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Town of Northumberland
Board of Selectmen
Meeting Minutes - Draft
Date: Monday, August 3, 2026
Place: Town Meeting Room – 10 Station Square
Time: 6:00 P.M.

Board members present: Al Rossetto, Wayne Montgomery
Others present: Glenn Cassady, Reggie Charron & Terri Charron, Michelle Randall, Bob Roby, Melissa Dano, Doug Dano, Adriana Dano, Carlo Calle, Mario Audit, Deb Miles, George Keniosn, C.R. Wheeler, Pete Marshall, Norm Cotter, Gloria White, Doug White, Kathy Wiles, Bob Briere, Joel Dupuis, Gabriel Dupuis, Judy Fox, Mark DeGennaro, Samuel Oakes, Debbi Montgomery, Eric Brown, Claire Mood, Andre Brasseur, Kevin McKinnon, Kathy Frechette, Robin L. Irving, Rebecca St. Cyr - Minute Taker/Transcriber

1. **Chairman Opens the Meeting -**

   A. Rossetto opened the meeting at 6:00 pm.

2. **Pledge of Allegiance -** All

3. **Acceptance of Minutes: Monday, July 20, 2026**

   Motion to accept the July 20, 2026 minutes by: W. Montgomery
   2nd by: A. Rossetto, All in Favor 2-0

4. **Department Head Business: HWY/Water/Sewer**

   Highway - Glenn Cassady, Road Agent
   Glenn reported that vendors are very busy, delaying small paving and sidewalk-related work, while roadside mowing has been underway for about a week and a half.

   Randy has been repairing a pickup and dump truck, and Ried has been working on the culvert inventory, with about 87 culverts identified, sized, categorized, and ready for delineators, numbering, and location tracking.

   Gravel has been hauled in preparation for fall road work.

   Glenn checked Kevin's hill drainage work while Reggie was away and said the plan should improve groundwater removal under the road; Kevin has also identified a way to address standing water near Cottage and First Street.

   Cameron Seal Coating is doing weekend crack-sealing work, especially on roads that developed cracks after a cold winter and dry summer; AL this preventive maintenance should save money long-term.

   Once the larger project is paved, the Town will likely resume road maintenance started years ago, including shim coats on some streets.

   Discussed Page Hill, agreeing it is holding up well, the calcium chloride is helping, grading, touch-ups, added material in holes, brush clearing, and better sunlight; the area is seeing more traffic and development.

Wayne asked if the culvert accounting work is for existing culverts, Glenn said it is, explaining it is required by Homeland Security and FEMA to document maintenance after washouts. Glenn said a few culverts need sediment cleaned. Al asked if the culverts must be upsized; Glenn said that has not been required yet, though heavy storms could still create issues.

Water/Sewer - Reggie Charron

Reggie reported that Groveton and Lost Nation water usage are both up from last year, with Groveton up nearly 24,000 gallons per day and Lost Nation up about 1,100 gallons per day, partly due to flushing on the hill, bacterial testing, getting systems back online, the pool, and general summer use.

Work continues on the EPA lead and copper inventory, including digging up and documenting meter pits; about 67 meter pits remain. Reggie explained that underground pits make maintenance and problem detection difficult, so he is gradually moving meters into homes or structures where possible.

Reggie described a prior pressure relief valve issue and said the EPA picture requirements are also helping justify this work.

The crews have also been cleaning and repainting fire hydrants, they were last done around 2015, and working hard on the leach field, where they now have a good procedure despite changing weather.

The second-quarter water bills went out Friday.

Employees have been busy, meter-pit work continues, and master testing for both systems starts tomorrow.

Reggie said the State and EPA are increasing pressure on water and wastewater operators, including possible fines and accountability requirements, which he believes is discouraging both new and veteran operators.

The Fire Department will be doing hose testing at Ocean State Job Lot parking lot using about 3,000 to 5,000 gallons of water.

A DES sanitary survey of the Groveton water plant is scheduled for August 19.

There is operator field-day training in Waterville Valley on August 27 with hands-on CEUs.

