

**[NORTHFIELD SELECTBOARD & BOARD OF ASSESSORS MEETING  
MINUTES]**

November 23, 2020

Northfield Town Hall  
69 Main St

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

Board of Assessors Present: Beth Walker; Bob MacEwen, Co-Chair

Board of Assessors Absent: Alice Lord, Co-Chair

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

The Selectboard and Board of Assessors convened and called the meeting to order at 5:40 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

#### Tax Classification Hearing

- Motion by Meisner, seconded by Cummings the board voted to open the public classification hearing to discuss the allocation of the local property tax levy among the property classes for FY2021.
- Walker presented the classifications and reviewed values.
  - Residential value 61%, up 2.5%; Industrial 38.9%
  - The proposed single tax rate of \$16.12 with excess tax levy capacity of \$1,481,751.10
- Meisner asked what would happen if the sewer plant were put on the tax base.
  - The operating budget would be the first impact on the tax rate, capital projects would be additional with a yearly bond payment.
  - Water issues in town also need to be addressed.
  - In depth information would need to be gathered and studied for financial and environmental impact.
  - Town meeting vote to accept would be required.
- There were no written letters or comments received regarding this hearing
  - On a motion by Jacque, seconded by Cummings the board voted unanimously to adopt a uniform tax rate, otherwise known as a single tax rate for all classifications for the fiscal year 2021.
  - The Assessors’ LA5 form was signed.
- Motion by Meisner, seconded by Cummings the board voted to close the hearing at 5:58 pm
- Motion by Meisner, seconded by Cummings the Selectboard and Board of Assessors adjourned at 5:58 pm

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Recorded by Sandra L. Wood, Secretary

_____	12/15/20
Selectboard Clerk	Date Approved

_____	_____
Assessor's Clerk	Date