

**VILLAGE OF NORTHFIELD  
BOARD OF TRUSTEES  
Minutes of January 27, 2009**

- I. **ROLL CALL:** Chair Libby Hambleton, Trustees Samantha Baraw, Doug Lawson, Thomas McCarney, and James Wilson. Also present were Village Manager Nanci Allard, Superintendent of Public Works William Lyon, Water/Sewer Department Foreman Patrick Demasi, and Kathleen Lott (*Northfield News*).

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

II. **PUBLIC PARTICIPATION (Scheduled):**

- a. **Superintendent of Public Works William Lyon: Water/Sewer Projects.** Superintendent Lyon went through a report that he had prepared regarding various projects. Trustee McCarney is concerned with leaks and what occurs below leaks (sinkholes, etc.). He also is concerned with the unaccounted water but some of this is the cost of doing business, i.e. flushing hydrants, etc. Trustee McCarney is in favor an aggressive program for leak detection. Superintendent Lyon said that there is a variety of reasons why the amount of lost water is so high but this is not the highest that it has ever been. We can account for some of the lost water as having occurred this past summer during the Water Project construction. About ten (10) years ago, we had a contractor who would come in, perform some leak detection, and those leaks were fixed. Regarding meter reading, the cost of the touchpad meters is about \$135 per meter. This would not cut down meter reading time because the electric meters would still need to be read.

III. **ACTION ITEMS**

- a. **Approval of Minutes**
1. **January 13, 2009 (Regular Meeting).** Motion by Trustee Wilson, seconded by Trustee McCarney, to approve the minutes. **Motion passed 5-0-0.**
- b. **Approval of Bills**
1. **Warrant #15-09.** Motion by Trustee McCarney, seconded by Trustee Wilson, to approve Warrant #15-09 in the amount of \$125,758.81. **Motion passed 5-0-0.**
- c. **DRAFT Water Use Regulations Ordinance.** The Board will review the DRAFT and return notes and comments to Manager Allard. Trustee Lawson was appointed to the Inter-Local Agreement Committee.

IV. **REPORTS**

- a. **Village Manager:**
1. **Municipal Building.** Some Norwich University architectural design students met with Manager Allard and some Department Heads regarding a possible redesign/reorganization of the building's interior.
- b. **Committee Reports**
1. **Management Committee.** The committee met with manager Allard recently and will be coming back to the Board soon.
- c. **Miscellaneous**
1. **Municipal Building Cupola.** Trustee McCarney would like an estimate on building a cupola on the Municipal Building for the bell that would be donated by Edna Kain.

2. **Proposed Central Street Culvert.** This proposal is not shovel-ready and the stimulus package is for shovel-ready projects. Trustee McCarney would like to see at least the culvert project on Central Street taken care of if the stimulus package goes through.
3. **Election of Village Trustees.** Currently, Village Trustees are voted in by Australian Ballot but Trustee McCarney would like to go back to the old method by which applicants were nominated and voted upon from the floor at Village Meeting. We now pay people to sit there all day, pay for the cost of ballots, for the machines to be programmed, etc. Trustee McCarney would like to have his proposal on this year's Village Meeting Warning. If this is approved, it would go into effect for the 2010 Village Meeting.
4. **"All About News in Northfield" Newsheet.** There's a new newsheet being circulated around the Town and Village. Trustee McCarney is encouraging those putting the paper out to use all the facts and not just selective ones.

V. **PUBLIC PARTICIPATION (Unscheduled): None.**

VI: **EXECUTIVE SESSION:** Motion by Trustee Lawson, seconded by Trustee Wilson, to go into executive session to discuss contracts. **Motion passed 5-0-0.**

The Board went into executive session at 8:30 p.m.

Motion by Trustee Baraw, seconded by Trustee McCarney, to come out of executive session. **Motion passed 5-0-0.**

The Board came out of executive session at 8:46 p.m. No action was taken.

VI. **ADJOURNMENT:** Motion by Trustee Lawson, seconded by Trustee Wilson, to adjourn. **Motion passed 5-0-0.**

The Board adjourned at 8:47 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

*Samantha H. Baraw*

Samantha H. Baraw, Clerk

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