

North Berwick Board of Selectmen's Minutes: May 15, 2007

NORTH BERWICK BOARD OF SELECTMEN MINUTES MAY 15, 2007

Present: Chairman Moulton, Selectman Whitten, Selectman Danforth, Selectman Bourbon and Selectman Folsom.

Selectman Bourbon arrived at 6:50 p.m.

Selectman Danforth arrived at 9:40 p.m.

Also Present: Michael Johnson Jr., Michael Johnson Sr., Janet Hooke, Patrick McLaughlin, Paul Andrade, Gregg Drew, Dale Clock, Sue Austin, Kim Bernard and Dwayne Morin.

Chairman Moulton opened the Board of Selectmen Meeting at 6:30 p.m.

1. Review and Approve Minutes of May 1, 2007

Selectman Folsom moved to accept the Minutes of May 1, 2007, Selectman Whitten seconded the motion. Vote, 3-0

2. Public Input: No Public Input

3. Unfinished Business:

A. Parks and Recreation: Member Application

The Town received 2 applications for the Land, Parks and Recreation Committee.
The Board of Selectmen asked that the applicants to attend the June 5, 2007 meeting.

Since the addition of a Town Manager and now the new Director of Land, Parks and Recreation the roles of the Land, Parks and Recreation Commission have not been clearly defined. Dwayne will attend the next Land, Parks and Recreation meeting to help define the roles of the Commission Members.

B. April Storm: Discuss Damage from April 16, 2007 Storm, Dillingham Road

Dwayne and Mike Dunn met with FEMA. A scope of works for all of our projects needs to be developed in order to receive funds from FEMA.

Abbott Hill Tree Service proposal for removal of storm related debris (limbs of trees) that residents place on the sides of North Berwick roads is \$15,000.00. There is approximately 60 miles of road at \$250.00 a mile. If accepted, the Town will use FEMA Funds for debris clean-up.

In order to change the culvert on Dillingham Road FEMA requires that the Town hire an engineer. FEMA was very clear that anything done to Dillingham Road cannot create an up stream problem or a down stream problem. Dwayne has asked engineering companies for proposals.

The Town has to show FEMA what it is going to cost to rebuild Dillingham Road as it was before the storm damage.

Mike Dunn and Dwayne have discussed replacing the metal culvert on Dillingham Road with a pre-cast culvert. In order for FEMA to accept this change, the cost difference must be less then 100% of the cost of replacing with original culvert.

Selectman Folsom moved to have Dwayne hire, at the lowest cost and the most qualified, an engineer to be paid with FEMA reimbursement, Selectman Bourbon seconded a motion.
Vote, 4-0

C. Road Work: Discuss Policy of Bidding of Road Work

Selectman Danforth, Selectman Folsom and the Town Manager will meet the last week in May to design a policy for the bidding process of road work.

D. Cemetery Trustees: (moved) Replace Roger Littlefield as Trustees

The Cemetery Trustees would like to sell the pine off from the land of Hillside Cemetery to off set the cost of repairing the Tomb.

Dale Clock received a conservative estimate of \$18,000.00 from Chris Gilpatrick for the pine. Janet Hooke received an estimate of \$8,000.00 from Darren Quint for the cement work for the walls. An estimate is needed for a new roof, the overhang and new doors for the Tomb.

William Wyman was the only person interested in becoming a Cemetery Trustee. The Board of Selectmen asked that William Wyman come to the June 5th, 2007 meeting.

Selectman Whitten moved to allow the Cemetery Trustees do to the selective cutting and construction of the Tomb, Selectman Folsom seconded a motion. Vote, 3-0

E. Traffic Calming: Review Traffic Calming Measures

The Town has ordered the Radar Monitor and it should be in within the month.

F. Health Officer: 57 Lower Main Street

The Towns Attorney recommends that the Town hold off any Public Hearing until the person who owns the house at 57 Lower Main Street is able to speak on her own behalf or a guardian is appointed.

Reminders: Next Board of Selectman's Meeting-June 5, 2007-6:30 p.m. Municipal Building
Area Selectmen May 30, 2007-6:00 p.m. Municipal Building

4. New Business:

A. Pat McLaughlin: (moved) Discussion Relating to Police Department

Pat McLaughlin asked for a conversation with the Board. Mr. McLaughlin's concerns are future spending and fiscal responsibility. Immediate example is the hiring of a new Police Chief and what the Boards expectations of a new Police Chief are.

