

## **North Berwick Board of Selectmen's Minutes: July 15, 2008**

### **NORTH BERWICK BOARD OF SELECTMEN MINUTES JULY 15, 2008**

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

**Also Present:** Jeffrey Holhouser, Jason Langelier, Steven Vincent, Ryan McCabe, Brian Gosselin, Ronald Perrault, Michael Pedersen, Brian Shaw, Walter Shaw, Gregg Chicone, Michael Carpenter, Susan Parshley, Stella Parshley-Carpenter, Terri Lane Raftery, Devin Raftery, Anne Houlihan, Callie Carr, John Carr, John Freer, Roxine Myshrall, Robert Myshral, Police Chief Stephen Peasley, and Dwayne Morin.

Chairman Danforth opened the Board of Selectmen Meeting at 6:33 p.m.

#### **1. Pledge of Allegiance**

#### **2. Public Hearing – Traffic Issue on Madison Street**

Chairman Danforth opened the Public Hearing stating that the Town is looking into possible traffic calming measures for Madison Street as a result of input and concerns given to the Board of Selectmen from the residents on the Street.

Dwayne explained the current proposal of having a four way stop at the intersection of Madison Court, Potter's Court and Madison Street while keeping the existing stop signs and controls in effect.

Dwayne read into the record a letter from Steven Crosst into the record.

Chairman Danforth opened the floor to Public Comment.

Mike Pederson stated that he is in favor of the stop signs. There are many young children on the street and at least one car has missed the corner on a yearly basis and landed in his yard. In addition cars keep cutting the corner and it is a dangerous situation. The road is a raceway. One concern was that after the bridge the race and this is not addressed in the proposal.

Mike Carpenter stated that he is a stay at home dad and Madison Street is dangerous. He stated that shift change is the worst time for speeding offenders. He believes that there should be four way stops at each intersection with speed bumps along the road to calm the traffic.

Ryan McCabe wanted to know if any data on the impact of traffic calming has been gathered and what impact it may have on other roads in the village.

Brian Shaw stated that he is not in favor of any stop signs or speed bumps on the road.

John Freer stated that even when the road was posted closed, vehicles were speeding by the construction zones.

Walter Shaw stated that the police need to spend time patrolling the stop signs if they are installed.

John Freer asked if the town can request Pratt and Whitney to have their employees not use the road at shift change as it is his opinion that this is the worst time of the day for speeding.

Police Chief Peasley stated that Madison has considerable amount of traffic. One concern he has is if people are speeding at speeds near 60 as reported, will they stop for stop signs. His department will continue to patrol Madison and cite people for any violations.

John Carr stated his support of speed bumps. He mentioned that during construction there was a lip at the bridge and cars slowed down to go over the bridge. If they didn't the first time they certainly did the next time due to the lip. He stated that he did a quick count and there are 17 kids between the ages of 1 and 15 on the road.

Callie Carr mentioned that the draft comprehensive plan talks about making the village walker friendly and with the traffic speeds on Madison Street, it is dangerous for walkers to use the street.

It was mentioned that the Town should possibly consider making the road a one way street. Other suggestion included: painting a double yellow line and white lines on the road to give the illusion of a narrow road, no through traffic on the road and make the Main Street Market Street a one way loop which would lessen the amount of traffic on Madison Street.

Chairman Danforth thanked the residents of Madison Street for their comments. The Public Hearing was closed at 7:10 p.m.

### **3. Review and Approve Minutes of July 1, 2008**

Selectman Folsom moved to accept the Minutes of July 1, 2008 as amended, Selectman Drew seconded the motion. Vote, 4-0-1.

### **4. Public Input:**

There was no Public Input

### **5. Unfinished Business:**

**D. Mack Fire Truck: (moved)** Dwayne stated to the Board that the William Hill Firefighter Association wanted an opportunity to discuss the possibility of them taking over responsibilities of the Mack Fire Truck. Dwayne also stated that he was able to find all the Town Meeting paperwork on the Mack. The Town Meeting voted that the Town of North Berwick forever retain ownership of the truck and its care, housing and future restoration shall be turned over to a

group of North Berwick citizens. At no time shall tax monies be spent on this project. Dwayne stated that if the Board wanted to sell the truck, another town meeting vote to authorize this would have to be held.

Jeff Holhouser, Jason Langelier and Steven Vincent were present representing the Association. Brian Gosselin, Deputy Chief was also present to observe the discussion. The William Hill Firefighters Association stated that they would like to take over the responsibilities of the truck. They would propose adding a bay onto the substation on Morrill's Mill Road. They have prepared a sketch of the addition which would be an unfinished space that could house the Mack and the other antique articles that they have such as the old ladder wagon and hose reel cart. Dwayne displayed a copy of the survey of the substation for the Board to view. Dwayne stated that any addition would need to be approved by the Board. When the original building was built the Planning Board reduced the rear and sideline setbacks so any addition would need to be to the right of the building if you are facing the building from the road. Dwayne stated that a Maine DEP permit and/or Army Corp permit may be necessary due to the wetlands associated with the property.

