

I. Call to Order

Chair Emily Creighton called the meeting to order at 1:03 p.m. There were also present Mr. Donald Gould, Selectman and Michael Pardue, Town Administrator. Selectman Henry Marsh had previously advised the Board that he would be a few minutes late due to professional work responsibilities. Mr. Pardue served as the Recording Secretary for this session.

II. Selectmen Items

A. Cemetery Trustees – Building Construction

Members of the Cemetery Trustees met with the Board for the purpose of requesting to move forward with the purchase of a metal building and related site work to occur at the Town cemetery. During this discussion, the Trustees requested that they be allowed to not follow the Town's Purchase Policy of sealed bids due to the exigent circumstances related to this effort. Those circumstances included the opportunity to purchase the desired building at a cost lower than anticipated and, the inclement weather of winter closing in on the proposed construction schedule.

The Trustees explained that they had secured a price of \$6,615.95 for site work and \$35,765 for a 30' x 45' building to include the needed concrete slab.

After discussion of this topic, a motion was made.

Motion / Vote: Mr. Gould made a motion, in this instance, and due to the exigent circumstances cited, to waive the Town Purchase Policy and to authorize the Cemetery Trustees to proceed with the proposed 30' x 45' Morton building at a price of \$35,765 with a 6" slab and to further authorize Mr. Jim Jackson to perform related site work and excavation in the amount of \$6,615.95. Ms. Creighton seconded the motion. The vote was unanimous and so moved 2-0.

Mr. Marsh joined the meeting a 1:22 p.m.

Additional discussion ensued amongst the Board members at this time.

Mr. Marsh left the meeting at 1:32 p.m.

B. Fire Department Budget Reviewed

Chief Lambert presented the Board with a revised fire department budget, reflecting overtime wages related to training in the "Overtime" account line as had been requested by the Board.

Chief Lambert and the Board reviewed the Paramedic level staffing proposal as reflected in the proposed budget.

Chief Lambert provided the Board with statistics related to Calls for Service when a Paramedic level of care was requested. Chief Lambert cited that approximately 20% of North Hampton's medical transports last year were serviced at a paramedic level.

Ms. Creighton asked Chief Lambert for the research requested at the last budget meeting. Chief Lambert did not have the information. She expressed that the request (costs and benefits for 5 years) was clearly articulated at the last meeting.

Ms. Creighton stated that she feels additional, advanced research prior to this item appearing in the initial budget submission.

Mr. Marsh rejoined the meeting at 2:27 p.m.

Mr. Gould explained to Mr. Marsh that he (Gould) and Ms. Creighton were at an impasse regarding the fire department budget. He continued by stating that Ms. Creighton wants to remove the paramedic training from the budget proposal and that he wants the Chief to do more research and come back before the Board.

Mr. Marsh stated that he desires a little bit more information before he can make an informed decision.

The Board agreed to give Chief Lambert another opportunity to research and make a cost analysis of this effort for the next five years.

C. Selectmen Budget Reviewed

Mr. Pardue reviewed with the Board the remaining aspects of the budget to include account categories such as: Selectmen wages, Town newsletter, Town Administrator budget items, Administrative Assistant budget items, Legal, Assessing, General Building, Insurance, NHMA / RPC Dues etc.

III. Adjournment

Being no further business to come before the Board, Mr. Marsh made a motion to adjourn at 4:16 p.m. Mr. Gould seconded the motion. The vote was unanimous and so moved 3-0.

Respectfully submitted,

Michael Pardue
Town Administrator