



TOWN OF NORTH HAMPTON, NEW HAMPSHIRE

SELECT BOARD JOINT MEETING WITH BUDGET COMMITTEE
APPROVED MINUTES
MONDAY, JANUARY 4, 2016 7:00 PM

NORTH HAMPTON TOWN HALL
231 ATLANTIC AVENUE

1. **Call to Order & Pledge of Allegiance**

Chair Hamilton called the meeting to order at 7:00 PM.

Those in attendance from the Budget Committee were Rick Stanton, James Sununu, Dickie Garnett, John Anthony Simmons, Kari Schmitz and Jonathan Pinette. Absent were Casey O’Kane and Terrence Belluche.

Chair Hamilton led the Pledge of Allegiance.

2. **Joint Meeting with Budget Committee to Discuss FY 2017 Proposed Operating Budget**

Chair Hamilton stated the meeting would be a wrap up of the town’s operating budget, police contract and warrant articles.

Chair Maggiore opened the Select Board portion of the meeting at 7:05 PM.

Motion by Selectman Stanton to recommend the operating budget in the amount of \$6,706,066 which reflects a 2.4% increase. Seconded by Mr. Garnett.

Motion by Mr. Sununu to amend Selectman Stanton’s motion to approve an operating budget of \$6,597,211 which is an approximate decrease of \$110,000. Seconded by Mrs. Schmitz.

Mr. Sununu suggested reductions to the following line items, but realized it is ultimately up to the Select Board as it is a bottom line budget:

- Heating Oil
- Delay hiring of Police Officer for six months
- Reduction in Police Department overtime

- 39 • Health Stabilization
- 40 • Legal expenses
- 41 • Non Union employee merit pool
- 42 • Asphalt and paving
- 43 • Solid waste disposal
- 44 • Recycling
- 45 • Mosquito control
- 46 • Patriotic Purposes

47 Mr. Sununu stated the total in deductions came to \$120,355

48 Mr. Simmons stated all of the scenarios still contain the Public Safety Director's position as well
49 as two deputies and he would not support it.

50 Mr. Sununu disagreed with Mr. Simmons stating there was a clear need for all three positions.

51 Selectman Miller expressed concern on cutting the Merit Pool for nonunion employees as that will leave
52 someone worthy of a raise with nothing.

53 Selectman Miller stated he could possibly agree with cutting heating oil; would not support the delay of
54 hiring a police officer or a reduction in overtime as the department is understaffed now with the potential
55 of losing more employees; the town follows a paving schedule and if that is cut along with decreasing gas
56 tax monies received, will cripple the town's ability to pave roads;

57 Mr. Sununu stated the motion he made was to change the bottom line, not in areas he suggested as he was
58 illustrating potential savings.

59 Mrs. Schmitz called the question.

60 **Motion carries 7-0 on Mr. Sununu's amended motion, with a bottom line operating budget of**
61 **\$6,597,211. The Chair asked it be noted Mr. O'Kane and Mr. Belluche were absent from the**
62 **meeting.**

63 **(Secretary's Note: Selectman Stanton's original motion was not withdrawn, and no official action**
64 **taken.)**

65 Chair Maggiore asked the Budget Committee for a consensus on a deputy in the Police Department.
66 Those in favor of a deputy were Mr. Garnett, Mr. Sununu, Selectman Stanton, Mr. Pinette, Mrs. Schmitz
67 and Mr. Simmons would support now as he felt the police department is in dire straits, but is concerned
68 the Select Board has not addressed two deputies and one Public Safety Director.

69 Chair Hamilton stated Warrant Articles "AA" and "BB" would be taken up last, and moved to Article
70 "DD."

71 **Motion by Selectman Stanton to recommend Article "DD" – Police Department Collective**
72 **Bargaining Agreement with the New England Police Benevolent Association, Local 211. Seconded**
73 **by Mr. Sununu. Motion carries 7-0.**

74 Motion by Mr. Sununu to approve Article “EE” and the sum of \$280,000 for the purpose of
75 resurfacing and reconstructing approximately 2.5 miles of road, withdrawing \$30,000 from the
76 previously established Municipal Transportation Improvement Capital Reserve Fund created for
77 this purpose, and raising \$210,000 through taxation. Seconded by Selectman Stanton. Mr. Sununu
78 modified his motion to include the balance of \$40,000 would be raised in the operating budget.
79 Motion carries 7-0.

