

**NORTHFIELD BOARD OF SELECTMEN
MINUTES OF THE MEETING OF JUNE 7, 2011**

Present: Sel. Bluhm, Sel. Ziminsky

Also Present Glen Brown, Lisa Swancott, Sally Robert, Sara Robert, Brian Brown, Nancy Brown, Debra Shepard, Kevin Waldron, Donna Rhodes, Pat Consentino, Katherine Dawson, Sandy Plessner, Jane Alden, Paul Auger, Glenn Smith

Meeting was called to order at 6:33 pm.

Vice Chair Ziminsky initiated a discussion on filling the vacant Selectboard seat. He informed the members of the audience that it was not his intent to ask for any comments from the candidates; he and Sel. Bluhm would review the letters of interest that had been filed and may ask questions if needed. He read the list of people who had filed letters of interest. Sel. Bluhm asked Sally Robert and Lisa Swancott questions about the information on their letters of interest.

Sel. Ziminsky noted that one of the major projects facing the town this year is developing a recycling proposal and asked each candidate in attendance to express their views on the matter. Deb Shepard, Sally Robert, Lisa Swancott and Kevin Waldron responded in turn. (Glen Brown had not arrived at the meeting as of this time)

Sel. Bluhm stated that he had narrowed his preference down to two candidates and was deciding whether to go with someone who has experience as a Selectman and can jump right in or to go with someone very well rounded with budgets but who would bring new ideas and perspectives. Sel. Ziminsky noted that he agreed, except that he would weigh experience a little less given that Sel. Bluhm already brings a great deal of experience to the Board. He would like to focus on someone with new ideas, who would not be afraid to speak their mind but will work with other board members and the public and who understands the town budget and planning for the future. Board members discussed these points. Sel. Ziminsky stated that his selection is Lisa Swancott, noting her experience with the Budget Committee, CIP Committee and with small business. Sel. Bluhm noted that Lisa was one of his choices also.

Sel. Ziminsky asked Lisa if she had any comments. She responded that realizes that the job will take a lot of time and is anxious to get started on filling the Highway Superintendent position and working on a recycling program.

Ziminsky/Bluhm moved to appoint Lisa Swancott to finish the remainder of the term of Jamie Knowlton. **Motion passed.**

The Vice-Chair declared a recess at 6:55 pm so Lisa Swancott could be sworn in.

The meeting was reconvened at 7:05 pm

1. Town Administration

Glenn updated the Board on the Metrocast franchise agreement renewal process noting the multi-town consortium that has developed and the efforts of the consortium to hire legal counsel familiar with state and federal telecommunications law to assist with these negotiations. At this point Northfield is not committed to being part of the consortium, a multi-town agreement

committing each town or city to the process is being developed which the Board will be asked to vote on at some point in the next few months. In the meantime Northfield is required under federal law to start a process by which we should evaluate the performance of Metrocast under the current agreement and ascertain our future cable needs. Glenn proposed that a public hearing concerning this be started next week. Board members agreed. Board members signed a letter to Metrocast indicating our willingness to enter into negotiations for franchise renewal.

Sel Ziminsky reviewed the proposed agreement with Tilton on the maintenance and operation of Island Park as well as the reservation packet supplied by the Town of Tilton. Board members reviewed the material and expressed an interest that the Northfield Highway Superintendent and the Tilton Director of Public Works work together to develop an Island maintenance plan. Sel. Ziminsky said would prefer a plan that splits work 50/50 but does not believe there is a need to micromanage; if Bob and Dennis feel another plan works best they should pursue that option. Board members confirmed that the proposed indemnification language has been sent to Primex for review. Sel. Ziminsky noted that he has asked Steve Adams to work with his Tilton counterpart on an agreement concerning Northfield officers working traffic control in relation to the summer concerts.

2. General Business

Board members reviewed of general correspondence and payroll & accounts payable manifests. **Bluhm/Ziminsky** moved to approve the minutes of the meeting of May 31, 2011 as amended. **Motion passed.**

Bluhm/Swancott moved to enter into non-public session under the provisions of RSA 91-A3II a at 7:30 pm. Present at the non-public session was Glenn Smith. **Bluhm/Swancott** moved that the minutes of the non-public session be sealed. **Motion passed by unanimous roll call vote.** **Swancott/Bluhm** moved to reconvene the public session at 8:15 pm. **Motion passed by unanimous roll call vote.**

There being no other business the meeting was adjourned at 8:15pm

APPROVED BY THE NORTHFIELD SELECTBOARD ON JUNE 14, 2011