

**TOWN OF NORTHFIELD, VERMONT
SELECT BOARD SPECIAL MEETING
Minutes of January 29, 2019**

- I. ROLL CALL.** Select Board Chair Kenneth W. Goslant, Board members Lynn Doney (absent), Julie H. Goodrich, K. David Maxwell, and Nathaniel Miller. Also present were Town Manager Jeff Schulz and Acting Clerk Kenneth McCann.

Chair Goslant called the meeting to order at 5:40 p.m.

- II. PUBLIC PARTICIPATION (Scheduled):** None.

III. DISCUSSION

- a. Approval of 2019 Town Meeting Warning.** The Select Board members had approved the draft warning at their last regular meeting (01/22/18) with the expectation that the finalized warning would be adopted and signed this evening. Board member Maxwell has concerns about Article 5, which was added to the warning by petition and reads as follows: *Shall the voters authorize the Town to exempt from local property taxation, to the extent of 100% of the appraised value, the land and premises of the DeWitt Clinton Masonic Temple, located at 151 South Main Street, which has 501(c) status, for a period of ten (10) years, beginning July 1, 2019? (Australian Ballot).* Board member Maxwell feels it would be appropriate to include some wording in the article that would indicate the amount of property taxes that would not be collected should this article pass. Board member Miller agrees with this. Chair Goslant asked why this property tax exemption is for ten (10) years rather than the standard three (3) years for such requests. Manager Schulz said this period was what was requested on the signed petition. He added he will need to contact the Town Clerk's Office during business hours to determine the current tax bill for that parcel. Board member Maxwell understands this organization has had financial difficulties in recent years but felt other forms of financial redress should have been explored before asking Northfield voters to approve a complete property tax exemption. Motion by Board member Maxwell, seconded by Board member Miller, to approve the amended warning. **Motion passed 4-0-0.**

- IV. PUBLIC PARTICIPATION (Unscheduled).** There was none.

- V. EXECUTIVE SESSION:** Motion by Board member Goodrich, seconded by Board member Maxwell, to go into executive session, in accordance with 1 VSA 313 (a)(1), in order to discuss a personnel matter with Manager Schulz present. **Motion passed 4-0-0.**

The Board went into executive session at 5:50 p.m.

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

The Board came out of executive session at 6:41 p.m. No action was taken.

- VI. ADJOURNMENT.** Motion by Board member Maxwell, seconded by Board member Goodrich, to adjourn. **Motion passed 4-0-0.**

The Board adjourned at 6:41 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Kenneth L. McCann

Kenneth L. McCann, Acting Clerk

An audio recording of this meeting is available in the Town Manager's Office.

These minutes were approved at the regular Select Board meeting of February 12, 2019.