

NORTHFIELD BOARD OF SELECTMEN MEETING
Minutes of the meeting of October 25, 2016 5:00pm

Present: Sel. Crowley, Sel. Southworth, Sel. Allen
Also Present: Sgt. McIntire, Scott McGuffin, Cindy Caveney, Chief Raffaely, Andy Buteau,
Arthur Demass, Glenn Smith

The meeting was called to order at 5:00pm

1. Police Department

Chief Raffaely introduced Sgt. McIntire who presented a plan for replacing firearms. Under the plan the town would make the existing Glock handguns available to officers for \$250 each. Then the town would purchase new Sig Sauer firearms for the officers. The officers would buy the new guns from the town on an installment plan. Once the officer paid for the weapon it would remain in town ownership until the officer was honorably separated from the town, at which point the officer would assume ownership of the weapon. If the officer were dishonorably separated the town would keep the weapon and give the officer his/her money back. Sgt. McIntire stated that under this plan the officers could acquire new handguns at little cost to the town. Also, it would allow officers to purchase guns that were suited to them.

Sel. Southworth inquired as to the service life of a handgun. Sgt. McIntire relayed a story of a gun that had misfired in Boscawen. He believes that the service life of a weapon is 6-8 years but that there is no hard and fast rule. He feels good about this proposal and reported that the officers are excited about the opportunity to purchase weapons at such a good price.

Board members discussed how often weapons are fired. Sel. Crowley asked if weapons are being maintained. Sgt. McIntire reported that the weapons are well maintained. Board members asked if any other towns have this kind of program, Sgt. McIntire reported that none do. Board members asked Sgt. McIntire to investigate when other agencies rotate firearms out of service, by age of weapon, how many times it has been fired, or a different criterion.

2. Public Input

The Chair recognized Scott McGuffin who expressed concerns with the upcoming election. He noted that there were altercations at the primary. Given the numbers of voters expected at this election and the threats of aggressive electioneering and monitoring activities he is concerned for voter safety at the polls, mentioning that it is legal to carry open and concealed firearms at the polls. He doubts there will be a problem but would prefer to move forward with an abundance of caution. He asked that officers be stationed both inside and outside the building for the duration of the election; Board members agreed this should be done. Those present also discussed parking and traffic issues, there is concern that if workers and electioneers park at the Pines there will not be enough spaces for voters. After discussion, Chief Raffaely and Andy were asked to review parking scenarios. Scott noted that there has never been a problem with inaccuracy in Northfield voting or vote counting.

Scott, Cindy, Selectmen, Chief Raffaely and Andy discussed ensuring that there is room for handicapped parking, exit pollers and observers at the polls.

3. Police Department

Chief Raffaely noted that no shave November starts next week.

4. Public Works Department

Director of Public Works Andy Buteau reported that a resident has started clearing brush on the Class VI portion of Scribner Road and has requested that the rocks at the west end of this portion be removed. Board members discussed the situation and asked Andy to remind the resident that work cannot be done on the town right of way without the permission of the Board. Also, Andy will contact the person who placed the stones in the road and ask that they be removed.

Andy updated the Board on the progress of work on the Town Garage. It was decided to install a CO detector in the break room, but not in the main garage due to the nature of the work done in that area.

Board members discussed winter parking regulations.

Also, Andy reported that his crew has completed OSHA 10 training.

Andy reported that the Transfer Station was broken into in the early morning hours of October 24th. Only minor items were taken and nothing was damaged. The security cameras captured an image of the intruder but the quality of the image is poor. Since the break-in issues concerning the alarm system have been resolved. Andy will look into a new security camera system for the facility. In addition, Andy has just been informed that someone has been sleeping in the area above the work area of the building at the transfer station. He reported that the transfer station workers have known about this for some time but only informed Andy the previous day. He is following up with this.

5. Administration

Board members signed the warrant establishing the 2016 tax rate.

Town Administrator Glenn Smith reviewed the upcoming meeting on the reduction in education stabilization funding to be held in conjunction with the City of Franklin. Board members agreed that Sel. Crowley will be the spokesman for this.

Glenn informed the Board that Code Enforcement Officer Dana Dickson has indicated that he will step down at the end of the year. Glenn reviewed proposed changes to the position. Board members discussed stipend amounts for the new CEO and whether the person should be required to carry a cell phone or have set office hours.

Glenn and Sel. Crowley updated the Board on development in contracting for electricity and in the ownership of the RT140 sewer system. Also, Board members discussed release of the Reservoir Road bond as logging has been completed on the road.

6. General Business

Board members reviewed accounts payable, payroll manifests and general correspondence. **Crowley/Southworth** moved to approve the minutes of the meeting of October 18, 2016. **Motion passed.** **Crowley/Southworth** moved to approve the minutes of the meeting of October 21, 2016. **Motion passed.**

APPROVED BY THE NORTHFIELD BOARD OF SELECTMEN ON NOVEMBER 1, 2016

There being no other business the meeting was adjourned at 7:55pm