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2 TOWN OF NORTH HAMPTON, NEW HAMPSHIRE
3 **SELECT BOARD**
4 **APPROVED MINUTES 2/11/2009**

5 REGULAR MEETING - WEDNESDAY JANUARY 14, 2009 –7PM
6 MARY B. HERBERT CONFERENCE ROOM

7 **1. Call to Order & Call of the Roll**

8 Chair Creighton called the meeting to order at 7:03 PM. Members present: Selectman
9 Salomon, Selectman Coutu

10 Staff Present: Town Administrator Fournier, Fire Chief Thomas Lambert, Deputy Fire Chief
11 Dennis Cote

12 Chair Creighton announced that the Budget Hearing will be held at the North Hampton
13 School on January 15, 2009 at 7:00 PM, and the Deliberative Session will be held at the
14 North Hampton School on January 31, 2009 at 8:30 AM. Selectman Coutu announced that
15 there would also be a Budget Committee held in the Mary B. Herbert Conference Room on
16 January 19, 2009 at 7:00 PM.

17 **Public Hearing – Fire Truck Lease/Purchase**

18 *In accordance with the requirements of RSA Chapter 91-A and RSA 33:8-a the North Hampton*
19 **Select Board** *will hold a **Public Hearing** to receive input on a proposed warrant article for a*
20 *seven year lease purchase agreement without an escape clause. Notice for this hearing was posted*
21 *in two public places and published in a newspaper of general circulation.*
22

23 Deputy Fire Chief Dennis Cote presented the Select Board with information on the
24 lease/purchase agreement for the new fire truck. This warrant article is for the purchase of
25 2009 Custom Rescue Pumper. This vehicle is to replace the 1987 FMC Engine and move the
26 current first due engine to 2nd due and place the new as the first due truck. The warrant will
27 be written not to exceed \$498,000.00.
28

29 Some of the specifics to the new engine are as follows: Rescue style body providing enough
30 compartment space for specialized equipment, 1000 gl poly water tank, fully enclosed cab,
31 Class “A” & “B” foam tanks and foam system, several NFPA required safety enhancements,
32 other safety features such as on spot chains, full chevrons on the rear of the vehicle for
33 visibility and a telescoping light tower for scene lighting and safety.
34

35 **Funding**

36 This vehicle will be funded from the Capital Reserve Fund #4. A down payment of
37 approximately \$250,000.00 will be made upon the signing of the vehicle contract. The
38 balance of the vehicle will be financed under a lease purchase agreement for a period of
39 seven (7) years. The approximate annual payment will be \$42,500.00. The annual lease
40 payment is calculated based on 4.58% finance rate. . The interest paid over the life of the lease
41 agreement will be approximately \$47,000.00 or \$6,714.29 per year.
42

43 Funds for the annual payment will be funded from annual EMS revenue, which is collected
44 and deposited directly into Capital Reserve Fund #4 throughout the year. North Hampton
45 Fire & Rescue encumbers on average \$ 93,000.00 annually. Any funds above the annual

46 lease payment will remain in the Capital Reserve Fund and be used for the fire
47 department's future major equipment and or vehicle replacement program.
48 There will be no impact of the taxpayers of North Hampton to fund the purchase of the new
49 engine through the lease purchase agreement. We are simply spreading the impact on the
50 Capital Reserve Fund over a period of time and also adding to the fund. Our current vehicle
51 replacement plan is out of cycle. The 1987 FMC pumper was originally scheduled for
52 replacement in fiscal year 06/07. Selectman Coutu asked Deputy Cote for specifics of lease
53 terms, and asked Deputy Cote if he was correct in that upon the expiration of the lease,
54 subject to all payments being made, the equipment would become the property of the Town
55 without any further payments. Deputy Cote stated that at the end of the lease term, the fire
56 truck would be owned by the Town. Selectman Coutu noted for the record that the approach the
57 Fire Department elected to use in making the required lease payments by funding such payments
58 from the Capital Reserve Fund #4 and which the Select Board approves, will have no tax impact on
59 tax payers. Selectman Coutu also stated that he wanted to be sure that the terms of the lease
60 purchase agreement did not "front load" the interest payments at the beginning of the contract which
61 would make it uneconomic to prepay the lease prior to its expiration date.

