

**Town of Northumberland  
Board of Selectmen  
Meeting Minutes  
Date: \*\*\*Tuesday, July 5<sup>th</sup>, 2016\*\*\*  
Place: Town Meeting Room – 10 Station Square  
Time: 6:00 P.M.  
\*\*\*Please note change in day\*\*\*  
Draft Copy**

Board members present: Michael Phillips, Jim Tierney, Jim Weagle  
Others present: Ken & Brenda Boutin, Glenn Cassady, Rob Reynolds, Sam Oakes, Jason Mellit, Reggie Charron, Keith Knapp, Doug Menzie, Al Rossetto, Robin Irving, Susie Batchelder, George Kenison, Jim Morse, Melinda Kennett, Jeffrey St. Cyr, Sean Gray, Tim Stewart, Joseph Kennett, Mario Audit, Rebecca St. Cyr - Recorder

- 1. Chairman opens the meeting:** J. Weagle opened the meeting at 6:00 pm.
- 2. Acceptance of Minutes:** Correction of dates the "Griffin Donald Kenison" memorial tournament is scheduled for Aug 12, 13 & 14, 2016. Not Aug 8 & 9 as recorded in the June 20, 2016 minutes.

Motion to approve the June 20, 2016 minutes as corrected by: J. Tierney  
2<sup>nd</sup> by: M. Phillips, All in Favor 3-0

**3. Selectmen Business:**

- a. Dept. Head Business: Hwy and W/S Depts.

G. Cassady – Highway

The road side mowing has been completed, we have a Dig Safe permit to start working on the sidewalks. On Wednesday we will start working on the valve replacement. The grader is coming out again for Page Hill Road, it will be the second time this year. The crew has been doing some ditching on the back side. M. Phillips asked about the paving, G. Cassady discussed. The money is slated for the project, anything that is dug up will need to be re-done. Cassady used some out of his budget for the crack sealing. The paving on Church St. is contingent on how the sidewalk project goes. R. Irving said the pre-application for the sidewalk grant is due July 1<sup>st</sup>, we should know in the next few weeks if we made the screening for first cut. The application won't be due until September and we probably won't know about that until Fall. We need to get the match for that.

R. Charron – W/S Department

The leak detection company will be here tomorrow (7-6). We should be working on the valve tomorrow as well. Winston Hawes has been busy, he got all of the meters read and the bills have gone out. We still have some residents that think their meters aren't working right. Gage Charron has been busy with mowing and keeping up with the leach field. They have done a good job to keep up with it. He has also been working on the hydrants and they are all done, painting and

putting on new flags. Charron said he continues to work on mapping for the GIS. Have also been working on the gate valves.

The drilling – Robin Irving reviewed. When they started by the monuments, they started getting some fracking and sink holing, so they moved over to near the clarifiers. The drill head broke; they are finding the river is filled with stuff that the mill put into it. Re-bar, etc. The head is a \$50,000 piece. When they got through, they came up on the corner of Winter St. They tried to do the reaming, but had to move to the Route 110 side of the river. The reaming is expected to take about 3 weeks. The contract was supposed to end on July 31<sup>st</sup>, which will need to be extended. Then they still have sewer to do also.

We have bid out the 2<sup>nd</sup> phase of the project, which is W/S replacement on Brooklyn St. and Roaring Brook St. The bids will be opened on Thursday, July 7th. Because the project keeps getting moved out, Irving isn't sure about ATV use on the covered bridge. Worst case is that we keep the sewer on the bridge over the winter, but we need to get the water off because the joint keeps breaking. The bids on the 2<sup>nd</sup> phase that will be opened this week, Irving expects the contract to be signed and returned in 2 weeks and then should be breaking ground the 1<sup>st</sup> or 2<sup>nd</sup> week of August. If we do just Winter St. & Roaring Brook this fall and save Brooklyn St. for next year, then we can do the sidewalk at the same time. The \$50,000 head should be covered by their insurance, but confirmation on that hasn't been received.

Charron reviewed other items that are being worked on. The fencing around the well heads will be done this week.

G. Cassady said that Brian Hurlbutt asked about the purchase of the can. The funds for this can be taken out of the Transfer Station Fund.

Motion to purchase subject to checking if a Public Hearing is required by: M. Phillips, 2<sup>nd</sup> by: J. Tierney, All in Favor 3-0

- b. Follow up discussion/decision of trees on Crow Hill St. – G. Cassady said this has been brought forward twice over the past 1 ½ years. This is on the right of ways near Pike St. and Crow Hill. S. Batchelder owns the property at 27 Crow Hill, the lot adjacent to it is vacant, which is all wooded. She had an issue with it several years ago, she had a surveyor come up. There is a woodshed on the Towns right of way. Batchelder bought the property in 2009 and she came to the Board in 2010. She said if the trees are cut, they would need to disassemble the shed. J. Tierney suggested going to the resident to see if they want to purchase it for a nominal fee. J. Tierney further discussed property on Grand View and Crow Hill; there is a 15' cart path between each of them, none of it is taxed. It was originally part of the Groveton Development Corp. The trees that need to be cut involve power lines. J. Tierney will take a look at it tomorrow.
- c. Cash Flow Summary - June (not reconciled) – Beginning balance: \$203,346; collected taxes of: \$1,204,944; MV receipts; Ambulance receipts: \$73,000; Grant: \$92,000 – Revenues: \$1,412,000; Expenses: \$50,000-Payroll; \$16,000

941 payments; \$140,000 – other Town expenses; School \$17,000; grant expense - \$92,000. Ended \$1,308,000. Last year we had \$850,000 on the TAN; this year to date we are at \$550,000. There is \$1.3 million remaining, which should cover us for July, Aug, Sept and possibly Oct. If everything works out, we should be ok until the next tax bill issue.

