



TOWN OF NORTH HAMPTON, NEW HAMPSHIRE

**SELECT BOARD  
APPROVED MINUTES  
REGULAR MEETING –MONDAY, DECEMBER 17, 2012 –7PM  
NORTH HAMPTON TOWN HALL**

*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-e) 6:30 PM– Executive Conference Room**

**2. Call to Order**

Chair Maggiore called the meeting to order at 7:12 PM. Those in attendance were Selectman Wilson, Selectman Miller and Acting Town Administrator Caron.

Chair Maggiore invited those in attendance to join in the Pledge of Allegiance.

Chair Maggiore made a brief statement regarding the horrific school shootings in Connecticut.

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

Selectman Wilson asked if he could raise a Point of Order. He stated that he would like to add an item under New Business to discuss the Select Board contribution to the yearend newsletter.

Chair Maggiore stated that Selectman Wilson's request would be item 7.4 under New Business.

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

3.1 Select Board Minutes of December 3, 2012

**Motion by Selectman Wilson to approve the minutes of December 3, 2012 as amended. Seconded by Selectman Miller. Motion carries 3-0.**

**4. Consent Calendar**

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

**5. Communications to the Select Board**

Chair Maggiore stated that an email had come in over the weekend from William T. Lane of North Hampton, that he would like to read into the record.

“To the Board of Selectmen; I would like to make the following suggestion regarding the safety of our school children. To require a trained and armed police officer be permanently assigned to the school whenever it is in session at or near the entrance to observe, question, or otherwise examine any individual entering the building.

It seems a nearly impossible task to prevent the madness we have just seen in Conn. However, the presence of an officer may serve as a deterrent. I, for one, would welcome an additional fee on our tax rate to pay for it.”

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

Interim Town Administrator Caron reported on the following:

The Budget Committee is continuing its review of the budget, and revisions will be forwarded as approved by the Select Board. There will be a meeting on January 2 with the Budget Committee and Select Board in order to answer any questions that may arise.

A draft policy governing the administration of the merit pool will be presented at the January 14 Select Board meeting.

Staff is completing an inventory of the Town’s computer assets, after which time a meeting will be held with Portsmouth Computer Group to identify and prioritize a replacement schedule beginning with the FY15 budget.

## **7. New Business**

### 7.1 Request Permission of the Select Board to use the Town Seal - North Hampton Historical Society– George Chauncey

Mr. Chauncey stated that at one of the recent Historical Society meetings, the members were discussing ways in which they could fundraise. He stated that the Historical Society is a private organization, and any money raised is used to purchase acid free storage boxes and other materials to store historical records from the Town of North Hampton.

Mr. Chauncey stated that one of the members of the Historical Society suggested selling flags made with the town seal to the public, and asked that the Select Board for permission to use the town seal.

Selectman Miller asked Mr. Chauncey if the North Hampton Historical Society had a charter that explained how the society operates.

Mr. Chauncey said that they did have a charter, and it is filed with the State.

Selectman Miller wondered if the town attorney should have a copy of the charter to read to be sure there would be no problem using the town seal.

Selectman Wilson stated that before the town attorney reviews the charter and charges \$185 per hour, he would suggest having the Local Government Center review it first.

Mr. Chauncey stated that membership in the Historical Society is down to 18 members, and encouraged residents to join.

**Motion by Selectman Wilson that the Select Board approve the request of the North Hampton Historical Society to place the Town Seal on flags that will be sold for the sole benefit of the North Hampton Historical Society, provided however, that nor the Local Government Center or town attorney, if necessary, finds any objection, and provided that in the event the Historical Society wants to produce more than 50 flags, they will return to the Select Board for permission to do so. Seconded by Selectman Miller. Motion carries 3-0.**

#### 7.2 Approval of Sealed Bids on 1987 FMC Engine – Chief Dennis Cote

Chief Cote stated that he ran two legal notices in local newspapers for sealed bids on the 1987 FMC Engine and did not receive any response. Subsequently, he ran an ad on Craig's List and received three sealed bids. Bids received were as follows:

Asian Auto \$987.12; Mark Day \$2,233 and Travis Breen \$3,333.33

Chief Cote requested that the Select Board approve the bid from Travis Breen in the amount of \$3,333.33.

