

**NORTHFIELD BOARD OF SELECTMEN MEETING**  
**Minutes of the Meeting of Tuesday, August 26, 2014**

Present: Sel. Shepard, Sel. Crowley, Sel. Waldron  
Also Present: Michael Szanto, Bill Dawson, Jim McCartney, Jamie Fosberg, Don Stevens, Derek Lacourciere, Kathleen Rago, Chief Raffaely, Johnny Van Tassel, Glenn Smith

The meeting was called to order at 6:30pm

**1. Public Appointments**

The Chair recognized Kathy Rago who introduced herself as a candidate for Senate. She expressed concern that the state government needs to be reined in, spending is out of control and personal liberties are being threatened.

The Chair recognized Mr. McCartney and Mr. Fosberg who spoke on the proposed Wild and Scenic River Designation, specifically on the effect of the designation on the rights of people to develop the property. Board members discussed the implications of the designation on land owners and their right to develop their property.

**2. Highway Department**

Highway Superintendent Johnny Van Tassel outlined his temporary solution for the Loranger cattle crossing problem. Board members reviewed the proposal. Sel. Shepard expressed concern that the cost of a proposed cross culvert on the class VI portion of Forrest Road was not included as she had asked. Johnny stated that he already has the concrete blocks needed and would only need to purchase the culverts and gravel proposed. Board members discussed estimates of the length of time the temporary solution would be in place until a permanent solution can be implemented. Estimates ranged from a year to a couple of years. **Shepard/Crowley** moved to accept the Loranger temporary drainage solution as modified to include a culvert across the class VI section of Forrest Road, at a cost of \$2,263.40. **Motion passed.**

Johnny discussed the modification of Transfer Station fee schedule. Sel. Shepard expressed concern that this is being presented as an ongoing problem and feels that the Board should have known about it, it is only being brought up now because the fee schedule was discussed earlier. Board members reviewed the proposed increases to the cost of disposing of full/queen/king sized mattresses and recliners at the transfer station. Discussion points included the cost of disposing of items and how this should relate to the fees. Sel. Waldron noted that the means of disposal has changed since the original fee schedule was adopted; he feels that the entire schedule should be reviewed as a result. After discussion, Board members agreed not to change any fees at this time but to change the schedule to provide more detail as to what the fees are for individual items. Johnny was asked to prepare an analysis of the fees currently charged, including any recommended changes.

Johnny presented a plan for addressing the drainage issues involving the town hall parking lot. Board members reviewed the plan along with Mr. Szanto, owner of the property in question. After discussion Board members authorized Johnny to move forward with the proposal as revised, substituting a grass swale for the asphalt swale originally proposed.

Sel. Waldron noted his belief that the town should not be fronting money for repairs for the underground storage tank. Sel. Crowley and Shepard noted that the existing practice of having the town purchase needed items and then seek reimbursement from the UST committee was approved at the annual meetings of all five jurisdictions.

Sel. Shepard inquired about the application for the annual waste oil grant. Johnny said he would follow up on this.

Johnny distributed an estimate for repair of truck 4 of between \$2,500 and \$3,500, subject to change once work has started and not including the undiagnosed intermittent problem. Sel. Waldron and Shepard noted that from the repair list it seemed that this truck has been abused in the past and this needs to stop. Board members were concerned about investing this much into a truck that is scheduled for replacement in 2016. Johnny was asked to develop plow routes that could be done using existing equipment, not counting truck 4. He was also asked to develop a plan for contracting out one of the town plow routes.

Sel. Waldron expressed severe concerns that a tree was not removed during the Rand Road project. The tree is about a foot from the edge of the pavement and in the drainage area. Mr. Stevens has heard that Busby had offered to take the tree down and was told not to. Taking it down now will require grinding the stump and will leave roots that can damage the new pavement. Johnny said that he had told Busby not to remove the tree, saying he was told by a Selectman when he first started that the town does not clear trees to protect roads. He said that his crew can drop the tree, which is on land recently purchased by the Conservation Commission.

Sel. Waldron reported his concern that a citizen is taking wood from an access on Rand Road and may be damaging the new pavement. Johnny will check to see if the person has an access permit. He also updated the Board on work that needs to be done on the unpaved section of Rand Road.

Sel. Waldron asked if the new trailer has been ordered yet. Johnny replied that he hasn't gotten it this yet. Johnny also reported that Fairfield may start outfitting the new truck this week.

Sel. Waldron asked Johnny for a list of maintenance items that he had asked be developed 5-6 weeks previously. Johnny said he thought Kevin did not need this information until November.

Board members discussed a recent email from LRPC concerning changes to the items that the town can bring to the Household Hazardous Waste day event that it collects from residents. The email states that the LRPC will no longer accept items such as florescent bulbs from the town, residents must bring them to HHW themselves. Johnny said he would follow up on this.

Board members discussed the commercial haulers application process, expressing concern that these applications had not gone out this year even though the current licenses expire on August 31<sup>st</sup>. Johnny reported that there was some confusion as to which department should be sending these out. This had been resolved in mid-August and the applications were sent out then, but none have been returned yet.

### **3. Police Department**

Chief John Raffaely reported that the light bar for the new cruiser should arrive soon.

### **4. Administration**

Town Administrator Glenn Smith introduced the proposed revisions to the hiring policy. Board members asked that this be placed on the next agenda. He also reviewed the proposed revision to Building Permit Procedure. After discussion Board members asked that he coordinate with Dana Dickson on this. Glenn updated the Board on issues relating to the taxing of properties owned by the Housing Finance Authority for part of the year.

Board members reviewed the revised maintenance agreement with Certified Computer Solutions and expressed concerns with the termination language. Glenn was asked to forward these concerns to CCS.

Glenn informed the Board that Joe Newton, Commander of the American Legion post, has approached the town seeking assistance in getting funds to help repair a retaining wall that is being undermined by the Winnepesaukee River. Board members discussed the issue and authorized Glenn to move forward with this with the understanding that town funds would not be committed to the project.

Board members reviewed the proposed 2015 budget preparation calendar.

Glenn asked for permission to seek quotes for the sale of 106 folding wooden chairs in the town hall basement that have not been used for many years. He was asked to contact Greg Pevery to determine the potential value of these chairs. He also asked permission to contact Dave Court concerning the re-installation of an Arch Hill Cemetery gate that had been removed last week, which was granted.

Chief Raffaely asked for permission to allow Officer Seligman to sell old cruiser cage units on ebay. Board members approved.

Board members discussed the proposed donation from Lowes of materials for repair of the Island Gazebo roof. **Shepard/Crowley** moved to accept the donation from Lowe's of \$1,200.00 for materials for repair of the Island Gazebo roof. **Motion passed.**

## 5. General Business

**Shepard/Crowley** moved to enter into non-public session under the provisions of RSA 91-A3II a at 9:37 pm. **Motion passed by unanimous roll call vote.** Present at the non-public session were Johnny Van Tassel and Glenn Smith. **Shepard/Crowley** moved to reconvene the public session at 10:07pm. **Motion passed by unanimous roll call vote.**

**Shepard/Crowley** moved to seal the minutes of the non-public session as divulging the minutes would adversely affect the reputation of someone not a member of the Board. **Motion passed by unanimous roll call vote.**

Board members reviewed general correspondence and payroll and accounts payable manifests. **Shepard/Crowley** moved to approve the minutes of the meeting of August 12, 2014. **Motion passed.**

Board members agreed to move to a weekly meeting schedule, skipping September 16<sup>th</sup>.

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

APPROVED BY THE NORTHFIELD SELECTBOARD ON SEPTEMBER 2, 2014