

**Town of Northumberland
Board of Selectmen
Business Meeting and Public Hearings Notice
Minutes**

**Date: Monday, September 19th, 2016
Place: Town Meeting Room – 10 Station Square
Time: 6:00 P.M.**

Board members present: Michael Phillips, Jim Tierney, Jim Weagle
Others present: Donna Lane, Sam Oakes, Bob Chapman, Suzanne Eafrazi, Edmond Robinson, Oliva and Geraldine Tetreault, Richard Cotter, Deb Montgomery, Wayne Montgomery, Andrew Cote, Jim Morse, Robin Irving, Reggie Charron, Mike Stirling, Chris Jensen – NH Public Radio, Mario Audit, Rebecca St. Cyr - Recorder

1. Chairman opens the First Public Hearing:

- J. Weagle opened the first Public Hearing at 6:00 PM
- a. CDBG Project progress update – Emergency Waterline replacement project update and receiving of public comment

Donna Lane read the information regarding the CDBG project.

Community Development Block Grant funds are available to municipalities through the NH Community Development Finance Authority. Up to \$500,000 annually is for economic development projects, up to \$500,000 for public facility and housing projects, and up to \$350,000 for emergency activities. Up to \$12,000 is available per planning grant. All projects must directly benefit a majority of low and moderate income persons. During a CDBG project, a progress update public hearing is required. The public hearing will update the public on, and take public comment on, the progress of the CDBG Project, or present results of a Planning Study conducted with CDGB funds. The progress update public hearing will hear public comment on the progress of the emergency waterline replacement project to replace the watermain that was on the covered bridge, which unexpectedly broke on April 7, 2014. The watermain is being replaced under the Ammonoosuc River and reconnected into the system.

Update:

The watermain is being directionally drilled under the river, which started in May. The first drill didn't work out, so they went to a second drill. They got the second one in and got the pilot hole through. They went through with a 14" reamer and then with an 18" that got stuck. They had to bring in other equipment, then another drill was done, which they got through.

The plan right now is to use the 2 holes and make them larger, if they can and get the pipe through, which will be connected by the end of the year. R. Irving commented that DB will be here the w/o Sept. 26th. On Sept. 21 there is a progress meeting will all the agencies involved, we may ask them to change priority to put the water through first. There has been a lot of things that weren't anticipated. The old Route 3 bridge is buried under the river.

Public comments: J. Weagle asked for comments, there were none.

2. Adjournment of First Public Hearing:

Motion to adjourn the first Public Hearing by: J. Tierney
2nd by: M. Phillips, All in Favor 3-0

Adjourned at 6:09 pm

3. Chairman opens the Second Public Hearing:

J. Weagle opened the second Public Hearing at 6:09 pm.

- a. Discuss, receive public comment/questions, decide on opening up Riverside Drive for ATV travel by local residents and Down Home Motel clients only.

Public comments:

G. Tetreault said if this is approved, they plan to put an informational sheet into each of the rooms at the Down Home Motel. It will include asking them to follow the rules. The trail will end at the Down Home Motel.

E. Robinson asked if there is a season for the ATV's. R. Cotter addressed and said they are trying to get this open for next weekend. The trails close on November 4th, so it's not year-round. J. Weagle said we are going to apply to the State for permission to use the side of Route 3 for next year. Robinson didn't see anything wrong with it, but hopes it doesn't turn into a snow machine trail again. J. Tierney said it's not just for clients at the Down Home Motel. When we open a street in Town, it's for anyone that needs access to that area. Speed Limit signs will be put up, the ATV speed limit is 30 mph max.

R. Cotter will be finding out about the railroad crossing. He wants to get approval from the State for along the road for approx. 15' - 20'.

D. Montgomery referred to the notice that she received. J. Weagle said once we approve a street it becomes part of the trail system. It should be just people that live on Riverside Dr. and those going to the Down Home Motel.

