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

4 **APRIL 10, 2023 7:00 PM**

5 **NORTH HAMPTON TOWN HALL**

6 ***DRAFT MINUTES***

7 SELECT BOARD MEMBERS PRESENT: Chairman Jonathan Pinette, Vice-Chairman James Sununu, Selectman
8 James Maggiore

9 ALSO PRESENT: Town Administrator Michael Tully, Fire Chief Jason Lajoie
10

11 Chairman Pinette welcomed everyone to the Select Board Regular Meeting of April 10, 2023, followed by
12 the Pledge of Allegiance; Board is coming from two Non-Public Sessions.
13

14 **Motion:** To seal the Non-Public Meeting Minutes of April 10, 2023

15 **Motioned:** Selectman Maggiore

16 **Seconded:** Vice-Chair Sununu

17 **Vote:** Motion approved 3-0
18

19 **First Public Comment Session**

20 **Janet Larsen** of 121 Post Road requested the Select Board purchase necessary sound equipment for inside
21 Town Hall to improve communications with the public. Town Administrator Tully said the issue has been
22 recognized and a speaker system has already been priced out by Channel 22 Director Savastano.
23

24 **Consent Calendar**

25 6.1 Payroll Manifest of March 30, 2023 in the amount of \$155,327.02

26 6.2 Payroll Manifest of April 6, 2023 in the amount of \$243,025.39

27 6.3 Accounts Payable Manifest of March 30, 2023 in the amount of \$46,498.46

28 6.4 Abatement Recommendations

29 6.5 Elderly Exemption

30 6.6 Veterans Exemption

31 6.7 Cemetery Deed
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 Vice-Chair Sununu said one abatement request was received after the due date, but because of a
41 particular hardship to the affected family he was in favor of its approval; Board agreed.
42

43 **Motion:** To approve Consent Calendar items 6.1 – 6.7 as presented.

44 **Motioned:** Selectman Maggiore

45 **Seconded:** Vice-Chair Sununu

46 **Vote:** Motion approved 3-0

47

48 **Correspondence** – None

49

50 **Committee Updates**

51 Selectman Maggiore said the *Heritage Commission* discussion was routine, next meeting in 2 weeks;
52 *Water Commission* has not met.

53

54 Vice-Chair Sununu said *Rails to Trails* has not met.

55

56 **Public Hearing**

57 To consider the acceptance of \$21,176.00 through the State of New Hampshire Department of Homeland
58 Security for the purchase of equipment for the Emergency Operations Center (EOC) in the new Police and
59 Fire facility.

60

61 Fire Chief Jason Lajoie said this is the second of two grants to help offset the cost of outfitting the new
62 Public Safety facility and EOC with audio-video equipment, it is a 50/50 grant; looking for Select Board
63 approval to accept funds. He explained to the public why municipalities each have their own EOC Centers
64 and said department heads need to convene the governing body under emergency circumstances in a
65 dedicated place. He said North Hampton is also in the radio planning zone for Seabrook Power Plant.

66

67 Chairman Pinette opened the Public Hearing at 7:13 pm.

68

69 **Amy Bucklin Faley** of 3 North Road thanked Chief Lajoie for applying for the grants to add to the pot.

70

71 Chairman Pinette closed the Public Hearing at 7:14 pm.

72

73 **Motion:** To accept \$21,176 through State of New Hampshire Department of Homeland Security for the
74 purchase of equipment for EOC in new Police and Fire facility as a 50% match and authorize Town
75 Administrator Tully and Fire Chief Lajoie to sign all paperwork necessary to receive such funds.

76 **Motioned:** Vice-Chair Sununu

77 **Seconded:** Selectman Maggiore

78 **Vote:** Motion approved 3-0

79

80 **Report of the Town Administrator**

81

82 Period: March 28 – April 8, 2023: Finance at 25% of Budget with 13 weeks remaining in the fiscal year;
83 Community Power Aggregation: met with Mr. Sununu and a 3rd-party supplier of electricity, a viable option
84 with considerable savings for the Town.

