



**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 8, 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

6:03 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 read an email from Lee Carver. "Good evening. I currently have a truck in my yard who spun around on Rt4 and damaged his vehicle requiring a tow. His vehicle has been sitting here for at least 1 hour. This is the 4th significant accident that I am aware of (requiring a tow) in the last 8 months that occurred in front of my property. We own 983, 977 and 931 First Nh turnpike. I can't imagine that there's any place in Northwood or even in the State that has had 4 significant accidents in a 1/4 mile stretch of roadway! I'm certain numerous accidents occur in portions of route 4 in which I don't own property. I strongly believe that the number of accidents and the volume of traffic AND the approach to our school zones require a lower speed limit. I think this stretch of route 4 is treacherous! A reasonable approach to this roadway, that's incurred numerous accidents, requires us to consider a reduction in the overall speed. I respectfully request that the Town and Board of Selectmen carefully consider whether the speed on route 4 is a safe and reasonable speed. Please contact me for your response or questions. Thank you in advance for your consideration."

Chairman Kreider stated that since this is Route 4, the town doesn't have jurisdiction. Mr. Carver will have to talk to the State. After discussion with the Board, Chairman Kreider suggested this item be put on an upcoming agenda to follow up.

Minutes:

Selectman Guzofski said on page 1, line 28 there is a misspelling. Instead of "stan" it should be "stand".

Motion: "To approve the minutes of January 25, 2022, as amended."

Motion: M. Frye

45 **Second: B. Boudreau**
46 **Motion carried 5/0**

47
48 **Consent Agenda:**

49 Payroll manifest dated February 9, 2022. Batch # 020922 for \$56,129.07.
50 Accounts Payable Manifest dated February 2, 2022. Batch # 42 for \$98,267.72. This
51 consisted of payments to snow contractors of \$4,000 and \$3,380, Cross Country
52 Appraisal payment of \$4,500, payment to the IRS for taxes for around \$12,000 and
53 \$25,000, Morton Salt payment of \$6,782.10, and independent auditors for the actuarial
54 study of \$3,250.
55 Accounts Payable manifest dated February 2, 2022. Batch # 44 for \$228.82. This was a
56 fuel assistance payment through the Human Services department.
57 An abatement recommendation for James Hadley, Map 235, Lot 26 for \$64.98.
58 Tax exemption applications for Victor May, Map 230, Lot 9 for Veteran's, Solar, and
59 Disability Exemptions.
60 Tax exemption application for Gary Jarest, Map 117, Lot 35 for Elderly Exemption.
61 Land Use Change Tax for Map 222, Lot 47 for \$1,384.20.
62 Land Use Change Tax for Map 222, Lot 47-2 for \$476.20.

63
64 **Motion: "To approve the consent agenda as presented."**

65 **Motion: T. Colby**

66 **Second: M. Frye**

67 **Motion carried 5/0.**

68
69 **TA Report:**

70 Staffing: An offer was given for a full-time position at the Fire Department. It was
71 accepted and all the required conditions are in the process of being met.

72
73 Lighting upgrade: The project will be starting tomorrow at the Narrows fire station.

74
75 Auction of tax deeded properties: The Town is still working on resolving title issues.
76 The Zoning Board granted a variance for the property on Tasker Shore Drive. The buyer
77 of the Rita Circle property is refusing to close the sale. They will forfeit their deposit and
78 the property will go up for sale again in the next auction.

79
80 Town hall improvements: Chairman Kreider will be bringing forward some
81 recommendations for the Board's consideration at a later meeting.

82
83 The Warrant, MS-737 Budget, and the Default Budget were posted at the town hall,
84 Northwood school, and the Post Office on Jan 28, 2022, prior to the Jan 31st deadline.

85
86 Computer Replacements: 7 new desktop computers were installed in the town office.
87 These were units that were scheduled for replacement in 2021 and had been held back
88 until the end of the budget year. We are now back on schedule for replacements.

89
90 The new firewall installation has been rescheduled for this Friday. It was delayed due to
91 weather.

92

93 PW Foreman Chris Brown is seeking proposals for roadside tree removal in preparation
94 for the 2022 road improvement projects. He is hoping to start the tree work in February
95 to be prepared for road improvement weather.

96
97 Bow Street drainage: The PW Foreman, Town Administrator, Town Counsel, and the
98 Lord's and the Hall's with their attorneys met to discuss options to resolve the pending
99 lawsuit. The town is not a party in the matter but was hoping to help find a resolution.

100
101 ARPA funds: The newly announced final rules for expending the ARPA funds are much
102 simpler than what we had been looking at. We can use the funds for different options
103 that are less restrictive than before. After the town voting, TA Johnson suggests we
104 begin the process of public input about what the funds should be used for. Chairman
105 Kreider asked about also looking at the CIP and see what items on there might be able
106 to be funded.