Mr. McLaughlin stated that the towns of Winthrop, Livermore Falls, Dexter, Turner, Lebanon, Poland and Waldoboro had a significantly lower police budget then North Berwick. One example Mr. McLaughlin gave is: Waldoboro Me. - Population 5,114 – 6 full time Officers – 1 Police Chief. Budget \$364,000.00

The Board asked Mr. McLaughlin if the numbers he had received were the complete numbers for the police budget in these towns. Mr. McLaughlin stated that he asked that question to each town and he was told that it was.

Mr. McLaughlin asked that when you are looking for a new Chief what do you expect of them.

Dwayne answered that we will go through an interview process and look for the best candidate for the position in North Berwick. One question that will be asked is how they will handle the police budget. We want to look at ethics and morality and how they will handle a small town atmosphere. Dwayne explained that there are a whole host of things that we are going to look at and there are about 30 questions he would like to ask the candidate. The position of a new Police Chief in North Berwick is being taken very seriously.

Mr. McLaughlin commented the Police Department budget in North Berwick is \$736,000.00 and how will the new Police Chief handle budget spending.

Dwayne answered that he would want someone who is going to be fiscal responsible, putting together the product that the town's people want and what the town's people want to pay for.

Selectman Moulton commented that ultimately the budget rests with the Board and the town's citizens.

Selectman Whitten commented to Mr. McLaughlin that she was on the committee to hire the new Police Chief.

Selectman Whitten also responded to Mr. McLaughlin that she believed the Town is fiscally responsible in the budget process. That the Board had discussed in a prior meeting that it would be good for the citizens to be aware of the Budget Meetings and that they are welcome to come and learn the process and to hear how and where the tax dollars are being spent.

Mr. McLaughlin asked how he would be informed of the Budget Meetings or any other Town Meeting.

Dwayne answered that the Town will place the information on their website, channel 3, The Weekly Sentential Newspaper, and posts the meeting outside the Municipal Building.

Selectman Bourbon discussed with Mr. McLaughlin that he believes that the citizens should attend the Budget Committee meetings so that when people come to Town Meeting and ask to have a certain amount of money cut from the budget they can say where they want the budget cut and how it was going to effect the Police Department, Fire Department and other Departments.

Mr. McLaughlin asked that the Board give his comments some consideration.

B. SAD#60: (moved) Discussion on SAD 60 Budget with Superintendent

Paul Andrade (Superintendent) discussed with the Board of Selectmen that next year SAD #60 will be getting less State Aid than this year. The Budget is going out to the voters as a 2.66% increase of \$852,000.00. SAD #60 is losing \$100,000.00 in aid and tuition. The State Budget is still not finalized and it could be less then that. The School Board considered areas where the budget might be cut to minimize the tax impact of this budget as much as possible. There were 14 positions having the least impact on students and learning that were cut.

There will be no 5:30 p.m. bus. In addition the School Board will be increasing the participation fee for high school sports from \$30 to \$90 per sport and imposing a fee for summer school on 7th through 12th grade students.

Hearing for District Budget - SAD#60

May 29, 2007 – at 7:00 p.m. Noble High School Lecture Hall

District Budget Referendum

Vote: June 12, 2007 at 6:00 a.m. to 8:00 p.m. at the North Berwick Primary School.

C. County: Discuss York County Budget Shortfall

The County is in serious fiscal shape. They thought they had 1 million dollars surplus to help defer this year's budget. Now they find they have a 2 million dollar deficit.

There will be a 25% increase in County Tax. The County has a budget of 19 million dollars, of which \$270,000.00 is collected from North Berwick.

D. FY08 Commitment: Ratio Declaration and Reimbursement Application

Each year the Municipal assessors are required to annually report the ratio or percentage of just value upon which local assessments are based.

This year the State certified North Berwick at 96%. The Town can select from 105% down to 86%. If the Town declares anything but 100% the Town has to either increase the Homestead Exemption or decrease the Homestead Exemption. The Town usually keeps it at 100% and typically it is at a low end. The Town is going to certify at 100%.

