



TOWN OF NORTH HAMPTON, NEW HAMPSHIRE  
**SELECT BOARD**  
**APPROVED MINUTES**

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REGULAR MEETING – MONDAY, SEPTEMBER 27, 2010 7:00 PM  
*NORTH HAMPTON TOWN HALL*

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

**1. Non-Public Session under RSA 91-A:3, II (a) – Executive Conference Room Town Offices**

**Motion by Selectman Maggiore to seal the minutes of the non-public session. Seconded by Chair Wollmar. Motion carries 3-0.**

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

Chair Wollmar called the meeting to order at 7:00 P.M. Those present were Selectman Rineman, Selectman Maggiore and Town Administrator Fournier.

Chair Wollmar invited those in attendance to join in saluting the flag.

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

**Motion by Selectman Maggiore to approve the two items on the consent calendar which are approval of excavation tax of I-95 Right of Way in the amount of \$251.14, and the tax abatement for Map 021, Lot 001, J & S Greystone Village LLC in the amount of \$1,019.99. Seconded by Selectman Rineman. Motion carries 3-0.**

**4. New Business**

**4.1. Fire Lieutenant Pinning - Stephen Henry**

Chief Cote stated to the Select Board that Steve Henry comes to the North Hampton Fire & Rescue Department with over 15 years of experience, is an outstanding firefighter, and a role model for all. After Chief Cote's speech, Mrs. Henry proceeded to pin Lieutenant Henry with his new lieutenant badge.

**4.2. Appointment of R. Goeselt to CIP Committee**

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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 TOWN ADMINISTRATOR AT THE TOWN OFFICES 964-8087**  
**\*\*\*IN ORDER TO SPEAK AT THE MEETING, YOU MUST GO TO THE PODIUM\*\*\***

<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.

Town Administrator Fournier stated that the Municipal Budget Committee met and discussed who they would like to have on the CIP Committee, and is nominating to the Select Board Rich Goeselt.

**Motion by Selectman Maggiore to appoint Rich Goeselt to the CIP Committee. Seconded by Chair Wollmar. Motion carries 3-0.**

4.3. Request to have Conservation Commission Meetings Televised – Richard Stanton

Chair Wollmar stated that item 4.7 is being moved to item 4.3.

Chair Wollmar stated that the Select Board had a two hour workshop last Thursday on the Operating Guidelines and Policies for Channel 22, and that no changes were actually made, other than a few grammatical changes.

**Motion by Selectman Rineman to accept the Operating Guidelines and Policies for Channel 22. Seconded by Selectman Maggiore. Motion carries 3-0.**

Laurel Pohl stated that she had just received her copy of the guidelines and there seems to be some confusion of the term “producer” and what that means, and that there are still some changes that need to be made.

Ms. Pohl stated that she questioned where it says the “town” she feels it should say the “station” or the “committee.”

Susan Halliday Smith stated to the Select Board that she had tried to obtain a copy of the guidelines and was told it was not available. Ms. Smith asked the Select Board if this document is something that asks for citizens opinion or if this is a “cut and dry” document.

Town Administrator Fournier stated to Ms. Smith that she was given wrong information and that the document was available to be viewed at the Town Offices. He further stated that this document has been put on the back burner for a number of years, and the Select Board had a workshop last week to go over the prior Board’s changes and tonight it is before the Board for their approval.

Ms. Smith stated that she felt perhaps the Select Board was “putting the cart before the horse” in approving the document as Mr. Stanton’s agenda item was supposed to be discussed before voting on the policies and procedures.

Chair Wollmar stated that wasn’t the view the Select Board took, and that they felt it was better to have the document in place so then they can discuss it and have the document to refer to.

*Agenda item 4.3 was now heard before the Select Board.*

Rick Stanton, 108 Walnut Avenue stated to the Select Board that what generated his request was his attendance at a Conservation Commission meeting back on August 10, 2010 in which a vote was taken to pursue the purchase of an easement on the Jeppesen property at 152 Atlantic Avenue.

