jennifer Theberge – renewal
Motion to approve by: J. Weagle, 2nd by: B. Caron, All in Favor 3-0

Map 256, Lots 5&8 -Newton Revocable Trust renewal
Motion to approve by: J. Weagle, 2nd by: B. Caron, All in Favor 3-0

Map 223, Lot 012 – Laboski Family Trust – renewal
Motion to approve by: J. Weagle, 2nd by: B. Caron, All in Favor 3-0

Maps 104-224, Lots 1-34 – Red Dam Conservatory - renewal
Motion to approve by: J. Weagle, 2nd by: B. Caron, All in Favor 3-0

Map 237, Lot 016 – Lisa Chaffin, J. Balmadier, J. Miller-Hayden – Renewal
Motion to approve by: J. Weagle, 2nd by: B. Caron, All in Favor 3-0

Maps 102, 104, 107, Lots 12,27,181,267, 146-Renewal–Richard and Tracy Dupuis
Motion to approve by: J. Weagle, 2nd by: B. Caron, All in Favor 3-0

Map 101, Lot 037 – Rubens Gregory Gallagher – new, fee has paid
Motion to approve by: J. Weagle, 2nd by: B. Caron, All in Favor 3-0

K. Frechette asked if they pay the same as us - \$5.00? No, they pay \$15.00.

c. Abatement “Housekeeping” – Map 216, Lot 3 - \$8.51

Motion to approve by: J. Weagle, 2nd by: B. Caron, All in Favor 3-0

d. Building Permit Applications (8)

Map 227, Lot 006 – Reginald Gates – fees paid

Motion to approved by: J. Weagle, 2nd by: B. Caron, All in Favor 3-0

Map 246, Lot 002 – Mark Degennaro, Al has signed – fees paid

Motion to approve by: J. Weagle, 2nd by: B. Caron, All in Favor 3-0

Map 236, Lot 005 – MH 34 – Sheyenne Breault and Cody Breault – Moving a mobile home to the park. A. Rossetto said it’s a new pad; it doesn’t have cast in place with anchors in the 4 corners. Federal and State Law require that level of attachment. He suggested that we sign the permit conditional upon the owner of (Dean Brook) writing a letter that the attachments in the corners will meet the RSA. He doesn’t know how thick the slab is or the variables. If the owner swears that it meets the code, it will hold the Town harmless. J. Weagle was fine with that. B. Caron said the company that’s moving the trailer should be aware of the code; he agrees.

T. Letson said the company that’s moving it plans to do them after the fact, but she’s not sure whether it meets the requirements. A. Rossetto further discussed. If we were provided with the info, we might be comfortable with it. The slab could be 4”; the anchors might require 6” slabs. M. Kennett said the owner of Dean Brook was in today and they were talking about this, the information is attached to the permit. J. Tierney read the note



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attached signed by Mark at Dean Brook. All needed to sign the permit; the letter should stay with the permit.

Motion to approve by: J. Weagle, 2nd by: B. Caron, All in Favor 3-0

Map 256, Lot 001-05-00 – Gary, Lisa Lebrun – New Log home. B. Caron asked about the fee – it was \$250.00.

Motion to approve J. Weagle, 2nd by: B. Caron, All in Favor 3-0

Map 101, Lot 001 – Barry and Catherine Pulster

Motion to approve by: J. Weagle, 2nd by: B. Caron, All in Favor 3-0

Map 227, Lot 026 - Daniel Ayer

Motion to approve by: J. Weagle, 2nd by: B. Caron, All in Favor 3-0

Map 101, Lot 037 – Rubens Gregory Gallagher – fees paid

Motion to approve by: J. Weagle, 2nd by: B. Caron, All in Favor 3-0

Map 214, Lot 021 – Dale / Terry Covey, All Energy Solar

Motion to approve by: J. Weagle, 2nd by: B. Caron, All in Favor 3-0

e. Yield Tax Warrant – Map 248, Lot 004 - \$669.85

Motion to approve by: J. Weagle, 2nd by: B. Caron, All in Favor 3-0

f. Veteran's Tax Credit – Spouse – Application – Map 104, Lot 034

Motion to approve by: J. Weagle, 2nd by: B. Caron, All in Favor 3-0

g. Elderly Exemption Applications (4) – All applications still qualify

1. Map 104, Lot 128

Motion to approve by: J. Weagle, 2nd by: B. Caron, All in Favor 3-0

2. Map 229, Lot 034

Motion to approve by: J. Weagle, 2nd by: B. Caron, All in Favor 3-0

3. Map 107, Lot 164

Motion to approve by: J. Weagle, 2nd by: B. Caron, All in Favor 3-0

4. Map 229, Lot 024

Motion to approve by: J. Weagle, 2nd by: B. Caron, All in Favor 3-0

R. Shannon said the Board should still read the Map #'s and Lot #'s by the RSA. T. Letson said she could be wrong, but she doesn't feel that's the case with exemptions. She will review and get back at the next meeting. J. Tierney said we will put back into the minutes at the next meeting based on the RSA review.

A Anderson noted all the map #'s and lot #'s are listed on the agenda. T. Letson said typically they are only on the agenda for Becky. We won't put them into the minutes until clarified. N. Cotter asked about putting something into the minutes that's not there; J. Tierney said if Tammy finds out that it's ok to put the Map & Lot #'s in the minutes, she will let Becky know and they will be included. If not, the 04/17 minutes will be corrected at the next meeting.

