

**TOWN OF NORTHFIELD
BOARD OF SELECTMEN
Minutes of March 23, 2009**

- I. **ROLL CALL:** Chair Kenneth Johnson., Selectmen Melvin Adams, Kenneth Goslant, Charles Morse, and Gregory Sanders. Also present were Town Manager Nanci Allard, Clerk Samantha Baraw, Linda Barrows, Roger LeClair, Thatcher Moats (*Times Argus*), and Kathleen Lott (*Northfield News*).

Chair Johnson called the meeting to order at 7:00 p.m.

II. **APPROVAL OF MINUTES**

- a. **March 9, 2009 (Regular Meeting).** Motion by Selectman Morse, seconded by Selectman Sanders, to approve the minutes. Linda Barrows corrected item V, a, to amend paragraph 2 to read "...an approximate seven to eleven percent increase." **Motion passed 5-0-0.**

III. **APPROVAL OF BILLS**

- a. **Warrant #19-09.** Motion by Selectman Morse, seconded by Selectman Adams, to approve Warrant #19-09 in the amount of \$934,181.02. **Motion passed 5-0-0.**

IV. **PUBLIC PARTICIPATION:** None

V. **MANAGER'S REPORT**

- a. **Status Reports: Various Projects**
1. **Police Station Roof Ice.** E.F. Wall is now tracking the temperature in the building and they feel as though they have fixed the problem.
 2. **Police Chief's Appeal.** The hearing was postponed from last Friday (03/20/09) to Friday, May 1, 2009. In addition, Vermont Criminal Justice Training Center has not responded to the Town's letter.
 3. **Northfield Falls Drainage Study.** Stantec Consulting's drainage report is now here and available for review.
 4. **Intercompany Charges.** Manager Allard stated that another Joint Board meeting is needed to finish this matter up.

VI. **LIQUOR CONTROL COMMISSION**

- a. **2009 Liquor License Renewal**
1. **South Village Mobil.** Motion by Selectman Morse, seconded by Selectman Goslant, to approve the renewal. **Motion passed 5-0-0.**
- b. **2009 Tobacco License Renewal**
1. **South Village Mobil.** Motion by Selectman Morse, seconded by Selectman Goslant, to approve the renewal. **Motion passed 5-0-0.**

VII. **SELECTBOARD**

- a. **Approval of Updated Rapid Response Plan:** Motion by Selectman Morse, seconded by Selectman Sanders, to approve the updated plan. **Motion passed 5-0-0.**
- b. **DRAFT Town/Village Highway Maintenance Agreement.** There was a feeling that this matter should be discussed with the Village Trustees at a Joint Board Meeting. There was some discussion: one comment was that this should reference the budget. We will not see much difference in how things are done; the only difference is that everyone is paying now. There was a question why a contract is needed at all. There was indecision between the Board members. Chair Johnson suggested that we hold this matter for a later time.