Kevin McKinnon - Hill Project update

Kevin reported that the Hill project is progressing.
Fisk Street the water lines are complete;
Grandview has all but two services hooked up, expected to be finished tomorrow
Crow Hill has two more houses to connect before pipe work is complete;
The crew will then return to First Street to connect the upper end, place houses on temporary water, and begin laying water mains.
Pike Street sewer work is complete, with only the water line remaining.
Then the crews will grind, grade, roll, and base-coat the streets,
The project expected to wind down in the fall.

Wayne praised the work and thanked Kevin and the crews for doing a great job. Kevin thanked the Town and residents for their cooperation and patience, saying people have been very good to work with.

Al asked about the car wash building. S. Beattie was called today, left a message. There is money in the Municipal Building Fund. The demo will take a day.

5. **Requested Agenda Matters:**

   a. Carlo Calle - on behalf of the Sons of America Legion, asking for permission and support to have a winter event in Town. It would be in January or February, in the GDK field across from the high school. He asked if the Town cover them under the recreational insurance policy. Carlo hopes that Glenn could help us out by making a snow pile with a ramp so that the kids could make sleds out of cardboard for a competition. We would have five age groups and give out trophies and hot chocolate

and cookies. And hopefully have the fire department have a bonfire afterwards so that the whole community could walk there and have a nice little event. Al said Rick Archer (Granite Guild) might be able to help in some way. Carlo said the money has already been raised for this. Al added they need to have a 501c., Carlo said they already have that, talked about the requirements for insurance. Andre talked about having the bon fire and what the Fire Department does.

Motion to approve based on the insurance being ok and all their information is submitted by: W. Montgomery, 2nd by: A. Rossetto, All in Favor 2-0

Wayne mentioned an issue with staples and nails in pallets and getting them cleaned up after.

b. G. Kenison asked about town ordinances and procedures, saying he had requested information from Michelle about whether the proper process was followed. Speaker 1 said the town lawyer advised reviewing zoning ordinances and other policies, but she did not yet have the full list of recommended changes. G. Kenison said RSA 673 appears to require a public hearing and warrant article for changing from building permits to zoning permits, and he could not find records showing those steps were completed.

Michelle said the lawyer recommended extensive work on the Zoning Ordinance's and other outdated policies. Wayne clarified the concern: whether the Town knew it needed voter approval when it changed the permitting process. Michelle said the change predated her and that the previous Planning Board was involved. Al explained the change came after concerns about liability from issuing building permits without inspections, and said the Town intended only to verify zoning, setbacks, fees, and assessment updates. Al added that any RSA violation was unintentional. Wayne said the issue is whether the Town has been operating under the wrong process, not whether anyone acted intentionally. G. Kenison asked whether the Town would change course. Al said the Town would not return to building permits because of liability, but acknowledged the ordinance issue would need to come up in March. Wayne asked what should happen before March, and Al said the Town should work on revamping its ordinances. Wayne expressed that the Town needs to address possible noncompliance with the RSA, Al said the attorney is looking into it. G. Kenison noted the issue had been ongoing since the prior June change. Wayne said the matter should be prioritized. K. McKinnon suggested North Country Council could help with this type of problem. Wayne agreed to find out what steps are needed and report back at the next meeting. M. DeGennaro asked for clarification about whether the Town currently requires building permits, and Speaker 3 said the Town can't offer building permits, but have Zoning permits.

Discussion continues, regarding the process for approving Zoning permits, inspecting the property and licensed building inspectors in NH

6. **Town Business:**

a. Weston & Sampson (Herman Savage Rd) - MR reached out to FEMA for their input. They have not gotten back to her. She is requesting a vote so we can move forward. Wayne said he's not going to do this, we don't have the information.

Motion to table by: W. Montgomery, 2nd by: A. Rossetto

Glenn said the culvert was washed out during a 2024 storm, we are 2 years into this.
W. Montgomery thought we had a conversation about this. Glenn added they want the hydraulics study of the brook done first. Wayne thinks we need to look at this further.