The Association has had one meeting where they asked for interest in the project and the members have shown a strong interest in taking on the project. They don't have any plans or estimated cost on the addition and would request more time to determine how they could complete this phase. In terms of the Truck, it may be many years before any substantial work is performed on the truck but it would be stored inside and that would stop any further deterioration of the truck.

Dwayne read into the record a letter from Chief Moore, as he was on vacation and unable to attend the meeting, stating that it is his opinion that the truck should be sold. His concerns were regarding storage of the vehicle and the expense of repairing the vehicle to parade form along with the lack of experienced drivers for the older piece of equipment. If it is sold certain items such as the bell, spot light and hood ornament should be saved for future display. He would be willing to talk to the Board upon his return from vacation.

The Association requested additional time to come up with a plan for the addition to the substation and the financial plan to accomplish the addition. The Board agreed to give the Association until the August 19, 2008 meeting to determine their plan and present it to the Board for consideration.

Selectmen Whitten excused herself from the meeting due to an illness at 7:45 p.m.

#### **A. Roads:** Update on Progress

Dwayne stated that Madison Street and the abutting streets were paved last week and the crew is working on the shoulders for the road.

Beech Ridge Road is scheduled to be reclaimed on July 24 and Mike anticipates the project will last 1 to 1.5 weeks. When Beech Ridge Road is paved, Pike Industries has also been instructed

to make the pavement improvement to Valley Road from Ford Quint Road to Morrills Mill Road.

Guptill Lane was paved last week and Pike Industries will be repaving the road due to an error in the mix used on a section of the road. Some base mix was inadvertently utilized during the paving. Pike will repave the road at no cost to the Town.

The Town has received the tree cutting bids for Linscott Road:

Abbott Hill Tree - \$10,000.00

Oakwoods Lumber - \$13,000.00

The bid will be awarded to Abbott Hill Tree.

### **Madison Street Traffic Calming**

The Board then held a long discussion regarding the traffic calming measures for Madison Street. Selectmen Bourbon did not feel like the proposed measures would have the desired effect and wanted to see different measures. The Board looked at various measures such as moving the four way stop to the Partridge Lane intersection. Dwayne stated that Mike Dunn, road foreman, had concerns regarding this intersection due to the steep grade at the intersection and the difficulty in maintenance at the intersection during winter months. If vehicles stop at the intersection and the road has snow or ice, it will be difficult to move and could have the possibility of a vehicle sliding backward. The installation of speed humps was discussed. The concern being that if they are approved for this street, then other residents on similar streets may request speed humps. The other concern was liability to the Town for the speed humps. It was discussed that South Berwick utilizes speed humps very effectively and Berwick utilizes four way stop signs in certain sections of their downtown to calm traffic.

After much discussion the Board decided to look into establishing the following:

In an effort to calm traffic and protect the pedestrians along Madison Street and the abutting streets:

Install a Three-Way Stop at the Intersection of Madison Street, Potter's Court and Madison Court. Traffic heading into the Village will be required to Stop at this intersection.

Install a Three-Way Stop at the Intersection of Madison Street, Woodcock Lane and Partridge Lane. Traffic heading out of the Village will be required to Stop at this intersection.

Keep existing Stop Signs on Mill Lane, Partridge Lane and Woodcock Lane.

Install a (seasonal) speed hump on the Route 4 side of the bridge with advance warning markings and signage including a recommended 10 MPH speed sign.

The Board asked Dwayne to contact the Maine DOT to see if they would have any objections to this proposal and report back to the Board at the July 29, 2008 meeting

## **B. Oakwoods Meetinghouse: Update of Project**

Cliff Foster has removed the Chimney and all the bricks. There was 4700 pounds of bricks in the chimney and on the rafters. Due to the fading of the metal roofing, Cliff is having an auto body shop paint metal roofing to match the color fade. The concern was the new metal would be very obvious. It is anticipated to be completed next week.

## **C. Comprehensive Plan: Review Policies and Implementation Strategies**

The Board tabled this item until next meeting.

