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

4 **SEPTEMBER 28, 2020 7:00 PM**

5 **NORTH HAMPTON TOWN HALL**

6 ***DRAFT MINUTES***
7

8 MEMBERS PRESENT: Chairman Jim Maggiore, Vice Chairman James Sununu, Selectman Larry Miller
9

10 ALSO PRESENT: Town Administrator Michael Tully, Police Chief Kathryn Mone, Senator Tom Sherman
11

12 **AGENDA**
13

14 Chairman Jim Maggiore welcomed everyone to the September 28, 2020 Regular Select Board Meeting
15 and called the meeting to order at 7:03 pm, followed by the Pledge of Allegiance.
16

17 **First Public Comment Session**

18 *Call 603-758-1447 for Public Comments*
19

20 Kirsten Larsen Schultz of 121 Post Road said she was concerned about the number and the severity of
21 accidents occurring at the Route 111/Route 151 intersection. She said DOT will likely not address the issue
22 until 2029, but there is money for umbrella projects within their 10-year plan. She urged the Select Board
23 to work with DOT and RPC for funds to fix this dangerous intersection. She said an online petition has
24 been started demonstrating the support of this community.
25

26 **9.1 Swearing-In Ceremony:** Fire Chief Jason Lajoie and Firefighter Samuel Hochswender
27

28 Chairman Maggiore welcomed new Fire Chief Jason Lajoie and new Firefighter Samuel Hochswender
29 and said Town Administrator Tully would administer the oath of office with a family member doing the
30 pinning of the badge.
31
32
33

34 ***Disclaimer –These minutes are prepared by the Recording Secretary within five (5) business days as required by***
35 ***NH RSA 91-A:2, II. They will not be finalized until approved by majority vote of the Select Board.***
36

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

40
41 Town Administrator Tully administered the oath of office to new **Fire Chief Jason Lajoie** and Melissa
42 pinned the badge.

43
44 Chief Lajoie said he appreciated all the support he received from the Board and the community, and
45 recognized his family for their extreme sacrifice over his career. He also expressed how proud he is of his
46 fellow professional firefighters and paramedics, his pleasure and honor working with them, and for such
47 a great community.

48
49 Selectman Miler said we are all very proud of you and your agency and the respect your agency shows to
50 the Town. Chairman Maggiore thanked Chief Lajoie and wished him luck in leading the Department.

51
52 Fire Chief Lajoie said he was pleased to introduce the newest Firefighter, Mr. Samuel Hochswender, who
53 comes to us with experience in neighboring towns. He said his first day on shift was September 4, 2020
54 and he is working on his probationary studies as well as completing a 2-year paramedic program which he
55 is due to complete in November.

56
57 Town Administrator Tully administered the oath of office to new **Firefighter Samuel Hochswender**.

58
59 Firefighter Hochswender introduced his family and said he was excited to start a career in the great Town
60 of North Hampton, and he hoped to learn every day and continuously learn throughout his career. His
61 father David did the pinning of the badge.

62
63 *The Select Board Meeting was recessed for 5 minutes and resumed business at 7:23 pm.*

64
65 **Consent Calendar**

- 66 3.1 Payroll Manifest of September 17, 2020 in the amount of \$67,186.95
- 67 3.2 Payroll Manifest of September 24, 2020 in the amount of \$67,671.34
- 68 3.3 Accounts Payable Manifest of September 17, 2020 in the amount of \$1,296,166.26

69
70 **Motion:** To approve the Consent Calendar as presented

71 **Motioned:** Vice-Chair Sununu

72 **Seconded:** Selectman Miller

73 **Vote:** Motion approved by a vote of 3-0

74
75 **Discussion:** Chairman Maggiore said item 3 is payouts that were contracted for the Town and the School.

76
77 **Correspondence** – No Items

78 *Copies of all Correspondence will be attached to these minutes.*

79
80 **Committee Updates**

81
82 Selectman Miller said the *Economic Development Committee* met on September 2, 2020, and the next
83 meeting is tomorrow at 5:00 pm via Zoom or in the Town Hall.

