

**NORTHFIELD BOARD OF SELECTMEN MEETING**  
**Minutes of the Meeting of September 19, 2017**

Present: Sel. Crowley, Sel. Southworth, Sel. Allen  
Also Present: Dave Coulter, Ellen Coulter, Kaitlin Lounsbury, Valerie Allen, Chief Raffaely, Andy Buteau,  
Glenn Smith

The meeting was called to order at 5:00pm

**1. Public Input**

The Chair called for public input concerning the potential names for the class VI section of rangeway #4. Glenn reviewed names residents submitted by email. **Crowley/Southworth** moved to name the class 6 section of Rangeway #4 off bean hill 'Glidden Road'. **Motion passed.**

The Chair recognized Dave and Ellen Coutler who reported that they live on East Pleasant Street and to not want to have their addressed changed to Pleasant Street. Kaitlyn Lounsbury, also a resident of East Pleasant Street reported the same. Glenn stated that two additional responses have been received by email, each stating a preference that the homes keep the East Pleasant Street designation. No resident has asked that the designation be changed. Board members agreed by consensus not to change the effected homes to 'Pleasant Street' addresses.

The Chair recognized Valerie Allen who reported that her neighbor keeps four roosters, goats, chickens, and rabbits at their home. This causes constant crowing throughout the day starting at about 3:30am as well as mess from wandering animals and offensive and possibly unhealthy odors from animal excrement. Also, she has noticed an increase in vermin since the neighbors have started keeping animals. She said that she has complained to her neighbor about the noise, the neighbor responded that they would buy her a white noise machine and reported that the roosters, chickens, goats and rabbits are pets. Sel. Crowley said that he had the same problem and the neighbors eventually got rid of the roosters. Valerie reported that the neighbors have options to reduce the noise, including crow collars, surgery or simply covering the roosters with blankets. Sel. Southworth would like to see how other towns have addressed the problem. Board members discussed in general the nature of the problem, how it can be resolved and the larger issue of farm animals kept in non-farm situations. Glenn was asked to research solutions that do not involve zoning adjustments. Dave Coulter said that he would like to see the town enact a noise ordinance as fireworks are a continuing problem in his neighborhood.

**2. Police Department**

Chief Raffaely presented a form from the Ford dealership absolving them of responsibility for the problem of carbon monoxide in cruisers. Board members declined to sign the document. He also reported that one employee will be off work for at least a week due to a non-work related injury.

Chief Raffaely informed the Board that No-Shave November will be held for two months this year. In response to a question from Sel. Southworth the Chief reported that the event raised \$6,000 for charity last year. He also reported that he is still working on an agreement with Tilton for dispatch duties.

**3. Public Works Department**

Public Works Director Andy Buteau reported that the finish grade prior to top coat was applied to Zion Hill Road today. R&D will start applying the base coat on Zion Hill, Cofran Ext., Howard and Luneau tomorrow. He also informed the Board that there are ongoing discussion with the water and sewer districts concerning responsibility for ensuring that their covers, etc. in town roads are at grade when the road is repaved. Board

members agreed that the town is not responsible for setting access to water and sewer facilities.

Andy reported that someone is willing to take excess material stored at the Transfer Station if we haul it to their location. He believes this is a cost effective way to dispose of old concrete, asphalt and other material. Sel. Southworth agreed, stating that the only expense is the time and equipment required to move the material.

Andy noted that he would like to change the existing agreement with the Town of Canterbury under which Canterbury performs winter maintenance on Fellows Hill Road while we plow Ayers Road. He feels that the existing agreement does not serve the town well. Sel. Southworth reported that Belmont has told us that we cannot run through trucks on their roads. Glenn was asked to distribute a copy of the existing agreement.

#### **4. Administration**

Town Administrator Glenn Smith outlined a proposed amnesty voucher system, which Board members and Andy Buteau reviewed. Board members agreed to move forward with the system and asked Glenn to develop written procedures for implementation of the system. Sel. Southworth and Sel. Allen noted that there could be a storage issue if all the amnesty material is not coming in on the same weekend.

Glenn outlined recent actions in the development of the Blais parcel. He also distributed a revised agreement with the Sewer District concerning TIF monies and maintenance of the 'Cormier' lines, which Board members signed.

Sel. Crowley distributed a schedule of upcoming Selectboard meetings. Glenn updated the Board on the town hall phone conversion project.

Glenn reviewed the assessing services proposals received in response to the town's recent RFP and recommended that the town continue service through Cross Country Appraisal Group as they provided the low bid. Board members authorized him to proceed with developing a contract for this service. Glenn reviewed utility assessments, noting that recent legislation has shifted more than a half million dollars of tax burden from the utilities onto the shoulders of residential and commercial taxpayers.

Sel. Crowley distributed a sheet outlining potential energy rates under an LRPC contract. He also discussed long term CIP funding.

#### **5. General Business**

Board members reviewed accounts payable, payroll manifests and general correspondence. **Southworth/Crowley** moved to approve the minutes of the meeting of September 5, 2017. **Motion passed.**

#### **6. Non-public Session**

**Crowley/Southworth** moved to enter into non-public session under the provisions of RSA 91-A3II c at 6:59 pm. **Motion passed by unanimous roll call vote.** Also Present: Glenn Smith and Chief Raffaely. **Crowley/Southworth** moved to reconvene the public session at 8:07 pm. **Motion passed by unanimous roll call vote.**

**Crowley/Southworth** moved to seal the minutes of the non-public session just completed as divulgence of the minutes would adversely affect the reputation of a person not a member of the Board. **Motion passed by unanimous roll call vote.**

There being no other business the meeting was adjourned at 8:09pm

APPROVED BY THE NORTHFIELD SELECTBOARD ON October 3, 2017