

North Berwick Board of Selectmen Minutes August 23, 2016

**NORTH BERWICK BOARD OF SELECTMEN MINUTES
AUGUST 23, 2016**

Present: Chairman Galemmo, Selectman Hall, Selectman Johnson, Sr.,
Selectman Johnson, Jr.

Absent: Selectman Cowan

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 August 9, 2016

Dwayne Morin stated that he made a few changes. He changed a few words for grammatical reasons but did not change anything that would change the substance or the meaning of the information.

Selectman Johnson, Jr. motioned to approve the minutes of August 9, 2016 as amended. Selectman Hall seconded the motion. VOTE: 4-0

3. Public Input

There was no public input at this time.

4. Unfinished Business:

A. Public Works: Update on Projects

Dwayne stated that they finished the dirt work on Randall Road. He stated that they were supposed to begin paving on Monday but they have delayed us and we are still waiting to hear when they are going to be paving. He said that they have asked to try and have it done before school starts. Dwayne said that they want to have Randall Road and Beech Ridge Road done at the same time. If everything goes well, they will start on Diamond Hill Road next week.

Selectman Hall asked when the walking trail and rebound wall were going to get done at the Community Center. Dwayne said that it will be done in the spring.

Dwayne stated that he was contacted by the Maine Community Foundations and they are looking for projects to fund. He told them that the plan was to apply for the Project Canopy grant for the large parcels that we received permission to do something with. He told the Foundation that if

there was additional funds, maybe they could help with the walking trail at the Center to help connect all of the trails together. The Foundation liked that idea. Chairman Galemme said that he had mentioned before about having plaques around town like at the mill that discussed the history of it. He was wondering if this was something that they could use the grant money for. Dwayne said that they could probably do that. Dwayne said that he is also working on finding a graphic artist that could make a brochure for us that would show all of the trails. He thought he would get a price on what it may cost and incorporate it into the grant.

B. Code Enforcement Officer: Update

Dwayne stated that the new CEO had been on the job for a couple of days and he was doing very well so far.

C. Fire Substation: Update

Dwayne stated that he has received 2 bids so far for the work that needs to be done at the substation. He is waiting on a third bid. He stated that so far the bids are about the same at \$5,000. He said that at the next meeting he will give them the bids even if he has not heard back from the third company. He would like to make a decision so that they can try to get it done before the snow falls.

Reminders: Next Board of Selectmen's Meeting – Sept. 6, 2016 – 6:30 pm Municipal Building

5. New Business:

A. Tax Rate FY17: Establish Tax Rate for FY17

Dwayne stated that the Tax Rate Calculation forms were in their packets. He is recommending that they keep the tax rate at \$12.60. He stated that if people have the Homestead Exemption, this will give them a decrease of about \$68. This will also give us an overlay of almost \$263,000. He said that he thinks that this will help when they look into next year's budget.

Dwayne said that he met with Pratt & Whitney last Friday and he discussed how they are doing. He stated that this year they hired about 400 people. They are planning on hiring another 400 people within the next 2 years. He stated that when they started their Capital campaign about 2 years ago, they thought they were going to go 3 years with heavy capital. We have had 2 years of heavy capital at about \$45 million per year. They have increased that to 2 more years of capital of over \$40 million per year.

Selectman Hall motioned to keep the tax rate at \$12.60 for 2017. Selectman Johnson, Jr. seconded the motion. VOTE: 4-0

B. FY18: Establish Town Meeting Date for FY18, Discussion on Budgetary Projects

Dwayne stated that they typically have the Town Meeting on the first weekend in April. He stated that the first Saturday in April for next year is April 1st. He said that when he put the dates on the spreadsheet for the timeline the best date would be April 8th. He said that April 1st would be a tight squeeze so if anything happened during the budget season, it could be an issue.

Selectman Hall motioned to have the Town Meeting on April 8, 2017. Selectman Johnson, Jr. seconded the motion. VOTE: 4-0

C. Election: Discuss November 8, 2016 Election and Closing of Front Office

Dwayne stated that in the past, they have been able to keep the office open during elections. This year, because of the Presidential election, they are anticipating that it will be a pretty heavy election. He is proposing that they do like they did in May and close the front office on election day. He would still be in the office and the CEO and assessor would still be in the office. He said that most people already assume that the office is closed during elections anyway. He said that Marianne will be used as a runner and will still be doing some work in the office.

