

North Berwick Board of Selectmen Minutes September 5, 2017

**NORTH BERWICK BOARD OF SELECTMEN MINUTES
SEPTEMBER 5, 2017**

Present: Chairman Hall, Selectman Galemmo, Selectman Johnson, Jr., Selectman Johnson, Sr., Selectman Cowan

Also Present: Dwayne Morin

Chairman Hall called the meeting to order at 6:30 pm.

- 1. Pledge of Allegiance**
- 2. Review and Approve Minutes of August 15, 2017**

Chairman Hall stated that on Page 3, in the first sentence under Transfer Station, the word “work” should be “working”.

Selectman Cowan motioned to approve the minutes of August 15, 2017 as amended. Selectman Johnson, Sr. seconded the motion. VOTE: 5-0

- 3. Public Input**

There was no public input at this time.

- 4. Unfinished Business:**

- A. Budget: Town Meeting FY19 Updated Timeline**

Dwayne stated that the Selectmen had approved the Budget process for next year. There was a question about if the dates for when the Zoning Changes Due were due should be the same as when the Nomination Papers were due. Dwayne said that they should and the chart has been updated. They are due by the 5th of February.

Selectman Galemmo motioned to approve the new Budget Process timeline schedule. Selectman Johnson, Jr. seconded the motion. VOTE: 5-0

- B. Parks and Rec: Update on Trail Project**

Dwayne stated that on September 13th they will have the woods trail completed. He stated that the sign should be done tomorrow and he showed them what it would look like on his computer. Selectman Johnson, Jr. asked about how long the trail was. Dwayne said that the #8 trail which is the fields loop is about .48 miles and the woods loop is about .46 miles. He said that there have been a lot of people using it and he has only heard positive comments.

C. Road Projects: Update on Projects for FY18

Dwayne stated that Diamond Hill Road is now all done and is buttoned up for the year. Next year, they will put the surface on both sections. He said that he has received phone calls from the residents on that road to thank him. Dwayne said that they started on Buffum Road today and it is scheduled for paving on 9/25. They just need to do some brush cutting and some ditching.

D. Transfer Station: Single Stream Recycling Update

Dwayne said that he has only heard good things about the new recycling process. He also reminded them that this Saturday was Hazardous Waste Day at the South Berwick facility. This is a joint collection between Berwick, North Berwick and South Berwick.

E. Public Works: Garage Addition

Dwayne said that he was hoping to have news today about what they will be doing with the garage addition but he is not getting estimates from the contractors. He stated that he does have some preliminary figures if we do the work ourselves. He said that they could construct a wood addition for about \$25,000 and the block addition is coming in about \$35,000. Chairman Hall asked if the price for the block was higher because we had to hire a mason. Dwayne said it was and that the masonry price came in at about \$18,500. He said that he would like to do block but not sure because of the price. He will have something for the Board to look at on September 19th.

F. Commitment FY18: Update on Commitment

Dwayne said that at the last meeting the Board had voted to adopt the tax rate of \$12.60. He said that there was an error on the school appropriations which has been rectified. We will keep the rate at \$12.60 but it will decrease our overlay to \$174,000 instead of at what we originally expected at \$240,000.

Reminders: Next Board of Selectmen's Meeting – Sept. 19, 2017 – 6:30 pm Municipal Building

Dwayne stated that he was contacted by Malcolm Hilton and he wanted to know if the Selectmen wanted him to come back and meet with them. Dwayne said that the Selectmen had stated in a prior meeting that they would revisit the situation with Mr. Hilton and his taxes. The Board decided that they would hold off for now and see what happens with the sale of the property.

5. New Business:

A. Commitment FY18: Supplemental Tax Bill

Dwayne stated that he has one Supplemental Tax Certificate for the Board to review. It is for CrossFit Indestructible Gym at 19 Buffum Road. They had not provided us a list of their equipment.

Selectman Galemmo motioned to approve Supplemental Tax Certificate #1 for CrossFit Indestructible Gym at 19 Buffum Road for the amount of \$170.10. Selectman Johnson, Sr. seconded the motion. VOTE: 5-0

B. Police Department: New Officers

Dwayne stated that there are some new personnel at the Police Department. For insurance purposes, the Board has to approve their appointments. He stated that Rick Varney retired and they moved Jon Koelker to the position of SRO which left a vacancy in the full time officer staff. After a lot of consideration, they are moving Brian Donahue from being a reserve officer to being a full time officer. He has been with us for about 1 ½ years and was previously full time at the prison in Windham. This left an opening in our reserve staff so they advertised for a new reserve officer. They have hired Robert Welch as the new reserve officer. He was a reserve officer in Fryeburg.

Selectman Cowan motioned to approve moving Brian Donahue to a full time officer position and for Robert Welch to be a new reserve officer. Selectman Galemmo seconded the motion. VOTE: 5-0

C. November Referendum: Marijuana Moratorium and Fogg Land Transfer

Dwayne stated that on Page 18 of their packet were the attorney approved questions for the Referendum. If the Board approves these then they will move forward with presenting these to the Town Clerk and sending the Moratorium to the Planning Board for their review. Dwayne read the questions into the minutes as follows:

Question #1: Shall an ordinance entitled, “Moratorium Ordinance Regarding Retail Recreational Marijuana” be enacted?

Dwayne stated that on pages 19 and 20 is a revised draft of what the Board had been presented at the last meeting. Dwayne stated that one of the concerns that he has is that if the town passes the Moratorium on November 7th, since the Moratorium is valid for 180 days and then the Board can extend this for another 180 days, this will not bring us to next year’s November vote. Our Attorney has said that there is nothing in law that states that the Board cannot extend it for more than one period. In this case, they would need to extend it for just an additional 5 days. The Attorney is recommending that the Board extend the Moratorium twice to get it to next November’s vote.

