



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

Date: Monday, October 16, 2023

**Place: Town Meeting Room – 10 Station Square Time:
6:00 P.M.**

Board members present: Bill Caron, Jim Weagle, Jim Tierney
Others present: Tammy Letson, Melissa Dano, Douglas Dano, James Gibson, Norm Cotter, Pete Marshall, Sean Durkin, Al Rossetto, Amanda Anderson, William Daisey, Peter Pelletier, Melinda Kennett, Ryan Shannon, Andre Brasseur, Kathy Frechette, Rebecca St. Cyr – Minute Taker

- 1. Chairman opens the meeting:** B. Caron opened the meeting at 6:00 PM
- 2. Acceptance of Minutes:**

Motion to approve Sept 18, 2023 by: J. Tierney
2nd by: J. Weagle, All in Favor 3-0

Motion to approve the Oct 2, 2023 minutes by: J. Weagle
2nd by: J. Tierney, All in Favor 3-0

Tammy said these minutes went out this morning and will be posted online.

- 3. Department Head Business:** Police and Ambulance

Ambulance – Jim Gibson, EMS Director, EMS Chiefs Report

1. 2023 as of this printing, we have had 374 calls to date.
2. 2022 on this date we were at 374 calls.
3. Comstar commitment report as of 10/14/2023, \$167,047.82. This does not include contract fees or direct payments.
4. A1 and A3 are both in service currently.
5. On the 26th I will be attending the New Hampshire District meeting to go over the future of EMS in New Hampshire and the push to get EMS recognized as an essential service.
6. Our Vermont EMS license has been approved and we are now working on renewing New Hampshire's.
7. We currently are working with Granite State Independent Living on the IMPACCT program. We have a student from the high school that will be doing some onsite learning as an intern to earn credits for graduation. She started on Friday.

J. Weagle asked if the number of runs are just runs and not transfers? J. Gibson said the transfers are included in the numbers.

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Police – Pete Pelletier, Chief

Since the last report, the department has received 367 calls for service (CFS). Five of those were referred to State Police by dispatch.

180 car stops.

15 arrests with 28 charges (including one drug arrest and one DWI arrest).

25 new case investigations.

6 crash investigations, including two where vehicles struck private homes. The latest one happened over the weekend.

Gunlocks are now available free to the public. Just stop in the lobby during business hours.

Drug takeback day is Saturday October 28 from 10:00 am – 2:00 pm.

GSIL has an intern working at the PD and will be shadowing us on Fridays. Tammy said it's not the high school. GSIL put in a proposal on a bid that the Dept of Education put out. The concept is to take students that aren't doing well in school. The program brings them out and gives them the full years credits. The classes are more focused on living; their math class is working a budget. We will also have one working with Min one day a week and another with the Highway Crew starting in November one day/week – approx. 3 hrs. The school pays them to do the internship a minimal amount. It's a really good program.

R. Shannon said he's all hands on; he asked about doing background checks for liability purposes. Peter said there is an amount of confidentiality associated with what they are seeing. They won't be able to access MV records or criminal histories. They will sign a confidentiality agreement, because they will see some situations that can't be talked about outside of the building. Tammy said the Ambulance Chief went through the same process with their intern. The confidentiality issues will be ours; any other liabilities will fall under GSIL, They will cover all other liabilities.

A Anderson commented that we have already had some confidentiality issues with the Town, what happens if they see or hear something confidential. Tammy said the Dept Head or supervisor need to be sure they are not being exposed to something they shouldn't be. Amanda commented that kids are kids! Tammy noted the exposure will be limited. Peter said a breach of confidentiality is a one time event and the student would no longer be allowed to participate. Amanda commented that as long as the Dept Heads have some kind of protection it sounds like a great thing for the kids. B. Caron said they have been doing this for a while. Tammy said it's a State wide program.

4. Requested Agenda Matters: None requested.

5. Town Administrator Business:

- a. Senior Project – T. Letson, the Board received their budget today; if there is money available they feel can be contributed to Luke Shannon for his project. The Board reviewed/discussed the budget.

Motion to approve a donation for \$500.00 to Luke Shannon's Senior Project by: J. Tierney, 2nd by J. Weagle, All in Favor 3-0

Tammy said this isn't a random contribution, the project is working on the ballfields to level them out. It's Town owned property. J. Weagle said the School Board approved a large donation (\$12,000) for his project. B. Caron said he can also contact the York Foundation.

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- b. Sale of Land – The Board was approached by Dustin Supernois at the last meeting to purchase a small lot beside his. Tammy said we do have the ability to do this. This would be an order for the Board to sell the property outside of Town Meeting, however the Planning Board has to have a meeting and vote on it and the Conservation Commission has to meet and vote on it as well. If they are in agreement then the Selectmen have a meeting and vote on it. We have done it on the Warrant for property on the Brown Rd previously. J. Tierney noted that by the time all that is done we will be just about to Town Meeting. J. Weagle said this isn't a lot line adjustment, it's a purchase. It can be put on the Warrant at Town Meeting and then the Boards don't need to meet and vote on it. Town Meeting trumps any board. B. Caron asked about what he's willing to pay. Tammy said the Warrant article can say the taxpayers are willing to sell the property, which allows the abutter a chance and the interested parties can bid on it. The Board all agreed that it can be done through the Warrant.
- c. Release of Lien – T. Letson said we received payment on a welfare lien; this is so the lien at the registry can be lifted.

