

**VILLAGE OF NORTHFIELD
BOARD OF TRUSTEES
Minutes of February 10, 2009**

- I. **ROLL CALL** Chair Libby Hambleton, Trustees Samantha Baraw, Doug Lawson, Thomas McCarney, and James Wilson. Also present were Village Manager Nanci Allard, Steve Carney, Andrew Carney, and Kathleen Lott (*Northfield News*).

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

- II. **PUBLIC PARTICIPATION (Scheduled):** None.

III. **ACTION ITEMS**

a. **Approval of Minutes**

1. **January 27, 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 #16-09.** Motion by Trustee Wilson, seconded by Trustee Lawson, to approve Warrant #16-09 in the amount of \$354,958.08. **Motion passed 5-0-0.**

- c. **Executive Summary: Certificate of Village Highway Mileage.** Motion by Trustee Wilson, seconded by Trustee McCarney, to approve and sign the Certificate of Village Highway Mileage. 280 feet (0.053 mile) of Class 3 Road was added last year (Tuckaway Lane). **Motion passed 5-0-0.**

- d. **Group of Municipal Electric Utilities (GMEU) Agreement.** There was a draft previously. This GMEU Agreement is to be used as a replacement agreement for the All-Requirements Contract (ARC) that had been previously approved by the Trustees and since withdrawn without Public Service Board (PSB) approval. This authorizes Vermont Public Power Supply Authority (VPPSA) to perform their duties for us and is billed separately by them. This gives us more involvement and will formalize the organization, rules, etc. of this voluntary association. Originally, there were fourteen (14) municipal electric utilities involved but Stowe has opted out. Motion by Trustee Lawson, seconded by Trustee Wilson, to approve the GMEU Agreement and authorize Chair Hambleton to sign it. **Motion passed 5-0-0.**

- e. **DRAFT Water Use Regulations Ordinance:** Some discussion took place on clarifying some items on page 7. Manager Allard will meet with Board members separately and discuss any changes they may have.

- f. **DRAFT Choice of Provider Policy.** This could be used to save costs on insurance. This should be part of the personnel policy. Trustee McCarney would prefer that this be run by the union first. This draft policy came from Vermont League of Cities & Towns (VLCT). Manager Allard will discuss this with the union and afterwards bring back to the Board for approval.

IV. **REPORTS**

a. **Village Manager**

1. **Line Losses.** Manager Allard, Utility Assistant Doug Reed, and Accounting Manager Laurie Baroffio met with Patty Richards (VPPSA) to discuss line losses by checking the VPPSA website. The goal is to try to reduce "peaks" and high usage. Trustee McCarney asked that this is something that Electric Department Consultant Steven Fitzhugh could look into and provide suggestions on how to resolve this problem.

2. **Smart Meters.** Utility Assistant Reed, Water/Sewer Department Foreman Patrick Demasi, Superintendent of Public Works William Lyon, and Manager Allard attended a presentation on Smart Meters. There are different ways to read them, which may involve towers and/or the internet.
3. **New Police Station.** As many residents have noted, there are ice problems with the building's roof. Manager Allard is aware of this and is trying to resolve it with the engineering firm E.F. Wall & Associates. She will be meeting with them soon.

b. Committee Reports

1. **Management Committee.** Trustee Baraw and Chair Hambleton met with Manager Allard and Selectman Mel Adams to negotiate the Municipal Manager's contract. The Committee will postpone its next meeting until after the Selectboard have met again.

c. Miscellaneous

1. **Project 10.** Trustee McCarney is looking for an update. VPPSA is still anticipating being online in October 2009.
2. **Village Common Parking Ordinance.** At the time, the ordinance that limited parking in front of the businesses to two hours was approved at the request of those business owners. Trustee McCarney would either like the ordinance enforced or removed from the books.
3. **Village Forest Land.** Did the Village get the forest land use that we applied for? Two applications have been rejected but one is still in process.

V. PUBLIC PARTICIPATION (Unscheduled): none.

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

The Board adjourned at 8:12 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Samantha H. Baraw

Samantha H. Baraw, Clerk

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