



## NORTHFIELD BUDGET COMMITTEE

Minutes of the meeting of February 1, 2024

**Present:** Morris Boudreau, Amy O'Hara, Carl Bartlett, Ken Tripple, Scott Haskins, Karen Sheldon, Sel. Mark Hubbell

**Staff Present:** Town Administrator Stephanie Giovannucci

Chairman O'Hara called the meeting to order at 5:00 pm.

**Haskins/Bartlett moved to approve the minutes of 1/25/24 meeting. Motion passes.**

**Community Action:** representative Beth Hayward asked that the Board reconsider the appropriations to Community Action, at least to what was approved in 2023 being \$7,000. She stated that they did ask for the full funding in 2023, but received half in June and did not realize they needed to ask for it again in December. She added that the federal funding does not support administrative services, it only supports specific programs. Sel. Hubbell asked about the bank balance. Ms. Hayward stated \$28 million which consists of the programs for CAP and the money they ask for, for the administration. She added that the boards are volunteers, staff is paid, they receive funding from the county for elder services and WIC.

Mrs. Sheldon asked what they will do if they are not funded. Ms. Hayward stated that they will have to go into reserves for some, services and wait lists will take longer as staff will be reduced.

Mr. Bartlett asked if other municipalities have a quarterly billing. Ms. Hayward stated that only one other one.

Mr. Haskins asked if this is based on a percentage each year per town. Ms. Hayward explained that it's based off of how much went into each town for services.

No further questions.

### **Review of Budget:**

Hubbell/Tripple moved to approve the Executives budget at \$20,018. Motion Passed 6-1

Mr. Bartlett stated that we could reduce the budget by \$3,000 if we reduced the Selectboards salaries.

Mr. Boudreau stated he wouldn't do the job for any amount, so he's glad someone's doing it.

Hubbell/Boudreau moved to approve the Town Admin budget at \$314,953. Motion Passed unanimously

Hubbell/Tripple moved to approve the Town Meeting budget at \$2,310. Motion Passed unanimously

Hubbell/Haskins moved to approve the Clerks Budget at \$178,059. Motion Passed unanimously

Boudreau/Bartlett moved to approve the Election budget at \$21,350. Motion Passed unanimously

Hubbell/Boudreau moved to approve the Tax Collectors budget at \$8,491. Motion Passed unanimously

Haskins/Boudreau moved to approve the Treasurers budget at \$3,121. Motion Passed unanimously

Haskins/Hubbell moved to approved the Information Technology budget at \$56,100. Motion Passed unanimously

Tripple/Bartlett moved to approve the Revaluation budget at \$51,400. Motion Passed unanimously

Haskins/Hubbell moved to approve the Legal budget of \$16,000. Motion Passed unanimously

Tripple/Bartlett moved to approve the Planning/Zoning Budget at \$22,646 Motion Passed unanimously

Hubbell/Tripple moved to approve the General Building budget at \$31,462. Motion Passed unanimously

Bartlett/Boudreau moved to approve the Cemetery budget at \$6001.0 Motion Passed unanimously

Hubbell/Tripple moved to approve the Insurance budget at \$102,363. Motion Passed unanimously

Hubbell/Tripple moved to approve the Police Dept budget at \$1,112,382. Motion Passed unanimously

Tripple/Hubbell moved to approve the Police Vehicle budget at \$13,000. Motion Passed unanimously

Bartlett/Boudreau moved to approve the Fire budget at \$50,658. Motion Passed unanimously

Hubbell/Tripple moved to approve the Code Enforcement budget at \$61,963. Motion Passed unanimously

Boudreau/Triple moved to approve the Emergency Management budget at \$1. Motion Passed unanimously  
Triple/Boudreau moved to approve the Youth Assistance budget at \$45,552. Motion Passed 4-3  
Hubbell/Bartlett moved to approve the Public Works budget at \$737,622. Motion Passed unanimously  
Haskins/Hubbell moved to approve the Public Works Vehicle Main budget at \$41,500. Motion Passed unanimously

Triple/Boudreau moved to approve the Road Maintenance budget at \$267,900. Motion Passed 6-1  
Hubbell/Boudreau moved to approve the Highway Bridget Maint budget at \$1. Motion Passed unanimously  
Haskins/Triple moved to approve the Street Lights budget at \$6000. Motion Passed unanimously  
Bartlett/Boudreau moved to approve the Transfer Station budget at \$39,391. Motion Passed unanimously  
Bartlett/Triple moved to approve the Solid Waste Collection budget at \$229,331. Motion Passed 6-1  
Bartlett/Triple moved to approve the Solid Waste Disposal budget at \$117,300. Motion Passed 6-1  
Hubbell/Boudreau moved to approve the Health budget at \$25,547. Motion Passed 6-1

Discussion. Mr. Bartlett feels the VNA should be fully funded as they respond to a lot of local needs.  
Mr. Hubbell stated that the service will still be provided no matter what we pay and they have a lot of money in their bank. Mr. Bartlett feels it's unreasonable that we are paying each Selectman \$4,000, but won't fully fund an asset to the town.

Mr. Hubbell stated that for Community Action the fuel assistance is funded federally. Board agrees that the administration is not funded that way.

Haskins/Triple moved to approve Welfare Admin Budget at \$23,880. Motion Passed unanimously  
Haskins/Hubbell moved to approve Welfare Vendor budget at \$35,210. Motion Passed unanimously  
Triple/Haskins moved to approve Parks & Rec budget at \$7,500. Motion Passed unanimously  
Bartlett/Boudreau moved to approve Library Budget at \$154,148. Motion Passed unanimously  
Hubbell/Triple moved to approve Other Culter & Rec at \$78,000. Motion Passed unanimously  
Triple/Hubbell moved to approve Conservation at \$1,000. Motion Passed unanimously  
Hubbell/Boudreau moved to approve Economic Dev at \$4,000. Motion Passed unanimously  
Hubbell/Boudreau moved to approve TAN at \$500 Motion Passed unanimously  
Hubbell/Haskins moved to approve the overall budget at \$3,886,660. Motion Passed 6-1

### **Review of Warrant**

Board reviewed the warrant articles. Mrs. Giovannucci explained each article.

Art. 1 through 2 – No questions

Art. 3 – Mrs. Giovannucci explains what the plans are for the roads to be done in 2024

Art. 4 through 12 – No questions

Art. 13 – Mrs. Sheldon asked what the feasibility study is going to do. Mrs. Giovannucci stated that the CIP Committee is looking to have all building reviewed for current issues, layout changes, future growth options, etc.

Art. 14 – questions ensued about the construction of the containers. The Board of Selectmen and Public Works Director will finalize the design.

Art. 15 – Mr. Haskins asked if it was for all sanders, Mrs. Giovannucci confirmed.

Art. 16 – No questions

With a few corrections Board approves to move this forward to Public Hearing.

Board discussed Fund Balance and reviewed the revenue.

### **Other Business:**

Mrs. Giovannucci asked if the Board would like to hold the Public Hearing for Highlands Village District on February 29<sup>th</sup> at 5pm, Board agrees. Mrs. Giovannucci reminded the Board that the Public Hearing is Feb 15<sup>th</sup>. Mrs. Giovannucci informed the board that the Fire District is on the 6<sup>th</sup>, and School District is on the 13<sup>th</sup>.

There being no other business, meeting was adjourned at 7:11pm

**Minutes approved February 29, 2024**