80 Motion by Mr. Sununu to recommend Article “FF” and authorize the Select Board to enter into
81 two three-year lease/purchase agreements, each for \$49,000, totaling \$99,000 for the purpose of
82 leasing and equipping two (2) police cruisers for the police department and to raise and appropriate
83 the sum of \$33,000 for the first year’s payment on each lease (the first year’s payment consisting of
84 \$16,500 per lease. The second and third year payments of \$16,500 for each lease will be contained
85 in the operating budget for subsequent years. This lease agreement contains a fiscal funding
86 (escape) clause.

87 Mr. Simmons asked for explanation of an escape clause and Town Administrator Apple explained.

88 Motion carries 7-0.

89 Motion by Mr. Sununu to recommend Article “GG” to vote to raise and appropriate the sum of
90 \$58,492 through taxation for the purchase of not more than ten Self-contained Breathing
91 Apparatus (SCBA) units for the Fire Department to replace existing units as part of an existing
92 replacement schedule of equipment. The life of expectancy of the SCBA units is approximately 10
93 years. Seconded by Mr. Garnett. Motion carries 7-0.

94 Motion by Mr. Garnett to recommend Article “HH” to vote to withdraw the sum of \$14,997 from
95 the Fire Department and Apparatus Fund for the purchase of an automatic chest compression
96 system to be used to equip the North Hampton Ambulance. This article does not raise money
97 through taxation. Seconded by Mr. Sununu. Motion carries 7-0.

98 Motion by Mr. Garnett to recommend Article “II” to vote to withdraw the sum of \$10,000 from the
99 Fire Department Equipment and Apparatus Fund for the purpose of refitting an existing DPW
100 vehicle that is being replaced for use as a forestry truck. This article does not raise money from
101 taxation. After discussion the committee agreed to omit the words “that is being replaced” from
102 the article. Motion carries 7-0.

103 Motion by Mr. Sununu to recommend Article “KK” to see if the town will vote to authorize the
104 Select Board to enter into a three year lease/purchase agreement in the amount of \$90,000 for the
105 purpose of leasing and equipping a medium duty dump truck for the Department of Public Works;
106 and to raise and appropriate the sum of \$18,000 for the first year’s payment on said lease. The
107 second and third year payments of the lease will be contained in the operating budget for
108 subsequent years. This lease agreement contains a fiscal funding (escape) clause. Seconded by
109 Mrs. Schmitz.

110 Motion by Mr. Sununu to recommend Article “LL” to see if the Town will vote to raise and
111 appropriate the sum of \$12,000 through taxation for the purchase of a used steam roller for use by
112 the Highway Department to compact earth and other materials in the preparation of roads on a

113 regular basis, and the estimated return on investment for this purchase is approximately two years.
114 Seconded by Mr. Garnett. Motion carries 7-0.

115 Motion by Mr. Sununu to recommend Article “MM” to vote to authorize the Select Board to enter
116 into a three year lease/purchase agreement in the amount of \$55,000 for the purpose of leasing and
117 equipping a utility pickup truck for the Department of Public Works; and to raise and appropriate
118 the sum of \$11,000 for the first year’s payment on said lease the second and third year payments of
119 the lease will be contained in the operating budget for subsequent years. This lease agreement
120 contains a fiscal funding (escape) clause. Seconded by Mr. Garnett. Mrs. Schmitz asked Mr.
121 Hubbard why there was a need for a third truck, and Mr. Hubbard explained there are no back up
122 trucks if one breaks down during snow removal and this truck will have a life expectancy of 25
123 years. Motion carries 7-0.

124 Motion by Mr. Sununu to recommend Article “NN” related to the Town Operating budget, passes,
125 shall the Town of North Hampton close the Mosquito Control Expendable Trust Fund (Capital
126 Reserve #7) and transfer any remaining balance to the General Fund for the purpose of Mosquito
127 Control. Seconded by Mrs. Schmitz. Motion carries 7-0.

