

North Berwick Board of Selectmen's Minutes: April 5, 2011

NORTH BERWICK BOARD OF SELECTMEN MINUTES April 5, 2011

Present: Chairman Danforth, Selectman MacDougall, Selectman Folsom Selectman Drew and Selectman Allaire.

Also Present: Carolyn Allen, Jeff Allen, Charles Barto, Shirley Barto, Jean Stover and Dwayne Morin.

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

1. Pledge of Allegiance

2. Informational Meeting – CMP Smart Meter Project.

Larry Benoit from Bernstein Shur gave a presentation on the Central Maine Power Smart Meter project.

Following the conclusion of Mr. Benoit's presentation, questions were asked from the members of the public. Ms. Jean Stover presented to the Board of Selectmen a prepared statement for the record regarding her concerns with the smart meter project.

3. Review and Approve Minutes of March 15, 2011

Selectman Drew moved to accept the Minutes of March 15, 2011 as amended, Selectman Folsom seconded a motion. Vote, 5-0 in favor.

4. Public Input:

There was no public input.

5. Unfinished Business:

A. Town Meeting:

The Board reviewed the menu for the pancake breakfast and discussed the logistics for the breakfast. Selectmen Danforth will be picking up the necessary supplies on Friday April 8, 2011 and also contacting SAD 60 regarding the necessary training for the use of the facility. The crew will need to be present at 6:30 on Saturday morning. Breakfast will be from 8 am to 11 am.

B. FY09 Commitment:

Dwayne informed the Board that the Brothers had redeemed their property from foreclosure. He also stated that the required redemption letter had been sent on the Mathews property. After the 30 day redemption period, the property will be placed out for sealed bid.

C. Committee Appreciation:

The Board discussed the Committee Appreciation Dinner held on Friday March 18, 2011 at the Outlook. All agreed that it was a fine evening and the volunteers present felt that the event was a success.

Reminders: Next Board of Selectmen's Meeting – April 19, 2011 - 6:30 pm Municipal building
Town Meeting – April 9, 2011 – Noble High School

6. New Business:

A. Water District: Fire Protection increase – Chapter 69

Dwayne informed the Board that he had met with the Water District Trustees, Mike Gaudette, Water District Superintendent and Steve Levy from Maine Rural Water regarding the proposed rate increase for fire protection. Pursuant to Chapter 69 of the PUC regulations, the Town is responsible for up to a maximum 30% of the operational cost of the Water District. Currently the town pays approximately 25% of the total. When calculated according to Chapter 69, the town should be paying for 50% of the operation costs, but due to the cap the town should be at the 30% cap. This would increase the town's fire protection charge by nearly \$30,000 for the following year. The Water District Trustees are proposing a 10% increase or a \$13,000.00 increase instead due to the impact on the municipal budget. This increase would stay within the budget currently proposed for Town Meeting of \$118,500.00. Instead of a full rate increase, the Water District would like to invoke a section of Chapter 69 which allows for supplementary invoicing for hydrants added to the system since the last rate increase. There were 63 hydrants on the system during the last rate increase, which occurred in 1997. There are currently 96 hydrants for an increase of 33 hydrants.

The water district proposes to bill the town for the 33 hydrants instead of going through the costly rate increase.

B. Mass Gathering Permit: York Hospital

Selectman Folsom moved to grant the Mass Gathering permit to York Hospital for the Open House in the Mill Field on April 27, 2011, Selectmen Drew seconded a motion. Vote, 5-0

C. Rescue: Insurance concerns

Dwayne presented the MMA correspondence that he has received concerning the Rescue Squad and the Town of North Berwick insurance concerns of MMA. Dwayne explained that MMA has just completed an underwriting review of the relationship between the Town and the Rescue Squad and MMA feels that the Rescue Squad should purchase general liability, medical malpractice and officer's liability policies because the Town's policies would not cover the squad in the event of a claim. The Town will continue to purchase this coverage as well to protect the town. Dwayne state that the Rescue Squad is working with Kennebunk Savings on obtaining the required insurance coverage.

MMA also mentions that the Town and Rescue should consider two recommendations to better define liability between the two entities. The first would be that the Rescue become a full department of the town or the Rescue Squad should take over all the rescue services and contract with the Town for services. The Board discussed the two options. Dwayne informed the Board that the Rescue Chief is currently away at training and when he returns, Dwayne will meet with him to discuss the options to see what the Squad's ideas are regarding the recommendations. Once Dwayne has had the opportunity to discuss the recommendations with the Rescue Chief, then the Board will revisit the issue.

D. Central York Traffic Study: Update on progress

Dwayne informed the Board that the Central York County Traffic Study is entering the initial investigations and analysis phase in which the group will be reviewing different options for the road network. Three of the corridor concepts being reviewed impact North Berwick – Route 4 upgrade, Turnpike connector and interchange in Ogunquit and a North Berwick Bypass of Route 4. Dwayne explained that these are draft concepts being reviewed against a set of matrixes that will better the transportation network for the movement of people and products. The group is reviewing 14 different initial concepts. Dwayne will keep the Board apprised of the progress of the study and its potential impacts on North Berwick.

E. Census: Release of Maine Data

Dwayne informed the Board that the US Census Bureau has released the 2010 Census figures for Maine and North Berwick's current population is 4,576. The population estimates were much higher than the actual counts performed by the census bureau. North Berwick grew an average of 0.64% per year over the last ten years for a total increase in population of 7% for the decade. York

County on the whole grew at a slower rate - 0.54% per year or 6% for the decade. The County ended with a total population growth of 10,389 to a total population of 197,131. Some towns in York County actually lost population, Ogunquit, Kittery, OOB, Sanford and Kennebunkport. The fastest growing areas of the County are Limerick and Waterboro.

F. Parks and Rec: Eligibility Requirements and Special Aids

Dwayne briefed the Board on the need to have eligibility requirements for children attending camp and supplied the Board with the draft requirements that are being reviewed by the Town Attorney. At the next meeting, these requirements should be finalized for Board action. The Parks and Rec. Commission would also like the Board to act on one on one aids for children who cannot meet these requirements. The Town Attorney is reviewing the Commission recommendations and will have an opinion for the Board. The Commission would like to Board to act on whether one on one aids will be allowed and if so, what will be the policy for their employment and camp requirements. This will be placed on the Board agenda for the next meeting for further discussion and action.

7. Other Business:

7. Executive Session: Personal – MRSA - 405(6)(A)

Selectman Drew moved to go into Executive Session from 9:00 p.m. to 9:10 p.m., Selectman Folsom seconded a motion. Vote, 5-0

8. Review and Approve Warrants and Correspondence:

Warrant: March 22, 2011 - \$14,005.81

Warrant: March 29, 2011 - \$10,022.88

Warrant: April 5, 2011 - \$48,729.45

Selectman Folsom moved to accept the Warrants of March 22, 29 and April 5, 2011 in the amounts of \$14,005.81, \$10,022.88 and \$48,729.45, Selectman Drew seconded a motion. Vote, 5-0

9. Adjournment:

Selectman Drew moved to adjourn at 9:11 p.m., Selectman Folsom seconded a motion. Vote, 5-0

Respectively Submitted:
Dwayne Morin, Town Manager

Original to Town Clerk

Chairman: Paul Danforth

Selectman: Elaine Folsom

Selectman: Jay MacDougall

Selectman: Gregg Drew

Selectman: Arthur Allaire