

## [NORTHFIELD SELECTBOARD MEETING MINUTES]

February 23, 2021

Northfield Town Hall  
69 Main St

Selectboard Present: Alexander Meisner, Chair; Heath Cummings; Barbara “Bee” Jacque

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

Others Present: Frank Froment, CoA Chair & Rebecca Sommers Petersen, Sr. Center Director (Remotely)

- **Meeting was called to order at 6:00 pm**
  - Read for the record: Pursuant to Governor Baker’s March 12, 2020 Order Suspending Certain Provisions of the Open Meeting Law, G.L. c. 30A, §18, and the Governor’s March 15, 2020 Order imposing strict limitation on the number of people that may gather in one place, this meeting of the town of Northfield Selectboard will be conducted via remote participation to the greatest extent possible. Specific information and the general guidelines for remote participation by members of the public and/or parties with a right and/or requirement to attend this meeting can be found on the Town of Northfield’s website, at northfieldma.gov. For this meeting, members of the public who wish to watch the meeting may do so in the following manner: The meeting will be filmed and broadcast in live time by BNCTV, Channel 17 and a link will be posted on the Town’s website at northfieldma.gov. Limited in-person attendance of members of the public may be permitted. Every effort will be made to ensure that the public can adequately access the proceedings in real time, via technological means. In the event we are unable to do so, despite best efforts, we will post on the Town’s website an audio or video recording, or other comprehensive record of proceedings as soon as possible after the meeting
- **Review and Approval of Warrants**
  - Motion by Meisner, seconded by Jacque the board voted to approve the 2/25/21 Payroll warrant of \$52,611.03
  - Motion by Meisner, seconded by Cummings the board voted to approve the 2/25/21 Vendor warrant of \$139,340.94
- **Review and Approval of Minutes**
  - Motion by Meisner, seconded by Jacque the board voted to approve the minutes of 2/9/21 as amended
- **Meetings/Events attended by Selectboard members**
  - Meisner- Sewer Commission; Finance Committee
  - Jacque- Finance Committee; Open Space Committee Forum; Historical Commission/ Planning Board
  - Cummings- Finance Committee; Emergency Services Facility Committee
- **Scheduled Appointments**
  - Proposed Shed for Senior Center use; Frank Froment/Rebecca Sommers Petersen
    - Proposed location to the north side of Boy Scout House for ease of access
    - Shed to store medical equipment to loan out and recreational equipment
    - Funding from Community Preservation if passed at town meeting
    - Shed will not be set on a foundation
    - Request from the Selectboard to confer with Highway Superintendent and CPC member of the Historical Commission on proposed location
    - Motion by Meisner, seconded by Cummings the board voted to approve the storage shed contingent on the endorsed opinion of the Highway department and the Historical Commission
- **Business**
  - Vaccination update
    - Sommers Petersen read the notice currently on the website, COVID Vaccination Information for Ages 65+
    - Explained how to use 211 or the FRCOG hotline
  - Amendment to the Agreement for Services between the Town of Northfield and the FRCOG to the CPHS CARES act public health COVID response
    - Amendment reviewed
    - Motion by Meisner, seconded by Jacque the board voted to approve the amendment to the agreement of services by and between the Franklin Regional Council of Government and the Town of Northfield for the Cares Act COVID response
  - COVID/Town Hall reopening update
    - Town Hall to remain closed to the public; review at next meeting
    - FEMA update: reimbursement rate up to 100%; new federal relief package in process
  - Smart Municipal Aggregation MOU