Motion to release the lien by: J. Weagle
2nd by: J. Tierney, All in Favor 3-0

- d. Zoning Letter Property Update – T. Letson said the Board received a copy of an email. It's for one on the properties that was sent a letter to clean up; she suggested not announcing any names when discussing or it can be discuss during Non-Public session. The Board will discuss during Non-Public session.
- e. Other Business – None discussed

6. Applications/Permits and Warrants:

- a. Non-resident transfer station permit –
 - 1. Map/lot 104-162 – Donald Langlois, his son (a non-resident) would like to be able to take his garbage to the transfer station. Fee has been paid.
Motion to approve by: J. Tierney, 2nd by: J. Weagle, All in Favor 3-0
 - 2. Map/lot 104-083 – Guy Mailhot, fee has been paid, he doesn't own the property yet.
Motion to approve after the sale of the property is completed by: J. Tierney
2nd by: J. Weagle, All in Favor 3-0

Tammy said we don't give out the sticker until approved, so it won't be sent until the sale is complete.

- b. Building Permits (2) –
 - 1. Map/Lot 251-006 – Jeff Beaton, Vincent Quartararo - 19' x 21' garage, and 19' x 9' carport; the fee has been paid. Jeff Beaton is the contractor.
Motion to approve by: J. Tierney, 2nd by: J. Weagle, All in Favor 3-0

Al Rossetto reviewed and signed.

- 2. Map/Lot 103-009 – Roger Chauvette, new siding and windows, chimney, upstairs bathroom remodel and if money and time allows – the rest of the house.
Motion to approve by: J. Tierney, 2nd by: J. Weagle, All in Favor 3-0
- c. Abatement – Map/Lot 22015-01 – Water - \$67.32 – housekeeping abatement.
Motion to approve by: J. Weagle, 2nd by: J. Tierney, All in Favor 3-0

T. Letson commented she believes the meter has been fixed for the next quarter.

- d. Sign Permit – Map/Lot 240-019 – Shawn and Emily Swallow – Zoning approved the commercial zone for their business. B. Caron reviewed the dimensions.
Motion to approve by: J. Tierney, 2nd by: J. Weagle, All in Favor 3-0

A Rossetto commented that the original sign doesn't meet the low residential zoning for a sign and requires a variance for commercial. B. Caron said they got the variance for Commercial. J. Weagle advised that the variance for Commercial was approved by the Zoning Board and covers the sign as well.

- e. State Inspection Permits - Map/Lot 240-019 Tammy said this came to us from Lancaster because the address is Lancaster. She thanked Lancaster for forwarding to us. This form is for the Board to say if they support whether or not inspections can be done there. J. Weagle said this is basically an FYI to the Town.
Motion to approve by: J. Tierney, 2nd by: J. Weagle, All in Favor 3-0

7. ****Public Comment:**

A Anderson said she didn't attend the last meeting, but she had asked to have the parking issue on the agenda for the October 2, 2023 meeting and it wasn't. B. Caron said it's partially fault, but Tammy was on vacation. T. Letson checked with the engineers; their first suggestion was in front of the right-of-way next to the gazebo. Then they said to move it down. But they did agree that we will use 2 spots to get one handicap spot. Amanda said we had talked about having it right in front of the business (NCFR). J. Weagle said her goal was for better parking and reminded that it's going to take away from parking.

Amanda said she had previously opened a business in Berlin and thrived, they took good care of her as a business owner. She was looking at investing in this Town, but feels she's wasted her time by coming to these meetings. She has tried to support business, there are grants available; if there is handicapped parking, she has investors willing to invest in this Town.

She wants to open another business, either here or in another town. All she has consistently seen is that this Town doesn't support the businesses. She is trying to keep things local, but why is anyone going to want to open business here when there's no support. So why should she do something here. The parking in front of NCFR was approved by the Selectmen months ago. J. Weagle wanted to make sure she realizes that it is going to take away a parking spot. We wanted to try and do the side parking but can't due to the restrictions. Tammy said we can, but you would end up with a 13' wide spot which uses the majority of the road. Amanda said there are a variety of options and different kind of handicap spots.

B. Caron asked if Megan is aware that you are here advocating for it; now it's going to be strictly handicap in front of the restaurant using 2 spots for 1. Amanda said Megan is well aware, she is frustrated and doesn't want to waste her time because nobody is going to support the business. Amanda feels like she's better off giving her money to another town.

T. Letson said that we have someone that offered to paint the lines. To be in compliance there is some curb work that needs to be done. The Town will need to modify the existing sidewalk to provide a curb ramp at the end of the access aisle. The sidewalk is 10' wide, so the engineer feels it's feasible. We will need to have the signage. The handicap spot needs to be 11' wide for the parking and an additional 5' wide for the access aisle - a total of 16'. J. Weagle said the driveway going into Rons could provide a flat surface for access; you need to have a flat surface going onto the sidewalk. Tammy said she will have to verify that there are no additional funds needed for the curb work.

Amanda said we had this conversation 3 meetings ago; is there a date when this will be done. Bill said it's going to snow soon; the weather could effect it. J. Weagle we have to make sure that everything is legally done. We don't know the painters' schedule, but she thought it could

be done up until the end of October. The sign can't be posted on the telephone pole or on the building. Another post will need to be put in.

8. Announcements:

9. Next Board Meeting Date: Monday, November 6, 2023 – 6 pm

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

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

Into Non-Public session at 6:49 pm.

Motion to come out of Non-Public session by: J. Weagle
2nd by: J. Tierney, All in Favor 3-0

Out of Non-Public session at 7:07 pm

Into Regular session at 7:07 pm

11. Adjournment:

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

Meeting adjourned at 7:07 pm

*Agenda is subject to change

**Deadline for Agenda items is 12:00 noon on the Friday before scheduled business meeting

(By vote of Board of Selectmen at 7/11/2005 meeting)

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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