

April 29, 2019

Northfield Town Hall  
69 Main St

Selectboard Present: Tracy Rogers, Chair; Julia Blyth; Alexander Meisner

Also Present: Andrea Llamas, Town Administrator; Sandra L. Wood, Town Secretary; Kayla Drumgool, BNCTV

Others Present: Paul & Leslie Cameron, Cameron's Winery; Chief Skip Dunnell & David Quinn, Fire Department; Chief Robert Leighton, Oleg Cobileanschi & Alex Pirozhkov, Police Department; John Schuster, Pratt Hollow Rd; Bernard Porada, Finance Committee

- Meeting was called to order at 6:00 pm
- **Citizens' concerns**
  - John Schuster: Read statement thanking the Selectboard for the Gulf Rd. traffic study and subsequent Heavy Vehicle Exclusion. Requested additional speed awareness equipment and signage to slow traffic down.
- **Review and Approval of Warrants**
  - 4/9/19 Payroll warrant of \$37,044.59
  - 4/9/19 Vendor warrant of \$985,450.16
  - 4/16/19 Payroll warrant of \$29,301.62
  - 4/16/19 Vendor warrant of \$26,714.23
  - 4/23/19 Payroll warrant of \$26,331.96
  - 4/23/19 Vendor warrant of \$29,800.46
  - On a motion by Rogers, seconded by Meisner to approve the warrants as written.
- **Review and Approval of Minutes**
  - 3/11/19 Executive Session Police Chief contract
  - 3/11/19 Executive Session Police Union contract
    - On a motion by Blyth, seconded by Meisner the board voted to approve the executive session minutes of 3/11/19 for the Police Chief contract and Police Union contract as written.
  - On a motion by Blyth, seconded by Rogers the board voted to approve the minutes of 4/4/19 as written. Meisner abstained.
  - On a motion by Blyth, seconded by Meisner the board voted to approve the minutes of 4/8/19 as amended.
- **Meetings attended by Selectboard members-** Selectboards/Finance Committees Four Town School District budget meeting
- **Business**
  - Interview Oleg Cobileanschi for appointment as a full time police officer
    - Chief Leighton requested Officer Cobileanschi be appointed as a full time officer
    - DARE school trained
    - 1.5 years with the town
    - If achieving full time status he will apply to attend the police academy in the fall
    - During the interview, Cobileanschi replied that he knows the community and wants to make his career in Northfield. He is working on his degree at Greenfield Community College.
    - On a motion by Rogers, seconded by Blyth the board voted to appoint Oleg Cobileanschi as a full time officer effective immediately.
    - The Selectboard agreed to a full time grade 8 step 1 fully benefitted position at \$45,046.66 annual
  - Promotion of Alex Pirozhkov to Sergeant
    - Graduated second in police academy
    - Chief Leighton wants to move Pirozhkov to next level to build a foundation in the department and feels Pirozhkov has the qualities for leadership and to carry the department forward. Will train and delegate administrative duties.
    - Meisner asked questions about length of service to the department, field training experience, felony case experience and what makes Pirozhkov knowledgeable.
    - Pirozhkov worked a full year before entering the academy, reached 400 hours of field training working seven days a week in two and half months training with several officers including Trooper Michael Leslie, and has had success in working a breaking and entering felony. After attending Reserve Academy the

April 29, 2019

Northfield Town Hall  
69 Main St

training at the Police Academy was review. He was more experienced than the recruits and reserves attending. In the sergeant's position he would mediate between part timers and administration.

