

**North Berwick Board of Selectmen's Minutes: April 16, 2013**

**NORTH BERWICK BOARD OF SELECTMEN MINUTES APRIL 16, 2013**

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

**Also Present:** Joseph Armstrong, Pat McLaughlin, Reggie Toussaint, Danny Shaw Susan Niehoff and Dwayne Morin

Vice Chairman Galemmo opened the Board of Selectmen's Meeting at 6:32 pm

**1. Pledge of Allegiance**

**2. Welcome Newly Elected Selectman**

Selectman Galemmo welcomed newly elected Selectman Elaine Folsom and Selectman Wendy Cowan.

**3. Elected Chair and Vice Chair for Ensuing Year**

Selectman Folsom nominated Selectman Galemmo to be Chairman.

Selectman Cowan seconded the motion. There were no other nominations. VOTE: 5-0

Selectman Drew nominated Selectman Danforth to be Vice Chairman. Selectman Folsom seconded the motion. There were no other nominations. VOTE: 5-0

**4. Review and Approve Minutes of April 2, 2013**

Selectman Folsom motioned to approve the minutes of April 2, 2013. Selectman Danforth seconded the motion. VOTE: 4-0 Abstained: 1-0

## **5. Public Input**

Pat McGlaughlin spoke regarding the town budget. He told Dwayne Morin that he had done a good job with the budget and keeping the costs down as much as possible. He stated that when they started the committee, known as TEAM, their goal was 15% cut from all departments involved. He said that he realized that Dwayne had the smallest part of the budget with the lowest impact on the taxpayer. He knows that 60-70 percent of the rest of the budget is from the school. He states that he would like to see that go down about 8 or 10 percent. Dwayne stated that as it stands now it is actually a 4% increase. Mr. McLaughlin stated that he is aware of this and has already made several calls to get the vote out. He also stated that their committee is still meeting and their next meeting was this Thursday, 4/18/13 and they were going to focus on the school budget. Dwayne asked if he knew when the dates were for the town meeting for the school budget and when the vote was going to be held. Mr. McLaughlin stated that the meeting is on May 9<sup>th</sup> and the vote is on May 15<sup>th</sup>.

Mr. McLaughlin stated that he was very disappointed with some of the letters that some of the Selectman chose to write. He stated that when you sign the letters as Selectman or Selectman-To-Be, you are representing the town. He said that in his business, if he signs a letter as Manager and if something in the letter is not completely accurate, he could be fired. He said that is how compliancy works in his business. He suggested that if Board did not have a Compliance policy, that they probably should consider getting one. He felt that the letters had a lot of untruths in them. Since it was signed by Selectman, then it looks like the writer of the letter is representing the town and he states that this is not fair. He thinks that the people that were involved should consider resigning. Reggie Toussaint seconded this suggestion. Selectman Galemme wanted to know what exactly was untrue in the Folsom/Cowan letter. The Cowan letter stated that the fire department was on the chopping block and Mr. McLaughlin stated that this was not true. Selectman Galemme stated that it was indeed true because he was at the meeting where people were talking saving money by making cuts to the fire department. There was further discussion and disagreements between the Selectman and Mr. McLaughlin and Mr. Toussaint regarding the letters. Mr. Toussaint inquired about how many letters were sent out. Selectman Galemme said there were about 700 sent out. Mr. Toussaint asked why they had not been sent out to all voters. Selectman Galemme said that the Democratic committee backed them and so the letters were sent out to the registered Democrats.

The last thing was that Mr. McLaughlin stated that one of the Selectman approached him and got in his face. Selectman Drew stated that he was the one that approached him and he had just wanted to have a discussion with him. Mr. McLaughlin stated that he was done speaking now.

Next up was Joe Armstrong, President of Vietnam Veterans of America, Inc, Chapter 1044 based out of Sanford. On May 26, 2013, they are going to have a ceremony at the Mill Field called the Fallen Warriors Ceremony. They will pay tribute and homage to all the military personnel that have given the ultimate sacrifice from all wars. In particular, they are paying tribute to the 18 of North Berwick that were killed in action. First, he

would like to thank the Board and Mr. Morin for allowing them to have this ceremony at the Mill Field. Secondly, he would like to personally invite Chairman Galemmo to be a guest speaker at the event. If he cannot do it, then to have another Selectman stand in for him. Chairman Galemmo stated that he had never served and felt that someone who had served would be more appropriate. However, Mr. Armstrong felt that you did not have to serve to pay homage to the fallen soldiers. Mr. Galemmo agreed to be there.

## **6. Unfinished Business:**

### **A. FY14: Town Meeting Wrap-Up, Sen. Ron Collins Letter**

Dwayne indicated that the packet, which he distributed, include the spreadsheets that show what was and wasn't approved. He stated that Chris Dudley was still working on the minutes and he would have them for the next Board meeting.

