TOWN OF NORTHFIELD, VERMONT
SELECT BOARD REGULAR MEETING
Minutes of August 25, 2026

I. ROLL CALL. Chair K. David Maxwell, Board members Tim Davis, Lydia Petty (absent), Merry Shernock, and John Stevens. Also present were Town Manager Mary Smith, Acting Clerk Kenneth McCann, Gail Hall (Northfield Energy Committee), Sheila Bannister (Northfield Energy Committee), Sally Davidson, Lorna Doney, and Elroy C. Hill.

Chair Maxwell called the meeting to order at 6:00 p.m.

II. SET/ADJUST AGENDA. There were no changes to the posted agenda.

III. PUBLIC PARTICIPATION (SCHEDULED):

a. Gail Hall, Northfield Energy Committee (NEC): NEC Update. (6:01 p.m.) Ms. Hall said there have been two (2) recent resignations from the committee, which were mainly due to other time commitments. The remaining three (3) members discussed the repercussions of this at their most recent meeting (08/18/26) and decided to suspend their regular meetings for the rest of the calendar year. They would use the time between now and January 2027 to "recruit and regroup." Ms. Hall will report back to the Select Board members then and let them know how the Energy Committee members wish to proceed in the future. Board member Shernock is disappointed that the Energy Committee members will not be providing them with any new energy efficiency proposals in the near future. Ms. Hall noted that the committee members did a walkthrough of some downtown businesses last May in order to present the owners with energy efficiency options. This is the kind of direct public interactions that they would like to do in the future once the committee has been reconstituted. Ms. Hall added that, unfortunately, some of the more effective energy efficiency actions that can be taken are unaffordable for some businesses.

IV. APPROVAL OF MINUTES (6:06 p.m.)

a. August 11, 2026 (Regular Meeting). Motion by Board member Stevens, seconded by Board member Shernock, to approve the minutes. **Motion passed 4-0-0.**

V. APPROVAL OF BILLS (6:08 p.m.)

a. Approval of Warrant #04-27 & #04-27A. Motion by Board member Shernock, seconded by Board member Stevens, to approve Warrant #04-27 & #04-27A in the amount of $373,030.87. **The motion was retroactively tabled (see below).**

b. Receipt of Biweekly Payroll through August 16, 2026. Motion by Board member Shernock, seconded by Board member Stevens, to receive the biweekly payroll in the amount of $134,569.40. **The motion was retroactively tabled (see below).**

VI. SELECT BOARD (6:10 p.m.)

At this time, it was discovered that due to incorrect ZOOM link information on the posted agenda, those wanting to attend the meeting remotely were unable to do so. After some discussion, it was decided that the Select Board members would table the action items on tonight's agenda and hold a special meeting on Thursday, August 27, 2026 at 3:00 p.m. and act upon them then. Motion by Board member Shernock, seconded by Board member Stevens, to table the action items until the next meeting. **Motion passed 3-0-1, with Board member Davis voting in the negative.**

a. **Approval of Act 181 Tier 1B Area Status Municipal Resolution.** Action on this matter was tabled until the next meeting.

b. **Northfield Conservation Commission Appointment.** Action on this matter was tabled until the next meeting.

VII. PUBLIC PARTICIPATION (UNSCHEDULED). There was none.

VIII. EXECUTIVE SESSION. Motion by Board member Shernock, seconded by Board member Davis, to go into executive session, in accordance with 1 VSA 313 (a)(1)], in order to discuss a personnel issue and a legal matter with Manager Smith present. **Motion passed 4-0-0.**

The Board went into executive session at 6:35 p.m.

Motion by Board member Shernock, seconded by Board member Davis, to come out of executive session. **Motion passed 4-0-0.**

The Board came out of executive session at 6:50 p.m. No action was taken.

IX. ADJOURNMENT. Motion by Board member Shernock, seconded by Board member Davis, to adjourn. **Motion passed 4-0-0.**

The Board adjourned at 6:51 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Kenneth L. McCann

Kenneth L. McCann, Acting Clerk

A video recording of this meeting is available at: https://youtu.be/ld6WFrT4SdU

These minutes were approved at the Select Board regular meeting of September 8, 2026.