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

4 **DECEMBER 14, 2020 7:00 PM**

5 **NORTH HAMPTON TOWN HALL**

6 ***DRAFT MINUTES***
7

8 MEMBERS PRESENT: Chairman Jim Maggiore, Selectman Larry Miller

9 VIA ZOOM: Vice Chairman James Sununu
10

11 ALSO PRESENT: Town Administrator Michael Tully, Fire Chief Jason Lajoie, Police Chief Kathryn Mone,
12 Public Works Director John Hubbard
13

14 **AGENDA**
15

16 Chairman Jim Maggiore welcomed everyone to the December 14, 2020 Regular Select Board Meeting
17 and called the meeting to order at 7:03 pm, followed by the Pledge of Allegiance.
18

19 Chairman Maggiore said they were coming from a Non-Meeting next door with no motions. Mr. James
20 Sununu is joining us virtually which is permitted by the Governor's Order due to the pandemic.
21

22 Santa Claus made a surprise visit to the meeting to wish everyone the jolliest Christmas ever.
23

24 **8.1 Swearing in of Deputy Fire Chief Mark Cook**
25

26 Fire Chief Jason Lajoie welcomed Deputy Fire Chief Mark Cook to the North Hampton Fire Department.
27 Chief Lajoie said he brings 20 years of Fire Service experience to the Town as well as being a Certified
28 Paramedic and is one of the most respected Fire Officers in the Seacoast Area. He started 2 weeks ago,
29 responded to his first call within 2 hours, and is aggressively pursuing grants for the Department.
30

31 Town Administrator Michael Tully administered the Oath of Office to Deputy Fire Chief Mark Cook.
32

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

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

39
40 Deputy Fire Chief Cook thanked his family first and foremost, his friends, and colleagues old and new. He
41 said he has received an incredibly warm reception in North Hampton and feels part of a family.

42
43 Deputy Fire Chief Cook's daughter Emily performed the pinning of the Badge.

44
45 *The Select Board Meeting held a brief recess.*

46
47 **First Public Comment Session**
48 *Phone: 758-1447; Email: jmaggiore@northhampton-nh.gov*

49 No one from the Public called in or came forward.

50
51 **Consent Calendar**

- 52 3.1 Payroll Manifest of November 25, 2020 in the amount of \$65,432.58
- 53 3.2 Payroll Manifest of December 3, 2020 in the amount of \$226,187.21
- 54 3.3 Payroll Manifest of December 10, 2020 in the amount of \$67,463.03
- 55 3.4 Accounts Payable Manifest of November 25, 2020 in the amount of \$1,469,461.42
- 56 3.5 Accounts Payable Manifest of December 10, 2020 in the amount of \$1,115,655.85
- 57 3.6 Veterans Tax Credit Application
- 58 3.7 Supplemental Tax Bill
- 59 3.8 Deputy Fire Warden Appointment Form
- 60 3.9 Abatement Application

61
62 **Motion:** To approve the Consent Calendar as presented

63 **Motioned:** Selectman Miller

64 **Seconded:** Vice-Chair Sununu

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

66 *Motion approved by a vote of 3-0*

67
68 **Correspondence** – No Items

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

70
71 **Committee Updates**

72
73 Selectman Miller said this month's *Economic Development Committee* meeting was cancelled; may meet
74 in January depending on when the Ironwood report is available; no posted meeting for January as yet.

75
76 Chairman Maggiore the *Heritage Commission* decided not to meet this month due to the holidays, and
77 the *Water Commission* is scheduling a meeting via Zoom.

78
79 Selectman Miller said the next *Budget Committee* meeting is this coming Monday for the Second Review
80 of the Town Operating Budget.

81
82 Vice-Chair Sununu said the *Rails to Trails Committee* met 2 weeks ago and reviewed a number of aspects
83 they wanted to look at such as access and community involvement and to prioritize items. The next
84 meeting is scheduled for February.

85

86 Chairman Maggiore stated that New Hampshire House Speaker Richard Hinch passed away last week. He
87 said the House is deciding how to meet safely and conduct the business of the State. A meeting is still
88 scheduled for January 6, 2021 at UNH, but how is still being decided.

89

90 **Report of the Town Administrator**

91

92 Report from November 24 through December 11, 2020 – Town Administrator Tully said the FY2021/2022
93 Town Operating Budget was presented to the Budget Committee on November 16, 2020 and reviewed on
94 the 21st. The Default Budget is an increase of 4.682% and the Proposed Operating Budget is now at 3.136%.
95 Drivers for the Operating Budget are the Library Bond, Health Insurance, and Retirement.

96

97 Town Administrator Tully said the Town Parking Ban is now in effect until March 15, 2021. Police Chief
98 Mone said the Parking Ban is from 9:00 pm to 7:00 am with no parking on any Town Streets or Town-
99 owned Parking Lots (tickets \$50.00). Town Administrator Tully said the Fire Department has entered into
100 the State Fire Marshalls Optional Surveillance Testing (FROST) program; consensus of Board for Town
101 Administrator Tully to start bid process for old Fire Command Vehicle; Town received 4 responses to RFP
102 for PFAS Investigation required by DES.

