

**NORTHFIELD BOARD OF SELECTMEN MEETING
MINUTES OF THE MEETING OF February 7, 2012**

Present: Sel. Ziminsky, Sel. Bluhm, Sel. Swancott
Also Present Sally Robert, Brian Brown, Sara Robert, Dick Stevens, Dave O'Hearn, Jeri O'Hearn, Chief Adams, Bob Southworth, Glenn Smith

The Chair called the meeting to order at 6:30 pm

1. Public Appointments

The Chair recognized Sally Robert who inquired as to the blinking light on top of the tower on top of Highland Mountain; the light isn't working and should be fixed. In discussion it was noted that this light is not owned or maintained by the Town.

2. Highway and Sanitation Department

Bob Southworth reported the results of his research on gas prices for the 2012 budget. He is recommending we budget \$3.70 per gallon. Board members agreed to this by consensus, and agreed that the budgeted amount for Police and Highway departments would total \$29,000 and \$78,600 respectively.

Bob reported that a citizen has asked if someone can do multiple burials in the Arch Cemetery; he is working on developing cemetery policies.

3. Police Department

Chief Adams informed the Board that the outside lights he is going to propose to the Budget Committee on Thursday evening will cost \$761.00.

4. Administration

Glenn Smith reviewed the proposed amendment to the Employee Handbook relating to the use of town vehicles. **Bluhm/Swancott** moved to approve the revision to Employee Handbook Section 12.4 as presented. **Motion passed.**

Glenn reviewed the latest assessing proposal. Sel. Bluhm, building on the earlier proposal from CCAG that the total cost of the cyclic revaluation be dropped by \$12,008 if we switch from a five to a four year schedule, had asked if the company would be willing to hold this price for the next 5 year cyclical revaluation contract starting in 2013. The company has indicated its willingness to do so. Board members asked for copies of proposed agreements outlining the arrangement.

Board members reviewed and approved of the changes to the proposed UST agreement, which will be presented to the voters at town meeting.

Board members reviewed and approved criteria for awarding the Boston Post Cane as amended. Glenn indicated that he will try to obtain the name of the newest eligible recipient in time for

town meeting.

Glenn reviewed the proposed revisions to the Intermunicipal Agreement relating to the consortium negotiating a renewal of the Metrocast Franchise Agreement. **Bluhm/Swancott** moved to approve the amended agreement as proposed. **Motion passed.**

Sel. Swancott read a letter received from Robert Buonato, owner of the Northfield Commons Apartments, indicating that they will discontinue the agreed upon practice that they would store their winter sand at the town garage with the understanding that any left at the end of the season would constitute a donation to the town. The letter noted that under this arrangement the town has received in excess of 10 tons of sand annually since 1997.

Board members reviewed the PAYT proposal in advance of Town Meeting. Sel. Swancott noted that in response to community concerns she had asked Glenn to provide an estimate of the cost of an additional option: curbside recycling with no PAYT bags. Board members reviewed this data and received input from the members of the audience concerning the plan and how best to present it. Consensus of the Board members was to have an informational meeting prior to Town meeting to explain the proposal, possibly on March 3rd. Glenn was asked to contact Jim Presher about this.

Board members reviewed the proposed 2012 Town Warrant.

Sel. Swancott noted that there appeared to be squirrels in the ceiling at town hall, based on the noises heard at last evening's Planning Board meeting. Glenn will look into it.

Board members discussed the appointment of Ed Green as an alternate member of the Planning Board. **Bluhm/Swancott** moved to appoint Ed Green as an alternate member of the Planning Board. **Motion passed.**

Sel. Swancott informed that Board that members of the Planning Board would like the town to actively encourage citizens to sign up for weekly news updates sent out by the town.

Bluhm/Swancott moved to enter into non-public session under the provisions of RSA 91-A3IIa at 8:05 pm. **Motion passed by unanimous roll call vote.** Present at the non-public session were Chief Adams and Glenn Smith. **Ziminsky/Swancott** moved that the minutes of the non-public session be sealed. **Motion passed by unanimous roll call vote.** **Ziminsky/Bluhm** moved to reconvene the public session at 8:20 pm. **Motion passed by unanimous roll call vote.**

Chief Adams discussed his proposed changes to GO-008-2000 with the Board.

Board members reviewed general correspondence and payroll & accounts payable manifests. **Bluhm/Ziminsky** moved to approve the minutes of the meetings of January 24, 2012 as amended. **Bluhm/Swancott** moved to approve the minutes of the meetings of January 31, 2012. **Motion passed.**

There being no other business the meeting was adjourned at 8:40 pm.

APPROVED BY THE NORTHFIELD SELECTBOARD ON FEBRUARY 14, 2012