**Reminders:** Next Board of Selectmen's Meeting-July 29, 2008-6:30 p.m. Municipal Building  
Area Selectmen's meeting – September 11, 2008 in South Berwick

## **6. New Business:**

**A. Front Office Staff:** Dwayne stated that he was pleased to announce the hiring of Laura Eves and Michelle MacDougall as the new Customer Service Clerks. They will job shall the position, with each working 17-18 hours a week on a revolving schedule. Dwayne presented the Board with a copy of the schedule for the next year. Laura will work Tuesdays, Michelle will work Wednesdays and they will switch off on Monday, Thursdays and Fridays.

**B. CDBG:** The Town of Kittery working with SMRPC would like to prepare a CDBG planning Grant which would include the towns of Kittery, Eliot, York, Wells, South Berwick, North Berwick and Berwick. Working with the towns of Kittery, Eliot, York, Wells, South Berwick, North Berwick and Berwick, SMRPC would like to once again, explore the opportunities of a sub-regional economic development strategy. The project would attempt to utilize some of the lessons learned from the Regional Efficiency Grant (REG) process, while building on the clear indication from all the public meetings which stated that the “concept” of working together on an economic development project was sound, but the implementing structure was too complex and had not received enough public input.

In brief, they would try to bring forth a two part study and recommendations which would detail: 1) a possible project for the communities to work together on, and: 2) different structures by which such a project might be developed.

This is more of an incremental approach towards regional collaboration, where you identify a reasonable and achievable project, develop the structure to implement it and then implement the project.

Dwayne stated that in concept he is favor of the idea of the town's joining in economic development efforts so long as it is beneficial to the Town of North Berwick. The Town could be part of the process and could opt out at an stage if the process was not favorable to the Town. At this time the only cost to the town would be Dwayne attending monthly meetings on the proposal if the grant is approved. There is no cash outlay.

Board members expressed their hesitation based on the events that transpired last year and that they believe that North Berwick has been managed better than some of the other towns. We keep in communication with Hussey and Pratt and other businesses to keep our tax base diversified. We were able to get Caleb to develop the mill buildings.

After much discussion, Selectman Bourbon moved to have the Town participate in the CDBG process, Selectmen Drew Seconded the motion. Vote 4-0.

**C. Meeting Schedule:** Due to Dwayne's vacation during the week of August 4-8 the Board will meet on July 29, 2008 and then again on August 19, 2008.

**D. Resignation:** The Board reviewed the resignation of Gregg Drew from the Cemetery Trustees. The Board accepted the resignation of Gregg with regrets. It was moved by Selectman Bourbon and seconded by Selectman Folsom. Vote 3-0-1.

The Board instructed Dwayne to notify the cemetery Trustees to see if they are aware of any individual who may be interested in filling the remainder of the term. Dwayne will notify the Trustees at their next meeting by memo.

## **6. Other Business:**

Dwayne updated the Board on the floor tile problem in the Municipal Building. Back in the winter, Dwayne noticed some tiles in the hallways displaying nail pops and he contact Cimino to get them repaired before our one year guarantee runs out. Cimino requested if we could wait until the spring when the town was going to have the tiles resealed to save some money and the town was agreeable. In April, Cimino sent down one of his workers to repair the tiles, however the worker used construction adhesive to put the new tiles down instead of tile adhesive. Now the tiles are wavy and need to be repaired again. Cimino contracted with Maine Contract Flooring to repair the tiles and when they arrived they worked for one hour on one tile and found that the construction adhesive has adhered to the plywood subfloor and the plywood will be damaged when the tiles are lifted. Dwayne sent a letter to Cimino outlining his concerns of the "nail pops", the use of town tile stock and the ability to match future tile replacement and the overall concern of the proposed replacement project. Cimino has hired Maine Contract Flooring to fix the problem which appears will required the entire first floor hallway to be redone on a weekend because of the extent of the problem. Dwayne has met with Maine Contract Flooring and they have agreed that they will need to strip the tiles in the first floor and provide additional tiles to completed the project so as not to deplete the Town's reserve stock. At this time the first floor hallway will be completed on a weekend in September.

The Board signed appointments, previously voted on.

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

Warrant: July 8, 2008 - \$9,500.55

Warrant: July 15, 2008 - \$525,310.17 (two warrants-\$285.00+ \$525,025.17)

Selectman Folsom moved to accept the Warrants of July 1, 2008 for \$9,500.55 and July 15, 2008 for \$525,310.17, Selectman Drew seconded a motion. Vote, 4-0.

**8. Adjournment:**

Selectman Bourbon moved to adjourn at 10:00 p.m., Selectman Folsom seconded a motion. Vote, 4-0

Respectively Submitted:  
Dwayne G. Morin, Town Manager

Original to Town Clerk

Chairman: Paul Danforth  
Selectman: Anne Whitten  
Selectman: Anthony Bourbon  
Selectman: Elaine Folsom  
Selectman: Gregg Drew