84

85 Chairman Maggiore said the *Heritage Commission* met on Thursday, September 17th and discussed the
86 following: (1) Commission would hire Lisa Mausolf, Division of Historical Resources, as consultant to assist
87 in the completion of the application for North Hampton to be designated a Certified Local Government
88 (CLG) by the State of New Hampshire; (2) Creation of a Historical District with the Town-owned property
89 on Atlantic Avenue including Town Hall and the Stone Building, both on the National Registry of Historic
90 Places, the stone wall in front of the new Library, the Police/Town Offices/Fire Station and the existing
91 Library (new Library not included).

92

93 Chairman Maggiore said the CLG Sub-Committee will meet with the Division of Historical Resources and
94 Lisa Mausolf on October 1st to review the proposed Historical District and CLG information, and the
95 Heritage Commission will then request official approval from the Select Board at the Select Board Meeting
96 in 2 weeks. He said the Select Board gave unanimous consent on March 22, 2020 for the Heritage
97 Commission to continue the work to present a case for creating the CLG; a full presentation will be coming
98 up when completed.

99

100 Chairman Maggiore said the *Water Commission* has a pending issue on October 1, 2020 to be covered
101 during a non-meeting with Counsel.

102

103 Selectman Miller said the *Budget Committee* met last on September 21, 2020 and the next meeting is
104 October 5, 2020 for the Town's year-end Budget and a Default Budget.

105

106 Vice-Chair Sununu said the *CIP Committee* met on Friday to wrap up, and approved its final report which
107 is being signed and delivered to the Select Board by its deadline of October 1, 2020.

108

109 **Public Hearing** – Acceptance of Grant Funds in the amount of \$26,126.00 from the State of New
110 Hampshire Recreational Trails Program for the Oliver Brook Trail to Little River Conservancy
111 (*Call 603-758-1447 for Public Comments*)

112

113 Chairman Maggiore read the Public Hearing Notice for Hearing in full and asked for questions/comments
114 on funds being received. Town Administrator Tully thanked Conservation Commission Chairman Lisa
115 Wilson for all her hard work getting the project paid for by Grant.

116

117 Chairman Maggiore opened the Public Hearing at 7:30 pm.

118

119 As no one from the public came forward or called in, Chairman Maggiore closed the Public Hearing at 7:31
120 pm.

121

122 **Motion:** Move to accept Grant Funds in the amount of \$126,126.00 from the State of New Hampshire
123 Recreational Trails Program for the Oliver Brook Trail to Little River Conservancy.

124 **Motioned:** Vice-Chair Sununu

125 **Seconded:** Selectman Miller

126 **Vote:** Motion approved by a vote of 3-0

127

128 **Report of the Town Administrator**

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

130

131 Town Administrator Tully said the Town Audit is tomorrow with a timeline of 2 months; the Budget
132 Workshop for FY2021-2022 is scheduled for October 1, 2020 at 10:00 am; boards should review

133 Department Head Budgets and set Default Budget to be presented to the Budget Committee October 5,
134 2020. Police are working with the School to facilitate safe traffic; Director Manzi working on Halloween
135 guidelines; Rye and North Hampton Fire Departments have established new automatic response
136 guidelines for improved services; positions on Rails to Trails advertised.

137
138 Town Administrator Tully said Document Management pricing for just Planning & Zoning from Ricoh totals
139 \$13,602, of which \$3,700 is the yearly annual cost for software. He said he reached out to other Town
140 Administrators to see how they are handling this more cost effectively; there is another Document
141 Management Project (not from Ricoh) for GIS Tax Maps with an interactive page on the website. The next
142 Select Board Meeting is scheduled for October 12th which is a holiday they may want to consider moving.

