

North Berwick Board of Selectmen Minutes February 21, 2017

**NORTH BERWICK BOARD OF SELECTMEN MINUTES
FEBRUARY 21, 2017**

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

Also Present: Dwayne Morin

Chairman Galemmo opened the meeting at 6:30 pm.

1. Pledge of Allegiance

2. Review and Approve Minutes of February 7, 2017

Selectman Johnson, Jr. motioned to approve the minutes of February 7, 2017 as written. Selectman Cowan seconded the motion. VOTE: 5-0

3. Public Input

There was no public input at this time.

4. Unfinished Business:

A. Budget FY18: Discussion on Budget for FY18

Dwayne stated that the Budget Committee have gone through about $\frac{3}{4}$ of the budget and things are going well. They still have the Police Department, Rescue, Parks and Rec and Transfer Station to review. Selectman Johnson, Jr. asked if there was any discussion when they reviewed the Library. Dwayne stated that they did have some discussions and shaved a little bit off of the budget. The Budget Committee did approve it.

Dwayne stated that the biggest controversial issue so far has been the Community Appreciation Dinner. He said that it failed at the Budget Committee level and they are prepared to fight it on the town meeting floor. Dwayne was expecting some of the Committee members to be present tonight to discuss it. Chairman Galemmo stated that he doesn't understand why it is such a big deal. It is only \$4,000 out of the budget. Dwayne stated that the vote was 4-7-1. The 7 that voted against it were quite vocal about it. Selectman Cowan asked what they gave for reasons against it. Dwayne stated that the Committee members feel that people that serve as committee members do it out of their civic responsibility and the town should not spend that kind of money to put on a dinner for that small amount of people. They stated that there are a lot of people on committees around town that are not on Town committees and give as much of their time and they are not recognized. They suggested that instead of doing a dinner, they could give certificates, pins or something else to show appreciation. The Committee members did not feel

that the dinner was the appropriate thing to do. Dwayne recommended to the Budget Committee members that they attend a Selectmen's meeting to discuss their reasons for not wanting to have the dinner. Selectman Cowan asked Dwayne to reach out to the Committee members to attend the next Selectmen meeting.

Dwayne stated that they have gone through the Fire Department budget and they had a great discussion regarding the new fire station planning. Their budget passed unanimously. Dwayne stated that MPBN and Life Flight passed unanimously. Dwayne stated that the one thing that they questioned regarding the Library budget was in their fundraising efforts. The Library is actually donating less this year than they did in previous years. The Budget Committee gave the representatives from the Library ideas on different ways for them to raise money. The Budget Committee did tell them that they were approving the budget but that they were disappointed that the Library had not done more to raise their own funds. The Committee seems to have less of a problem approving a Budget if the department shows that they make some sort of effort in raising money on their own. Selectman Cowan asked what the difference was with the fundraising amount the Library had done this year compared to the previous year. Dwayne stated that last year they had done \$13,400 and this year they are only proposing \$10,900. The Library representatives stated that they have a decrease in memberships especially in the out of town memberships. Dwayne said that he can understand that. They used to have people from South Berwick come here but now they have their own library. It was recommended that the Library send out a mailer asking for people to contribute to the Library but they never did it.

Dwayne stated that from an overall budget standpoint, it will not affect the tax rate.

B. Zoning: Review Proposed Zoning Ordinance Changes and Marijuana Moratorium

Dwayne stated that the Planning Board had their Public Hearing last Thursday evening and they did approve all of the proposed Zoning changes. There are 3 questions to be put on the Ballot and he has submitted them to the Town Clerk already. All of the changes have been through legal review so the questions listed in the packet are the final proposals. The Attorney did not change very much. She basically just cleaned up some of the language. The first question is regarding the chickens. The second one is on the removal of the Category 3 survey but adding language that says what it actually is. Also it will be a 2 part building permit. One part will be the foundation permit and the second part will be the building permit. The third one is an amendment to the subdivision ordinance to require digital copies along with paper copies.

C. Project Canopy: Grant Application Update

Dwayne stated that they still had not heard anything yet. We should hear something by the end of this month.

D. Transfer Station: Sale of Roll Off Truck/South Berwick Solid Waste Agreement

Dwayne stated that they sold the truck for \$25,001 and the winning bidder was Oceanside. He stated that they had a minimum bid of \$20,000 and they bid the \$25,001. We will realize between \$8,000 and \$9,000 from the sale. Dwayne said that they still need to finish off the

expenses for November and December with South Berwick. After they complete this, they can dissolve the agreement.

