

NORTHFIELD BOARD OF SELECTMEN MEETING
Minutes of the Meeting of March 15, 2016

Present: Sel. Crowley, Sel. Southworth, Sel. Allen
Also Present: Paul Auger, Mike Sitar, Rene Lefevre, Paul Fitzgerald, Jim Hayes, Scott Haskins, Dick Stevens, Tom D'abbraccio, Kevin Waldron Chief Raffaely, Andy Buteau, Glenn Smith,

Meeting Called to order at 5:00pm

1. Annual Appointments

Southworth/Allen moved to elect Wayne Crowley as Chair. **Motion passed.**

Allen/Crowley moved to elect Southworth as Vice-Chair. **Motion passed.**

Crowley/Southworth moved to appoint Wayne Crowley as Selectboard representative to the Planning Board, Bob Southworth as Selectboard representative to the Zoning Board of Adjustment, Dennis Allen as Selectboard representative to the Budget Committee and Dennis Allen as Selectboard representative to the CIP Committee. **Motion passed**

2. Public Input

Sel. Crowley noted that as Chair he will try to minimize the number of non-public sessions and will allow for public participation on topics as they are reviewed by the Selectmen.

3. Police Department

Chief Raffaely reported that on Friday it was discovered that some of the phones and the Police Station were not ringing and caller ID was not working. A technician from Alternative Communication Service responded and programmed the phones. Chief Raffaely reported that the technician had said that one of the cards in the phone panel needed replacement at a cost of \$1,100 and that the fix was more difficult than usual, possibly because of the 2008 lightning strike. He also reported that on Monday some phones were again not ringing. Board members asked that he get a second opinion on the fix.

Chief Raffaely updated the Board on a recent drug bust.

4. Highway Department

Highway Superintendent Andy Buteau updated the Board on the response to the recent Highway Garage fire. Sel. Crowley asked that drivers inspect their vehicles and prepare a punch list of what needs to be repaired. Board members discussed the purchase of a heater and whether towns might be exempt from snow load requirements. Andy noted that the contractor estimates a replacement cost of \$80-\$100/square foot.

Andy reported that he is obtaining prices for vehicle battery disconnect equipment.

Board members and Andy discussed scheduling of the 2016 amnesty event and decided that it would be held on April 28-30. Andy discussed using land south of the RR tracks for some of this event.

Andy inquired as to whether the Board would be interested in requiring companies seeking waivers from the road weight limits to post a road bond. Board members decided not to investigate option of bonding at this time.

Lakes Region Mutual Fire Aid attorney Paul Fitzgerald stated that the town owes money to LRMFA for 2015 services. Sel. Crowley said that the bigger issue is why Northfield is charged at all since we do not provide fire services. Attorney Fitzgerald referenced the 1976 agreement outlining membership and noted that the town has the option of withdrawing. Jim Hayes noted that TNFD has not opted to join LRMFA. Glenn Smith asked if LRMFA would accept TNFD as a member even if Northfield and Tilton

do not cancel their membership. Jim Hayes and Rene Lefevre said they thought it would. Sel. Crowley noted that part of the problem is that LRMFA demands payment well in advance of providing services. Kevin Waldron noted that the LRMFA by-laws outline a process by which members can leave the organizations and advised that it be used. Sel. Allen said that he was on the Budget Committee when it voted to reduce LRMFA funding. That action was taken because LRMFA acts without any voter oversight and typically recommends large spending increases every year. They had hoped that LRMFA would come in and try to justify their budget. Jim Hayes stated that this would not happen because of the town's membership on their board.

5. Administration

Board members reviewed town meeting warrant articles and assigned action items relating to town meeting decisions. Glenn reviewed the town hall siding and window replacement bids. **Crowley/Southworth** moved to accept the bid of Score Construction. **Motion passed.**

Sel. Crowley outlined items relating to Selectmen's meetings, including meeting schedule and start time, public involvement and department head meetings. He also distributed Board of Selectmen Operating Guidelines for review at a future meeting.

Town Administrator Glenn Smith reviewed changes to the implementation plan for transfer to the new insurance plan. He also summarized work on the Winnepesaukee River Trail Phase IIa. **Crowley/Southworth** moved to accept completion of Phase IIa of the Winnepesaukee River Trail and authorize the Chair to sign the Certificate of Final Completion. **Motion passed.**

Board members directed that employee evaluations be forwarded to the Glenn prior to finalization, Glenn is to forward them to the Selectmen.

Crowley/Southworth moved to pay Lakes Region Fire Mutual Aid \$8,610.66 **Motion passed.**

Board members discussed the Cross Mill Village water situation with Tom D'abbraccio. Mr. D'abbraccio summarized the history of the problem. He expressed concern for the amount of the monthly bill. The Chair reviewed the costs incurred by the town to provide Mr. D'abbraccio with water. Both parties agreed that neither the town nor any future owner of the property has an obligation to provide water to the home.

Sel. Crowley asked Mr. D'abbraccio for his proposed long term solution. He responded that it was to wait for the town to sell the property and negotiate with the new owner. Mr. D'abbraccio agreed to pay \$80 per month for water but asked that the town not cease delivery in June.

Kevin Waldron expressed concern about the difference between the amount approved at town meeting for town hall siding repairs and the bid amount.

6. General Business

Board members reviewed accounts payable, payroll manifests and general correspondence
Southworth/Crowley moved to approve the minutes of the meeting of March 1, 2016. **Motion passed, Sel. Allen abstaining.**

Southworth/Crowley moved to approve the minutes of the meeting of March 4, 2016 **Motion passed, Sel. Allen abstaining**

Southworth/Crowley moved to approve the minutes of the meeting of March 8, 2016 **Motion passed, Sel. Allen abstaining**

There being no other business the meeting was adjourned at 8:23pm