

**Town of Northumberland
Board of Selectmen
Meeting Minutes**

Date: Monday, May 1, 2017

Place: Selectmen Meeting Room – 10 Station Square

Time: 6:00 P.M.

Draft Copy

Board Members Present: James Weagle, Chairman, Michael Phillips, Christopher Wheelock

Others Present: Glenn Cassady, Jim Morse, Andrew Cote, James Gibson, Trevor Gibson, Elaine Gray, Sam Oakes, Karen Grant, Addie Hall, Robert Barry, Julie Boisselle, Nancy Merrow, Al Rossetto, Reginald Charron, Robin Irving, Peter Pelletier, Jesse Hern, and Norman Cotter

- 1. Chairman opens the meeting:** Weagle opened the meeting at 6:00 PM
- 2. Acceptance of Minutes:** Motion made by Phillips to accept the minutes as written from the May 1, 2017 business meeting. Seconded by Wheelock.

Vote 3-0. Motion carried.

3. Selectmen Business:

a. Department Head Business:

Highway

Cassady stated as you can see over the last couple of weeks we have been doing spring clean up, black top and sidewalks. He said this week will be moving on to lawn repair and work on dirt roads and get the grading scheduled. Also, Cemetery cleanup is coming up as well as pool set up for the season. Cassady said they have 3 manholes to repair that have sunk or collapsed. On rainy days Potter has been working one equipment and cleaning up piles. They have been prepping winter stuff. Basically, Cassady said that is it for now until next month they may have some projects with the water/sewer department.

Cassady asked Wheelock if he had been making any further calls? Wheelock answered he received a call today from Normandeau. He said they were told, they will be refusing the cardboard from the hardware store. Wheelock called Cassady about this to follow up with Hurlbutt to see what he knew about it. He did not know of this, he was going to call Normandeau. Batchelder said they received the call from Normandeau about refusing bulk cardboard from store at the transfer station. Wheelock said no one seems to know about it. The matter is to be followed up on by her with Normandeau. It was mentioned by Weagle that Saturday was really busy and they were really filled up, it may be a one-time issue.

Cassady recalled setting up wood can. He said a resident came down with 3 1 ton loads of demo from a garage they were tearing down. They are not done yet. Cassady said he asked Hurlbutt is he was charging? He said Hurlbutt said we don't charge for wood. He said they do grind up what is brought over and they use it for

fill, but Cassady said we do get charged for trucking it over and bringing the can back. Phillips recalled we do not charge for clean wood, but there is a charge for demo. Phillips doesn't understand, this has been talked about.

Wheelock did talk about having the main bins blocked off and having smaller main bins for residents to put refuse into. Hurlbutt indicated to him he spends a lot of time in the main bins sorting before they haul refuse to Berlin. It was discussed other towns block off big bins and have smaller portable bins for residents. He could then sort the small bins and put refuse into the big bins before hauling. Hurlbutt asked if they could do something like that? Wheelock said Hurlbutt should talk to Cassady. Cassady said yes, he has carpentry skills he could do something like that.

Wheelock said another item discussed was about putting in a slot so that cardboard had to be broken down before it could fit in the bin. He had two or three ideas about this. Cassady said this has been discussed before. Weagle recalled it was a manpower issue in the past.

Phillips talked about building tables in front with smaller slots and attendant taking from there and putting in. He said even handling deposit bottles, something similar to how Lancaster handles bottles. Phillips said it is a good idea, but something that has to be kept up on. Phillips said maybe it would require another attendant.

There was discussion about resurrecting a Transfer Station committee to revisit some of these options. There is some money to spend. It was discussed that Hurlbutt also mentioned about revamping book/magazine area that could be fork lifted. Phillips said maybe we are ready for the next step. Wheelock said maybe he and Cassady could further discuss these ideas with Hurlbutt.

Water/Sewer

Charron wants to let Phillips know about Lost Nation Road seeing they were discussing it tonight. He received an email informing him they are having a meeting, Thursday, May 4th, at 9:30 am at the Fish and Game Building. Charron thought someone may want to attend. Cassady is going to that one and Charron is attending a CMA meeting at same time. Phillips asked is this about Lost Nation Road? Cassady said we may get some of our questions answered then. Phillips thought they were cancelled in April/May. Irving said the TAC (Transportation Advisory Committee) meetings were cancelled not this meeting with DOT.

Charron said they are in the process of shut offs being performed. Down to two right now. He said they will know by tomorrow. He did take care of one today, it did get paid. He is glad as it was a business.

Charron said they have been working on GIS system. They have pretty much everything done in town and all hydrants south. He said they still have the hill. He said finding new things as they go along.

Charron said the meeting Thursday is a kick off meeting with CMA. Hopefully, construction will be starting back up on Brooklyn St. and the river crossing and Winter St. Charron said he will know more on Thursday.

