NORTHFIELD BOARD OF SELECTMEN MEETING



Minutes of the meeting of February 8, 2022

Present: Selectman Mark Hubbell, and Selectman Jason Durgin.

Town Staff Present: Town Administrator Ken Robichaud, and DPW Director Justin Bernier.

Also Present: Ken Tomlin, Kristen Vaughn, Lance Turgeon, and Jasen Stock.

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

The Pledge of Allegiance was recited.

Payroll for week ending February 12, 2022, is \$22,733.00 and A/P is \$341,325.00.

Public Works Update-

Director Bernier presented the plan for road underdrainage for 2022 as follows- Shaker Road from Twin Bridge Road, Twin Bridge Road, Sarah, Silver and Megan Roads, as well as Bean Hill Road from where they stopped several years ago to about to the Condominiums. CT Bailey is interested in working with the Town for the underdrainage work., These roads will not be paved in 2022. The TA asked about using Recycled drainage pipe in place of the virgin piping. The paving plan for 2022 as of this date is to grind and pave Bay Hill Road from around Blueberry Lane to Fiske Road. The portion of Shaker Road from Fiske to Twin Bridge Road. Keyser Road from Turnpike Road to Bean Hill grind and pave. Overlay all of Union Road. Cross Mill Road overlay and Hodgeon Road may receive an overlay that still has to be reviewed.

Director Bernier reported that truck H-16 Freightliner, the sander gear box seized up. He purchased a new gear box, for \$1,600.00 and he will replace it along with the bearing and shaft.

The Selectmen discussed the current policy in place for Department Heads purchasing items over \$1,000.00. The policy states that the Department head must get 2 Selectmen to authorize a purchase of any item over \$1,000.00. He would like it at \$2,500.00 as it is the Department Heads job to run their department efficiently.

Selectmen Hubbell/Durgin motioned to raise the limit to \$2,500.00 for any purchase by a department head needing Selectmen's approval. Motion passed 2-0, all in favor.

Director Bernier reported that he will be meeting with Hiltz Construction about a home on Sandogardy Road that water running from the road into the home's property.

Selectmen Hubbell asked about salt and sand expenses to date for 2022. The Town Administrator stated that he looked at this today and we are below this time last year at about \$13,000.00 for salt use. In 2021 we were at \$35,000.00. The reason is that this year we are mixing salt with sand and not running straight salt as we did in 2021. Sand use is at \$4,500.00 at this time.

Administration Update

Town Administrator Robichaud reported that he has hired a new Code Enforcement/Building Inspector Officer, Scott LaCroix from Canterbury. Mr. Lacroix will have the same hours Tuesday and Thursday with some Saturday inspections as well.

Administrator Robichaud informed the Selectmen that he crafted a Selectmen's report for the annual Town Report. If they would review it and let the Administrator know if they have any changes that he needs to make as it is due to the printers on Friday.

The Administrator presented a vehicle title to the Selectmen so that the Town could transfer a former police vehicle over to the Town. The Town owns the vehicle, but it is currently under the Police Department. The DMV is changing the way they register vehicles in the state. All new vehicles or transfers will be done this way. The Selectmen signed the title as seller and buyer. The new title will be under the Town of Northfield.

The Administrator informed the Selectmen that the advertisement for a new Police Chief is in the Newspaper, on our website, the NHMA website, and if they would like it in a law Enforcement publication. The Selectmen asked for it to be placed in a publication for law enforcement.

Administrator Robichaud asked the Selectmen if they would consider an ordinance for pushing snow across the Town's Road. The Selectmen discussed this and will entertain an ordinance at next week's meeting. Currently you may not push snow across a State Road.

Selectman Hubbell asked about Cybertron meeting form last week. Administrator Robichaud stated that he did speak with Mr. Rich of Cybertron, and they are reviewing the invoice more closely and will remove some of the items listed.

Selectman Hubbell/Durgin motioned to change the detail pay for the officers from \$40.00 to \$45.00 per hour of detail. All in favor motion passed 2-0.

Hubbell/Durgin motioned to accept the minutes as changed, from a word change "Sore to Solar". All in favor, motion passed 2-0.

Public Input

Ken Tomlins- spoke to snow plowing across the road policy. Spoke to changing the sick time to separating vacation from sick time.

Selectman Hubbell recessed the meeting at 4:43 pm Selectman Hubbell reconvened the meeting at 4:52 pm

Lance Turgeon-Jasen Stock Presentation from Winnipesaukee Regional School District Because of a reduction in student enrollment the school Board has decided to drop the 20-million-dollar Bond for the addition to the schools.

Jasen Stock spoke to two bonds for the school district that are coming up for a district meeting vote in March. They presented what was being done at the 4 schools.

One bond was for the CTE program at the AG Center, which would provide more classroom space for those students seeking Cosmetology, Natural Resources, animal & Plant Science and Precision manufacturing. There are students from outside the district that tuition into the programs. They also stated that there was a student waiting list for these programs as well. upgrades to existing infrastructure, new roofs, skins on the outside walls, needed classroom space and facial upgrades.

The other bond was to redefine the entrances to all 4 schools in making them more secure. Also discussed was that Union Sanborn would be closed after this school year. As well as roof and wall work needed to be done. After the presentation was done the Selectmen took comments from the public-

Public Input

Heather Durgin- Had many questions- had 3 children go through the school system, she worked in most of the schools over the years.

Kristen Vaughn- Wanted to know the current school enrollment. Was surprised that only the first-year cost was disclosed which seemed vague because it was just an interest payment failed to discuss the next 14 years with the principle added in. The Tax impact to Northfield was almost double Tilton and Sanbornton cost.

Other Business

No other business

Sel. Hubbell made a motion at 6:09 pm to go into nonpublic session under NH RSA 91a; 3-II, (B) seconded by Sel. Durgin. Roll call vote–Selectman Hubbell–Yes, Selectman Durgin-Yes.

Hubbell/Durgin moved to reconvene the public session at 6:39 pm. Roll Call Vote, Selectman Hubbell-Yes, Selectman Durgin -Yes, Motion passed by unanimous roll call vote.

Hubbell/Durgin 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, Motion passed by unanimous roll call vote and the minutes are hereby sealed.

Other Business

When will the Candidates Night be held? The Selectmen decided to hold it on March 3rd at 6pm.

Next Week's Meeting on February 15th will begin at 5pm.

Selectman Hubbell declared the meeting adjourned at 6:44 pm.

Minutes Recorded by Town Administrator-Ken Robichaud

Minutes voted and approved on February 15, 2022