



Town of  
Northumberland  
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**Town of Northumberland  
Board of Selectmen  
Meeting Minutes - Draft  
Date: **Tuesday, February 20, 2024**  
Place: **Town Meeting Room – 10 Station Square**  
Time: **6:00 P.M.****

Board members present: Jim Tierney, Jim Weagle, Bill Caron  
Other present: Tammy Letson, Norm Cotter, Elizabeth Ball, Judy Fox, Melissa Dano, Doug Dano, Adriana Dano, Jerry Monahan, Ryan Shannon, Nancy Merrow, Nicole Merriam, Bart Merriam, James Gibson, Andre Brasseur, Peter Pelletier, 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 accept the Feb 05, 2024 & Feb 09, 2024 minutes by: J. Weagle  
2<sup>nd</sup> by: J. Tierney, All in Favor 3-0

**3. Department Head Business:**

**Ambulance – EMS Chiefs Report – Jim Gibson**

1. 2024 as of this printing, we have had 57 calls to date.
2. 2023 on this date we were at 63 calls.
3. Comstar commitment report as of 02/10/24: \$14,870.87. This does not include contract fees or direct payments. As explained every year, Comstar usually does not bill the first three (3) months of a new year, to allow for patient's deductibles to be met so that insurance will kick in.
4. We will be hosting a training day for the PD. CPR, first aid and Narcan administration will be reviewed.
5. Due to our current trend of two (2) to three (3) births in the back of our ambulances in the last three (3) years, we are having training on obstetrics and neonatal resuscitation in March. This will involve training with hands on simulated patients and babies. Weeks Medical Center will bring up a SIM lab for childbirth.
6. Both ambulances are currently operational.

**Fire Dept – Andre Brasseur**

Seven (7) calls for service  
Five (5) MV crashes

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One (1) small residential heating oil spill  
One (1) structure fire

Feb 6<sup>th</sup> we had a training with Primex on traffic control and safety. Seven (7) of our members were able to attend.

There is a meeting at the Fire Station tonight.

**Police Dept – Peter Pelletier, Chief**

Since the last report, the Northumberland Police Department has accomplished the following activity:

Calls for service:	364	SP: 8
Motor Vehicle Stops:	144	Tickets issued: 8
Arrests:	18	Charges: 35
DWI:	3	
Drugs:	4	
Crash Investigations:	3	
New Investigations:	20	

Cruiser striping is complete. The new cruiser is expected to be wired up and ready for the road around the second week of March. The radios and lights need to be installed.

The carpet was cleaned in the Police Station. It had not been done since at least 2017. Peter commented that it was long overdue and the air quality seems to be better now. As a result of the carpet cleaning, two (2) junk tables were removed to be thrown away. Also, two (2) large wooden desks, inherited from the school department, have been offered to other Town departments. Peter commented that the two (2) desks are nice, but they are very heavy. They won't be in the meeting room for the election and will probably be moved this week. Peter asked if the Board is okay with the old tables being given away if anyone wants them. The Board was okay with that.

The CPR/First Aid/ Narcan training – it will be nice to get it done.

Matt Koehler, a retired Trooper who now works for Eversource, contacted the PD. He has organized a corn hole tournament, to be held on March 10<sup>th</sup>, which will benefit the family that recently was burned out of their home in Lost Nation. It will be held at the Coos Brewery in Colebrook. All proceeds will go to the family.

**4. Requested Agenda Matters:**

- a. Al Rossetto- Motor Vehicle and Tax Abatement – Al wasn't present at tonight's meeting.

**5. Town Administrator Business:**

- a. Water/Sewer utility truck purchase - T. Letson - the Board began discussing this at a Budget Workshop. Randy had given them specs on a new utility truck. Randy has had to do a lot of patching on the frame of our current truck. He recommends getting a new one. There is ARPA money to cover this.

Randy went to Noyes Chevrolet. They are willing to meet fleet pricing. They found a cheaper utility body and a plow. It is good for 30 days. The price to purchase this truck is \$74,544. It's a 3500 series truck. He needs the Boards approval to purchase and approval to take the money out of the ARPA fund.