**Motion by Selectman Wilson to accept the Chief's recommendation and the highest bid of \$3,333.33 from Travis Breen for the 1987 FMC Fire Engine. Seconded by Selectman Miller. Motion carries 3-0.**

#### 7.3 FY14 Budget Discussion

Interim Town Administrator Caron stated that the Budget Committee has asked that the Select Board reconsider their vote to put \$100,000 on the warrant for the Library Capital Reserve Fund to an amount between zero and \$50,000. The Budget Committee also asked that the Select Board reconsider their vote to place a warrant article of \$25,000 on the warrant for Dearborn Park parking and drainage improvements.

Interim Town Administrator Caron stated that these requests were made after the presentation regarding purchasing the Governor Dale property. The Budget Committee feels that the opportunity to purchase the property is timelier and carries a higher priority at this particular time.

Interim Town Administrator Caron spoke to John Hubbard and he stated that delaying the Dearborn Park project for one year would not turn the project from a rehabilitation project to a reconstruction project.

Selectman Wilson stated it was a reasonable request to reduce the Library Capital Reserve Fund warrant article. He stated the CIP committee was in agreement that it was unfortunate that the library had not continued to place an article on the warrant for the 2011 and the 2012 budget, and to keep the fact before the voters the building has deteriorated and needs work.

Selectman Wilson further suggested that if a new library is not going to be built, or the current library expanded, it will take an investment of a significant amount of money, and it is better to put a little away each year. The \$100,000 being requested is now a "catch up."

Selectman Wilson stated he supports a warrant article for the Library Capital Reserve Fund for \$50,000 in respect for the deliberations of the Budget Committee, and also that it is prudent management.

Selectman Miller stated he agreed with Selectman Wilson, and felt that the Budget Committee had a great idea. He further stated that the Budget Committee also voted to give the library a year to figure out the best use for the land at the “homestead.”

Selectman Miller stated it evidently will come down to the fact that in order to build a library, one might anticipate and expect, that the funds to be publicly raised and will make up 50%, with 50% comprised of donations. He further stated that he had asked Library Trustee Kelly Parrott this, and she agreed that it was not an unreasonable expectation, and it may even be typical.

Selectman Miller stated that he does not see this process happening very quickly, and the library’s window of opportunity will expire. He stated that it is his opinion that in the end it will come down to what is more important; public safety or a new library.

Selectman Miller asked where the fire and police departments would go while repairs are being made to the public safety building, if a new library is built on the “homestead” property.

Selectman Miller stated that if he were a library trustee seeking to solve the library conundrum, he would find another piece of land, as well as a good spirited citizen with substantial means to donate the land.

Selectman Wilson stated the CIP Committee acknowledged last year, that it appeared little or slow progress had been made in solving the library building, public safety or administration buildings. The CIP Committee decided that they would lay out a proposal for the Select Board about the sequencing of what might be done. The sequencing that the CIP Committee suggests would be if the library is successful, they would be seeking to put a warrant article on the official ballot in the spring of 2014 for the public percent of the bonding for a new building on the “homestead property.” The next step would involve work on the public safety building, which would mean that town administrative offices would have to find another location, because the space they currently occupy was intended for use by the police department.

Selectman Wilson stated that if the library fails, one consideration that should be given is to put the library and the town administrative offices into one, two story building.

Selectman Miller stated that if the library trustees are going to be asking people to step forward and donate a significant amount of funds, they should also look at the option of building on a different piece of property.

Selectman Wilson stated that if the library has to ask for someone to donate a piece of land, in addition to asking for donations for the building, it would increase their challenge even more.

