



NORTHFIELD BOARD OF SELECTMEN MEETING

Minutes of the meeting of January 11, 2022

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

Town Staff Present: Town Administrator Ken Robichaud, Police Lt. Mike Hutchinson, and DPW Director Justin Bernier.

Also Present: Ken Tomlins, Kristen Vaughn, Ryan Vaughn, Lisa Thorne, Victoria Charter, Jason Gerhard and Carl Bartlett.

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

The Pledge of Allegiance was recited.

Police Department Update

Lt. Hutchinson informed the Selectmen that the detective's former black vehicle was now ready to be stripped of the radio and the emergency lights and that the DPW will strip it and then deliver it to the Town Hall.

Lt. Hutchinson also asked the Selectmen if the Town Administrator could place an employment ad for Certified Police Officers so that we could receive resumes for the open positions.

Department of Public Works Update

DPW Director Bernier presented the Selectmen with a quote from Ossipee Mountain Electronics (OME) to go through all the DPW radios to ensure that they all work properly. The quote is \$1,605.20; the Selectmen asked that he get another quote from another Company (Global).

Selectman Hubbell asked Administrator Robichaud about the details to the small road between house numbers 54-58 Summer Street. According to Town documents that is a Town road, which dead ends against I-93.

Selectman Hubbell spoke to the salt/sand shed at the DPW garage. He would like to get a smaller shed to store sand and salt mix. We will continue to look at this, this coming summer.

Selectman Waldron asked about the Town road conditions list. Selectman Hubbell spoke to that list on what roads to pave overlay and grind and pave.

Selectman Hubbell asked if the old forks for the old Loader were being sold, Director Bernier stated "Yes" they are.

The new "V" plow for the trackless is here and has been installed on the sidewalk plow.

Administration Update

Town Administrator Robichaud and Assistant Town Administrator Stephanie Giovannucci presented the Selectmen updated building permits that will be able to be filled out online easier than the old forms. The Selectmen will review the fee schedule next week. Resident Wayne Crowley was asked to speak to the Selectmen on building codes and permits as to when he was a Selectman.

Administrator Robichaud spoke to the new LED street lights and the Town has received its first invoice; it appears to be a 50% savings on the electric usage. There are 4 high pressure sodium lights still on the invoice to track down to their current location.

The Town Administrator informed the Selectmen on what he has discovered on Northfield obtaining its own zip code. It will not be easy, as there is a process which starts with a written request from the municipality as to why they want a new zip code. If municipal boundaries go through another municipality, that municipality must also agree to the separation of

the zip code. If all parties agree, the letters are sent to the District Manager, if he feels that there is a legitimate need for separation, he will do a zip code survey of all residents involved in the separation. If the majority feels that this is a good move, the postal service will then do a fiscal study to see if it financially makes sense. Any aggrieved party may file a n appeal at any point in the process. It is a long, drawn out process. The Town Administrator will get with Tilton to see how they feel about the change.

Town Administrator Robichaud presented to the Selectmen a date to hold the Public Hearing for the 2022 budget between the Selectmen and the Budget Committee for tentatively Thursday January 27th 2022 at 6pm. We have to make sure that the Budget Committee will be ready to finalizing the budget. The Administrator will see if the Budget Committee will be ready that night.

The Town Administrator asked the Selectmen to reconsider the vacation policy, to allow roll over for employees who take the last week of December off. In most cases if the last pay period falls on the following year those vacation hours are taken off in the next year, so the employee loses his time in that year. The Selectmen where okay with this change but the request must come from the employee to the Department Head, Department Head to the Selectmen. Also; the request must be submitted by December 1st in order to get the roll over.

The Selectmen reviewed the upcoming 2022 Warrant Articles and removed the bonding of 10 million dollars for upgrading and repairing of Town roads article. The Selectmen will move this to next year and get a plan in place for that project.

Public Input

Jason Gerhard- Asked if the Selectmen would open the restrooms in the Town hall to the public. They have been closed due to Covid.

Victoria Charter- Would like to have the Selectmen bring back Amnesty week at the Transfer Station. She feels that there will be more trash on the side of the road because the Town limits the amount of free disposal at the Transfer Station.

The Selectmen reviewed letters of interest for an open seat on the Board of Selectmen. Resident Victoria Charter and resident Jason Durgin submitted letters of interest.

Selectman Hubbell/Waldron motioned to accept the minutes of January 11, 2021 meeting as presented, all in favor, motion passed.

Selectman Hubbell/Waldron motioned to accept Jason Durgin as a Selectman. All in favor, motion passed.

Selectman Hubbell provided documents whereas Mr. Durgin took the oath of office as a Northfield Selectman. Both Selectman Hubbell and Selectman Waldron congratulated Mr. Jason Durgin for becoming the newest Northfield Selectman. Selectman Durgin thanked both Selectmen for their support.

Sel. Waldron made a motion at 6:26 pm to go into nonpublic session under NH RSA 91a; 3-II, (A&C) seconded by Sel. Hubbell. Roll call vote–Selectman Hubbell–Yes, Selectman Durgin-Yes, and Selectman Waldron- Yes.

Waldron/Hubbell moved to reconvene the public session at 8:17pm. Roll Call Vote, Selectman Hubbell- Yes, Selectman Durgin -Yes, and Selectman Waldron-Yes, Motion passed by unanimous roll call vote.

Waldron/Hubbell 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 Hubbell –Yes, Selectman Durgin -Yes, and Selectman Waldron-Yes. Motion passed by unanimous roll call vote and the minutes are hereby sealed.

Other Business

Next Week's Selectmen meeting will start at 5pm.

With no further business to come before the Board of Selectmen this meeting was adjourned at 8:18 pm.

Minutes Recorded by Town Administrator-Ken Robichaud

Minutes approved January 18, 2022