



TOWN OF NORTH HAMPTON, NEW HAMPSHIRE
SELECT BOARD
APPROVED MINUTES

REGULAR MEETING –OCTOBER 27, 2014 –7PM
NORTH HAMPTON TOWN HALL
231 ATLANTIC AVENUE

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

2. Call to Order

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

Chair Maggiore led the Pledge of Allegiance.

Chair Maggiore stated that the Select Board had just come out of a Non Public Session where a vote was taken on a personnel matter and that gave Town Administrator authorization to act as a result of that vote.

Motion by Selectman Stanton to come out of Non Public Session. Seconded by Selectman Miller. Roll call vote: Maggiore, Aye; Miller, Aye; Stanton, Aye. Motion carries 3-0.

Motion by Selectman Stanton to seal the minutes of the Non Public Session. Seconded by Selectman Miller. Motion carries 3-0.

3. First Public Comment Session

Public Comment is an opportunity for residents to ask questions, request information and make comments on issues facing the Town. Individuals ordinarily will be given not more than three (3) minutes to speak, and people who have already spoken will be asked to wait until everyone has had the chance to speak once. The total time devoted to this agenda item is fifteen (15) minutes. Individuals who are not able to speak will be given first opportunity to speak during the Second Public Comment Session at the end of the Meeting.

George Chauncey, Hobbs Road stated he was before the Select Board to explain the petition he is currently circulating in town to change the warrant article for the town campus from two articles to one.

Mr. Chauncey stated he did not think it was fair to single out one group and put restrictions on them because they support a certain idea.

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He further stated it is more economical to the taxpayers to build everything at once rather than piecemeal.

Donna Etela, Exeter Road stated she is supporting the petition and would like to see one warrant article instead of two because it is very divisive to have a bifurcated warrant article, and it is splitting the community.

Arthur Nadeau, Pine Road stated he is a believer in economy of scale and he will be signing the petition.

Selectman Miller stated he was a proponent of one warrant article, but among discussions with the board a compromise was reached, and that was where the two warrant articles came from. He further stated, he has never been against anyone, and he would like to see both a public safety complex and a library built.

Selectman Stanton stated he agreed with Selectman Miller's comments, but there are a number of residents not in attendance that are "anti-library," and do not want to pay for one.

Chair Maggiore stated he had received several phone calls regarding using the old Staples building for a library. He further stated he reached out to Kelly Parrott to see if she could gather some information.

David O'Heir, Old Locke Road stated he was opposed to a dual warrant article.

Victoria Kilroy, Walnut Avenue stated the two warrant articles do not give a choice to the voters. She further stated and asked if the public safety complex passes and not the library, what happens to the current fire station, and will it be left to fall down. She further stated she felt a lot of the votes that were part of the 51% last year will be lost unless it is one warrant article.

Ms. Kilroy stated the success of the vote will come from everyone pulling together and pushing forward. She asked the Select Board to reconsider their vote for two warrant articles so that the town can move forward and be unified and push forth the project.

Anne Ambrogio, Bradley Lane stated the Select Board worked very hard to get 51% of the vote last year, and encouraged the board to keep going forward and clear the situation of two warrant articles up as soon as possible.

Kelly Parrott, Garrett Drive added details she had regarding the Staples building and the costs associated with leasing it.

4. Consent Calendar

- 4.1 Payroll Manifest of 10/09/2014 in the amount of \$105,942.88
- 4.2 Payroll Manifest of 10/16/2014 in the amount of \$121,047.03
- 4.3 Payroll Manifest of 10/23/2014 in the amount of \$55,713.77
- 4.4 Accounts Payable Manifest of 10/09/2014 in the amount of \$142,887.38
- 4.5 Accounts Payable Manifest of 10/23/2014 in the amount of \$1,071,146.28
- 4.6 Veteran Tax Credit Application for Map 014, Lot 096

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

5. Communications to the Select Board

No Items

Chair Maggiore stated two items had come in after the agenda had been posted. The Chair read a thank you letter received from a resident thanking the North Hampton Fire Rescue department for their services.