Charron has developed a project list for things that need to be done right away and in the near future. He wants to get the cemeteries back up and running.

He has called Scott Clang from Rural Water. Scott will be up in next couple of

weeks. He called him in February to address issue in Nation. Now that the frost is out of the ground, there is a leak there to address. It is not impacting the system greatly, but is something Charron wants to take care of.

They are doing spring clean up from the winter plowing like the highway department has been doing. They have been doing grass repair and cleaning up the pump stations. Knapp did all of the rock raking on the roads last week while Charron was on vacation.

They are going to start flushing hydrants when the weather cooperates and gets a little warmer.

Charron said DMRS are due and monthly reports. Charron said the EPA is changing to a new reporting agency/style. Still working out issues with that. Charron is not impressed. There is training, Irving has signed up a webinar for tomorrow for hoping to bring Charron up to speed after.

Charron is expecting an inspection in the near future, which has happened yet. Just gearing up for projects, line locations to do. There are 3 sewer line locations in town that will have to be addressed. These are because of tree root issues. Charron said they will have to put in new PVC. One major tree root issue is on Preble St. This is a short section with one house on the end. Not sure what they will encounter.

Irving had two things to piggy back on, once they have the meeting on Thursday she said they will know what the schedule is for drilling of the sewer line. She said once sewer line on under the river, this will enable them to go back to address on future ATV/OHRV traffic using the covered bridge.

Irving stated, secondly, in order to pay for drilling, she has started soliciting bids on bonds. She has received responses from 5 banks and the bond bank. But we need one of two things, legal opinion from municipal counsel, some of the banks require it. The bond bank requires bond counsel, she contacted the same firm we always use Divine and Millimet, she said it almost ends up a wash because what is spent for bond counsel may be made up in the interest savings. She said debt service is looked at. Irving is in the process of solidify this process.

b. Profile Technologies quotes for police system upgrade - Weagle stated we are in the process of getting quotes. We did get one quote, but it was for another system. This is still ongoing. Irving said they are sitting down with Profile Technologies, TCC and the Police on the 10th to discuss what the Police department needs to be compliant.

c. Appointment of Road Agent (annual) - Phillips stated, there was a time in the beginning of him being a selectman, when the road agent was consider a life appointment, if really was not intended to be so. So it was changed to an annual appointment. He said it doesn't necessarily have to be annual, can be two or three year term. Can discuss length of term. Phillips wants to bring this back up so as not to lose sight that it is a term appointment. Phillips said he nominates Cassidy to continue as road agent. He says he is doing a good job. Wheelock asked is there something on the books regarding the term? Weagle answered it is documented as an annual appointment made by the Board of Selectmen. Phillips said before it was let go for eternity. After discussion, the consensus of the Board was to do this appointment annually.

Motion by Phillips to appointment Cassady as Road Agent for a one year term. Seconded by Wheelock.

Vote 3-0. Motion carried.

d. Discussion of Phillips meeting with CNP - Phillips met with Cindy Perkins of CNP, (Commerford, Neider and Perkins) the assessing firm the Town has contracted with. He wanted to better understand the process. He has learned the average tax bill (in 2016) is \$3,000, this is per the tax collector, the average value of a property is \$84,000.

It was explained that some pay more, some pay less. It was noted incomes do not have the range tax bills do. Phillips understands assessors do not have much to do with the income aspect.

Phillips explained the assessor's job is to come up with, what they consider, a fair market price. To accomplish this, they use sales comparisons. Bank sales, failed mortgages, houses that sell for much lower or much higher than currently assessed (there is one such property in lost nation right now) are set aside when considering market value. There is a cost approach that is based on what is to replace. Discussion ensued with people who do their own work and where does that tie in. They talked about income approach, business are ask voluntarily on what income is generated and that is made part of the assessment, if available. He said special factors such as, long driveways, private roads, and the added maintenance for these are all taken into account.

Phillips stated we(the town) has tax assessment cards from Visions, these cards are complex to interpret. He said Perkins explained, CNP has developed their own card. Phillips said he was impressed with it. He said it is more understandable, has less coding and more history, it is clearer to understand. Phillips said next year he would like to strongly recommend getting costs on doing a switch to CNP's card and do it next year at revaluation time.

Gray said she is not sure what cost is, she said Perkins will email her the cost of the conversion. Gray explained Perkins would like to come to a Board meeting this year, maybe the June 5th meeting to explain the process and cost to the Board. Phillips said that would be good. Gray said there is a sample of their card on their website to review. Their website is cnpappraisal.com. Weagle asked, Gray you work with it every day, is it much easier? Gray answered, yes.

Gray there is something on the back that is called external obsolescence. Phillips said he was going to bring this up. Gray said she thought it was for the individual person, but it is based on the whole Town. It factors in we are a poor economy, and county. Gray did not know this is what external obsolescence represented.