143
144 Questions/Comments: Vice-Chair Sununu said Recreation is establishing some after-school programs and
145 setting up some equipment in Dearborn Park. Chairman Maggiore apologized to everyone, and said he
146 did not understand the Document Management presentation as they have come to understand it now,
147 with the cost for each program more than is available in the fund to expend for Document Management.
148 Town Administrator Tully agreed, and said when you start doing the math this approach is not going to
149 work, and more investigation is needed.

150
151 **Items Left on the Table**

152
153 **NEW BUSINESS**

154
155 Chairman Maggiore asked that item 9.6-Legislative Update with Senator Tom Sherman be moved up and
156 followed by item 9.5-Discussion of Route 111 and Route 151 Intersection; the Board was in agreement.

157
158 **9.6 Legislative Update for 2020** – Senator Tom Sherman

159
160 Senator Tom Sherman said he was the State Senator for District 24 which includes North Hampton. He
161 said he would not go into Municipal Aid, Education Grants, and CARES Act Funds, but report the work of
162 the Senate and the House.

163
164 House Bill 111: With the need for remote learning and telemedicine, broadband and internet access are
165 needed throughout the State. The State has seen advances in Telemedicine, making it the same as an in-
166 office visit for reimbursement, Telephonic, and Mental Health Telemedicine, changing the way we deliver
167 healthcare; the CARES Act has funded increases in broadband.

168
169 House Bill 1264: A huge win for North Hampton, Rye, and the 5-town area of cancer clusters as well as for
170 the State; includes Senate Bill 287 which basically took what the State said through toxicology for safe
171 PFAS levels (Coakley Landfill); the State is now tied with New Jersey for lowest PFAS levels in the country;
172 both Aquarion Water and Rye Water District are well below the level. The Attorney General has assembled
173 a team and they are currently in litigation with companies who manufactured these chemicals and knew
174 about their toxic side-effects in the early 1960s. Senator Sherman said he also sponsored a bill which
175 protected Firefighters by removing PFAS from fire-fighting foam. House Bill 494 is telling Coakley they
176 have to clean it up, and the impact of Coakley here is Little River with no significant surface-level
177 contamination.

178
179 Senator Sherman said for the Rail Trail, Hampton Falls agreed to sponsor the segment through Seabrook
180 and said the segment through the marshes is spectacular along the rail bed. Rye Harbor is pulling moorings

181 and will start dredging November 15th with funds expended through the State Budget; construction to
182 repair Portsmouth State Pier has also started and will be a huge boost for commercial fishermen.
183 Committees that might affect the Seacoast: Chair of House & Human Services, Vice-Chair of Drinking
184 Water/Ground Water Advisory Commission which approved project in Rye and other towns using funding
185 from MTBE settlement, a heavily leveraged fund including other Federal and State funding, a huge benefit
186 to towns trying to remediate water systems.

187
188 Senator Sherman said he is Chair of the State Health Assessment/State Health Improvement Plan to study
189 environmentally triggered chronic illness, find correlations, and try to mediate. He said Coastal Marine &
190 Natural Resources are critical to the Seacoast, and said the Seacoast Drinking Water Commission is
191 focused on the Seacoast aquifer and supported by RPC. He said he was appointed to the Select Committee
192 on 2020 Election Support which made recommendations on how to use the \$3.2 Mil in CARES Act funding,
193 with a unanimous recommendation to be able to check off COVID for an Absentee Ballot and allow early
194 partial processing of Absentee Ballots.

195
196 Senator Sherman said he was also appointed to the State Disaster Medical Advisory Committee (SDMAC)
197 on how to optimize the use of limited resources if short on PPE, equipment, or facility, prioritize triage,
198 and are now looking into how to distribute vaccines. He said he co-founded the COVID Policy Alliance
199 Senior Support Team, a group of mostly volunteers with medical background, and provided remote
200 support to 55 Nursing Home facilities. For local businesses and people facing unemployment, they are
201 ensuring they get any assistance they are entitled to under the CARES Act.