Mr. Stanton stated that since the purchase involves taxpayers’ funds, he felt it was very important that the people of the town be made aware of this issue.

Mr. Stanton stated that subsequent to the meeting on August 10, he was informed that North Hampton Forever had pursued, through a signed purchase and sale agreement with Dr. Corbett, and there needs to be an opportunity to raise questions about this purchase as well.

Mr. Stanton stated that the town has the opportunity to use Channel 22 as a public forum and felt that people may be interested in these issues.

Mr. Stanton stated that the second issue was from an informational view. He stated that at the last meeting that he attended of the Conservation Commission the Winnicut River Coalition addressed the board to inform them of their progress and what they intend to do with the towns of North Hampton, Stratham and Greenland in protecting the Winnicut River. He further stated that he felt that was another reason to get these meetings broadcast so that the people of the town can be informed of what is going on.

Mr. Stanton stated that he also felt it was important that when the Zoning Board of Adjustment received recommendations about wetlands, and the Conservation Commission has given the ZBA a letter, it would be important to view those meetings to find out what the genesis what their letter was.

Mr. Stanton stated that at a meeting last year of the ZBA, a unanimous vote was taken to write to the Select Board requesting that the Conservation Commission meetings be televised.

Chair Wollmar stated that he doesn't have any problem with the hearings being televised, and that there is a provision in the Cable guidelines that allow public hearings.

Chris Ganotis stated that the Conservation Commission has been doing public outreach for over 10 years and that all of their meetings are public.

Mr. Ganotis stated that he begged to differ with Mr. Stanton and that he felt they had been doing an excellent job of getting their information out to the public.

Mr. Ganotis stated that the Conservation Commission welcomes and encourages public input in any and all of their meetings. He further stated that after their meeting regarding the Winnicut River there was an excellent article in the *Hampton Union* that Shir Haberman did. He further stated that he sent out a flyer to all of the town's boards regarding the meeting, and to say that people are not getting the information is simply not the case.

Mr. Ganotis stated that the Conservation Commission also actively contributes to the town newsletter as well as the town's website, so to say that people are not getting the information puzzles him, and wonders why all of a sudden there is such an interest getting the meetings recorded when for the last 10 years business has been conducted openly and in public and it's never really come up.

Mr. Ganotis stated that in respect to North Hampton Forever and public information on acquisitions and easements, all meetings are public except when there is deliberation on acquisitions which is granted under the terms of RSA 91:A.

Mr. Ganotis stated that there are three public meetings that anyone can attend if they take exception to the proposal to acquire land.

John Anthony Simmons stated that he was Chairman of the Cable Committee several years ago and that his desire at that time was to have all boards and committees televised.

Mr. Simmons stated that he doesn't understand how hundreds of thousands of dollars can be spent on purchasing property and yet the town cannot afford to have a cameraman record meetings.

Mr. Simmons stated that he commends Mr. Ganotis for the amount of information he tries to get out, and that as a former Chair of the ZBA he understands that sometimes there are little resources to get information out.

Mr. Simmons urged the Select Board to support televising both the Conservation Commission meetings and North Hampton Forever meetings.

Don Gould stated to the Select Board that he fully supports Mr. Stanton's request to have the Conservation Commission meetings televised, and wanted to make certain to state that no one is denigrating the work that the Conservation Commission is doing, or the work of the Chair, Mr. Ganotis.

Mr. Gould stated that he has been attending Conservation Commission as well as North Hampton Forever meetings that now that the acquisitions and the proposal to spend \$580,000 for property on Walnut Avenue, and \$250,000 for a view easement on Atlantic Avenue is a lot of money, and he believes that this type of thing should be brought to the public's attention at the earliest possible time, and not just wait until the public hearing.

Mr. Gould stated that he would like to direct two questions, through the Chair, to Mr. Ganotis. He asked that the two questions are whether or not Mr. Ganotis is prepared to state publicly that he fully supports the televising at a minimum of the public hearing, and the second question is whether or not he will conduct that public hearing in the town hall, rather than in the Mary Herbert room.