85
86 Vice-Chair Sununu explained the default provider is Eversource but town can choose a competitive
87 supplier for the actual electricity; Eversource will still be the provider and customers will still get a bill
88 from Eversource with delivery charges and supply charges. Community Aggregate Power was just passed
89 last year and enables a municipality to enter into an agreement to have a different default service other
90 than Eversource; process involves coming to an agreement with a provider/supplier; on Warrant next year
91 to put in front of Town with potential for significant savings; Exeter is using Community Coalition.

92
93 Town Administrator Tully said on the Hampton/North Hampton town line a site is being prepped for the
94 Rail Trail and material already being taken out; Route 95 Exit 2 Bridge project running through November
95 with covered detour signs up for lane changes.

96
97 Questions: Vice-Chair Sununu said he was asked about revaluation forms going out to businesses, same
98 forms that went out in 2013 and 2018; Town Administrator Tully said there was a misunderstanding about
99 the question asking how much money businesses made; all for DRA regulations for revaluation.

100
101 Selectman Maggiore said regarding Coakley Landfill, the Commission to study environmentally triggered
102 chronic illnesses and the chair of Coakley Landfill Subcommittee have invited all State Representatives
103 and Senators for a tour of the landfill Wednesday, April 12 at 1:00 pm with DES.

104
105 **Items Left on the Table** – None

106
107 **NEW BUSINESS**

108
109 **12.1 Aquarion Water Quarterly Update**

110 Aquarion Operations Manager Carl McMorran said the rate increase is effective March 1, 2023: average
111 residential bill of \$48.00; \$9/month increase; \$6 per 1000 gallons/week; increase mostly due to capital
112 expenses.

113
114 Director of Community Relations George Logan said as far as the drought the entire State is doing well
115 now and this is the time for water conservation. He said Aquarion attempts to incorporate programs that
116 help individuals, one program being the Rain Barrel Program, \$80 for a recycled 60-gallon barrel. Also
117 have Environmental Champions Award and are currently seeking nominations; \$5,000 for organizations,
118 \$1,000 for students; celebration will be held at Great Bay Stewards Discovery Center in Greenland on June
119 20, 2023 and public is invited.

120
121 Mr. McMorran spoke about main replacements and said there are 3 projects in Hampton; next year
122 replacing Route 1A bridge across Hampton River between Hampton and Seabrook and Aquarion has 2
123 small lines across the river bottom which will have to be temporarily moved, ending with a single main
124 under the bridge. Treatment upgrades were made to the Winnicutt Road Plant; replacing Exeter Road
125 Water Tank; looking to build a new treatment plant off Little River Road to serve Wells 7 and 22; will
126 upgrade disinfection and corrosion control and address arsenic in Well 22; now need to address PFAS in
127 Well 7 and waiting to hear on grant money.

128
129 Mr. McMorran said proposed EPA PFAS regulation are very low for both PFOA and PFAS, 4 parts/trillion,
130 and said North Hampton is just above the proposed rate in 2 locations: Jenness at 4.4 ppt, Mill Road at
131 4.5 ppt and Little River Road just below at 3.8 ppt, requiring Aquarion to take a closer look at options for
132 treatment.

133

134 Questions: Selectman Maggiore asked if the new regulations were per well or an aggregate of the entire
135 system that has to be below 4 ppt. Mr. McMorran said at the point of entry; 16 wells all come together at
136 those 4 points of entry; other wells could be diverted or they could try blending.

137

138 Vice-Chair Sununu said there is a project coming up next year for State to replace the bridge by North
139 Road and a culvert that cuts across Route 1, and asked if Aquarion had any infrastructure in that area; Mr.
140 McMorran said yes there is a pipe 2 feet from the roadway and they will need to figure out a go around.
141 Chairman Pinette asked if there was a limit to the number of rain barrels a resident could purchase; Mr.
142 Logan said no limit but company does not want residents reselling the barrels.

143

144 **12.2 Beach Sticker Rate Setting**

145 Town Administrator Tully said the State was quite late getting beach parking information to the Town. He
146 explained that the State of New Hampshire sends a contract with price of cost to lease the 20 spaces
147 allocated to the Town yearly; the spaces are now secured with the State and the Board needs to decide
148 on a price for the beach stickers; price has been \$35.00 for 7 years, the monies go to the Rec Fund, and
149 Beach Stickers will be on sale tomorrow.

