

NORTHFIELD BOARD OF SELECTMEN MEETING
Minutes of the Meeting of Tuesday October 9, 2018

Present: Sel. Crowley, Sel. Brown (present telephonically), Sel. Haskins
Also Present: Glenn Smith, Mason Donovan, Rachel Wells

The meeting was called to order at 5:00pm

1. Public Input

The Chair recognized State Senate candidate Mason Donovan who introduced himself and identified his most important issue as the property tax. He maintains that the state keeps walking away from its fiscal responsibilities, shifting costs to localities. In response to a question from the Board, Mr. Donovan stated that he would work to restore state funding, including state support of the retirement system and stabilization funding. He would pay for this by reallocating business profits tax revenues. He would also freeze stabilization decreases to give communities a better chance to plan.

Additional topics of discussion included environmental concerns, the minimum wage, all day kindergarten and the policy differences between Mr. Donovan and Senator French.

Northfield Selectmen identified their priority as the expenses that the state is shifting to towns and cities and the impact of this on local property tax payers.

2. Public Works Department

Sel. Crowley reported that Public Works Director Andy Buteau does not see the need to change how his town cell phone is used. Glenn was asked to verify that persons calling the 286-4490 number after hours are instructed to call the Sheriff's Office in case of emergency.

3. Administration

Crowley/Haskins moved to appoint Andy Buteau as a full member of the Capital Improvement Program Committee. **Motion Passed.**

Board members discussed the request of Alan Beetle that the town support a study commissioned by the WOW Trail Committee group to investigate the economic impact of abandoning the railroad tracks running from the Tilton/Northfield line to Weirs Beach and replacing the tracks with a pedestrian/bike path. **Crowley/Brown** moved to support the WOW Trail Committee railroad corridor study with the understanding that such support is not an endorsement at this time of the idea that the tracks in this area be abandoned. **Motion passed.**

Board members reviewed a letter from town attorney Scott McGuffin concerning his upcoming retirement and instructed Glenn to invite the attorney's absorbing Mr. McGuffin's practice, the firm of Minkow and Mahoney, to an upcoming meeting.

Board members reviewed 2019 budget requests of the Old Home Day Committee, Community Action Program and Visiting Nurse Association, opting to recommend the requested funding level for the Old Home Day Committee, Community Action Program. Board members asked Glenn to obtain additional information from VNA concerning the return on their investments.

Town Administrator Glenn Smith updated the Board on the upcoming candidates forum co-sponsored by the City of Franklin and provided information on website redesign.

Sel. Crowley reported that Chief Raffaely has spoken with the resident living at the end of the gravel portion of Shedd Road. The resident currently allows town trucks to turn around in his driveway when plowing. Chief Raffaely reported that the resident will allow Casella trash trucks to do the same. This will allow Casella to offer curbside service on the road so residents will not have to bring their trash to the Shedd Road/Shaker Road intersection. Sel. Crowley reported that Andy will communicate this to Casella.

Glenn outlined the need to increase the amount of the town's line of credit with Bank of New Hampshire given the delay in receiving funds from NHDOT. **Crowley/Haskins** moved to increase the amount of its 2018 line of credit with the Bank of New Hampshire by \$1,200,000, from \$600,000 to \$1,800,000 and that Selectboard Chair Wayne Crowley and Selectman Scott Haskins are authorized to sign documents required to facilitate this increase and to draw funds from the line of credit. **Motion passed.**

4. General Business

Board members reviewed accounts payable, payroll manifests and general correspondence. **Crowley/Brown** moved to approve the minutes of the meeting of October 3, 2018 as amended. **Motion passed.**

There being no other business the meeting was adjourned at 6:19pm.

APPROVED BY THE NORTHFIELD SELECTBOARD ON OCTOBER 16, 2018