128 Motion by Mr. Sununu to recommend Article “NN.1” (?) related to the Town Operating budget,
129 does not pass, then shall the Town of North Hampton vote to raise by taxation and appropriate the
130 sum of \$25,000 to be placed in the Mosquito Control Expendable Trust Fund (Capital Reserve #7).
131 The purpose of this fund is to fund mosquito control activities. If the Town Budget, Article 12
132 passes then this warrant article is null and void. Seconded by Mrs. Schmitz. Motion carries 7-0.

133 Motion by Selectman Stanton to recommend Article “OO” to see if the town will vote to raise and
134 appropriate the sum of \$30,000 through taxation for deposit into the Health Benefits Stabilization
135 Control Capital Reserve Fund for the purpose of stabilizing health benefit cost increases for
136 employees. Seconded by Mrs. Schmitz. Motion carries 7-0.

137 Motion by Selectman Stanton to recommend Article “PP” to see if the town will vote to raise and
138 appropriate the sum of \$30,000 through taxation for deposit into the Earned Time Settlement
139 Capital Reserve Fund. The purpose of this fund is to allow the Select Board to implement its
140 Earned time policy which is designed to limit the town’s unfunded accrued leave liability. The
141 Select Board is the agent to expend from the said Fund. Seconded by Mr. Sununu. Motion carries
142 7-0.

143 Motion by Mr. Sununu to recommend Article “QQ” to modify the purpose of the Cable Access
144 Television Revolving Fund to allow for funding of information and internet technology equipment
145 and program costs from not more than 25% of annual revenues from the receipt of Comcast Cable
146 Franchise fees? Seconded by Selectman Stanton. Discussion. Motion carries 5-2.

147 Motion by Mr. Sununu to recommend Article “RR” to raise and appropriate through taxation the
148 sum of \$75,000 to be placed in the Town Building Maintenance Capital Reserve Fund. Seconded by
149 Selectman Stanton. Motion carries 7-0.

150 Motion by Mr. Sununu to recommend Article “SS” to raise and appropriate through taxation the
151 sum of \$15,000 to be placed in the Town Revaluation Capital Reserve Fund (#17). The purpose of

152 **this fund is to set aside sufficient funds to comply with the State of New Hampshire’s requirement**
153 **to perform a complete property revaluation every five years. Seconded by Mr. Garnett. Motion**
154 **carries 7-0.**

155 **Motion by Mr. Sununu to recommend Article “TT” to see if the Town of North Hampton will vote**
156 **to establish an EPA Stormwater Compliance Expendable Trust Fund pursuant to RSA 31:19-a, for**
157 **the implementation of a Municipal Separate Storm Sewer System (MS4) project required by an**
158 **unfunded federal mandate of the Environmental Protection Agency to prevent harmful pollutants**
159 **from being washed into local water bodies, and to raise and appropriate the sum of \$60,000 to add**
160 **to the fund with \$40,000 to come from the unassigned fund balance, not from taxation and \$20,000**
161 **to be raised and appropriated from taxation; and further to name the Select Board as agents to**
162 **expend from the Fund. Seconded by Selectman Stanton. Motion carries 7-0.**

163 Selectman Stanton stated the town attorney had not returned an opinion on proposed Article “UU” and
164 therefore will not be on the warrant.

165 Discussions began on Article “AA”

166 **Motion by Mr. Sununu to recommend Article “AA” Town Campus Project by Petition to see if the**
167 **Town of North Hampton will vote to raise and appropriate the sum of \$6,531,468 for the**
168 **construction of a Municipal Safety complex to house both the police and fire/rescue departments**
169 **and a new library, to demolish the old fire station and to renovate the old police station for town**
170 **administration; such sum to be raised through the issuance of bonds or notes under the Municipal**
171 **Finance Act (RSA 33); and to authorize the Select Board to issue and negotiate such bonds or notes**
172 **in accordance therewith and to determine the rate of interest thereon and the maturity and other**
173 **terms thereof; and further to raise by taxation and appropriate up to \$185,000 for the first year’s**
174 **payment on said bond. The Safety Complex shall be built on town owned land at the corner of**
175 **Atlantic and Alden Avenues, Map 007, Lot 138 commonly referred to as the “Homestead Property”**
176 **and the new library shall be constructed on town owned land on Atlantic Avenue on which the old**
177 **fire station is located. The total cost of this project is \$7,097,124. The balance of the cost shall be**
178 **paid for by funds previously appropriated by the Legislative Body, in the amount of \$450,029 and**
179 **funds raised by private donation, in the amount of \$925,627 and to see if the town will vote to**
180 **accept and appropriate said private donations for the purposes herein described. Seconded by Mr.**
181 **Garnett. Discussion.**

