

North Berwick Board of Selectmen Minutes May 21, 2019

NORTH BERWICK BOARD OF SELECTMEN MINUTES MAY 21, 2019

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

Absent: Selectman Johnson, Jr.

Also Present: Dwayne Morin, Rebecca Reed, Mark Reed

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

1. Pledge of Allegiance

2. Review and Approve Minutes of May 7, 2019

Selectman Johnson, Sr. stated that on Page 4, the first sentence in the 3rd paragraph currently reads, “Mr. Connolly sent on to discuss...”. It should read, “Mr. Connolly went on to discuss...”. Chairman Cowan stated that on Page 3 in the 3rd paragraph the sentence before last currently reads, “They are definitely seeing decaying fabric in portions...”. It should read, “They are definitely seeing decaying social fabric in portions...”. Chairman Cowan stated that also on Page 3, the 5th sentence of the last paragraph should be rewritten. It currently reads, “It is primarily Susan Mackery and Sue Austin that tag team and fill out the IEP and tend to the overall programming...”. It should read, “It is primarily Susan Macri and Sue Austin who share responsibility for filling out the IEP and tending to the overall programming...”. Chairman Cowan also stated that in the first paragraph of Page 3 the 7th sentence reads, “...year by the Stated as a separate Article.”. It should read, “...year by the State as a separate Article.”.

Selectman Hall stated that in the last paragraph on Page 6, the 5th sentence from the last currently reads, “This year, we are fortunate this year with the School Budget...”. It should read, “We are fortunate this year with the School Budget...”. Selectman Hall also stated that the last sentence in this paragraph didn’t sound right. It reads, “Dwayne stated that, at some point, from the School Budget perspective is that it will hit a wall and the taxpayers will revolt.”. It was decided to remove this sentence from the minutes. Selectman Hall stated that in the last paragraph on Page 7, the 2nd sentence should be changed. It currently reads, “...we are spending significantly more in the Administration.”. It should read, “...we are spending significantly more on the Administration side.”. Selectman Hall also stated that on Page 8, the 5th sentence in the 2nd paragraph currently reads, “He asked how many of that salary...”. It should read, “He asked how much of that salary...”.

Selectman Galemmo motioned to approve the minutes of May 7, 2019 as amended. Selectman Johnson, Sr. seconded the motion. VOTE: 4-0

3. Public Input

There was no public input at this time.

4. Unfinished Business:

A. Community Center: Organic Spraying vs. Traditional

Dwayne stated that when the Conservation and Agricultural Commission was in to meet with the Board last Fall, they were talking about spraying and more specifically about pollinators and the affect that spraying has on them. At that meeting, the Board had made a motion that the Town would use organic spraying vs non-organic spraying so that we don't affect the pollinators. He stated that he has a dilemma. He stated that we want to kill the pollinators at the Community Center. We spray to get rid of bees, hornets and wasps as well as kill the ticks. Unfortunately, there is no organic chemical that does that. He said that he has a problem because the Board voted to use only organic but there is nothing organic that he can utilize. He stated that if they don't spray for bees, hornets, wasps and ticks, it is a liability issue. They have 4 children that are extremely allergic to bees that are in our camp. If they get stung, they will go into anaphylactic shock so this is why they spray. He would like permission from the Board to utilize the same methods that have used in the past to get rid of the bees, hornets, wasps and ticks. Chairman Cowan asked how often they spray. Dwayne said that they do it once a year. They do it at the beginning of camp and it lasts about 6 weeks. Our camp is 7 weeks and that is when the bees, wasps, hornets and ticks are starting to come back so they can work around that.

Chairman Cowan asked what we used to spray. Dwayne said that they hire a spray company and they utilize the chemicals. Selectman Galemme asked if it kills them on contact. Dwayne stated that it kills them on contact and it also leaves a residue that keeps them from coming back. Selectman Galemme asked if it was something that they would take back to the hive and Dwayne said they would not. Dwayne said that the guy that is spraying looks for all of the hives under all of the structures and sprays it directly. Selectman Galemme asked if it would affect anyone nearby who might have some hives. Dwayne said that it would not. Chairman Cowan asked about the residue that is left behind and if would cause any harm to anyone. Dwayne said that it is nontoxic to humans after 24 hours. They keep people away from it for the first 24 hours.

