



## NORTHFIELD BOARD OF SELECTMEN MEETING

Minutes of the meeting of October 29, 2019

**Present:** Chairman Wayne Crowley, Sel. Brown, Sel. Haskins

**Also Present:** Dr. Tracey Hutton, Town Administrator, Police Chief John Raffaelly, and DPW Director Andy Buteau

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

- **Public Input**

Mr. Waldron asked about Mr. Lamanuzzi requesting to be appointed to the Zoning Board of Appeals. He stated that Mr. Lamanuzzi's behavior as an applicant at the September meeting should have bearing on the Board's decision to appoint. Mr. Waldron further stated that Mr. Lamanuzzi's behavior towards the Zoning Board members was hostile and it is important that Zoning Board members are able to work together and be a cohesive unit.

Mr. Lee, 25 Diana Road, explained to the Board that Diana Road is beginning to erode due to the culvert situation. Mr. Lee's culvert has failed (collapsed) and the water has found a route that compromises the edge of pavement. He explained that he is aware the whole road needs to be addressed, but his is the only one that is completely collapsed, he fears his driveway won't make it through another spring as a result of the culvert condition.

Mr. Buteau iterated that the Board expressed to him during the summer that the road projects were a priority and that driveways would not be done unless time permitted. He also explained to Mr. Lee that driveway culverts are ultimately the responsibility of the landowner. There was discussion of the whole road being done in 2020 as a project. Mr. Lee explained that his water line, put installed in 1983, is not marked and that caution must be taken when digging.

- **Police Department**
  - **Department Updates**

Chief Raffaelly told the Board that he needs a new radio in his police vehicle at the cost of \$4,300. His radio is 21 years old and he has been having significant trouble with communication between himself, when in his vehicle, and dispatch. Chairman Crowley requested a Purchase Requisition for the radio at the next meeting.

The Chief went on to explain that he has priced radio repeaters for the tower that Tilton-Northfield Fire is installing at Spaulding; this will be a \$30-50,000 expense. Chairman Crowley suggested that this is a small town and this is not necessary. The Chief reminded the Board of the importance of communication to the safety of the public, himself, and his officers.

- **Public Works Department**
  - **Department Update**

DPW Director Buteau let the Board know that the new catch basin was in on Bay Hill Road and that the DOT had never gotten back to him. The catch basin cost \$2,500 in materials, but that also included a concrete structure for secondary containment around the fuel tank at the garage. R&D Paving should be ready to begin paving on Monday or Tuesday.

Winter sand has been quoted at \$5.25/ton with a 2,500 ton estimate. Chairman Crowley signed the agreement with Pike Industries.

Mr. Buteau had two complaints he would like to bring to the Board. The first was in reference to a warning sign at Cross Mill and Hodgdon. Currently, there is a yield sign in this location. Chief Raffaelly stated that they had gone to a yield sign because busses and other vehicles could not get going from a stop at this location in inclement weather conditions. The Chief suggested a solar flashing yield sign. The idea was dismissed.

The second issue was brought to Mr. Buteau's attention from the library. Parents are parking on Elm Street on the road and lawn of the library. Parking for Union Sanborn School is a problem at school release time. There was discussion of when Vine Street was one-way. Chairman Crowley stated that it is the Town's obligation to repair the shoulder gravel at this location if it is in the ROW. The Chief also brought up how the busses are operated in term of their position in the road when stopping for children. In his opinion, it is unsafe and a crash would be the fault of the bus when they have crossed the double yellow line. Chairman Crowley will take this issue to Winnisquam School District.

Chairman Crowley inquired about the progress on Sandogardy Pond Road. He stated that the information that DES requests for a wetlands permit is unbelievable. Also, after the DES review the permit application goes to Army Corps of Engineers for review this makes the January/February construction window look challenging. He also inquired about the property monuments being replaced. Chairman Crowley had heard that Hiltz was having a hard time finding someone to do it and he asked Dr. Hutton to push HEB Engineering on the issue. Dr. Hutton stated that she is waiting for a call back from HEB regarding the box of information she received in the mail on Monday.

Chief Raffaelly asked if the paving "detour" signs could come down. Mr. Buteau said he would take care of it. Chairman Crowley also asked about the Class VI Road signs. Mr. Buteau said that 2 were installed and DPW will try to get them up in November, but requires two weeks to install shoulder gravel once paving is done for the season.

- **Police Department**
  - **Department Updates**

Sel. Haskins asked about the decals on the Lieutenant's car and if we were disposing of the vehicle. Chief Raffaelly explained that the decals were removed because they were falling off, but having an unmarked car has proven useful.

- **Administration**
  - **Department Update**

Dr. Hutton reminded the Board that Mr. Lamanuzzi has requested being appointed to the open alternate position on the Zoning Board of Appeals. The Board requested that Mr. Lamanuzzi come in to speak to the Board and asked the Board members to listen to the audio of the meeting; a decision would be made in the coming weeks.

Dr. Hutton had received a price, \$2000, from David Court, blacksmith, for the repair of the front granite stair at Town Hall. The proposed scope was reviewed. The Board agreed this is an unanticipated expense and could be taken from the emergency repair fund if Dr. Hutton prepared a PR. They also agreed the back stair repair at Town Hall (\$700) and the hot water heater that failed at the Police Department (\$2000) were also unanticipated and were appropriate to come from the emergency repair fund. This will leave \$6,621 remaining in that account.

Chairman Crowley began to make comments on the Open Space draft that had been sent by Dr. Hutton when requested. Dr. Hutton explained that it is hard to make comment on an incomplete document. The Committee had made additional comment on the draft and had a lot of graphics work left to do.

Sel. Haskins let the Board know that the hearing was scheduled for December 4<sup>th</sup>. He reminded the Board that these recommendations in the Open Space Plan are suggestions that would need Town approval to move forward.

Chairman Crowley mentioned to Dr. Hutton and Mr. Buteau that the PUC rate established 30 years ago for Wheelabrator was expiring this year. Dr. Hutton has been directed to find additional information on the next steps if Wheelabrator chooses to close rather than change rates.

- **Employee Health Insurance -continued plan comparison discussion**

2020 insurance rates have not been received yet from NEEBCo. Mr. Buteau asked if the employees will be consulted while he is on an extended vacation next month. Chairman Crowley said that the Board will hear scenarios and go then go to the employees. Dr. Hutton said, at that point she can bring in the broker to discuss the proposed plan.

- **Wage and Classification Study - comparison community continued discussion**

No additional towns have responded; discussion will continue when there is more data to analyze.

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

**Crowley/Brown** moved to enter into non-public session under the provisions of RSA 91-A3II (a), (b), and (c) at 6:17 pm. **Motion passed by unanimous roll call vote.**

Also Present: Dr. Tracey Hutton, Town Administrator and Chief John Raffaelly

**Crowley/Brown** moved to reconvene the public session at 7:45 pm. **Motion passed by unanimous vote.**

**Crowley/Haskins** moved to seal the non-public session minutes. **Motion passed by unanimous roll call vote.**

- **Review minutes of the meeting of October 22, 2019**

**Crowley/Haskins** moved to accept the minutes of October 22, 2019, with corrections as noted. **Motion passed by unanimous vote.**

- **Adjournment**

The next meeting is at 5:00 pm on the 5<sup>th</sup> of November.

There being no other business the meeting adjourned at 7:50 pm.

Respectfully submitted by:

Dr. Tracey E. Hutton

**Minutes approved November 5, 2019**