



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

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REGULAR MEETING – TUESDAY, OCTOBER 11, 2011 –7PM  
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 pursuant to RSA 91:A-3 II (a,b,c) 6:30 PM**

**2. Call to order**

Chair Maggiore called the meeting to order at 7:00 PM. Those in attendance were Selectman Wilson, Selectman Miller and Town Administrator Fournier.

Chair Maggiore led the Pledge of Allegiance.

**Motion by Selectman Wilson to come out of the Non-Public session. Seconded by Selectman Miller. Motion carries 3-0.**

**3. Approval of Minutes of Previous Meetings**

3.1 Regular Meeting Minutes of September 26, 2011

**Motion by Selectman Wilson to approve the minutes of the September 26, 2011 meeting as emended. Seconded by Selectman Miller. Motion carries 3-0.**

**4. Consent Calendar**

**Motion by Selectman Wilson to approve the Consent Calendar as presented. Seconded by Selectman Miller. Motion carries 3-0.**

**5. Communications to the Select Board**

5.1 Communication from Richard Stanton Regarding Proposed Street Light Removal

Selectman Maggiore stated that Mr. Stanton had submitted a letter to the Select Board in opposition of the proposed removal of the streetlight on Walnut Avenue known as pole 17/69. He further stated that Mr. Stanton has expressed his concern for removal due to safety issues when driving from west to east along Walnut Avenue.

Richard Stanton, 108 Walnut Avenue commented to the Select Board that he appreciated the Board placing items of correspondence on their agenda. He further stated that his concern is having one end of the “S” curve on Walnut Avenue illuminated by a streetlight and the other end of the “S” curve not illuminated.

Chair Maggiore inquired with the Town Administrator Fournier as to the status of the Energy Committee's recommended streetlight removals.

Town Administrator Fournier stated that Chief Page is currently reviewing the list and hoped to have a Public Hearing shortly on this issue.

Chair Maggiore encouraged residents to send letters to the Select Board with their concerns regarding proposed streetlight removals, and stated that if they did write to the Select Board, it would be helpful to have the pole number of the streetlight in which they are speaking about.

Selectman Wilson stated that pole numbers are clearly visible on the pole. He further stated that people also have the option of adopting a streetlight, and that a group of people in the neighborhood could get together to pay for the cost of the electricity if for some reason the recommendation of the Public Works Director and the Police Chief is not consistent with their wishes.

#### **6. Report of the Town Administrator**

Town Administrator Fournier reported that the EPA (Environmental Protection Agency) has issued a new five-year report on the Coakley Landfill. The current Groundwater Management Permit expires for the site in 2013. Due to contaminants that they have found on the site, they will be renewing that permit.

Town Administrator Fournier stated to the Select Board that he had attended a class on Social Media and Employee Discipline. He further stated that it was suggested that the town should update its internet usage and email policy. Town Administrator Fournier stated that the town's Property and Liability Insurance carrier is currently reviewing the update that he wrote, and he would be presenting to the Select Board shortly.

Town Administrator Fournier and Selectman Wilson have begun conducting a survey of similar fire and police departments where it is the hope that the comparison will show where compensation and benefit levels compare to other towns. Additionally, various job descriptions of town employees have begun.

The first quarter of the current fiscal year is running slightly above the operating budget. With 75% of the year remaining there is currently 68% remaining in the operating budget. Seasonal projects and the need to transfer funds from the Health Care Stabilization Capital Reserve Fund into the general fund are the reason for this overage.

The Conservation Commission has entered into an agreement with FB Environmental of Portsmouth to begin testing the Little River. The current phase will consist of conducting bracket sampling (upstream and downstream sampling of suspected sources) to help isolate bacteria sources contributing to the impairment of the Little River beach closings at North Hampton Beach. A final report to the town with the analysis of the results and recommendations for future sampling or investigation in the areas near the sample locations.

Selectman Miller stated that at his request, Town Administrator Fournier, Chief Page, State Representative Chris Nevins and himself met regarding HB 71, which is the permissive House Bill for collecting drugs in a box for which Mr. Nevins was the lead sponsor.

Selectman Miller stated that Chief Page has expressed some concern in the past regarding rules that are mentioned in the bill, that have not passed yet, and is reluctant to do anything until those rules became law. He further stated that their meeting was very fruitful, and that Mr. Nevins was able to speak to someone that Chief Page was unable to have return his phone calls, and that Mr. Nevins would have the draft rules to the town office on the next morning. The draft rules will be presented in a public hearing on December 16, 2011. Selectman Miller stated that he felt that good progress had been made during this meeting.

