



## NORTHFIELD BOARD OF SELECTMEN MEETING

Minutes of the meeting of May 3, 2022

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

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

**Also Present:** Ken Tripple, Ken Tomlins, Heather Durgin and Lisa Thorne.

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

The Pledge of Allegiance was recited.

Payroll for week ending is \$19,917.00 and A/P is \$32,818.00

### **Police Department Update**

The Chief is waiting for quotes for the new Detective's vehicle. The vehicle will have less equipment than a front-line patrol vehicle which will be less money.

### **Department of Public Works**

Director Bernier brought forward the Engineering Bids for roadside drainage that were opened several weeks ago and discussed last week.

**Selectmen Hubbell/Durgin motioned to award the bid to Brown Engineering. Selectman Waldron stated that Brown Engineering provided a bid that was requested. Gale Engineering stated in the bid more in-depth work than that was requested. Therefore, the bid is considered non-responsive to the RFP. All in favor motion passes to accept Brown Engineering.**

Director Bernier is waiting for a proposal from an Engineering firm to monitor the paving project. He has not received it yet.

Selectman Waldron stated that he has seen the street sweeper in town. Director Bernier said that yes, it is sweeping the streets in Town.

Selectman Waldron administered the Oath of Office to newly hired Detective Sergeant, Holly Harris. Detective Sergeant Harris was happy to be a part of the Northfield Police Department. Detective Sergeant Harris was accompanied by her family and friends for the ceremony.

### **Administration**

Town Administrator Robichaud informed the Selectmen that the owner of 54 Elm Street has not responded to any letters or phone calls from the Code Enforcement Officer about safety concerns to his construction project. Last month the wind blew most of the 3<sup>rd</sup> floor onto the streets below and left the pile of rubble in an unsafe manor. The Selectmen would like to move forward on getting this cleaned up and secured.

The A/C project in the basement of the Town Hall has been completed and is working well.

The roof on the Town Hall appears to need replacement in the next 12-18 months. It was discussed that we can put on a metal roof or continue with the asphalt roof material. It was decided to put this out to RFP in late fall for replacement in the spring.

Resident Ken Tripple has requested to be appointed by the Selectmen to the Planning Board as an alternate member. There was some discussion on how many positions are available. The Administrator stated that there are 2 alternate positions and 1 regular member position. Mr. Tripple is requesting the alternate position.

**Selectman Durgin/Waldron motioned to appoint Ken Tripple to the Northfield Planning Board as an alternate member. All in favor motion passed.**

Next Week the Town Administrator will be at a conference so there will be no Tuesday night Selectmen's meeting. The next meeting will be on Tuesday the 17<sup>th</sup> of May. The Administrator asked if the Selectmen would consider meeting on the 1<sup>st</sup> and 3<sup>rd</sup> Tuesdays of the month during the summer months. Selectman Hubbell said that he would consider it after this break to see how it goes.

Administrator Robichaud gave the Selectmen an update as to some upcoming property tax relief in the next several months. These will be paid through the state of NH general fund surplus, and would be for road and bridge construction, maintenance, or repair as well as Police body cameras. The distribution dollar amount shall be by population, miles of roads in town and bridge deck area proportions. The body cameras will be a reimbursement type program up to \$50,000.00.

The Town Administrator also handed out a Board of Selectmen Guidelines and Procedures document as well as an Animal Control Officers log for next meeting discussion.

The NH Electric Cooperative reached out to the Town Administrator on to when they thought the Town would be receiving fiber optics form them. Selectman Hubbell stated that it would be several more years for the lines to be strung for this project.

**Sel. Hubbell made a motion at 6:05 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/Waldron moved to reconvene the public session at 7:24 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.**

Selectman Hubbell recessed the meeting at 7:24pm

Selectman Hubbell called the meeting back in session at 7:38pm

Selectman Durgin/Waldron motioned to approve the minutes of the meeting of April 26<sup>th</sup> 2022, as presented. Selectman Waldron noticed an error in the work Clerk, with it corrected all were in favor of the motion, motion passed.

### **Other Business**

Selectman Waldron stated that he was disappointed to last week's meeting when Selectman Hubbell and Selectmen Durgin "attacked him" about not signing documents which may have been considered by some as a breach to his "oath of office". Selectman Waldron stated that he is the most dedicated, open, and honest person to sit on these boards. It was totally inappropriate and unnecessary. He does not hold grudges and he will move on from this.

### **Public Input**

**Heather Durgin-** Informed the Selectmen that the Conservation Commission conducted a trash clean-up day at Glines Park, and the Boat Launch on Shaker Road between both places they were able to pick up 8 contractor bags of trash. They would like to make this a yearly event with one cleanup in the spring and one in the fall.

**Ken Tomlins-** spoke to what was said last week that if only 25 residents show up to a meeting and voice their concerns, is this a true consensus of the Town. But if only 25 shows up this is what you have to use for a metric.

**Sel. Hubbell made a motion at 8:00 pm to go into nonpublic session under NH RSA 91a; 3-II, ( B ) seconded by Sel. Waldron. 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 8:28 pm. Roll Call Vote, Selectman Waldron-Yes, Selectman Durgin -Yes, and Selectman Hubbell-Yes, Motion passed by a majority 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.**

Selectman Hubbell adjourned the meeting at 8:30 pm.

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

**Minutes voted on and approved on May 17, 2022.**