

**NORTHFIELD BOARD OF SELECTMEN MEETING**  
**Minutes of the meeting of June 25, 2013**

Present: Sel. Bluhm, Sel. Shepard, Sel. Waldron

Also Present: Dennis Allen, Jim Lamanuzzi, Sheilagh Bergeron, Janice Atwood, Jeff Roy, Jeremy Roy, Robert Loranger, Kevin Manson, Bonnie Descateaux, Catherine Ferreira, Arnold Adams, Edythe Adams, Wayne Crowley, Glenn Smith, Bob Southworth, Lt. John Raffaelly

Chair opened the meeting at 6:30 pm

**1. Public Hearings**

The Chair opened the hearing on the proposal to install stop signs at certain intersections and opened the floor to public comment. Catherine Ferreira stated that some of the proposed signs are a waste of money as the roads in question are small dead end roads with few houses and little traffic. She stated that if safety is a concern that sidewalks are needed more than stop signs. Janice Atwood noted that she has lived at intersection of Bay Hill and Fiske roads for 33 years and has seen an increase in the number of people ignoring stop signs. Sel. Waldron indicated his support of the proposal, stating that the signs will reduce liability exposure, especially in light of the fact that we know drivers use excessive speed on Bay Hill Road. Sel. Bluhm asked Acting Chief Raffaelly if there have been problems with these intersections, John replied that there has not. Sel. Bluhm asked if existing law governs who has the right of way when there is no stop sign. John replied that it did.

There being no other comments the public hearing was closed at 6:40pm.

The Chair opened the hearing on the proposed no parking zone on Elm Street. Acting Chief John Raffaelly outlined concerns that because of the on street parking pedestrians must enter into the travel lane along this section of road, creating a hazardous situation. Glenn noted that two written communications had been received prior to the hearing and that the Selectmen had been given copies of each. Arnold Adams noted that in the past the town had used lines to delineate a sidewalk close to the homes on this street and an on-street parking area between the sidewalk and the travel lane. He suggested that this arrangement be re-created instead of the no parking zone. Sel. Shepard said that she thought this arrangement was dropped when Albert Cross retired but thought it could be resurrected. Board members discussed the issue. Jeff Roy noted that Elm Street is in need of speed enforcement. John indicated that this would be provided. Mr. Roy also noted that there is a place close to Cannon Bridge where water puddles that needs to be fixed. Bob indicated that work on this spot was scheduled for Thursday.

There being no other comments the Chair closed the public hearing at 7:03pm.

Bob asked the Board for their preferences concerning continuing with line painting elsewhere in town while the Board worked toward a decision on Elm Street. He was instructed to continue

with line painting in other parts of town.

## **2. Public Appointments**

The Chair recognized Bob Loranger who explained that he was seeking a reduction in the water flowing through a brook near his home. He reported a significant increase in the volume of water and related washouts since the drainage system intended to divert water away from Zion Hill Road was installed uphill from his property. Mr. Loranger stated that the water used to flow down Zion Hill Road, now it is diverted to a drainage structure on Bert Southwick's field and ends up in his brook. Sel. Waldron asked Bob Southworth if he thought some of the water is entering the brook because of large berms that the town erected across the class 6 portion of Forrest Road several years ago. Bob replied that he did. Mr. Loranger stated that either way the class 6 road needs to be repaired. Consensus of the Board was that the matter requires additional investigation.

The Chair recognized Catherine Ferreira who read statement concerning the work done under the recent agreement with the town concerning her driveway. She stated that appreciated the fact that Bob called in advance before work was done and that Bob and his crew was very helpful with answering questions. Also, she appreciated that the work was done in just a little more than two weeks after the agreement was signed and that it was completed in a friendly and helpful way. She personally thanked all members who worked on the project.

The Chair recognized Dennis Allen who asked if Bob or one of his employees will be on site all the time when the paving projects are being done. Bob responded that yes, someone would be with the pavers the entire time to ensure that the work was done to specifications.

