

**TOWN OF NORTHFIELD
BOARD OF SELECTMEN
Minutes of July 12, 2010**

- I. ROLL CALL.** Chair Gregory Sanders, Selectmen Melvin Adams, Kenneth Goslant, Kenneth Johnson, and Charles Morse. Also present were Town Manager Nanci Allard, Acting Clerk Kenneth McCann, John Malter (Mad River Resource Management Alliance), and Kathleen Lott (*Northfield News*).

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

II. PUBLIC PARTICIPATION

- a. John Malter, Mad River Resource Management Alliance.** Mr. Malter is the administrator for the Mad River Resource Management Alliance (MRRMA), of which the Town of Northfield became a member community as of July 1, 2010. Mr. Malter wanted to welcome Northfield into the MRRMA as well as provide a brief overview of the services that MRRMA will provide to Northfield residents. He noted that the household hazardous waste collection has been among the more popular of MRRMA's programs. This fall, it will take place the first Saturday in October (10/02/10) at the Hardwood Union High School from 9:00 a.m. to 2:00 p.m. The first ten (10) gallons dropped off are free; anything above that, MRRMA will charge the same amount that the hauler charges MRRMA for removal ("at cost"). There also is a tire collection each spring along with disposal of large appliances, etc.

Mr. Malter noted that MRRMA used to be known as the "Mad River Valley Solid Waste Alliance" but the name was changed as his organization now focuses upon ways to renew resources rather than just fill the landfill with waste. He provided several examples of how old products are reconverted towards new uses. His mission, as he sees it, is to keep items received at the Moretown Landfill from staying on site as he would like to see it in operation for many years to come. He added that MRRMA is expanding its organics program and has purchased large numbers of compost bins at bulk sale prices for resale to residents at reduced cost. MRRMA also is developing programs for organics collections from schools that would be redistributed to residents, farmers, etc. Mr. Malter stated that he was willing to address any questions from the Board members, the residents, etc. He added that MRRMA's website (www.madriverrma.org) is now down for maintenance but should be up soon with updated information.

Selectman Morse noted that there were some private solid waste collectors operating in Northfield. He asked if they now needed a license from MRRMA to operate. Mr. Malter said that this was not the function of MRRMA. If any municipality wanted to regulate and license collectors, this would require a local ordinance.

Regarding the compost bins for sale, Selectman Adams suggested leaving examples at the Northfield Recycling Depot so that residents will be aware of this program. Mr. Malter stated that he would do so, along with order forms.

Selectman Morse noted that since MRRMA does not charge a hauling surcharge, residents dropping off large amounts of trash will save some money. He looks forward to working with MRRMA and believes that Northfield made the correct decision to become a member community.

Mr. Malter stated that the next MRRMA Board meeting would be held next Monday night (07/19/10) at 5:00 p.m. at the Waitsfield Town Hall. He will be welcoming Northfield as a new member at that meeting as well.

III. APPROVAL OF MINUTES

- a. June 28, 2010 (Regular Meeting).** Motion by Selectman Morse, seconded by Selectman Adams, to approve the minutes. **Motion passed 5-0-0.**
- b. July 6, 2010 (Joint Board Meeting).** Motion by Selectman Morse, seconded by Selectman Johnson, to approve the minutes. **Motion passed 5-0-0.**

IV. APPROVAL OF BILLS

- a. Warrant #02-11.** Motion by Selectman Morse, seconded by Selectman Johnson, to approve Warrant #02-11 in the amount of \$45,102.02. Selectman Morse questioned the \$100 "Fire Suppression" charges to the Fire Station and Police Station from the Water Department. Manager Allard stated that this is a new annual charge to all sprinkler systems. Selectman Morse stated that he was unaware of this new charge. **Motion passed 5-0-0.**

V. SELECTBOARD

- a. FY 2011 Transportation Enhancement Program Grant Application.** The Town of Northfield is making a grant application through this program; if funding is received, it would be used for a comprehensive rehabilitation for the Village Common area. Manager Allard stated that although the project area is in the Village, the Town would be doing the financing. Prior to the filing of the grant application, a public hearing must be held so that members of the public can provide their views on the proposed project.

As the Selectmen will be cancelling their next regular meeting in July (see below), the public hearing will be held on Monday, August 9, 2010 at 7:00 p.m. The Village Trustees will be invited to attend and share their expertise on this project. Kathleen Lott asked if the grant application included funding for the retaining wall. Manager Allard stated that it would.

- b. **Summer 2010 Meeting Schedule.** Motion by Selectman Adams, seconded by Selectman Morse, that the Town Selectmen cancel their second regular meetings in July and August 2010. It was understood that the Selectmen would need to come in to sign warrants and that the meetings would be reinstated if important matters arose that required a public meeting. **Motion passed 5-0-0.**
- c. **17th Annual Northfield Safety Day: July 24, 2010.** Chair Sanders read the Safety Day Flyer, which indicated that there would be free food, exhibitions, demonstrations, and activities at the Northfield Fire Station (128 Wall Street) from 9:00 a.m. to 2:00 p.m.
- d. **Status Reports: Various Projects**
 - 1. **Road System Management System (RSMS) Program.** Selectman Johnson noted that at a previous meeting (06/14/10) it had been reported that the normal bidding process for gravel would be suspended for the initial year of the RSMS so tested materials from various suppliers could be tried out on the roads. He felt that this action should be supported by a Board motion and vote. Motion by Selectman Morse, seconded by Selectman Johnson, that the purchasing policy be suspended for one (1) year regarding the purchase of gravel for the RSMS Program. This waiver will not affect the purchase of winter sand. **Motion passed 5-0-0.**
 - 2. **Battered Women's Services and Shelter (BWSS).** Selectman Morse noted that the BWSS sent a nice letter to the Town Selectmen thanking the people of Northfield for their past support of the organization and the services it provides.

VI. **MANAGER'S REPORT**

a. **Status Reports: Various Projects**

- 1. **RSMS Program Update.** Manager Allard stated that the program would begin tomorrow on Rabbit Hollow Road. The Highway crew will try to limit the disruption (i.e. noise and dust) to residents.
- 2. **Municipal Pool.** Manager Allard stated that the recent hot weather has led to heavy usage of the pool. She added that a recent "Hawaiian Night" had over three hundred (300) people on hand.

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

VIII. **EXECUTIVE SESSION.** Motion by Selectman Morse , seconded by Selectman Adams, to go into executive session, in accordance with 1 VSA 313 (a)(1), in order to discuss the Town Union Contract with Manager Allard present. **Motion passed 5-0-0.**

The Board went into executive session at 8:03 p.m.

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

The Board came out of executive session at 8:40 p.m. No action was taken

Motion by Selectman Morse , seconded by Selectman Adams, to go into executive session, in accordance with 1 VSA 313 (a)(1), in order to discuss a personnel issue with Manager Allard present. **Motion passed 5-0-0.**

The Board went back into executive session at 8:41 p.m.

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

The Board came out of executive session at 9:29 p.m. No action was taken.

IX. **ADJOURNMENT.** Motion by Selectman Goslant, seconded by Selectman Adams, to adjourn. **Motion passed 5-0-0.**

The Board adjourned at 9:29 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Kenneth L. McCann

Kenneth L. McCann, Acting Clerk

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