Town of
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Town of Northumberland
Board of Selectmen
Meeting Minutes - Draft
Date: Monday March 2, 2026
Place: Town Meeting Room – 10 Station Square
Time: 6:00 P.M.

Board members present: Jim Weagle, Al Rossetto, Robin Irving
Others: Bob Roby, Norman Cotter, Deb Miles, Sheila Smith, Judy Fox, Nancy Merrow, Ryan Shannon, David Auger, Debbie Montgomery, Wayne Montgomery, Claire Mood, Reggie & Terri Charron, Andre Brasseur, Glenn Cassady, Sean Durkin, Rebecca St. Cyr - Minute Taker

1. **Chairman Opens the Meeting** - J. Weagle opened the meeting at 6:00 pm

2. **Pledge of Allegiance -** All

3. **Acceptance of Minutes:** February 18, 2026

   Motion to approve the February18, 2026 minutes by: A. Rossetto
   2nd by: R. Irving, All in Favor 3-0

4. **Department Head Business: HWY/WATER/SEWER**

Water/Sewer - Reggie Charron, Supervisor

- There have been a few personal freeze-ups that we've tried to assist with, most have been on their personal side and they've had to get contractors to thaw them out. We have rules, regulations, and ordinances that we have to follow. It's been a bad year, now it's worse than January or February, because the sun's out longer and it drives the frost deeper.
- Water - the monthly average for Groveton, February 2026 compared to February 2025, we pumped almost 1.2 million gallons less. That's over 42,462 gallons less/day, with a 29 ½ gallon/minute loss in a day. Lost Nation went up 16,300 gallons this year from last year. but it's like 0.4 gallons, not even a half a gallon. Reggie follows these numbers to make sure they're accurate and staying accurate.
- Was notified today by DES & EPA, we need to start doing extra testing for PFA's on all water systems starting in May 2026. EPA is now getting into x-gen chemicals, we had 4-5 now there are 8.
- Will be starting backflow testing this week. Our contractor will be doing it for our deadline of April 1st reports.
- We're working with Wesley Sampson, who I hired under the LCRR unknown inventory grant, a $60,000 grant that we received from DES. We are working on appointments to get into residence basements for pictures. For those residences that have not had anyone come in yet be prepared to have appointments, hopefully in the Spring after mud season. This is a process that Reggie needs to have finished by the end of December 2026.
- Sewer - We had a residence in Odell Park where the sewer froze up. It's a sewer that's been a problem for years, its only about 3 feet deep and it goes into a manhole. It's the only house, and it's the way it was designed in the park. Reggie further discussed the issue. We've had people shut their water off in their basement and now they're possibly freezing out to the curb. We have a strict policy on this and gave an example of the cost a residence had to pay. Reggie can't be liable or responsible for their water lines.

- Fisk St. we will be getting to this summer. This will be their time to try to get their lines at least insulated so this doesn't happen in the future. For the convenience of water and the cost that we charge our residents is minimal. It's like less than a cent per gallon. It's like an eighth of a cent.
- We need to flush the Cumberland St. sewer again, we've been working on it to keep it clean until we get our new pump station put in. This is going to be a nice week, hopefully Wednesday or Thursday we will get it done. I've done it two or three times already this winter and we've had times and it's really helping keeping us clean so we can get through.
- Had an issue on Marietta Lane, the trailer park side beside OSJL. Reggie advised them they needed to have their pump pulled, they got our contractor in and had it cleaned out. It's the only pump they have left right now. Reggie further discussed their project 2-3 years ago. We're waiting for them to get their pump station too.

A. Rossetto asked how expensive is the additional mandated testing going to be? Reggie said he has it in the budget, his average testing costs have been $5,000 - $6,000.

S. Durkin asked about the rate that we are charging, it's .08/cent/gal. What is the going rate in other towns? Reggie said the national average is much higher. We are charging $8.50 - $9.00/1000 gal. Sean asked if there is a fund for the testing costs? Reggie - it's part of the W/S budget which has nothing to do with the taxpayers.

