

**North Berwick Board of Selectmen's Minutes: April 15, 2014**

**NORTH BERWICK BOARD OF SELECTMEN MINUTES APRIL 15, 2014**

**Present:** Chairman Galemmo, Selectman Drew, Selectman Folsom,  
Selectman Danforth, Selectman Cowan

**Also Present:** Dwayne Morin

Chairman Galemmo opened the meeting at 6:33 pm.

**1. Pledge of Allegiance**

**2. Chair and Vice Chair: Elect Chair and Vice Chair for the Ensuing Year**

Chairman Galemmo stated that they needed to elect a Chairman and Vice Chairman for the current year.

Selectman Folsom nominated Paul Danforth to be Chairman. Selectman Drew seconded the motion.

Chairman Galemmo asked if there were any other nominations. Selectman Drew motioned that all nominations cease.

VOTE: 4-0

Selectman Cowan arrived at the meeting at 6:35 pm.

Selectman Folsom nominated Charles Galemmo to be Vice Chairman. Selectman Cowan seconded the motion. VOTE: 5-0

Chairman Danforth moved ahead with the meeting.

### **3. Committees: Select Board Committees for Ensuing Year**

Dwayne Morin stated that there are three committees that the Board has standing – The Labor Committee, The Fair Hearing Committee and the Rescue Committee. Selectman Drew motioned that they keep the committees with the same people. Labor will be Charlie Galemme and Paul Danforth. Fair Hearing will be Wendy Cowan and Gregg Drew. Rescue will be Gregg Drew. Selectman Galemme seconded the motion. VOTE: 5-0

### **4. Review and Approve Minutes of April 1, 2014 and Sign March 18, 2014 Minutes**

Dwayne stated that he had made one correction. Under Unfinished Business, Canoe Launch in the second paragraph, where it states, “Dwayne said that the dock that they are proposing to us is the Accudock System which is an all-aluminum one which makes it very light and very buoyant.”. It should read, “Dwayne said that the dock that they are proposing to us is the Accudock System which is an all-aluminum system which ...”.

Selectman Drew motioned to accept the minutes of April 1, 2014 as amended. Selectman Folsom seconded the motion. VOTE: 4-0 Abstain: 1

Dwayne stated that he was also giving them the March 18, 2014 minutes that were approved at the last meeting but were not signed.

### **5. Public Input**

There was no public input at this time.

### **6. Unfinished Business:**

#### **A. Canoe Launch: Update on Progress**

Dwayne stated that there was still nothing new to report on the canoe launch. Pratt & Whitney is still waiting on their counsel to finalize. He stated that he did include in their packet, a copy of the paperwork that he sent back to the Maine Community Foundation which lets them know about the progress on the project. Chairman Danforth asked if there was a change in the budget plan. Dwayne stated that they knew there was going to be a change in the budget plan because they said they were going to use the Force Account to do some of the work. We get to count that toward the projects. Dwayne stated that the revenues are about \$40,907.43. He stated that they had budgeted \$1,000 for the land survey and legal fees and they have already spent over \$3,500. He stated that the removal came in at \$10,190.84 but had budgeted \$8,500. They are hoping to save some money on the parking lot as well. Dwayne stated that they should be fine with the money for the project.

**B. Town Meeting:** Review Town Meeting Results for FY15

Dwayne stated that the Town Meeting went well and rather quickly. Chairman Danforth stated that it went smoothly because of all the hard work that Dwayne does for the town and thanked him for it.

Dwayne stated that they now know what their County Budget numbers are going to be. He stated that it really only went up \$1125 which is essentially flat.

Dwayne stated that they also received revised Revenue Sharing numbers. The original estimate was \$132,000 but the new estimate is \$147,000.

Selectman Galemme asked about the school budget. Dwayne stated that they have completed a draft budget. He met with the Superintendent last week and they are supposed to meet again this week. Their budget has increased by .59 percent. He stated that he should have all the numbers by the next meeting.

