



**TOWN OF NORTH HAMPTON, NEW HAMPSHIRE
NORTH HAMPTON SELECT BOARD MEETING**

FEBRUARY 14, 2022 7:00 PM

NORTH HAMPTON TOWN HALL

Approved February 28, 2022

SELECT BOARD MEMBERS PRESENT: Chairman Jim Maggiore, Vice Chairman James Sununu, Selectman Jonathan Pinette

ALSO PRESENT: Town Administrator Michael Tully, Deputy Fire Chief Mark Cook, Public Works Director John Hubbard

AGENDA

Chairman Jim Maggiore welcomed everyone to the February 14, 2022 North Hampton Select Board Meeting and called the meeting to order at 7:03 pm, followed by the Pledge of Allegiance.

First Public Comment Session

For comments please call 603-758-1447; email jmaggiore@northhampton-nh.gov

No public comment.

Consent Calendar

- 5.1 Payroll Manifest of January 27, 2022 in the amount of \$71,209.76
- 5.2 Payroll Manifest of February 3, 2022 in the amount of \$80,245.80
- 5.3 Payroll Manifest of February 10, 2022 in the amount of \$246,109.88
- 5.4 Accounts Payable Manifest of February 3, 2022 in the amount of \$214,626.12

Motion: To approve the Consent Calendar items 5.1 – 5.4 as presented

Motioned: Vice-Chair Sununu

Seconded: Jonathan Pinette

Vote: Motion approved by a vote of 3-0.

Disclaimer –These minutes are prepared by the Recording Secretary within five (5) business days as required by NH RSA 91-A:2, II. They will not be finalized until approved by majority vote of the Select Board.

A recording of the meeting can be found at: http://www.townhallstreams.com/towns/north_hampton_nh, and a DVD recording is available at the North Hampton Town Administrative Offices, 233 Atlantic Avenue, North Hampton, New Hampshire 03862.

Correspondence

Committee Updates

Chairman Maggiore said the *Heritage Commission* is scheduled to meet this week, no updates; *Water Commission* working on several cases.

Vice-Chair Sununu said *Rails to Trails Committee* has not met, but RPC met with Seacoast Greenway and several working groups set up; may advertise for construction this fall for trail from Portsmouth with North Hampton section to open in 2024.

Vice-Chair Sununu said the *Budget Committee* had its last 2 meetings in conjunction with Deliberative for Town and School; no changes needing BC vote; all warrants going forward to Ballot, with BC changing recommendation for School Warrant re Fund Balance for Special Education Trust.

Public Hearing to Consider Acceptance of Unanticipated Revenue in the Amount of \$47,505.50

Deputy Fire Chief Mark Cook said the Town has been selected to receive a \$50,000 Grant from GOFERR to purchase a 2022 Ford F250 pickup with plow to replace Utility #1 in the Fire Department. The Grant is 95% requiring a 5% match, with Town's portion \$5,200. Vehicle was determined to need replacement ahead of CIP schedule. Existing vehicle was offered to Cemetery; otherwise will go out to bid at auction.

Chairman Maggiore opened the Public Hearing at 7:16 pm.

As there were no public comments, Chairman Maggiore closed the Public Hearing at 7:17 pm.

Motion: To accept the unanticipated revenue in the amount of \$47,505.50 for purchase of a 2022 Ford F20 pickup with plow for the Fire Department and authorize the Town Administrator to move forward ASAP.

Motioned: Selectman Pinette

Seconded: Vice-Chair Sununu

Vote: Motion approved by a vote of 3-0.

Report of the Town Administrator

A copy of the Report of the Town Administrator will be attached to these minutes.

Report from January 25 – February 11, 2022: Finance 39% of Budget remaining with 20 weeks left in fiscal year; phone and Internet issues in several departments being worked on; contractor hired to repair water damage from large ice jams in Town Offices/Police Department; Route 151/111 light pole installed and project complete; continued flooding of Route 1 culvert but no State funds available for repair, trying to put on 10-year plan; Phone system issues still being resolved with Comcast to replace entire line from back of Fire Station up through router and replace router.

Items Left on the Table – None

NEW BUSINESS

11.1 Request to Use the North Hampton Bandstand

Tracy Emerton Williams (with Linda Cusack Libbey) requested use of the Bandstand and Town Green for Class of 1981 Winnacunnet High School 40+1 reunion, from 12 pm to 6:00 pm on Sunday September 25, 2022 to host a luncheon with local band music; food trucks will be present.

Motion: To approve the request to use the Bandstand and Town Green on September 25, 2022 for the 40+1 reunion of Winnacunnet High School Class of 1981; amended to waive Town fees normally required.

Motioned: Vice-Chair Sununu

Seconded: Selectman Pinette

Vote: Motion approved by a vote of 3-0.

11.2 Presentation by Noah Robie and Julien Icher Regarding Lafayette Trail Marker

Noah Robie said this began as a Senior History elective which became a final paper on Lafayette's farewell tour. He reviewed the historical background in detail, and along with Julien Icher of Lafayette Trail, extensively researched and traced deeds to pinpoint where Lafayette stopped on his way from Newburyport to Portsmouth on September 1, 1824. After tracking property by chain of title, the location was determined to be Leavitt Tavern in North Hampton, eventually linked to the Gove House now in Bandstand area.