Selectman Johnson, Sr. stated that they must use this spray in other towns so he is sure that we are not the only ones that are using it. Dwayne said that they were not. He stated that they have had an abundance of ticks at the Community Center the last couple of years so they now spray for ticks. He said that there is an organic spray for ticks but it doesn't work. He said that they just had a tick conference at the University of Amherst and what they have been using as organic spray was deemed to not work. He said that it is the chemicals that kill the bugs and there is nothing organic that will kill them. He stated that they will use an organic spray for the poison ivy in and around the Community Center and the cemeteries.

Selectman Johnson, Sr. motioned to allow the chemical spraying at the Community Center. Selectman Galemme seconded the motion. VOTE: 4-0

B. Maple Street Forest: Review Kiosk, Brochure and Interpretive Signage

Dwayne showed the Board the different signage they were doing for the trail system. He has 2 kiosk signs, 5 interpretative signs and the brochure for the Board to review. The 2 kiosk signs will be identical with the exception of the “You are here” statement. The mileage is listed for all of the trails and they added a scale for people to reference. One kiosk will be at the Old Country Road and the other will be at Maple Street. They also have interpretative signs. They have one on Northern Black Racers to let people know that they are indigenous to this area. They are non-poisonous but they are aggressive. Chairman Cowan stated that they should probably add a sentence stating this for people to know. Dwayne stated that there are no poisonous snakes in the State of Maine or all of New England. Dwayne said that they are aggressive and they will bite you very hard. He said that the Black Racers usually hide from people. They like to sun in the meadows during the day and go into rocks and crevices at night time.

The other signs are regarding the Eastern Box Turtle and the Blandings Turtle. They also did a sign regarding vernal pools so people would understand what they were. The last sign is regarding stone walls. Chairman Cowan suggested that they add something to the description. She said that where it says “Revolutionary era”, they should actually say “Revolutionary War era” just for clarification. Chairman Cowan also stated that there needs to be a change on the kiosk sign. In the last paragraph under Flora, the first sentence reads, “Look close” and she says that it should read, “Look closely”. Dwayne will change it. He stated that the brochure will be a tri-fold brochure.

Dwayne showed the Board which trails had been cut out so far. He stated that they will be starting tomorrow on Old County Road. He also showed them on the map some of the areas that are currently under water so they won’t be able to do anything there. They will have to hold off until this Summer or Fall to do these parts of the trail. Dwayne said that he will notify Project Canopy to let them know that they will not be able to complete all of the areas because of the water. He said that the trails add up to 2.58 miles on our property. Dwayne said that the Commission still has to work on getting signs for the trails to show exactly what trails people are actually on. He wants to put a couple of intermediate signs on the longer trails so people will know they are still on the same trail.

Chairman Cowan noticed that the brochure states that the trails will be open to hunters. She wondered how we will manage how people are using the trails during hunting season. She is concerned about people using the trails for recreational purposes and someone getting hurt. Dwayne said that they put in the brochure and on the kiosk sign that people need to wear blaze orange during hunting season.

Dwayne stated that Civil Consultants has finished the bridge design that goes over the Negutaquet River and given him an estimate of what it will cost. It will cost \$15,000 to \$20,000. He will be submitting a request to the Day Foundation to get funds to pay for this. Chairman Cowan asked if the Day Foundation was going to cover the entire cost for the bridge. Dwayne said that they have expressed an interest in paying for it. He will prepare a proposal to present to them.

C. Staples Bridge: Review DOT Proposal

Dwayne stated that the State held their Public Hearing for Staples Bridge last Thursday. There were a few residents present. He said that there were no concerns. The State will bid it out in the Fall with construction to occur Spring/Summer of 2020. They will build the new bridge adjacent to the other bridge and remove the old one after they have completed the new one.

Reminders: Next Board of Selectmen's Meeting – June 4, 2019 – 6:30 pm Municipal Building

5. New Business:

A. Linscott Road Intersection: Review Engineer Proposal

Dwayne stated that the Selectmen have a proposal from Gorrill Palmer Engineers. They went over and looked at the intersection. Dwayne stated that DOT had given us permission to put in a warning system and in order to do that, we had to have it designed by a Traffic Engineer. Gorrill Palmer is one of the best Traffic Engineers in the State. He said that he also picked them because the head of their Traffic Engineering Division used to be the DOT Engineer for this region. Dwayne reached out to them to see what it would cost for a design. He said that it came in less than what he originally thought it would cost. He originally thought it might be about \$25,000. Dwayne said that their design fee is \$3,500. The estimate from TAPCO for the equipment with no installation is around \$7,500. This would be a total of about \$11,000 before installation.

