



NORTHFIELD BOARD OF SELECTMEN MEETING

Minutes of the meeting of November 9, 2021

Present: Selectman Kevin Waldron and Selectman Mark Hubbell.

Town Staff Present: Town Administrator Ken Robichaud, Police Chief John Raffaely, and
DPW Director, Justin Bernier.

Also Present: Ken Tomlins, Jason Durgin, Carl Bartlett, Gary Andrews, Mark Hebert, Bill & Gretchen Wilder,
Jason Gerhard and Bill Dawson.

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

The Pledge of Allegiance was recited.

Selectman Hubbell accepted a wonderful wooden flag that was donated by resident artist Sheri Sprague, which is currently hanging in the Selectmen's meeting room. Ms. Sprague was happy to donate it to the Town.

Selectmen Waldron opened the Public Hearing under NH RSA 31:95 b- accepting undesignated revenue over the amount of \$10,000.00. The Selectmen discussed the American Recovery Program Act (ARPA) funds that have been designated to the Town of Northfield for \$517,376.00. They explained that the funds can be used for several specific things and wanted to hear from the residents who attended the meeting on how they would like to see this money spent. The following residents addressed the Selectmen at 5:15pm

Mark Hebert- asks the Selectmen to spend this on Youth Assistance Program and Tilton-Northfield Recreation Council to refund the money to their programs.

Gary Andrews- Reinforced Mark Hebert's recommendation and also suggests that we use it for culverts and storm water.

Bill Dawson- if the local school is closing next year and the ownership reverts to the Town the Town should put the school up for sale.

Carl Bartlett- Use the money for an engineering study on the town roads.

Mark Hebert- The town should get together with Tilton and use the funds to offset the cost of expanding the High School.

Gretchen Wilder- If we don't need to spend the money for several years why not slow down and take our time and look at what we really need.

Bill Dawson- readdressed the Selectmen with using the money on sewer connections out on Route 140 and 132.

Gretchen Wilder- readdressed the Selectmen again with using it for a sewer project.

Selectman Waldron closed the public input at 5:32.

Hubbell/Waldron motioned to accept the American Rescue Plan Act monies in the amount of \$517,376.12, all in favor motion passed.

Police Department Update

The Police Department overhead garage doors have been having issues and the overhead door company was there on Monday to fix the issue. The quote received for replacement of the doors is \$4,990.00. The current company has been doing a great job with service, but the Selectmen want to see if the price is a good price and want 2 more quotes before they move with replacing the doors. The Chief stated that he will get two more quotes.

Police Chief John Raffaely informed the Selectmen that he will retire from the Northfield Police Department on December 31st 2021. The Chief has spent over 25 years of active fulltime service to the Town of Northfield. The Selectmen were saddened by this news but understood his decision.

Public Works Department Update

Director Bernier told the Selectmen that the remaining culvert pipe for the Shaker and Bay Hill Road projects will be here on Wednesday morning. We are expecting 15 of 12 foot long by 18inch diameter culvert pipe that will be used for cross culverts. This is the last of the backordered piping.

Shaker Road was closed for several days last week and the Police and Fire Departments were not notified. The school bus company was notified. The Town did notify residents by a news blast and also on our website but the emergency services were overlooked. Bay Hill Road will be scheduled the first week of December and that road may need to be closed for several days as well and the Town will attempt to notify as many residents as possible prior to closing the road as well as emergency services.

Selectman Waldron asked about the 2020 F-550 and where that truck was currently. Director Bernier stated that it was in the DPW garage, and we will be using it while the company reviews the body issue.

Administration Update

The Town Administrator asked the Selectmen if we could buy empty bollards and fill them ourselves with cement for the front of Town Hall. This way the cost will be minimal at only \$11.00 per bollard and with 5 bollards needed it will be around \$550.00, plus other supplies the entire project will be less than \$1,000.00. The Selectmen we okay with this and they just want it completed so we can free up another parking space.

The Administrator informed the Selectmen that the Tilton-Northfield Old Home Day Committee met and wants to attend a Selectmen's meeting to speak to the Selectmen request on November 30th at 5pm.

Mr. Anthony Pucci requested to be a member to the Conservation Commission and the Selectmen agreed to put Mr. Pucci as an alternate member to the Commission.

Hubbell/Waldron motioned to appoint Tony Pucci as an alternate member of the Conservation Commission, all in favor motion passed.

The Administrator informed the Selectmen that the Lakes Region Planning Commission (LRPC) would like to address the Selectmen at their next meeting. The Selectmen will meet with LRPC on November 16th at 5pm.

Administrator Robichaud informed the Selectmen that the Fire Chief would like to have the Town of Northfield submit an application for a grant for Two Defibrillators to the State of NH. Because the Fire District cannot

apply for grants, the Town can apply for grants in its place. The Selectmen would like to have the Fire Chief attend the next meeting to update them on this grant.

The Town administrator informed the Selectmen that the new crosswalk signs have been installed and he has received positive comments to the installation of these LED flashing signs.

Chairman Waldron opened public input at 6:30pm

Public Input

Mark Hebert- Thanked the Police Chief for all of his years of service to the Town. Mr. Herbert also asked the Selectmen to fill the empty seat that currently exists on the Board of Selectmen. Two have been doing a good job but he would like to see three members up at the table.

Bill Wilder- would like to know what is wrong with the loader and with the F-550. Selectmen Waldron and DPW Director Bernier explained what the issues were with the Loader.

Carl Bartlett- would like to see the Selectmen install horse rings on the Bollards so that he can ride his horse to Town Hall.

Jason Durgin- Recommends to the Selectmen that we should put large rocks in the parking lot instead of Bollards as the rocks are natural and may look better.

Gretchen Wilder- Commented on the new trash policy and that it has been a good thing for the Town in reducing trash volume.

Jason Gerhard- Rocks at Town Hall would be a good idea. Wants the Selectmen to rethink what happened last year at Town Meeting day to not have a segregated area for masked and unmasked people. The Selectmen advised Mr. Gerhard that it is out of their hands as for Town Meeting that is up to the Town Moderator.

Mark Hebert- approached the Selectmen again and wanted to agree with Gretchen Wilder on the Trash policy. Also; he continued to say that when the Town removed the pine trees at the Pines Community Center they left 2 large stumps in the playground area of the Pines.

Jason Durgin- readdressed the Selectmen on the taking of Demo material at the Transfer Station, why can't people put demo in the pay as you throw bags and put them in the special dumpster. The Selectmen do not think that the bags are thick enough and that the Town is not considering taking Demo at this time.

Selectman Waldron closed Public Comment at 6:46pm.

Selectman Hubbell/Waldron motioned to approve the minutes of November 2nd 2021, as printed. All in favor, motion passed.

Selectman Waldron recessed the meeting at 6:48pm

Selectman Waldron reconvened the meeting at 6:53pm

Next Week's meeting will be at 5pm.

Sel. Waldron made a motion at 6:54pm to go into nonpublic session under NH RSA 91a; 3-II, (C) seconded by Sel. Hubbell. Roll call vote–Selectman Hubbell–Yes and Selectman Waldron- Yes.

Waldron/Hubbell moved to reconvene the public session at 8:06 pm. Roll Call Vote, Selectman Hubbell-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 and Selectman Waldron-Yes. Motion passed by unanimous roll call vote and the minutes are hereby sealed.

With no further business to come before the Board of Selectmen this Meeting was adjourned at 8:07 pm.

Minutes Recorded by Town Administrator-Ken Robichaud

Minutes voted and approved on 11/16/2021