## **3. Highway Department**

Board members reviewed the letter received from Mr. and Mrs. Bergeron concerning their contention that the damage to their driveway resulted from the raising of Bay Hill Road, that they had been reporting this problem to Mike Summerset since 2005 and that nothing had been done. Sel. Shepard asked Bob for the total cost of repairing these driveways, Bob distributed a breakdown to Board members. Sel. Shepard said she is inclined to believe that the Bergeron's did report this problem to the Highway Superintendent in a timely manner. Board members discussed the situation and reached consensus that damage to the Bergeron and Lorden driveways is the result of the town's failure to correct the situation after the problem was brought to the Highway Superintendent's attention in 2005 and that the town is responsible for repairing these driveways. Board members asked Bob to investigate the Hill and Maloney driveways further. Board members discussed trying to fold this work into the paving projects.

Highway Superintendent reviewed the bid summary sheets for the 2013 paving projects. Bluhm/Shepard moved to accept the bid of Busby Construction at an amount of \$256,995.00. Motion passed.

Bob updated the Board on the status of bids for repair of the sander shed roof. Sel. Bluhm asked Sel. Waldron if he could review these with Bob and bring a recommendation to the next meeting.

Bob updated the Board on the upcoming CRSW/CCR meeting is tomorrow night, he will be attending to vote at that meeting. Board members discussed the fact that Belmont is apparently not entering into a new agreement with the coop.

Board members discussed the proposed no parking zone on Elm Street. Sel. Shepard said that if the earlier solution of striping to allow for on street parking worked then we should not change it. Sel. Waldron and Bluhm agreed. Board members discussed the stop sign proposal. **Waldron/Shepard** moved to spend \$809.25 to install stop signs as recommended at the following intersections:

Blueberry Lane	at	Bay Hill Road
Clearwood Lane	at	Bean Hill Road
Cornerstone Road	at	Hodgdon Road
Cottage Street	at	Park Street
Drake Drive	at	Bay Hill Road
Gibson Mill Road	at	Park Street
Johnson Road	at	Sargeant Street
Keasor Road	at	Bean Hill Road
Knowles Farm Road	at	Bay Hill Road
Stevens Road	at	Oak Hill Road
Susan Lane	at	Knowles Pond Road
Tallwood Drive	at	Hodgdon Road
Forrest Road	at	Zion Hill Road
Scribner Road	at	Cross Mill Road
Woodlawn Ave	at	Bay Hill Road

. **Motion passed 2-1**, Sel. Bluhm dissenting, saying that he feels only the Cottage Street/Rt. 132 intersection warrants a stop sign.

Board members approved Bob's proposal to flex hours for week of July 4<sup>th</sup> to allow for the Highway Department to be closed on July 5<sup>th</sup>.

#### **4. Police Department**

Acting Chief Raffaely reported that Old Home Day and the canoe/kayak slalom race went well. He distributed a form for the Selectmen to sign informing contractors of the pending increase in special detail rates.

#### **5. Administration**

Town Administrator Glenn Smith reviewed the current Community Planning Grant. Board

members agreed by consensus that continuing with this program was not in the best interest of the town and that the town should not accept reimbursement under this grant..

Glenn reviewed the proposal to ask Metrocast to install a fiber optic institutional network connecting Town Hall, Highway Garage and Police Station at their expense as per the 2000 Franchise Agreement. Board members agreed by consensus to move forward with this.

Glenn updated the Board on efforts to sell surplus computer equipment. Board members authorized Glenn to dispose of the items at no cost if that can be done.

Glenn reported that the application to construct a home on a vacant lot at the intersection of View and Summer streets has been withdrawn.

#### **6. Non-Public Session *RSA 91-A:3IIa***

**Bluhm/Shepard** moved to enter into non-public session under the provisions of RSA 91-A3IIa,c,e at 8:50pm. **Motion passed by unanimous roll call vote.** Present at the non-public session were John Raffaely, Glenn Smith. **Bluhm/Shepard** moved that the minutes of the non-public session be sealed. **Motion passed by unanimous roll call vote.** **Bluhm/Shepard** moved to reconvene the public session at 10:45pm. **Motion passed by unanimous roll call vote.**

#### **7. General Business**

Board members reviewed general correspondence and payroll & accounts payable manifests. **Waldron/Shepard** moved to approve the minutes of the meeting of June 11, 2013. **Motion passed.**

Glenn asked that action on the auctioneer bids be deferred until the next meeting.

There being no other business the meeting was adjourned at 10:47pm

APPROVED BY THE NORTHFIELD BOARD OF SELECTMEN ON JULY 9, 2013