

North Berwick Board of Selectmen Minutes July 21, 2015

NORTH BERWICK BOARD OF SELECTMEN MINUTES JULY 21, 2015

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

Also Present: Dwayne Morin, Jim Marchese

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

- 1. Pledge of Allegiance**
- 2. Review and Approve Minutes of July 7, 2015**

Selectman Folsom motioned to accept the minutes of July 7, 2015 as written. Selectman Hall seconded the motion. VOTE: 3-0 Abstain: 1

- 3. Public Input**

There was no public comment at this time.

- 5. New Business:**

- A. CEO: Confirmation of Code Enforcement Officer Jim Marchese**

Dwayne stated that on page 16 of the Selectmen's packet, he had included the appointment letter for Jim Marchese. Dwayne and Selectman Hall went through the second interview process with Mr. Marchese about 2 weeks ago. He stated that they offered Mr. Marchese the position as he had discussed with the Selectmen through their email chains. He is presenting Mr. Marchese to the Board for confirmation of Code Enforcement Officer and Health Officer. Dwayne stated that if he was confirmed by the Board tonight, Mr. Marchese would start work tomorrow. This will give him 3 days with Patti McKenna and Larry Huntley will come in next Tuesday and Wednesday to work with him. Selectman Folsom asked Mr. Marchese if he had done this before. He stated that he was the CEO in Eliot.

Selectman Folsom motioned to accept the appointment of Jim Marchese as the new Code Enforcement/Health Officer. Selectman Johnson, Jr. seconded the motion.

Selectman Folsom asked Dwayne if this was a conditional appointment. Dwayne stated that it was conditional. They are still waiting for the fingerprint review. His background check came back okay. Dwayne stated that the fingerprint review should be back this week and he does not anticipate any issues whatsoever.

VOTE: 4-0

Dwayne stated that there is a Planning Board meeting this week and Jim is the only thing on the Agenda. It is an opportunity for the Planning Board to meet him. Selectman Folsom asked if Jim was going to be doing the final inspections on Hannaford. Dwayne said that he would be and that will most likely be done sometime next week or the week after that. Selectman Folsom stated that she has only heard positive things about Hannaford coming in and people are looking forward to it. Selectman Folsom stated that she received an invitation to the Dignitary Night and it stated that there would be a pharmacy. Dwayne stated that this was an error.

4. Unfinished Business:

A. Roads: Update of Spring Road Projects

Dwayne stated that they had started working on Dyer Street and Lower Main Street. They are about two weeks into it and still have about a week or so of drainage to complete. He stated that it was a good thing that they were replacing the drainage because the bottom of the culverts that they are replacing are completely gone. After the drainage is complete they will start working on the sidewalks on Dyer Street and are looking to pave sometime at the end of August or beginning of September. After they are done with Dyer Street they will go work on Goulds Bridge Road to get it done so that when they do the paving they will be able to do all of the roads at once. The roads to be paved are Dyer Street, Pleasant Street, Lower Main Street, Goulds Bridge Road and also Route 9 if they get the sidewalk done. We are going to hold off on Hammond Road until the spring time and this will be the last project of the year. He stated that they are on schedule for what they are doing. Selectman Folsom stated that there has always been some problems on Lower Main Street with drainage. Dwayne stated that they are adding some catch basins at all of the trouble spots. They are also adding some drainage on the other side of Lower Main Street from Beeder Street down. They are adding a catch basin on the corner of Dyer Street on the Railroad Avenue side. All of the roads are going to be sloped to take all of that water so there should be no puddling there any longer.