A. Cote commented they are stopping cars in Berlin that are going around or passing the ATV's. J. Tierney commented the ATV's are supposed to follow normal traffic rules when travelling on the road.

D. Montgomery asked if this could be reviewed again in one year. J. Tierney said they intend to have it reviewed at Town Meeting, to see what the residents want. Riverside Drive will be used just until the end of the season - approx. 6 weeks (if permission is given for the RR crossing.)

J. Weagle closed the second Public Hearing at 6:13 pm

Motion to open Riverside Drive to ATV use for this season by: J. Tierney
2nd by: J. Weagle, 2 in Favor - 1 Abstained

4. Adjournment of Second Public Hearing:

Motion to adjourn the Second Public Hearing by: J Tierney
2nd by: M. Phillips, All in Favor 3-0

Adjourned at 6:13 pm

5. Chairman opens the Regular Business Meeting:

J. Weagle opened the Regular Business meeting at 6:14 pm

6. Acceptance of Minutes:

Motion to approve the Sept 6, 2016 minutes by: J. Tierney
2nd by: M. Phillips, All in Favor 3-0

7. Selectmen Business:

- a. Department Head Business: Ambulance and Police Departments

Ambulance – J. Gibson wasn't present

S. Oaks gave a brief review, all 3 ambulances have passed State inspection and 2 are due for Bureau of EMS inspection by the end of October.

R. Irving said there have been difficulties with the telecommunications in the office. It has created obstacles for the department and the billing system. When they are doing reports on line and lose the connection they have to start over. It is getting better, S. Oakes did some troubleshooting today, it might be the outlet and have nothing to do with TCC. Oakes called Profile today to further review. J. Tierney suggested calling Ron Caron to have him look at the outlet. The wireless during the election wasn't working, Weagle reset it and then it was fine.

Police Department – Mario Audit

36 speeds – 29 were warrants and 7 were tickets

Investigating an assault case.

2 prowlers

Stolen bike – recovered the same

2 civil issues – child custody case & an issue with hiring an unlicensed carpenter / plumber.

Burglary case – stealing vegetables from a garden on West St.

4 Criminal trespass cases

3 sexual offender registrations completed

Transported a drunk and disorderly person to Coos jail.

Investigating an issue with an ATM card.

Asst. State Police on Bog Road with a domestic dispute

Asst. State Police with an accident in Stark on Nash Stream Road

Working on a forgery

4 cases for court.

Issued 5 pistol permits

1 case of people not identifying themselves – re: Clearview / Eversource.

Had a report of a person building the frame work for a tee-pee by Red Dam.

- b. M. Phillips - Bond Council advised they was a conflict with Eversource – J. Tierney said it was brought to our attention a couple of months ago. There was no vote taken. The Board further discussed.

Motion to waive the conflict of interest by: J. Tierney
2nd by: M. Phillips, All in Favor 3-0

- c. Authorization for withdrawal of funds from Water System CRF - \$16,610 – the Board is an agent to expend, but want to make everyone aware that it was being expended. \$15,950 for one of the pumps and the balance for the electrical work to hook it up. This is part of the budget.

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

- d. Appointment of Kelly Goulet – Northumberland Housing Authority
She submitted a letter of interest, but the Board had not voted to appoint her.

Motion to appoint Kelly Goulet by: J. Tierney
2nd by: M. Phillips, All in Favor 3-0

- e. Discussion of filling Health Officer position for Town
Richard Brooks has been the Health Officer and would like to get done. He would be happy to serve as a deputy. If anyone is interested, a letter of interest should be submitted to the Town office. This is a paid position. The Board will review again at the next meeting.

- f. Review and approval of Road Toll Request for 16-17 season – The High School has asked for 10 dates. Sophomores - 9/24/16; Juniors - 10/1/16; Seniors - 10/8/16; Freshman - 10/15/16; Key Club - 10/22/16; NHSFLC - 4/8/17, Year Book – 4/15/17; Chem Free - 5/6/17; Booster Club – 5/13/17; Student Council - 5/27/17 with a rain date of 5/28/17.

