

North Berwick Board of Selectmen's Minutes: January 6, 2009

NORTH BERWICK BOARD OF SELECTMEN MINUTES JANUARY 6, 2009

Present: Chairman Danforth, Selectman Bourbon, Selectman Drew and Selectman Folsom.

Absent: Selectman Whitten

Also Present: Kristie Bradbury (RHR Smith & Company), Richard Reynolds and Dwayne Morin.

Chairman Danforth opened the Board of Selectmen's Meeting at 6:38 p.m.

1. Pledge of Allegiance

2. Review and Approve Minutes of December 2 & 16, 2008

Selectman Folsom moved to accept the Minutes of December 2, 2008 as corrected, Selectman Drew seconded a motion. Vote, 4-0

Selectman Folsom moved to accept the Minutes of December 16, 2008 as written, Selectman Bourbon seconded a motion. Vote, 3-0-1

3. Public Input:

Chairman Danforth opened Public Input at 6:44 p.m.

Richard Reynolds stated that he would like to formally thank the fire department for bringing in water for his horses during the ice storm. 10 minutes after of calling Brian Gosslin came with water and filled all the water buckets.

Richard also stated concerns about residents not knowing about Noble High being a warm place to go during the ice storm. Dwayne explained that the North Berwick warming shelter was the elementary school but the generator was moved to the high school. North Berwick notified the York County EMA about the change.

There were some communication breakdowns that have been fixed for future emergencies.

Richard also informed the Board about the vandalism in the Mill Field with the Christmas tree and lights. He asked the Board what could be done about it.

Dwayne explained that the vandalism has been worst this year then any other year we have been lighting the tree. Dwayne has put the police on alert.

Dwayne explained that trashcans have been placed on the two parks downtown. The majority of the trash has been put into the cans; the trashcans have been bolted so the cans were not vandalized. Selectman Bourbon suggested that Dwayne look into seeing if the Town has a curfew ordinance.

Richard Reynolds discussed the Comprehensive Plan and stated that if we made any changes as suggested by the state that the Plan would have to back through review and requested that it go to the public as written. Dwayne explained that the Public Hearing would be held on February 3rd.

Very rarely does a State commend a Town in the first go around in a review, not only did they commend us they recommended us and wrote us up in their newsletter.

Chairman Danforth closed the Public Input at 7:02 p.m.

4. Unfinished Business:

A. Maine Labor: Inspection of Transfer Station

Dwayne request that the violation fines be waived and used to resolve the violations. He received a letter from the State of Maine Department of Labor stating that they received his request for an informal discussion regarding the penalties imposed and will be contacting Dwayne following the abatement date of February 24, 2009. An informal discussion in person may be made, if so Dwayne will need to bring all supporting documentation, receipts and photographs.

Dwayne explained that the State may adopt a policy where as any returnable cans and bottles given to the town worth money would need a written statement from the giver stating they are giving the town a gift.

Selectman Bourbon asked if Glen, now the owner of a redemption center in North Berwick, could set up to take the returnable that resident's bring to the Transfer Station.

With the State doing this policy it would put an end to the revenue that the town received to help support the Transfer Station.

B. Transfer Station: Fees, Recycling Rates

The town received two quotes, one from Eco Maine for fifty dollars per ton and one from Waste Management for fifty dollars per ton. The contract with Eco Maine will be a five-year contract and Dwayne does not see that to be beneficial to the town.

Dwayne built two budgets for the Transfer Station, one to go with single stream and the second to stay the way we are. It would be a \$25,000.00 swing between the two so it makes more sense to go single stream.

C. Roads: Ice Storm

Dwayne explained to the Board that the Ice Storm that occurred on December 11, 2008 will be declared as a FEMA emergency and will be extended through December 29, 2008.

This will reimburse the Town for costs associated with the clean-up and the maintenance due to the storm. The Winter Highway fund has been spent at a rapid rate due to the ice storm. The exact cost of the Ice Storm damage at this time has not been determined.

D. Code Enforcement: Vehicle Issue

The Town received quotes to replace the rack in the \$600.00 range opposed to the \$1,000.00 original estimate on the Code Enforcer's vehicle.

Dwayne discussed with the Selectmen that when the Town purchases the new Police Cruiser that the existing Code Car should be retained by the Town and store at a junkyard as a parts vehicle. The parts on the car are interchangeable with the Police Cruisers

Dwayne will move forward with the possible option of storing the police cruiser at a junkyard for future use.

Reminders: Next Board of Selectmen's Meeting - January 20, 2009 - 6:30 p.m. Municipal Building

5. New Business:

A. Audit FY2008: (moved) Presentation by RHR Smith & Company

Kristie Bradbury gave the Board a presentation on the audit.

The Towns fund equity balance is \$2,872,313.00

Undesignated fund equity balance is \$2,602,748.00

A decrease in fund balance of \$170,000.00

This is a time when all municipalities need to be cautious. Revenues are not coming in on any level: State, County or Schools.

North Berwick still a very healthy financial position and can continue to keep running.

\$27,000.00 was overspent by general government; this came from Planning Board, Zoning Board, and Town Government and by Federal Medicare; it is not alarming, there is not concern.

Dwayne explained that town office always goes into over budget. We have a lease agreement with SAD 60, we pay all the expenses and SAD reimburses the town. The Planning Board and Zoning is the same, shows up on the revenue side.

Kristie stated that she enjoys coming to North Berwick because the records are kept clean and if a question comes up, an answer is found. North Berwick numbers tie, in a lot of towns they do not.

B. Budget FY2010: Review Preliminary Request

Dwayne discussed with the Board of Selectmen the Review of Budget FY2010 and the initial budget submissions from the Town's Department heads. The total budget from last years approved budget initial budget requests is only 1.5 percent higher than last year.

Dwayne will continue looking at the budget numbers.

C. Newsletter: Draft Winter 2009 Newsletter

Dwayne reviewed with the Board of Selectmen the Draft Winter 2009 Newsletter.

D. Selectmen: Meeting Schedule for January to April 2009

Dwayne discussed with the Board the Selectmen's the Meeting Schedule for January, February, March and April, 2009.

6. Other Business:

7. Executive Session: Personnel 1 MRSA 405(6)(a)

Selectman Folsom moved to go into Executive Session from 9:30 p.m. to 9:45 p.m., Selectman Bourbon seconded a motion. Vote, 4-0

8. Review and Approve Warrants and Correspondence:

Warrant: December 23, 2008 - \$2,994.72

Warrant: December 30, 2008 - \$30,290.61

Warrant: January 6, 2008 - \$159,999.47

Selectman Folsom moved to accept the Warrants of December 23, 2008 for \$2,994.72, December 30, 2008 for \$30,290.61 and January 6, 2009 for \$159,999.47, Selectman Bourbon seconded a motion. Vote, 4-0

9. Adjournment:

Selectman Folsom moved to adjourn at 9:45 p.m., Selectman Bourbon seconded a motion.
Vote, 4-0

Respectively Submitted:
Anita Lambert, Stenographer

Original to Town Clerk

Chairman: Paul Danforth

Selectman: Anne Whitten

Selectman: Anthony Bourbon

Selectman: Elaine Folsom

Selectman: Gregg Drew