62 63 Warranty:

64 The manufacturer would specify the warranty agreements. Any additional agreements that
65 may occur will be spelled out at the signing of the contract included in the final cost of the
66 vehicle.

67 The standard warranties are as follows:

68 1 year Bumper to Bumper

69 10 year on the Body

70 4 year on the paint

71 Other warranties:

72 Engine and Drive Train 5 Years (Allison, Cumming or Freightliner etc.)

73 Pump warranties vary from manufacturer:

74 Waterous pumps are 5 years parts and labor

75 Hale pumps are 2 years complete and 3 years parts only

76 Extended warranties can be specifically tailored to the department's needs and run
77 approximately \$1,000.00 per year.

78 Warranty work will be performed by a certified repair facility out of Auburn, Maine or
79 Keene, New Hampshire. Both locations have mobile units to do onsite repairs. If the repairs
80 cannot be made onsite then the vehicle will moved to Auburn, Maine. Chair Creighton asked
81 if the town would have to pay if the fire truck needed to be towed to the repair facility and
82 Deputy Cote said yes. Selectman Coutu applauded the Fire Department's leadership and also
83 their efforts in researching the information that was presented, and to make this purchase
84 tax neutral by using the Capital Reserve #4. Chair Creighton also thanked the Fire
85 Department for their efforts. Chair Creighton closed the Public Hearing at 7:15 PM.

86 87 **2. Consent Calendar***

88 Town Administrator Fournier explained to the Select Board that the reason for the abatement
89 listing was to correct errors that occurred when the data information from the revaluation was
90 transferred from the Vision Appraisal software to the Avitar tax collection software. Town
91 Administrator Fournier stated that taxpayers would be notified by letter and be given the option
92 of having a refund check sent to them, or having the credit applied to their next property tax bill.

93 **Motion by Selectman Salomon to adopt the consent calendar. Seconded by Selectman**
94 **Coutu. All in favor, motion carries 3-0.**

95 **3. New Business**

MAY MAKE THEIR NEEDS KNOWN BY CONTACTING THE AT TOWN HALL 964-8087

* These items are routine in nature and are approved without discussion. Should a member of the Board request to have an item removed, it shall be placed on the agenda under new business. The consent format is to expedite the business of the Board when adequate backup material has been provided.

- 96 3.1. Appointment of David Allen to Recreation Commission
97 Chair Creighton read a letter of recommendation from Jerome Dewing, Chair of the
98 Recreation Commission, and also a letter from David Allen stating his interest in being
99 appointed to the Recreation Commission.
- 100 **Motion by Selectman Salomon to approve the appointment of David Allen to the**
101 **Recreation Commission. Seconded by Selectman Coutu. Motion carries 3-0.**
102
- 103 3.2. Approval of Default Budget of the Town of North Hampton for 2009/2010 Budget
104 Town Administrator Fournier explained the definition of the default budget.
105 **Motion by Selectman Coutu to approve the default budget of fiscal year 2009/2010**
106 **in the amount of \$5,417,769. Seconded by Selectman Salomon. Motion carries 3-0.**
- 107 3.3. Discussion of Approval of Building Permits on Proposed Private Road – P. Wilson, Planning
108 Board Chair
109 Selectman Salomon recused himself from this agenda item.
110 Phil Wilson, Chairman of the Planning Board addressed the Select Board explaining the
111 Planning Board had expressed a favorable approval. Mr. Wilson explained that the current
112 owners of the property, Richard Skowronski and Leila Hanna are proposing a five lot
113 subdivision on the 70 acres that they own. The property owner’s could have between 15-25
114 homes in this property, but have dedicated approximately 40 acres placed into conservation.
115 Robert Field, Jr. attorney for the applicants wanted it stated for the record that he serves on
116 the North Hampton Zoning Board of Adjustment as well as North Hampton Forever. Mr.
117 Field pointed out the lots on the preliminary subdivision plan. Mr. Field stated to the Select
118 Board that a final plan will be done by the surveying firm of James Verra and Associates.
119 Selectman Coutu asked Mr. Field if this conservation land would be open to the public. Mr.
120 Field stated that it is not the intention to make this open to the public, and that its purpose
121 is to preserve the land. Town Administrator Fournier wanted to state for the record the
122 clarification of the duties of the town regarding maintenance on this proposed private road;
123 there would be no snow plowing or any type of maintenance performed, and that if the road
124 isn’t maintained the town will not be held liable. Town Administrator Fournier stated to
125 the Select Board that these issues will be recorded in the final plan at the Rockingham
126 County Registry of Deeds. Town Administrator Fournier asked Mr. Wilson to be sure and
127 includes the Public Works Department when plans are reviewed. Mr. Wilson stated that it
128 is standard procedure for each department to review and comment on proposed plans.
129 **Motion by Selectman Coutu to approve the issuance of 5 building permits**
130 **Seconded by Chair Creighton. Motion carries 2-0.**
- 131 4. **Items Laid on the Table[†]**
132 4.1. Select Board Rules and Procedures
133 4.2. Fire and Police Radio Communication Issues
134 4.3. Cable TV Policy
135 4.4. Code of Ethics Review
136 4.5. Personnel Policy Review
137 4.6. Capital Improvement Plan
138 Town Administrator Fournier stated that he is currently working on this item with
139 Planning Board member Tom McManus.
- 140 5. **Report of the Town Administrator**
141 ***Petitioned Warrant Articles***
142 Town Administrator Fournier stated that yesterday was the final day to accept
143 petitioned warrant articles to be placed on the March Town Meeting Ballot. We received