**Motion by Selectman Wilson to rescind the Select Board’s prior action with respect to Library Capital Reserve Fund and the Dearborn Park Parking and Drainage Improvements appropriations, and not to place an article on the official ballot for the Dearborn Park improvements, and to reduce the Library Capital Reserve Fund to \$50,000 from \$100,000. Seconded by Chair Maggiore. Motion carries 3-0.**

Chair Maggiore introduced the new Town Administrator, Paul Apple. Mr. Apple will be starting with the Town of North Hampton on January 17, 2012.

Chair Maggiore explained the process in which the new Town Administrator was hired involved a subcommittee comprised of the Select Board, Police Chief, Fire Chief, Public Works Director, Budget Committee representative, and Zoning Board of Adjustment representative was formed.

Chair Maggiore stated that the Select Board received over 60 resumes. The subcommittee and the Select Board met with candidates, and it was narrowed down three of the top candidates who were then asked to come up with ways to generate more revenue for the town, and also a plan for the town campus.

Chair Maggiore stated that all of the candidates did a good job, but they were most impressed with Mr. Apple's presentation. He further stated that Mr. Apple comes to the town with an extensive legal background and the Town of Allenstown will be losing a very fine town administrator.

Mr. Apple thanked the Select Board for the opportunity to serve the Town of North Hampton and is looking forward to starting as the new Town Administrator.

Selectman Wilson stated that the process the Select Board adopted not only worked efficiently, but more importantly, included a group of town employees and volunteers of the town that work on various boards, and ended with a very good result. He further stated that Mr. Apple has the three things that he wanted from someone; the competence to do the job, the character to give the Select Board the trust and belief in him, and a legitimate and honest calling to do the kind of work that he is doing. When putting those three qualities together, he felt you have a good man who is likely to do a good job for the town.

**Motion by Selectman Wilson to suspend the rules to proceed with new business after the hour of 9:00 PM. Seconded by Selectman Miller. Motion carries 3-0.**

#### 7.4 Contribution to the Community Newsletter

Selectman Wilson stated that he is proud of the work that the Select Board had done during the last calendar year, and felt that the Select Board should use their contribution to the community newsletter as a preliminary annual report in which to provide information to the people of the town about the goals that the Select Board set, what was accomplished, and what the Select Board foresees as challenges next year.

### **8. Unfinished Business**

#### 1. Large Assembly Ordinance

Selectman Wilson suggested a large amount of grammatical, spelling and substantive changes for items in the amended Large Assembly Ordinance: 1.1, 1.2, 1.2.3, 1.2.4, 1.2.5, 1.3, 1.4, 2.1, 2.2.1, 3.2, 4.2, 4.5, 4.6.5, 4.6.6, 4.6.8, 4.6.9, 4.6.10, 5.1, 5.5.1, 5.6.1, 5.7.1, 5.7.2, 6.1.1 and 6.4.

Selectman Miller stated that Selectman Wilson had made a lot of important changes, but felt this work product should not have come back from legal counsel in this condition. He further stated that perhaps Attorney Serge would like to pay an invoice from the town for Selectman Wilson's work.

Chair Maggiore believed that the document will work much better now with the changes that have been made.

Selectman Wilson asked to have Chief Page, Chief Cote, and Kevin Kelley read the document and to give their opinion on whether they think this is a workable document.

The Select Board stated they would like to include this in the public hearing on January 14 in order to give residents a chance to state their opinions.

**9. Closing Comments**

9.1 Closing Comments by Visitors

9.2 Closing Comments by Select Board Member

Selectman Wilson thanked Chair Maggiore and Selectman Miller for all of their hard work over the past year, and felt that they had done a lot of work and accomplished much.

Chair Maggiore wished everyone a happy holiday season a wonderful new year.

**10. Adjournment**

Chair Maggiore adjourned the meeting at 9:20 PM.

Respectfully submitted,

*Janet L. Facella*

