

**TOWN OF NORTHFIELD  
BOARD OF SELECTMEN  
Minutes of April 27, 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, Donald Wallace (Green Up Day Coordinator), Arlington Supplee (Board of Listers), Roger Dickinson (Lamoureux & Dickinson Consulting Engineers, Inc.), Warren Hagy, Nelson Hoffman, Joan Davidson, Lawrence Garland, Linda Thurston, Colin Bright, Ben Marble, Bryan Moody, and Kathleen Lott (*Northfield News*).

A Public Hearing for the purpose of providing written or oral views on the feasibility of developing sidewalks/paths along Vermont Route 12 from Vine Street north to Northfield Falls and from Terrace Drive north to Crescent Avenue was warned to immediately precede the Selectboard's regular meeting.

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

The Central Vermont Regional Planning Commission sponsored a grant for a sidewalk study to be done. Roger Dickinson (Lamoureux & Dickinson Consulting Engineers, Inc.) presented information regarding the proposed sidewalks. He came for input to proceed and, if requested, come up with alternatives. He is looking to see what the major needs are and what the best options are. Mr. Dickinson explained what the study had looked at before and what had been proposed before. Since then, the Water Project has taken place in Northfield Falls. Some significant ledge was blasted during the project and now there is a possibility that they would not need to build such a significant shoulder on the other side of the road by Dr. Crowley's property before Doyon Road. Mr. Dickinson's proposal is building the sidewalk on the easterly side from Northfield Falls to Vine Street. The property owners would need to be consulted very soon. Many of the houses are close to the road and the proposed sidewalks would be encroaching on their lands. There is a question of demand for the usage. Three (3) people spoke in favor of creating these sidewalks. There was a request to send notices of the next public hearing to those property owners who would be directly affected, i.e. the south section. There are concerns that we will need to meet accessibility standards. There also is a concern about road drainage and whether this was or could be considered as part of the design.

The Public Hearing adjourned at 8:06 p.m. The regular meeting began immediately.

II. **APPROVAL OF MINUTES**

- a. **April 13, 2009 (Regular Meeting).** Motion by Selectman Morse, seconded by Selectman Adams, to approve the minutes. Corrections: Item VII, a: Chair Johnson was asking permission of the Board to advertise for committee members. There was a question on the advertisement was for lifeguards (not for Pool Director) in the *Northfield News*. **Motion passed 5-0-0.**

III. **APPROVAL OF BILLS**

- a. **Warrant #21-09.** Motion by Selectman Morse, seconded by Selectman Sanders, to approve Warrant #21-09 in the amount of \$64,017.34. **Motion passed 5-0-0.**

IV. **PUBLIC PARTICIPATION**

- a. **Donald Wallace, Green Up Day Coordinator: Green Up Day 2009.** Green Up Day is this coming Saturday: May 2, 2009. Participants will meet behind the Northfield Fire Station at 9:00 a.m. They expect to be finished up by noon. Please dress appropriately for the weather.
- b. **Arlington Supplee, Board of Listers: Renewal of Personal Services Contract (Charlene Lathrop).** Mr. Supplee has asked for a renewal of the Personal Services Contract for Ms. Lathrop. Her current contract expires June 30, 2009. The amount that has been paid previously is unknown. Ms. Lathrop has the technical expertise that can work with the PROVAL system. Motion by Selectman Morse, seconded by Selectman Adams, to approve the draft contract as presented. **Motion passed 5-0-0.**

V. **MANAGER'S REPORT**

a. **Status Reports: Various Projects**

1. **Annual Financial Plan – Town Highways.** Superintendent of Public Works William Lyon prepared this document that goes to the State (once approved and signed by the Selectboard). Motion by Selectman Morse, seconded by Selectman Adams, to approve and sign the Annual Financial Plan for the Town Highways. **Motion passed 5-0-0.**
2. **NAVI Bylaws.** The Northfield Ambulance Volunteers, Inc. (NAVI) have requested a meeting with Manager Allard and Roger LeClair to discuss the bylaws. Manager Allard thought that she, Ambulance Supervisor James Baraw, and NAVI President Mark Podgwaite would be discussing these bylaws and bringing them to the Board for approval. Manager Allard wants to know if the Board would like Mr. LeClair to continue to work on this. The Board agreed that Mr. LeClair would be the best person to finish this up.

3. **Ambulance Unit Rebate.** The rebate has been processed. The money will go into the capital account to pay for the vehicle.

**VI. LIQUOR CONTROL COMMISSION**

**a. 2009 Liquor License Renewals**

1. **Northfield Country Club:** Motion by Selectman Morse, seconded by Selectman Sanders, to approve the liquor license renewal. There was a request that this application be returned until the paperwork can be filed correctly and completely. This item will be tabled.
2. **Northfield Village Pizza:** Motion by Selectman Morse, seconded by Selectman Sanders, to approve the liquor license renewal. Motion passed 5-0-0.

**VI. SELECTBOARD**

**a. Town Health Officer and Deputy Health Officer Re-Appointments.** Motion by Selectman Morse, seconded by Selectman Adams, to recommend the re-appointment of Mark Podgwaite as Town Health Officer and Lawton Rutter as Deputy Health Officer for three (3) year terms and authorize the Chair to sign the recommendation form. **Motion passed 4-0-1, with Selectman Sanders abstaining.**

**b. May 2009 Regular Meeting Schedule:** Motion by Selectman Adams, seconded by Selectman Sanders, to cancel the regular meeting scheduled for the Memorial Day holiday (05/25/09) unless there is an emergency that requires a meeting. **Motion passed 5-0-0.** Motion by Selectman Adams, seconded by Selectman Morse, to accept the schedule as proposed until further discussion with the Trustees about possible joint board meetings. **Motion passed 5-0-0.**

**c. Status Reports: Various Projects**

1. **Town Charter Commission.** The advertisement for interested volunteers has been on Trans-Video Channel 7, the Municipal website, has been posted, and will be in this week's *Northfield News*. If you are interested, please send a letter of interest to the Town Manager by Wednesday, May 6, 2009.
2. **Vandalism.** Some covered bridge signs and plaques are missing. Selectman Sanders would like the Town Manager to look into this.
3. **Single Home Roads.** There was a discussion about a proposed letter from Chair Johnson to the property owners living on single house roads. There has been some confusion and concern that there would be a discontinuation of services to some of these roads in Northfield. Chair Johnson is proposing to send letters to the property owners to put their minds at ease that they will not be without services. Selectman Adams is concerned that the Board would be taking a hard stand on this topic; while the Board is not taking any immediate action, they may reconsider this topic at some point. If any action was to be taken, owners would have proper notification and all public hearings would be held. Selectman Sanders stated that some people need apologies. Selectman Adams stated that the Selectboard don't owe anyone apologies – they were elected to be fiscally responsible and they are doing this. The draft letter was revised. Motion by Selectman Morse, seconded by Selectman Adams, to send the revised letter to every property owner on single home service roads and to the *Northfield News*. **Motion passed 5-0-0.**

**VII. PUBLIC PARTICIPATION:** Non-agenda items: None.

**VIII. ADJOURNMENT:** Motion by Selectman Adams, seconded by Selectman Sanders, to adjourn the meeting. **Motion passed 5-0-0.**

The Board adjourned at 9:30 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

*Samantha H. Baraw*

Samantha H. Baraw, Clerk

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