Julien Icher said he is the President of Lafayette Trail whose mission is to increase mutual understanding between peoples of the United States and France, raise awareness about Lafayette's contribution, and mark the trail of his farewell tour. He said Noah's research was thorough and is a strong case to get funding for a sign. To date the Lafayette Trail has donated 65 markers around the country, 10 in New Hampshire, and one of our signs should be considered to be placed by the Gazebo at the North Hampton Bandstand. He said he has a partnership with the William C. Pomeroy Foundation and they put together the application on behalf of potential recipients that want or should be included on the Lafayette Trail, and will be included on the Lafayette Trail website.

Mr. Icher explained the process is to confirm the location of the trail marker (GPS coordinates in decimal format) along with a letter from the Town stating it agrees to welcome one of our signs. If application is approved, we craft the sign, purchase a pole and ship to you at no cost asking only that you maintain the sign. The sign will read "LAFAYETTE'S TOUR: On September 1, 1824 General Lafayette stopped at Leavitt's Tavern on his way from Newburyport to Portsmouth". The poles are 7 ft high, 4 ft above the ground, signs are 2 ft x 3 ft cast aluminum and are 2-faced.

Motion: To approve making a request for a Lafayette's Tour sign and directing the Town Administrator to draft a letter to submit as detailed here to submit the request for receiving the sign.

Motioned: Vice-Chair Sununu

Seconded: Selectman Pinette

Vote: Motion approved by a vote of 3-0.

Chairman Maggiore said it was great to see the youth of North Hampton rising to the occasion to celebrate our history.

11.3 Inflation Cost Recovery Related to Trash and Recycling Collection Operations

Director of Public Works John Hubbard said he has a letter dated January 27, 2022 from Waste Management. He said North Hampton is part of Southeast Regional Waste District 53B and at quarterly meeting, Waste Management brought a request to try to recover some of the costs taken during COVID-19 and inflation that has followed.

Director Hubbard said right now the Town is in a 5-year contract with extension of another 5 years and is now in the second extension. Contract was signed January 20, 2020 before COVID and impact on business could be foreseen; Brentwood has approved a 5% increase. When contract was negotiated the Town got a good per-ton rate with guaranteed space in landfill; a 5% yearly increase is already part of the agreement.

Selectman Pinette said he did not see a benefit to the Town with 5% continuously for 3 more years already in the contract. Director Hubbard said at the end of this extension if the group is still solid their expansion price will be a lot more, and landfills are closing en masse. He said Waste Management wants to keep working with the 6 towns and are willing to work with us at keeping prices down.

Vice-Chair Sununu asked if the current contract was with the Town or with the District; Director Hubbard said the contract is with the district. Vice-Chair Sununu said and every business is under price pressure right now, and he does not see how the Town can just agree when they already have a 5% increase built into this contract yearly; cost in 3 years will be what it will be without a break from Waste Management. He said he found this very unusual for a company to request more money when there are no provisions in the contract to do so.

Chairman Maggiore said he shared the same thoughts and said if they agree, anyone who has a contract with North Hampton will be sending a letter requesting more money for some reason. Director Hubbard said frontline labor costs have doubled since 2020, with continuing materials increases, and said he understands the request to a point. Vice-Chair Sununu said he did not know if a formal motion was needed to say that the North Hampton Select Board respectfully declines to take action on this request and would like to stick to contract. Director Hubbard said it is written into the contract that amendments can be made to the agreement.

11.4 Discussion of Fire/Police Complex Municipal Bond

Chairman Maggiore explained that the Town has a Warrant Article to Bond \$9.3 Mil for the Community Safety Center for Fire & Police. He said the Town Administrator went to the Bond Bank to find out what anticipated costs may be.

Town Administrator Tully said the Town would see \$0.35-\$0.39 increase on tax rate depending on interest rate when Bond is closed, but the Board did not discuss what to do with contingency if not spent. Chairman Maggiore said in taking out a Bond for a \$9.3 Mil building, if the cost comes in lower the Bond amount will not change. Vice-Chair Sununu said his intention would be that any funds left over in contingency would be set aside to offset Bond payments to alleviate the tax rate. Money left over at the end could be put on a warrant setting up a specific fund to be used on this Bond only. Selectman Pinette said he was in total agreement.

MINUTES OF PRIOR MEETINGS

12.1 Approval of the Minutes of the Joint BC/SB Meeting of January 18, 2022

Motion: To approve the Minutes of the Joint BC/SB Meeting of January 18, 2022 as presented.

Motioned: Vice-Chair Sununu

Seconded: Selectman Pinette

Vote: Motion approved by a vote of 3-0

Select Board Regular Meeting
February 14, 2022

12.2 Approval of the Regular Meeting Minutes of January 24, 2022

Motion: To approve the Regular Meeting Minutes of January 24, 2022 as presented

Motioned: Vice-Chair Sununu

Seconded: Selectman Pinette

Vote: Motion approved by a vote of 3-0.

12.3 Approval of the Non-Public Meeting Minutes of January 24, 2022

Motion: To approve the Non-Public Meeting Minutes of January 24, 2022.

Motioned: Vice-Chair Sununu

Seconded: Selectman Pinette

Vote: Motion approved by a vote of 3-0.

Any Other Item that may legally come before the Board

Second Public Comment Session

For comments please call 603-758-1447; or email jmaggiore@northhampton-nh.gov

No public comment.

Next Regular Meeting: February 28, 2022.

Adjournment

Chairman Maggiore adjourned the meeting at 8:21 pm.

Respectfully submitted,
Patricia Denmark, Recording Secretary