All in Favor 2-0

b. Northland Property Valuation - MR this is the assessor's contract. We asked them to extend it to 2027. DRA has approved this one. It will go through the end of Dec 2027.

Motion to sign the contract for the assessors by: W. Montgomery, 2nd by: A. Rossetto,

Mark asked if it was put out to bid? M. Randall said no the Board wanted to stay with this assessing company.

All in Favor 2-0

c. Building Committee – Letters of Interest
There are 6 on the list plus there will be a Board member. Al feels we need to move forward on this. Letters of interest from: Sam Oakes, Pete Marshall, Jeremy Brann, Robin Irving, and 2 others.

Feedback from the lawyer was the Board to create the committee.

Motion to create the building Committee with the people that have applied by: W. Montgomery
2nd by: A. Rossetto, All in Favor 2-0

Al wasn't sure what the next step is.

d. Opening of Sealed Bids – Granite
1. Dan Ayer - $2.50 to the nearest lineal foot to the nearest six-inch mark on the granite. Will remove all the pieces with his equipment, his truck, and his trailer. He can provide of insurance. The Town staff can oversee the measurements for the final total for a payment.

2. Brad Sweet - $500.00 - contingent upon the sale, including all granite currently offered under the invitation. Should the bid be accepted, they agree to make payment and coordinate the removal with the Town within the required time frame.

Al asked Glenn if he knows how much there is? Glenn said he has witnesses that said when the parties came to look at it they went into an area where it wasn't available. Al asked him to mark the area available so they can look at it again.

Motion to table until the process is better identified by: W. Montgomery
2nd by: A. Rossetto, All in Favor 2-0

e. Opening of Sealed Bids – 2015 Ford Explorer
1. Michael Vien - $1,250
2. Kevin Guay - $ 755
3. James Leighton - $ 800
4. Bay Ridge Motors - $ 575

Motion to sell to Michael Vien for $1250.00 by: W. Montgomery
2nd by: A. Rossetto, All in Favor 2-0

f. Supreme Sealcoating Estimate - A. Rossetto read the estimate for work in front of the Fire Station. Glenn said it's a reasonable price. Andre discussed what will be done for seal coating and the lines. $1788.00.

Motion to approve by: W. Montgomery, 2nd by: A. Rossetto, All in Favor 2-0

Andre will contact the contractor.

7. **Applications/Permits and Warrants:**
a. **Abatement:**
#211-008-00-00 - discussed / proved at last meeting.

Motion to approve by: W. Montgomery, 2nd by: A. Rossetto, All in Favor 2-0

Eric Brown asked if anyone went out to count the solar panels? Yes

#236-005-MH-32 - A. Rossetto read the abatement amount, the taxpayer will pay for the 2026 tax year based on revised assessment of $21,040. Based on the information, the assessor recommended the Board approve this application and reduce the assessed value from $58,000 to 0 for the 2025 tax year. This will be an administrative abatement as a taxpayer did not pay the final 2025 tax bill of $1,585. K. Wiles added it's a mini shed that was never used. It's being taxed as a mobile home.

Motion to abate the amount by: W. Montgomery, 2nd by: A. Rossetto, All in Favor 2-0

b. **Solar Exemption 211-008-00-00 -** this was addressed at the last meeting.
Motion to sign the solar abatement by: W. Montgomery, 2nd by: A. Rossetto, All in Favor 2-0

c. **Zoning Applications Map/Lots:**
#101-024-00-00 - Suzanne Dietz, 71 Graham St. - For an electric vehicle charger to be installed right at her driveway.
Motion to approve by: W. Montgomery, 2nd by: A. Rossetto, All in Favor 2-0

#214-027-00-00 - McMann, Romy & Michael, 25 Gould Rd., new roof, fee paid.