Mr. Ganotis stated that he believed that the Channel 22 policies stated that the public hearings will be televised, and because that is the policy and the Select Board has adopted that policy, he will concur with the policy.

Mr. Ganotis stated that he would not go against public policy, or anything that is in the public's interest.

Phil Wilson stated that because this meeting is being televised he would like to take the opportunity to encourage the citizens who are interested in protecting the Winnicut River to come to the hearing about the Corbett property because it is absolutely clear that this single piece of land is one of the most valuable pieces to a puzzle to help protect and restore that river.

Laurel Pohl, 100 North Road, stated that up until this vote, it was up to the committee to decide what meetings were changed. She further stated that one of the things that is now in the policy is that the meetings that get recorded are up to Steve Fournier and John Savastano, and she feels that they are not the appropriate people to make those decisions, and that it should be changed back to the Cable Committee.

Ms. Pohl stated that Channel 22 has to rely on annual revenue to cover labor costs, and the funds that are available to the station are not a bottomless pit.

Ms. Pohl stated that as one member of the Cable Committee she disagrees with the change that was made stating that the Cable Committee is no longer in charge of making decisions as to what is televised.

Town Administrator Fournier stated that it is not up to Steve or John, it is up to the Town Administrator and the Station Manager. He further stated that at a Cable Committee meeting that Ms. Pohl did not attend, changes were made and voted on, and that there have been no changes since then.

Susan Halliday Smith stated that because the town residents pay a franchise fee to Comcast, they own the station, and it is what they want to see that should be televised and what the boards want recorded isn't really a "tinker's dam."

Selectman Maggiore stated that he is trying to weigh all of the public opinion that was heard during the meeting.

Chair Wollmar questioned whether or not there was something to vote on. He further suggested talking with the Cable Committee and the Town Administrator before going on.

Selectman Rineman stated that he applauds the Conservation Commission, and Chris, for all of the information that is put out via printed material.

Selectman Rineman stated that he feels that Channel 22 is about getting the most information out to the town to people who might be interested in seeing or hearing it. He further stated that with all of the information the Conservation Commission has to get out, it might be good to have their meetings televised.

Selectman Rineman asked Town Administrator Fournier if there was something that was signed stating that the Town Administrator and the Station Manager are in charge of day to day operations.

Town Administrator Fournier stated that there is a memorandum of understanding dated March 19, 2010 stating that the Town Administrator and the Station Manager are in charge of day to day operations that went to the Cable Advisory Committee.

Dr. Joseph Arena stated that he heard an awful lot of excellent amount of verbiage that has come out all the way through. He further stated that he feels people are forgetting that the object of Channel 22 is to give people that are not physically at the meeting an idea and a true fact of what has been said. Dr. Arena further stated that you must be physically present in order to present your cause, and if you have to have an input you must be physically at the meeting.

Selectman Maggiore stated that he felt that the people on both sides of the aisle that have brought this forward deserve at least some direction from the Select Board given the time and attention they have put in.

Selectman Rineman asked Town Administrator Fournier how the budget for Channel 22 is right now.

Town Administrator Fournier stated that right now the budget is fine, but that Budget Committee meetings haven't started yet and is not sure how many meetings there will be, or the number that the Conservation Commission will be having which could have a significant impact.

**Motion by Selectman Rineman that the Town Administrator and the Station Manager for TV 22, meet to address the possibility of filming the Conservation Commission meetings on as a regular a basis as other conflicts permit. Seconded by Chair Wollmar.**

Selectman Maggiore asked for discussion, and stated that the motion may have to be changed because it says in the policy that “requests for video coverage of other meetings or special events held by the Select Board, School Board or other municipal boards or commissions, needs to be requested by email or by letter to the Town Administrator or the Station Manager” and he stated that it has been done with a letter from Mr. Stanton to both the Town Administrator and the Station Manager, and it is now the Select Board’s decision about whether or not Conservation Commission meetings need to be televised.

