

**North Berwick Board of Selectmen Minutes May 17, 2016**

**NORTH BERWICK BOARD OF SELECTMEN MINUTES MAY 17, 2016**

**Present:** Chairman Galemmo, Selectman Cowan, Selectman Morse, Selectman Johnson, Jr., Selectman Johnson, Sr.

**Also Present:** Dwayne Morin

Chairman Galemmo called the meeting to order at 6:30 pm.

**1. Pledge of Allegiance**

**2. Review and Approve Minutes of May 3, 2016**

Selectman Cowan stated that on Page 2 in the row before last, change “breath” to “breadth”. Also in the first sentence of the last paragraph on Page 3, the sentence currently reads “Mr. Connolly stated that the North Berwick School is going down...”. It should read, “Mr. Connolly stated that enrollment in the North Berwick School is going down...”.

Selectman Hall motioned to approve the minutes of May 3, 2016 as amended. Selectman Michael, Sr. seconded the motion. VOTE: 5-0

**3. Public Input**

There was not public input at this time.

**4. Unfinished Business:**

**A. Tax Acquired Property: Sign Deed to Brian Kennedy**

Dwayne Morin stated that a few years ago, the town entered into an agreement with Brian Kennedy and we had taken his property through taxes. The idea was for him to catch up. He has paid everything and is up to date. Dwayne stated that the Board needs to sign the deed over to Mr. Kennedy and releasing all of the tax liens that were on his property.

Selectman Cowan motioned to release the liens attached to Brian Kennedy’s property. Selectman Hall seconded the motion. VOTE: 5-0

**B. Public Works: Update on One Ton**

Dwayne stated that they were able to find a one ton and save about \$5,000. The cost is going to be around \$79,000 and this includes the set up and the truck. It doesn’t have the body that we usually have but the body specs are similar to what we use. It should be arriving within the week.

Dwayne stated that they can now put the other truck out to bid. He has had quite a few people ask him when we will be putting it out for bid so there is quite a bit of interest. Dwayne said that he just needs to know what the Board wants to set the minimum bid at. Chairman Galemmo stated that he thought that they had mentioned starting at \$2,000 at a previous meeting. Dwayne said that they had talked about \$2,000 for the truck and \$1,000 for the sander. The staff thought that a starting bid of \$3,000 would be a good start. He feels that they will get more than that.

Selectman Johnson, Sr. motioned to put the truck out to bid with at a minimum bid of \$3,000. Selectman Johnson, Jr. seconded the motion. VOTE: 5-0

**Reminders: Next Board of Selectmen's Meeting** – June 7, 2016 – 6:30 pm Municipal Building

**5. New Business:**

**A. Retirement:** Kathy Pease Retirement from Customer Service Rep. Position

Dwayne stated that Kathy Pease has decided to retire. Her position was part of a job share. They had set that up a few years ago for setting up staffing in the front office. He said that it didn't really make a difference because they were hiring part time people. These part time people were getting secondary jobs and whenever we needed them to fill in, they were not available because they were working at the other job. He stated that they had hired Rebecca as the other part of that job share. She was pretty much already trained because she worked in Kittery and Berwick. Dwayne said that they are going to bring her on part time/full time which is 33 hours. His goal is to bring her to full time at 35 hours next year. He didn't budget it for this year because Kathy didn't know when she was going to retire. He will budget it as a full time position next year. Dwayne stated that it is very hard to hire somebody for a 17 hour schedule for a job share so bringing Rebecca on for the 33 hours is beneficial.

**B. Police:** Updates

Dwayne wanted to make the Board aware of some of the police events that will be going on in the next few weeks. This Friday, May 20<sup>th</sup> will be the D.A.R.E. graduation. He stated that they would like to have one of the Board of Selectmen present for it. It will be at 9:30 am at the North Berwick Elementary School gymnasium.

Dwayne stated that the police did receive a grant for \$2,250 for the "Click It or Ticket" campaign. This will give us extra patrols in May and June.

On June 3<sup>rd</sup> they will do the "Bike to School with the Police Department". The Board is invited to participate in this as well. They bike from the Mill Field to the Elementary School. Dwayne stated that it is a great event. The first year they had about 30 participants but last year they had a huge crowd come out for it.

On June 7<sup>th</sup>, some of the officers will be running down Route 4 for the Special Olympics. Dwayne stated that they have already raised about \$2,000 for the program. They will meet the Sanford PD on Route 4 and run it down to the South Berwick PD at our town line.

## **6. Other Business:**

Dwayne stated that the Memorial Day parade will be held again this year. He stated that the Board walks in the parade and participates in the laying of the wreath at the Veteran's Monument. The parade starts at 9:00 so they should meet around 8:45 at the Legion.

Dwayne stated that they are basically working on year end stuff right now. They finished the horseshoe pits today. Once the grass catches, they will put the spikes in the ground so people can start using it. They have started taking down the fencing at Canal Street. He said that if everything goes well, they will start the Canal Street project at the end of June or beginning of August. They are waiting for the installers to let them know when they can do it.