Highway - Glenn Cassady, Road Agent

- It's been plow, plow, plow!!
- He found a vendor that sold us 100 tons of salt at $13.00/ton less than the current vendor. A webinar he attended recommended that we sign up with 2-3 vendors.
- We are down 1 man - Keith and Bart a have been helping.
- We started doing some cold patching and more to do.
- Picking up a lot of the snow and the sand on the streets.
- In the early am he's been chasing the icy spots. He cleaned up around the meeting room building in preparation of the voting on 03/10.

Robin asked where the snow dump is located? Glenn - it's off Rich St. behind a residence, across from Odell St. Robin noted that DES has been going around checking with Towns on the snow dumps, making sure they are not too close to the river.

5. Requested Agenda Matters:

a. **Energy Committee -** W. Montgomery - presented a proposed motion in regards to SB538, which would authorize the Chair of the Select Board to sign on behalf of the Town. Wayne further explained SB538. If the legislation goes through we will be able to increase the time frame. We are also looking to see if there is anything we can do with solar systems that might benefit the town.

Al - SB538 would allow Towns to have solar, and not have a deadline where it's no longer supported after 20 years. Dave - it expands the net metering for municipalities to beyond 20years.

Robin - on the news this morning, there was a couple of larger jurisdictions that are withdrawing from the energy initiative. D. Auger - explained during the last year of the Sununu term, there was a PUC administrator that moved ahead with regulations that would require the utilities (Eversource) to have a default rate, which is available to all within their regions. Dave further explained if they miss and under collect - they could establish a rate. If they under collect - they would recover the shortfall from their meters. It put in place an artificially low rate and some couldn't compete with that. The legislation that's pending would do away with that low rate.

Al - the Town of Northumberland has signed up with CPCNH, but hasn't launched it because Eversource was able to low ball their rate. CPNH was approx. .02 more than Eversource. When the

legislature acts, then we will look at CPCNH. Right now, we are part of CPCNH but are not using them because it's not cost effective.

Motion to authorize the Chairman of the Select Board or the Town Administrator to sign, on behalf of the Town of Northumberland, a letter in support of SB538 (2026), relative to extending net metering eligibility terms for municipal energy projects by: A. Rossetto
2nd by: R. Irving, All in Favor 3-0

b. **Keith Roberge-CC Sheriff's Office** -
K. Roberge heard that we have a new chief coming in, which is great. He strongly recommended the Board not zero out the PD budget. They are trying to get our guys in here. We have 2 guys on the Drug Task Force right now, between Colebrook, Groveton, and Berlin. At the delegation meeting they will be putting out what they have done in Coos County, which is amazing. He strongly urged us to keep money in the budget. They can't cover the extra work right now, but with State Police coming in - He wanted to be sure that money is kept in the budget, it important. There are a lot of drugs in Groveton and everywhere in the county.

C. Mood said she went to the Meet the Candidates and the tri-angle was brought up then. You ask them to not zero out the budget, but it's the voters that are going to put the PD in or take it away. It's very important for people to know this. The people don't see the costs associated with the budget; they see the breakdown in the budget. She feels it important for the people to know that we do have a lot of drugs in town.

J. Weagle said we have hired a Chief, Kyler Kenison is returning to Town as our Chief. Keith said he is also a deputy for them, he thinks he's a good fit for the Town. He's going to work well with us and the State Police. Everyone has to come together, help each other and back each other up. It's good to bring young blood in.

Robin said Kyler has reached out to most of the No. County police agencies, she understands the Sheriffs Dept wants to work with the Town, but it wouldn't be a regular schedule. It's not something the Town can lean on for regular law enforcement, it's the same with the State Police. Keith Roberge understands Kyler will spend most of his time putting this department back together. We will support him as much as we can and the State Police will as well.

R. Shannon asked if we are still paying the State Police for details. J. Weagle commented that we had a snafu with them, which has been straightened out. We are going to pay them for a few patrols probably in March until Kyler gets up and running. Kyler will be starting in 2 weeks, he wants to be present at Town Meeting to field any questions. He has resigned from the PD in Lancaster.

S. Durkin asked if he will be in a contract. J. Weagle said it's a 1 year contract. Robin commented that it was one of the debating points that we went back and forth about.

