

## [NORTHFIELD SELECT BOARD MEETING MINUTES]

January 10, 2023

Northfield Town Hall  
69 Main St

Select Board Present: Barbara “Bee” Jacque, Chair; Bernard Boudreau, Clerk; Alexander Meisner; Mary Bowen

Select Board absent: Heath Cummings

Also Present: Andrea Llamas, Town Administrator (remote); Sandra L. Wood, Town Secretary; Tyler Bourbeau, BNCTV

Others Present: Police Chief Jon Hall; Leann Hadsell, Clinical Support Options; Officer Oleg Cobileanschi; Highway Superintendent Tom Walker; Grant Coordinator Mallory Sullivan (remote); Howard Hastings; Patter Field

- **Call to Order**
- **Scheduled Appointments**
  - **6:00 pm:** Chief Hall
    - Clinical Support Options update (CSO)
      - Leann Hadsel reported positive results in the regional program that started July 1, 2022. The service provides proactive follow-ups and helps to reduce the amount of introductions into the criminal justice system by bridging access into additional resources
      - Services are available from CSO to the public without police intervention
      - Chief Hall added the officers are also learning de-escalation techniques from the program
    - Motion by Boudreau, seconded by Meisner the Select Board voted to approve the Agreement between the Town of Erving and Clinical Support Options Inc. to provide co-response clinical professional services to the Town of Northfield effective July 1, 2022
    - Officer Cobileanschi
      - Officer Cobileanschi completed certification for the Bridge Academy and Sexual Assault Investigator
      - The EMS department awarded Cobileanschi a pin for duties above and beyond for his assistance at a recent call
      - The Select Board congratulated and thanked Cobileanschi for his service to the town
    - Safety & School Resource Officer (SRO)
      - Officer Sumner has completed SRO certification and has signed up for an Adolescent mental health program
      - All schools participated in a lock down drill in through the Sheriff’s Dept. in December 2022. Thomas Aquinas College may also participate in a similar drill this summer
    - MOU between the Town of Northfield Police Department and Thomas Aquinas College
      - Motion by Meisner, seconded by Bowen the Select Board voted to approve the Memorandum of Understanding between the Thomas Aquinas College & the Northfield Police Department effective immediately.
    - Proposed potential road closures during inclement weather
      - Chief Hall and Highway Superintendent Tom Walker addressed the problem with inclement weather conditions and how they affect Gulf and So. Mountain Rd.
      - Chief Hall’s request is to install signage warning drivers when conditions warrant, not to close the roads
      - Superintendent Walker suggested a state controlled digital sign
      - Jacque suggested a conversation to work out details between Chairs, Chiefs and Superintendents’ and bring back as a topic for further discussion.
- **Review and Approval of Warrants**
  - Motion by Meisner, seconded by Bowen the Select Board voted to approve the 12/14/22 Payroll warrant of \$4,501.18
  - Motion by Meisner, seconded by Boudreau the Select Board voted to approve the 12/28/22 Payroll warrant of \$79,147.56
  - Motion by Bowen, seconded by Boudreau the Select Board voted to approve the 12/28/22 Vendor warrant of \$309,969.75
  - Motion by Meisner, seconded by Boudreau the Select Board voted to approve the 1/11/23 Payroll warrant of \$ 76,191.88
  - Motion by Meisner, seconded by Boudreau the Select Board voted to approve the 1/11/23 Vendor warrant of \$ 1,066,905.75
- **Review and Approval of Minutes**
  - Motion by Boudreau, seconded by Meisner the Select Board voted to approve the minutes of 12/20/22 as written
- **Meetings/Events attended by Selectboard members**
  - Boudreau: online phishing training
  - Bowen: meeting with Grant Coordinator re: Storefront Improvement; online phishing training
  - Jacque: agenda; ARPA; FRCOG Finance Committee; Nfld Finance Committee; online phishing training
  - Meisner: 350<sup>th</sup> Anniversary Committee

