

**North Berwick Board of Selectmen's Minutes: March 5, 2013**

**NORTH BERWICK BOARD OF SELECTMEN MINUTES MARCH 5, 2013**

**Present:** Selectman Galemmo, Selectman Danforth, Selectman Folsom and Selectman Drew.

**Also Present:** James Moulton, Daniel Pelkey, Mike Barker, Hoki (K-9) and Dwayne Morin.

Vice Chairman Galemmo opened the Board of Selectmen's Meeting at 6:35 p.m.

**1. Pledge of Allegiance**

**2. Review and Approve Minutes of February 19, 2013**

Selectman Folsom moved to approve the minutes of February 19, 2013, Selectman Danforth seconded a motion. Vote, 4-0 in Favor.

**3. Public Input:**

No Public Input

**4. Unfinished Business:**

**A. FY14: Budget Discussions**

Dwayne presented the Board of Selectmen with the Budget Committees recommendations for the Municipal Budget. The Budget Committee is recommending a budget of \$3,779,909.00 which represents a 3.42% decrease from last year. The operations side of the budget is proposed to be a 0.61% decrease and the Capital Improvement budget is a 22.50% reduction. The budget Committee has one final meeting to finalize the Impact Fee budget for the ensuing year.

The Board reviewed the final layout of the Warrant to determine where warrant articles should be placed. It was moved by Selectman Folsom to place the current year warrant articles at the front of the warrant and place the Impact Fee Budget Articles and the change to the Bruce Abbot park rules and regulations at the end of the warrant. All other department warrant articles to remain as they were in the draft warrant. Selectman Danforth seconded the motion, Vote 4-0 in Favor.

**Reminders: Next Board of Selectmen's Meeting** – Mar. 19, 2013 - 6:30 p.m. Municipal Building  
Budget Committee – Monday March 11, 2013 – 6:30 pm Municipal Building

## **5. New Business:**

### **A. Police – Award from Officer Pelkey and Hoki**

Lieutenant Moulton, Officer Pelkey and Hoki presented plaques to the Board of Selectman and the Rescue Squad for their support of the K-9 position established at the last Town Meeting. Lieutenant Moulton apologized for Chief Peasley not being present but he was called away on personal matters and is out of State. Lieutenant Moulton and Office Pelkey expressed their gratitude on behalf of the Police Department for the creation of the Canine unit and indicated that they have presented similar plaques to the other major financial contributors to the canine program.

Officer Pelkey explained the training process that Hoki and he were involved in and the numerous opportunities that the Police Department has been able to utilize the new canine patrol over the past year. In total, Hoki has been involved in 43 incidents with many leading to the arrest of perpetrators.

The Board of Selectmen thanked them for their service.

### **B. Police: Damage to Cruiser and Replacement**

Dwayne informed the Board that on September 21, 2013, our Police Cruiser was hit by a drunk driver. No one was injured, however, our cruiser sustained significant damage. The insurance company has decided that the cruiser is a total loss and will be reimbursing the Town for the value of the vehicle which has been determined to be \$10,250.00. (The damage to the vehicle was estimated at over \$11,500.00) In addition, the insurance company will reimburse the town the costs to remove the equipment from the cruiser and installed it in another cruiser and will pay to have a new cruiser stripped and marked. Unfortunately, the insurance company's reimbursement to the town of \$10,250.00 does not cover the cost to replace the cruiser which will be \$21,569.00. The Town will be seeking restitution for the additional \$11,350.00 through the court system, however, that will take several months and even if awarded could take years to see the actual funds.

The insurance company has stated that we can repair the vehicle, however, they would only give the town around \$8,000.00 for the salvaged vehicle. The cruiser has 100,000 miles on it and if we repaired the cruiser it would cost the town approximately \$4,000.00 and we would have a repaired cruiser with 100,000 miles. For an additional \$7,000.00 the town would have a brand new cruiser with no worries and 0 miles. The Police Department is currently running three cruisers but two of the cruisers have mileage of 134,000 and 169,000. The other cruiser is the brand new cruiser which we just took possession. We also have the Canine car which is used during the canine officer's shift.

The Police Chief and Dwayne believe that it would be in the best interest to replace the cruiser and seek restitution from the person who damaged the cruiser through the court system. In order for that to occur, the Board will need to utilize \$11,350.00 from the emergency equipment fund.

The board discussed the options available to the Town and it was moved by Selectman Danforth and seconded by Selectman Folsom to utilize \$11,350.00 from the emergency equipment fund to replace the damaged cruiser and to seek restitution from the individual who damaged the cruiser. Vote 4-0 in favor.