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Motion to purchase the W/S Utility truck and take the money out of the ARPA fund by: J. Weagle, 2<sup>nd</sup> by: J. Tierney, All in Favor 3-0

J. Monahan asked what is ARPA? T. Letson explained ARPA is money we received back in Covid times. ARPA is short for American Rescue Plan Act. We received two (2) tranches of money of approx. \$112,000 each time. We don't have it in the budget because ARPA money needs to be spent outside of the budget. It came from the Federal Gov. We have until the end of 2024 to designate how we will spend it and until the end of 2026 to actually spend it.

Andre Brasseur asked how much has been spent from the ARPA fund already? T. Letson said we received \$223,931.16, prior to tonight's decision to purchase the utility truck \$89,537.60 had been spent. After the utility truck is purchased, \$59,849.56 will be left.

Andre asked if it can be used for grant matches for the cruiser. Tammy said that if the USDA approves the grant, yes it could be used for any match. The Fire Dept has applied for a grant and if there is a match on that one, it could be used on that as well. There are a small number of items that it cannot be used for. J. Weagle commented there are between 15 – 20 items on the list. Tammy gave an example of how some were used for covid stipends to the non-first responders.

- b. Mi-Box – Peter Pelletier discussed the company Mi-Box. In Stark there is a Mi-Box storage bin sitting next to the Fire Station. Basically, it's a storage container that's lockable. A sales rep from Mi-Box stopped in to the PD. They have a robust community outreach program and recognize that municipalities usually need extra storage space. He was offering to drop one off for Fire, Police and EMS. We've cleaned up a lot, but we could use the storage space since it's part of their community outreach program and there is no cost to the Town. When we are done with it, they will pick it up. The sizes are 8', 16', and 20' – 20' makes the most sense for us.

B. Caron asked where they are considering putting it? His thought was to put it in the yard near the PD, which might cause a problem with plowing in the winter. J. Gibson said there is snow that slides off in the winter. He talked with Glenn Cassidy about a good place to put it. He suggested the back of the building so when they clean up the yard, they can swipe by when plowing. There also needs to be a clear path to the bulk heads. J. Weagle asked who is liable if it's damaged and if the program ends, what's the lead time for pick-up? Peter said he will call to get the answers.

Motion to accept the Mi-Box with the conditions - as long as the Town isn't liable for damage, and they give us 30 days' notice if the program ends by: J. Tierney, 2<sup>nd</sup> by: J. Weagle, All in Favor 3-0

Tammy will reach out to Primex as well to see if we are covered.

- c. Retail Dealer License and Registration – The Board at the last meeting approved a dealer license, but there weren't any stipulations made. B. Caron reviewed the list of questions regarding possible stipulations – zoned commercial? can motor vehicles be displayed or stored? signage restrictions?

T. Letson said the Board had discussed asking for a fence. Since it was brought up, she hasn't forwarded it back to the State. J. Tierney said under "dealer for retail vehicles" there's not X in junk. Tammy asked if it's only the retail vehicles and do

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they have to run? J. Weagle said no, they don't need to run. They can sell just the parts. J. Weagle commented that if it doesn't run, limit the number of days to 30 - 60. Tammy asked Liz if they have parts vehicles, it can only be there for 180 days by State law? Liz said that's correct.

The Board reviewed.

Can MV be displayed or stored - Yes. But they have to be off the road a certain distance

Signage permitted - Yes. But must follow State rules for scenic byways.

Any stored vehicles must be behind a fence.

R. Shannon - if they are willing to sell vehicles, they should be under a dealership license. That's what they are working on.

The property is zoned for commercial - Yes.

It complies with local ordinances - Yes.

Motion to approve with the following restrictions: 1) Stored vehicles must be kept behind a fence; 2) Signage must comply with the State Scenic Byways by: J. Tierney, 2<sup>nd</sup> by: J. Weagle, All in Favor 3-0

- d. AVRRDD District Representatives - Renewals are due - Al Rossetto has been the main representative. Tammy and Keith Bronson are both alternates.

Motion to appoint Al Rossetto as the primary AVRRDD Rep as long as he accepts, and appoint T. Letson as an alternate by: J. Tierney  
2<sup>nd</sup> by: J. Weagle, All in Favor 3-0

The second alternate will be assigned after Town Meeting. It can be signed by the Town Clerk, Min or Courtney will sign.

- e. Brookview RFP Review - The CDBG grant has been approved for Brookview and they have gone out for engineering on it. We need to review the responses received for the RFP's. There is a meeting scheduled for Monday, March 11, 9:00 am - 11:00 am at the Town Office conference room. B. Caron will attend the meeting as the Select Board rep.

