



NORTHFIELD BOARD OF SELECTMEN MEETING

Minutes of the meeting of October 4, 2022

Present: Selectman Mark Hubbell, Selectman Jason Durgin and Selectman Kevin Waldron.

Town Staff Present: Town Administrator Ken Robichaud, Asst. Town Administrator Stephanie Giovannucci, Police Chief John Raffaelli, and DPW Director Justin Bernier.

Also Present: Scott Haskins

Selectmen Hubbell opened the Selectmen's Work Session at 5:00 pm.

The Pledge of Allegiance was recited.

Payroll for week of 10/1 was \$26,421.00 and A/P was \$80,094.00 This week's payroll is \$21,549.00 and A/P is \$726,494.00.

Police Department Update

Chief Raffaelli informed the Selectmen of the issues at the PD with the A/C unit as well as the buildings heating system. It appears that the A/C unit has a leak in the system and water is leaking from the attic area into the patrol room, which is causing damage to the sheetrock. One of the pipes in the circulator is always hot and running even when the temperature is warm outside. The entire system is being looked at and the Chief should have an answer in the near future.

Department of Public Works

Director Bernier informed the Selectmen that the 1999, 10-Wheeler dump truck is the State of NH "White Farm" and will be auctioned off on the 15th of October. Our truck is the only 10-wheeler so far being sold, and it should bring in a reasonably good amount of revenue from the sale.

Director Bernier would like to purchase a stainless-steel sander and has three quotes for the purchase. Riversedge Marina- \$6,964.00- Donovan Equipment- \$6,150.00 - HP Fairfield- \$5,441.00. The Selectmen discussed this in great detail and will decide next week and they would like Mr. Bernier to bring in a purchase order.

Administration

The Administrator brought up the assessing bids from the last meeting. The Selectmen discussed an email that was sent to them from Avitar who has also bid on the RFP. They stated that their bid is an all-inclusive price and the Selectmen discussed this with Asst Administrator Stephanie Giovannucci. It appears that there is some question to Avatars email as it may not be an all-inclusive price. It is \$35,200 more than the lowest bidder's price. The Selectmen would like to make sure that all bids are equal in service and cost and report back next week.

The Selectmen discussed the employee Appreciation Party that was cancelled last month and was also discussed at the last meeting about possibly having it at a local restaurant. It was discussed to maybe have a Christmas Party with a \$20.00 maximum Yankee Swap gift and staff would bring in a potluck dish to share. The Department Heads would discuss it with their people.

The Town Administrator brought forward a payroll step pay scale for the Police Department. The Selectmen asked questions which this tool could be used for the DPW department as well. It could also be based on years of service, education as well as certifications. More work needs to be put into this before it will go into effect.

The Curbside Collection and Transfer Station survey that was sent out in September was discussed by the Administrator. The Town has received **293** returned surveys as of this date, with **194** residents wanting to keep curbside collection and **69** do not want to keep curbside collection where another **26** respondents are unsure. There was much discussion on this topic where Selectmen Waldron stated that this may not be a fair representation of the residents, it is only 16 percent returned. Selectman Durgin said that this is what we have, this is our sample, this is why we did the survey. We heard from the people when we had the meeting at the Pines, and then we decided we should do a survey to see what people wanted and this is what we got. Selectman Hubbell stated that he is in favor of the Transfer Station personally, but we can't ignore these people who want to keep curbside. Durgin stated that we should put some money into the transfer station we need to put in water and a bathroom as well as take care of a water drainage issue.

Other Business

Chief Raffaely asked about the elderly bus route that we have been sharing with Tilton. Chairman Hubbell brought up a recent email he had received from Pat Constantino on the attendance. Northfield residents used the service in 2021-September – 13, October – 1, November – 1, December -1, in 2022 January – 2, February – 9, March –6, April – 0, May- 0, June – 0, July – 0, August – 0, September to date – 0, with a total of 33 Northfield residents. We will continue to operate the bus with contributions from our local businesses.

Selectman **Durgin/Hubbell** motioned to approve the minutes of September 20, 2022 with two changes in grammar, all in favor, **Motion Passed.**

Selectmen Waldron updated the Selectmen on the Parks Commission and what they have been doing on the upgrading of Pines Park.

Public Input

Sherry Sprague- is upset with the Selectmen on the Curbside Collection/Transfer Station survey and gathering information.

Scott Haskins- Parks Commission second update on Pines Park and the Backflow Valve.

Sel. Hubbell made a motion at 6:45 pm to go into nonpublic session under NH RSA 91a; 3-II, (A, B &L) seconded by Sel. Durgin. Roll call vote–Selectman Waldron–Yes, Selectman Hubbell- Yes. Selectman Durgin – Yes. Motion passed by a 3-0 vote.

Hubbell/Waldron motioned to reconvene the public session at 7:08 pm. Roll Call Vote, Selectman Waldron-Yes, and Selectman Hubbell-Yes, Selectman Durgin – Yes. Motion passed by a 3-0 roll call vote.

Hubbell/Waldron moved to seal the minutes of the non-public session because divulgence of the information likely would affect adversely the reputation of any person other than a member of the board or render the proposed action of the board ineffective.

Roll call vote, Selectman Waldron–Yes, Selectman Durgin – Yes, and Selectman Hubbell -Yes. Motion passed by a 3-0 roll call vote and the minutes are hereby sealed.

Selectman Hubbell adjourned the meeting at 7:09 pm

Minutes Recorded by Town Administrator-Ken Robichaud

By majority vote the minutes were approved on October 11, 2022.