Phillips brought this up with overall town valuations coming up. He said every 5 years we have a town wide assessment. Phillips showed his personal town valuation spreadsheet he uses. He used the example when the mill was running what his property was assessed for during that time in 2006. He said at that time, we had a town wide assessment of \$153 million dollars. He said this was when we were with the former assessors, he said this was the birth of the concerned citizens movement and this is what got him involved with town politics. When it was redone in 2013 by CNP, he said Mark Neider applied this

15% external obsolescence to everyone. Every property received a 15% drop. Phillips asked Perkins, if we had a higher town valuation and say not a \$40.00 tax rate, would this make a difference? Perkins lead him to believe we would still have the same dollar amount. Phillips does not understand this aspect. Phillips said he liked Perkins and he likes the firm.

Phillips stated another thing that came up was people that are installing solar panels, we are now assessing solar panels this year as they do depreciate. He said sometimes having solar power and it is the only source of power, it can be more expensive as you have to have generators. Perkins said there is a solar exemption the towns can set a small assessment. It applies to everyone, a bigger solar array would see some benefit say on an exemption of \$3,000 but would still pay taxes. He said these are some things they can look at and receive opinions. Phillips said he learned a lot and went over a lot of things over the 2 hours it was useful.

Rossetto asked does the exemption apply to solar hot water? Phillips answered, he did not know. He said we would have to be looked in to. Weagle answered it would have to be determined.

Irving asked with regard to the CNP developed card, she wants to know if it is compatible with the GIS mapping they have? Gray said it does coordinate with our taxes they would do the first matching themselves the first year and matching of values. Irving said we just purchased from Cartographic Associates the mapping software and if it doesn't match, it would become obsolete. Phillips said this question would have to be revisited.

e. Continued discussion of Lost Nation Road - Phillips said the road is still out there and still bumpy. Phillips said last meeting he said he would write a letter to legislators and DOT(department of transportation)people. He said Wheelock has spoken to some DOT people. Phillips said earlier a meeting was discussed. Phillips is not sure legislators will be there and residents from lost nation, but he is going to try to go to the meeting. He is not sure it is going to accomplish goals.

Phillips recapped plan by State to grind and/or put ledge pack on the road from where they fixed it in Lancaster to the cider mill and skim coat the rest of way to town, which won't last very long and is a waste of money in Phillips view. He said to get DOT, the funders, the Town and citizens to talk together seem like a good idea. Phillips is not sure if this can be pulled, off maybe should wait until the meeting on Thursday.

There are options, maybe do a mile a year and do it right. Rather than wasting it. Grinding and don't repave and grading would be better than what we have. He wants to go to meeting and report back. He thinks it is still a good idea.

Wheelock stated to not have the meeting just because state may not attend, is not serving the residents, he feels they have to try and get these people together. Wheelock said you and I are on the same page. Wheelock said we have to at least have the meeting.

Charron said they are going to have their people there in charge of projects, they are moving ahead with what they have proposed. Charron said that is what their meeting is about, it is their kick off meeting for their project.

Wheelock said he had a discussion with Jim MacMahon from DOT. He explained to him his hands are tied to some degree. He did say if the Town had a couple of problem areas, and they didn't involve permitting through wetlands, they may be able to fix them before Pike comes into pave, they would work with the Town. Wheelock said it is not a solution, but it is a step.

With the limited money, the skim coat was part of plan, when they decided to go through grange to cider mill, Wheelock said they are picking a section to redo along the way picking up where they ended up the time before.

Wheelock said maybe a "bigger bang for the buck" would be coming from the Winter Street side going in. They want to piggy back from the section they left off from last.

Phillips asked what do you think skim coat means when you say like they are doing before? Wheelock said maybe this can get clarified from this meeting, are they going to do 1/2 over everything or just fill in. Cassady said from talking to Brian Barney at DOT they are going to appropriate 400 ton. They are going to grade a few bad spots. Wheelock asked they are not going to pave two lanes the whole length? Cassady said it will be good for he and Phillips to go to this meeting. One question Cassady has if they are going to grind down, they can't keep going up. Cassady said we should do like Lancaster did, to tell them they are going to have to grind down. Weagle said last time it was mentioned, they said we will just slope it down your sidewalks. Cassady said it doesn't work. The water just pools.

Wheelock asked Irving in our discussion the other day, maybe looking at getting someone on TAC. Irving said yes, the Transportation Advisory Committee is headed up by North Country Council. Irving explained that NCC is the regional planning council that does the 10 year plan for DOT. DOT comes out with what NCC recommendations are. Irving said she is a board of director on NCC and she can no longer serve as a TAC member. Wheelock mentioned maybe a member like Al Rossetto could serve. Wheelock said we were looking for someone who would be good. Rossetto was asked if he would be interested? Rossetto said he would be interested. Wheelock said maybe Irving could work with Rossetto. Irving said it needs to come to NCC as a recommendation from the Board of Selectmen. Phillips made a motion to recommend Al Rossetto as representative for the Town of Northumberland to serve on the TAC at NCC. Seconded Wheelock.

