

NORTHFIELD BOARD OF SELECTMEN MEETING
Minutes of the meeting of February 27, 2018

Present: Sel. Crowley, Sel. Southworth, Sel. Allen
Also Present: Scott Haskins, Fred French, Roy Cilley, Bill Wilder, Gretchen Wilder, Julie Petty,
Andy Buteau, Glenn Smith, Chief Raffaelly

The meeting was called to order at 5:00pm

1. Police Department

Chief Raffaelly reported that he is working on updating emergency plans and is awaiting a callback from the plan consultant. Sel. Crowley asked if this was for the emergency operations plan or the hazard mitigation plan. Chief Raffaelly responded that he is working on the hazard mitigation plan.

Chief Raffaelly reported that Cruiser 13 is back and is working like new; Irwin has repaired front axle and water pump. Sel. Allen asked if the steering shaft had been replaced. Chief Raffaelly reported that it had not.

2. Public Works Department

Public Works Director Andy Buteau reported that seasonal weight limits have been posted. He also reported that residents are reporting that the post office is not delivering to Shaker Road due to road conditions. Sel. Southworth reported the same condition on Rand Road and that this has not been an issue in prior years.

Andy reported that in the recent storm people were complaining that he didn't start plowing soon enough. He is preparing an article for the enewsletter explaining that when freezing rain follows snow he doesn't plow as early as he would in other conditions. He also reported that he is using sand to mitigate problems with frost heaves and potholes.

Andy updated the Board on the status of the repair of lights at Glines Park. Also, he reported that a cable broke on a garage door, causing it to close unexpectedly. No one was hurt and the cable is being replaced.

Board members discussed the issue of people parking on Cross Mill Road next to the bike trail and river access. People are parking in the right of way but off of the road. After discussion Board members agreed that the town will install no overnight parking signs in the parking lot if the Conservation Commission orders them.

Selectmen asked Andy to move ahead with repair of the Hodgdon Cemetery wall.

Sel. Allen expressed concern that the town is going to incur expenses due to Franklin's plan to locate the head of their Mill City Park in town. Glenn was asked to arrange a meeting with the people seeking to establish the park to discuss the issues. Sel. Crowley said that he will approach the Franklin Mayor concerning this.

3. Administration

Board members reviewed the 2018 warrant in advance of town meeting.

4. General Business

Board members reviewed accounts payable, payroll manifests and general correspondence. **Southworth/Allen** moved to approve the minutes of the meeting of February 13, 2018. **Motion passed, Sel. Allen abstaining.** **Crowley/Southworth** moved to approve the minutes of the meeting of February 14, 2018. **Motion passed, Sel. Allen abstaining.**

Sel. Crowley distributed sheets for state aid for schools and how it affects Northfield cost per student. He also provided an update on the Spaulding Youth Center project.

The meeting was recessed at 6:07pm

The meeting was reconvened at 6:30 pm

The Chair opened the public hearing on the question of Keno on the 2018 Town Warrant. Sel. Crowley reviewed the Keno proposal, including distribution of funds. Audience members asked if WRSD offers all-day kindergarten. Sel. Crowley responded that it does not but the question is on the warrant this year at a cost of \$492,000. He was asked if voting in all day kindergarten would keep Union Sanborn open and replied that it would not.

Members asked if all day kindergarten would hurt programs at the Pines. Scott Haskins replied that it would not, they offer before school and after school programs but not kindergarten programs. Scott asked if the state will eventually lower the percentage of Keno revenue going to schools. Sel. Crowley said that this is a possibility.

Members of the audience engaged in a general discussion with the Board concerning the distribution of Keno funds to towns that do not have the game. It was reported that Keno funds are distributed to all communities offering all-day kindergarten whether Keno is approved in that town or not.

Scott Haskins asked if the Keno question is on the Tilton ballot. He was told that it was. Julie Petty asked how popular Keno is in Franklin. Fred French reported that he regularly sees people playing the game in Franklin.

There being no other questions the public hearing was closed at 6:53pm

Roy Cilley inquired as to whether there is going to be a public meeting concerning easements for the Sandogardy Pond Road reconstruction project. Sel. Crowley reported negotiations for easements have already begun. Mr. French asked about the possibility of the American Legion relocating to Surette Park. Board members discussed possible uses of Surette Park.

There being no other business the meeting was adjourned at 7:07pm.

APPROVED BY THE NORTHFIELD SELECTBOARD ON MARCH 6, 2018