



## **NORTHFIELD BOARD OF SELECTMEN MEETING**

Minutes of the meeting of December 21, 2021

**Present:** Selectman Kevin Waldron and Selectman Mark Hubbell.

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

**Also Present:** Ken Tomlins, Jason Durgin, and Carl Bartlett.

**Selectmen Waldron opened the Selectmen's Work Session at 4:00 pm.**

The Pledge of Allegiance was recited.

The Selectmen reviewed the 2022 budget from last week. Planning Board Chairman Jason Durgin was brought up to discuss with the Selectmen the Circuit Rider budget line and the use of Lakes Region Planning Commission.

### **Police Department Update**

The Selectmen discussed new pay rates and hiring bonuses with the Chief in next year's budget as well as prosecution services for the Police Department.

### **Department of Public Works Update**

Director Bernier presented a purchase requisition for 4 spare winter tires for \$275.00 each and \$1,100.00 for all four tires. The Selectmen were okay with this purchase.

Mr. Bernier presented a request to have the Town buy back 45 hours of PTO due to short staffing. The Selectmen discussed this as an exception and approved the payout.

The Selectmen discussed the sidewalks and when they get plowed. Director Bernier stated that the plow for this machine was not purchased but homemade. It needs a "V" plow which would make it easier to plow the sidewalks. Mr. Bernier will look at finding one.

The Selectmen discussed with Director Bernier roads during storms. It should not be expected to have "Black" roads and that roads will have snow on them during storms, and it will be left to have the Director make the call on when to start plowing the roads.

### **Administration Update**

Signs to be posted on Shed Road or any Road are at the discretion of the Selectmen and no hearing is needed by the Selectmen. The Selectmen instructed Director Bernier to put up signs on Shed Road for trucks entering Shed Road off of Bay Road, to use Spaulding Road.

Residents are installing culverts without a permit as well as repaving their driveways without a permit and violations should be issued in all cases. Residents should not be digging into the Town's right of way or paving the Town's right of way without permission. The Selectmen want more oversight on these violations.

The Selectmen discussed bonding out the repairing of all roads in Northfield. The Town Administrator discussed a 12 million dollar bond which we could repay over 15-20 years and using the normal yearly appropriation of \$600,000.00 that the Town currently appropriates each year for roads. This would get most of the roads in town redone and resurfaced all at one time, in place of using that minimal appropriation to repair a portion of a road per year. The Selectmen were open to the idea and will discuss this in more detail at a future meeting.

The Chairman of the Selectmen will contact the Town Administrator as well as discussing with other officials if needed as to when to Close Town Hall for inclement weather.

## **Selectmen Waldron opened Public Input- No public input**

Selectman Waldron recessed the meeting at 6:25 pm.

Selectmen Waldron called the meeting back to order at 6:34 pm.

**Sel. Waldron made a motion at 6:35 pm to go into nonpublic session under NH RSA 91a; 3-II, (A&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.**

## **Minutes**

Hubbell/Waldron motioned to approve the minutes of 12/14/2021 as presented. All in favor, motion passed.

## **Other Business**

Next Week's Selectmen meeting will start at 4pm to continue reviewing the 2022 budget.

Selectman Hubbell discussed that NHEC may separate their broadband department into its own company therefore; allowing NHEC Broadband to service all of NH and just not their own electric customers, residents can go to [www.nhbroadband.com](http://www.nhbroadband.com) for more information.

The Town Administrator discussed some upcoming House Bills that would be bad for the Town of Northfield. HB-1033  
HB-1494

HB-1213

The Selectmen authorized the Town Administrator to go to Concord to testify on behalf of the Town of Northfield.

**Selectmen Hubbell made a motion to accept Jason Durgin to be appointed as the replacement Selectmen until the March elections. There was no second so the motion fails.**

**Selectmen Waldron/Hubbell motioned to accept letters of interest from any Northfield Town Resident to fill the open position on the Board of Selectmen by January 11<sup>th</sup>, 2022. All in favor, motion passed.**

All interested persons must be in attendance at the January 11<sup>th</sup> meeting at 7pm to be considered for the position.

Starting on January 1, 2022, the Town will only issue one ticket for a household item/furniture instead of two to the Transfer Station.

With no further business to come before the Board of Selectmen this meeting was adjourned at 8:35 pm.

**Minutes Recorded by Town Administrator-Ken Robichaud**

**Minutes approved December 28, 2021**