Vote 3-0. Motion carried.

f. Discussion of facility options for Emergency Services - Phillips said way back when we started the town hall process, the police were located down the street at the old drug store and the ambulance had two vehicles at the fire department, there was discussion about police and ambulance. There was useful discussion, we solved temporarily by renting this building and it is working out, but a rental in an older bldg is not forever.

He said this is a town, one of two in New Hampshire, correct me if wrong, that has a precinct, corrected one of three. Phillips went on to say we have discussed this before, Town council says it is not a good idea to have precinct because of liabilities etc. He said it is not likely the precinct is going to choose

to "un-become" and the town take over the budget management of the fire department. He does not know if it is possible to build a wing off fire building.

He said maybe starting a committee to look at broad options, if grants are involved there is a lead time of two years, grants come with conditions. Phillips did not like town office process, but maybe there are other grants out there aside from the one used at the Town Office.

He said the properties the town owns from paper mill days, he was involved in the negotiations to help get the property for the Town. He said these were pre-Chapman days. This came with the idea with plans we were to have the down town become more vibrant. Phillips would like to see this happen. He is just throwing this out, no specific proposals. Maybe there is a need to get more visionary about this and reopen this conversation.

Wheelock said we have certainly outgrown where we are at now. Gibson said we were jam packed at town garage during the winter. Wheelock said nothing against highway and the fire department but you guys do generate revenue. Wheelock said committee is a great idea. He said this project is not going to be anything unless it gets looked at to see what is needed. Wheelock said we need to look at the future and be responsible about it. It is not working now and will not in the future. Weagle said he would volunteer to spear the head committee, Phillips said he will come but not take on the committee.

Merrow asked she thought the old car wash was going to be used for storage. It was answered it is being used for storage, but not for the ambulance as they need heat in the winter and they do not fit.

Irving asked is this committee for all three departments or just police and ambulance? She would speak as a commissioner for the precinct if it were all three. Weagle said he wants it to be a worthy process (not a confrontational session) Wheelock said it would be a lot less expense to house the police department and ambulance department together rather than build separately. He said it is more cost effective to build one big building. Irving thinks, without being an obstructionist, the current set up is not willing to move forward with the Town. They have been clear at the precinct meetings that they want to be separate. (precinct) She is advising not to include the fire department unless there is a change of personnel in the near future.

Phillips said so what he gets out of this is a committee that comes with maybe a "lowball" plan for ambulance storage and a garage with storage behind town office. Then here is possible sleeping quarter off of precinct (not going to work) or a police/ambulance facility. He said an intelligent community based committee would look at all options. Phillips feels the conversation needs to come up again, something may or may not be ready for town meeting, but just start the discussion. Irving said maybe this is the year for consolidating all three departments to have town meeting on the same day. She said especially if there is something brought to Town meeting to discuss. She said the way it is now the precinct has their meeting the week before and all is decided before we get to Town meeting. She said this issue could be brought before all at the same time.

g. Discussion/decision of OHRV annual landowner use - Perry was

wondering if permission slip was voted on or signed for use of roads in town for the ATV season to give to the Fish and Game Department. Weagle asked is this for same roads as previously voted on? Perry said yes. Perry said they have to submit it by the end of the week.

Rossetto asked does this open up Page Hill? Weagle answered yes it is only roads that have been opened up before and Page Hill is one of them. Rossetto asked in making these decisions are the considerations of the taxpayers taken into account?

Phillips said, for myself, there are other options in an ATV economy, Phillips said he is going to vote not to have these roads opened based on many conversations he has had with Lost Nation community members. It will not be unilateral.

Rossetto mentioned there was a public hearing was held previously, he feels it would be democratic to get public input from the stakeholders that are going to be affected before document is signed. He thought this was what was done last year and it was well attended.

Rossetto said Police department resources were spent last year monitoring activity which didn't make much difference. He said Audit put up signs and monitored traffic, stopped some. People that move up and live here in this town for the "great north woods experience", have been compromised by the ongoing traffic which disregard the rules and regulations. He said there is ATV traffic going on at two in the morning many times. It is supposed to be shut down at dark. He said Fish and Game is spread thin. Our Police department is charged with doing it with our tax dollars. These vehicles are not registered, they are not adhering to the rules, they do not even have to pay gasoline taxes, they can submit a form to the State to be refunded. It is selling out the town citizens to benefit a few for their own enjoyment. Thank you.

Weagle said this is a public meeting and it is on the agenda, anyone can attend these meetings. Rossetto said there is a difference between a public meeting and a public hearing. Rossetto said you do not know the agenda until Fridays. Public hearing has a longer notice schedule, 7 days was mentioned. Here there is a weekend and an afternoon.