**C. Legislation:** Update on Maine Legislation

Dwayne stated that there was a proposed bill to change LD 1177. It was going to make towns go back to 1965 and find out every road that we abandoned and formerly discontinue those roads. Dwayne stated that that would be a lot of roads in our Town. It was going to require that once the roads were discontinued, every 25 years you would need to re-discontinue that road. Dwayne stated that the bill did not pass.

Selectman Drew asked about the cemetery bill and Dwayne stated that he did not know anything about it. He stated that the legislation regarding the BETR program has not come up for vote yet.

**D. Foreclosures FY12:** Update

Dwayne stated that he has contacted the mortgage company that owns the land and house that the trailer is located on. He stated that by the beginning of next week, he will know if they will pay the taxes on the trailer or not. Dwayne stated that it appears that the building was included in the foreclosure because the deed stated that it was the land and all buildings that were on the property.

**E. Chair of Honor:** May 21, 2014 Ceremony Update

Dwayne stated the date has been set for the ceremony for the Chair of Honor. It will be on May 21<sup>st</sup> from 10:35-11:05 am at the Noble High School in the Hussey Auditorium. Dwayne asked for the Board to let him know if they will be able to attend. Selectman Cowan asked if there was going to be some publicity involved with this. Dwayne stated that the school was setting all of that up. It will also be an assembly for all the students to attend. Selectman Drew asked if they were involving the local veterans and Dwayne stated that the school should also be handling this.

**Reminders: Next Board of Selectmen's Meeting** – May 6, 2014 – 6:30 pm Municipal Building

**7. New Business:**

**A. Planning Board:** DeWolf Resignation and Appointment Full Time Member

Dwayne stated that Shaun DeWolf has submitted his resignation from the Planning Board. Shaun spoke with Dwayne and stated that between work and home, he does not feel like he has the time to put into it like he should. Dwayne stated that he has been on the Planning Board for about 8 years. Chairman Danforth stated that he has been a diligent member of the Board. Selectman Folsom motioned to accept Shaun DeWolf's resignation from the Planning Board. Selectman Drew seconded the motion. VOTE: 5-0

Dwayne stated that they would now need to move up the alternate, Jon Morse to a full time member.

Selectman Folsom motioned to move Jon Morse to a full time Planning Board member and extend his expiration date to 12/30/19. Selectman Drew seconded the motion. VOTE: 5-0

**B. Time Warner Cable:** Request from Comcast on Proposed Merger

Dwayne stated that Comcast and Time Warner have proposed to merge to create Time Warner Cable/Comcast Corporation. They have submitted their application to FCC. Because the Town has a franchise agreement with Time Warner, they are seeking approval from the Town for the transfer. He stated that there is information in their packet and a resolution for the Board to sign to consent to the transfer. Dwayne recommends that the Board places this on hold. Selectman Cowan asked if this was something that they were pursuing with all towns. Dwayne stated that they had to. Selectman Cowan asked if all the towns were against it, would it not go through. Dwayne stated that it didn't make a difference. Under the FCC rules, if the FCC allows the merger, it would happen, whether we consent or not. Selectman stated that if they do not consent, it would be merely ceremonial. Dwayne stated that for the moment he feels that it would be best not to deny or consent for a few reasons. Primarily, Congress is looking at this due to issues with monopoly laws. Until Congress is done with any legislation regarding this merger, they should probably hold off.

Selectman Cowan motioned to table the signing of the resolution. Selectman Galemmo seconded the motion. VOTE: 5-0

**C. Fuel Fund:** Fuel Fund Report for Last Winter

Dwayne stated that fuel was done as of April and we stopped doing the Fuel Fund. He stated that we used the Fuel Fund quite heavily last year. There were 19 applicants that were approved, 2 applicants that were denied and we spent \$5,942.25. There was \$12,000 in the account.