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- Date on MOU to be filled in when solar developer is contracted by Colonial
  - Motion by Meisner, seconded by Jacque the board voted to enter into an MOU, a master Administrative Services Agreement for Smart Municipal Aggregation with the Town of Northfield
  - Motion by Meisner, seconded by Jacque the board voted to enter into an MOU by and between Next Grid as master provider and the Town of Northfield as off-taker on behalf of the customers of Northfield Community Choice Supply program
- Northfield/Erving EMS MOU
  - Erving changed the location description and budget notification.
  - Motion by Meisner, seconded by Cummings the board voted to accept the proposed changes regarding geography and budgeting prior to March 1, 2022
    - Cummings concerned about the Finance Committee comments during the EMS budget review were beyond the Finance Committee purview. Jacque acknowledged the Finance Committee comments as checks and balances
    - Discussion of a joint meeting with Finance Committee prior to town meeting
- Highway position hiring members
  - Meisner volunteered to be on the hiring team
- Request from Open Space Committee: letter of support for updated Open Space and Recreation Plan
  - Support letter to the Executive Office of Energy and Environmental Affairs read
  - Jacque and Llamas attended Open Space Committee forum
  - Motion by Meisner, seconded by Jacque the board voted to send a letter of support for the Open Space and Recreation plan
- Request for “Trailblazer” sign support from Cameron’s Winery to MassDOT
  - Request letter from Cameron’s read
  - Motion by Meisner, seconded by Cummings the board voted to approve the Trailblazer sign request from Cameron’s Winery to MassDOT
  - Support letter read
- Vacation Request
  - Request from Andrea Llamas
  - Motion by Meisner, seconded by Cummings the board voted to approve the stated request for vacation time
- **Town Administrator’s update**
  - Town Clerk will not hold caucus. Nomination papers available and must be returned by March 23, 2021 5:00 pm
  - Election to be held May 4, 2021. Town meeting will be on May 3, 2021
  - MassWorks meeting with Warwick and engineers; borings complete, preliminary design begun
  - Comcast Contract Renewal- have met with consultant and Bernardston for public access plan and requests
  - Multi-hazard Mitigation and Municipal Vulnerabilities Preparedness Grant- two workshops open to town departments, boards, committees and residents
  - Emergency Services Facility-sites under consideration; Police, Fire and EMS to review space needs
- **Committee/Board Appointments**
  - Motion by Meisner, seconded by Jacque the board voted to appoint Lindsay McCarthy and Bill McGee to the 350<sup>th</sup> Anniversary Committee; terms expire 12/31/23
- **Proposed Agenda Items**
  - COVID/Town Hall update
  - Gulf Rd. enforcement update
  - Body cameras
- **Announcements:** MVP Workshop dates March 3, 6pm; March 17, 10 am.

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- **Recognition for Service:** Senior Center/CoA volunteers-Council On Aging Board: Frank Froment (Chair), Carol Pike (Vice Chair), Homer Tony Stavely (Treasurer), Judie Tate (Secretary), Jim Whitcomb, Betty Whitcomb, Saralynn Allen, Jinx Hastings, Howard Hastings, Randy Foster, Ted Thornton, Linda Hescok, Sue McGowan  
**Backdoor Kitchen Take Out Lunch:** Pam Eldridge (prep & tasting), Jinx and Howard Hastings (origami and inspirational messages in each lunch)  
**Brown Bag Food Program:** Jim Whitcomb, Betty Whitcomb, Steve Roberto (Food Pantry Liaison), Bob Shippa, Tom Ware, Becky Mroczek, Carol Pike  
**USDA Food Box Distribution:** Frank Froment, Jim Whitcomb, Tony Stavely, Betty Whitcomb  
**Senior Van Delivery Riders:** Tony Stavely, Saralynn Allen, Betty Whitcomb, Randy Foster  
**Foot Clinic:** Patter Field, RN  
**Healthy Bones and Balance Zoom Class:** Betty Whitcomb, Dottie Parrill  
**Senior Newsletter Mailing:** Sue McGowan  
**Flu Clinic:** Frank Froment, Jim Whitcomb, Betty Whitcomb, Tony Stavely  
**Sand Delivery:** Jim Whitcomb  
**Technology Assistance:** Carol Pike, Tony Stavely, Betty Whitcomb  
**High School volunteer snow removal helpers:** Noah de Ruiter and Lucy Koester  
**Driver/food delivery volunteer:** Nancy Caldwell
- Motion by Meisner, seconded by Jacque the board voted to adjourn at 7:35 pm.

Recorded by Sandra L. Wood, Secretary

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Selectboard Clerk

3/9/21  
Date Approved