

NORTHFIELD BOARD OF SELECTMEN MEETING
Minutes of the Meeting of Tuesday, December 20, 2016

Present: Sel. Crowley, Sel. Southworth, Sel. Allen
Also Present: Chief Raffaely, Andy Buteau, Glenn Smith

The meeting was called to order at 5:00pm

1. Police Department

Chief Raffaely reported that he is still waiting for information from Merrimack County and the City of Franklin for dispatch services. Sel. Crowley inquired as to the consequences of not contracting for dispatch services. Chief Raffaely responded that the town would have to dispatch 2nd and 3rd shifts itself and hire the necessary people to do so.

Chief Raffaely reported that he is still tossing around the idea of not purchasing a cruiser each year. He noted that the voters did not authorize purchase in 2005 and bought two in 2006. He recommended that the board bring the options to the budget committee and let the people vote on it. Sel. Allen said that he thought the decision was to buy a cruiser this year but not next year since we now have a mechanic on board who can implement a maintenance program. He asked the Chief if we still need to replace cruisers at 100,000 miles now that the mechanic is on board. The Chief responded that there are no records concerning this. He also stated that Ford is reintroducing the Crown Victoria and said that he is looking into buying a used vehicle from Portsmouth. Sel. Southworth asked if it was his recommendation to put the new cruiser on the warrant. Chief Raffaely responded that it was.

Sel. Southworth asked how many officers are qualified to operate the motorcycle. Chief Raffaely responded that four were. He is trying to get more officers certified but training classes are hard to get into.

Glenn reviewed cell plan data overages for the department.

2. Public Works Department

Public Works Director Andy Buteau reviewed a situation on Knowles Pond Road in which a resident has created a new road access without a permit in order to facilitate logging activities. Andy noted that the gravel now filling the roadside drainage ditch renders the drainage system useless. Glenn reviewed the current driveway regulations; Board members asked that he develop a temporary access permit procedure.

Andy and Board members discussed the ordering, use and stockpiling of salt. Selectmen advised Andy to stockpile salt as needed.

Andy reported that the radio has been installed in the new truck and that the truck is being returned to Donovan for an adjustment to the sander. He also reported activity related to the recent storm and presented quotes for a proposed second backhoe.

Andy presented a proposed solution to the level spreader problem on the property of George Corliss. The solution was developed by the USDA at the request of Mr. Corliss. Board members reviewed the

materials presented along with an estimated cost obtained by Mr. Corliss from Ken Partridge and agreed that they constituted an effective, low cost solution to the problem. **Crowley/Southworth** moved to accept the quote from Ken Partridge to repair the Forrest Road level spreader at a cost of \$6,980, not including piping which is provided by the town, work as proposed by the USDA. The motion was amended to stipulate that no other work will be done to resolve this problem. **Motion passed as amended.**

Sel. Southworth asked for an update on the new hire; Andy responded that he was working out well.

3. Administration

Board members discussed the request of Dwight Barton that the deed executing the repurchase of Cross Mill Village be executed in advance of receipt of payment, to be held in escrow by Mr. Barton's representative until Mr. Barton can make payment. Board members decided by consensus to deny the request and asked Glenn to let Mr. Barton know that they would gladly execute the deed once the statutory repayment amount has been received.

Board members reviewed the 2017 budget proposal and finalized their recommendations. They also reviewed the proposed town warrant.

Town Administrator Glenn Smith presented a list of proposed year-end encumbrances. **Crowley/Allen** moved to authorize year end encumbrances as proposed. **Motion passed.**

Glenn informed the Board that the town had received its settlement check in its suit against the Local Government Center.

Board members decided not to accept the current offer for the property at the corner of Bean Hill Road and Ski Hill Drive. Glenn informed the Board that the counter-offer on the Reservoir Road property has been accepted.

Board members reviewed the engineering report of Rick Lepene which evaluated the base of South Park Road and agreed that the road meets town specifications. They agreed to accept ownership of the road pending if two outstanding issues could be resolved: a) receipt of a bond, escrow funds or some similar instrument to cover the cost of adding a top coat when that becomes appropriate. And b) agreement of a written plan specifying the degree of development that must occur before the town accepts ownership. Glenn was asked to communicate this information to Mr. Cormier and his attorney.

4. General Business

Selectmen reviewed review accounts payable, payroll manifests and general correspondence.

There being no other business, the meeting was adjourned at 8:52pm

APPROVED BY THE NORTHFIELD SELECTBOARD ON JANUARY 3, 2017