Rossetto said last year there was a public hearing and feels it should be the same this year.

Wheelock asked what are the consequences if this doesn't get signed and turned in by the end of the week? Berry did not know. Wheelock asked this only opens up the town roads? Barry said yes. State roads stay open. Rossetto said Page Hill is up to the Town. Wheelock asked if we advertise a public hearing and this wasn't signed today and we have meeting in two weeks, and listen to arguments for and against. This Trail wouldn't be open for Monday but potentially could be open for two Monday's down the road? Berry said it has to be in to Fish and Game by end of week. Wheelock asked so it wouldn't open this year if not signed? Berry said he would have to check.

Irving said Chapman has already approved snow machines to go on the back of his property. Irving said she presumes he would do same for ATV's. That would bypass the previous downtown streets approved. She said as long as he the

bridge isn't accessed. They could connect they way the snow travel went this winter. The way it happened last year it didn't not get in time and it didn't open.

Irving wanted to get back to the findings from the Police department. Charbonneau and Audit findings were not as stated, they found registered vehicles, the were following the speed limit on Page Hill. There was no evidence found they were running after hours.

Irving said if residents are saying the opposite, she feels hearing would be necessary.

Rossetto said Police department was gathered only during the day. Rossetto said 90% of the riders are observing the laws they are friendly and wave. It is the late night evenings, this is occurring when no police are on duty. He said it is not unusual they did not see anything. This is random, but it is the middle of the night and chances of getting caught are slim. There is no one working at this time. It is left to the residents to suffer according to Rossetto. It is not a fair use of the town road.

Boisselle said even if you close the trail or not, it is not going to solve these "breaking the rules" riders, they are still going to do it. It is punishing the ones who do observe the rules. She said ATV'rs do use businesses in town. They go to the diner and Stone's. She said anything that brings in business for our businesses would be good. She doesn't feel we should close the trail.

Phillips noted Stark still doesn't allow ATV travel. Wheelock said Stark does, but they have stricter rules than the State does. Speed limit was discussed being 20 mph, signed by the Selectmen, it was mentioned it is 30 mph for the State. Wheelock said there is no arguing you see on the weekend ATV's at our businesses on the weekend.

Wheelock said Fish and Game doesn't want them on the roads. They are not designed for it. Rossetto said they are not registered for the road, they are not insured as he said earlier they do not even pay fuel tax. Rossetto reiterated earlier points made. Rossetto agrees we need to support the businesses in town.

Rossetto said the taxpayers are paying the bill, the club provides no reimbursement for expenses that are incurred by the Town. The town pays the extra police protection and responds to the accident calls. All they are asking for is the town to give, give, give and they reap the benefits with no investment. Clubs get money from the state, none of it comes back to the Town. Rossetto said a couple of businesses get businesses 3 listed that benefit. There are more residents that inconvenienced than that on Lost Nation Road. The residents are giving up their peace and quiet.

Pelletier explained in terms of any complaints, he can call DOT. He can check with dispatch with complaints logged. He has submitted grant application for OHRV enforcement. Target time of complaints and target patrols for that period. They will do what they can to help out. They want people coming to our area to enjoy, but be respectful of people that are here. They can review to see if there is a window of events and target the monitoring for this. Weagle said we can have it noted to have a public hearing each year at signing.

Morrow thought based on the public hearing last year, the Page Hill portion, if they were receiving calls, they were going to shut it down. After two calls she thought.

Rossetto said most of the people he has talk to did not call in a complaint, someone just screamed by the house. He stated with the previous administration there was no sense there was a problem. Rossetto is confident things will change. He recalled the same as Morrow, if multiple complaints were received, it would shut down.

Berry said we would have to research, he is a bit flatfooted on this issue.

Boisselle asked can't this be signed tonight, without Page Hill until the hearing? Weagle said this would shut down the trail access. Gray said the trails are not open yet. Gray said they called Fish and Game and it is May 23rd. Weagle said they need to notify the state ahead of opening. Berry said most of these authorizations are signed for as long as they own the property. They do not have to go back to landowners every year. Berry said they can "re-nig" on if signed. Phillips recalled with a 30 day notice from either party. Berry said if it is signed and some reason the town didn't want they could shut down the trail in the future with notice. Berry mentioned it happens with snow mobiles.

Wheelock asked what policing as club do you do? Berry was not sure how often they go out. Wheelock asked if you see violators on the trail, do you pull them over to talk to them? Berry has not observed this himself.

Discussion ensued about decals being smaller now and hard to get numbers going 50 or 60 mph.

Morrow asked you are hearing these things happening at midnight or two in the morning, who do you report it to? Weagle suggested giving the Chief date, time it is occurring. He said this helps with his process. Weagle said if we close the trail totally, there will still be the "rule breakers" because they do not care.

Morse asked how many do we have monitoring? Weagle answered Fish and Game has two officers for OHRV. The rest of the State has been assigned more.