Dwayne stated that he is looking for input from the Board. They do not need to make a decision right now. He said that they never budgeted for the installation of the system so it would have to come out of emergency funds if we decided to move forth with it now. He said that they do have money in Roads and Bridges that would probably cover the engineering costs. Dwayne said that he had a meeting with Jennifer Brickett of the MDOT a couple of weeks ago about the NPI Program and the PPI Program. He has not heard back from her yet as to what program they think is the best way for us to plan for future growth at that intersection. She wanted to think about it, talk to the engineers and the Safety Assessment Committee and see what the best way would be for us to proceed.

Chairman Cowan asked if we go ahead with the installation of this warning system, will it give us more credence to the installation of something else in the future. Dwayne said that he does not know. He said that they told him that they would allow us to install a warning system there. He spoke with Hussey and let them know what is going on. They have still not made their decision yet. He wonders if they are better off waiting and spending the money on something else.

Dwayne said that, no matter what we do, we will have to have an engineer on board. He stated that the estimate was broken down into 2 scopes of services. One scope would be the design of the Intersection Conflict Warning System that would allow us to get State approval to install it.

The second part is for future planning and looking at the intersection. This was an additional \$3,750 so the total contract would be \$7,250 but we can determine if we want to do the second part or not.

Selectman Galemmo feels that if this would make a difference to Hussey then he thinks that they should move forward. However, if Hussey is still undecided they should probably wait. Chairman Cowan asked if there was a time frame on the estimate. Dwayne said that there was not. He stated that he also got an estimate from TAPCO for the equipment costs. The cost would be about \$7,500 for the entire packet. It would include 2 beacons on Route 9 and 1 beacon on Linscott Road. Selectman Hall asked how many people access Linscott Road a day. Dwayne said that the ADT is under 100.

Selectman Galemmo motioned to table the proposal until we hear back from Hussey on what their plans are. Selectman Johnson, Sr. seconded the motion. VOTE: 4-0

B. Paving: Review Paving Quotes and Award for Fiscal Year

Dwayne stated that he received 2 quotes for paving for this year. He said that we have had Libby Scott for the past 3 years and he did get another quote from them. He also received one from All States which was formerly called FR Carroll. He stated that the quotes are very close. On Page 30 in their packet, he has put together a summation of the bids. Libby Scott came in for Hand Work at \$145 per ton, Base Pave at \$73.90 per ton and their Surface Pave at \$74.90 per ton. However, they have additional charges that they assess during the project. They charge us for Tack at \$8.40 per gallon and they charge for Butt Joints. Dwayne stated that All States included Tack and Butt Joints in their per ton price. All States charge \$160 per ton for Hand Work, Base Pave of \$76.70 and Surface Pave at \$76.70.

Dwayne listed what the estimated quantities will be for the road projects that need to be done. When you add it all together they are pretty close. They are all about \$2,000 difference of each other on each road. The big number change is for the parking lots for the Fire Stations. For the Central Fire Station, All States gave us a price of \$11,400 and Libby Scott gave us a price of \$6,000. The reason for the difference is that All States is using the \$160 per ton and Libby Scott is giving us a price of \$90 per ton. It is not quite what we are paying for machine and not quite what we are paying for hand work because they will be doing machine and hand work together. They gave us a blended rate of \$90 per ton instead.

Dwayne stated that Sidewalks are the other big area that has a difference and this is because it is mainly hand work. We are planning to do 2 sidewalks this year. The carryover of Burma to Lynn Street hasn't been done yet because the Water District is looking at their construction project which might be on hold because their prices came back extremely high. What we were going to do was when we did the Central Fire Station, we were going to pave Market Street down to the bank and then Market Street up to Johnsons Funeral Home. The pavement sunk about an inch so we were going to top it all off and make it look nice. Dwayne stated that when you add everything all up based on estimates, Libby Scott is about \$10,810 cheaper.

Dwayne said that he bid it out because he wanted to see if Libby Scott was high compared to others. It turns out they are really not. They charge us on what is being used. Chairman Cowan asked if we have had any concerns or issues with the quality of the work that Libby Scott has provided. Dwayne said that they have not. He said that they had not had any issues with All States when they were called FR Carroll when they did our paving several years ago either. Chairman Cowan asked if the contract was for 3 years. Dwayne said that it was just for 1 year.