Selectman Whitten moved to accept the Ratio Declaration and Reimbursement Application for the State of Maine, Selectman Bourbon seconded a motion. Vote, 4-0

The Board of Selectmen signed Warrants for the School District.

The Board needs to appoint four Ballot Clerks for the School District Election.

The recommendation for Ballot Clerks Sharon Litvinchyk, Lorrinda Hilton, Susan Linscott, and Kathleen Pease

Selectman Bourbon moved to appoint four Ballot Clerks; Sharon Litvinchyk, Lorrinda Hilton, Susan Linscott, and Kathleen Pease for the School District Election, Selectman Folsom seconded a motion. Vote, 4-0

E. Surplus Equipment: Sell Surplus Equipment

1. 1973 Ford L800 with a 10' front plow, 10' wing plow and sander. This vehicle was utilized as a plow truck. This vehicle is green in color and has 69,609 miles Minimum Bid Price-\$3,500.00

2. 1987 GMC Sierra 3500 Crewcab, which was utilized as a Fire Department Utility vehicle. The vehicle includes a light bar on the cab an enclosed box on the rear of the chassis. This vehicle is red and white in color and has 22,858 miles. Minimum Bid Price-\$2,500.00

All equipment is sold "as is where is" and they can be inspected at the North Berwick Public works Garage located on Lebanon Road.

Bids must be received by Monday, June 11, 2007 by 3:00 p.m... Please submit sealed bids marked "2007 Surplus Equipment Bid" to Town of North Berwick, 21 Main Street, P.O. Box

422, North Berwick, Maine, 03906. The Board of Selectmen reserves the right to reject any or all bids.

Persons requesting additional information should contact Dwayne Morin, Town Manager at 676-3112 ext.4.

Selectman Bourbon moved to accept Bids for 1973 Ford L800 at \$3,500.00 and 1987 GMC Sierra 3500 at \$2,500.00, Selectman Whitten seconded a motion. Vote, 4-0

F. Comprehensive Plan: Appoint Selectman Representative to Committee

The Selectman to be appointed to the Comprehensive Committee was tabled.

G. Memorial Day: Parade Permit

Parade Permit

Name of the Organization: American Legion

Address: 20 Main Street

Contact Person: Jim Keohan

Number: 646-3906

Address: Moody Maine

Date and time: May 28 at 9:00 a.m.

Starting location and time: Legion Hall at 9:00 a.m.

Ending location and time: Triangle

Planned route and time: Legion Hall up thru Town to Cemetery on Lebanon Road return to Triangle.

Number of participants: 200

Number of walking participants: 200

Road to be closed: Main St., Market St., Well St., High St., and Lebanon Road

Selectman Whitten moved to approve Parade Permit, Selectman Folsom seconded a motion. Vote, 5-0

H. Rescue: New Slate of Officers

Dwayne informed the Board that the Rescue Department elected new Officers:

Chief – Jack Murray

Asst. Chief – Mike Barker

Secretary – Kim Pillsbury

5. Other Business:

The Board signed document appointing Jay MacDougall to the Budget Committee for 3 years.

Goals the Board has for the upcoming year:

- Dwayne will purchase 5 wireless microphones for use at the Annual Budget Meeting.
The microphones can also be used for events like the Mill Field Festival and the Tree Lighting Celebration.
- Selectman Bourbon stated that he will have runners for Town Meeting.
- Crates for the Flags will be ordered
- New Flags will be in on Friday May 18, 2007
- Flags will be displayed on May 24, 2007
- Personnel Policy for Employees
- Discussed the light pole out front of the old bank
- Lighting of the Mill Field for events

6. Review and Approve Warrants and Correspondence:

Warrant: May 8, 2007- \$12,229.05

Warrant: May 15, 2007- \$455,301.22

Selectman Whitten moved to accept the Warrants for: May 8, 2007 and May 15, 2007, Selectman Danforth seconded a motion. Vote, 5-0

7. Adjournment:

Selectman Whitten moved to adjourn at 9:50 p.m., Selectman Danforth seconded a motion. Vote, 5-0

Respectively Submitted:
Anita Lambert, Stenographer

Original to Town Clerk

Chairman: Nancy Moulton

Vice-Chairman: Paul Danforth

Selectman: Anne Whitten

Selectman: Anthony Bourbon

Selectman: Elaine Folsom