Boisselle asked could this be signed with option of having a meeting and "re-nig" if that is what is desired? It was mentioned at the public hearing last year if significant complaints came in, they would be addressed, judging by what was done by the department last year is not a fair assessment of what this department would do this year. She suggests moving ahead with same conditions and feels this department will do a better job of it.

Hall asked do you know what days this is happening? Weagle said we don't we get complaints, but we do not get times, dates. Hall said if this is occurring on weekends. Hall said Fish and Game or police department should go on the weekends. Wheelock said if this goes through and the Board signs, the people you are talking to have to log in complaints to the Chief with times, dates so he can patrol at those times. This will help him to assess if there is a pattern.

Discussion ensued on points made earlier by Rossetto. Berry said the money comes from joining the club, money goes to building/maintenance of trails. Registration fees go to the State and OHRV division. The club does get money from the State through club registration fees. Phillips asked how many

members does the club have? Berry said 240 he believes, it is a small club.

Gray said it is not like the snow, you do not have to a club membership. Wheelock thought it changed this year. "ATV'rs" do have to be in a club. Berry was not sure, this was news to Gray. They can join any club in the state Wheelock said. He said the store he works for sells for the Stratford club. Gray said the season has not started it yet. June-July is the registration season.

Hall asked where there is a complaint about is it possible when they register a vehicle the cost of a dollar two more to go to club? Weagle said it has to be according to the RSA on what to collect. He knows of no RSA's right now that allows that.

Gray said the Town gets \$2.00 extra on registrations for each vehicle that is registered. The money goes in the General Fund right now.

Cassady said he feels the state would say yes, Towns, you do get money, the towns get money for meals and rooms it is all for tourism.

Phillips feels in the North that is true, in Berlin that is true. Phillips said this are does not have a trail system, Weagle said there is one in place.

Phillips continued property owners in the "Nation", Page Hill Road are not happy about this situation. He asked so people would come to Lancaster to go to Stones? He believes they can travel by car. We are also nudging them, Phillips said this conversation started 4 years ago, as can we use road, because we do not have a trail system yet. So can we use the road until we get the trail systems. He said we have roads that are open to ATV traffic. They are not designed for roads, they are designed for what he would call trails. Phillips said he hasn't meet anyone that traveled from Connecticut to stay in Lancaster and come to Groveton to eat using Page Hill, Lost Nation to have a great time? Phillips said there is conversation to be had.

Wheelock made a motion for the Board to sign the authorization with the understanding there would be a public hearing within a month, from this point on schedule public hearing prior to this date each year.

Cassady advised to send all the Lost Nation/Page Hill residents a notice.

Wheelock said if we say no to the Page Hill access, Lost Nation automatically goes. Wheelock continued, sign under the conditions that we have public hearing prior to the night before the authorization needs to be turned in. People need to turn in people who are violators and log who are complaining to you. Wheelock pointed out the police department is set up is different this year.

Wheelock said all you have to look at is the ATV sales, they are at a point where snow machines were 40 years ago.

It was established the Board of Selectmen have the right, at any point, to say no. He said if the Board says no, it will come from number of complaints received by police department.

Discussion ensued about putting the public hearing notice in the paper. Cotter said everyone should be notified, not just Page Hill residents. Consensus was to put in the paper. Phillips said he supports the motion, but is not going to seconded it.

Weagle seconded the motion.

Vote 2 with 1 abstain

Motion carried to sign

Cotter asked if the chief reports complaints and arrests at hearing, if that will be taken into consideration? The answer was yes.

h. Discussion of complaints received Old Village Road - Phillips said we are having fun tonight.

The Board has received complaints on two properties, these are on the Boards radar is being looked into. Have to be careful how they proceed. Phillips mentioned this may take the form of working on putting ordinances in place.

Wheelock said he learned last week state laws are minimum, Towns can adopt stricter ordinances than state. Phillips said this would be great. Weagle said one thing we can do is start enforcing more than one unregistered vehicle violators they will be fined. This is in our ordinances and state laws. Phillips asked do you know what the fine is? Weagle said he was not sure.

Cassady suggested a group or individual need to review all policies ordinances to update them. Charron said yes he has been saying same with his. Charron said he has someone coming up.

Wheelock said the immediate ones are unregistered vehicles. He said we have a number of places in town that are not labeled as "junkyards" that have junk/vehicles. Weagle said we have 3 junkyards. Wheelock asked how are violators identified? Gray said through the police department. Wheelock said so the police go to investigate and then?

Wheelock asked Pelletier have you dealt this before? Pelletier answered a little bit years ago. Wheelock said so town gives the Chief a list and he goes to investigate and deliver the letter. Weagle said he can check with Berlin to see how they deal with. Phillips asked is there an example of a town that has a stricter ordinance? Weagle said he believes Berlin.