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6. Report of the Town Administrator

Town Administrator Apple stated he and Chief Page had reviewed 23 resumes for the Deputy Chief/Officer in Charge of the Fire Department. Candidates will be vetted by an Oral Board, and the top five candidates will be interviewed by a technical oral board consisting of area fire officers. The final top three candidates will be interviewed by the Town Administrator and the Police Chief/Public Safety Director and recommendations made to the Select Board.

There are currently three other vacancies and searches underway; two in the police department and one in the fire department. The hope is to have the new police officers in place by June, 2015 and the fire department position filled by mid November.

Construction continues in the Stone Building with Phase II underway. The new HVAC system has been installed, although not problem free, Lamprey has been onsite to help resolve the issues.

Other items discussed were: cell tower request for proposals; carbon monoxide system at the DPW; payments from Primex in regard to the lightening strike; storm water regulations; a joint proposal for a warrant article to continue support with the School Board and the extension of the gas line; and the proposed operating budget.

7. New Business

7.1 Proposed Operating Budget for FY15/16

Town Administrator Apple gave a power point presentation on the proposed budget for FY 2015/2016.

Proposed increases to the operating budget include line items for legal expenses, minute taking, training and education, general government building, code enforcement, street lighting and hydrants.

The default budget is up 4.7% over FY 2015. The proposed budget is 1.2% over FY 2016 default and represents discretionary increases.

Steven Janvrin, North Hampton Police Officer and North Hampton resident spoke and discussed with the Select Board problems within the police department regarding the current pay scale. Mr. Janvrin stated police officers are leaving North Hampton to go to other agencies for better pay. He spoke regarding the cost to the town for having officers leave and having to retrain another officer. He stated the turnover rate has been very high and has made morale low in the department. Mr. Janvrin urged the Select Board to consider changing the wage scale in order to keep officers. He stated North Hampton police officers are paid significantly less than their counterparts in the police departments of surrounding towns. He encouraged the Select Board to review pay scales from other towns.

The Select Board stated they would formalize a written response as to what their plan of action will be.

Selectman Stanton asked to take the \$40,000 out of the budget for the MS-4 and put it into an expendable trust.

Selectman Stanton suggested discontinuing the Mosquito Capital Reserve Fund and placing the \$75,000 into the operating budget.

The Select Board agreed to take the steam roller for \$12,000 out of the public works department budget and list it as a warrant article, as it is a capital item. They also agreed to increase Patriotic Purposes by \$1,500 to help fund the fireworks for Winterfest.

The Select Board discussed whether or not to cut money from the hydrant budget, and Selectman Stanton stated he felt budgeting 5% increase was too high. Chair Maggiore suggested he discuss with the Water Commission at their meeting on October 28.

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Susan Grant, North Hampton Library Director presented their proposed budget that was up approximately 3.7% over last year's budget. Ms. Grant explained the reason for the increase was an additional staff member for the children's department as well as the addition of a Merit Pool for library employees that have not had a raise in six to eight years.

Ms. Grant stated they have tried to trim the rest of the budget in order to accommodate the new personnel. She stated the reason their personnel is increasing is because their services are increasing.

7.2 Discussion of Purchase of a Quint for North Hampton Fire Rescue

Motion by Selectman Stanton to table the discussion of the Quint until the next meeting.

Arthur Nadeau, 34 Pine Road discussed water hydrants in town that are located on private properties and through his investigation has found there is little to no tracking done regarding maintenance being performed.

Mr. Nadeau further stated it is his opinion that the town needs to do its due diligence with the way the fire department is going to be run. He further stated that a Quint needs to be tested in some of the narrow driveways in North Hampton before taking the front line vehicle that is going to answer a call and have it not fit.

Lieutenant Peter Francis discussed major differences between a Quint and a Class A pumper. He noted of great importance is the fact if a Quint goes out of service; the department will be down two pieces of apparatus, not one.

Lieutenant Francis stated a Quint would not work in North Hampton, as using a Quint will call for more manpower to operate.

7.3 Acceptance of Final Capital Improvement Report for 2016-2021

Cynthia Swank gave the Select Board a brief overview of the final Capital Improvement Report.

Ms. Swank stated the CIP top priority is the Town Campus with the second priority being an emergency generator for the police and fire departments that can remain should the new campus be approved by the voters. The school roof and the fire department heating system would be next on the priority list.

