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

4 **March 25, 2024**

5 **NORTH HAMPTON TOWN HALL**

6 ***DRAFT MINUTES***

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

10 **ALSO PRESENT:** Town Administrator Michael Tully
11
12

13 Chairman Jonathan Pinette welcomed everyone to the Select Board Regular Meeting of March 25, 2024
14 and called the meeting to order at 7:04 pm, followed by the Pledge of Allegiance; just out of Non-Public.
15

16 **Motion:** To seal the Non-Public meeting minutes of March 25, 2024

17 **Motioned:** Selectman Maggiore

18 **Seconded:** Vice-Chair Sununu

19 **Vote:** Motion approved 3-0
20

21 **First Public Comment Session**

22 *Phone: 603-758-1447*

23 As there were no Public Comments, Chairman Pinette closed the first comment session at 7:06 pm.
24

25 **Consent Calendar**

26 5.1 Payroll Manifest of March 14, 2024 in the amount of \$73,056.11

27 5.2 Accounts Payable Manifest of March 14, 2024 in 7, 2024 in the amount of \$1,620,173.29

28 5.3 Payroll Manifest of March 21, 2024 in the amount of \$77,195.66

29 5.4 Abatement Recommendations

30 5.5 Elderly Exemptions

31 5.6 Veteran's Tax Credits
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.***

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Motion: To approve Consent Calendar items 5.1 through 5.6 as presented.

Motioned: Selectman Maggiore

Seconded: Vice-Chair Sununu

Vote: Motion approved 3-0

Correspondence – None

Committee Updates

Selectman Maggiore said the *Heritage Commission* is here tonight for a Public Hearing on preservation easements and he was unable to attend last meeting. *Water Commission* has not met.

Vice Chair Sununu said *Rails to Trails Committee* has not met; update later in meeting.

Public Hearing

Pursuant to RSA 79-D:5 (07/02/2002) the North Hampton Select Board will conduct a Public Hering on the following Discretionary Barn Preservation Easement Applications of Tax Map 022, Lot 018-071, 220 Post Road, Owner Clyde Janvrin and Tax Map 017, Lot 080-000, 148 Lafayette Road, Owner Peter C. Rhoades.

Chairman Pinette opened the Public Hearing at 7:09 pm.

Donna Etela, Heritage Commission Chair, said the Heritage Commission met March 21 and discussed the two properties being considered under Chapter 79-D Discretionary Preservation Easements, one property for the first time and the other a renewal.

(1) Tax Map 022, Lot 018-071, 220 Post Road, Owner Clyde Janvrin. Heritage Commission full tour March 15, 2024. At March 21 meeting Heritage Commission determined that the Barn provides scenic enjoyment from a public road, is historically important and on a local registry at state level; complete history of barn provided. Heritage Commission recommends Select Board consider maximum assessed value reduction of 75%.

Clyde Janvrin said he feels the barn is special because of its historical value to the State of New Hampshire. He said he is a 12-year resident of North Hampton, has done a lot of work to keep the barn from falling down, repaired one half of the roof and plans to continue working on it over the next few years as finances allow. He asked what the 10-year commitment means on his part.

Selectman Maggiore said under Statute 79-D, if Board grants a 10-year abatement off taxes for the assessed property you are exempt from that amount for the next 10 years. Mr. Janvrin asked if he was required to spend a certain monetary amount yearly; Selectman Maggiore said no, but property will be subject to evaluation to ensure you are keeping up to your promise. Ms. Etela said there is an obligation in the event you fail to keep your side of the bargain.

Motion: That the Select Board grant the Preservation Easement under the Statute to the property at 220 Post Road, Tax Map 022, Lot 018-071, and that the easement be at 75% reduction in assessed value, which includes 6 ft of property all around the Barn, map increases the assessment by 2,994 sq ft, recommended by Town Assessor Scott Marsh and will be included in packet of information.

Motioned: Selectman Maggiore

87 **Seconded:** Vice-Chair Sununu

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

89

90 (2) Tax Map 017, Lot 080-000, 148 Lafayette Road, owner Peter Rhoades, renewal of easement; requesting
91 maximum reduction; listed in New Hampshire Register of Historic Places. Heritage Commission found the
92 owner did an excellent job of maintaining and improving the property during first 10-year easement and
93 asks the Select Board to approve the maximum assessed value reduction of 75%, as allowed by RSA;
94 building meets all three requirements and house is also being improved.

95

96 **Peter Rhoades**, property owner, said he was excited by this project and said he just removed, stripped,
97 and glazed all windows from the house to historical correction; all old clapboards recently patched in
98 Vermont and replaced on barn in historically correct sizes; constantly looking for ways to restore the
99 property.

100

101 **Motion:** That for the property located at Map 017, Lot 080-000, 148 Lafayette Road, the Select Board
102 grant the Preservation Easement for Peter Rhoades at 10 years for 75% reduction in assessed value.