- f. Other - T. Letson said one of the grants approved for the Fire Dept won't accept that the Board has approved it. They want the resolution in the minutes. B. Caron read as follows:

*Resolve that the Board of Selectmen are duly authorized to enter into contracts or agreements on behalf of Northumberland of the State of NH acting by and through the Dept of Natural & Cultural Resources and is further authorized to execute any documents on behalf of this municipality which may be in his or her judgement desirable or necessary to effect the purpose of this resolution.*

Motion to accept the resolution as read by: J. Tierney  
2<sup>nd</sup> by: J. Weagle, All in Favor 3-0

Reminder - Min is retiring at the end of March; Tammy said it's her understanding that Min doesn't want the Town sponsoring a party for her. The Board needs to think about what

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they would like to give her for a gift. We are not supposed to give gift cards because they are taxable.

## **6. Applications/Permits and Warrants:**

### a. Building Permits (3)-

1. Map/Lot 102-007 – Sherry Manville, 31 Brown Rd, replacing concrete floor in garage. She has paid the fee and AI has signed.  
Motion to approve by: J. Weagle, 2<sup>nd</sup> by: J. Tierney, All in Favor 4-0
2. Map/Lot 240-034 – Richard Webster, 30' x 48' 3-sided equipment building, he has paid the fee.  
Motion to approve by: J. Tierney, 2<sup>nd</sup> by: J. Weagle, All in Favor 4-0
3. Map/Lot 213-001 – Gray Mist LLC, Brown Rd., Demo of part of barn, altering footprint of building, repurpose milking room to have a virtual golf simulator.  
Motion to approve by: J. Tierney, 2<sup>nd</sup> by: J. Weagle, All in Favor 3-0

### b. Abatements (5) –

1. Map/Lot 251-013
2. Map/Lot 104-219
3. Map/Lot 105-025
4. Map/Lot 229-047
5. Map/Lot 251-003

Motion to send all 5 abatements above to the assessors by: J. Weagle  
2<sup>nd</sup> by: J. Tierney, All in Favor 3-0

### c. Yield Tax Warrant (1) –

1. Map/Lot 232-002 - \$754.15 – Mark Robinson

Motion to approve by: J. Weagle, 2<sup>nd</sup> by: J. Tierney, All in Favor 3-0

## **7. \*\*Public Comment:**

- N. Merrow commented about the Public Hearing on 02/09/24. She said there was a comment made that Mrs. Kennett was vindicated, which is not true. Mrs. Kennett was found guilty by the Courts and paid the fine. She was never vindicated and feels that needs to be made clear. R. Shannon didn't agree and said she did, she appealed and beat it. He asked for proof of that. Nancy responded that he could go to the 1<sup>st</sup> District Court in Lancaster and ask for the documents. At the end of the Court documents, it states that the Court found her (Mrs. Kennett) guilty, and she paid the fine. She wasn't vindicated.
- J. Monahan stated that a few weeks ago there was discussion about dropping the name Northumberland and using just Groveton, so why did we just label the cruiser with Northumberland? B. Caron said that it's on the Warrant. J. Tierney explained it's on the Warrant for consideration and if they say yes to change the name, then it still has to go to Concord for a bill. J. Tierney ran into a request from 1991 done by a person named Hemmian. He isn't sure who he is, but there was someone that went all over the State to towns that have two (2) names, trying to get them to change. It wouldn't happen right after Town Meeting. It's a process that needs to go through Concord as well.

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**8. Announcements:**

**9. Next Board Meeting Date:** Monday, March 4, 2024 – 6 pm

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

Motion to go into Non-Public Session by: J. Weagle

2<sup>nd</sup> by: J. Tierney, All in Favor 3-0

Roll Call – J. Tierney – Yes; J. Weagle – Yes; B. Caron - Yes

Into Non-Public Session at – 6:51 pm

a. Employee Matter

Motion to come out of Non-Public Session by: J. Tierney

2<sup>nd</sup> by: J. Weagle, All in Favor 3-0

Out of Non-Public Session at 7:05 pm

Into Regular Session at 7:05 pm

There was no further business discussed.

**11. Adjournment:**

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

Meeting adjourned at 7:05 pm

Respectfully submitted,

Rebecca St. Cyr – Minute Taker

\*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)

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