

**NORTHFIELD BOARD OF SELECTMEN
MINUTES OF THE MEETING OF February 8, 2011**

Present: Sel. Bluhm, Sel. Knowlton, Sel. Ziminsky

Also Present Sally Robert, Sarah Robert, Kevin Waldron, Greg Hill, Brian Brown, Maureen Bouchet, Cindy Caveney, Bob Southworth, Glenn Smith.

Meeting was called to order at 6:25 pm

1. Public Appointments

The Chair recognized Kevin Waldron who inquired about the plowing of the end of Hidden Lane at Summer Street. Sel. Bluhm informed him that this is a public road and so the town will continue to maintain it.

Kevin Waldron inquired as to whether the town had contracted with someone to do sidewalks as the town sidewalk plow is not operating. Sel. Bluhm said that we had. Kevin inquired as to the new sidewalk plow that is proposed to be purchased in 2011. He has noticed that in towns that have V-plow sidewalk plows the snow falls back in behind the plow. He saw a tracked skid steer with a 4 foot hydraulic snow thrower in Laconia. Board members discussed the pros and cons of blowing vs. plowing sidewalk snow with Kevin.

Kevin Waldron complained that he believes the Police Sgt. that does not live in town takes his patrol cruiser home for lunch. He wants to know how he is being protected while this cruiser is out of town. Brian Brown pointed out that there is coverage when this cruiser is out of town. Kevin believes that he is not being served while this Sgt. is at lunch and for this reason he should not take the cruiser. Chief Adams pointed out that the Sgt. can be recalled with a phone call.

Brian Brown inquired about the Selectmen's meetings being taped. Brian Brown inquired as to where Town Meeting is going to be held. Sel Bluhm noted that town meeting will be at Pines Community Center this year. Brian Brown inquired about a comment that was made to cut 30% of patrol time to save on gasoline that was made last week. Board members corrected that this statement was not made. Board members discussed the issue with Brian.

2. Highway Department

Bob Southworth updated the Board on the problem of ice buildup on town buildings, the repair status of the sidewalk plow, a possible future shortage of road salt and problems caused by snowmobiles on Town roads and sidewalks. Chief Adams reported that he has stepped up enforcement of snowmobiles on sidewalks.

Bob has received a call from Dennis Allen in Tilton concerning a possible shortage of road salt.

Bob reported on attendance at Amnesty Week last year and presented recommendations for this year. Sel. Bluhm reported that last year there had been some talk of having two Amnesty periods of shorter length rather than one week.

3. Police Department

Chief Adams noted that part time officers start the academy. Chief Adams noted that there was a lot of OT last week due to an officer being out for health reasons and a department training session with the County Attorney.

Sel. Ziminsky asked the Chief to start bringing shift schedules for the previous week and upcoming week to Board meetings and to update the payroll spreadsheet to include hours spent on training. The Chief indicated he would do this.

4. Town Administration

Glenn reviewed the 2010 equalization assessment – sales ratio figures.

Board members reviewed the proposed training agreements. After review Chief Adams was asked to update the agreement relating to part time officers and Glenn was asked to update the Employee Handbook to reflect these agreements.

Board members discussed HB 457 and did not reach consensus on the proposal to oppose this legislation.

Board members discussed the proposal pending before the legislature that would require towns to allow auto dealerships to act as their agents in collecting municipal revenues. Rep. Hill and Cindy Caveney participated in the discussion. Board members conveyed their concern to Rep. Hill.

Glenn presented a draft copy of a proposed Class VI road waiver for Spaulding Youth Center and updated the Board on the situation with the UST next to the town garage.

5. General Business

Board members reviewed general correspondence and payroll & accounts payable manifests.

Knowlton/Ziminsky moved to approve the minutes of the meeting of February 1, 2011. **Motion passed.**

Board members discussed the relationship between the town and Lakes Region Mutual Fire Aid and associated costs.

Sally Robert inquired as to a rumor she heard that the town was being sued by either the Water or Sewer District. Board members reported that they had not heard this.

Ziminsky/Knowlton moved to enter into non-public session under the provisions of RSA 91-A3II c at 8:25pm. **Motion passed by unanimous roll call vote.** Present at the non-public session were Chief Adams, Glenn Smith. **Ziminsky/Knowlton** moved that the minutes of the non-public session be sealed. **Motion passed by unanimous roll call vote.** **Knowlton/Ziminsky** moved to reconvene the public session at 9:00pm. **Motion passed by unanimous roll call vote.**

There being no other business the meeting was adjourned at 9:00 pm

APPROVED BY THE SELECTBOARD ON FEBRUARY 15, 2011