- Chief Leighton will train Pirozhkov in administrative duties pertaining to the Sergeant's position. Pirozhkov will be sent to sergeant class to further his education.
- Differences between sergeant and patrolman positions: sergeant backs up the chief position; patrolman focus is taking calls for service.
- Pirozhkov has shown his skills in areas of larceny, firearms and breaking and entering situations.
- Meisner felt Pirozhkov needed 3-4 years' experience and recommended a field evaluation.
- The position would be grade 9 step 1 and with Pirozhkov's bachelor degree the Quinn bill would apply.
- On a motion by Rogers, seconded by Blyth the board voted to promote Alex Pirozhkov to Sergeant. Rogers and Blyth yes, Meisner opposed.
- Chief Dunnell: Purchase of 2014 Pierce ladder truck
  - Chief Dunnell gave a review of the negotiation with Brindlee.
  - Thomas Aquinas College is willing to commit \$10,000-\$50,000.
  - Modification will be needed at the firehouse at a cost of about \$10,000
  - The truck being replaced is 42 years old and been in service in Northfield for 20 years.
  - On a motion by Rogers, seconded by Meisner the board voted unanimously to approve Chief Dunnell sending a deposit of \$48,000 for the ladder truck.
- Regional School District Planning Committee creation
  - Blyth reported there was more work to be done. The H.E.A.R.T Committee presented a regional school agreement to the district school committee.
  - Members would be appointed by the Moderator.
  - On a motion by Rogers, seconded by Blyth the board voted unanimously to create a Regional School District Planning Committee.
- Code of Civil Conduct
  - On a motion by Meisner, seconded by Blyth the board voted unanimously to approve the Town of Northfield Code of Conduct effective immediately.
  - Rogers read section of code regarding expected behavior.
  - Copies will be posted in town buildings and offices
- Annual Town Meeting
  - PVRs budget
    - Discussion of leaving the PVRs budget in and vote. A special town meeting to re-vote assessment could be done at a later date once the revised numbers are sent to the town.
    - Bernie Porada spoke in favor of supporting the four district town decision to remove the PVRs budget from the omnibus. The Selectboard agreed.
  - Motions- motions assigned
  - Discussion about location of possible special town meeting tentatively for June 17, 2019
- Review of final changes to Police Chief Contract
  - Rogers reviewed the changes to the contract
  - Meisner stated he did not agree with salary
- Speed limit on Main Street; MassDOT speed study request
  - Llamas to submit for the study for each end of the 40mph areas
- Summer highway dept. help and mowing
  - On a motion by Blyth, seconded by Meisner the board voted unanimously to appoint Keith Avery as temporary summer help at \$18.00 per hour.
  - On a motion by Meisner, seconded by Blyth the board voted unanimously to appoint Chris Shula as temporary roadside mower at \$18.00 per hour.
- **Town Administrator's update**
  - Complete Streets grant approved

## [NORTHFIELD SELECTBOARD MEETING MINUTES]

April 29, 2019

Northfield Town Hall  
69 Main St

- Greenfield Savings Bank offering free elm tree
- Electrical aggregation exploratory pricing
- Meeting with Comcast for contract renewal
- **Appointments:**
  - On a motion by Rogers, seconded by Meisner the board voted unanimously to appoint Ted Penick as Fred W. Wells Will Trustee; term expires 4/30/20
  - On a motion Rogers, seconded by Blyth the board voted unanimously to appoint Melissa Barton as an alternate to the Historical Commission; term expires 12/31/21
- **Request for One-Day Temporary Liquor License:**
  - On a motion by Blyth, seconded by Meisner the board voted unanimously to approve the request from Cameron's Winery for a temporary one day license; 105 Main St. on May 18, 2019 from 4:30pm to 11:30 pm for New Wine Season event.
- **Announcements**
  - Looking for volunteers to join the Electronic Communications & Cable TV Committee
  - Resignation of part-time Financial Assistant Tracey Baronas
  - Clean Sweep/Bulky Waste Day scheduled for Sat. May 18, 9am – Noon Northfield Highway Garage
  - There are several openings on boards and committees
- **Recognition for Service**
  - Save Awards were presented to Chief Mark Fortier, Patrick Spedding and Michael Shedd of the Northfield EMS from the Western Massachusetts Emergency Medical Services Committee, Inc. on March 14, 2019 as a token of their appreciation for a job well done regarding a call in Bernardston on May 26, 2018.
  - The board thanked Julia for her service on the Selectboard

**On a motion by Blyth, seconded by Rogers the board voted to adjourn at 8:14 pm**

Recorded by Sandra L. Wood, Secretary

\_\_\_\_\_  
Selectboard Clerk

5/20/19  
Date Approved