**D. Goals: Begin Discussion on Goals for Ensuing Year**

Dwayne wanted to know if the Board had anything they wanted to get accomplished for the ensuing year. He was wondering if there is anything that the Board would like to see or things that they feel they should be working on. Chairman Danforth asked Dwayne if he had anything in mind. Dwayne stated that he has been concentrating on getting through the Town Meeting so he has not been thinking about this. Selectman Cowan asked what are some of the topics that have been raised in the past years. Dwayne stated that they have done some downtown revitalization, worked on getting commercial businesses in town and changed the zoning and worked on Comprehensive Plan. He stated that he can do a list for the next meeting of things from the Comprehensive Plan that they should be looking into. He stated that the Planning Board will also be doing this so it may be a good idea to have a joint meeting with them to discuss the issues.

Dwayne stated that there are some personnel policies that will need to be looked at. Also one of the things that has come up from the staff in the office is a policy that would not allow dogs in the Town Office. Selectman Cowan asked why the issue had been raised. He stated that they do have people that bring in their little dogs but there are quite a few people that have been bringing in their large dogs as well. If there is someone in the office that is afraid of dogs, this could be very intimidating. He stated that they cannot outlaw dogs in general because the Town owns a dog. He stated that a few years ago they had an issue because some staff were bringing in their dogs to work. We had an employee that was deathly afraid of dogs so they had to ask the employee to leave the dog at home.

Selectman Galemme stated that they should probably do something like a SWOT analysis-strengths, weaknesses, opportunities and threats. He stated that they should probably focus especially on the threat side of things that they need to look ahead at. For example, he stated that Dwayne had mentioned that in the near future, we may need to go to per diems at the fire department. Dwayne stated that he thinks that they definitely need to look at their road CIP plan because of the brutal winter that we had. Some roads really took a beating this winter and we should go back through and reassess which roads will need work. He also feels that they need to look at the equipment that they have and see if we can extend the life of some of them.

Selectman Drew asked when the posted signs would be taken down. Dwayne stated that they do not pull them off until all the roads are good.

Selectman Cowan asked if there was any word on Hannaford. Dwayne stated that they were told that the latter part of May or beginning of June, they would start constructing.

Selectman Cowan asked about the letter in the packet from an anonymous person regarding the free sand and salt that is available for people to use in the winter. The person feels that people are filling their trucks up with this and is being used for private businesses. They don't believe that it is only for North Berwick residents. They also feel that the gate should be closed and locked at a certain time to prevent people from getting it at all hours of the night. Dwayne stated that when he first started here, commercial haulers used to go in and get the sand and salt because it was always open. He stopped this process when he started here. He stated that there

is only one business that they allow to go in and get sand and salt and that is Hussey Seating because they do it all themselves. He stated that there may be people that are getting in there at night. He stated that they close the gate but have not been locking it. They will now start to lock the gate. He stated that regarding the sand that they put out front, it is worth the goodwill that they get from it.

## **8. Other Business**

Selectman Drew stated that he volunteers to replace the cedar benches and he would like to have the old cedar planks.

Selectman Cowan motioned to allow Gregg Drew to have the old cedar planks from the benches. Selectman Galemмо seconded the motion. VOTE: 4-0 Abstain: 1

## **9. Review and Approve Warrants and Correspondence**

Warrant: April 8, 2014	- \$ 12,826.51
Warrant: April 15, 2014	- \$ 570,869.85

Dwayne stated that about \$400,000 from the April 15<sup>th</sup> warrant is for the school.

Selectman Galemмо motioned to accept the Warrant from April 8, 2014 for the amount of \$12,826.51 and the Warrant from April 15, 2014 for the amount of \$570,869.85. Selectman Cowan seconded the motion. VOTE: 5-0

## **10. Adjournment**

Selectman Galemмо motioned to adjourn the meeting at 7:42 pm. Selectman Cowan seconded the motion. VOTE: 5-0

Respectively submitted,  
Susan Niehoff, Stenographer

Original to Town Clerk

Chairman: Paul Danforth

Selectman: Charles Galemмо

Selectman: Elaine Folsom

Selectman: Gregg Drew

Selectman: Wendy Cowan