Relay for Life asked, but J. Weagle wasn't sure of the date.

Motion to approve the 1st - 2 dates (9/24 & 10/1) by: J. Tierney
2nd by: M. Phillips, All in Favor 3-0

At another meeting will further review the remaining dates.

- g. MS-1 Summary of valuation Revenue and signing. –
\$112,191,000 is the total valuation for the Town. They will have everything needed to set the tax rate for 2016.

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

8. Applications/Permits and Warrants:

- a. Intent to Cut (1)

1. Map 101, Lot 1 – Marquis Logging. J. Weagle reviewed the cut.

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

- b. Yield Tax Warrant (1)
 - 1. Norman and Bonnie Cotter – \$1,108.80
Motion to approve by: J. Tierney, 2nd by: M. Phillips, All in Favor 3-0
- c. Building Permit (2)
 - 1. Sean and Robin Graves, 359 Page Hill Rd. T. Bedell hasn't signed.
Motion to sign subject to T. Bedell signing by: J. Tierney
2nd by: M. Phillips, All in Favor 3-0
 - 2. Mike Phillips, Lost Nation – platform for a yurt, T. Bedell hasn't signed
Motion to approve subject to T. Bedell signing by: J. Tierney
2nd by: J. Weagle, 2 in Favor -1 Abstained.

9. Public Matters to be addressed by the Board:

- a. Announcements –
 - 1. Conservation Commission Meeting - 9/21/16 - 7 pm
 - 2. NSA Job Fair - 9/20 & 9/22 – 3 pm -7 pm, 10 Station Square
 - 3. Planning Board 10/5/16 - 7 pm
- b. R. Irving – EDA Grant paperwork has to be signed. Irving needs to speak with Christine Frost from MBRC. Nothing with happen or discussed until all signed.

Motion for J. Weagle to sign once resolved by: J. Tierney
2nd by: M. Phillips, All in Favor 3-0

J. Weagle said they have a time line that we are not in agreement with. We are trying to negotiate the time line. R. Irving and J. Tierney further reviewed.

- c. J. Tierney – T-Mobile, the switch was flipped on a couple of weeks ago. AT &T should be working better. Verizon might be working better also.

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

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

Into Non Public session at 6:38 pm

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

Non-Public session adjourned at 7:13 pm

Into Regular session at 7:13 pm

Mario Audit reported to the Board regarding hourly wages in the area for police officers.
Gorham - Full Time - \$21.00
Berlin – Full Time - \$23.00+
Colebrook – Full Time - start at \$16.00+

Franconia - \$16.23 - part time
Lancaster - PT - \$18.00; up to \$24.00 for Full Time
Whitefield is the same as Lancaster.

We are \$19.00 for FT and \$15.00 for PT. Audit commented the Board might want to increase it in order to attract candidates. If we bring on someone that has experience, they might want to be considered. J. Weagle commented that our insurance is good. M. Phillips said it wouldn't take too much to bring up the PT rate. The FT rate is only a couple of dollars less also.

Discussed the drug issue in Groveton and the area.

M. Audit asked about a person needing some community services. Legal has advised against it for the Town. J. Weagle said the food pantry might be an option, check with Bonnie Auger at the Rectory.

Audit asked about getting a surveillance camera for the door at the PD. The door is solid and can't be seen through, with Zizza the cost is approx. \$2,000. There may be grants available. It's a liability w/o it and it would protect the Town. It could be a budget item for 2017. J. Tierney discussed the budget #'s for planning purposes for the 2017 budget. He suggested that Audit should be ready to come before the Board late November - early December.

No further business was discussed.

11. Adjournment:

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

Meeting adjourned at 7:28 pm

**Notice posted 9/16/16 @ 1:45 pm at the Town Office, SAU Office
and Public Library*

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