



TOWN OF NORTH HAMPTON, NEW HAMPSHIRE  
SELECT BOARD

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**MINUTES APPROVED 11/09/2009**

REGULAR MEETING – MONDAY, OCTOBER 26, 2009 –7PM

MARY B. HERBERT CONFERENCE ROOM

*These minutes were prepared as a reasonable summary of the essential content of this meeting, not as a transcription.*

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

Chair Salomon called the meeting to order at 7:00 PM. Those present were Chair Salomon, Selectman Coutu, Selectman Rineman and Town Administrator Steve Fournier.

Chair Salomon noted for the record that the Board had just come out of a Non Public Session.

Chair Salomon confirmed with Town Administrator Fournier that the meeting had been properly posted.

Chair Salomon invited those in the audience to join the Select Board in the Pledge of Allegiance.

**2. Non-Public Session – 6:30 PM in the Executive Conference Room 2<sup>nd</sup> Floor, pursuant to RSA 91-A:3 II (a)**

**3. Consent Calendar<sup>1</sup>**

**4. New Business**

**4.1 American Red Cross, Great Bay Chapter – Overview of Services Offered**

Allison Ready of North Hampton introduced herself as a volunteer of the American Red Cross, and explained that the Red Cross is doing a community outreach program to promote awareness of the services offered.

Ms. Ready explained that some of the services offered include but are not limited to: CPR, First Aid, swimming lessons, as well as a licensed nursing assistant program.

Ms. Ready stated that some of the community services also offered is disaster preparedness education, as well as opening of shelters during an event such as the ice storm of 2008. The Red Cross also helps when someone is the victim of a house fire. She further stated that another service that is provided is called service to the armed forces. It enables community members to

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**THIS LOCATION IS HANDICAPPED ACCESSIBLE. THOSE WISHING TO ATTEND WHO ARE HEARING OR VISION IMPAIRED MAY MAKE THEIR NEEDS KNOWN BY CONTACTING THE AT TOWN HALL 964-8087**

<sup>1</sup> 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.

get emergency messages to their family which allows the service member to get an emergency leave due to a family medical emergency.

Selectman Coutu thanked Ms. Ready for the services of the Red Cross, and what they do nationally and locally, and also to her for volunteering.

Chair Salomon stated that item 4.4 would be heard next.

#### 4.2 Approval of Police Cruiser Bids

Town Administrator Fournier explained that a 1999 and a 2003 Crown Victoria (former police cruisers, and now surplus vehicles) had been put out to bid with a deadline for bids on October 19, 2009.

Town Administrator Fournier stated that he had opened the bids and received a bid for the 1999 Crown Victoria from Jonathan Kimball in the amount of \$401, and from William Doucette Auto a bid of \$233.

A bid was received from Jonathan Kimball on the 2003 Crown Victoria in the amount of \$801, from Grace Quality Used Cars in the amount of \$456, William Doucette Auto in the amount of \$863.00, and from Chelsea Chase for \$601.00.

Town Administrator Fournier recommended approving the sale of the 1999 Crown Victoria to Jonathan Kimball in the amount of \$401, and the 2003 Crown Victoria to William Doucette Auto in the amount of \$863 with a time limit that this expires on November 25, 2009.

Selectman Coutu stated that his concern with this process is that he has no way of telling that in a disposition of an asset of the Town, that what the numbers represent is anything approaching fair value.

Selectman Coutu stated that in the used car business there are at least three sources, NADA, Blue Book, and Kelley's to determine the wholesale value.

Chair Salomon stated that he supported awarding both vehicles to a local business, as there was only a \$62 difference between Mr. Kimball's bid and Mr. Doucette's.

**Motion by Selectman Coutu to accept the bid of \$863 for the 2003 Crown Victoria from William Doucette Auto, and also to accept the bid of \$401 for the 1999 Crown Victoria from Jonathan Kimball. Seconded by Selectman Rineman. Discussion ensued. Selectman Coutu made a friendly amendment to include that the winner bidder would have to pick up and pay for the vehicle by November 25, 2009. Seconded by Selectman Rineman. Motion carries 2-0-1, with Chair Salomon abstaining.**

#### 4.3 Town Campus Study - Resident Requests To Serve On Committee

**Motion by Selectman Coutu to appoint David Peck, Mary Lou Wollmar and Jo Jo Nadeau to the Town Campus Study Committee. Seconded by Selectman Rineman. Motion carries 3-0.**

#### 4.4 Aquarion Water – Update on Rates

Mr. Harry Hibbard, Vice President of Aquarion Water Company introduced himself to the Select Board, and stated that he wanted to discuss the recent water rate case, as well as Aquarion's meeting with the North Hampton Water Commission and their commitment to help promote water conservation throughout the seacoast area.