Selectman Folsom asked if they were going to put a turn lane on Route 4 by Hannaford. Dwayne stated that they were not putting a turn lane. They are just putting in bypass lanes. They are not going to be striped bypass lanes. They are basically just adding 5 to 6 feet on both Routes 9 & 4. Selectman Hall asked if they were going to put a "No Turn on Red" sign for turning from Route 4 to Route 9. Dwayne stated that they would not be because they are all signalized. He stated that when you press the signal button it will stop the lights. He stated that a lot of the places that have the "No turn on Red" do not have the signal buttons that work

because it is older technology. We have the newer technology so that when you hit the button, it will give you 4 reds to let people walk through. Selectman Hall said that he feels it would still be a good idea to have a sign that states “No turn on Red”. Dwayne stated that it was not our responsibility. It was up to the DOT. Selectman Hall asked if we could suggest to them to have one of these signs. Dwayne said that they probably would not do it because we have the signalized intersections. Dwayne stated that they should be paving this Thursday and Hannaford has told all of their contractors that they need to be done by Saturday. Dwayne stated that we have not even checked the store for occupancy yet. Patti and Jim will probably be doing that this week. Dwayne stated that they need to make sure that all of the conditions that were put on the conditional use permit have been met before they give the permit for occupancy.

B. Mill Field: Bench Plaques

Dwayne stated that we received the plaques and screws in and Gregg Drew picked them up. He is planning on having them installed this week. They will definitely be done before the Mill Field Festival.

C. Hannaford: Store Opening, Project Funding

Dwayne stated that they are planning on opening on 8/8. He stated that the Board should have all received their invitations to the Dignitary Night on 8/7. At this event, they will be giving out the checks to the Town for the projects that they have agreed to fund which is for the cross band repeater for the Fire Department and the flags for the Town.

Selectman Cowan just arrived at the meeting at 6:45 pm.

Dwayne stated that the flags were ordered today and he showed the Board what they are going to look like. He stated that they ordered 60 of them. They should arrive before the Mill Field Festival.

Reminders: Next Board of Selectmen’s Meeting – August 4, 2015 – 6:30 pm Municipal Building

5. New Business:

B. Police Department: Cruiser Sale

Dwayne stated that with the purchase of the new cruiser, we will have another cruiser for sale. The Board just needs to establish a minimum bid price and he is recommending it to be \$500. Dwayne said that the cruiser that they are getting rid of will be sold “as is where is”. He said that the cruiser has 185,000 miles on it. Selectman Folsom asked if it was the K9 cruiser that they were selling. Dwayne said that they decided not to get rid of that one. They just put in a new transmission and new engine in that one and it is actually in better condition than the one that they are getting rid of. It also has 150,000 miles on it. Chief Peasley will be using this one. The one that the Chief is currently using is the one that they will sell. Dwayne stated that the front end needs a lot of work so it is not worth putting money into it. Selectman Johnson, Jr. asked

why only \$500. Dwayne stated that he did not think that they could get any more than that. Selectman Johnson, Jr. asked if the public was allowed to bid on it. Dwayne stated that anybody was allowed to put in a bid. He stated that it probably needs ball joints, possibly a new rack, new tire rods and the front end is very loose. If a person is good at working on cars and can do this kind of work it could be worth buying.

Selectman Folsom motioned to put the police cruiser out to bid for \$500. Selectman Cowan seconded the motion. VOTE: 5-0

C. Boston Post Cane: Passing of Munday Grant – New Recipient – Richard Goodwin

Dwayne stated that while he was on vacation, Munday Grant passed away. We need to award the Boston Cane to the new recipient which is Richard Goodwin. He lives on Maple Street. He was born in 1916 so he is 99 years old. Dwayne stated that they will need to set up a time for a presentation. He will talk to the family to find out when they can set something up. Dwayne stated that typically the Chairman and the Historical Society make a presentation of the cane and a certificate. Dwayne stated that hopefully he will accept it. There have been times in the past when the recipient has not accepted it.

6. Other Business:

Selectman Cowan said that she has been looking at gas prices in other towns and she said that our local Cumberland Farms is more costly. She feels that they should not be that much more than the neighboring towns. They are sometimes about 20 cents more than the neighboring towns. Dwayne stated that he thinks that when the Berwick Cumberland Farms opens back up that the price will go down.

