



**TOWN OF NORTHWOOD
BOARD OF SELECTMEN**

**Town of Northwood 818 First NH Turnpike Northwood, NH 03261
(603) 942-5586**

**Board of Selectmen Meeting Minutes
February 22, 2022**

ROLL CALL: Chairman Hal Kreider, Vice-Chairman Matt Frye, Select Board Member Beth Boudreau, Select Board Member Tim Colby, and Select Board Member Jim Guzofski.

STAFF PRESENT: TA Walter Johnson

6:00 P.M. Chairman Kreider opened the Northwood Board of Selectmen meeting with a roll call and led the Pledge of Allegiance.

Citizen's Forum:

Chairman Kreider apologized for not following the Board's policy at the last meeting. If re-elected, he will strive to do better.

Minutes:

Selectman Guzofski said Morton Salt is misspelled on page 2, line 53.

Motion: "To approve the minutes of February 8, 2022, as amended."

Motion: M. Frye

Second: T. Colby

Motion carried 5/0

Consent Agenda:

Payroll Batch #022322 dated February 23, 2022 for \$55,951.71.

Accounts Payable Batch #46 dated February 14, 2022 for \$654,551.76. Notable in this batch is payments to the IRS for withholding taxes of \$13,333, Irving Energy for heating for town facilities for \$7,328, Irving Oil for \$8,399 for fuel for Police, Fire, and Highway, \$11,297 to Mainstay Technologies for 7 desktop computers and the new fire wall and internet router installation, \$34,551 to NH Retirement System for employee retirement contributions, Morton salt for \$15,505, \$500,000 to the school, and \$35,390 to Zoll for 2 ventilators that were approved last fall by the Board.

Intent to Cut – Map 108, Lot 102 – Jeffrey Eames

Intent to Cut – Map 217, Lot 44 – Jake Bronnenberg

Intent to Cut – Map 216, Lot 81 – Jake Bronnenberg

Intent to Cut – Map 216, Lot 78 – Jake Bronnenberg

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Motion: “To approve the consent agenda as presented.”

Motion: T. Colby

Second: M. Frye

Motion carried 5/0.

TA Report:

Staffing: One of the new officers has resigned effective immediately. They will be seeking a new officer.

Town lighting upgrade: The Narrows and Ridge stations are done, and some of the Community Hall is complete. We are waiting to hear when they will resume work on the other buildings.

MTS finance software: The new program is working very well. Department Heads have been trained on accessing it remotely and entering their invoices. They can look up financial info from their locations. As soon as a budget is adopted and put in the system, the Board should be pleased with the reports it will generate.

Town facilities – rep on Comm hall has continued. East wall exterior siding. Some rotted foundation issues were found. There will be some additional cost to those repairs. Found a similar problem on the west side of the building and that will be addressed as well. Chris will be doing some additional work that needs to be done down there in his free time too. Chris fixed a leak in the roof at TH near the chimney. This roof needs to be replaced sooner rather than later. We will be seeking quotes for that work. Hopefully town vote will allow us to continue the funding to the ETF to enable us to do this needed work. Hal – need to fix this while the walls are open or else we will have to pay twice. Hal – are roof repairs part of the CIP, or just a replacement. Walter – just maintenance.

Ran out of heating fuel at TH and Comm Center. No freeze ups in either building.

Voting day – March 8 at elementary school. Will coordinate with school staff and DPW staff for set up. Moderator will be in touch with board members about their assignments.

Sale of town property – 3 town owned mobile homes town acquired in 2019. Had an inquiry to purchase one. By policy we hold them for 3 years to avoid the repurchase option. Would be up in Oct 2022. Maybe should think about adjusting the policy to sell those properties this spring. Two are occupied – we assume they are paying the park rent even though they are not paying the town. The 3rd is vacant, and we are not paying the park rent. Walter will reach out to owners to see if they are interested in repurchasing the properties. Consensus of the Board is to try to unload them as soon as possible.

Conference of committees – discussed last year and put off because of Covid and lateness of town meeting last year. Walter wants to work on facilitating this idea this spring. Everyone comes together on a Saturday morning or an evening for discussions and a presentation on a particular topic like common goals etc. Promote sense of cooperation and positive efforts among boards. Board members think it is a good idea.

