

**Selectboard present:** Jack Spanbauer, Chair; Tracy Rogers

**Selectboard absent:** Jed Proujansky

**Also present:** Bob Markel, Interim Town Administrator; Sandra L. Wood, Town Secretary; Tyler Bourbeau, BNCTV

**Others present:** Bob Pasteris, Pete Talmage, Annie Chappell, Energy Committee; Jerry Molongoski, WMECO; Heather Tower, Senior Center Director; Nick Fleck; David Rainville, The Recorder

The meeting was called to order at 4:30 pm

The Selectboard conducted business per the agenda until 5:50 pm. The Selectboard recessed until 7pm at which time they conducted the WMECO pole hearing

○ **General Override Election**

- Election to be held due to an amendment to the PVRS assessment article at Town Meeting requiring an additional \$324,329.00 , 12.7%, contingent on a Proposition 2.5 override.
- Question will read: “Shall the town of Northfield be allowed to exempt from the provisions of G.L., Ch. 59, §21C(g), known as Proposition Two and One-Half, an additional \$324,329 in real estate and personal property taxes for the purpose of funding the Pioneer Valley Regional School District assessment for the fiscal year beginning July 1, 2014?”
- If passed, PVRS will receive the increase, if not passed, the increase will be governed by Bernardston’s 4%, increasing Northfield’s total to 5%.
- On a motion by Rogers, seconded by Spanbauer **the board VOTED unanimously to propose a Special Election on July 8, 2014.**
- The board recommended increased advertising of absentee ballots due to the timing of the election.

● **Review and Approval of Warrants**

- **On a motion by Rogers, seconded by Spanbauer the board VOTED unanimously to approve the Payroll warrant of \$18,694.30**

● **Review and Approval of Minutes**

- **On a motion by Rogers, seconded by Spanbauer the board VOTED unanimously to approve the Selectboard minutes of 5/20/14 as written.**

● **Old Business**

- Markel contract
  - **On a motion by Spanbauer, seconded by Rogers the board VOTED unanimously to an extension of Bob Markel’s contract through June 30, 2014.**
- Town Clerk position
  - The board will interview all six applicants. Markel to set up interviews.
  - Scheduled for June 12, starting at 5pm.
- Collins Institute update
  - Discussion of additional services may be required if there is a large applicant turnout.
- Sign letter of support for FRCOG re: H3872
  - Letter of support signed.
- Chap 90 Rapid Recovery Program
  - \$18, 139.88 Gulf Rd. and Mt. Herman Station Rd. guardrail project and \$25,558.12 various roadway micro surfacing project.
  - **On a motion by Spanbauer, seconded by Rogers the board VOTED unanimously to approve both Chapter 90 project requests under the Rapid Recovery Program.**

● **New Business**

- **The Selectboard reconvened at 7pm**
- **7:00 pm Pole Hearing:** South Mountain Rd: to place one jointly owned pole on the northerly side of South Mountain Rd. approximately 183’ west of WMECO pole #72 and 165’ east of WMECO pole #71.