Selectman Hall asked if everything going on in Augusta with the laws will have any impact on the town. Dwayne stated that none of those veto bills have anything to do with town funding except for the General Assistance immigrant law. We really don't have an immigrant population so it will not really affect us. Selectman Hall asked if any of the surrounding towns have expressed any concerns or if they are going to write any letters regarding the situation in Augusta with the Governor and with the issue with Mark Eves. Dwayne stated that it was not really town issues. In terms of the vetoes, it is something that will be decided by the Supreme Court. Regarding the other issue, OPEGA staff has launched their investigation and should be done by September 20th. They will submit their findings to OPEGA and the group will meet and make a decision. If the decision is against Governor LePage, he is sure that there will be further proceedings. There will be several triggers after OPEGA is done. One will be whether or not the House will seek impeachment papers. If they do, then the Senate would actually confirm impeachment. Selectman Hall asked when a decision will be made regarding the Bills that are being held up. Dwayne stated that the Supreme Court is holding arguments on July 31st and they usually take about two weeks to make a decision.

Chairman Galemme stated that he was thinking of putting together a resolution to support Mark Eves. He feels that if the Governor can do this than he is hurting the people's representation. What legislator could feel safe opposing the wishes of a Governor if the Governor can use the

power of their office to affect their personal lives? Dwayne stated that this is not typically within the realm of local government but if the Board feels that they want to do this, they certainly can. Dwayne stated that we have seen what is in the papers and whatever they may have talked to Mark about, but we may not know all of the sides. Selectman Hall stated that since Mark is a representative for our town, than we should show our support. Dwayne stated that one of the things that he is concerned with as the Town Manager is if he would say something that would upset the Governor, he could probably do something like withhold our Revenue Sharing. Selectman Hall stated that he does not want to make waves but he does want to stand up for Mark Eves because he feels that what happened to him was wrong. Chairman Galemme stated that he will put together a draft resolution and send it to everyone to review before the next meeting.

Selectman Folsom stated that somebody approached her and was very upset about the signs at Dollar General. Selectman Cowan stated that they already had their grand opening so they shouldn't have signs up again. Dwayne stated that they were having a special event going on and they are allowed to have the signs up for about 2 weeks. Dwayne stated that the flag banners have always been a gray area. What they have done in the past is if the company has something new that they want to advertise, than we have let them keep it up for a couple of weeks. He thinks that it might be something that they want to address as a zoning change. Selectman Cowan stated that it is not only the amount of time that they are being displayed but also the size of the banners. Dwayne stated that this is probably something that the Selectmen want to send on to the Planning Board to have them work on. Selectman Cowan asked how soon they could make it effective and Dwayne stated that it would need to be voted on at the next Town Meeting. Dwayne stated that they need to think about a few things. Do we want to flat out just ban them or do we want to allow them for a certain period of time. Chairman Galemme stated that he does not really have an issue with some signage being up for some kind of event. Dwayne stated that it will not only affect retail stores. He had issues this year with churches wanting to put up their signs for VBS and he told them that they could put it up a couple weeks before and take it down 3 days after. Selectman Cowan stated that she does not have an issue with the signs either but she does have an issue with the length of time they are up as well as how many and how big the signs are. We should probably also specify how often they can do it such as twice a year or so. Dwayne stated that he will check with other towns to see what they allow. He will put something together for the Board to review.

Selectman Cowan stated that she is a little upset with Dollar General because of all the signs that they currently have up. She's also a little upset because they have still not done anything to put something up at the top of the windows to cover some of the lighting that shines out. She states that they have been asked a few times. Dwayne did state that they had talked to the original store manager and she was more than willing to do something about it but she left soon after. Larry Huntley had also talked to the Acting Manager about it too but still nothing happened.

7. Review and Approve Warrants and Correspondence

Warrant:	July 14, 2015	- \$ 304,467.85
Warrant:	July 21, 2015	- \$ 704,087.60

Selectman Hall motioned to accept the Warrant of July 14, 2015 for the amount of \$304,467.85 and the Warrant of July 21, 2015 for the amount of \$704,087.60. Selectman Folsom seconded the motion. VOTE: 5-0

8. Adjournment:

Selectman Cowan motioned to adjourn the meeting at 7:23 pm. Selectman Hall seconded the motion. VOTE: 5-0

Respectively submitted,
Susan Niehoff, Stenographer

Original to Town Clerk

Chairman: Charles Galemmo

Selectman: Wendy Cowan

Selectman: Elaine Folsom

Selectman: Michael Johnson, Jr.

Selectman: Jonathan Hall