



NORTHFIELD BOARD OF SELECTMEN MEETING

Minutes of the meeting of July 28, 2020

Present: Sel. Scott Haskins, Sel. Kevin Waldron Sel. Glen Brown
Also Present: Stephanie Giovannucci, John Raffaely, Andy Buteau, Ken Robichaud, Denny French
Present via Zoom: Wayne Hammond, Jennifer Haskins

The meeting was called to order at 5:00pm by Chairman Waldron.

- **Public Input**

None

- **Police Department**

Department Updates:

Chief Raffaely informed the Board that a resident on Sargent St was setting off fireworks within feet of the road way causing drivers to be distracted as debris fell into the roadway and other peoples properties. Chief shared a video of the insident.

Mr. Hammond stated that debris ended up in his property and on his yard furniture that sits on his deck.

Sel. Waldron reminded the Board that he would like to see a fireworks ordinance restricting them within the village, Chief agrees there needs to be one, Sel. Brown also agrees.

Sel. Haskins stated that there is a risk in the village because the homes are very close together and asked if there would be fines involved.

Board agreed to have Mrs. Giovannucci write up a draft ordinance for the Board to review at the next meeting.

Mr. Hammond stated that he is happy with the effort and agrees the houses are too close and there's a lot of cars that travel that road.

Chief Raffaely informed the Board that the new radio has been installed in the Leutenants vehicle and that the two new hires are on their own now and the other one has a couple weeks left at the academy.

Sel. Haskins asked about the invoice for deep cleaning the Police Department. Chief Raffaely stated that in his 20+ years there it's never been done and they can all tell the difference, the person did a great job.

- **Public Works**

Department Updates:

Public Works Director Buteau informed the Board that Glines Park has apparently had many visitors because they have collected 8 bags of trash last Monday and 6 more just the other day. He's not sure if they are from beach users or if someone is dumping their trash there, but he has heard there is an excessive amount of out of state cars there. Mr. Buteau added that Knowles Pond does not seem to accumulate as much trash. Sel. Haskins asked about just allowing residents the use of Glines Park. Chief Raffaely stated that it's not a good idea, as it's difficult to police since a lot of owners on the pond live out of state. .

Mr. Buteau stated that a resident on Bay St asked for assistance in removing small trees/brush about a 6 wheel full. Sel. Waldron stated that the Town should not assist because it's our liability if something happens, Board agreed.

Mr. Buteau informed the Board the Chris will be heading to CDL School from Sept 1st to Oct 1st in Concord and wanted to know if he will be compensated while attending. Board agreed to pay him while he is attending school, as we do that for all employees as they attend training and schooling.

Mr. Buteau asked how the Board would like to proceed with the Assistant Public Works Director position as far as interviews, etc. Board agreed they would like to be a part of the interview process, and that they would like Mr. Buteau to pick out candidates that he would like to interview. Sel. Haskins asked how long the position was open for, Mrs. Giovannucci stated until filled.

Mr. Buteau asked who is responsible picking up the trash at Knowles Pond on the trails. Board agreed the Public Works Dept is not responsible to travel the trails and collect garbage.

Summer Street:

Mr. Buteau stated that there is a sink hole in the middle of Summer Street that appeared last night. He thanked the Police Department for their assistance with traffic. Mr. Buteau added that he cannot see where the material is going to in order to plug it up and added some material to it in the meantime. He's going to wait a little while to see if it sinks again and then they will patch it up.

Other Business:

Sel. Waldron asked about the Donahue property on Glines Park Rd with the water issue. Mr. Buteau stated that they did a temporary fix, and this will need to be looked at again in the near future. Sel. Haskins asked if Mr. Buteau spoke to Ms. Donahue to inform her of this fix, Mr. Buteau stated that he did via phone.

Sel. Waldron asked for an update on the Elm St water repairs. Mr. Buteau stated that he was waiting for the water to evaporate but it does not seem to be no matter how hot it gets. Mr. Buteau explained a solution to assist the water issue and will look into it further.

Sel. Waldron asked for an update on Diana Rd. Mr. Buteau was under the impression that his crew was going to go out and replace culverts, but will now look to obtain three bids.

- **Administration**

Department Updates:

Mrs. Giovannucci presented a quote for the remodel of Town Hall which does not include electrical or plumbing, Board agreed they would like to see additional quotes before making a final decision.

- **Public Hearing:**

Sel. Waldron opened the public hearing at 6:03pm for the proposed changes to the Transfer Station Amnesty Tickets and Fee Schedule.

Board reviewed the proposed changes.

Sel. Brown stated he would like to only see the tickets reduced by one.

Sel. Haskins reviewed with the Board the 2019 revenue and expense breakdown, and feels it's cheaper for residents to utilize Casella, he also added that in 15 years the fee schedule has not increased by much at all to cover the cost to dispose of.