Boisselle asked do we actually have an ordinance, she could not find one on the website? Weagle said we have an ordinance for junk yards/vehicle. Phillips read from the ordinance.

Weagle said what one considers junk in a yard, another may not. It is termed "art". Weagle said maybe varmint issues, standing water, mosquito issues could be addressed. He said in New Hampshire anything on yard can be termed "art".

Hern mentioned like Boisselle said they property should be fenced.

Hall asked does the police department have to give you the report? Phillips said this is a 2001 policy. The Chief provides a list to the Town manager the manager or appointed person, attempts to contact the owner, the within 7 days a citation goes out.

Hall suggested changing the way you go about your permits in town, you have to have consistency. Discussion ensued about consistency. Weagle pointed out when Hall had his scrap, the Board of the time said they were not doing any more junk yards period. Boisselle said maybe a committee moving forward to

review policy and identify properties (hall mentioned about 15 of them right now) and develop policy. She said this hurts the Town a lot.

Wheelock said we have two current ordinances to act on said with regard to vehicles they can be enforced tomorrow. Hall asked are you saying cars/pick-ups? Weagle said right now cars/trucks is what is in the ordinance.

Discussion ensued about motorcycles/"RV" trailers. Phillips said do you think we can do this with reviewing what other towns do other than a committee (he is not against committees) Weagle said the one in Berlin took about 10 years. Pelletier said Berlin finally got to a point where they could enforce it. He feels checking with other communities would be good. Wheelock mentioned about emergency services not being able to get to these residences because of the way the property is kept.

Irving mentioned there is time to develop ordinances for town meeting. They have spoken with Bob Morency about water/sewer ordinances. She said they could ask about these other ordinances to see if this is something he can do.

Phillips asked, if we were to revise update/ordinances, does all of this go through town meeting? Irving answered, as far as she knows they have to go through legislative body. Phillips said that will be a long town meeting.

Weagle read through current unregistered vehicle policy/ordinance. Upon receipt of report from the police department, the town manager shall direct assist to send reminder letter to each property owner and shall direct them to come into compliance of state statute within 30 days.

Hall suggested they should specify in that letter about what is considered junk refrigerators, washing machines and such. Weagle said that would be something to research how other towns do that.

Hern said while we are discussing some of Groveton's finest artist, can this be put under environmental style committee as well? Weagle feels just keeping with violations would be the best part. Weagle says the state does not like to get involved with individuals, companies are a different matter. The Town is on their own trying to go with the civil process.

Gray asked the ordinance you both read, is that a Town ordinance? Board answered yes. Gray suggested to check with LGC (Local Government Center) as far as the zoning ordinances, it is up to the planning board to have changes and if they decide to move forward, it is put on the town warrant on the written ballot. It is not discussed at Town meeting. Weagle is going to poll other towns on policies and update as needed and report back.

i. Follow up discussion of Hillside Ave. property - Gray updated the board on what was talked about at the last meeting. Red Dam Conservatory was wrongfully billed for land off of Hillside Ave. going back 2002 or 2003. Red Dam conveyed property to James Wemyss, III and he in turn conveyed to Tom Wemyss 14 properties. Tom in turn was going to sell this parcel, the title company found doing research, it wasn't Tom's. It belonged to Gagne's from Vermont.

Gray sent a letter on 3/17/17. At the last meeting the Board asked Gray to send a certified letter. She did not as the day after last meeting, Irving received

an ownership change showing it conveyed from Gagne's to Yves Marquis who just bought an abutting property up there. It appeared to be as a gift, as just the transfer taxes paid. The sale was 4/7/17. Gray said so it refers to the 1994 deed. She said it would be redundant to send a letter. Phillips asked so the new owner did not receive a 2016 tax bill and the Town mistakenly sent the tax bill to Tom. It is understood the Board can only abate one year worth of taxes.

Phillips made a motion to abate 2016 taxes, amount to \$266.53.

Hall stated that property abuts some of his. He recalled he checked with a Gagne who was going to sell him it at the time. He said the question came up who owned it as the Town was sending it to Wemyss, he said the Town was told at the time. Gray asked when was that? Hall recalled about 10-12 years ago. Hall didn't do it, because of the argument who was paying the taxes. He knew at the time it was conveyed by Gagne. Gray said that was 1994.

Wheelock seconded.

Vote 3-0. Motion carried.

j. Discussion of policies/ordinances for clean-up of properties-Handled earlier no further discussion.

k. Request to use Big Ball Field - June 25th, 2017- Eric Charbonneau cook out car show benefit a friend, will be donating portable toilet, DJ there and it is open to the public this is a surprise for him. Told Eric he would have to have insurance for the event. Plus there will be a raffle permit obtained.

Motion by Phillips to accept, Wheelock seconded

Vote 3-0. Motion carried.