103 **Motioned:** Selectman Maggiore

104 **Seconded:** Vice-Chair Sununu

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

106

107 **Report of the Town Administrator**

108 Report March 12 - 22, 2024: Finance: 26% of Budget remaining with 16 weeks left in FY; Police: remind
109 residents of phone scam; Fire: March recertification for medical personnel, using new ventilation
110 equipment; REC: egg scramble postponed to March 30, Blood Drive March 31 at Rec with Fire Department;
111 Memorial Day Barbecue at North Hampton School; Old Home Day August 10; 2 openings on Rec
112 Commission; PFAS: have contact info to discuss needed easement; Community Power Aggregation on
113 agenda for final plan approval; Channel 22 requested painting and HVAC; Rails to Trails: setting mile
114 markers; Town fighting the “donor towns” brought back for funding by legislature.

115

116 Selectman Maggiore said the bill introduced went through committee, went to floor of House, and was
117 adopted by vote of 228-150; has a fiscal component and has to go to Finance Committee with a hearing
118 tomorrow to consider an amendment to increase “adequate cost for education” per student from
119 \$4,100/student to \$7,356/student matching court findings. He said that is \$1.9 Million the Town would
120 have to come up with setting up Donor Towns and Receiver Towns.

121

122 Vice-Chair Sununu said the Coalition Communities Group tried to estimate the cost impact for every town
123 in the State; complicated formula using adequate education funding (currently \$3,800/student and raising
124 to \$7,400/student) plus additional considerations. Every year the Town raises a portion of their tax
125 revenue through SWEPT line item; North Hampton raises more than technically needed for adequate
126 education; retained under current law but will have to be remitted to the State resulting in about \$1.07
127 extra on each tax bill.

128

129 Selectman Maggiore said if the amendment being considered tomorrow is adopted, this goes into effect
130 July 1, 2024. Vice-Chair Sununu said there are about 50 towns that would be “donor towns” and 236
131 “receiver towns” and gave examples of very significant impacts to donor towns. Selectman Maggiore said
132 he voted against it and encouraged people to reach out to house members.

133

134 **Items Left on the Table** – None

135

136 **NEW BUSINESS**

137

138 **11.1 Election of Select Board Officers**

139 Select Board Chairman:

140 **Motion:** To nominate *James Sununu* as *Chairman of the Select Board*.

141 **Motioned:** Selectman Maggiore

142 **Seconded:** Selectman Pinette

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

144

145 Select Board Vice-Chairman:

146 **Motion:** To nominate *James Maggiore* as *Vice-Chairman of the Select Board*.

147 **Motioned:** Chairman Sununu

148 **Seconded:** Selectman Pinette

149 **Vote:** Motion approved 3-

150

151 **11.2 Discussion of Committee Assignments:**

152 Budget Committee, Planning Board, Heritage Commission, Water Commission, CIP Committee, Any other
153 committee requiring a Select Board Representative

154

155 After discussion the Board agreed to maintain Committee Assignments as currently held.

156 **Motion:** Continue Committee Assignments as they stand, with James Maggiore as designee of Chair to
157 Water Commission.

158 **Motioned:** Chairman Sununu

159 **Seconded:** Selectman Pinette

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

161

162 **11.3 Consideration of Department of Transportation Lease Agreement**

163 Chairman Sununu said this has to do with the Rail Trail; DOT owns the trail and has hired a contractor to
164 construct the trail. In discussion with DOT for long-term use of their lot at S end of town as a significant
165 trail head for North Hampton, at Route 1 and the trail; DOT wishes to continue to use the lot for now but
166 has put together a lease agreement for a portion of the lot in the interim. Contractors will clear the piled
167 pavement and clean up brush around the lot, add an entrance off Route 1, and build a path to the Rail
168 Trail separated from the existing path used for staging.

169

170 Chairman Sununu said the town can fit at least 12 parking spaces in the lot and have a draft agreement
171 with a site plan; this portion of the trail will officially open soon. Mile markers are going up in cooperation
172 with Seacoast Greenway Alliance and DPW.

173

174 **Motion:** To approve temporary use and occupancy agreement between NH DOT and Town of North
175 Hampton as presented in our packet.

176 **Motioned:** Vice-Chair Maggiore

177 **Seconded:** Selectman Pinette

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

179

180 **11.4 Discussion of 2024 North Hampton Beach Lease Program**

181 Town Administrator Tully said each year the town has the opportunity to lease 20 spaces at North
182 Hampton State Beach and needs the Board to set a price on those spots; has been \$35.00 since 2017.

183

184 After discussion the Board agreed to keep the rate the same at \$35/permit.

185

186 **Motion:** To keep the Beach Parking amount to \$35.00/permit, same as previous calendar year.