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- **Town Administrator's update**
  - DLTA Forms – FRCOG is looking for discussion on priorities and send them the top 3
  - FRCOG – Fire Station Re-Use – The FRCOG has completed study on the current Fire Station site and possible reuse.
  - Select Board Budget –review and discussion at next meeting.
  - Finance Committee and FY2024 Budget – The Finance Committee has reorganized.
- **Business**
  - ARPA: Store Improvement Program
    - Grant Coordinator Mallory Sullivan gave a brief overview of the program and suggested earmarking \$100,000 for distribution of up to \$25,000 maximum per applicant
    - The applicant would be required to match 10%-20%
    - Llamas reviewed the list of approved projects to date
    - Motion by Boudreau, seconded by Meisner the Select Board voted to reserve \$100,000 for Storefront Improvement Program with any funds unexpended to be put back in the account
  - Recognition letter of the Emergency Services Facility Committee for service- tabled
  - Finalize Select Board written response to preliminary review meeting re: SoulFest
    - Discussion on length of letter and expressing the Select Board concerns to the Moody Center without assisting them in the application process.
    - Boudreau noted the noise will affect surrounding states as well as Northfield
    - Motion by Meisner, seconded by Bowen the Select Board voted to approve the written response to the preliminary review meeting regarding SoulFest.
    - When all signatures are obtained the letter will be posted online.
  - Re-affirm Special Town Employees & new request from Franklin County Solid Waste District for Special Town Employee
    - Motion by Meisner, seconded by Boudreau the Select Board voted to designate the members of the Board of Health, Board of Assessors, and the Conservation Commission's contract consultant as "Special Municipal Town Employees" pursuant to the state policy of the Select Board adopted October 6, 2015.
    - Motion by Meisner, seconded by Boudreau the Select Board voted to designate the position of Franklin County Solid Waste Management District Representative as a special municipal employee position for the Town pursuant to M.G.L. c. 268A, section 1(n)
    - Motion by Meisner, seconded by Boudreau the Select Board voted to designate the position of Franklin Solid Waste Management District alternate representative as a special municipal employee position for the Town pursuant to M. G.L. c. 268A, section 1(n)
  - Submit 2022 Annual report to the Alcoholic Beverages Control Commission
    - Motion by Meisner, seconded by Boudreau the Select Board voted to sign and submit the 2022 Annual report to the Alcoholic Beverages Control Commission
- **Citizens' Concerns**
  - Howard Hastings re: Select Board desk. Bowen to work with Mr. Hastings
  - Patter Field thanked the Select Board for addressing the residents' concerns on SoulFest
- **Correspondence:**
  - Letter of resignation from Lois Stearns from the Finance Committee
  - Letter of resignation from Deb Lanoue from the Community Preservation Committee
    - Motion by Meisner, seconded by Boudreau the Select Board voted to accept with regret the resignation from Deb Lanoue from the Community Preservation Committee
  - RE: SoulFest- Barbara Brassor, Jamie Yost, Margo Fleck
  - RE: special permit document- Nick Fleck, Virginia Hastings, Howard Hastings
- **Committee/Board Appointments**
  - Grandin Water District Commissioners
    - Motion by Meisner, seconded by Boudreau the Select Board voted to appoint from pre-commissioner status to full commissioner status Alex Strycky, term expires 6/30/24 and Peter Weis, term expires at annual town election 2023.
  - Motion by Meisner, seconded by Boudreau the Select Board voted to appoint Peter Vearling, to the Council on Aging; term expires 12/31/25
  - Motion by Boudreau, seconded by Meisner the Select Board voted to appoint Larry Hanse to the Zoning Board of Appeals as Alternate term expires 12/31/25

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- Re-appointment
  - Motion by Meisner, seconded by Boudreau the Select Board voted to re-appoint Al Dietrich to the Zoning Board of Appeals; term expires 12/31/27
  - Motion by Meisner, seconded by Boudreau the Select Board voted to re-appoint Michael Bird to the Zoning Board of Appeals as full member from alternate; term expires 12/31/26
  - Motion by Bowen, seconded by Boudreau the Select Board voted to re-appoint Steve Stoia, Schell Bridge Advisory Committee; term expires 12/31/25
- **Proposed Agenda Items**
  - DLTA
  - Review of topics list
  - Select Board budget
- **Announcements**- Opening on the Finance Committee. Applicants recommended to send a letter of interest to the Town Hall in care of the Town Moderator Nathan L'Etoile
- **Recognition for Service**-Lois Stearns for service to the town for 32 years, Select Board 1990-1996 and Finance Committee 1997-2022
- Motion by Boudreau, seconded by Meisner the Select Board voted to adjourn at 8:51 pm

Recorded by Sandra L. Wood, Secretary

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Select Board Clerk

1/24/2023  
Date Approved