

NORTHFIELD BOARD OF SELECTMEN MEETING
Minutes of the Meeting of November 26, 2013

Present: Sel. Bluhm, Sel. Shepard, Sel. Waldron
Also Present: Steve Sawiki, Chief Raffaely, Glenn Smith

The meeting was called to order at 5:30 pm

Bluhm/Shepard moved to enter into non-public session under the provisions of RSA 91-A3IIa, b at 5:32pm. **Motion passed by unanimous roll call vote.** Present at the non-public session were Chief Raffaely and Glenn Smith. **Bluhm/Shepard** moved to reconvene the public session at 5:50pm. **Motion passed by unanimous roll call vote.**

Board members reviewed outstanding items in the 2014 budget request:

Board members reviewed the quotes for police cruiser and police utility vehicle filed by Chief Raffaely. Utility vehicle costs \$1,800 more than the cruiser. Sel. Shepard asked what added value will the town receive for this additional cost. The Chief responded that the utility vehicle had advantages in rear visibility and for getting into and out of the vehicle. Board members discussed the pros and cons of the two vehicles and agreed to fund the utility vehicle.

Sel. Waldron inquired of the animal control contract, he has heard that the contractor is not performing his job up to expectations. Chief Raffaely reported that he is happy with the service provided. Sel. Bluhm noted that the other contractor in this area, the Humane Society is much more expensive and is located further away in Laconia. **Bluhm/Shepard** moved to include \$10,950 in the 2014 budget request for the animal control contracts. **Motion passed 2-1.**

Board members reviewed the Health Officer, General Building Equipment, Incineration Contract, Elections, and Park Cemetery, Patriotic Purposes, Welfare Administration, Debt Service, Economic Development, Conservation and Revenue budget lines.

Steve Sawiki inquired as to the repairs on Bean Hill Road and the culvert issues he discussed earlier. Glenn was asked to work with Johnny Van Tassel on this. Steve also asked for sand for 36 sandbags to be used for snowmobile trails this winter. Board members authorized this on the condition that he uses the lower quality sand stored on Johnson Road.

Board members discussed and voted on certain budget requests:

Shepard/Bluhm moved to level fund Child and Family Services for 2014. **Motion passed 2-1**

Bluhm/Shepard moved to recommend the Youth Assistance request of \$56,428. **Motion passed. 2-1.**

Bluhm/Shepard moved to recommend the Community Action Program request of \$10,212.

Motion passed 2-1.

Bluhm/Shepard moved to level fund Welfare vendor payments **Motion passed 2-1.**

Bluhm/Shepard moved to fund Island Park Maintenance at a level of \$500. **Motion passed 2-1.**

Bluhm Shepard moved to level fund Hall Memorial Library. **Motion passed 2-1.** Glenn was asked to compare HML services and hours to those in other towns.

Board members questioned the absence of a request for funding for Island Concerts and asked Glenn to follow up on the matter.

The Chair declared a recess at 8:20 pm

The Chair reconvened the meeting at 8:25 pm

Board members agreed to fund Old Home Day at the requested \$2,500 with Sel. Shepard recusing herself from this decision.

Bluhm/Shepard moved to level fund Tilton/Northfield Recreation Council. **Motion passed 2-1.**

Bluhm/Shepard moved to accept the CIP committee recommendations on page 30 of the budget worksheet. **Motion passed 3-0.**

Bluhm/Shepard moved to fund Rand Road project at \$164,848. Sel. Waldron expressed concern with spending this amount, saying that the CIP committee had been told that there wasn't sufficient space to provide adequate drainage and he didn't feel the town should repave this road if it couldn't provide the drainage. Board members discussed the matter and agreed to obtain more information. **Motion tabled.**

Board members discussed the proposed repairs to Cannon Bridge and deferred action in the absence of a written estimate.

Board members discussed salary increases. It was decided that only those employees hired after Sept. 1, 2013 would be eligible for merit increases. Glenn was asked to update his spreadsheet accordingly.

Board members discussed changes to the budget preparation schedule and agreed to discuss the purchase of a highway truck next week.

There being no other business the meeting was adjourned at 10:50 pm

APPROVED BY THE NORTHFIELD BOARD OF SELECTMEN ON DECEMBER 3, 2013