



## **NORTHFIELD BOARD OF SELECTMEN MEETING**

Minutes of the meeting of April 26, 2022

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

**Town Staff Present:** Town Administrator Ken Robichaud, Police Chief John Raffaely & PW Director Justin Bernier.

**Also Present:** Ken Tomlins, Scott Bourcier, Mario Focareto and Denny French.

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

The Pledge of Allegiance was recited.

Payroll for week ending is \$17,858.00 and A/P is \$25,937.00.

### **Police Department Update**

The new cruiser is here at the PD and is still awaiting a bracket. Car # 12 will be stripped of its emergency equipment and will be used as a Town vehicle. The current Crown Vic that is the current Town Vehicle will be sold.

### **Department of Public Works**

Truck #20 will be sent to Canada next week for the body to be inspected by the company that built it. This has been an issue since we got the vehicle and with COVID restrictions it has taken a while to resolve. Once the vehicle returns from Canada it will then be sent to Grappone Ford for other factory covered issues. The DPW has been screening loam for the Pines Park. There is still more to screen.

Engineering bids were discussed with the two companies that responded to the RFP's. Scott Bourcier from Gale Engineering and Mario Forcareto from Brown Engineering were the representatives. Chairman Hubbell invited Brown Engineering up to discuss their bid. Brown Engineering stated that they are prepared to do what they did last year on Bay Hill and Shaker Roads. Brown also stated that they are prepared to do what they stipulated in the bid documents.

Scott Bourcier representing Gale Engineering spoke to the Selectmen that there is a lot to the roads. He proposed that the Town needed to do a full survey on the roads to establish where the properties are in relation to the roads. He also went on to explain that when doing a road reclamation project this adds height to the roads and thus needing measurements and ditch elevations as well as profiles of existing cross culverts. Also needed were wetlands permitting as well.

Mario Forcareto from Brown Engineering asked if the DPW staff had been certified in Culvert Installations, Director Bernier stated that they had just recently been certified.

The Selectmen will review the bids some more and will decide next week on an award.

### **Administration**

The Administrator discussed with the Selectmen about the dates to have the auction on the Tax Lien properties on Shaker Road. June 11<sup>th</sup> or June 18<sup>th</sup> 2022. The discussion about Motorcycle Week came up as to which

weekend it should have less traffic. Motorcycle week starts on June 10<sup>th</sup> and ends on June 19<sup>th</sup>. The Town Administrator also stated that the auction would occur at the Town Hall because of extenuating circumstances.

The Administrator brought up the Avatar Town Clerks software package from last week. Selectmen Hubbell would like to hear from Cindy before he decides on it. we will try to hear form Cindy next week.

The Administrator brought up when the Selectmen must go to Town Meeting with an ordinance. There are certain RSA's in which the Selectmen must get approval prior to changing an ordinance and also when adjusting certain fees. The Administrator went through RSA 32, 41 and 42. In most cases; the Selectmen should have a public hearing when changing fees and/or ordinances.

The Town Administrator brought the Avitar Town Clerks program package back to the Selectmen for review. Selectmen Waldron stated that this has been coming to us for the last 2 years, Selectmen Hubbell stated that he spoke to NH Representative Greg Hill about this, and he expects some changes to the State System. Selectmen Hubbell wants to speak with the Town Clerk before he signs the agreement.

**Selectman Hubbell/Durgin motioned to accept the minutes of April 19, 2022. Discussion ensued, all in favor, motion passed.**

### **Other Business**

Selectman Hubbell asked the Town Administrator if he contacted New Hampshire Electric Cooperative (NHEC) on extending fiber optics into Northfield. The Administrator responded that he had but received no response as of yet. He will attempt another email this week.

Selectman Hubbell confronted Selectmen Waldron on not signing documents that he votes on or not on. And also, that it appears that Selectmen Waldron is not being helpful and seems to not want to work with the other selectmen, and it seems hostile. Selectman Waldron stated that he is not going to vote on something that he doesn't believe in just to get along. Selectmen Durgin addressed this issue last week, and again this week, has asked Selectmen Waldron why he does not sign the nonpublic meeting minutes, or the payroll or any other document, some veterans and elderly tax exemptions. Selectmen Durgin stated that he believed that Selectmen Waldron is not adhering to his oath of office, as he read an excerpt of the oath. Selectmen Waldron disagreed with him, Selectman Durgin stated that it appeared that Selectman Waldron did not want to work with the other Selectman and this discussion continued with back and forth for several more minutes.

Selectman Waldron brought up discussion from last week on roadside cleanup. Sheri Sprague will arrange a neighborhood roadside cleanup and will get the black bags from Town Hall and the Selectmen decided to have the bags dropped off at Town Hall for the DPW can pick up on Monday.

The Town Administrator updated the Selectmen that Durgin Electric has run all of the emergency generator wire, they have installed the transfer switch as well as installed the concrete pad last week.

The Town Administrator informed the Selectmen that last week a certified culvert training class was held in the basement of Town Hall and because of the town offering the site, the DPW was able to have 4 employees attend the class for no cost.

### **Public Input**

**Denny French-** was concerned that the Selectmen were not working together and was disappointed the way the other two Selectmen were treating Selectmen Waldron. He also said that it appeared that Selectmen Hubbell and Selectmen Durgin were working in collusion with one another.

Chairman Hubbell recessed the meeting at 6:32 pm.

Chairman Hubbell reconvened the meeting at 6:38 pm.

**Sel. Hubbell made a motion at 6:38 pm to go into nonpublic session under NH RSA 91a; 3-II, ( A,B&C ) seconded by Sel. Durgin. Roll call vote–Selectman Waldron–Yes, Selectman Durgin-Yes, and Selectman Hubbell- Yes. Motion passed by a 3-0 vote.**

**Hubbell/Durgin moved to reconvene the public session at 7:06 pm. Roll Call Vote, Selectman Waldron-Yes, Selectman Durgin -Yes, and Selectman Hubbell-Yes, Motion passed by a majority 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 Waldron–Yes, Selectman Durgin -Yes, and Selectman Hubbell -Yes. Motion passed by a 3-0 roll call vote and the minutes are hereby sealed.**

**Other Business-**

Selectman Hubbell adjourned the meeting at 9:00 pm.

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

**Minutes voted on and approved on May 3, 2022.**