Reminders: Next Board of Selectmen's Meeting – March 7, 2017 – 6:30 pm Municipal Building

Budget Committee – Feb. 22, 2017 – 6:30 pm Municipal Building

Budget Committee – March 1, 2017 – 6:30 pm Municipal Building

5. New Business:

A. Parks and Recreation: Review of Revised Field Usage Agreement

Dwayne stated that they had spoken back in the fall about updating the Field Usage Agreement. The Board had stated that they would like to see it once the Parks and Rec Committee had completed it. Dwayne stated that they basically condensed the agreement from 5 pages to 2 pages. They just put in the essential language that needs to be in the Field Usage Agreement. They have reached out to Noble Lacrosse because there was an issue last fall. They have not heard back from them yet to see if they want to use our fields. Dwayne stated that Club Soccer wants to use the fields this spring and so does baseball. Dwayne said that they want the clubs to give them their schedules as soon as possible. It is a lot of work to put together a schedule because everyone wants to have them at the same times.

Dwayne stated that they basically broke up the agreement into major sections. The first would be regarding the preseason. This just states that they can't utilize the fields until they have submitted a form and the form has been approved. Dwayne stated that sometimes they submit the forms but it turns out that there are conflicts with the calendar. These conflicts need to be worked out first. They need to give specific times for practices and games and not a range of times. Permission needs to be granted for putting equipment placed on the field. The Rec. Director makes the decision of field layouts. They can utilize all of the equipment that we have but they need to let us know before. They can use their own equipment but they need to know that if anything happens to their equipment, the Rec Department is not liable for it. If they use our equipment and it is damaged beyond normal wear and tear, the team may be responsible to help replace it. This has never been an issue before. We are in charge of striping all of the fields unless other arrangements are approved. They can utilize our Shed #1 to store their equipment but they need to let us know because it is limited due to space. Parks and Rec is responsible for the mowing of the fields. We supply all of the trash bags in all of the receptacles and dumpsters. They just need to help keep the fields clean. We supply one Port-a-potty. If they want an additional one, the team is responsible for it. We just charge them the amount that we are charged.

Dwayne said that they also let them know about the rules regarding parking in the circle because it is a designated fire lane. Dogs are also not allowed anywhere on the property. We are also a tobacco, drug and alcohol free zone. The teams are responsible for making sure these rules are followed while they are on the premises. Dwayne stated that teams have asked in the past if they can run concessions. They are allowed to but if they want to utilize water and electricity, they are not allowed to use the outside stuff. They could rent the Community Center and use the

indoor facilities. We can't allow grills due to insurance liability purposes. Dwayne stated that they want to make sure that whoever is renting it, especially for a long term rental, have communication between Parks and Rec and the organization so they will need to designate someone to meet or speak with Kristi once a week. Dwayne stated that the organization is responsible for informing the visiting teams about the rules and regulations. The organization will need to help take down the equipment at the end of the season.

Dwayne stated that a lot of the language that they had in the previous agreement was just not necessary. They are not asking for anything over the top. It's just to make sure that things run smoothly.

B. Boston Post Cane: New Recipient – Mary Steeves

Dwayne stated that the latest Boston Post Cane recipient, Dick Goodwin, passed away so now we need to set up another Boston Post Cane award ceremony. The recipient, Mary Steeves, and her family would like to do it on a Saturday morning so the grandchildren can be there. Mrs. Steeves will be 100 years old in June. Chairman Galemmo stated that he could do any Saturday. Dwayne said that he would know tomorrow if he could do it this Saturday or not. He would let all the Board members know in case any of them want to attend.

6. Other Business:

Dwayne stated that he needs Chairman Galemmo to put together a letter for the Town Report by next week.

Chairman Galemmo stated that somebody has asked him if the Town owned hockey boards for a rink. Dwayne stated that we did not. Dwayne said that they had boards that they had put together for the gazebo at the Community Center. They are just short boards to hold the plastic in place for an ice rink. Chairman Galemmo stated that people have told him that they would all volunteer to take care of an ice rink. Dwayne stated that he also received an email. He said that it seems to be a cyclical thing. Every few years, somebody asks about having a skating rink. He said that he tried for 5 years and in those 5 years he had a total of 4 days of ice. Dwayne stated that you really have to have refrigerant to have a rink. He stated that the current group of interested people want to put it in the Mill Field. Dwayne said that there is not one spot of flat land on the Mill Field. To get ice on one side, you would have to have about a foot of water on the other side to make it even. Dwayne stated that the weather is also an issue. We do not get significantly cold weather long enough to make ice. Somebody needs to tend to it every day. It needs to be watered down daily. Dwayne said that he would love for it to happen but it is a lot of work.

Dwayne stated that the Winter budget is slowly eroding. He said that getting salt has been very difficult this year.

7. Review and Approve Warrants and Correspondence:

Warrant:	February 14, 2017	- \$ 14,934.27
Warrant:	February 21, 2017	- \$ 548,655.10

Selectman Hall motioned to approve the Warrant from February 14, 2017 for the amount of \$14,934.27 and the Warrant from February 21, 2017 for the amount of \$548,655.10. Selectman Johnson, Sr. seconded the motion. VOTE: 5-0

8. Adjournment:

Selectman Cowan motioned to adjourn the meeting at 7:30 pm. Selectman Johnson, Sr. 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.