Question #2: Shall the Town vote to authorize and ratify an exchange of land executed by the Board of Selectmen between the Town of North Berwick and Viola Fogg, to provide access to the Maple Street Town Forest, and any exchange of deeds required for that purpose?

Dwayne stated that this is a little complicated. In order to make this work, we actually have to transfer the deeds in September and once the vote is taken in November, we will have additional deeds to ratify that transfer. The reason our Attorney wants it done this way is for Title chain.

Selectman Galemmo motioned to approve the Ballot questions as written. Selectman Johnson, Sr. seconded the motion. VOTE: 5-0

Dwayne stated that there are already some towns in the State that have voted to become dry towns. He asked the Board if this is something that they want to consider for our town. Chairman Hall stated that our voters overwhelmingly passed this law so he doesn't think people would want it as a dry town. Selectman Galemmo stated that he would like to have a couple of well publicized meetings to allow people to voice their opinions. Dwayne stated that his concern with this is that whenever we hold Public Hearings, we do not have huge turnouts. He said that if they have Public Hearings to see if we should make the town dry, he thinks that we will get a lot of people and determine what the public sentiment is regarding this issue. Selectman Cowan stated that they should do it as a separate meeting and Dwayne agreed. Selectman Galemmo stated that he is interested in hearing what the people want. Even though it passed with a large margin, people may just want to grow it themselves and not have the retail establishments.

Selectman Cowan asked Dwayne how they would structure the Public Hearing. Dwayne stated that the first Public Hearing is strictly on the Moratorium. He would tell people that it just means that the town needs more time on this issue to put together rules and regulations. He said that they could always open up the meeting at this point to get a straw poll vote. Dwayne stated that the dry town question is a whole other separate issue that would need to be addressed. The Board decided that they would discuss the issue of the dry town option after the vote on the Moratorium.

D. Municipal Building: SAD 60 Administrative Office Move Schedule

Dwayne stated that the SAD 60 offices are scheduled to be moved on 9/21 and 9/22. He stated that he has asked them to reconsider moving on the 22nd because that is the date of the Farmers Market. Dwayne told the school officials that if they choose to do it on the 22nd, he would be clearing them out by 2:00. They have decided to do as much as they can on the 21st and 22nd and come in and finish up on the 23rd. The following week, they will come in to do any cleaning and repairs before the walk thru. If they do not take care of it, then we will hire people to do it and send them the bill.

Dwayne stated that he hired a new janitor that started today. His name is Rick Wilson. He retired from the shipyard after 30 years and worked a couple years as a janitor at the High School. Dwayne stated that he had been doing all of the cleaning for the past couple weeks and he will be adding 2 days of comp time between now and June. He stated that it was a good experience because he found out a few things about cleaning this building. He knows how long it takes and that the product that we were using were no good. He said that they are changing our whole cleaning process.

E. Maple Street Forest: Woodwise Forest Management Plan

Dave Parker gave Dwayne the Forest Management Plan for the Maple Street project. Dwayne stated that the Plan should probably go to the Conservation and Agricultural Commission before the Board of Selectmen sign off on it to send it to Project Canopy. He said that he was very happy to see that Dave had created a trail map and indicated suggestions on where to put signs. He also provided a list of the signs that we should be considering. Dwayne stated that on Page 48 of the packet, it has a recommended action plan.

Dwayne stated that he will be asking for an extension on the Project Canopy grant because we were supposed to be done by November. He stated that due to the delay in funding, this caused a delay in Dave doing the work so we will ask for an extension to at least next year. Dwayne stated that once they approve it, he will put it up on the website.

F. Board Membership Application: Annette Hume

Dwayne stated that we currently have one opening on the Planning Board for an alternate position. Annette Hume put in an application for both the Planning Board and the Budget Committee. He did speak to her today to let her know that she cannot apply for the Budget Committee. She has to run for it. He told her that if she was interested in the Budget Committee, there were 2 ways to get on it. She can get on by caucus or by pulling papers. She told Dwayne that she was an Independent. Dwayne stated that he has known both the Republicans and Democrats to put other party candidates up for a position. She is definitely interested in the Planning Board opening. Dwayne suggested that the Board have her come in to meet them at one of the meetings. The Board agreed.

6. Other Business:

Dwayne reminded the Board that if they have anything that they want to consider for the Budget, they should start thinking about it. He will start working on the Budget soon.

Selectman Cowan asked about the opening of Aroma Joe's. Dwayne stated that he did not know when it would officially open. They are still working on it.

Selectman Cowan stated that she is very unhappy with Cumberland Farms and their gas prices. They are always higher than any other place around.

7. Review and Approve Warrants and Correspondence:

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| Warrant: | August 22, 2017 | - \$ | 0.00 |
| Warrant: | August 29, 2017 | - \$ | 30,439.36 |
| Warrant: | August 30, 2017 | - \$ | 182,006.57 |
| Warrant: | September 5, 2017 | - \$ | 54,087.62 |

Selectman Galemmo motioned to approve the Warrant of August 29, 2017 for the amount of \$30,439.36, the Warrant of August 30, 2017 for the amount of \$182,006.57 and the Warrant of September 5, 2017 for the amount of \$54,087.62. Selectman Johnson, Jr. seconded the motion. VOTE: 5-0

8. Adjournment:

Selectman Cowan motioned to adjourn the meeting at 7:52 pm. Selectman Galemmo seconded the motion. VOTE: 5-0

Respectively Submitted,
Susan Niehoff, Stenographer

Original to Town Clerk

Chairman: Jonathan Hall

Selectman: Wendy Cowan

Selectman: Michael Johnson, Jr.

Selectman: Charles Galemmo

Selectman: Michael Johnson, Sr.