



NORTHFIELD BOARD OF SELECTMEN MEETING

Minutes of the meeting of January 31, 2023

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

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

Others Present: Ken Tomlin, and Steve Sawicki.

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

The Pledge of Allegiance was recited.

Payroll for this week is \$23,286.00 and A/P is \$40,970.00. Payroll for last week was \$22,045.00 and A/P was \$25,346.00.

Police Department Update

Chief Raffaelly discussed with the Selectmen the Barracuda backup system that has been discussed for the past several weeks. The Police Department needs a redundant backup system of its information. Currently it has an older type setup that is not adequate for the amount of information that is currently being generated by the department. The Chief stated that they have researched this and have found that the Barracuda system proposed by the IT Consultant, is the best and the least expensive system. The Selectmen all approved this proposal of \$2,900.00 for 4 years and in the fifth year the device will be upgraded.

Chief Raffaelly told the Selectmen that last Wednesday was especially busy with call after call, it got so busy that they had to have Sanbornton PD help out for a few hours.

They still have two open positions for Officers and are actively looking for applicants.

Department of Public Works

Director Bernier stated that with the last big snowstorm they had, a plow truck caught fire and burned. The cab filled with smoke and the driver jumped out of the cab before flames started to shoot out from under the cab. The 2017 F-550 has been deemed a total loss.

Bernier brought several quotes for replacing the F-550 and also for upgrading that vehicle to a International CV 6500. This is a larger size truck which is in between current trucks, the F -550 and the 6-wheel dump truck.

A Fire Investigator for Primex the Towns risk pool came to look at the F-550. His assumption was that the PTO wire came loose and was striking metal which may have sparked, or a transmission line failed and sparked a fire. He also stated that this was a total loss on the truck.

Administration

Administrator Robichaud told the Selectmen that he has been in contact with the Franklin City Manager and has set up a meeting for Thursday February 2nd at 10:30 in Franklin to discuss the River Kayaking events that seem to clog Cross Mill Road with traffic on both sides of the road. The Selectmen are discussing no parking signs on

both sides of the road from the bridge up about 200 feet towards Hodgdon Road. Robichaud will report back to the Selectmen next week on his meeting in Franklin.

Administrator Robichaud discussed with the Selectmen that Saturday's Town Meeting will be held at Southwick School as in the past several years, they do not have a built-in sound system, so they will figure this out before that meeting.

Administrator Robichaud also discussed the public hearing for the 2023 budget will be held on Thursday February 16th 2023 at 6pm. The Selectmen and the Budget Committee in the past conduct a joint meeting and the Selectmen will continue this tradition. The Selectmen will not meet on Tuesday February 14th but will meet on Thursday February 16th at 5 pm.

Robichaud stated that he has received the 2023 warrant articles back from a review at DRA. There were only a few minor changes to avoid confusion on the article.

The Selectmen will hold a Selectmen's candidate night on March 1st, 2023 beginning at 6pm at the Town Hall.

Selectmen Hubbell would like Administrator Robichaud to contact New Hampshire Electric Co-op to express the Town's interest in having NHEC install fiber optic in the Town.

Review Minutes

Hubbell/Durgin motioned to accept the minutes of January 10th, there was discussion on this, and some minor changes made, all in favor, motioned passed on the amended changes.

Public Input Opened at 5:39 pm

Mr. Steve Sawicki from the local snowmobile club asked the Selectmen if they could temporarily use the right of way on Sergeant Street that the Town holds to access the Winni River Trail System, as the Railroad will not allow them to ride the tracks this year. The Selectmen discussed some of the issues that may come up, but after discussion they all were in favor of this temporary change for 2 the 2023 season.

Selectman Hubbell closed public input at 5:51pm

Other Business

None

Selectman Hubbell recessed the meeting at 5:51pm

Selectman Hubbell reconvened the meeting at 5:57pm

Sel. Hubbell made a motion at 5:58 pm to go into nonpublic session under NH RSA 91a; 3-II, (B, A) seconded by Sel. Waldron. 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 6:42 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.

Chairman Hubbell adjourned the meeting at 6:43 pm.

Minutes Recorded by Town Administrator-Ken Robichaud

Minutes approved February 7, 2023