

TOWN OF NORTH HAMPTON, NEW HAMPSHIRE SELECT BOARD APPROVED MINUTES MONDAY, DECEMBER 21, 2015

NON PUBLIC SESSION I 5:30 PM TOWN OFFICES EXECUTIVE CONFERENCE ROOM 233 ATLANTIC AVENUE

SELECT BOARD JOINT MEETING WITH BUDGET COMMITTEE 7:00 PM NORTH HAMPTON TOWN HALL 231 ATLANTIC AVENUE

1. <u>Call to Order& Pledge of Allegiance</u>

- 2. <u>5:30 P.M. Non Public Session I Pursuant to RSA 91-A:3 II (b) to discuss a proposed candidate for employment.</u>
- 3. <u>6:00 P.M. Non Meeting To Discuss Proposed Collective Bargaining Agreement between</u> <u>The Town of North Hampton and the New England Police Benevolent Association</u>
- 4. <u>7:00 P.M. Joint Meeting with Budget Committee to Discuss FY 2017 Proposed Operating</u> <u>Budget</u>

The Board will conduct a joint meeting with the Budget Committee. The Budget Committee's regular meeting is scheduled for December 21, 2015 and the Budget Committee's chair will preside over the joint meeting.

Second Review of Town Proposed 2016-2017 Budget The Town portion of the meeting started at 8:00 PM.

Chair Maggiore opened the Select Board meeting at 8:00 PM. Those in attendance were Selectman Miller and Town Administrator Apple. Absent: Selectman Stanton.

Town Administrator Apple reviewed changes to the proposed budget included an addition of a Deputy Police Chief and a change to the health care lines to take 11% from the Health Care Stabilization Fund to help offset increases.

Town Administrator Apple explained if the deputy's position were to come from the proposed operating budget, cuts will have to be made. Those items earmarked would be a removal of the Recreation Budget and to fund it completely from the Recreation Revolving Fund; Mosquitoes; and all Social Services.

Mrs. Schmitz asked why there wasn't a request for a deputy in the fire department.

Town Administrator Apple stated after discussion with the fire and police chiefs, Chief Tully recognized the urgency in the police department and agreed he would wait another year. He further stated in order to have the budget pass, only one position would be tolerated.

Mrs. Schmitz asked if the two deputy positions were proposed, would it eliminate the Public Safety Director's position to which Town Administrator Apple replied no.

Mr. Simmons stated he opposed having two deputies and a Director of Public Safety.

Mr. Sununu expressed his concern as to why overtime had not been reduced if a deputy had been added.

Town Administrator Apple stated the police department is still considerably understaffed and it will be until all police officers finish training at the Police Academy and Field Training which takes approximately two years.

Discussion continued for an hour on the deputy positions.

Discussions amongst the Select Board and Budget Committee continued regarding the cost of the police contract, mosquitoes and solid waste reductions.

Town Administrator Apple asked the Budget Committee where they would like to see reductions in the budget. Mrs. Schmitz stated she could not support an overall budget that was now 2.6% over the default.

Mr. Sununu expressed his frustration at having the mosquito control funding at \$85,000 when spending has shown over the past three years to come in at approximately \$70,000.

Mrs. Schmitz expressed her concern that non union salaries were too high, and she would not support them. She further stated if an employee did not like their salary they could go somewhere else.

Motion by Selectman Maggiore to reduce the town's operating budget by \$21,500 with \$10,000 reduction in account 4324 Solid Waste; a reduction of \$1,500 in account 4329 Recycling; and a reduction of \$10,000 in account 4414 Mosquitoes. Seconded by Chair Maggiore. Motion carries 2-0.

Chair Maggiore stated the bottom line operating budget proposal would now be \$6,696,066.

Mr. Sumunu stated he is not accepting a COLA and a merit pool in which an employee could essentially receive a 4.7% increase.

Mrs. Schmitz expressed her concern that non union salaries were too high, and she would not support them. She further stated if someone did not like their salary they could go somewhere else.

Town Administrator Apple stated the Select Board would not be giving an employee that for an increase however they are not will to change their policy.

Mrs. Schmitz stated she understood the Select Board's thinking but it cannot happen all at one time. She also stated she felt the Fire Department's budget was too high.

Selectman Miller stated the operating budget has been under the inflation for over ten years now and things must change.

Mr. Simmons stated Legal Expenses was too high, and a less aggressive and more congenial approach in Code Enforcement is needed.

5. <u>Any Other Item that may legally come before the Board</u>

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.

6. Adjournment

Meeting adjourned at 10:00 PM.

Respectfully, Janet L. Facella