



NORTHFIELD BOARD OF SELECTMEN MEETING

Minutes of the meeting of May 2nd, 2023

Present: Selectman Jason Durgin, Selectman Mark Hubbell, and Selectman Ross Cunningham

Town Staff Present: Town Administrator Ken Robichaud, DPW Director Justin Bernier and Police Chief Mike Hutchinson.

Others Present: Former Chief John Raffaelly, Lt. Jesse Colby, Sgt. Holly Harris, Officer Anna Doherty, Officer Caleb Daniels, Officer Dickie Paulhus, Officer Jim Laverly, Officer Adam Seligman, AA Terry Glines.

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

Selectmen Durgin conducted swearing in ceremony for newly appointed Police Chief Michael Hutchinson.

Selectmen Durgin conducted swearing in ceremony for newly appointed Police Lt. Jesse Colby.

Administration

Town Administrator Robichaud presented the Selectmen with a 3-year contract extension from Cybertron who handles all of the IT services for the town of Northfield. This contract extension comes with no increase in costs over the next 3 years, in which Cybertron has been providing these services for 6 years now and has not increased their costs since their inception.

Selectman Cunningham/Hubbell motioned to accept the 3-year contract from Cybertron with no increase in costs. All in favor, motion passed.

Robichaud presented to the Selectmen an issue that has come up at Glines Park. The Park sits on 69 acres, which includes the beach area and bathhouse which were improved with a grant that was received from the federal government. The Bathhouse was closed by the Selectmen in 2020 because of vandalism. The grant unfortunately, dictates that the bathhouse shall remain open for everyone to use. Also, a portion of the 69 acres off of Sandogardy Pond Road it appears that the Town has been using this part of the property as a sand pit. This has been going on for some time, it appears in 2020 the area was used as a staging area for equipment during the rebuilding of Sandogardy Pond Road. This also is not an allowed use within the grant regulations and must be cleaned up and put back into its original appearance. The DPW will work on correcting the issues during late summer and fall.

Police Department

Chief Hutchinson informed the Selectmen on the HVAC issue that has been discussed here the last several meetings. They are going to pressure test the system to see if any leaks occur.

The Chief again updated the Selectmen on the new cruiser. Currently, the cruiser is at Global Safety where it will undergo its emergency lights installation, as well as all emergency equipment. There was more discussion on adding to the fleet as opposed to replacing vehicles. We will address this again at another time.

Department of Public Works

DPW Director Bernier presented to the Selectboard results of the Paving Bids for top coating Bay Hill Rd, Shaker Rd., and Keasor Rd. These roads had a base applied last year and this will be the final coat. The bids were as follows R&D Paving- \$295,815.00, Pike Industries - \$307,100.00, GMI Paving - \$318,940.00, Bryant Paving \$330,780.00.

Sel. Cunningham/Hubbell motion to accept & award the bid to R&D Paving for \$295,815.00. All in favor, motion passed.

Bernier next presented to the Selectboard the quotes for a new zero turn mower. He received 4 quotes, the lowest quote being \$6,625.00. Bernier stated that he budgeted \$6,000.00. last year for a new mower but the cost had increased \$625.00 more than budgeted. He would also like to keep the 2011 mower that this is replacing as they just replaced both drive shafts late last year. The other quotes were \$6,959.99, \$7,394.15, and \$7,949.25.

Sel. Cunningham/Hubbell motioned to accept the bid from Greenland equipment for \$6,625.00. All in favor, motion passed.

New Business

T/A Robichaud discussed with the Selectboard that the Parks Commission are having a roadside cleanup this month and would like to have the Selectboard approve the use of the Transfer Station if they pickup heavy items like mattresses and tires and such, as Freedom Dumpster is donating a free dumpster for their use but is requesting that only bagged trash be put into the dumpster.

Sel. Cunningham/Hubbell motioned to allow the Parks Commission to bring large items to the transfer Station from Saturday's roadside pickup day. All in favor, motion passed.

T/A Robichaud brought up for discussion the Shaker Road Boat Launch and the current condition of the area. There are tires, mattress and trash bags at the ramp area and should the Town clean it up. I can't find any signed documentation on any agreement as to what entity would be the responsible party in policing that area up. Although there is some intent on a document that the Town would be the responsible party, I am asking the Selectboard to decide if we will be responsible for the cleanup of the area. Discussion ensued on the need for signage on illegal dumping, no overnight parking, and possibly a LED streetlight to illuminate the area. The Selectmen authorized the DPW to clean up the area.

The last item for Robichaud was to have the Selectmen sign the lease for the new Truck for DPW. This truck will replace the 2017 F-550 that was damaged by fire in February. The cost for the truck is \$164,500.00 at 4.25% for 3 years with the insurance payment of \$61,000.00 offsetting the overall price. The Selectmen signed the agreement.

Unfinished Business

None

Other Business

Selectman Hubbell brought up meeting with the Franklin Mills Falls White Water Committee here this month.

Selectman Cunningham spoke to the success of his Saturday morning talk with residents at the library.

Public Input

Scott Haskins- Happy with the new agenda, the rocks from the gravel pit can be used at the Pines Park.

Steve Fage- He is happy with the new Police Chief and LT., and it appears that they will do well.

Sergio Cedeno- When will the rest of Shaker Road be finished, is there a plan for Knowles Pond Road.

Carl Bartlett- There is a retention pond near the fields off of Zion Hill, it need to be cleaned out.

Review Minutes

Cunningham/Hubbell motioned to accept the minutes of April 18th and April 24th 2023 as presented, all in favor, motioned passed.

Chairman Durgin recessed the meeting at 6:24 pm.

Chairman Durgin called the meeting back to order at 6:27 pm.

Non-Public Session

Sel. Durgin made a motion at 6:27 pm to go into nonpublic session under NH RSA 91a; 3-II, (A)(C)(L) seconded by Sel. Hubbell. Roll call vote–Selectman Cunningham–Yes, Selectman Hubbell- Yes. Selectman Durgin – Yes. Motion passed by a 3-0 vote.

Sel. Durgin/Hubbell motioned to reconvene the public session at 7:18 pm. Roll Call Vote, Selectman Cunningham-Yes, and Selectman Hubbell-Yes, Selectman Durgin – Yes. Motion passed by a 3-0 roll call vote.

Sel. Durgin/Cunningham 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 Cunningham–Yes, Selectman Durgin – Yes, and Selectman Hubbell -Yes. Motion passed by a 3-0 roll call vote and the minutes are hereby sealed.

Chairman Durgin adjourned the meeting at 7:19 pm.

Minutes approved May 23, 2023