I. Cash Summary (April) Phillips said he will round off numbers. We started April with \$230,000 in General Fund. Revenues totaled \$218,000. Total expenses \$420,000. Balance left \$28,000 to start month. He said two weeks ago utilizing \$350,000 of the TAN was authorized to carry us to collecting taxes in June. So balance is approximately \$378,000. This was to cover the school payment of \$175,000 and one lesser payment. If we can pay some of that back once taxes start coming in, Phillips will be on that.

4. Applications/Permits and Warrants:

a. Abatement - Leo & Sally Frizzell - 32 Maple St. - \$98.00 Data program error final read did not save, did a wrap.

Motion made by Phillips to approve. Wheelock seconded

Vote 3-0. Motion carried.

b. Intent to Cut - Map 249, Lot 2, Route 3, 17 acre lot of which 17 acres is to be cut, Forest Hicks is owner/logger.

Motion made by Phillips to sign intent. Wheelock seconded.

Vote 3-0. Motion carried.

- c. Supplemental Warrant - 1st quarter sewer-Town wide** - Sewer drains town wide as budgeted for. \$17,500

Motion made by Phillips to sign. Wheelock seconded.

Vote 3-0. Motion carried.

- d. Non-Resident Transfer Station Permit Applications(2)** - There are two renewals; one for Joe Christiano 9 Pinette, Wesley Wicks 292 Page Hill road, Phillips asked they both have them now? Weagle says one does, one doesn't.

Motion made by Phillips to sign both. Wheelock seconded.

Vote 3-0. Motion carried.

- e. Meeting Room Application approved for 4/26/17** - Received during off meeting week, Craggy polled the board, it was ok'd, but want to sign document at public meeting. Room was used by the Family Resources Center for a staff meeting.

Motion made by Phillips to sign. Wheelock seconded.

Vote 3-0. Motion carried.

- f. RWP Abatements Corrections (2)** - School \$342.73 - Duane Gilcris \$82.21

Motion made by Phillips to sign both. Wheelock seconded.

Vote 3-0. Motion carried.

Phillips asked, assessors have come back with two abatement requests, we are not delaying any tax bills by not deciding. Gray said tax collector said by 5/15, pick-ups haven't even been started and then things need to be matched.

5. Public Matters To Be Addressed By The Board:

- a. Julie Boisselle:** Music on the Common Series at Gazebo: June 15th, July 13th, August 10th and August 24th. Boisselle is just the same for the 6:30-8-8:30 the bands are to clean up and be gone by 9:00pm.

Phillips asked what kinds of music? Boisselle said anything from heavy metal to 40 and 50's music. Boisselle said all is appropriate for family and children.

Covered Bridge/Lawn Vendor Fair: August 27th, 2017 - 9-2 pm - Boisselle said she is working on doing a free vendor fair down by the bridge. It is the same weekend as the Moose festival. She is hoping to capture traffic from this. Phillips asked is it like a community yard sale? Boisselle said there will be vendors there selling things such as Avon to Quilts. More like a craft fair.

Weagle said not to throw a kicker into this, but she is going to need insurance for event because of liability, we cannot open the town up to that kind of liability.

Hall asked what is the difference between that and the gazebo? Weagle said difference is Boisselle has advertised as free to vendors, they are selling goods. He said at the Gazebo, people are just sitting in chairs. He said ball field events they make them have insurance. Weagle said he doesn't feel it is very much, the fall fest was about \$300.00 for the day as they had alcohol. It was more because of serving alcohol.

Boisselle said I can't pay for it. She said it would depend on what it would cost,

she may have to charge the vendor who are going to participate.

Phillips asked what does our Town insurance cover and not cover? Phillips said do we know this or do we think we know this? He said like Hall just asked about the difference between the two?

Discussion ensued about the two locations. One is town owned and the other is leased.

Irving said bridge should be done sometime this spring.

Gray asked is it a Saturday? Boisselle said it is a Sunday. Irving said we did a vendor fair last year in the meeting room, this location wasn't conducive to a lot of people stopping in. Mason moved to the small ball field, no vendors showed up.

Boisselle said this is why I ask early.

Decisions was tabled until the insurance matters could be researched.

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

Motion made by Phillips to go into non-public session. Wheelock seconded.

Vote 3-0. Motion carried.

Non-public session continued at 7:55 pm

Roll call for non-public session: James Weagle, Michael Phillips and Christopher Wheelock

a. Resident Matter(c) -See vote made below

b. Personnel Matter(a) - Nothing decided

Vote 3-0 motion carried. Non-public session adjourned at 8:31 pm

Public session continued at 8:31 pm

Weagle stated Board voted to accept a resident tax payment for payment in full in non public session. Vote 3-0.

7. Adjournment: Motion made by Phillips. Wheelock seconded.

Vote 3-0. Motion carried.

Meeting adjourned at 8:32 pm

Minutes transcribed and respectfully submitted by:

Becky Craggy

Administrative Assistant to Board of Selectmen