

# **NORTH BERWICK SELECT BOARD MINUTES OCTOBER 17, 2023**

**Present:** Chairperson Galemmo, Selectperson Johnson, Jr., Selectperson Cowan,  
Selectperson Johnson, Sr., Selectperson Hall

**Also Present:** Dwayne Morin, Rebecca Reed, Mark Reed, Pam Landrigan, Kathryn Placy

## **1. PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE**

## **2. REVIEW AND APPROVE MINUTES OF OCTOBER 3, 2023**

Selectperson Cowan motioned to approve the Minutes of October 3, 2023, as written. Selectperson Johnson, Sr. seconded the motion. VOTE: 3-0-2

## **3. PUBLIC INPUT**

Pam Landrigan was present. She indicated that she is the Director of the North Berwick Food Pantry and wanted to provide a status update to the Board and be put on a future agenda. Dwayne indicated that he would put this topic on for the Select Board's Agenda for November 21<sup>st</sup>.

## **4. UNFINISHED BUSINESS:**

### **A. COMMUNICATIONS TOWER: Update on Progress**

Dwayne indicated that there is nothing new to report and that our applications remain pending before the FCC to complete the tower project.

### **B. ROADS: Update on Road Projects**

Dwayne indicated that all our paving has been completed and it appears that we have run significantly under budget for the projects which will allow the Town to complete additional projects in the Spring. I will be working with Mike to put a list together for the Board's consideration. Dwayne stated that as of today's date, there will be about \$176,000.00 of unexpended bond which will allow us to complete additional roads. Dwayne stated that Brewer Road, Valley Road and parking lot for new Bauneg Beg recreational area will be completed in the Spring. The road striping crew should arrive sometime at the end of the month/beginning of next.

**C. BONDING: Update on Bonding Process**

Dwayne indicated that there will be bonding costs for the 2 bonds being issued by the Maine Bond Bank. He stated that the overall interest cost came in 3.84%, which was lower than our initial 4% estimate, which is good news.

**D. LD2023: Updated Zoning Changes to Comply with Legislation**

Dwayne indicated that he has sent an invitation out to the Planning Board to attend the November 7, 2023 Select Board meeting.

**Reminders: Next Select Board's Meeting – November 7, 2023–6:30 P.M.-Room 212**

**5. NEW BUSINESS:**

**A. ABATEMENTS AND SUPPLEMENTALS FY24: Review Abatements and Supplementals**

Dwayne indicated that there were no abatements and supplementals at this time.

**B. COMMITMENT FY24: Review and Approve Municipal Valuation Report**

Dwayne stated that he has provided to the Board, the MVR report for their review and approval. This is a summary of the Town's valuation that is sent to the State and determines the town's level of reimbursements for BETE, Homestead and ultimately State Revenue Sharing. This is due to the State by November 1, 2023.

Selectperson Cowan motioned to approve the Municipal Valuation Report. Selectperson Johnson, Jr. seconded the motion. VOTE: 5-0

**C. FIRE DEPARTMENT: Review Request for Emergency Funds to Repair Pump on Tanker**

Dwayne indicated that it has been brought to his attention by the Fire Department that the pump on the new tanker requires extensive work. Due to unforeseen circumstances, the pump failed the pump test this year and when it sent out for repairs, it was found that the pump's internal parts were bad. He stated that the estimated cost for repair is \$9,605.60. The Fire Chief is asking for emergency funding from the Select Board, as this was an unforeseen cost which was not included in his budget.

Selectperson Cowan motioned to use up to \$10,000.00 from the emergency fund to repair the pump on the tanker. Selectperson Johnson, Sr. seconded the motion. VOTE: 5-0

**D. TRANSFER STATION: Beginning Waste Handling Agreement Negotiations**

Dwayne stated that North Berwick, along with the other 11 Towns in the Tri-County Waste Group will begin negotiations with Casella on November 8, 2023, with a kick off meeting between the towns to discuss the waste handling agreement. The current agreement expires on June 30, 2025 and a new agreement needs to be in place to assure the towns of a properly licensing location to dispose of our Household waste. As the current president of the group, Dwayne has scheduled the meeting on November 8 at the North Berwick Town Hall to start and put together issues that need to be addressed by the agreement such as tonnage cost, recycling, bulky waste, hazardous waste and any other concerns of the towns involved.

**E. EASTERN TRAIL: Update on Eastern Trail Improvements**

Dwayne indicated that the planning phase for the section of the trail from Pratt to Kittery is underway with VHB Engineers starting on the initial feasibility study. Over the next 18 months they will be meeting with stakeholders, including the select Board, and other interested parties to develop the best route for the trail and potential pitfalls, costs, etc. Dwayne also stated that the engineering on the trail from Kennebunk to Pratt is also currently underway with hopes to begin construction within the next few years. He stated that they are going to be receiving a very large grant to complete that section of the trail.

**F. NEWSLETTER:**

Dwayne indicated that there will be an election newsletter sent out to the citizens of North Berwick and stated that there will be 8 questions on the ballot this year and there will be a summary of the questions included in that newsletter. The newsletter will also contain capital improvement updates, highlights from around the town as well the results from the town meeting, etc. He stated that the newsletter will be going to the printers tomorrow night.

**6. OTHER BUSINESS - EXECUTIVE SESSION – LEGAL MATTER**

N/A

**7. REVIEW AND APPROVE WARRANTS AND CORRESPONDENCE:**

Warrant:	October 10, 2023	- \$ 721,265.48
Warrant:	October 17, 2023	- \$1,252,277.12

Selectperson Hall motioned to approve the warrant for October 10, 2023 in the amount of \$721,265.48 and the warrant for October 17, 2023 in the amount of \$1,252,277.12. Selectperson Johnson, Sr. seconded the motion. VOTE: 5-0

**8. ADJOURNMENT:**

Selectperson Cowan motioned to adjourn the meeting at 7:12 pm. Selectperson Hall seconded the motion. VOTE: 5-0

Respectively Submitted,  
Jennifer Berard, Stenographer

Original to Town Clerk

Chairperson: Charles Galemmo

Selectperson: Jonathan Hall

Selectperson: Michael Johnson, Jr.

Selectperson: Wendy Cowan

Selectperson: Michael Johnson, Sr.