150

151 Selectman Maggiore said he would not object to raising the price to \$37.00; Vice-Chair Sununu felt with
152 the dramatic uptick in the number of permits being sold more money is being taken in historically and
153 recommended keeping the price to \$35.00; Chairman Pinette was fine with keeping the rate to \$35.00.

154

155 **Motion:** To set the price of 2023 North Hampton Beach Stickers at \$35.00.

156 **Motioned:** Vice-Chair Sununu

157 **Seconded:** Selectman Maggiore

158 **Vote:** Motion approved 3-0

159

160 **12.3 Building Project Update**

161 Town Administrator Tully said walls are up, foundations poured, some floors up, and drainage added in
162 the new Fire and Police facility. Construction is going exceptionally well due to the mild winter. He said
163 some people are upset about telephone poles in Town and the aesthetics of the complex; there is a new
164 pole on Town property at the corner of town offices and the new library property. He said the Town had
165 3 choices for placement of that pole dictated by Eversource: current location, in front of Stone Building
166 near the monument, or in front of houses on the other side of the street. He said by putting in that one
167 pole we are getting rid of 8 poles on the campus (utilities to go underground from pole) and said it was
168 the best alternative.

169

170 Chairman Pinette said it seems current location was a good decision; Selectman Maggiore thanked Mr.
171 Tully for all the policy decisions he has had to make concerning this project and said folks do not always
172 have all the information; Chairman Pinette agreed.

173

174 **12.4 Discussion of Electric Aggregation Program**

175 Chairman Pinette asked if there was any further discussion on this issue.

176

177 **MINUTES OF PRIOR MEETINGS**

178

179 **13.1 Approval of Minutes of Regular Meeting of March 27, 2023**

180 **Motion:** To approve the Regular Meeting Minutes of March 27, 2023 as presented.

181 **Motioned:** Selectman Maggiore
182 **Seconded:** Vice-Chair Sununu
183 **Vote:** Motion approved 2-0, with 1 abstention
184

185 **13.2 Approval of Minutes of Non-Public Meeting of March 27, 2023**

186 **Motion:** To approve the Minutes of the Non-Public Meetings of March 27, 2023 as presented.

187 **Motioned:** Selectman Maggiore

188 **Seconded:** Vice-Chair Sununu

189 **Vote:** Motion approved 2-0, with 1 abstention
190

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

192 Selectman Maggiore said the House just passed the State Biennium Budget and asked the Board if they
193 would like an update on that or preferred waiting until the State Budget comes out. Vice-Chair Sununu
194 suggested waiting for the final Budget.
195

196 **Second Public Comment Session**

197 Chairman Pinette opened the second Public Comment Session at 7:59 pm.
198

199 **Janet Larsen** asked Mr. Tully where the search for the new Police Chief was posted and the typical time
200 needed to hire. Town Administrator Tully said the job has gone out nationwide to all job sites and posted
201 by MRI; as for average time to hire he did not expect the process to be completed until at least August,
202 and said he was expecting very qualified candidates.
203

204 **Amy Bucklin Faley** of 3 North Road thanked DPW Director Hubbard, School Board, and Mr. Tully for
205 addressing her concerns about safety at the School. In reference to an earlier comment that Mr. Tully
206 wears many hats, she said each person wears many hats. She said she was curious about all the talk in the
207 newspapers; one article mentioned (and misspelled) her name affiliating her with others and she wanted
208 to know who leaks all that stuff to the papers. She said she is *not* affiliated with anyone and stands alone;
209 she did not want her name used at all and did not say the things quoted. She said she did not want to be
210 rude or disrespectful but would like to be respected in return.
211

212 Ms. Faley said she is a concerned citizen, is for this community, and wishes they could all work together
213 as a team. She said she wishes more people would volunteer and show up at Board meetings. She thanked
214 the Board for not raising the price of the Beach Stickers as people are struggling financially, and said she
215 hoped the community could move forward together with honest, open conversations and did not want
216 the community to fall apart.
217

218 **Next Regular Meeting:** April 24, 2023
219

220 **ADJOURNMENT**
221

Chairman Pinette adjourned the meeting at 8:10 pm.

222

223 Respectfully submitted,

224 Patricia Denmark, Recording Secretary