Mr. Hibbard stated that Aquarion has a customer advisory council where customers from their various service areas meet four times a year for a few hours. The purpose of the council is to let people in the neighborhoods know what's going on with the water company, and to solicit input and feedback from the community that they probably wouldn't get otherwise. Mr. Hibbard stated that they are seeking members to join the committee for a few hours every three months at their office at 1 Merrill Drive in Hampton.

Mr. Hibbard stated that Aquarion was recently granted a rate increase by the Public Utilities Commission (PUC), which amounted to approximately 17.7%, providing them with \$874,000 of additional revenue. The effect on the average customer using about 6,000 gallons per month is about a \$6 per month increase. One of the key features of the rate case was that the towns were granted a reduction of the fire protection service charge and being offset by turn on and turn off fees charged primarily to seasonal customers. That was an initiative of Henry Fuller of the North Hampton Water Commission, and promoted through the Town's attorney, and it was thought appropriate some relief be granted. Mr. Hibbard stated that this was something that Aquarion did not oppose. The rates that were granted were effective as of Dec 15 2008. In February of 2009 the PUC granted a temporary rate increase of 7.8%, and the increase balance will be retroactive and recouped over the next year in water bills.

Mr. Hibbard stated to the Select Board that the PUC approved a water infrastructure conservation adjustment. This is an adjustment mechanism which allows Aquarion a way to recoup capital investment money put into water mains, valves, hydrants, and meters. A three year plan is filed with the PUC which shows their capital investments and what they would like to do in infrastructure investment over the next three years.

Mr. Hibbard stated that new piping will be replaced in 2010 on Atlantic Avenue from Mill Road to Woodland Road. In 2011, piping will be replaced on Atlantic Avenue from Woodland Road to Maple Road.

Selectman Coutu asked Mr. Hibbard questions related to capital expenditures, outlays, surcharge fees, capital improvements, water rate setting.

Selectman Coutu asked Mr. Hibbard about a new type of technology that would allow a plastic product to line the old pipes so that they don't have to be removed and or dug up, and would this be used when working on Atlantic Avenue, Woodland Road, Mill Road and Maple Road.

Mr. Hibbard stated that Aquarion would be using slip lining in certain circumstances, but for the most part they would be using the "old fashioned" dig up and remove method.

Chair Salomon asked Mr. Hibbard about the two proposed projects that would be subject to the WICA in North Hampton. Chair Salomon asked if those projects were compared with other projects on the books in other communities serviced by Aquarion, and are Aquarion rate payers

getting an approximate equal return on their surcharge, or are North Hampton ratepayers going to be subsidizing capital improvement programs in Hampton.

Mr. Hibbard stated that it is all one system in the service area, and when they are before the PUC they are there as one system, so the costs of these projects are spread over the entire service area, and stated that over time it all evens out.

Chair Salomon stated that he wants to be sure that the North Hampton resident's are getting their fair share and equal bang for the buck.

**5. Items Laid on the Table<sup>2</sup>**

5.1. Select Board Rules and Procedures

This item will be taken up after the Personnel Policy has been approved.

5.2. Personnel Policy Review

Town Administrator Fournier stated that the draft was received from counsel today, and he is looking over to see if another workshop is needed.

5.3. Review of Forms of Government

This item is on the November 19, 2009 agenda.

**6. Report of the Town Administrator**

Town Administrator Fournier discussed the following items:

\*Guaranteed Maximum Rates for the NH Local Government Center for health, dental, life, short-term and long-term disability

\*Renegotiate fees with MRI for the assessing contract

**7. Minutes**

7.1. Regular Meeting October 13, 2009

**Motion by Selectman Coutu to approve the minutes of October 13, 2009 with two amendments to line 179 and 197. Seconded by Selectman Rineman. Motion carries 3-0.**

**8. Adjournment**

**Motion by Selectman Coutu to adjourn at 8:30 PM. Seconded by Selectman Rineman. Motion carries 3-0.**

Respectfully submitted,

Janet L. Facella

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<sup>2</sup> 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.