107
108 FY21 audit has been started. The auditors had some time last Friday to begin. They
109 will be back the 1st week in March for the completion. The final report should be ready
110 by the end of June.

111
112 Upcoming meetings: The next Board meeting will be Feb 22. The second Tuesday in
113 March is voting day and the Selectboard members will be at the polls. TA Johnson
114 suggested moving the March meetings to the 15th and the 29th. The Board agreed. April
115 meetings will go back to 2nd and 4th Tuesdays.

116
117 **Review of Deliberative Session Results:**
118 The Board felt that Deliberative Session was well attended with 71 voters present. The
119 Board discussed sending out an informational mailer or voter guide this year. The
120 consensus of the Board was to do a one-page mailer to all addresses in town and a
121 multi-page voter guide to be distributed around town with the facts about each article.
122 The Board asked TA Johnson to put something together for review.

123
124 Chairman Kreider asked for a vote to recommend the revised budget amount. Vote was
125 5/0 in favor.

126
127 **Town Auditors Contract Renewal for Fiscal Years 2021, 2022, 2023:**
128 The prior contract with Plodzik & Sanderson expired with the FY20 audit. There is a
129 new contract for the next 3 years with Plodzik & Sanderson at \$15,000 each year with
130 the standard caveat of any exceptional auditing that may need to be done would be an
131 additional charge.

132 **Motion: "To approve the contract with Plodzik & Sanderson and to authorize**
133 **Chairman Kreider to sign the agreement."**

134 **Motion: T. Colby**

135 **Second: B. Boudreau**

136 **Vote 5/0.**

137
138 **Zoning Board of Adjustment Alternate Member Appointment:**
139 The Board considered appointing Steve Kasanovich to the ZBA as an alternate member
140 with a term to expire in 2025. He would be eligible to become a full member after Mr.
141 Johnson's temporary term expires in 2023 or when the case that he was appointed for
142 is settled.

143 **Motion: “To appoint Steve Kasanovich to the ZBA as an alternate member with a**
144 **term to expire 2025.”**

145 **Motion: T. Colby**

146 **Second: B. Boudreau**

147 **Motion carried by vote 5/0.**

148

149 **Review the Established Process for Board and Committee Reappointments:**

150 TA Johnson brought up for review the process for re-appointing non-elected members
151 to boards and committees when their terms expire. It is important to first find out if the
152 person is interested in being re-appointed and then determining if the Board wants to
153 re-appoint them. TA Johnson suggested checking with board chairs as far as the
154 person’s attendance and participation. If favorable, they can reappoint, and if not, the
155 Board may want to select someone else. The Board asked TA Johnson to revise the
156 letter that goes out to board members nearing the end of their term and bring it back to
157 another meeting to discuss.

158

159 **Board Tasker Manager:** The Board thanked TA Johnson for getting so many of the
160 items completed. He suggested adding to the list looking at options for the police and
161 fire facilities. He feels we should open the door to look at all options, like renovations,
162 new construction, 1 building, or 2 separate buildings, for example.

163

164 Selectman Guzofski asked about evaluating the boat ramps and where the Board is
165 going with that. TA Johnson said that is one of the items to look at as a use for ARPA
166 funds. The Board should look at more permanent options than the band-aid projects
167 done last year.

168

169 **Board Committee reports:**

170 Chairman Kreider mentioned that he was disappointed that no one from the Planning
171 Board spoke to the first two articles on the warrant at Saturday’s Deliberative Session.

172

173 TA Johnson wanted to recognize the DPW employees and contractors on the great job
174 done over the past few weeks with a variety of storm types and working for long hours.
175 He added we had several equipment breakdowns during recent storms and Chris Brown
176 was very resourceful in getting the equipment back on the road quickly.

177

178 **At 6:55, the Board went into a non-pubic session under RSA 91A:3II (b) regarding**
179 **hiring**

180 **Motion: M. Frye**

181 **Second: B. Boudreau**

182 **Motion carried by roll call vote 5/0.**

183

184 **Resumed Public Session at 7:10PM**

185

186 **Motion: “To seal the non-public minutes because it is determined that divulgence**
187 **of this information likely would render a proposed action ineffective”.**

188 **Motion: T. Colby**

189 **Second: B. Boudreau**

190 **Motion carried 5/0 by roll call vote.**

191

192

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193 **Motion: “To adjourn”**
194 **Motion: J. Guzofski**
195 **Second: T. Colby**
196 **Motion carried 5/0 at 7:11PM.**
197
198 Minutes respectfully submitted by
199 Cheryl Eastman
200