187 **Motioned:** Selectman Pinette

188 **Seconded:** Vice-Chair Maggiore

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

190

191 **11.5 Discussion of Community Aggregation Plan**

192 Chairman Sununu said this is the result of a program enabled by legislation and approved by North
193 Hampton voters in March allowing the Town to go out and solicit offers from electric service providers to
194 find a lower rate with a mix of renewable energy. Electric bill will show *delivery charge* from Eversource
195 and *energy charge* from Colonial Power. Final Aggregation Plan will be submitted to PUC, Colonial Power
196 will then solicit offers for Select Board approval, and that will become the default provider. Anyone can
197 opt in or out of the plan at any time with a variety of options.

198

199 **Motion:** For the Select Board to approve Community Choice Aggregation Plan as provided in our packets.

200 **Motioned:** Vice-Chair Maggiore

201 **Seconded:** Selectman Pinette

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

203

204 **11.6 Appointments to Agriculture Commission**

205 Email from Audrey Prior requesting re-appointment of Joan Ganotis Regular member for 3-year term,
206 Pollyanna Ford Alternate for 1-year term, Cheryl Kasztejna Alternate for 1-year term, and Rowan Perkins
207 Alternate for 1-year term.

208

209 **Motion:** To approve the slate.

210 **Motioned:** Vice-Chair Maggiore

211 **Seconded:** Selectman Pinette

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

213

214 **11.7 Appointment of Planning Board Representative to Heritage Commission**

215 **Motion:** To approve Jennifer Kotzen as Planning Board Representative to Heritage Commission.

216 **Motioned:** Vice-Chair Maggiore

217 **Seconded:** Selectman Pinette

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

219

220 **11.8 Appointment of Planning Board Representative to CIP Committee**

221 **Motion:** To approve Nancy Monaghan as Planning Board Representative to CIP Committee.

222 **Motioned:** Selectman Pinette

223 **Seconded:** Vice-Chair Maggiore

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

225

226 **11.9 Appointments to Heritage Commission**

227 Email from Donna Etela to re-appoint Susan McCullom-Barry as Regular member for 3-year term, Carol
228 Seeley as Regular member for 3-year term, Jane Robie as Alternate for 1-year term, and John Sillay as
229 Alternate for a 1-year term.

230 **Motion:** To approve the slate.

231 **Motioned:** Selectman Pinette

232 **Seconded:** Vice-Chair Maggiore

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

234

235 **MINUTES OF PRIOR MEETINGS**

236

237 **12.1 Approval of Regular Meeting Minutes of March 11, 2024**

238 **Motion:** To approve the Regular Meeting Minutes of March 11, 2024, as presented.

239 **Motioned:** Selectman Pinette

240 **Seconded:** Vice-Chair Maggiore

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

242

243 **12.1 Approval of Non-Public Meeting Minutes of March 11, 2024**

244 **Motion:** To approve the Non-Public Meeting Minutes of March 11, 2024, as presented.

245 **Motioned:** Selectman Pinette

246 **Seconded:** Vice-Chair Maggiore

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

248

249 **12.1 Approval of Non-Public Meeting Minutes of March 14, 2024**

250 **Motion:** To approve the Regular Non-Public Meeting Minutes of March 14, 2024, as presented.

251 **Motioned:** Selectman Pinette

252 **Seconded:** Vice-Chair Maggiore

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

254

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

256 Vice-Chair Maggiore asked that the Town Administrator add a legislative update for next agenda.

257

258 **Second Public Comment Session**

259 *Phone: 603-758-1447*

260 **John Salinas** of 18 Atlantic Avenue asked if the \$1.07 tax increase would be \$1.07/1,000 approximately.
261 Chairman Sununu said that is the additional tax that will be added in the fall when the Town sets the tax
262 rate to make up for what the State would be requiring us to send them (DRA). Mr. Salinas asked if the
263 Budget Committee would have the authority to make adjustments to that amount.

264

265 Vice-Chair Maggiore said the bill goes to the House Finance Committee who will have to act specifically
266 on the language in the amendment to raise adequate education from \$4,100 to \$7,356, nothing else, with
267 the Bill going back to the House. Changing the number would require another amendment but the House
268 only has until April 11 to act on HB1583, and he said he believes the \$7,356 is the amount they will be
269 acting on; if approved it will depend on what the Senate does.

270

271 Mr. Salinas asked about citizens making comments on the State website. Vice-Chair Maggiore said to go
272 to the House website, go to Study Committees, and go to the Finance Committee information contact link
273 for HB-1583.

274

275 **Next Regular Meeting:** March 26, 2024

276

277 **ADJOURNMENT**

278

279 Chairman Sununu adjourned the meeting at 8:18 pm.

280

281 Respectfully submitted,

282 Patricia Denmark, Recording Secretary

DRAFT