202
203 Senator Sherman said from a physician's standpoint the 2 most critical issues this fall are School and the
204 Elections in terms of safety and COVID. Because of New Hampshire's response they are not seeing a huge
205 uptick, especially here on the Seacoast.

206
207 Selectman Miller thanked Senator Sherman and asked if he would be staying for the next item. Senator
208 Sherman said he intended to stay and said they have had huge success in Greenland by removing a passing
209 lane on Route 33 after 2 horrible accidents this summer, one a fatality. He said they are starting with a
210 corridor study through that area and already have Stratham and Greenland on board. He said he would
211 bring the same advocacy to North Hampton if they decide to move forward with looking at that
212 intersection.

213
214 **9.5 Discussion of Route 111 and Route 151 Intersection**

215
216 Chairman Maggiore said there was a serious accident at the intersection of Route 111 and Route 151 a
217 few weeks ago. He thanked Town Administrator Tully for working quickly to provide all the information
218 needed for further investigation.

219
220 Town Administrator Tully said in the fall of 2018 we worked with RPC to request a Road Safety Audit for
221 this intersection. He said this intersection tends to cause a lot of T-bone accidents (front of one vehicle
222 striking the side of another vehicle) which tend to be high injury types of accidents. He said the Town
223 applied for a Road Safety Audit, provided heat-sync maps on accidents, compared accident history and
224 forwarded the information to the State and were refused. He said they complained and were told the
225 accident history was not "serious enough". He said the State finally agreed to meet us at the intersection,
226 and they looked at the multiple red lights, stop signs, and early warnings.

227

228 Town Administrator Tully said they next researched lighted stop signs, which are not allowed in the State,
229 and offered to pay for and install the lighted stop sign, asking that it be used as a Pilot Project for
230 comparison; Bill Lambert agreed to allow it as a Pilot Program for lighted signs. He said the State then
231 went forward working with UNH, and a student engineering project studied the area investigating
232 different aspects, and presented their final recommendations to the public. He said the engineering
233 project did not necessarily meet State Standards and would have to go through DOT engineers.

234
235 Town Administrator Tully said unfortunately there was another serious accident in that intersection, and
236 the Town is continuing to push this. He said they are hindered by the point that these are both State roads.
237 He said if Senator Sherman can lend us a hand in taking care of this before another serious accident and
238 help us protect our Community that would be huge.

239
240 Discussion: Selectman Miller said because they are State roads there is only so much the Town can do;
241 Chief Mone installed the warning sign on Mill Road. Town Administrator Tully said they will continue to
242 push for things they can do, and said they need more time on the Pilot Project of lighted signs on State
243 roads to get a history to prove it works. He said what needs to happen is a serious study by the State.

244
245 Vice-Chair Sununu agreed that in the near term they can only use more and different signage that is
246 allowable, and in the medium term go back to DOT. He said Senator Sherman can help us navigate and
247 get DOT engaged. He said the study the UNH engineering students did had some ideas. Town
248 Administrator Tully said a majority of the accidents happen when someone is coming east on Route 111,
249 and either thinks the car coming down the hill is turning right and it doesn't, or they do not stop or see a
250 car coming from the south.

251
252 Senator Sherman agreed with Vice-Chair Sununu about short-term, long-term, and medium-term plans,
253 and said that is exactly what we are doing in Greenland along Route 33, and with serious accidents you
254 have to do something immediately. He said commercial trucks pull up perpendicular to the Route
255 111/Route 151 intersection rather than at an angle the way the road sends you, so they can actually see
256 right and left, but cars do not do that. He said there is a huge visibility issue and signage is a stop-gap. He
257 said if either road is due for resurfacing, the Town has a chance at a medium-term solution; even a
258 stoplight to slow traffic through there

259
260 Senator Sherman said he can sponsor a meeting in the next couple of weeks and call the Commissioner;
261 for every problem she can find 10 more in the State that are worse; with revenues down, DOT is getting
262 clobbered through budgetary shortfalls. He said he would be happy to sponsor a meeting with a Select
263 Board member there, DOT, Chief Mone, and RPC, and said he would be looking at a spectrum of
264 intervention with a site visit necessary. He said they can work with RPC to get this in the 10-year plan for
265 a study and go back to the Road Safety Audit, which he would push hard for.