95 March meetings 15th and 29th.

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98 **Review Changes to the Appointment to Boards and Committee Policy**

99 Walter went over the updates he made for the policy. Eliminated the post card and went
100 with a form. Made it clear and succinct. Hal asked using admin assist title in the letter
101 – that is one of Carols’ titles.

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103 **Motion to approve the amended policy as presented**

104 **Moved: Matt**

105 **Seconded: Beth**

106 **Vote 5/0**

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108 **Review of Regulations of Town Beaches**

109 Copy in packet. This is timely for the upcoming spring. This is a comprehensive policy
110 from 2010 that just needs to be updated for today. Walter can take any input on this
111 amendment. Matt – beach – look at mention of lifeguards – we have moved away from
112 that. Give beach attendant some kind of authority for rules. Need a playground policy
113 as well. Should consolidate all town owned recreation locations under one roof. Beth
114 asked about the dog policy – should we allow dogs on town property? Beth – no leash
115 law in Northwood or pick up after your dog law. Matt – maybe move community center
116 under the prevue of the recreation dept? Walter – we have a new system in place for
117 scheduling. Seems to be working well if folks follow the process. Discussed Lucas Pond
118 and if it is a town beach. Rec Director Scott Blewitt has funding in his proposed budget
119 for repairs at the beaches.

120 Walter will review and come up with a draft with input from Director Blewit and the Rec
121 Commission.

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123 **Review Draft of 2022 Voter Guide and Facts Sheet Mailer**

124 Walter has 2 versions. The large version has all the articles with descriptions at the
125 deliberative session. Hal – the operating budget looks like the italicized text at the top
126 doesn’t match what is reflected up above. Yes this needs to be updated from the
127 deliberative session paperwork. The board needs to be neutral in this document – just
128 the facts. Beth stated Art. 4 tax impact is \$3.30– what is the tax increase? Not just the
129 amount the tax will be. Discussed how to show the tax impact. This one will be available
130 around town. Small one will be mailed out to everyone. Jim said we need it to be put in
131 layman’s terms for everyone to be able to understand. Walter – need to deliver the right
132 information in accordance with the department of revenue. Cheryl made an excellent
133 list of definitions for the budget committee. Surplus is not an accurate word. Jim will
134 work with Walter on editing the document. Discussed any other items they want to be
135 included to keep people informed.

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137 **Review Board Tasker Manager**

138 Tim – lower Bow St. resident is still pumping water into road. Liability is on the resident.
139 Chris sands it a lot. Wants to send them a bill. Walter says we need to keep up with
140 it, but if we bill the resident, we have to be consistent with everyone. The drainage issue
141 is in litigation right now, pending a legal determination between the property owners.

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143 Hal suggested changing the task from Rt 4 lighting to Rt 4 safety assessment. Walter
144 can then figure out what the next step is and where the state stands on concerns raised
145 in the past.

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147 Hal suggested for center school a look at the true status of the building, foundation,
148 costs for what is needed to determine if it is worth fixing up. Walter – that building was
149 turned over by the board to the Rec commission to coordinate the improvement project.
150 Matt – that was put on the rec director’s list to get quotes for necessary work. Walter
151 will talk to Scott about it. Matt suggests putting a little investment into it to get people
152 on board with the ongoing restoration.

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154 Beth asked if there was any new information regarding the pond at Meadows Park.
155 Walter hasn’t since last October, or November and he will follow up with the State.

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157 **Board Committee reports:**
158 Jim reported the budget committee voted to not recommend the amended budget 9/7
159 at their last meeting.

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161 Matt expressed his thanks for the last 3 years on the Board to everyone. Hal presented
162 to Matt a handmade wooden bowl in appreciation for his service. Hal stated he is up
163 for re-election and wants to say thank you also in case he is not on the board after the
164 election. It has been very enjoyable.

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166 Beth thanked them both for their service.

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168 At 7:23PM the Board adjourned.

169 **Motion: M. Frye**
170 **Second: B. Boudreau**
171 **Motion carried by roll call vote 5/0.**

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173 Minutes respectfully submitted by
174 Cheryl Eastman

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