

March 9, 2021  
Northfield Town Hall  
69 Main St

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

Also Present: Andrea Llamas, Town Administrator; Tyler Bourbeau, BNCTV

Remote: Sandra L. Wood, Town Secretary

- **Meeting 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 3/11/21 Payroll warrant of \$53,265.27
- Motion by Meisner, seconded by Jacque the board voted to approve the 3/11/21 Vendor warrant of \$177,353.30 (PD Cruiser, PVRS Covid expense, long term debt)

- **Review and Approval of Minutes**

- Motion by Meisner, seconded by Cummings the board voted to approve 02/23/21

- **Interim Selectboard Meetings**

- **Meetings/Events attended by Selectboard members**

- Cummings: Ad hoc Campus/Center Collaborative Committee Finance Committee; French King Bridge Project; PVRS Facility Director
- Jacque: MVP forum; Finance Committee meetings
- Meisner: 350<sup>th</sup> Anniversary Committee; Highway Screening team

- **Business**

- COVID/Town Hall update
  - Llamas to check with staff on opening Monday – Wednesday 9am-Noon; report next meeting
- Gulf Rd. enforcement update
  - Police to continue with enforcement
  - No change in signage, Complete Streets engineer will supply input
  - Signage will include warning, regulatory and support signs for Gulf Rd.
  - Additional signage explored for junction of 10 & 63
  - Two solar radar speed signs are included in Complete Streets project
- Body cameras
  - Cameras and policies ready
  - Shortage of storage device chips has delayed project
  - Llamas in communication with IT service to possibly re-purpose server being replaced under the Community Compact IT grant
- Department of Fish and Game – Request for support of acquisition of land
  - 100+ acres wildlife habitat off West Rd, map track number 2021-2-05
  - Property to be retained as open space
  - Motion by Meisner, seconded by Jacque the board voted to approve the letter of support of this land acquisition purchase
  - Letter of support signed
- MassDOT Response: Main St. (Rte 10/63) Concerns
  - Letter response reinforces MassDOT position on items posted in the highway right of way

## [NORTHFIELD SELECTBOARD MEETING MINUTES]

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- Letter indicates, instead of items being removed, they will be placed behind the sidewalk
- Town has option to take over the road
- Discussion on snow removal difficulties for older residents along Main St. Llamas to talk to Highway Superintendent Tom Walker for possible solution next season
- Jacque offered to call MassDOT to clarify information in order to provide residents with practical advice
- Annual Town Meeting local options tax
  - Three options: Marijuana, Meals and Beverage and Room Occupancy
    - Marijuana is a local option 3% retail tax; Meals and Beverage is ¼ of a penny; Room Occupancy is a percentage decided by the town
    - Data to be collected from area towns with options in place
    - Possible warrant article
- Road Paving Request Petition
  - Petition request to pave dirt portion of Old Wendell Rd read
  - Request has been made in the past
  - Highway Superintendent Walker will be requested to provide cost of project
- Highway Department Resignation
  - Letter from Arnold Rose read
  - Motion by Meisner, seconded by Jacque the board voted to accept the resignation of Arnold Rose effective March 11.
  - The Board thanked Arnie for his service
- **Town Administrator's update**
  - Local Rapid Recovery grant; Budget: certified free cash \$635,378
  - Town Clerk request for signage in front of Town Hall: may be covered by CARES Act funding
  - Franklin County Regional Housing & Redevelopment Authority requesting resident for Board of Commissioners
  - Regional Animal Control looking for designee to be on Advisory Committee, Jacque interested in position
- **Committee/Board Appointments**
  - Motion by Meisner, seconded by Jacque the board voted to appoint Joan Stoia and Steve Stoia to the 350<sup>th</sup> Anniversary Committee; terms expire 12/31/23
  - Motion by Meisner, seconded by Cummings the board voted to appoint Cornelius Putnam as an Election Officer; term expires 8/15/21
  - Motion by Meisner, seconded by Cummings the board voted to appoint Michael Bird as an alternate to the Zoning Board of Appeals; term expires 12/31/2022
- **Proposed Agenda Items**
  - Highway Superintendent for road project discussion
- **Adjourn** Motion by Meisner, seconded by Cummings the board voted to adjourn at 7:27 pm

Recorded by Sandra L. Wood, Secretary

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Selectboard Clerk

3/23/21  
Date Approved