Sel. Waldron opened the floor for public comment at 6:12pm.

Denny French stated that he feels it's a good start but they could go further and reduce the tickets more and have everyone who utilizes the facility to cover the cost by paying more.

Butch Knowlton stated that he doesn't know enough about scrap metal, but wants to know why we are not accepting aluminum. Mr. Buteau confirmed that we continue to accept aluminum.

There being no further input from the public Sel. Waldron closed the floor for public comment at 6:16pm

Sel. Haskins confirmed that scrap metal is going to still be accepted. Mrs. Giovannucci confirmed yes.

Mr. Buteau stated that aluminum prices for us to recycle are low, but we have many compacted cans waiting for the price to increase for us to sell.

Haskins/Brown moved to accept the fee schedule as presented.

Sel. Waldron asked about a start date. Sel. Haskins replied that he would like to see this take effect 1/1/2021.

Haskins/Brown withdrew their motion.

Haskins/Brown moved to accept the new fee schedule as presented with a start date of January 1, 2021. **Motion Passed**

Haskins/Waldron moved to accept the new Amnesty Tickets as presented with an effective date of January 1, 2021. **Motion Passed**
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Sel. Waldron closed the public hearing at 6:26 pm

Sel. Waldron opened the Public Hearing for the proposed changes to the Conservation Property Ordinances at 6:26 pm.

Board reviewed the changes proposed by the Conservation Commission.

Sel. Haskins asked if we have violators that have paid the fines. Chief Raffaelli replied no.

Sel. Waldron opened the floor for public comment at 6:32 pm

Mr. French stated that he would like to see motorized vehicles allowed on Sotir/Knowles Pond because people drive their four wheelers on Knowles Pond when it's frozen.

There being no other public input Sel. Waldron closed the floor for public comment at 6:42 pm

Board agreed they want to hear from the Conservation Commission ask to the changes they propose.

Waldron/Brown moved to continue the Public Hearing to Selectboard meeting August 11, 2020 at 6:00 pm. **Motion Passed.**

- **Other Business:**

Sel. Waldron would like to see a CIP plan for the Police Building. Mrs. Giovannucci stated that a CIP plan was started last year for all of the town facilities.

Sel. Waldron stated that there's a proposed cell tower at the fire station and as abutters if we have concerns we should write to the Zoning Board. Sel. Waldron described the structure of the tower and that some of the tower could fall on the town's property.

Sel. Haskins stated that he is concerned it could fall on the salt shed or any other facility we may have in the area. Board asked Mrs. Giovannucci to draft a letter to the Zoning Board in regards to their concerns.

- **Minutes**

Brown/Haskins moved to approve the minutes of July 14, 2020 as written. Motion Passed

- **Non-Public - RSA 91A-3 II (a) (c)**

Waldron/Haskins moved to enter into non-public session under the provisions of RSA 91-A3II (a) (c) at 7:03 pm. **Motion passed by unanimous roll call vote.**

Also Present: Stephanie Giovannucci, Andy Buteau

Waldron/Haskins moved to reconvene the public session at 8:10 pm. **Motion passed by unanimous vote.**

Waldron/Haskins moved to seal the minutes of the non-public session because divulgence could ruin the reputation of someone not on the board. **Motion passed by unanimous roll call vote.**

- **Other Business Continued:**

Mr. Buteau stated that the Hodgdon Rd culvert is plugged solid, he added that he just found the culvert, and it needs to be replaced. Mr. Buteau suggested subbing the job out as they will need traffic control and his crew is small and working on other issues around town.

Sel. Waldron asked if we could do a bunch of other projects as the sent time if we rent an excavator for a month. Mr. Buteau stated he would have to look into it further.

Mr. Buteau informed the Board that the backhoe is tired, Board agreed to look into replacing it further.

Sel. Waldron explained that the current uniforms the Public Works Department need to be replaced. He would like to see a better quality shirt with the logo on it. Mr. Buteau stated that they do not wear the shirts because they are uncomfortable, but everything they do requires a vest, why not just get vests with the logo on it. Mr. Buteau added that he found a nice jacket that the Town once purchased for the crew before his time, and thinks they would be great. Board agreed Mr. Buteau and Mrs. Giovannucci will look into vendors further.

Mr. Buteau informed that Board that since he is having a hard time filling the Transfer Station attendant position, that it may be a good idea to cut the hours on Saturday to 4 hours. Board asked him to take a look at other towns to see what they have for schedules.

Mr. Buteau asked for confirmation that the Board agrees to purchase the new sander as it has become available. Board agreed.

There being no other business the meeting adjourned at 8:43 pm.

Minutes approved August 11, 2020