266
267

268 **9.2 Discussion of Request for Proposals of Town Campus**

269
270 Chairman Maggiore said Town Administrator Tully put together a draft RFP for an architectural-design-
271 construction study of Town municipal facilities for future development; Police/Town Administration, Fire,
272 and old Library. Town Administrator Tully said he was looking for input from the Board.

273
274 Vice-Chair Sununu said he had no substantial changes to propose, and said a walk-through and questions
275 will be very important and sessions with whoever is chosen. Selectman Miller said any idea is worth

276 listening to, and we should also make sure they know the Rail Trail is going to happen. Chairman Maggiore
277 said he sent his ideas over to Town Administrator Tully.

278
279 Town Administrator Tully said he would go back through and make sure all dates make sense, and said
280 they are still looking at a late January timeframe to have this back. He said he would get it out to as many
281 places as possible, already had a few interested parties, and would get it out to the public and on the
282 website. There was consensus of the Board to start the process.

283

284 **9.3 Discussion of Additional Resident Beach Parking**

285
286 Town Administrator Tully said the idea came from a Town resident, and said he talked with Chief Mone
287 about the idea and she will talk about a timeline and what we see going forward if the Board is interested.
288 He said they received quite a few complaints about lack of resident parking at the Beach; people like to
289 walk on the beach and on the walkway. He said they started looking at Causeway and spoke with Director
290 Hubbard who said he could get it into shape, and Chief Mone looked at how we can change our ordinance.
291 They are thinking they can fit 8-12 resident-only parking spaces on one side of Causeway and use the same
292 Beach stickers.

293
294 Chief Mone said the Parking Ordinance was last amended in 2011, and this would be Amendment 11: the
295 west side of Causeway from the Rye Town Line, delineated on the pavement and no parking on the Rye
296 side. She said we do currently allow public parking on the North Hampton side east and west, and this
297 would be designated "residents only", 8-12 spaces, and be consistent with State Law with vehicles only
298 parked beyond 30 feet from the intersection. She said this would follow the same regulations and have
299 the same signs posted as at the Beach. She said Rye has 132 spaces designated for their residents and
300 their population is not much larger, and we just have the 20 spaces at the Beach and no opportunity to
301 have more there. She said they should take this under consideration and hold a Public Hearing for public
302 feedback on this proposed ordinance change.

303
304 Selectman Miller asked if there would be specific parking spots with signs saying for North Hampton
305 residents only. Chief Mone said there will be signs on both sides on the west, with the east side still for
306 public parking. Vice-Chair Sununu asked if spaces would be available year-round and Chief Mone said the
307 idea is that they will be seasonal like the parking spaces at the Beach. Chairman Maggiore said his concern
308 is with regard to Statutes, and said according to RSA 41:14 an amendment to an ordinance has to go on
309 the Ballot, and said he was not sure we could do it until March. Chief Mone said RSA 21:45 may apply.

310
311 Town Administrator Tully said he will make sure it happens the best way, and said he is looking for
312 feedback tonight on whether it is worthwhile to go forward on this. Vice-Chair Sununu said it is an
313 excellent idea and we should find out how to do it legally. Chief Mone said in a preliminary legal opinion
314 the default procedure used by towns is generally referred to as Selectmen's Ordinance; there are 3 tiers
315 of adoption and the 2nd tier would be after posting of a Public Hearing; Counsel was suggesting that the
316 revision of the ordinance would fit under that. Chairman Maggiore said the timing is fine to post a Public
317 Hearing, which could be at the second meeting in October, well in advance of the March Ballot if a Warrant
318 is needed.