Motion to approve by: W. Montgomery, 2nd by: A. Rossetto, All in Favor 2-0

8. ****Public Comment:**

- Mark Gennarro commented at the budget workshops we discussed items that were going up, health insurance was a big increase. Has next year's health insurance been put out to bid? M. Randall said we are working with the School, we are one big pool and because we have a much larger pool if we go with them (the SAU) it gives us better rates. Mark added you have a larger pool, but your census and usage ratio is different than the school. The last time he asked this question, you said it had not gone out to bid because someone didn't do it. Mark's question again, and just a yes or no, has the bid for health insurance gone out to bid? Michelle said we are working with the school, at this time there isn't a bid.

- J. Dupuis asked about the junk yard situation on Old Village Rd. A. Rossetto said he believes we are discussing this during Non-Public tonight.

  D. Montgomery said she thought it was discussed at previous meetings. K. Wiles said it was, he was taken to court and the Town lost. It was said to be lawn art. A. Rossetto will take a drive through and check it out. P. Marshall said he drives through there daily; the right of way is 35". AR suggested Joel comes back to the Aug 17th meeting. Kyler commented that Mario is great but needs to have the Board behind him as well. He feels property values are dropping due to these problem areas.

- G. Kenison - this brings us back to the ordinances we need to figure out how to enforce them. Al said we know it's a problem. K. Wiles said Romy was given this when Tammy resigned. It got set aside because we were short staffed. Wayne said the Planning Board is meeting on Wednesday 8/5, we plan to start reviewing the Town's Zoning ordinances.

- E. Brown asked Michelle about grants for the covered bridge. Michelle said she looked back to when it was last painted, with Rob's help it was 1997. We have been looking at grants, haven't found anything yet. Discussion continued regarding the lead paint issue. Michelle said she I've reached out to FEMA asking for assistance from them to find people that can come up and do the testing. K. Frechette said it might have been volunteers. Rob Roby has been working on this as well. Michelle added that we did a home test, 2 of the spots tested came back as positive. It's a Work In Process. C. Wheeler asked when lead paint was no longer used. Early 70's possibly. When Nash Stream washed out in 1969. Discussion ensued regarding the lead paint and testing it. Robin Irving commented to keep in mind that grant money was used to replace the gables. So, if those ends are going to be tested, they're going to test negative. P. Marshall said the Town of Jackson recently painted their covered bridge, they may have some pointers.

9. **Announcements:** Planning Board meeting - Wednesday, August 5, 2026 - 6:00 pm

10. **Next Board Meeting Date**: August 17, 2026

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

Motion to go into Non-Public session by: W. Montgomery
2nd by: A. Rossetto, All in Favor 2-0
Roll Call: A. Rossetto - Yes, W. Montgomery - Yes

Into Non-Public session at 7:27 pm

a. Residential Matter -
b. Residential Matter -
c. Reputational Matter - Letter -
d. Employee Matter -

Motion to come out of Non-Public session by: W. Montgomery
2nd by: A. Rossetto, All in Favor 2-0
Roll Call: A. Rossetto - Yes, W. Montgomery - Yes

Out of Non-Public session at 8:30 pm

Into reg session at 8:30 pm

Motion to sign a letter for the encroachment of the lot on Tetu Rd by: W. Montgomery
2nd by: A. Rossetto, All in Favor 2-0

Motion is to let Michelle send a letter to each one of these individuals that we're talking to and before they are sent, she'll e-mail us a copy on for our verbal approval by: W. Montgomery
2nd by: A. Rossetto, All in Favor 2-0

Motion that we pass for consideration the addition of an additional hydrant being placed up on the hill as it's not necessary by: W. Montgomery, 2nd by: A. Rossetto, All in Favor 2-0

Michelle said the gentlemen that does the mowing at the cemetery also does pressure washing. WM said he can give us a cost for what he could do but cautioned about pressure washing painted wood, it could remove/chip the paint.

12. Adjournment:

Motion to adjourn by: A. Rossetto, 2nd by: W. Montgomery, All in Favor 2-0

Meeting adjourned at 8:36 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).

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Minutes approved by Northumberland Select Board Members on_____

X _____
James Tierney
Northumberland Select Board Chairman

X_____
Alan Rossetto
Northumberland Select Board Vice Chairman

X_____
Wayne Montgomery
Northumberland Select Board Member

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