- d. Vote to authorize garage boiler project to come from the Municipal Building Fund. It has been previously approved.

Motion to withdraw funds from the Municipal Building Fund subject to needing a Public Hearing by: J. Tierney, 2<sup>nd</sup> by: M. Phillips, All in Favor 3-0

- e. Fuel pricing CES contract termination notice – Quoted #2 at \$2.39/gal. CN Brown was the only bidder, R. Irving approached them directly and they offered \$1.39/gal. They are forgiving the surplus on the old contract.

Motion to terminate the CES contract for #2 Fuel by: J. Tierney  
2<sup>nd</sup> by: M. Phillips, All in Favor 3-0

- f. Discussion/vote to use PA28 Form

Motion to NOT use the PA28 Form by: J. Tierney  
2<sup>nd</sup> by: M. Phillips, All in Favor 3-0

- g. R. Irving said when they start pulling the line, the equipment will be running 24-7 until it's done. She asked about putting something out in a public notice or notifying the closest residents. The Board suggested a public notice and posting on the web site also.

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

- a. Yield Tax Warrant \$1,114.11 Map 32, Lot 9 –

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

- b. Intent to Cut (3)

- 1. Steve Collins – property off York St. J. Weagle reviewed the cut.

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

- 2. Steve Collins – 36.48 acres

- 3. Steve Collins -

Motion to sign both 2 & 3 by: J. Tierney  
2<sup>nd</sup> by: M. Phillips, All in Favor 3-0

- c. Junk Yard License Renewal (2)

- 1. Wayne Goulet, Thompson Rd. - renewal

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

- 2. Harold & Nancy Marshall, Route 3 - renewal

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

d. Veteran's Credit Application

James & Renee Samo, 94 Old Village Rd. Both of them qualify.

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

e. Building Permit Application

1. Home Depot c/o of resident - Garci (sp) – remove and replace roof, flashing and drip edge. T. Bedell has not signed.

Motion to approve subject to T. Bedell signing by: J. Tierney  
2<sup>nd</sup> by: M. Phillips, All in Favor 3-0

f. Non Resident Transfer Station Permit Application

1. Zach Morris, 5 Cottage St. – He lives in Meredith, NH

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

**5. Public Matters To Be Addressed By The Board:**

a. George Kenison – ATV Trails – he lives on Chelle Lane off Page Hill and is concerned with the ATV traffic. It's gotten worse over the past couple of years. He was under the impression that it was a temporary trail, but hasn't seen any movement to put a trail in. Lancaster doesn't have any trails, so it's used as a road to get onto the Trail System. It's good for the State, but there isn't any enforcement. They are going 50 mph and are going well into the night; it's supposed to be 20 mph / dawn to dusk. The State Police don't want to come out and F & G hasn't issued any citations, that Kenison has seen in the papers. Al Rossetto agrees, these are un-registered for the roads and un-insured with no enforcement. Kenison said he has spent a lot of time on the road and a lot of them are not all displaying the registration stickers. George Kenison said there are kids driving them, riding side by side and going way too fast. They are tearing up the road also.

Doug Menzie said he came in to discuss the same issue; the situation with ATV's on Page Hill Rd. has become critical. Two weeks ago it was unbelievable, they were going 50 – 60 mph, riding side by side and racing down the road. The ledge pack that was put down is very dusty and when it's wet – it turns into snot. He is here to lodge a complaint and find out what is going to happen in the future? This is becoming a big problem to us on Page Hill. He has called the State Police twice and got a call back, he has yet to see a F & G officer patrolling. There is no enforcement and the people know it. R. Irving said this has been an ongoing issue; one resident sold his property and moved due to this issue. Menzie said they respect the peace and quiet, but it's become a nightmare. If this has to continue, can we get something for dust control.

S. Batchelder was here to speak on behalf of the ATV's. She doesn't know what Page Hill provides for them, but knows there is no trail in Lancaster. J. Weagle explained that Page Hill provides a connection to Lost Nation to the State trail system M. Phillips commented that Lost Nation isn't part of the State Trail System. It starts in Groveton and goes north, the majority of it is in Colebrook/Pittsburg area. Batchelder is concerned that if Groveton is not in the trail loop, it will affect the economic development. She had a lot of business

over the past weekend, but noted that most of them are not coming from the Lost Nation direction.