Selectman Johnson, Jr. asked when they were going to work on the Community Center project. Dwayne stated that it will either be done in late fall or spring. It will depend on what goes on with Diamond Hill Road. He stated that they are pushing to get the Canal Street project done now before they get started with Diamond Hill. He stated that they also need to get Hammond Road done which they will be doing next month. They are going to start marking the trees with ribbons on Diamond Hill and Randall Road. They will send out all of the letters to the abutters to let them know what they will be doing to allow people to notify us if they have any issues.

Dwayne stated that he will have quite a few abatements to take care of at the next meeting. A lot of personal property taxes that are on the books are for people that are deceased or the businesses are no longer open. He would like to wipe them off of our books for the upcoming year. He said that they have tried to collect for them but the ones that he will be bringing before the Board are uncollectible. There are a few that they are pursuing collections with and they have agreements in place with them.

Selectman Hall asked Dwayne if he had any idea on what the mil rate may be. Dwayne said that he did not know. They still have not received Pratt's numbers. We should have these by June so we should have a better idea of where we will be at after he receives them. Chairman Galemme asked if we usually set the rate in July. Dwayne said that they usually set it in August. Dwayne stated that Hannaford's numbers came in a lot higher than they expected. They came in at about \$1 million more than planned. Computer Science came in about \$1 million more as well. Dwayne stated that we will only see 60% of these amounts because of BETE. He stated that for the most part our personal property numbers are up. Our real estate numbers are also up.

Selectman Johnson, Jr. asked how the new Code Enforcement Officer was doing. Dwayne said that he is doing fine. He has been at training for the last couple of days. He said that people are responding well to him. Dwayne said that a lot of our contractors already know him. He stated that there have been a few issues that have come up over the past couple of weeks, and Jim has a pretty good way of working through those issues.

Selectman Cowan asked what the status was on the Aroma Joe's project. Dwayne stated that they finalized all of their stuff today. The Planning Board had given conditional approval based on issues that were unresolved. Today, they finalized the drainage issues and have figured out how to make everything work. They made a few changes with the plot plan and construction of some things, primarily the drainage basins. We moved some of the drainage basins. We reduced some of the orifice openings to help slow down the drainage. Selectman Cowan asked if they had an estimated start date. Dwayne said that they will be closing on the property next month. Alan Gray will be going to the Planning Board on the 26<sup>th</sup> to get a conditional use permit to move his business to his house. Mr. Gray is in the process of building a garage.

Selectman Johnson, Sr. had a question regarding the Noise Ordinance. Somebody asked him about the gun range. It is currently open 7 days a week and the person was wondering if there was anything they can do to limit it on Sunday. Dwayne stated that we have nothing that limits it because it is an allowed use in that zone. They did go to the Planning Board to get approval and the times were set up then. Chairman Galemmo stated that it would take a change in the Ordinance. Dwayne said it wouldn't matter for them because they would be grandfathered. Dwayne said that it has been an asset to our town because it is one of the only ranges in Southern Maine. It is beneficial for our Police Department for when they need to qualify. Other neighboring police departments also use it when it is time for their officers to qualify.

Selectman Johnson, Jr. stated that the Bauneg Beg Lake Association lost their insurance on the dam. He was wondering if this would be an issue for the town. Dwayne stated that the Association still owns the dam so they would still be liable if something happens. He stated that the Association approached him in the past about the Town taking over the dam. He stated that he would be extremely hesitant about the Town taking over ownership of the dam. Dwayne stated that even though the dam is in North Berwick, the Association is for both Sanford and North Berwick.

Dwayne stated that there are a few other Noise Ordinance issues going on right now. There is another problem with a rooster in the downtown area. The person has a permit that was granted to them many years ago, but it has become a neighborhood issue. The Police Department is currently working on it.

Selectman Hall asked when the American flags would be going up. Dwayne said that they would go up the Friday before Memorial Day.

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

Warrant:	May 10, 2016	- \$	0.00
Warrant:	May 17, 2016	- \$	507,669.12

Selectman Hall motioned to approve the Warrant for May 17, 2016 for the amount of \$507,669.12. Selectman Johnson, Jr. seconded the motion. VOTE: 5-0

**8. Adjournment:**

Dwayne stated that they will need to go into an Executive Session.

Selectman Hall motioned to go into Executive Session for legal purposes at 7:15 pm, come out of Executive Session at 7:20 pm and adjourn the meeting at 7:21 pm. Selectman Johnson, Jr. seconded the motion. VOTE: 5-0

Respectively Submitted,  
Susan Niehoff, Stenographer

Original to Town Clerk

Chairman: Charles Galemmo

Selectman: Wendy Cowan

Selectman: Michael Johnson, Jr.

Selectman: Jonathan Hall

Selectman: Michael Johnson, Sr.

