



NORTHFIELD BOARD OF SELECTMEN MEETING

Minutes of the meeting of May 17, 2022

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

Town Staff Present: Town Administrator Ken Robichaud, Police Chief John Raffaely

Also Present: Ken Tomlins, Scott Hillard, Kristen Vaughn, and Jason Gerhard.

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

The Pledge of Allegiance was recited.

Payroll for week ending is \$21,284.00 and A/P is \$206,007.00

Police Department Update

The Chief requested from the Selectmen to purchase the new Detective's vehicle, that was approved at town meeting. The Chief would like the vehicle to be Black. Selectmen Waldron stated that it should be white, he stated that there are many studies as to why this is. There was much discussion on what color the vehicle should be, the Chief stated that he wanted it a different color than the front-line cruisers. A majority of the Selectmen were okay with it being black. The total amount of the new vehicle will be \$45,385.88 delivered.

Officer Doherty will be graduating from the Police Academy on May 27th. The Academy is limiting attendees to the graduation to only 4 people, 2 from Doherty's immediate family, and the Police Chief and Lt. will attend from Northfield.

Discussion turned to the outer vest that the Chief is wearing. Selectman Waldron said that it did not match the other officers and why was it different, it could make it confusing to the public. The Selectmen discussed this for some time.

Administration

The Town Administrator asked the Selectmen to allow the reissue of amnesty tickets for a resident who lost them. The Administrator told the Selectmen that they have not been used as of yet. The Selectmen were okay with this.

The Administrator informed the Selectmen that the two Shaker Road properties that were deeded by non-payment of taxes were on schedule to be auctioned off on June 11th at 10 am. The auction will be done at Town Hall. The Town Administrator will be present on that day.

The Selectmen meeting scheduled for June 7th will be held at the Pines Community Center. The Selectmen will begin their meeting at 5pm, and at 6pm there will be public input for any resident wishing to discuss curbside trash collection. When the new contract for curbside trash collection begins in 2024 there will be a large increase due to economic conditions as well as solid waste disposal costs. The Selectmen are considering revamping the current Transfer Station to get away from the costly curbside collection. In order to do this funding for this will need to be approved at the 2023 Town Meeting.

Discussion on hiring an engineering to monitor this year's paving of roads was discussed. Last month there was discussion on when the town paves roads this summer, the hiring of an engineer to monitor the progress of paving. This cost will be approx.\$1,200.00 per day to watch over the paving project which will include, checking for putting down the proper depths of asphalt, as well as proper compaction, also the mixture of asphalt will be monitored as well. The Selectmen decided to only hire the firm for the actual paving of the roads and not the reclaiming portion, this will be about 4-5 days of monitoring. The DPW Director will get firm dates to the Engineering firm of when the paving will occur.

Town Administrator Robichaud presented a rental agreement to the Selectmen for the monthly rental of a rubber tire excavator for the DPW use this summer. There was much discussion on this topic, and it was requested that Director Bernier be reached via phone for discussion. The Selectmen wanted to make sure that this machine is used as much as possible. Bernier stated that he has plenty of jobs for this machine, and he said it will be used for the entire month. Selectmen Durgin signed the agreement after much discussion via phone with DPW Director Bernier.

Selectman Durgin had questions for the Administrator. Hidden Lane off of Summer Street was brought up and if the Town was moving forward with turning that small area into a class VI Road. It will be brought to Town Meeting in 2023. The bonding for repaving all Town roads was brought up and it was decided that it probably will not happen, as interest is rising, the cost to bond is more expensive now. We will revisit it as we move forward each year.

Selectman Waldron asked about Kimball Street and what is happening there. Administrator Robichaud stated that he informed the Code Enforcement Officer of the issue, and he was expected to address it with the owner.

Selectman Waldron/Durgin motioned to approve the minutes of the meeting on May 3rd, 2022. All in favor, motion passed 3-0.

Other Business

Selectman Hubbell asked about Employee Appreciation Day. Selectman Waldron stated that we don't have a day, set aside for employee appreciation. Selectmen stated that we should have one that is outside. The Administrator said that he will pick a day to hold it outside.

Selectman Hubbell discussed with the Board that he will move the Selectmen's meeting to the 1st and 3rd Tuesday of the month, beginning in June. There will not be a Selectmen's meeting on May 31st. This will be a trial period for the summer, although if there is an urgent need to meet, he will schedule a meeting as needed. Selectman Waldron stated that this board has a lot to do, we should be meeting more often, not less. Durgin asked how many ordinances do we have? Administrator Robichaud stated that all ordinances are on the website, Durgin asked if the Selectmen could have a copy of them to review, Robichaud stated that he will give them a list.

Public Input

Scott Hillard- Spoke to current Police Issues in Northfield.

Kristen Vaughn-Spoke to the hiring process of a new Police Chief.

Jason Gerhard- Spoke to having ordinances and why have them.

Chairman Hubbell recessed the meeting at 6:37 pm

Chairman Hubbell called the meeting back into session at 6:42 pm

Sel. Hubbell made a motion at 6:42 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 motioned to reconvene the public session at 8:41pm. 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.

Selectman Hubbell adjourned the meeting at 8:43 pm.

Minutes Recorded by Town Administrator-Ken Robichaud

Minutes voted and approved on May 31 2022.