Also included is a letter from Senator Ron Collins regarding the State Budget and specifically State Revenue Sharing. Dwayne stated that it was a letter that was sent out by a lot of Republicans. He said that his concern was the lock-step partisan politics that we see all the time especially in areas that shouldn't be partisan politics. Dwayne contacted Senator Collins and was able to meet with him today, along with Selectman Folsom and Selectman Drew. Senator Collins did state to them that he was not in favor of the Governor's budget as it relates to revenue sharing and the elderly Pharmacy program, which are slated to be cut. Dwayne suggested to Senator Collins that instead of suspending revenue sharing for 2 years until the economy gets better, that we should suspend the income tax break for 2 years instead.

The other suggestion that he made is to look at the lodging/meals tax. He stated that Maine is the lowest in New England and one of the lowest in the country. We are like the 4<sup>th</sup> highest tourism state in the union. Dwayne stated that Senator Collins was very favorable of these suggestions. He stated that he wouldn't vote for a budget with the cuts that are mentioned.

### **B. Surplus Equipment: Rebid due to no bids**

Yesterday our surplus bid was due but none came in. Dwayne recommended that we put the 1969 International Loadstar 1700 Fire Truck back out with a minimum bid of \$2500.00. Dwayne suggested that we remove the Gas generator from bid and just dispose of it.

Selectman Danforth motioned to put the Fire Truck back out with a minimum bid of \$2500.00. Selectman Drew seconded the motion. VOTE: 5-0

**Reminders: Next Board of Selectmen's Meeting** – May 7, 2013 at 6:30 pm Municipal Building.

## **7. New Business:**

### **A. Rescue: Red Light Permits**

Dwayne Morin stated that even though the Rescue Squad is a separately incorporated squad, because they operate red lights in an emergency fashion, we have always approved these. They keep these in their cars, so if the police stop them, they can show them the permits allowing them to use the red lights. He stated that they still have to abide to all the laws of the road.

The applicants for the Red Light Permits are: Colette Forte, Edward S. Moffitt, Steven Langelier, Nick Pelletier and Scott Beaudet.

Selectman Drew motioned to accept the Red Light Permits. Selectman Cowan seconded the motion. VOTE: 5-0

Dwayne also mentioned that the Board of Selectman need to appoint a new member to the Rescue board. If any of the Board knew of anyone to let him know.

### **B. Parks and Rec: Heather Eastman Application for Membership**

Dwayne mentioned that Heather Eastman had been in the previous week to speak with him about becoming a Parks and Rec. Board Member. Selectman Folsom asked Dwayne if the Board was going to be able to meet her. He stated that she would come in on the May 7<sup>th</sup> meeting to meet with the Board.

### **C. SAD 60: Sign Warrants for Upcoming Budgetary Hearings and Vote, Ballot Clerks**

Dwayne stated that there were a few things to discuss regarding SAD 60. The first item to discuss is signing of the warrants for the upcoming budgetary hearings. The first meeting will be the Budget meeting on May 9, 2013 and the vote will be on May 14, 2013. The Board also needs to appoint Ballot Clerks. The two Ballot Clerks that they are looking to appoint are Lorinda Hilton and Sharon Litvinchyk.

Dwayne stated that the budget is up about 3.9% this year. The town's shares are basically flat. If the budget is passed, the town of North Berwick will actually see a \$3000 reduction in costs.

Selectman Drew motioned to accept Lorinda Hilton and Sharon Litvinchyk as the Ballot Clerks. Selectman Folsom seconded the motion.

VOTE: 5-0

Selectman Drew motioned to accept the warrant articles for the SAD 60 Budget. Selectman Cowan seconded the motion.

VOTE: 5-0

## **8. Other Business:**

Dwayne wanted the Board's opinion regarding the paving bids. The Town hired a new paving company last year and have been very happy with their work. He was wondering if it would make sense to negotiate with this company rather than place the pavement out to bid. The reason he says this is because last year when they put it out to bid, the price of liquid asphalt was at \$637.50 per ton. It is currently sitting at \$620.00 per ton. He was wondering if they can negotiate at this price or below with the current pavement company should they just go ahead and do that or put it out to bid. The Board agreed to discuss with the current pavement company and see if they can't negotiate a lower price. If not then we can put it out to bid.

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

Warrant: April 9, 2013 - \$ 59,945.43

Warrant: April 16, 2013 - \$609,274.04

Selectman Drew motioned to accept the Warrant of April 9, 2013 for \$59,945.43 and the Warrant of April 16, 2013 for \$609,274.04. Selectman Danforth seconded the motion.

VOTE: 5-0

**10. Adjournment:**

Selectman Danforth moved to adjourn at 7:45 pm. Selectman Folsom seconded the motion.

VOTE: 5-0 in favor.

Respectively submitted:  
Susan Niehoff, Stenographer

Original to Town Clerk

Chairman: Charles Galemmo

Selectman: Paul Danforth

Selectman: Elaine Folsom

Selectman: Gregg Drew

Selectman: Wendy Cowan