Dwayne said that they did get new ballot boxes this year. They are not like the old ones where you walk in and close the curtain behind you. They are individual ones that are small and low. They are basically like desktops with dividers. They bought 20 sets and they will buy 5 more sets next year.

Selectman Hall motioned to close the front office during the election on November 8, 2016. Selectman Johnson, Sr. seconded the motion. VOTE: 4-0

6. Other Business:

Selectman Johnson, Jr. asked Dwayne if he had heard anything else regarding the Stub Marsh issue since they last met. Dwayne said that he has not heard anything but he is anticipating something.

Dwayne mentioned that since the property on the corner of Route 9 & Route 4 dropped their price, he has received a number inquiries about it. He stated that they are still looking to put up residential housing there but at least it would get cleaned up.

Selectman Hall asked Dwayne if he could talk to them about the email that he received regarding a Parks & Rec issue. Dwayne said that the email basically stated that our Parks and Rec Director was trying to prohibit people from renting the Center. Dwayne said that it all revolves around the usage agreements. He said that the usage agreements came from joint meetings between the Board of Selectmen and the Parks and Rec Committee years ago. Dwayne said that it has grown beyond where it should be but it is not something that is set up to stop people from using the facilities. The usage agreement was established to create balance in the use of the facility.

Dwayne stated that the email stated that lacrosse won't come to the Community Center and that

travel soccer is looking to leave. Dwayne said that travel soccer is not looking to leave. He has spoken to the President of the league and they are very happy about using the facilities. He said that the main reason that lacrosse left is because the field layout that they wanted, we could not accept. The setup would have had the athletes throwing the ball toward the road and we couldn't allow that. It is a safety issue. He said that he had offered an alternative layout and it had worked out up to this point, but they now wanted to change it. The layout they wanted showed one of the ends of the field facing Lebanon Road. He couldn't let them do that because if the ball missed the goal, it could hit a car going by or if the athlete chases after it they could get hit by a car. He said that they offered them to go back to the original layout and do a field inside a field on the soccer field by using a different color of paint. They opted to go to the High School instead and use one field instead of having four fields available to them at the Community Center.

Dwayne said that he did tell Kristie back in April that he would like to change some of the usage agreement. He said that that there is a lot of language in it that is detailed and descriptive but really shouldn't be in a usage agreement.

Dwayne said that he just received a copy of the email last week but he was told that it was sent months ago. He did not get an original email. It came from one of the Parks & Rec members.

Selectman Johnson, Jr. said that some of the other towns charge for the teams to use the fields. Dwayne said that the email also had stated that the resident had been in talks with the Town of Wells and that his feeling was that the Town of North Berwick made it unreasonable for travel teams to use it. Dwayne said that he has talked to parents and a lot of the parents believe that the Town of North Berwick charge the teams for the use of the fields. Dwayne said that they do not charge anything. The reason that they don't charge is because there are some kids from North Berwick on the teams. We only ask that they help with the maintenance of the facility. We ask them to pick up the garbage every week and put the bags in the dumpster. We supply all of the bags. We ask them to police the area regarding parking around the fire lane, dogs on the property and use of tobacco. We don't want them to confront anybody. They stripe the fields and we supply the paint. If their numbers are large enough to need another Port-A-Potty, then we ask them to pay for the additional one. We charge them the same as what we pay which is \$50 per month. They have asked to use the Community Center bathrooms and concession stands. He has told them that if they want to use these, we do rent them.

7. Review and Approve Warrants and Correspondence:

Warrant:	August 16, 2016	- \$ 582,693.32
Warrant:	August 23, 2016	- \$ 25,712.96

Selectman Hall motioned to approve the Warrant of August 16, 2016 for the amount of \$582,693.32 and the Warrant of August 23, 2016 for the amount of \$25,712.96. Selectman Johnson, Jr. seconded the motion. VOTE: 4-0

8. Adjournment:

Selectman Hall motioned to adjourn the meeting at 7:21 pm. Selectman Johnson, Jr. seconded the motion. VOTE: 4-0

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.