

**NORTHFIELD BOARD OF SELECTMEN
MINUTES OF THE MEETING OF November 1, 2011**

Present: Sel. Ziminsky, Sel. Bluhm, Sel. Swancott
Also Present Tom Welch, Rick Bellerose, Greg Hill, Mary Lee, Fred Shepard, Dave Krause,
Cathy Thibeault, Eliza Conde, Dennis Allen, James Swancott Jr., Chief Adams,
Bob Southworth, Glenn Smith

The meeting was called to order at 6:30pm

1. Public Appointments

Rep. Greg Hill updated the Board on redistricting efforts occurring at the state level. The legislature is interested in hearing from towns on this topic; Rep. Hill left public input forms with Board members. Board members discussed the mechanics of redistricting.

Rep. Hill discussed legislation he is introducing that will establish an education tax credit against business profits tax. This will allow a business to redirect its business profit tax payments to either DRA or a private nonprofit organization so these funds can be used to support private and religious schools instead of public schools.

Rep. Hill informed the Board that there is legislation pending to eliminate the requirement that dogs be licensed. He also updated the Board on efforts to change stream crossing rules.

The Chair recognized Tom Welch who stated that Shaw Road is getting rougher every year. He feels that it is not maintained properly. Board members discussed the issue and advised Mr. Welch to speak with Bob Southworth about this.

Mary Lee reported on a recent meeting concerning opposition to Northern Pass. She invited Board members to assist her in writing a warrant article that will call for a town ordinance to regulate the ability of a private enterprise to take property or property rights. After discussion Board members advised her to work with the Conservation Commission on this as such an ordinance would not apply only to the Northern Pass project. Mary invited all Board members to visit Fiddler's Choice Road and see the section of Town subject to the taking by Northern Pass.

2. Highway and Sanitation Department

Bob Southworth updated the Board members on the response to the recent storm. The plow on Truck 6 was bent after hitting a curb.

Bob informed the Board that all Highway employees would like to take their floating holiday on the day after Thanksgiving, in which case the department would be closed. Board members concurred. He also filed purchase requisitions and informed the Board that he has completed review of the applicants for the on-call snow plow driver positions. Additionally, he has negotiated an offer from Fairfield to sell the old sidewalk plow for \$6.5K on consignment. His research shows that this is the price we could reasonably expect for this equipment and recommends that the town accept this offer. Board members concurred.

3. Police Department

Chief Adams distributed purchase requisitions and reported problems with 2008-2 cruiser.

4. Town Administration

Conservation Commission Chair Rich Bellerose presented the recommendation that ordinance regulating use of the Knowles Pond Conservation Area be changed to prohibit camping in the area. Glenn was asked to schedule a public hearing on this matter.

Glenn presented the 2012 department request budget.

Glenn Smith presented a draft Employee Handbook revision discussed at the last meeting. Board members discussed a proposal concerning hours counted toward determining when an employee is eligible for overtime pay. The proposed revision would clarify that only hours worked may be counted except in cases of weather emergency. The proposal was modified to include an exception for OT hours related to highway safety grants. **Swancott/Bluhm** moved to adopt the revision to Employee Handbook Section 4.2(4) as amended. **Motion passed.**

Glenn was instructed to forward proposed modifications to the Employee Handbook dealing with unpaid leave to our liability insurer for review and to coordinate the proposals with Chief Adams.

Glenn updated the Board on the Bean Hill Road project.

5. Non-public session

Bluhm/Swancott moved to enter into non-public session under the provisions of RSA 91-A3IIa,e at 7:38 pm. **Motion passed by unanimous roll call vote.** Present at the non-public session were Chief Adams, Bob Southworth, Glenn Smith. **Swancott/Bluhm** moved that the minutes of the non-public session be sealed. **Motion passed by unanimous roll call vote.** **Bluhm/Swancott** moved to reconvene the public session at 8:15 pm. **Motion passed by unanimous roll call vote.**

6. General Business

Board members agreed by consensus to purchase a sidearm from Officer Elphick for one cent for his use as an officer on the condition that it is resold to him upon leaving service with Northfield. Such purchase will remove the need to purchase a new weapon for Officer Elphick at full price.

Ziminsky/Bluhm moved to appoint Bob Southworth as the town representative to the Concord Regional Solid Waste/Resource Recovery Cooperative. **Motion passed.**

Sel. Ziminsky left the meeting at 8:25 pm.

Board members discussed the routing of invoices, meeting schedules, the recent PAYT public hearing and the 2012 budget requests.

There being no other business the meeting was adjourned at 9:30 pm.