182 **Anne Ambrogi and Peter Robie spoke to the article.**

183 **Mr. Sununu stated it makes no sense to wait and cost the town \$1,000,000 more down the road.**

184 **Chair Maggiore stated the effort has always been to build a complete town campus. He further**
185 **stated the reason for Article “BB” was in response to voters he heard saying they would only accept**
186 **a plan in which the campus is phased.**

187 **Selectman Stanton called the question.**

188 **Motion carries 6-0-1 with Mr. Simmons abstaining.**

189 **Motion by Mr. Garnett to recommend Article “BB” to see if the Town of North Hampton will vote**
190 **to raise and appropriate the sum of \$4,304,839 for the construction of a Municipal Safety Complex**
191 **to house both the Police and Fire/Rescue departments on town owned land at the corner of Atlantic**
192 **and Alden Avenues, Map 007, Lot 138, commonly referred to as the “Homestead Property;” said**
193 **project also to include the demolition of the old fire station and the employment of a clerk of the**
194 **works for the duration of the project; such sum to be raised through the issuance of bonds or notes**
195 **under the Municipal Finance Act (RSA 33); and, to authorize the Select Board to issue and**
196 **negotiate such bonds or notes in accordance therewith and to determine the rate of interest thereon**
197 **and the maturity and other terms thereof; and further to raise by taxation and appropriate up to**
198 **\$155,000 for the first year’s payment on said bond. Seconded by Selectman Stanton. Discussion.**

199 **Mr. Garnett stated he would be voting no on this article as it is important to send residents a**
200 **positive message of supporting Article “AA.”**

201 **Mrs. Schmitz expressed her concern on the confusion to voters on having two warrant articles.**

202 **Mr. Simmons stated he favors having two options for voters. He further stated if the article for the**
203 **town campus fails again, he does not want to see it on the ballot again next year, because the voters**
204 **have clearly stated no.**

205 **Mrs. Schmitz stated voters need to educate themselves and need to be fiscally prudent and to be**
206 **careful in the assumption if one fails the other will pass.**

207 **Motion fails 1-5-1 with Mr. Simmons abstaining.**

208 **Town Administrator Apple read a petition received from Wally Kilgore and George Chauncey. He stated**
209 **the Select Board needed to get an opinion from the town attorney as to the legality of the article.**

210 **Motion by Mr. Sununu to approve the minutes of November 30, 2015. Seconded by Mrs. Schmitz.**
211 **Motion carries 7-0.**

212 **Motion by Mr. Sununu to approve the minutes of December 15, 2015. Seconded by Mr. Garnett.**
213 **Motion carries 7-0.**

214 **Motion by Mr. Sununu to approve the minutes of December 21, 2015. Seconded by Mr. Garnett.**
215 **Motion carries 5-0-2.**

216

217 **3. Any Other Item that may legally come before the Board**
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219 **The Board reserves the right to take action on any item relative to the prudential administration of**
220 **the Town’s affairs which circumstances may require.**

221 **Chair Maggiore stated the bond hearing would be held on January 7, 2016 at 7:00 in the Town Hall.**

222 **Motion by Selectman Stanton to recommend Article “AA.” Seconded by Chair Maggiore.**
223 **Selectman Miller stated he would be abstaining from the vote. Chair Maggiore withdrew his**
224 **second and Selectman Stanton withdrew his motion.**

225

226 **4. Adjournment**

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228 Meeting adjourned at 10:10 PM.

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