



NORTHFIELD BOARD OF SELECTMEN MEETING

Minutes of the meeting of December 28, 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, Kristen Severance, Sheri Sprague and Carl Bartlett.

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

The Pledge of Allegiance was recited.

The Selectmen continued to review the 2022 budget from last week. The Selectmen approved the budget for 2022 at \$3,610,014.00 which is a 0.5% or \$16,751.00 reduction from the 2021 budget.

Police Department Update

The Chief spoke to the new cruiser as it is still on target for January delivery. Selectman Hubbell thanked the Chief for his years of service and that our department still provides lock out services to residents that are locked out of their vehicles.

Department of Public Works Update

Director Bernier stated that the "V" plow for the sidewalk machine is still available and presented a quote and requisition form for the Selectmen's signature. The price is \$7,150.00 from NP Fairfield New Hampshire.

The Town Administrator presented to the Selectmen the new loader lease agreement from Franklin Savings Bank for 5 years at 1.5% interest at a cost of \$148,200.00, less \$18,000.00 trade in for the old loader with a total of \$136,700.00. With annual payments of \$28,583.19 for 5 years, after the 5 years the Town will own the Loader outright with no additional costs. The Selectmen signed the lease agreement.

Director Bernier discussed the use of private trucks to help plow the Town in which Selectman Hubbell spoke to the high insurance costs for these companies, and wants to work with State Legislators to help alleviate the high costs of insurance.

Administration Update

Administrator Robichaud presented a document for Selectman Hubbell to review from our auditors about the upcoming audit. Selectman Waldron had answered some questions from the auditors; Selectman Hubbell was okay with the answers that Selectmen Waldron had answered.

Selectman Waldron stated that he would like to pay off the loader with a warrant article at the 2022 Town Meeting with utilizing fund balance which will not increase the tax rate. Selectmen Waldron also went on to discuss that the Selectmen conduct business of the Town which does not always include or allow a public hearing for it to occur. But most of the business of the Selectmen is done in a public setting for transparency.

The Selectmen discussed with Administrator Robichaud encumbrances of monies that will be spent in 2022.

Selectman Waldron motioned to encumber \$16,000.00 for the 2021 Audit, \$15,000.00 for paving of 3 Railroad Crossings at \$15,000.00, \$4,991.00 for the replacement of garage doors at the Police Dept. \$7,875.00 to rebuild the main entrance to the Police Dept., \$28,584.00 for the first payment of the new loader lease. \$750.00 for a new radio to be installed in the new loader, seconded by Selectman Hubbell, all in favor, motion passed.

Selectmen Waldron opened Public Input- No public input

Selectman Hubbell/Waldron motioned to accept the minutes of the December 21st meeting as presented, all in favor, motion passed.

Selectman Waldron recessed the meeting at 6:58 pm.
Selectmen Waldron called the meeting back to order at 7:08 pm.

Sel. Waldron made a motion at 7:09 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 8:17pm. 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.

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 8:19 pm.

Minutes Recorded by Town Administrator-Ken Robichaud

Minutes voted and approved on January 4, 2022.