

Town of Northumberland
Board of Selectmen
Meeting Notice and Proposed Agenda

Date: Monday, March 16, 2020

Place: Town Meeting Room – 10 Station Square

Time: 6:00 P.M.

Draft Copy

Select Board Members Present: Chris Wheelock, Jim Weagle, Michael Phillips

Others Present: James Gibson, Sam Oakes, Al Rossetto, Nancy Merrow, George Kenison, Mike Kelly, Reginald Charron, Ryan Shannon, Joseph Kennett, Melinda Kennett, Michelle Randall, recorder.

1. **Chairman opens the meeting:** Chris opens meeting at 6pm and asks for motion to approve minutes from last meeting.
 2. **Acceptance of Minutes:** Jim makes motion to accept minutes from last meeting, Chris seconds, all in favor, 2-0.
3. **Selectmen Business:**

a. Dept. Head Business: Ambulance and Police

Ambulance – James Gibson – 108 calls – inaudible – 17 calls for transfer, 7 accepted, 10 declined. Comstar presently committed \$40,750,97, received to date \$36,391.13.

Regarding Covid-19, there have been many meetings and emails on how to handle. Working with Lancaster and other towns. Could we use Ambulance #3 for quarantine to transport to ICU and share with Lancaster? The Ambulance would be all plasticized and cleaned after each trip. Selectmen are fine with that.

Police -Michelle Randall??? Standing in for Peter. There have been 7 new investigations opened, 3 arrests made. The Covid-19 causing a problem with diminished manpower if an officer is exposed. Peter is at a meeting in Lancaster to brainstorm on solutions stemming from Covid-19. Looking to purchase some self-protection but there is none to be had, so therefore using personal resources.

Chris brings up that he has received emails from Peter regarding the pig issue. The situation is going well.

b. Mike Kelley - Discussion of signage and ticketing around the high school – If the police were doing their job at patrolling the school for parking violations.

Chris tells Mike that people are tired of being ticketed, there is a discussion to work with people, Police are doing their job.

Mike brings up examples of parking violations by the Police, cruiser being parked parallel, at Town Meeting both cruisers were in front of the school in a no parking zone. Explain that.

Min??? mentioned that on basketball night Boo did use a PA to announce to everyone to check where they were parked.

Mike mentions that signs are missing on Park St.

Chris says there are no more sign recommendations.

Mike is struggling with that and gives an explanation on his feeling with the tight

corner parking and violations.

Chris says the Board is going with the opinion of the Police and Highway Department.

c. Discussion/decision on BOS Chairman and committee rep assignments

Chris is Select Board Chair, Rec rep, Zoning Board rep and Transfer Station. Jim is the Planning Board rep, Great Economic Group, rep for Water, Sewer, Ambulance and Select Board member. Michael is on Select Board, a Zoning Board alternate and rep for Highway and Police.

Michael makes motion to keep the same, Jim seconds, all in favor 3-0.

d. Rate raise for water and sewer

Chris has received emails from Robin on raising the water rate, 50¢.

Reggie says the need for improvements on the infrastructure. The uncollected funds are holding us up from making improvements.

Min relays the deadline is April 13th.

Reggie asks why a 50¢ raise?

This is the number that Robin came up with after meeting with Tammy.

Michael says that he also met with Tammy and is trying to make it better without being painful.

Reggie reports that the water conservation is better and that there are 2 big projects in play.

Sam Oakes: With the Covid-19 outbreak will there be water shutoffs?

Reggie: There is no intent to shut off water.

Jim: Not doing that as of now. Voting for the increase for the 1st issue water bills.

Michael makes motion to accept the 50¢ increase for water/sewer. Jim seconds, all in favor, 3-0.

e. Opening/discussion/decision of any bids received for 2007 Plow Truck

Chris relays that there has a bid for the 2007 Plow Truck from Richard Dupuis for \$11,250. Jim makes motion to accept, Michael seconds, all in favor, 3-0.

f. Discussion about Main St patch

Chris brings up the Main Street patch and what progress is being made.