c. Appointments of Town Officials

1. **Conservation Commission.** Motion by Selectman Morse, seconded by Selectman Sanders, to reappoint Larry Garland for a four (4) year term. **Motion passed 5-0-0.**
2. **Recreation Committee.** Motion by Selectman Morse, seconded by Selectman Adams, to reappoint Lisalee DiLena and appoint Elizabeth Maier and Linda Hall to the Recreation Committee for three (3) year terms. **Motion passed 5-0-0.**
3. **Recreation Committee.** Motion by Selectman Morse, seconded by Selectman Sanders, to reappoint Adam Van Vught and appoint Nathan Driscoll and Geoff Farnum to the Recreation Committee for one (1) year terms. **Motion passed 5-0-0.**
4. **Planning Commission.** Motion by Selectman Morse, seconded by Selectman Sanders, to reappoint Steve Jeffrey to the Planning Commission for a four (4) year term. **Motion passed 5-0-0.**
5. **Zoning Board of Adjustment.** Motion by Selectman Adams, seconded by Selectman Morse, to reappoint William Smith to the Zoning Board of Adjustment for a five (5) year term. **Motion passed 5-0-0.**
6. **First Constable.** Motion by Selectman Adams, seconded by Selectman Morse, to reappoint Jeffrey Shaw as First Constable. **Motion passed 5-0-0.**
7. **Town Service Officer.** Motion by Selectman Morse, seconded by Selectman Adams, to reappoint Mark Podgwaite as the Town Service Officer. **Motion passed 5-0-0.**
8. **Tree Warden.** Motion by Selectman Morse, seconded by Selectman Sanders, to reappoint Russ Barrett as Tree Warden. **Motion passed 5-0-0.**
9. **Fence Viewers.** Motion by Selectman Morse, seconded by Selectman Adams, to reappoint Larry Garland and Phyllis Murphy and appoint Collin Bright. **Motion passed 5-0-0.**
10. **Inspector of Wood, Shingles, & Weigher of Coal:** Motion by Selectman Morse, seconded by Selectman Johnson, to reappoint Roger LeClair as Inspector of Wood, Shingles and Weigher of Coal. **Motion passed 5-0-0.**
11. **Central Vermont Solid Waste Management District (CVSWMD) Representative.** Motion by Selectman Morse, seconded by Selectman Sanders, to reappoint Fred White as CVSWMD Representative. **Motion passed 5-0-0.**
12. **Central Vermont Regional Planning Commission (CVRPC) Representative.** Motion by Selectman Morse, seconded by Selectman Adams, to reappoint Arlington Supplee as CVRPC Representative. **Motion passed 5-0-0.**
13. **Central Vermont Regional Planning Commission (CVRPC) Alternate Representative.** Motion by Selectman Morse, seconded by Selectman Adams, to reappoint Steve Fitzhugh as CVRPC Alternate Representative. **Motion passed 5-0-0.**
14. **Central Vermont Regional Planning Commission (CVRPC) Transportation Representative (and alternate):** Motion by Selectman Morse, seconded by Selectman Adams, to reappoint Kenneth Johnson as CVRPC Transportation Representative. **Motion passed 4-0-1, with Chair Johnson abstaining.**
15. **Central Vermont Regional Planning Commission (CVRPC) Alternate Transportation Representative.** Motion by Selectman Goslant, seconded by Selectman Morse, to appoint Colin Bright for this position (if he is interested). **Motion passed 5-0-0.**

d. Status Reports: Various Projects

1. **Town Charter.** Selectman Morse is working on a Town Charter and is looking to distribute it soon to other Selectboard members. There was a discussion on the benefits of charter. Currently, there are forty-one (41) Vermont towns that have charters. Chair Johnson would like to see eight (8) people on a Charter Committee (plus one (1) Selectman and one (1) Trustee.

VIII. PUBLIC PARTICIPATION: Non-agenda items:

- a. **Linda Barrows: Town Charter.** Ms. Barrows amazed at the Board. Three (3) years ago, people came to the Board to present a charter. They consulted with an attorney in drafting it but the majority of the Selectmen opposed it. The Board should look at the old charter and use that as a starting point.
- b. **Roger LeClair: GMTA Shuttle Bus.** Mr. LeClair wanted to remind the public about the Green Mountain Transit Agency (GMTA) shuttle bus that travels around Northfield Village every Wednesday morning. Although one of the stops is at the Senior Center, this free service is not just for senior citizens. If you want to be picked at your house, you need to call GMTA (223-7287) and they will schedule a route deviation.

IX. EXECUTIVE SESSION. Motion by Selectman Morse, seconded by Selectman Adams, to go into executive session in order to discuss a personnel issue and a legal matter. **Motion passed 5-0-0.**

The Board went into executive session at 8:21 p.m.

Motion by Selectman Adams, seconded by Selectman Morse, to come out of executive session. **Motion passed 5-0-0.**

The Board came out of executive session at 9:33 p.m. No action was taken.

X. ADJOURNMENT. Motion by Selectman Morse, seconded by Selectman Sanders, to adjourn. **Motion passed 5-0-0.**

The Board adjourned at 9:35 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Samantha H. Baraw

Samantha H. Baraw, Clerk

These minutes are subject to approval at the next regular meeting.