

**Town of Northumberland**

**Board of Selectmen**

**Meeting Notice and Proposed Agenda**

**Date: \*\*Tuesday, January 21, 2020**

**Place: Town Meeting Room – 10 Station Square**

**Time: 6:00 P.M.**

Selectmen present: Chris Wheelock, Chair, Jim Weagle, Michael Phillips

Others present: Norm Cotter, Al Rossetto, Glenn Cassady, Peter Pelletier.

- 1. Chairman opens the meeting:** Chris opens the meeting at 6pm on Tuesday, January 21<sup>st</sup>. Monday was a holiday and offices were closed.

**Acceptance of Minutes:** At this point there were no minutes to accept.

- 2. Selectmen Business:**

- a. Dept. Head Business - Ambulance and Police Depts.**

Glenn reports that there is not much to report. 34 calls this year, up 2 calls from 32 calls last year. 541 total There were 3 transports, 2 accepted, 1 declined.

Do not have a Comstar report.

Have 3 contracts for the Selectboard to sign. They have been signed by their Selectmen, witnessed by our EMS Chief and fee paid.

Chris: 3 contracts, one for Stark, second for Bloomfield and third for Brunswick

Jim makes motion to sign contracts, Michael seconds, all in favor, 3-0.

Peter reports for the Police Department. Last year there were 2,078 calls for assistance, 119 new investigations opened, 71 arrests, 24 car crashes. This year there have 13 new investigations and 1 arrest and 3 car crashes. The department had a joint training session with EMS and now everyone has been certified in first aid and CPR.

Jim asks about the fatal accident in Stark. Seems like there was some confusion on who was to respond. Boo Mattson was asked by dispatch, not sure if it was in our jurisdiction, but, no liability to Town because they were dispatched. Mario Audette was present and took Boo to the crash scene on his snowmobile.

- b. Discussion of listing town owned property-Lost Nation**

This property is owned by the town. The previous owner had it listed for sale, even though he did not own it. That listing was removed. As of Jan 31,2020, Town has \$12,913.61 into it. It is a 5.7 acre lot. There were no bids so we are now considering a 6 month listing with a realtor. Previously we used Carons. Becky will explore this more. Jim makes motion to list with Caron Realestate, Michael seconds, all in favor, 3-0.

- c. Discussion/decision - 3 Utility pole ownership, operation and maintenance**

There are 3 aluminum utility poles on the route 3 bridge. Since the ruling on Northern Pass, Eversource has been difficult to work with and has since then removed all lighting, wiring, etc. Robin has been working with Lancaster DOT and the Lancaster branch of Eversource on what was needed and pricing to replace the lights with LED lights. Half the cost to use. However the cost to replace and make

them usable would be about \$2,000 per pole and \$1000 for fixtures about \$7000.

Michael: LED lights?

Chris: Replace with LED, cost less to operate. Did not think we would be getting into this. If we don't take them, DOT will remove them. Robin will follow-up with more information and pricing.

Michael: This will have to be budgeted.

Norm: Who owns the poles.

Chris: We will, let's table the pole discussion for now. All in agreement to table.

Norm asks question to Peter on yield sign from Bridge St. to Church St.

Chris: don't think there is one.

Jim: There is one Stop sign by Church St. coming from the north and one Stop sign by Al Belands.

Peter: on the one coming north there should not be any crossing.

**d.** Discussion/decision/signing of agreements for the following: Lease - 10 Station Square, Accountant services, Quote on software upgrade for accounting, mapping agreement

Chris explains the lease agreement for 10 Station Square for 2020. In the discussion with the Dupuis' the notice is for a year and if either party wants out they have to give a year's notice. Dupuis would like to sell to town only. The rent has been increased by \$100, will now be \$1400 per month. Mid February the building committee will explore options for the town. Michael makes motion to sign lease, Jim seconds, all in favor, 3-0.

The yearly renewal for accounting services provided by Coos Advisors, formerly named Crane and Bell is ready to be signed. Jim makes motion to sign agreement, Michael seconds, all in favor, 3-0.

Accounting software is in the budget for 2020. Jim makes motion to approve, Michael seconds, all in favor, 3-0.

Mapping software with GIS is also up for renewal. The Town has been using the same company for 20 years. Jim makes motion to renew with GIS, Michael seconds, all in favor, 3-0.

2020 Census. Robin has acquired 2 banners, with no cost, to put up in order to encourage Town to participate in the 2020 Census. Questions of where to place them, possible on the Elementary School fence and the ball field fence. She just wanted to know if we wanted 1 or 2 banners,

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

**a.** Supplemental Warrant - 2019 - water/sewer 4 quarters

A \$70,000 warrant for town wide storm drains to be cleaned up from 2019. Jim makes motion to sign, Michael seconds, all in favor, 3-0.

**b.** Building Permit Application

To demo 165 Dean Brook Drive, town owned property. Jim makes motion to approve and waive fee, Michael seconds, all in favor, 3-0.

To demo 25 High St. Will take vinyl siding to transfer station. The fee has been paid. Jim makes motion to approve, Michael seconds, all in favor, 3-0.

### **4. Public Matters To Be Addressed By The Board:**

**a.** Public Hearing Notice - 2020 Budget/Warrant

The public hearing for the 2020 budget will be held on February 12<sup>th</sup> at 6pm at 10 Station Square.

- b. Norm Cotter asks about the rent for 10 Station Square and utilities. Chris explains that the agreement is that the Town takes care of the inside and Dupuis takes care of the outside and Dupuis pays the taxes.
- c. Al Rossetto: People living in trailer with no water, sewer. Al told the owner to seek the Selectboard on this.

Chris tells Al they are in discussion with the owner, Fanton, regarding the hook up of the water. The owner has given permission to people to inhabit and wants the water hooked back up. There will have to be an inspection and notes made regarding freeze up, so there is no liability of the Town.

Al: Dangerous wood stove.

Jim: A pot belly in the garage.

Chris cautions regarding the Town overstepping their bounds. Reggie will inspect and make notes.

There is more discussion on living conditions which are very poor and very dangerous.

Robin will communicate with Mr. Fanton. Al brings up that there are people living in other places around Town without water or sewer. Peter Pelletier to do a wellness check as they have been doing. Did one today.

Chris: can we remove the trailer.

Jim & Michael: our property.

Peter: She will have an interest in contents of camper.

Chris: we can store until she contacts us.

More discussion on removal

Motion to go from Public to Non-Public at 6:35pm by Jim, seconded by Michael, all in favor, 3-0.

(Not sure about last discussion), but there is \$3000 in budget.

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

Motion to leave Non-Public at 7:10pm by Jim, second by Michael, all in favor, 3-0.

Motion to seal minutes by Jim, second by Michael, all in favor, 3-0.

Motion to adjourn at 7:11pm by Jim, second by Michael, all in favor, 3-0.

Next meeting, February 3, 2020

Respectfully submitted,

Pam Kathan  
Select Board Minute Taker

Minutes approved by Select Board Members on \_\_\_\_\_

X

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Jim Weagle  
Northumberland Select Board

X

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Chris Wheelock  
Northumberland Select Board Chairman

X

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Michael Phillips  
Northumberland Select Board Member