Dwayne said that all of these prices have escalation clauses and Libby Scott put in not only an escalation clause but also added a de-escalation clause. He told the Board that he had also included Liquid Asphalt prices in their packet. He said that all paving is based on Liquid Asphalt prices. Last year, our escalation clause really hurt us and it cost us a lot of money. During the course of the summer, Liquid Asphalt prices went up. Liquid Asphalt makes up 6.2% of pavement so as those prices go up, the price of pavement goes up. Last year, our base price was \$462.50 for asphalt price and it went up to \$540.00 during the middle of the summer so we ended up paying almost \$8.00 more per ton. This year, our base price is \$550.00. It has been holding steady at \$550 since the beginning of April. With Libby Scott, if the \$550 price goes up, we have to pay an escalation clause and if the price goes down, we pay a de-escalation clause. All States is just an escalation clause. Dwayne said that he doesn't see it going down.

Dwayne stated that with either company's bid, they should have enough money. He is concerned with the All States Fire Station parking lot paving numbers. At that price, we can't afford to pave those parking lots. We have \$20,000 to pave the Fire Station and Libby Scott came out to \$19,000 and All States came in at about \$33,000.

Selectman Galemмо motioned to accept the bid from Libby Scott. Selectman Hall seconded the motion. VOTE: 4-0

C. Library: Bookmobile Parking on Route 4

Dwayne stated that the Library wants to have a Bookmobile as part of their Summer Reading Program from July 1st through August 19th. The unfortunate part is that they don't think they can get the Tri-Town Bookmobile in the parking lot and utilize it effectively. They usually get a pretty good turnout during the summer reading sessions so if the bookmobile gets in there and cars come in they won't be able to turn around and get out. They are asking if the Board will give them permission to allow them to park the bookmobile along Route 4 right in front of the walkway that comes down from the library. Dwayne stated that his concern was blocking the fire hydrant or the crosswalk. He stated that it is actually a No Parking zone and only the Selectmen can give them permission to do this. They would like permission to do it every Monday from 12:00 to 2:00.

Chairman Cowan asked why there wasn't any room. Dwayne said that the Bookmobile is a regular sized bus and it is too long to get in and turn around. Selectman Johnson, Sr. asked where the door of the bus was going to be when they have it parked. Dwayne said that they would park along the sidewalk and the door would open on the side of the library. He said that they could have them put cones on each side of the bus to make sure people notice it, but it shouldn't be a problem because it is a big blue bus.

Selectman Galemmo motioned to approve for the Bookmobile to park along Route 4 in front of the Library on Mondays from 12:00 to 2:00 from July 1st to August 19th. Selectman Johnson, Sr. seconded the motion. VOTE: 4-0

D. Police: Appoint Patrick Roy as Full-Time Police Officer

Dwayne stated that Patrick Roy is a new full time Police Officer for the Town of North Berwick. He is currently a Reserve Officer for us and has been filling in full time since Tim Niehoff went to Eliot. They went through the hiring process and they opened it up to see who they would get. Patrick is the one that stood out. He said that he does come with a price. We will have to make payment to Eliot for him because he is only 3 years out of the Academy. We will have to pay for 2 years which will be about \$16,000 because Eliot is the one that trained him. Dwayne said that Patrick and Eliot had parted ways for a number of months and then we hired him as a Reserve Officer. The Law says that any officer that came out of the Academy, the sponsoring Agency will get paid for the first 5 years of them coming out of the Academy.

Selectman Galemmo motioned to appoint Patrick Roy as a Full time Police Officer. Selectman Hall seconded the motion. VOTE: 4-0

6. Other Business:

Dwayne stated that they will be doing the roof within the next couple of days depending on the weather.

7. Review and Approve Warrants and Correspondence:

Warrant:	May 14, 2019	- \$ 15,887.22
Warrant:	May 21, 2019	- \$ 559,433.40

Selectman Galemmo motioned to approve the Warrant of May 14, 2019 for the amount of \$15,887.22 and the Warrant of May 21, 2019 for the amount of \$559,433.40. Selectman Johnson, Sr. seconded the motion. VOTE: 4-0

8. Adjournment:

Selectman Galemmo motioned to adjourn the meeting at 7:25 pm. Selectman Hall seconded the motion. VOTE: 4-0

Respectively Submitted,
Susan Niehoff, Stenographer

Original to Town Clerk

Chairman: Wendy Cowan

Selectman: Jonathan Hall

Selectman: Michael Johnson, Jr.

Selectman: Charles Galemmo

Selectman: Michael Johnson, Sr.