

[NORTHFIELD SELECTBOARD MEETING MINUTES]

December 1, 2020

Northfield Town Hall
69 Main St

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

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

Others Present: Tom Walker, Highway Superintendent; Barry Bordner, Holly Ave; Edmund Brennan

- **Meeting was called to order at 6:00 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

- **Review and Approval of Warrants**

- Motion by Meisner, seconded by Jacque the board voted to approve the 12/3/2020 Payroll warrant of \$55,856.43
- Motion by Meisner, seconded by Cummings the board voted to approve the 12/3/2020 Vendor warrant of \$60,883.13

- **Review and Approval of Minutes**

- 11/4/220 Executive Session-Tabled
- Motion by Meisner, seconded by Jacque the board voted to approve the minutes of 11/17/20 as written.

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

- Jacque: Historical Commission-letter submitted from student to be answered by Jacque
- Meisner: Sewer Commission-DEP enforcement
- Cummings: FRTA Board-updates on fares/ridership changes

- **Scheduled Appointments**

- 6:15pm Dangerous Dog Hearing- Ewell -to be rescheduled
- 6:45 pm On street parking- Barry Bordner
 - On street parking of narrow roadways causing safety issues. Cited Birnam, Holton, Highland
 - Requesting help from the Selectboard to consider bylaw
 - Look into signage and enforcement for all streets. Propose parking restrictions to one side. Vehicles should not be parked on sidewalks.
 - Pandemic may cause some of the effect with people working/schooling from home
- 7:00 pm Building Maintenance Position
 - Edmund Brennan was selected by the hiring committee for the position of Building Grounds and Maintenance Technician
 - Review of qualifications and education
 - Motion by Meisner, seconded by Cummings the board voted to appoint Edmund Brennan III as the Building & Grounds Technician position full time; grade 6, step 4.

- **Business**

- Warwick Rd MassWorks award
 - Meisner met remotely with Governor Baker and staff
 - In his presentation he thanked all involved including Representative Mark and Senator Comerford for their support
 - The \$2 million award is split between Northfield and Warwick for extensive road improvements on Warwick Rd/Northfield Rd respectively

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- Engineering costs are included
 - \$15,000 of Chapter 90 funds are required to start the process
 - Contract will be signed at a future meeting
- Snow on Streets Regulation/All Night Parking Ban Regulation/Snow & Ice Removal By-Law
 - Read for the record.
 - Request for a letter to be sent to MassDOT regarding snow removal on sidewalks on bridge north of the post office
- **Town Administrator's update**
 - Community Compact IT grant of \$30,533 awarded for purchase and installation of 2 servers.
 - MIIA Safety grant of \$6,603 awarded for Highway Dept. safety gear and security camera installation at Town Hall and Highway Dept
 - Back Parking lot drainage- engineers exploring use of land past the pavement at the back of the lot
 - Dam ownership- counsel advised the town to contest ownership. Letter to be sent to DCR contesting ownership
 - Capital Request forms due 12/7/20; budgets due 1/4/21
 - Emergency Services Facility Committee meets Wednesday for site discussion
- **Topics not reasonably anticipated by the chair 48 hours in advance of the meeting**
 - Motion by Meisner, seconded by Jacque the board voted to close the town cemeteries from December 1, 2020 to April 15, 2021 weather permitting
- **Citizens' concerns**
 - Jacque has heard concerns regarding tree removal with the Schell Bridge project. Jacque indicated MassDOT's response to tree question is they have marked trees larger than 8 inches in diameter, as part of a survey, so they can note tree impact in 75% design plan.
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- **Proposed Agenda Items**
 - Possible executive session; Water Co. update; on street parking issues
- **Announcements**
 - Passing of former Police Chief Richard Taerner
 - served as Police Chief 1983- 1993. Prior to being chief of police, Taerner was a member of the City of New York Police Department for twenty years. While on the NYPD, he was a police academy instructor and a member of the international affairs division. He was a veteran of the Korean War where he served as a pilot. After his retirement, he served on the Board of Selectmen.
 - Notice of Liquor License Change of Manager Hearing on December 15, 2020 read

Motion by Meisner, seconded by Jacque the board voted to adjourn at 7:25 pm.

Recorded by Sandra L. Wood, Secretary

Selectboard Clerk

12/15/20
Date Approved