- Reason: Install one 45’ pole between two existing poles to correct long span, and phone cable sagging too low over the road.
      - Jerry Molongoski of WMECO explained and said the area was wooded and not near a residential building.
    - Vote and sign 3 copies
      - **On a motion by Spanbauer, seconded by Rogers the board VOTED unanimously to approve the new pole proposed by WMECo for So. Mountain Rd.**
  - Trees at 126 Main St
    - Fleck requested a letter be sent to Northfield Mount Hermon School requesting a copper beech tree marked for removal at 126 Main St. be spared. Two maples in the same location are also marked for removal and are in bad shape. Fleck had a tree expert look at the beech and they found it to be healthy.
    - Fleck suggested the town offer in the letter, to haul the wood from the maples after they are cut down, to save NMH some of the cost. The wood could be chipped and used in the highway department boiler.
    - The Selectboard agreed to support the letter to NMH and instructed Markel to compose a draft.
  - Heather Tower: COA by-laws and appointment of Louise Hoff to Council on Aging. Term expires 12-31-14
    - The CoA would like to change their terms limits from three year terms to two consecutive term limits. Tower stated they were looking for more and younger members to join the CoA.
    - Minor changes to the CoA by laws were discussed. Items included duties the CoA does not participate in.
    - Spanbauer made a motion to approve the term limits to the policy and procedures of the Council on Aging and after further discussion withdrew the motion
    - **On a motion by Spanbauer, seconded by Rogers the board VOTED unanimously to approve the policy and procedures for the Council on Aging as amended on May 16, 2014.**
  - Stewardship Committee appointments
    - Wood reported the deadline given by Nick Fleck to the boards participating was July 15.
  - Bob Pasteris: Street lights and draft proposal for Elementary School Energy Efficiency
    - Talmage reported WMECo will be replacing 70W with 50W street lights. The Energy Committee will review with the Police Department lights that can be removed without causing safety issues.
    - The Energy Committee has some suggestions to reduce vandalism at the Transfer Station and Highway Dept. replacing the flood lights being used now. The energy the flood lights use cancels out the savings of the solar panels installed last year on the pavilion. There will be further discussion at a later date.
    - The Energy Committee requested being kept in the loop of the Emergency Services Facility Committee progress.
    - Lighting around the exterior of Town Hall could be changed to LED to save energy.
    - The draft proposal for the Elementary School is similar to a proposal adopted by Gill-Montague to coordinate efficiency projects in the district.
    - The term “capital improvement” was discussed. Bernardston and Warwick have attempted to change the term and Northfield may not be in favor of the change. Northfield understands the term as building maintenance.
    - Talmage said the improvement would have to be energy related and not painting, etc. He suggested taking the term “capital” out of the language.
    - The Energy will meet with the Finance Committee on 6/8. The Selectboard would like to meet with the Finance Committee for discussion before signing the proposal. The BoS would support an energy improvement approach as long as there was no confusion in the definition of a capital improvement.
  - Town Hall Steps Brick façade order
    - The brick façade was not included in the original base bid. The contractor has offered to do the brick for an additional \$1800. Tom Walker, Superintendent of Streets & Building Maintenance received a quote of \$2,500.00 from another mason.
    - **On a motion by Spanbauer, seconded by Rogers the board VOTED unanimously to approve the change order for the façade of the Town Hall front steps for \$1800.00**
  - Schedule Staff Meeting
    - Meeting scheduled.
  - Schedule Mt. Grace grant application meeting for next week
    - Wood to contact Mt. Grace Representative and schedule for July 12 meeting.
- **Board and Committee Meetings/Announcements**

Date	Activity	Time	Place
6/9/14	Finance Committee	7pm	Town Hall

6/10/14	Recreation Commission	7pm	Town Hall
6/11/14	Board of Assessors	6pm	Town Hall
6/11/14	Planning Board	7pm	Town Hall
6/12/14	Board of Health	4:45pm	Town Hall
6/12/14	Selectboard	5pm	Town Hall
6/12/14	Historical Commission	7pm	Town Hall
6/17/14	Energy Committee	5:30pm	Dickinson Library
6/17/14	Selectboard	7pm	Town Hall
6/17/14	Open Space Committee	7:30 pm	Town Hall

- Openings: A number of committees and boards have openings. A list is available for viewing on the Current Openings page of [www.northfield.ma.us](http://www.northfield.ma.us) and on the Town Hall posting board. Current opening for an alternate appointment to the ZBA; Wired West; Cultural Council; Emergency Services Facility Committee; Master Plan Implementation; Town Hall Master Plan Committee; Council on Aging; Agricultural Commission Alternates; Building Use & Planning; Electronic Communication & Cable TV; Open Space Committee; Conservation Commission; Stewardship/Advisory Subcommittee of the Conservation Commission
- **Appointments:**
  - Tim Putnam to the EMS as a part-time Paramedic. Term expires 12/31/14-tabled
  - On a motion by Spanbauer, seconded by Rogers **the board VOTED unanimously to appoint** Tracy Rogers as the FRTA representative
  - On a motion by Spanbauer, seconded by Rogers **the board VOTED unanimously to appoint** Denis Brennan as the Central Franklin County Veterans District representative. Term expires 5/13/15.

On a motion by Spanbauer, seconded by Rogers **the board VOTED unanimously to adjourn at 7:04pm.**

Recorded by Sandra L. Wood, Secretary

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Selectboard Clerk

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Date Approved