[†] Items laid on the table shall remain on the table until a member of the Select Board makes a motion to remove such item from the table.

144 four articles; one was a planning article which is acted on by the Planning Board. The other
145 three are as follows and require the Select Board's recommendations.

146
147 ***Repair and Pave Pond Path Drive*** – Town Administrator Fournier stated to the Select
148 Board that the Town had received a citizen's petition for this item, but the Board had
149 already placed a warrant article on the 2009/2010 town warrant, and that the citizen's
150 petition would not cover the amount needed to complete this project. Town Administrator
151 Fournier recommended that the Board not recommend the citizen's petitioned warrant
152 article, and that the board amend it to raise and appropriate \$1 at the deliberative
153 session.

154
155 **Motion by Selectman Salomon not to recommend the petitioned warrant article.**
156 **Seconded by Selectman Coutu. Motion carries 3-0.**

157
158 ***Retirement Benefits for the Town Clerk – Raise and appropriate \$4,667***

159
160 **Motion by Selectman Coutu to not recommend petitioned warrant article for**
161 **retirement benefits for the Town Clerk. Seconded, by Selectman Salomon. Motion**
162 **carries 3-0.**

163
164 ***Petition to have the Governor, State Representatives and Senator to reject the***
165 ***Pledge” of no broad base sales or income taxes.***

166
167 **Motion by Selectman Coutu to not support or recommend the petition. Seconded**
168 **by Selectman Salomon. Motion carries 3-0.**

169
170 Town Administrator Fournier spoke to the Board regarding a change in town meeting date to
171 May. He explained that for budgeting purposes it would provide more accurate budget
172 figures. The Board expressed concern that the school would have to agree to move their date
173 as well in order to avoid the expense of two elections. Chair Creighton suggested that this
174 issue be held off until next year to coordinate with the Schools before placing on the warrant.
175 Selectman Salomon stated that the Select Board should take the lead by making the change
176 now. Selectman Coutu agreed. However, Chair Creighton stated that if it is the Board to
177 advance this warrant article this year that the warrant must clearly state that if it passes,
178 voters will vote twice next year, in March and then again in May. Motion by Selectman
179 Coutu, Seconded by Selectman Salomon. Motion carries 3-0.