Reggie: the bottom line is that the State needs to fix. Made a \$200 patch at \$14 per bag but everything around the patch gave way.

More discussion on the length of the liability to repair, it is a 6-year-old patch. The State keeps pushing off the responsibility, the State wants us to resurface. Why does it keep blowing out? Town has no material and has not heard back from the State.

Chris: will wait to see what response from the State is, sidewalks have been pushed back to 2027.

Discussion of the difficulty of working with the State, but will wait to see their response.

g. Signing of zoning ordinance change

Jim makes motion to sign the zoning ordinance, Michael seconds, all in favor, 3-0.

Nancy Merrow asks if this zoning change will remain the same.

Chris: yes, other than this special exemption.

h. Appointment of planning/zoning/conservation officials

Chris announces the appointments: Wanda Cloutier for Rec Dept., R. Gadwah for Rec Dept., Addison Hall for Planning Board, Ryan Shannon Planning Board and Zoning Board, Ryan Sullivan for Conservation Commission. Jim makes motion to sign all appointees, Michael seconds, all in favor, 3-0.

Chris: Other Covid-19 discussions: Received an email from Paul at the Transfer Station encouraging curb side pickup whenever possible and to be sure to keep distances.

Min: There are no plans to close down Town Building, but doing online would be best.

Chris recommends that you don't come if you don't need to and to keep to groups of 10 or less. Just common sense.

Reggie: water meter change outs will be suspended, up to the landowner if he wants done. We need to maintain the systems but need backups for sickness. There is no danger to the water.

Min has a concern for the people in the office.

Chris brings up posting something on the door would be fine.

Michael mentions that Irving has cancelled any future cleanings.

Will workman's comp cover for Ambulance personnel that get exposed?

Reggie brings up the schools and if personnel are still working. They are.

4. **Applications/Permits and Warrants:**

a. Disabled Exemption Application

A resident of Lost Nation meets the requirements for the \$10,000 exemption. Jim makes motion to accept, Michael seconds, all in favor, 3-0.

b. Elderly Exemption Application

Page Hill resident does not meet the requirement as he has not been a consistent resident for 3 years.

Michael: has he qualified before?

Jim: Yes.

Jim makes motion to deny credit, Michael seconds, all in favor, 3-0.

c. Non-Resident Transfer Station Permit Applications

Many applications, all paid. Jim makes motion to approve, Michael seconds, all in favor, 3-0

5. **Public Matters to Be Addressed by The Board:**

Chris: Meeting room use to be suspended until end of April? One application for use by Rotobec for their annual meeting.

Jim: Up to them if they still want to use.

Michael: what's the date?

Chris: March 25th from 8:30 to 11

Michael: Maybe suspend after that? Rooms will need to be cleaned after use.

Michael makes motion to deny Rotobec because of Covid-19, Jim seconds, all in favor, 3-0.

Jim makes motion to suspend all meeting room use except for Boards and Committees of the Town. Michael seconds, all in favor, 3-0.

There is a suggestion that meetings could be held remotely to help keep the number of people in the same room limited.

Northumberland Library will be closed from March 16 until April 3rd. There will be staff inside to do disinfecting and projects.

Sam Oakes?? I have a bad taste in my mouth because you denied my abatement and I had to pay sewage fee. Will give back more sewage than what is taken in water.

Motion by Jim to go into Non-Public Session at 6:50pm, Michael seconds, all in favor, 3-0.

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

Motion by Michael to come out of Non-Public at 7:25pm, Jim seconds, all in favor, 3-0.

Anything for public? Payment plans were agreed upon in Non-Public. Jim makes motion, Michael seconds, all in favor, 3-0.

Jim makes motion to adjourn at 7:26pm, Michael seconds, all in favor, 3-0.

Next meeting, April 6, 2020

Respectfully submitted,

Pam Kathan
Select Board Minute Taker

Minutes approved by Select Board Members on _____

X

Chris Wheelock
Northumberland Select Board Chairman

X

Michael Phillips
Northumberland Select Board Member

X

Jim Weagle
Northumberland Select Board Member