

## [NORTHFIELD SELECT BOARD MEETING MINUTES]

April 11, 2022

Northfield Town Hall  
69 Main St

Select Board Present: Heath Cummings(remote), Chair; Barbara “Bee” Jacque, Vice Chair; Bernard Boudreau, Clerk  
Select Board Absent: Alexander Meisner; Mary Sullivan-Bowen

Also Present: Andrea Llamas, Town Administrator; Kayla Drumgool, BNCTV

Absent: Sandra L. Wood, Town Secretary

Others Present:

6:00 pm joint session with Finance Committee

Finance Committee present: Lois Stearns, Chair; Bernie Porada; Jack Spanbauer; Tony Matteo; Dan Campbell; Sue Kaczinski

Also Present: Beth Walker, Finance Committee administrative assistant

Meeting called to order at 5:30 pm

Warrant review – Select Board only

Appropriate funding for contracts for the Emergency Services Facility account

- Finance committee talking about putting the article for \$400,000 in capitalization account and Llamas to propose putting directly into ESFC building account
- add another article for an additional \$600,000 from stabilization to the ESFC building account creating \$1,000,000 available for contracts
- review of the budget spreadsheet based on Finance Committee recommendations and appropriation funding sources
- increasing overlay at the request of the Assessors

6:00 pm

Selectboard and the Finance Committee joined to continue the meeting

Llamas reported on changes made to the warrant

Funding article for moving forward for potential contracts for the Emergency Services Facility project allowing the Select Board to sign those contracts if needed.

Spanbauer agreed with Llamas’ plan for funding the project

Motion by Spanbauer, seconded by Porada to rescind the Finance Committee’s previous capitalization article and instead propose \$400,000 to the Emergency Services Building and \$600,000 from the capital stabilization fund to the Emergency Services Building. Roll call vote Spanbauer aye; Matteo aye;

Campbell aye; Kaczinski aye; Stearns aye

Select Board to discuss at their next meeting.

Jacque had question on the Room Occupancy Tax article and the Finance Committees’ opinion

Information the same as last year. Finance Committee recommending this article

Stearns stated that the Finance Committee is recommending everything on omnibus except for the school budget and the Selectboard stipend increase request.

Not recommending the school budget because they did not have the budget until this morning

Discussion on the Finance Committee position of not supporting the request for the stipend increase for the Select Board

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Stearns gave a brief history on how the town came to have first, an Administrative Assistant, then the role of the Town Administrator. The increase to five members of the Select Board was for the purpose of lightening the workload of members.

The Finance Committee could not justify the increase

Water District article

The Finance Committee has no position on the non-money article

Cost of living increase (COLA)

The Finance Committee recommends a 6% increase for employees and stipend recipients

Article 10 Sewer Project

Repaving the access road for \$20,000 to the plant is recommended by the Finance Committee

Pioneer Valley Regional School District Budget

The PVRSD budget is about a 2% increase

Cummings concerned about the specific increases in the budget.

Llamas said the school budget needs to pass in its entirety or not at all

Cummings would like more information from the school committee to clarify some of the proposed increases/changes and would like more involvement and collaboration between the Select Board, Finance Committee and School Committee to show solidarity.

Llamas stated that when putting together the budget calendar in November, she will aim to have a meeting with the PVRSD school committee.

motion by Matteo, seconded by Campbell, and the Finance Committee voted unanimously to accept the PVRSD budget figure as presented to be included in the omnibus

Motion by Jacque, seconded by Boudreau the Select Board voted to adjourn at 7:15pm

The Finance Committee continued their meeting

Recorded by Sandra L. Wood, Secretary

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Select Board Clerk

5/5/22  
Date Approved