6. Town Business:

a. Letter of Interest - Zoning Board - Mark DeGennaro submitted a letter of interest to be on the Zoning Board.
Motion to appoint Mark DeGennaro to the Zoning Board by: A. Rossetto,
2nd by: R. Irving, All in Favor 3-0

Robin spoke about a new rule re: being on both the Planning and Zoning Boards. He would have to recuse for anything that goes from zoning to planning.

Tabled until next meeting to research further.

b. Invoice Approval - ATG - FD - The fire engine had to be fixed, it was $6,504.40 for little stuff. This engine is a 2002. This is paid out of the Fire Dept budget.
Motion to pay ATG $6,504.40 by: A. Rossetto, 2nd by: R. Irving, All in Favor 3-0

R. Irving - This Friday is the due date for congressional direct spending, she has been working an application with Andre for a new engine. We are targeting today's cost of $850,000. There is a 20% match, which we do have. So, we have the money and as agents to expend we could move forward on this. She asked Representatives Tierney and Durkin for letters of recommendation and if anyone else would like to submit a letter, it can be sent via email. It's nice to have citizens recommendations as well.

7. Applications/Permits and Warrants:

a. Zoning Permit Map/Lot: 223-017-00-00 - Deborah Weeks, 103 Lancaster Rd, redoing kitchen - ceilings, walls and floors, flooring upstairs and downstairs due to pipes bursting.
Motion to approve by: A. Rossetto, 2nd by: R. Irving, All in Favor 3-0

b. Yield Tax, Map/Lot: 103-14, 103-16, 103-106, 102-2, 102-5 - $857.51
Motion to accept by: A. Rossetto, 2nd by: R. Irving, All in Favor 3-0

c. Non-Resident - Transfer Station Permit - Stinson Family Trust, 32 Longview Drive; they live in Milford, NH - renewal.
Motion to approve by: A. Rossetto, 2nd by: R. Irving, All in Favor 3-0

8. **Public Comment:

- Judy Fox - talked about parking at the last meeting. She noted that at the last 2 big ball games - people were parking on the field.

- D. Montgomery asked if Elaine and Sheila had been paid the $166.+ yet because Jim has repeatedly told us that it would be taken care of. J. Weagle said Sheila's will be taken care of by the end of the week. It will be dropped off the at Town Office, she can pick it up there.

- J .Fox added that the ladies put a nice letter in the Town Report, where will it be voted on. It's in the budget.

- N. Merrow asked if the Select Board minutes will be posted on the website. J. Weagle said yes when we can consistently get them posted. R. Irving noted the website is not an official posting site.

9. Announcements: Town Elections - Tuesday, March 10, 2026 - 11am-7pm,
School/Town Meeting - Saturday, March 14, 2026 - 9am - School; 10am -Town
Planning Board - Wednesday, March 4, 2026 - 6pm - Town Office Conf. Room

10. Next Board Meeting Date: Monday March 16, 2026

11. Non-Public Session: (Pursuant to RSA 91-A:3, II (a)(b)(c):

Motion to go into Non-Public Session by: A. Rossetto, 2nd by: R. Irving, All in Favor 3-0
Roll Call: A. Rossetto - Yes, J. Weagle - Yes, R. Irving - Yes

Into Non-Public Session at 6:45 pm

a. Town Matter -
b. Town Matter -
c. Employee Matter -

Motion to come out of Non-Public Session by: A. Rossetto, 2nd by: R. Irving, All in Favor 3-0
Out of Non-Public Session at 7:17 pm

Into Regular Session at 7:17 pm

12. Adjournment:

Motion to adjourn by: A. Rossetto, 2nd by: R. Irving, All in Favor 3-0

Meeting adjourned at 7:17 pm

Respectfully submitted,

Rebecca St. Cyr, Minute Taker / Transcriber

*Agenda is subject to change
**Deadline for Agenda items is 12:00 noon on the Friday before scheduled business meeting (by vote of Board of Selectmen at 7/11/2005 meeting. This deadline may be amended by the Board of Selectmen at will (by vote of Board of Selectmen at 06/17/2024 meeting).

Minutes approved by Northumberland Select Board Members on_____

X _____ **X**_____

Jim Weagle
Northumberland Select Board Chairman

Robin Irving
Northumberland Select Board Vice Chairman

X_____

Alan Rossetto
Northumberland Select Board Member