R. Shannon said we will clarify, but you can't add to the minutes once completed; they need to be amended – it's a felony.



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J. Tierney said the reason this time is the law was changed. We had to re-accept the verbiage. J. Weagle said everyone may need to reapply due to the change in the amount, which is still pending. T. Letson is guessing there won't be re-applications; but at the next Town Meeting we will change the dollar amount.

K. Frechette said it used to be during specific times; J. Tierney further discussed. The Town adopted the War time and then adopted the new one when that came out.

6. Public Comment:

A Anderson presented a written complaint to the Board. She also has an email chain if they would like to see it, which she feels is quite unprofessional and has videos. T. Letson asked if it should be in Non-Public if it's reputational; J. Tierney asked Anderson if discussing in Public Session was ok; she agreed it was ok. He read the complaint dated 04/10/23 from Amanda Anderson, 20 Hillside Ave., summary of complaint: Police Dept. not responding to a call in a timely manner. She reported a crime on 03/22/23 re: minor trespassing and stealing alcohol. She identified the perpetrator on her home security cameras and verified their identity. She provided the footage; 2 individuals saw the minor walking and one also went to the PD to report. An hour later she called Troop F to hopefully assist. Northumberland PD dropped the ball and will not investigate. No effort has been put forth, admitted via email. She feels if it was someone else's report, it would be taken seriously. There were numerous officers on duty. She feels this is retaliation due to voicing her concerns within the Town Government.

J. Tierney asked her what she would like to add. Anderson said she is concerned because it was a kid on camera and the family identified as well. She feels she has been nothing but respectful. 90 days is the statute of limitations as of Wednesday, it has been a month. She had 2 different views of the kid on camera, but they aren't clear. She knows a State Trooper that works IT, that might be able to help to make them clearer. As of the date of the complaint they haven't investigated it, and she would like to know why.

Bill Daisey said it is his investigation, he has been nothing but clear with Amanda. They have 90 days on a violation level offense. Whether you speak up at a Town Meeting or say something negative about him, that has had no bearing in 18 years of his career. He takes every case as it comes. Unfortunately, there are only 3 of us and we must prioritize what's more important. He said there were 7 arrests that night; her camera footage is very unclear we don't know who is in that video. He explained that to her before and again today. He has just so many hours in the day to investigate what he can. He has 90 days and within those 90 days he will have an answer for her.

Anderson said there were 2 people that saw this kid walking around the hill with her alcohol that night. He tried selling it to her kid who is 14, which was reported. Anderson referenced the last email that wasn't clear. B. Daisey said to scroll back and review previous emails as well. Discussion continued between Anderson and Daisey.

Jerry Monahan commented if we don't have time, maybe we shouldn't be going to Gorham for sobriety check points. B. Daisey said when he makes progress, he will let her know. J. Tierney noted that 90 days is approx. June 22, and you should have an answer from Off. Daisey. If not contacted by the PD, Anderson should contact the Board or T. Letson.

T. Letson made a clarification to Jerry's comment. The Grant specifies that it's on over-time with full time officers. R. Shannon asked if there are more like that or is it just one grant. B.



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Daisey further discussed the grants and being earmarked for a purpose. There are very specific purposes and rules.

Ryan Shannon asked what was going on with the vehicles in the PD parking area. Chief Pelletier said they are vehicles that were used to smuggle drugs into Town. They are part of the court case that involves the defendants and are evidence. When the case is concluded the court will likely order that they be disposed of.

J. Tierney asked Pelletier about the press releases they send to the Board; can they be put out on the email tree. Pelletier said they are posted on Instagram and when we get a web site running it will be on that.

7. Announcements: Conservation Commission Meeting – 4/20/23 – 7 pm – 19 Main St. –

J. Weagle will let them in.

8. Next Board Meeting Date: Monday, May 1, 2023 – 6 pm – 10 Station Square

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

Motion to enter Non-Public Session by: J. Weagle, 2nd by: B. Caron, All in Favor 3-0
Roll Call – J. Tierney – Yes; J. Weagle – Yes; B. Caron - Yes

Into Non-Public Session at: 7:21 pm

Out of Non-Public Session at – 8:40 pm

Into Regular session at – 8:40 pm

Motion to "Seal" the Non-Public Session minutes – Section e until
resolved by: J. Weagle, 2nd by: B. Caron, All in Favor 3-0
Roll Call: J. Tierney – Yes; J. Weagle – Yes; B. Caron - Yes

Motion to "Seal" the Non-Public Session minutes – Section f until
resolved by: J. Weagle, 2nd by: B. Caron, All in Favor 3-0
Roll Call: J. Tierney – Yes; J. Weagle – Yes; B. Caron - Yes

There was no further business discussed.

10. Adjournment:

Motion to adjourn by: J. Weagle
2nd by: B. Caron, All in Favor 3-0

Meeting adjourned at 8:41 pm.



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Minutes approved by Northumberland Select Board Members on _____

X

William Caron
Northumberland Select Board Chair

X

Jim Tierney
Northumberland Select Board Member

X

Jim Weagle
Northumberland Select Board Member