

NORTHFIELD BUDGET COMMITTEE

Minutes of the meeting of January 2, 2020

Present: George Corliss, Carl Bartlett, Steve Randall, Kaitlin Lounsbury, Morris Boudreau, Kevin Waldron, Sel. Glen Brown

Others Present: Wayne Crowley, Stephanie Giovannucci

George Corliss called the meeting to order at 6:00 pm.

Randall/Morris moved to approve minutes of April 11, 2019 **Motion passed.**

- **Appoint Chair and Vice Chair**

Randall/ Brown moved to appoint George Corliss as chairman. **Motion passed.**

Both Kevin Waldron and Steve Randall expressed interest in being vice chairman.

The Board recommended doing a secret ballot to appoint a vice chair.

Randall/Waldron both received 3 votes each. George Corliss appointed both Randall/Waldron to Vice Chair to sub for each other.

- **Schedule**

The Board discussed which night worked best for the next 5 meetings. The Board agreed to keep their meetings on Thursday night and move the time back to 7:30 pm. Mr. Corliss suggested meeting with each department on a single night. After discussion the Board decided to combine a few departments and start with Town Clerk/Tax Collector and Public Works Department for the first meeting.

Mrs. Giovannucci suggested that if the Budget Committee drops any outside agencies then they should give them a chance to come back and hear the reasoning. Randall noted that the CIP Plan that has been updated noting changes such as costs over \$20,000 will be part of CIP.

- **Outside Agencies**

Mr. Randall is concerned with the Hall Memorial Library increase each year. Mrs. Giovannucci stated that the increase has nothing to do with salaries; it's electric, gas, insurance increases. Mr. Randall believes that the Library does not invest the trusts with more risks. Mrs. Giovannucci stated that the Trustees updated the investment policy last year to take some additional risks, but reminded the board that their trusts are restricted and most of the interest is restricted as well. Mr. Randall wanted to see the investment policy, Mrs. Giovannucci will look into the Hall Memorial Library investment policy to see if it is public.

Sel. Brown/Randall moved to approve the Outside Agencies with the exception of Hall Memorial Library as presented.

Mr. Waldron stated if we are going to group them together, which he is not a fan of then it should be all of them not pick and choose. Mr. Boudreau agreed. **Motion Denied - Motion Withdrawn by Sel. Brown**

Waldron/Boudreau moved to consider all Outside Agencies as separate. **Motion Passed.**

Waldron/Lounsbury moved to approve Community Action Program for \$11,000. **Motion Passed by unanimous vote.**

Randall/Boudreau moved to approve Trade and Event for \$2,000. **Motion Passed 5 to 1.**

Randall/Lounsbury moved to approve Waypoint for \$3,500. **Motion Passed 5 to 1.**

Lounsbury/Randall moved to approve Tilton-Northfield Recreation for \$69,750. Mr. Waldron asked if services were provided at a lower than the market rates. Ms. Lounsbury reminded the Board that they are under the average rate even after being increased, but the users still have to apply for financial aid even at the lower rate. Mr. Waldron recommended leaving the funding the same as last year since the services increase but the rates stay the same leaving the burden on the tax payers. **Motion Passed 5 to 1.**

Randall/Waldron moved to approve Park Cemetery Assoc. for \$6,000. **Motion Passed unanimously.**

Randall/Boudreau moved to approve Youth Assistance Program for \$58,320. **Motion Passed 5 to 1.**

Waldron moved to approve \$130,000 for Hall Memorial Library – **Motion Failed with no second.**

Lounsbury/Bartlett moved to approve \$131,950 for Hall Memorial Library. Mr. Randall stated that his concerns have already been heard on this. Mr. Bartlett asked Randall if he utilizes the Library and he stated no he does not he utilize other resources. Mr. Bartlett notated that then it's his opinion that he is voting on something that he doesn't know what he is voting on. Mr. Randall added that he sees the Library as constantly asking for funding without generating funding on their own. Mr. Bartlett added that the Library is an asset to the community that benefits the most important citizens of the Town which are the kids. Ms. Lounsbury reminded the Board that they are trying to establish a 501C3 so they can do fundraisers and accept donations, but this takes time, plus they do a lot of public awareness in the Town and they do try to create additional funding with the restrictions they have. **Motion Passed 3 voted yes, 2 no, and 1 abstention.**

Randall/Lounsbury moved to approve Old Home Day for \$3,000. Mr. Waldron asked how much do they have in the bank. Mr. Randall noted that they usually have upfront cost. Mr. Waldron said shouldn't their account be a wash account. Mr. Bartlett pointed out that in 2019 they only netted in \$644.67. **Motion Passed unanimously.**

Waldron/Randall moved to approve \$5,000 for Visiting Nurse Association. **Motion Passed unanimously.**

The next meeting will be on January 9, 2020 at 7:30 pm for Public Works Department and Town Clerk/Tax Collector.

There being no other business the meeting was adjourned at 7:05 pm

Minutes approved January 9, 2020