M. Audit commented that we ticket speeders in vehicles on the highways, but don't shut them down. He hasn't seen anyone from the club out patrolling and said that shutting it down might not be the answer. Bob Reynolds said he is seeing a growth with the hotels and restaurants in Lancaster. He is Trail Master for the club and wants to work with the Page Hill residents, we don't want to see it closed. They are having an issue getting a trail established due to landowner problems, etc. Reynolds feels if there is an issue we just need to address it. J. Weagle said if the registration can be written down or a picture taken that would help.

Menzie thought if the police could set up radar on the weekends, that might help. M. Audit thought he could arrange that for the coming weekend. G. Kenison said F & G spent time out there recently, when he stopped to see them, they hadn't issued any tickets and said they hadn't seen a side by side that just went through at about 60 mph. He realizes they probably turn a blind eye to increase business. There is a problem and that's why there are problems with the landowners. There is no enforcement out there and he isn't an enforcer. If you are condoning that we go out and stop them – you are going to end up with a horror show. A. Rossetto commented that the ATV clubs get funds from the State for trail maintenance. Now the tax payers are paying for the users to rip up the roads and have fun. The majority of the residents want the peace & quite.

S. Batchelder said the Towns around us are having similar issues. She has become a board member of the North Country ATV Club so that she can represent Groveton to help with issues. M. Phillips and Batchelder further discussed.

Bob Reynolds asked if we are paying extra for police to patrol? J. Weagle said currently we aren't, but if we need to put extra patrols out there, we will be.

Doug Menzie commented that we are eventually going to have a fatality if it keeps going the way it is. George Kenison requested a phone number for someone that he can call and have someone respond. We need some action instead of just talking about it. J. Kennett said if we are going to start patrolling, we need to give it a chance. J. Morse asked about insurance on the AVT's. Reynolds said in the State of NH insurance isn't required.

Bob Reynolds said that we need this! He gets customers from all over that are coming up here, buying vehicles (ATV's). They are new to it and are learning. M. Phillips and Reynolds further discussed.

S. Batchelder – the weekend of Sept 23 & 24<sup>th</sup> – there will be 20,000+ people in Coos County. They are going to need places to stay, eat, etc. She doesn't think anyone has the right answer, it's a new beginning for all of us. If there are problems out there the clubs need to work with F & G to enforce.

Sean Gray – bought the house on the corner of Lost Nation & Page Hill. He asked if signs could be put up for “Horse Crossing”. J. Tierney asked G. Cassidy to check on the cost. Rob Reynolds said he will call the State to see about getting some signs. Audit thinks (in general) there should be more signage on Page Hill. Reynolds will work with him on the signs and meet with the others also. G. Kenison spoke about having a sign that isn’t obeyed. Reynolds will contact Glen Lucas and see what his opinion is with the problems. J. Tierney recommended they get busy with it ASAP. There are taxpayers that are saying they don’t want it and things need to get worked out quickly.

The North Country ATV club is on this side of the river. The Town gave permission for residents to drive to and from the nearest trail system to get home. Page Hill, Melcher, Main, State are approved for ATV’s in Groveton coming off the trails.

Reynolds said with everything being said, he feels we need help from the State. M. Phillips commented that he is one of the property owners on the route and this is the 3rd year that we’ve had issues. He thinks the most effect way to get the message out is closing it down for a few weeks. Reynolds said shutting it down isn’t the answer, he feels if we get F & G out there that will help.

G. Cassidy mentioned that he spoke with a couple of road crew members in Lancaster and they don’t seem to be having the same issues. He feels it’s the enforcement that needs to happen. S. Oakes – agrees that it’s an enforcement issue as well. He would like to see the Board approve a detail for the PD to enforce the OHRV rules.

M. Audit said they will be giving out tickets – not just warnings. The posted speed limit on Page Hill is 20 mph for ATV’s. **The phone number for residents to call is 636-1430.**

- b. Mike Phillips – spoke about a private person (Don Dawson) who wants to put up a cell tower. Dawson will be attending the Planning Board meeting tomorrow; he is concerned about being taxed as a utility. The other entity has thrown up road blocks to prevent us from getting service. NCIC owns it, Eversource manages it.

**6. Non-Public Session: (Pursuant to RSA'S 91-A:3,II (a), (b), ©, (d), (e):**

Motion to go into Non-Public Session by: J. Tierney  
2<sup>nd</sup> by: M. Phillips, All in Favor 3-0

Into Non-Public Session at 7:23 pm.

Motion to adjourn the Non-Public session by: M. Phillips  
2<sup>nd</sup> by: J. Tierney, All in Favor 3-0

Non-Public session adjourned at 8:42 pm.

Into regular session at 8:42 pm.

The Board reviewed tax lien issues, personnel matters & a legal issue.

National Night out – M. Audit reviewed; he has asked Ted Burns to come with ATV info, Border Patrol; hasn't heard back from them yet. J. Weagle will be asking Lancaster to bring up their ladder truck and is also looking into getting a bouncy house.

M. Audit will set up a radar patrol for Page Hill. Kids must be 14 to be driving on the trail; if crossing the road – the adult should take over.

**7. Adjournment:**

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

Meeting adjourned at 8:47 pm.

\*\*\*This institution is an equal opportunity provider, and employer.\*\*\*