180
181 ***Sidewalk Warrant Article***

182 Town Administrator Fournier stated that he had heard from Don Borrer, Director of Municipal
183 Auditing for the DRA, about the Chair's request at the last Select Board's meeting to get
184 clarification from DRA about whether the Board could vote not to recommend a warrant article
185 but still put it forward to allow residents to decide the issue. Mr. Borrer stated "it depends."
186 Based on Mr. Borrer's response, Town Administrator Fournier recommended that the Select
187 Board reconsider its vote of 1-1-1 on the article and vote either to recommend or not
188 recommend the article.

189
190 **Motion by Selectman Coutu to not recommend the sidewalk warrant article.**
191 **Seconded by Selectman Salomon. Discussion: Selectman Salomon explained the**
192 **escalating costs as well as safety concerns, but is a very noble idea. Chair**
193 **Creighton stated that the sidewalk wasn't scheduled to be constructed until 2011, and**
194 **the true cost isn't known, and it would not be prudent to continue with the project at**
195 **this time. Motion carries 3-0.**

196
197 ***Fencing at School Generator***

198 Town Administrator Fournier stated he received a memo from Chief Page with two fencing
199 proposals for fencing for the generator at the North Hampton School. Town
200 Administrator Fournier recommended to the Select Board that they accept the lower bid of
201 \$1,656.69 from 125 Maintenance and Fence to install this. Selectman Coutu posed the
202 question to the other Board members as to why the prior Select Board agreed to pay for the
203 cost to install the generator, fuel, and all operating costs. Chair Creighton stated that
204 because the school is North Hampton's designated emergency shelter and it was the
205 Emergency Management officers who recommended that the Town purchase a generator for
206 the school and maintain it to be ready for emergencies. Selectman Salomon stated that the
207 latest ice storm shows the need for a more effective and efficient way to handle the opening of
208 the school during an emergency. Phil Wilson asked the Select Board to consider a more
209 attractive fence that is compatible with the architectural standards, rather than the
210 galvanized chain link that was mentioned. No action taken. Town Administrator Fournier to
211 examine additional alternatives and costs at which time the Select Board will reconsider the
212 matter.

213 ***Representative to the Emergency Shelter Study Committee***

214 Chief Page asked Town Administrator Fournier to ask a member of the Select Board to serve
215 as a member of the committee studying the issues surrounding the use of the school as an
216 emergency shelter. Chair Creighton agreed to serve on this committee.

217 ***Caroline Levine Charitable Foundation***

218 The police department received a donation in the amount of \$15,000 from the Caroline
219 Levine Charitable Foundation for whatever equipment needs that the department may have.
220 Chief Page is reviewing his needs and will come before the Board for a RSA31:95b hearing.
221
222
223

224 **6. Minutes**

- 225 6.1. Regular Meeting October 8, 2008
- 226 6.2. Regular Meeting October 15, 2008
- 227 6.3. Regular Meeting November 19, 2008
- 228 6.4. Regular Meeting December 3, 2008

229 . Selectman Salomon stated he needed more time to look over the Oct. 8, 15 and Dec. 3
230 minutes. The Board members stated they need more time to add comments to Nov. 19th
231 meeting. There was concern about getting the draft minutes in a timely manner. The
232 Board requested that drafts be sent to them within five days after the meeting. Jan Facella
233 was asked to send the edited versions of the minutes to each board member and to bring
234 them to the next board meeting for further review and edits.

235 Selectman Coutu suggested that the Select Board have work sessions for the items laid on
236 the table.

237 Selectman Salomon stated that he wanted to echo the Chair's comments at the beginning of
238 the the meeting and remind everyone again that the Town's Deliberative Session and
239 Winter Fest will be held on January 31, 2009. The Deliberative Session starts at 8:30 AM
240 and will be held at the North Hampton School.

241
242 Town Administrator Fournier announced that the Town of North Hampton and the
243 Teamsters Local 633 have reached a tentative one year agreement that the Select Board
244 recommends 3-0. The Teamsters Local 633 is comprised of members from the North
245 Hampton Police Department as well as the North Hampton Public Works Department.

246 **7. Adjournment**

247 **Motion by Selectman Coutu to adjourn the meeting at 9:10 PM. Seconded by**
248 **Selectman Salomon. Motions carries 3-0.**
249

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251
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