

June 8, 2020

Northfield Town Hall  
69 Main St

Selectboard Present: Alexander Meisner, Chair; Tracy Rogers (via Zoom); Heath Cummings

Also Present: Andrea Llamas, Town Administrator; BNCTV

Others Present: Robert Haughey, Jr

- **Call to Order Meeting was called to order at 6:00 pm**

- 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. No in-person attendance of members of the public will be permitted, but 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**

- 6/4/20 Payroll warrant of \$78,986.80
- 6/4/20 Vendor warrant of \$1,101,647.50
  - On a motion by Meisner, seconded by Cummings the board voted to approve the warrants as read.

- **Review and Approval of Minutes**

- On a motion by Meisner, seconded by Cummings the board voted to approve the minutes of 5/20/20 as amended.

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

- Meisner: with Llamas; Town Meeting preparations
- Cummings: with Chief Leighton

- **Business**

- Robert Haughey, Jr. to the Northfield Police Dept.
  - 21 years with Sheriff's Department
  - SRO/School Safety
  - Triad experience, CPR/First Responder
  - RN degree
  - On a motion by Meisner, seconded by Cummings the board voted to appoint Robert Haughey, Jr. to the Northfield Police Dept. as a part-time officer; term expires 12/31/20
- Unibank Contract
  - Agreement with Unibank Municipal banking. Short term, bonding, financial advisor to town
  - Payed per service used
  - On a motion by Meisner, seconded by Cummings the board voted to enter into a contract with Unibank, Municipal Advisory Agreement terminating June 30, 2023.
- Discussion of Town Meeting/ Assignment of Motions/Sign Annual Town Meeting Warrant
  - Meisner to read all motions to avoid passing a microphone
  - 15 articles on Annual Town Meeting, remaining 22 articles on Special Town Meeting Warrant
  - Amendments to the Resolution
  - On a motion by Meisner, seconded by Cummings to sign and accept the Annual Town Meeting warrant as amended
  - On a motion by Rogers, seconded by Meisner to approve the Special Town Meeting warrant as presented
- VOTE: Cancel Town Caucus
  - Motion by Meisner, seconded by Cummings the board voted to eliminate the 2020 town caucus as it has been determined that holding the annual town caucus between March 23<sup>rd</sup> and July 31<sup>st</sup> 2020 will constitute a threat to public health and safety due to the coronavirus COVID-19, and further, to use nomination papers for the 2020 election in accordance with the General Laws Chapter 53, Section 7 and Chapter 45 of the Acts of 2020.

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- July 28 election scheduled
- ~~\*Pre-Cast Culvert Bid Award~~ Need to move to next meeting as we haven't received Chapter 90 funding approval so we can't award the bid yet.
- Cameron's Winery Pouring permit amendment for exterior extension approval. License expires October 31, 2020
  - Request letter read
  - Motion by Meisner, seconded by Cummings the board voted to amend the Winery Pouring permit for Cameron's Winery allowing an Extension of the Premises to allow for outdoor service under the guidelines issued by the ABCC and per the Governor's June 1, 2020 Order Authorizing Certain Re-Opening Preparations at Phase II Workplaces, with the conditions as stated on the licenses and expiring October 31, 2020.
  - Licensed signed
- **Town Administrator's update**
  - Speed issues on roads. Traffic counts needed for East St., Pine Meadow and Warwick Rd.
  - Senator Comerford testified in support of Warwick Rd being put on the State 2021 Capital Investment Plan
  - Staff meeting for Town Hall reopening plan
  - Signage for 2-ton truck traffic directed to Route 2 from Route 10 due to Gulf Rd exemption. Superintendent Walker to contact state
- **Correspondence:**
  - J. Sliva – Police Use of Force Policy Response
    - Selectboard has acknowledged use of force issues
    - Letter from Jonathan Sliva read
    - Cummings met with Chief Leighton. Use of force was updated in 2016 by the department.
      - Choke holds not permitted
      - De-escalation- in state policy and training
      - Warning before shooting-personnel trained to yell commands
      - Exhaust all other means before shooting-already included and in training
      - Duty to intervene-investigation to implement ongoing
      - Shooting at moving vehicle-policy states not allowed if vehicle moving away
      - Require use of force continuum-already in practice
      - Report to use force-in practice
        - Spoke with Chief on body cameras, further investigation ongoing
    - Response letter to be amended to include Cummings findings
    - Cummings requested additional policy for complaints against any employee of the town
- **Recognition for Service**
  - Congratulations Graduating Seniors and the unique situation for graduating at the Northfield Drive-In
  - Thanks to Steve & Julie Wiggins for the use of the Drive-In
  - To the Highway Department for roadwork
  - To Sam Stevens for hanging the ceremonial flag on Town Hall
- **Proposed Agenda Items**
  - Town Administrator Evaluation
  - Future items: Police policy, Duty to intervene; Social Media Policy for employees
- **Executive Session & Adjourn**
  - On a motion by Meisner, seconded by Cummings the board went into executive session at 7:34 pm to review Investigation findings under M.G.L. c. 30A, Sec. 21(a) reason 5, To investigate charges of criminal misconduct or to

**[NORTHFIELD SELECTBOARD MEETING MINUTES]**

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consider the filing of criminal complaints not to return to open session. On a roll call vote Meisner said yes, Cummings said yes, and Rogers said yes

Meeting adjourned at 7:50 pm

Recorded by Sandra L. Wood, Secretary

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Selectboard Clerk

06/22/2020  
Date Approved