

**NORTHFIELD BOARD OF SELECTMEN MEETING**  
**Minutes of the Meeting of October 16, 2018**

Present: Sel. Crowley, Sel. Brown, Sel. Haskins  
Also Present: Chief Raffaely, Andy Buteau, Glenn Smith, Greg Hill, Scott McGuffin, Peter Minkow,  
Teresa Mahoney Mullen

The meeting was called to order at 5:00pm

**1. Public Input**

The Chair recognized Rep. Greg Hill who presented an advance copy of an education funding plan produced by a state committee. He reported that Northfield does pretty well under the new plan. The plan eliminates stabilization grants immediately, raises base adequacy by about \$200 per student and increases differentiated aid by \$700 per student. Third grade reading program is eliminated. The plan creates a grant program based on equalized value per student.

Rep. Hill stated that the upcoming candidate forum on school funding is not a good idea because of differences between the sponsoring communities Northfield and Franklin. Sel. Crowley and Rep. Hill discussed the similarities and differences in school funding between Franklin and Northfield. Rep. Hill stated that we are spending \$10,000 more per student adjusted for inflation than was being spent before the Claremont decision, the question is not how much is spent but how it is spent.

Rep. Hill and Sel. Crowley discussed various means of funding education statewide.

Rep. Hill reported that he has been appointed as chair to the NH School Building Aid Authority.

The Chair recognized Scott McGuffin who introduced Peter Minkow and Teresa Mahoney Mullen of the law firm of Minkow & Mahoney Mullen, P.A. Attorney Minkow indicated that he had been town counsel for Moultonborough for 16 years but is not now representing any towns. In addition, he has served as Chair of the Laconia ZBA. Attorney Mullen noted that she did not have any direct municipal experience but has worked with Attorney Minkow on his municipal work. The attorneys agreed to provide a rate structure.

**2. Public Works Department**

Public Works Director Andy Buteau updated the Board on the status of paving projects and discussed salt prices.

Sel. Brown discussed the upcoming CIP meeting with Andy, including the scheduling of the meeting between the town and sewer and water districts.

**3. Police Department**

Chief Raffaely reported that the department's Hummer has been delivered. Also he is working on the 2019 budget. Sel. Haskins discussed the Hummer cover with Chief Raffaely.

Andy Buteau reported that citizens continue to call to ask his crew to move or remove fallen trees, replace mailboxes or clean culverts because they believe the town provides these services. He reports that in the past the town has provided the services but he is trying to wean citizens of these expectations. He asked that the Board support him in these efforts. He also reported that citizens can be nasty when communicating with his employees and that the crew reports that the job would be great if they didn't have to deal with the public.

Sel. Haskins said that he still likes the idea of sending a letter to citizens but sees Andy's point. Board members discussed responsibility for cleaning ditches, fallen limbs, etc. Andy was asked to draft bullet points for a letter to residents.

#### **4. Administration**

Town Administrator Glenn Smith presented a report on the status of Gibson Mill Road, which Board members reviewed. Glenn was asked to get an estimate from the firm of Minkow & Mahoney Mullen for this work.

Andy expressed concern for the lack of turn arounds on several roads across town. Glenn was asked to research the length of Granite Street.

Board members reviewed the 2019 budget proposal of Child and Family Services and supplemental information provided by the Visiting Nurse Association. Glenn was asked to invite representatives of both agencies to a future meeting.

Glenn updated the board on the status of tax sale properties. Board members asked that he contact Greg Peverley concerning this. Glenn reviewed the possible schedule for setting the 2018 tax rate.

Glenn reviewed website upgrade options.

#### **5. General Business**

Board members reviewed accounts payable, payroll manifests and general correspondence. **Crowley/Brown** moved to accept the minutes of the meeting of October 9, 2018. **Motion passed.**

#### **6. Non-public Session (RSA 91A-3 II a, c)**

**Crowley/Brown** moved to enter into non-public session under the provisions of RSA 91-A3II a,c at 7:23pm. **Motion passed by unanimous roll call vote.** Also Present: Glenn Smith. **Crowley/Brown** moved to reconvene the public session at 9:30pm. **Motion passed by unanimous roll call vote.**

**Crowley/Haskins** moved to seal the minutes of the nonpublic session as divulgence would adversely affect the reputation of a person not a member of the Board. **Motion passed.**

There being no other business the meeting was adjourned at 9:31pm.

**APPROVED BY THE NORTHFIELD SELECTBOARD ON OCTOBER 23, 2018**