Town Administrator Fournier stated that a letter from the Select Board (which was approved at the last Select Board meeting) would be going out to the Attorney General, Commissioner of Safety, Commissioner of DES, and the Pharmaceutical Board requesting them to move the bill along as soon as possible.

## **7. New Business**

### **7.1 Discussion of the Town's Future Role with the Southeast Regional Refuse District 53-B – John Hubbard**

Public Works Director John Hubbard encouraged the Select Board to look at having a volunteer from North Hampton work as the town's representative to the district. Mr. Hubbard stated that he currently attends all meetings and that he is the treasurer for the district.

Mr. Hubbard stated that the Southeast Regional Refuse District has asked its members to discuss with their Select Board what role they would like to play in the future. They would also like to see which direction they would like to see the district take. He further stated that the current contract with Waste Management is in force until the end of 2015, and they want to be sure to give the towns enough time to start thinking about whether or not they want to continue with the district or if they want to leave the district. This will also give towns enough time to get together warrant articles in time for town meetings.

Mr. Hubbard stated that in 2013, the district is looking to go out to bid for the disposal items and enter into negotiations. The main purpose of the district is to get a number of towns together to increase their amount of waste in order to get a favorable price and to also get a price that is somewhat stable, and one that does not "bounce around" from year to year as this contract clearly has.

Mr. Hubbard stated that it is his recommendation to stay with the district as the town receives a favorable price.

Chair Maggiore asked if the town's participation in the district effect on the tipping fees.

Mr. Hubbard stated that negotiating the tipping fees are the main basis for the district. He further stated that the district also holds two community household hazardous waste days, which is part of the town's fee that is paid to the district. The fee that the town pays is based on the amount of trash that is produced, as opposed to the whole district. The town currently pays \$5,700 to \$5,800 in fees each year to the district.

Selectman Wilson stated that the more the town recycles, the less that is picked up as rubbish and therefore would save money on the per ton rate.

At Selectman Miller's request, Mr. Hubbard updated the Select Board on plans for repair work on the Town Clerk/Tax Collector's office; with the bathrooms and handicap ramp being top priority.

Town Administrator Fournier stated that Scott Buchanan has been nominated to fill a part time position at the Recycling Center for eight hours per week on Saturdays, and to fill in as needed in the Public Works Department.

**Motion by Selectman Wilson to hire Scott Buchanan as a part time employee of the Public Works Department. Seconded by Selectman Miller.**

Selectman Wilson stated that he felt it was important to note that in discussion with Mr. Hubbard regarding the particular credentials of Mr. Buchanan vis-à-vis the other ten applicants, and based on the indications that Mr. Hubbard gave the Select Board, it appeared that this applicant had certain capabilities that the others did not, and in addition to that, the person has worked with the department, is reliable, does good work, and therefore this is not simply a cavalier appointment it is one that has been thought out. Town Administrator Fournier has reviewed all of the resumes of the applicants, and this seems to be the best appointment.

**Motion carries 3-0.**

### **7.2 Summary Inventory of Valuation Form MS-1 for 2011**

Town Administrator Fournier stated that the assessors had completed the value of the town for the coming fiscal year. The State did not provide the utility assessments until Friday, October 7, 2011 therefore the deadline of September 1 to file the MS-1 form was extended.

The taxable value of the town is \$1,006,463,200 which is an increase of \$139,600 or .01%. It is a very small increase and the utility values did increase.

## **8. Closing Comments**

### 8.1. Closing Comments by Visitors

### 8.2. Closing Comments by Select Board Member

Selectman Miller stated that while looking through the report given to the Select Board regarding the Coakley Landfill, he was concerned because the perimeter is not secure. He further stated that he would like to see that the perimeter is fixed, as the Town of North Hampton alone has \$600,000 in funds, and he would like to know what the plans are for fixing this problem.

Chair Maggiore stated that he had attended a Budget Committee meeting on October 4, 2011, and that the North Hampton School presented the committee with the audited figures for the prior fiscal year and they came in under budget for the year.

Selectman Wilson stated that he and Town Administrator Fournier are meeting with the School Board on October 20, 2011 because the CIP (Capital Improvement Plan) Committee had asked that they integrate them better into the CIP process this year. He further stated that as far as he knew, this was the first year the School Board has ever asked to participate in this process.

Selectman Wilson stated that they are hopeful that it will be productive and enable them to a better overall job of capital planning for the town.

## **9. Adjournment**

Chair Maggiore adjourned the meeting at 8:30 PM.

Respectfully submitted,

Janet L. Facella  
Administrative Assistant