#### **C. Foreclosures:** Review list of foreclosed properties for FY11

Dwayne informed the Board that the Town has foreclosed on two properties from lack of payment of taxes for Fiscal Year 2011. The two properties are identified as: Map 1, Lot 5 Account 352 owned by Barbara Day and Map 19 Lot 22 Account 816 owned by Brian Kennedy.

Dwayne presented the Board with the two accounts and the taxes owed on the accounts. The Board discussed the options available to the town pursuant to the Tax Acquired Property Ordinance. It was moved by Selectman Danforth to contact the property owners to see if they would be interested in entering into a land installment agreement for the payment of all the back taxes and fees prior to the Board voting on the disposition of the property. Selectman Folsom seconded the motion, Vote 4-0 in favor. Dwayne to contact the property owners and report back to the Board.

#### **D. Pratt Property Swap:** Review survey and potential layout of Park

Dwayne presented the Board with the newly created survey of the proposed land swap with Pratt and Whitney. Dwayne informed the Board that this has been sent to Pratt for their approval.

Dwayne also presented the Board with a draft layout of the park which would include a small parking lot, a walking trail down to the river to a removable dock system and picnic tables. The estimated cost of the project is as follows:

Removal of Pump House	\$8,500.00
Parking Lot and Trail	\$10,000.00
Dock	\$5,000.00
Picnic Tables	<u>\$500.00</u>
Total	\$24,000.00

The Board reviewed the proposed layout and estimated costs.

Dwayne proposed that the Board request \$10,000.00 in the land swap article to be presented at Town Meeting to finalize the land transfer. In addition, the Town will seek a grant from the Maine Community Foundation Day fund in the amount of \$24,000.00 to fund the land transfer and improvements. If we are not successful in the grant process then we will at least have the ability to complete the land swap and transfer.

It was moved by Selectman Drew and seconded by Selectman Danforth to approve the preliminary layout, seek \$10,000.00 appropriation for the land swap at Town meeting and apply for a \$24,000.000 grant for the land swap and improvements to the proposed Elroy Day Canoe Park. Vote 4-0 in Favor.

#### **E. Fire Department: Sale of Apparatus and Equipment**

Dwayne informed the Board that the Fire Chief has completed the removal of the equipment from F-1 and the apparatus is able to be sold. Dwayne also informed the Board that he would like to place the old generator out to bid at the same time as the F-1 engine at the minimum bid price of \$200.00 approved by the Board in the Fall. The Board discussed what the minimum bid price should be established for the F-1 engine. Dwayne informed the Board that the Fire Chief's recommendation was \$2,500.00.

It was moved by Selectman Drew and seconded by Selectmen Danforth to place a minimum bid price of \$4,000.00 on F-1 and if after the bid process, no bids are received at that level then the town can replace out for bid at a lower minimum bid. Vote 4-0 in favor.

#### **F. Town Meeting: Appointment of Ballot Clerks and signing of the Referendum Questions**

Dwayne presented the Board with the final referendum Questions that will be placed on the Town Meeting ballot pursuant to their vote at the last Selectmen's meeting. The Board needs to attest the three questions for the Town Clerk's Office.

The Town Clerk is also recommending the appointment of Claudy Boy, Cynthia Matthews and Sharon Litvinchuk as Ballot Clerks for the Annual Town Meeting. It was moved by Selectman Folsom and Seconded by Selectman Drew to appoint Claudy Boy, Cynthia Matthews and Sharon Litvinchuk as Ballot Clerks for the Annual Town Meeting. Vote 4-0 in Favor.

#### **6. Other Business:**

Dwayne informed the board the the Public Hearing on Governor Lepage's proposal to eliminate State Revenue Sharing, eliminate the BETR program and shift costs to the BETE program, eliminate the homestead exemption the Circuit Breaker Program for property owners under the age of 65 will be held on Wednesday March 12, 2013 at 1:00 pm. Dwayne will attend the Public Hearing on behalf of the Board and speak in opposition to these proposals.

**7. Review and Approve Warrants and Correspondence:**

Warrant: March 5, 2013 - \$ 69,471.88

Selectman Drew moved to accept the Warrant of March 5, 2013 for \$69,471.88. Selectman Danforth seconded the motion. Vote, 4-0 in favor.

**8. Adjournment:**

Selectman Drew moved to adjourn at 8:00 p.m., Selectman Folsom seconded the motion. Vote, 4-0 in favor.

Respectively Submitted:  
Dwayne Morin, Town Manager

Original to Town Clerk

Chairman: Larry Hart

Selectman: Charles Galemmo

Selectman: Paul Danforth

Selectman: Elaine Folsom

Selectman: Gregg Drew