

## [NORTHFIELD SELECTBOARD MEETING MINUTES]

October 5, 2021

Northfield Town Hall  
69 Main St

- Request from CoA to appoint Deb Lanou to the Council on Aging; term expires 12/31/23
  - Lanou reviewed her background in pathology and working with students with autism
  - Motion by Jacque, seconded by Meisner, the board voted to appoint Deb Lanou to the Council on Aging; term expires 12/31/23
- School Resource Officer William Kimball/SRO MOU renewal
  - Kimball gave a review of the position at the school post COVID shutdown
  - Works three eight-hour days and afterschool programs
  - Attending the police academy in 2022-23
  - Working with the Health teacher to bring 4 programs: 1<sup>st</sup> response; Amtrak rail safety; mock tabletop drill; bike rodeo
  - Helps with the marching band
  - No changes to the Memorandum of Understanding renewal. Wages to be reviewed later.
  - Motion by Meisner, seconded by Jacque the board voted to renew the SRO MOU between the Town of Northfield and Pioneer Valley Regional School District as of October 5, 2021 from July 1, 2021 to June 30, 2023
- **Review and Approval of Warrants**
  - Motion by Jacque, seconded by Meisner the board voted to approve the 10/7/21 Payroll warrant of \$57,026.91
  - Motion by Meisner, seconded by Jacque the board voted to approve the 10/7/21 Vendor warrant of \$253,508.21
- **Review and Approval of Minutes**
  - Motion by Jacque, seconded by Bowen the board voted to approve the 9/21/21 minutes as written
- **Interim Selectboard Meetings**
  - 9/28/21 OPM interviews
- **Meetings/Events attended by Selectboard members**
  - Jacque: 350<sup>th</sup> Anniversary; ARRP training; First Light settlement
  - Bowen: Franklin Regional Transit Authority; Franklin County Technical School Negotiation
  - Boudreau: Franklin Regional Council of Government Public Health; FRCOG Planning Board; Friends of Northfield Seniors; FRCOG Preparedness Committee
- **Business**
  - Comcast Negotiations
    - In negotiations but not ready to sign. Vote to allow the lawyer to sign a 6-month extension
    - Motion by Meisner, seconded by Jacque the board voted to enter into agreement by and between the Town of Northfield and Comcast of Massachusetts II, Inc. for six-month extension starting October 15, 2021 for the cable television renewal license compliance issue
    - Vote Preliminary Denial of Cable Television License of Comcast
      - To deny Comcast's proposal
      - Motion by Meisner, seconded by Jacque the board voted to issue a friendly preliminary assessment of denial of the cable license renewal of Comcast of Massachusetts II to allow addition time for the parties to reach a cable license renewal agreement
  - OPM/Emergency Services Facility
    - References on Colliers complete; all favorable
    - Vote needed for proposal request from Colliers
      - Motion by Jacque, seconded by Bowen the board voted to ask colliers for a price proposal
  - Time off request
    - Llamas provided a working time schedule
    - Motion by Meisner, seconded by Bowen the board voted to approve the time off request
- **Town Administrator's update**
  - Screening committee will begin interviews for police chief search



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Selectboard Present: Heath Cummings, Chair; Barbara “Bee” Jacque, Vice Chair; Alexander Meisner; Bernard Boudreau, Clerk; Mary Sullivan-Bowen

Also Present: Andrea Llamas, Town Administrator; Sandra L. Wood, Town Secretary; Otis Wheeler, BNCTV

Others Present: Tom Walker, Highway Superintendent/Sewer Commissioner; Ed Brennan, Building Maintenance; Dan Gray, Sewer Commissioner Chair; Misha Storm, Dickinson Library Director; Chris Sellers, The Brewery at Four Star Farm; Colleen Letourneau, Senior Center Director; Frank Froment, Council on Aging Chair; Deb Lanou; Bill Kimball, School Resource Officer

- Meeting was called to order at 6:00 pm

- **Scheduled Appointments**

- Tom Walker, Highway Superintendent & Ed Brennan, Building Maintenance
  - Brennan has made a request to become a full member of the Highway Department vacating the Building Maintenance position
  - Walker proposed all highway personnel to act as Building Maintenance and pay individuals from the Building Maintenance budget when called upon to do maintenance work.
  - The full-time Building Maintenance position was town voted and a separate budget line item. Any change would need a town vote.
  - Jacque recommended the topic be addressed at a future meeting with the financial impact provided by the Finance Committee
  - Cummings preferred keeping the position as is for point of contact. Absorbing the position into the highway department loses the direct contact.
  - Lack of work for the position and departments doing their own building maintenance discussed. Cummings questioned why departments were doing their own when there is a position that could be utilized.
  - Motion by Jacque, seconded by Meisner the board voted to appoint Ed Brennan to the Highway Driver Laborer position at grade 7 step 2 \$21.43/ hour effective immediately.
- Sewer Commission: update
  - Sewer Commission Chair Dan Gray felt the Sewer Commission was none of the Selectboards’ business.
  - The Selectboard explained their intent was not as perceived by Gray
- Director Misha Storm, Dickinson Library request for 1 Day Temporary Liquor License; Nov. 11, 2021 6pm-7pm for Library program held at Dickinson Memorial Library 115 Main St
  - Chris Sellers of The Brewery at Four Star Farm will give a demonstration at the library.
  - Motion by Meisner, seconded by Jacque the board voted to approve the request for 1 Day Temporary Liquor License; Nov. 11, 2021 6pm-7pm for Library program held at Dickinson Memorial Library 115 Main St
- Denis Murphy, Kiwanis Club request for 1 Day Temporary Liquor License; Oct. 9, 2021 8am-2pm for the Great River Challenge held at Northfield Mountain Recreation 99 Millers Falls Rd
  - Sellers will be in attendance for the event with the Kiwanis
  - Motion by Bowen, seconded by Boudreau the board voted to approve the request for 1 Day Temporary Liquor License; Oct. 9, 2021 8am-2pm for the Great River Challenge held at Northfield Mountain Recreation 99 Millers Falls Rd
- Colleen Letourneau, Senior Center Director, request for 1 Day Temporary Liquor License; October 28, 2021 2pm-4pm; Senior Center Open House
  - Sellers will serve 2oz samples at the open house
  - Motion by Meisner, seconded by Jacque the board voted to approve the request for 1 Day Temporary Liquor License; October 28, 2021 2pm-4pm; Senior Center Open House

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- FEMA determined the state threshold for disaster funds was not met for the July storm. Senator Comerford reported via email the legislature still working on funding from other sources
- Visioning session for the Community Compact is set for October 20<sup>th</sup> from 6p-8:30p and PVRs
- First Light requests for non-motorized boat input; update the Northfield Center, trails and x-country skiing
- **Correspondence:**
  - Resignation
    - Motion by Meisner, seconded by Boudreau the board voted to accept the resignation of Robert Leighton from the Sewer Commissioners effective immediately
- **Proposed Agenda Items**
  - Building Maintenance position
  - Meeting with PVRs Committee, Superintendent and the Finance Committee
  - Resignation of Theresa Tsipenyuk from the Recreation Commission

**Motion by Jacque, seconded by Meisner the board voted to adjourn at 7:51 pm**

Recorded by Sandra L. Wood, Secretary

  
Selectboard Clerk

10/19/2021  
Date Approved