Mr. Stanton read the letter that he sent to the Select Board clarifying his request to the Select Board.

Town Administrator Fournier recommended that the Select Board amend the policy to include filming the Conservation Commission meetings.

Selectman Rineman withdrew his motion, and Chair Wollmar withdrew his second to the motion.

**Motion by Selectman Rineman to add the Conservation Commission to the list of meetings that are currently listed in the policies and procedures for TV 22. Seconded by Selectman Maggiore.**

Chair Wollmar stated that he certainly supports any hearings that involve expending funds from the Capital Reserve or the bond but that he would be abstaining from the vote, and that he cannot in good conscience support the routine filming of the Conservation Commission meetings.

**Motion by Selectman Maggiore to call the question. Seconded by Chair Wollmar. Motion carries 3-0.**

**Second motion by Selectman Rineman carries 2-0-1.**

Chair Wollmar called a recess.

4.4. Resignation of Alan Bucklin to the Southeast Regional Refuse District

Alan Bucklin spoke to the Select Board and tendered his resignation to the Southeast Regional Refuse District and recommended that the Select Board appoint John Hubbard as the new representative.

4.5. Replacement of Utility Vehicle – Fire Chief Dennis Cote

Selectman Maggiore asked Chief Cote about a radio and lights being installed in the truck. Chief Cote stated that the radio would be installed by Two-Way Communication and would be removed from the current utility vehicle. Chief Cote stated that a light package price had not been received yet, but that it would come in well within the amount budgeted in the Warrant Article.

Town Administrator Fournier recommended tabling this item until the Chief receives final figures on the lights so that the Select Board can have a total figure to vote on.

**Motion by Selectman Maggiore that pursuant to the Warrant Article the total package is not to exceed \$48,000 and authorize the Town Administrator to execute the documents. Seconded by Selectman Rineman. Motion carries 3-0.**

4.6. Lease/Purchase of a new Server

Chief Page explained to the Select Board that in the past ten years the town has had a disastrous failure of Servers and Back Up Systems due to not adhering to the five year corporate replacement standard.

Chief Page stated that the need to replace this equipment is imperative to ensure the continued operation of the town. The current servers that will be replaced by this effort are in their sixth year, and will be replaced with one server that will perform more functions.

Town Administrator Fournier stated that the cost of the lease for the current fiscal year will be \$3,489 versus \$20,000.

**Motion by Selectman Rineman that the Select Board authorize the Town Administrator to purchase the new virtual server and the backup system as described upon the Town Administrator arranging satisfactory financing not to exceed \$20,000. Seconded by Chair Wollmar. Motion carries 3-0.**

4.7. Acceptance of Operating Guidelines and Policies for Channel 22

*This agenda item was moved to item 4.3*

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

4.1 Town Facilities Use Policy

**6. Town Administrator's Report**

Town Administrator Fournier stated that on October 13, 2010 the towns of Exeter, North Hampton and Stratham will be holding an informational session and roundtable discussion with candidates for State Representative and State Senate.

In partnership with the North Hampton Business Association, the Recreation Department is hosting a Scarecrow Contest for local businesses and residents.

The Federal Government has passed the comprehensive health care reform bill. The town's current healthcare coverage currently offers most of what is in the bill, but there are some items that are not. Some changes include employees no longer being allowed to purchase over the counter medicines with their flexible spending accounts as of January 1. Coverage is now extended to all adult children until the age of 26, and the value of an employee's health care plan must now be reported on their W-2.

**7. Minutes**

7.1. Regular Meeting September 9, 2010

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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.

**Motion by Selectman Maggiore to accept the minutes from September 9, 2010.  
Seconded by Selectman Rineman. Motion carries 3-0.**

**8. Adjournment**

**Chair Wollmar adjourned the meeting.**

Respectfully submitted,

Janet L. Facella

Administrative Assistant