

January 12, 2021
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: EMS Chief Mark Fortier, Camron Kennedy, Erving Fire Chief Phil Wonkka; Steve Stoia
Remote Attendance: Theresa Tsypienuk, Recreation Commission Chair, Robert Emberley

- **Meeting called to order at 6:03pm**

- 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 1/14/21 Payroll warrant of \$59,899.60
- Motion by Meisner, seconded by Cummings the board voted to approve the 1/14/21 Vendor warrant of 981,131.80

- **Review and Approval of Minutes**

- Motion by Meisner, seconded by Jacque the board voted to approve the minutes of 12/29/20 as written

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

- Meisner: Sewer Commission
- Jacque: Finance Committee; Schell Bridge with Town Administrator

- **Scheduled Appointments**

- Request from the Recreation Commission to appoint Robert Emberley to the Recreation Commission; term expires at the annual election, May 4, 2021. Position to fill vacancy. -Theresa Tsypienuk, Robert Emberley
 - The Recreation met with Emberley and request the Selectboard appoint until the next annual election
 - Motion by Meisner, seconded by Cummings the board voted to appoint Robert Emberley to the Recreation Commission, term expiring at annual election, May 4, 2021
- Northfield Ambulance Update-Chief Fortier
 - Chief Fortier explained the proposal to expand EMS service to the Millers Falls Rd section of Erving
 - Discussion on how fees are collected and rates pending types of insurance
 - Bernardston has offered to donate \$10,000 annual for the purchase of an ambulance with request to be included in committee designated for fund expenditure decisions
 - Chief Fortier requesting donated money be in a specific account for sole purpose of ambulance purchase
 - Shift coverage discussed
 - Northfield EMS is not responding to transfer requests from AMR due to payment delinquencies

Selectboard member Cummings left the room at 6:45pm

- Erving Fire Chief Wonkka stated Erving would like to get reputable ambulance service
- Steve Stoia, 94 Main Street gave a testimonial in support of the Northfield EMS service
- Chief Fortier felt the level of service would be maintained; at this time the second ambulance is being under utilized
- Discussed difference between Northfield EMS department and South County Service; South County has full time crews and subsidies from each participating town.

Selectboard member Cummings returned at 7:02pm

- Chief Fortier and Chief Wonkka calculated fees based on average yearly calls

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- Contract terms need finalizing with Erving and Bernardston language needs changing
- Motion by Meisner, seconded by Jacque the board voted to support, endorse and move forward with the business plan for proposed service for the agreement with the Town of Erving
- **Business**
 - Letter to MassDOT re: signs
 - Removal of personal and crosswalks signs are time consuming for officials and police department
 - Proactive guidelines from MassDOT requested
 - Mill Brook bridge safety issues; snow removal
 - Motion by Meisner, seconded by Cummings the board voted to accept the letter and send to Peter Cavacchi of MassDOT District 2 office
 - Contract with for Scott McKusick, Clerk of the Works Services; Green Communities Grant; Nfld Elementary School
 - McKusick to oversee projects using Green Communities grant funding for the elementary school
 - Motion by Meisner, seconded by Jacque the board voted to approve the agreement between the Town of Northfield and Scott McKusick for Clerk of the Works services with effective date December 30, 2020.
 - FRCOG/Town of Northfield ADA Self-Evaluation and ADA Transition Plan Agreement
 - For assistance in self-evaluation of ADA compliance of town departments, buildings, programs and infrastructure
 - Motion by Meisner, seconded by Jacque the board voted to approve the contract of 1/12/21 between the FRCOG and the Town of Northfield for ADA Self Evaluation and ADA Transition plan
 - Motion by Meisner, seconded by Cummings the board voted to appoint Sgt. Robert Holst, Adam Paicos and Amanda Flower as Mutual Aid to the Northfield Police Dept.; terms expire 12/31/21
 - Discussion of pedestrian crossings Rte 10/63
 - As part of Complete Streets program, four areas are suggested to install beacons for pedestrian safety; Maple St., at the Elementary School, Dickinson Library and Moody St.
 - Llamas to write letter of request
 - The board asked to have an additional location at the Mill Brook Bridge included
 - Update on Town Hall re-opening
 - Due to current pandemic conditions, the Town Hall will remain closed to the public
 - Sign annual report to the ABCC
 - Report signed
 - Accept the resignation of paramedic Erik Davidson
 - Motion by Meisner, seconded by Cummings the board voted to accept the resignation of Erik Davidson
 - The board thanked Erik for his service to the town.
- **Town Administrator's update**
 - Ad Hoc Campus/Center Collaborative Committee: the Finance Committee asked the board to reconsider their invitation and consider a member of the Assessor's in their place.
 - Schell Bridge ROW update: met with neighbor on east side; Moody Center; an abutter on the west side
 - FY22 budget: meeting with Finance Committee have begun. FinCom voted a 1.7% COLA.
- **Citizens' concerns: Moody Center Crossing**
- **Correspondence:**
 - Jehovah Witness letter
- **Committee/Board Appointments**
 - Motion by Meisner, seconded by Jacque the board voted to re-appoint Joan Stoia to the Historical Commission; term expires 12/31/23
- **Proposed Agenda Items**
 - Beacon crossings
 - Town Hall re-opening status

[NORTHFIELD SELECTBOARD MEETING MINUTES]

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- EMS/Erving contract

Motion by Meisner, seconded by Cummings the board voted to adjourn at 7:50 pm.

Recorded by Sandra L. Wood, Secretary

Selectboard Clerk

1/26/21
Date Approved