Ms. Swank reminded everyone that some repairs included on the CIP are band aids only.

Ms. Swank reviewed the pros and cons of a purchase of a Quint for the fire department.

Motion by Selectman Stanton to accept the CIP Report as presented by Cynthia Swank. Seconded by Selectman Miller. Motion carries 3-0.

7.4 Bandstand Maintenance – Delores Chase

Town Administrator Apple stated that after some research there may no longer be any confusion as to who is responsible to pay for the electricity and the water supply on the town green. He further stated the question to be answered by the board would be whether the warrant article that was passed for the irrigation system implies the town is to pay for the water, and he stated it is his recommendation the town should follow that recommendation.

Town Administrator Apple added there is some mystery as to how the bandstand fund came to be placed in the hands of the town when it is a private organization.

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Delores Chase gave the Select Board a brief history of the bandstand. She stated when the bandstand was first started, Byron Kirby who was then a Trustee of the Trust Fund, and at the time on the committee felt the monies should be held in a trust. Mrs. Chase stated she felt they could earn better interest elsewhere, but was not sure how to go about having the money taken out of the account.

The Select Board agreed that the water bill for the irrigation system should be paid for by the town.

7.5 Cable Advisory Committee Clarification on Role of Committee – John Anthony Simmons

John Anthony Simmons, Chair of the Cable Advisory Committee asked the Select Board for guidance as to what they would like the role of the Cable Committee to be as they are suffering from a lack of clarity.

Mr. Simmons discussed the fact that it is difficult to have a work list when there is a person in the position that is basically a department head and to define the committee's role in the chain of command. He further stated the committee does not see that there is enough to do to justify monthly meetings.

Selectman Stanton asked about the status of the Cable Advisory Committee Charter that had been sent to town counsel.

Town Administrator Apple stated he had envisioned the committee to be advisory, as is the Recreation Commission; neither in charge of the station nor meaningless to the station. He further stated they would serve as a conduit for public input, develop suggested protocols very much like the Recreation Commission.

Selectman Stanton stated he thought the mission of the committee should be to advise the Select Board on the issues before them and future direction of the station. He also stated he envisioned the committee to be a conduit of complaints.

Selectman Stanton asked Mr. Simmons if the Cable Committee could draw up their own charter and have the Select Board review it.

Selectman Miller asked if the Select Board could get a copy of the current charter that may or may not have been passed.

8. Any Other Item that may legally come before the Board

The Board reserves the right to take action on any item relative to the prudential administration of the Town's affairs which circumstances may require.

9. Second Public Comment Session

See Item 2, above.

10. Approval of Minutes of Previous Meetings

10.1 Minutes of Regular Meeting of September 22, 2014

Motion by Selectman Miller to approve the minutes of September 22, 2014 as presented. Seconded by Selectman Stanton. Motion carries 3-0.

10.2 Minutes of Workshop Meeting of September 25, 2014

Motion by Selectman Stanton to approve the minutes of September 25, 2014 as presented. Seconded by Selectman Miller. Motion carries 3-0.

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10.3 Minutes of Regular Meeting of October 6, 2014

Motion by Selectman Miller to approve the minutes of October 6, 2014 as amended. Seconded by Selectman Stanton. Motion carries 3-0.

10.4 Minutes of Workshop Meeting of October 8, 2014

Motion by Selectman Miller to approve the minutes of October 8, 2014. Seconded by Selectman Stanton. Motion carries 3-0.

10.5 Minutes of Workshop Meeting of October 15, 2014

Motion by Selectman Stanton to approve the minutes of October 15, 2014. Seconded by Selectman Miller. Motion carries 3-0.

Selectman Stanton reminded residents that Thursday, October 30 is Trick or Treating from 4:00 PM to 7:00 PM. He also reminded everyone to check their batteries in their smoke and co2 detectors.

The Select Board discussed the upcoming election on November 4 from 8:00 AM to 7:00 PM.

Selectman Stanton stated Jacob Higgins of North Hampton was working toward his Eagle Scout award and would be improving the lightening at the Town Green.

Selectman Stanton thanked the North Hampton Business Association for their generous donation to the North Hampton Youth Association.

Respectfully submitted,

Janet L. Facella
Administrative Assistant

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