103

104 Town Administrator Tully said for Philbrick Pond they have fully funded the Cobble Weir Project by grants,
105 and DOT is requiring maintenance on the Channel and the Cobble Weir and wants the Town to sign an
106 MOU for full maintenance responsibilities. He said he is working closely with DES who want the project to
107 go through. He said his position is that any agreement requiring financial responsibilities from the Town
108 is not acceptable to the Board; long-term maintenance on private property is not the Town's position and
109 it is uncertain whether they have that ability.

110

111 Selectman Miller asked why the Town would want an MOU with DOT when it is not even their land; Town
112 Administrator Tully said DOT has concerns about the channel behind it over which they have no control.
113 Chairman Maggiore suggested investigating how this issue is handled on private property for some
114 guidance. Vice-Chair Sununu said they need clarity on what DOT is responsible for now, if anything, and
115 to have a constructive conversation with DOT and DES. Chairman Maggiore said he would be happy to
116 talk with Senator Sherman once the MOU is complete and the language is clear.

117

118 **Items Left on the Table**

119

120 **NEW BUSINESS**

121

122 **8.2 Discussion of Education Funding**

123

124 Chairman Maggiore said last year through the approved State Budget a Commission was formed to study
125 Adequate Education Funding in the State of New Hampshire. The recommendation includes recreating
126 "donor towns" where 17% of communities in the State would be contributing excess funds, SWEPT Funds,
127 to the 83% of communities in need. He said if this bill goes through the Town of North Hampton will be
128 on the hook for \$484,000; this year \$313,000 would be donated or given to Adequate Education, and said
129 he fails to see the "equity" here. He compiled a list of the 58 State Representatives and Senators for the
130 communities most affected and said North Hampton would be owing \$0.30 on the tax rate.

131

132 Vice-Chair Sununu said on property tax bills you see Local Education and State Education funding (SWEPT
133 of \$383 Mil is allocated across all towns); Schools also get Adequacy Education Grants from the State but

134 the money from SWEPT never really goes to the State and is collected and retained locally. Adequacy
135 Education Grants go out and SWEPT is deducted; if SWEPT funds exceed that amount the town currently
136 retains those funds; the Bill is proposing that all those SWEPT Funds now go back to the State to be
137 redistributed. There is a need to keep a close eye on this and work together with other towns to stop this
138 kind of legislation from going through.

139
140 Town Administrator Tully said the report only came out on December 1st and there are about 70 town s
141 who fall into this situation. He said they are drawing up an agreement for towns to form a kind of coalition
142 to argue this and asked the Board if they would like take part providing money for a lobbyist to Concord
143 and money in next year's Budget of about \$5,000. He said he will bring the final edition of the coalition
144 agreement to the Board.

145
146 **8.3 Review of Design/Build Services for Municipal Buildings Request for Proposal**

147
148 Vice-Chair Sununu said he looked through all of the responses for hiring a firm to work with the Town to
149 come up with a Design and a Budget that can then be put on a Ballot, but we first need to determine what
150 we can afford to spend to get to a Warrant, that if passed would allow full funding of the design and
151 management services of the firm. He said we need to clarify with each firm what portion of their fees they
152 would expect to be paid to get to a well-designed Warrant Article and a Budget for what we want to do
153 that the Board can vote for and put forward. All firms seem to be very experienced and qualified; we could
154 meet with all or come up with a subset of firms to interview. He said he would review the responses again
155 and provide some feedback to Town Administrator Tully.

156
157 **8.4 Discussion of Rental/Trial of Tractor for DPW Snow Removal**

158
159 Town Administrator Tully said the new Library is primarily designed for shoveling and would make snow
160 removal difficult for Public Works Director Hubbard and his crew and Director Hubbard was looking into
161 a smaller tractor maneuverable on walkways and got a quote for rental of a tractor at \$1,700/month over
162 the winter for a total cost of \$8,500 to try it out first. Director Hubbard purchased one for himself and will
163 lease his tractor to the Town for \$300/month saving \$7,000 over the next 5 months.

164
165 Public Works Director Hubbard said his shoveling crew is one person and the new Library will add 310
166 square yards of sidewalks, not including the sitting area. He said he went to every tractor place in the area
167 and these are newer sub-compact models for maneuvering in winter.

168
169 **Motion:** Move to approve the rental of an LS 2502 Sub-Compact Utility Trailer for \$300.00 per month.

170 **Motioned:** Vice-Chair Sununu

171 **Seconded:** Selectman Miller

172 **Roll Call Vote:** Jim Maggiore-aye, Larry Miller-aye, James Sununu-aye
173 *Motion approved by a vote of 3-0*

174
175 **MINTES OF PRIOR MEETINGS**

176
177 **Approval of the Regular Minutes Meeting of November 23, 2020**

178 **Motion:** To approve the Regular Meeting Minutes of November 23, 2020 as presented.

179 **Motioned:** Vice-Chair Sununu

180 **Seconded:** Selectman Miller

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

Select Board Regular Meeting
December 23, 2020

182 *Motion approved by a vote of 3-0*

183

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

185

186 **Second Public Comment Session**

187 *Phone: 758-1447; Email: jmaggiore@northhampton-nh.gov*

188 No one from the Public called in or came forward.

189

190 **Next Regular Meeting:** December 28, 2020

191

192 **Adjournment**

193

194 Chairman Maggiore adjourned the meeting at 8:08 pm.

195

196 Respectfully submitted,

197

198 Patricia Denmark, Recording Secretary

199

200

DRAFT