319
320 **Motion:** To proceed with a Public Hearing on the proposed additions to the North Hampton Parking
321 Ordinance, which includes addition of resident-only parking on Causeway.

322 **Motioned:** Vice-Chair Sununu

323 **Seconded:** Selectman Miller

324 **Vote:** Motion approved by a vote of 3-0

325

326 **9.4 Discussion of October 2, 2020 NHMA Policy Conference Voting Delegate**

327

328 Chairman Maggiore said every 2 years NHMA gets together for a Policy Conference and decides on policies
329 to move forward to Legislature. He said recognizing the uncertainty we have with COVID we should limit
330 the amount of legislation brought forward, with very little in the way of specific policies or draft proposals.
331 He said NHMA is looking at their standard policies and looking to act on legislation that is in conflict or
332 supports the foundations of NHMA policies. He said he will be there as a member of the Board, and the
333 Town is allowed only 1 voting delegate. The Board agreed to name Chairman Maggiore as voting delegate.

334

335 **MINUTES OF PRIOR MEETINGS**

336

337 **Approval of the Minutes of the Joint Select Board/Budget Committee Meeting of August 14, 2020**

338 **Motion:** To approve the Joint Select Board/Budget Committee Meeting Minutes of August 14, 2020 as
339 presented.

340 **Motioned:** Vice-Chair Sununu

341 **Seconded:** Selectman Miller

342 **Vote:** Motion approved by a vote of 3-0

343

344 **Approval of the Regular Meeting Minutes of September 14, 2020**

345 **Motion:** To approve the Regular Meeting Minutes of September 14, 2020 as presented.

346 **Motioned:** Vice-Chair Sununu

347 **Seconded:** Selectman Miller

348 **Vote:** Motion approved by a vote of 3-0

349

350 **Approval of the Non-Public Meeting Minutes of September 14, 2020**

351 **Motion:** To approve the Non-Public Meeting Minutes of September 14, 2020 as presented.

352 **Motioned:** Vice-Chair Sununu

353 **Seconded:** Selectman Miller

354 **Roll-Call Vote:** James Sununu-aye, Larry Miller-aye, Jim Maggiore-abstain

355 *Motion approved by a vote of 2-0, with 1 abstention*

356

357 **Any Other Item that may legally come before the Board**

358

359 **Second Public Comment Session**

360 *Call 603-758-1447 for Public Comments*

361

362 Rick Stanton of 108 Walnut Avenue said he felt the Town should notify Rye with what they are planning
363 with possible Causeway parking. He said there will probably be some violations and Rye would need to
364 know the cost of those violations.

365

366 John Savastano of 34A Woodland Road said what the Town was dealing with last week with the high surf
367 was beyond comprehension, and said Rye on the Rocks is the second-best surf spot on the East Coast. He
368 said it has become very popular with people dropping off kids with soft boards and a lot of them do not
369 belong in the water due to the high surf breaks.

370

Select Board Regular Meeting
September 28, 2020

371 Kathleen Kilgore of 220 Atlantic Avenue said she had spoken with the Governor about the Route 111 and
372 Route 151 intersection, and he said if the Town got behind something needing to be done they should
373 contact him and he would try to prioritize that. She said she would like to see Chairman Maggiore and
374 Senator Sherman perhaps contact the Governor to fast-track that intersection. She also thanked Town
375 Administrator Tully, Chief Mone, and John Hubbard for always speaking with the public about ideas, and
376 said it is very encouraging to be talking about adding Town resident parking on part of the Causeway.
377

378 **Next Regular Meeting:** TBD

379

380 **Adjournment**

381

382 Vice-Chair Sununu made a motion to adjourn, and Chairman Maggiore adjourned the meeting at
383 8:51 pm.

384

385 Respectfully submitted,

386

387 Patricia Denmark, Recording Secretary

388

389

DRAFT