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

4 **January 22, 2024 7:00 PM**

5 **NORTH HAMPTON TOWN HALL**

6 ***DRAFT MEETING MINUTES***

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

10 **ALSO PRESENT:** Town Administrator Michael Tully, Town Tax Assessor Scott Marsh

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13 Chairman Pinette welcomed everyone to the Select Board Regular Meeting of January 22, 2024 and called
14 the meeting to order at 7:05 pm, followed by the Pledge of Allegiance.

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16 **Motion:** To seal the meeting minutes of both Non-Public Sessions of January 22, 2024.

17 **Motioned:** Selectman Maggiore

18 **Seconded:** Vice-Chair Sununu

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

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21 **First Public Comment Session**

22 *Phone: 603-758-1447*

23 Chairman Pinette opened the first Public Comment Session at 7:06 pm; no Public Comments.

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25 **Consent Calendar**

26 6.1 Payroll Manifest of January 11, 2024 in the amount of \$237,903.07

27 6.2 Accounts Payable Manifest of January 18, 2024 in the amount of \$1,792,547.84

28 6.3 Payroll Manifest of January 18, 2024 in the amount of \$88,993.10

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30 **Motion:** To approve Consent Calendar items 6.1 through 6.3 as presented.

31 **Motioned:** Selectman Maggiore

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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.***

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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.***

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Seconded: Vice-Chair Sununu
Vote: Motion approved 3-0

Correspondence – None

Committee Updates

Selectman Maggiore said *Heritage Commission* met and discussed Barn easements; notifications sent out to those needing renewal; check Friday Folders for opportunity to apply for Discretionary Preservation Easements for qualifying structures under 79-E. *Water Commission* has not met.

Vice-Chair Sununu said *Rails to Trails Committee* has not met, but trail work is continuing putting down stone dust; DOT may open this stretch in spring. *Budget Committee* met January 11 with Public Hearings on Town and School Budgets, also reviewed and voted on all Warrant Articles that will be on the Ballot: Town 14, School 4.

Report of the Town Administrator

Report January 6–January 19, 2024: Finance: running at 46% of Budget remaining with 24 weeks left in FY; Police: worked with Fire and Highway through the storms and assisted in emergent care; directed patrols on Routes 151 and 111; Fire: responded to many flood-related emergencies during 6-hour coastal storm January 13th; Fire Chief reminds people not to drive around barricades and road closure signs; people with storm-related property damage should call State of New Hampshire 211 hotline and contact him for assistance; Ritchie Construction still working on new building punch list; REC: Town Indoor Yard Sale January 27, Winterfest February 24; Highway Department busy with recent storms; mechanical problems with F-650 loader, new F-650 to arrive in spring; Channel 22 preparing for Deliberative Session.

Chairman Pinette asked about reimbursement for storm damage from FEMA; Town Administrator Tully said no reimbursements yet for anyone; FEMA will make an assessment by the numbers from damages and deal with the Town for public property and any private landowners.

Items Left on the Table – None

NEW BUSINESS

11.1 Discussion of Equalization Ratio – Scott Marsh

Town Tax Assessor Scott Marsh said information was submitted on all properties sold from October 2022 through November 2023 and compared those to assessments. Ratio came in at 95.9%; without revaluation it would have been around 60% as property values are still increasing. The Coefficient of Dispersion or COD represents how far away from that median every property is; anything under 20 is acceptable and we are at 8.4; did a good job overall statistically making property assessments more equitable than prior to the revaluation.

Vice-Chair Sununu asked about the equalization ratio, and if the town is required to do a revaluation sooner than 5 years if ratios fall below a certain level because of rapidly increasing house prices. Mr. Marsh said the constitution says to do revaluations at least every 5 years; if everyone is at 50% it really does not matter, when things get out of proportion you make adjustments; like to be between 90 and 110 during year of revaluation.

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11.2 Acceptance of Recreation Commission Member Resignation

Motion: To accept the resignation of Mr. Martin Tavitian, a long-term member of the Recreation Commission.

Motioned: Selectman Maggiore

Seconded: Vice-Chair Sununu

Vote: Motion approved 3-0

11.3 Appointment to Recreation Commission

Motion: To recommend Carrie Becker to the 3-year term on the Recreation Commission.

Motioned: Selectman Maggiore

Seconded: Vice-Chair Sununu

Motion/Second withdrawn.

Motion: To recommend Carrie Becker to fill the remainder of Mr. Tavitian's 3-year term on the Recreation Commission.

Motioned: Selectman Maggiore

Seconded: Vice-Chair Sununu

Vote: Motion approved 3-0

11.4 Discussion of New Hampshire Primary – Time/Place/Registration

Chairman Pinette read a letter from Town Clerk/Tax Collector Susan Buchanan and Town Moderator Bobbi Burns reminding people that registered republicans will receive a Republican Ballot, and registered democrats a Democratic Ballot, undeclared voters can vote either ballot. Poll Pads will be used in this election with no last-name specific lines; go to next available clerk, provide name, address, and valid photo ID; 8:00 am to 7:00 pm at North Hampton School. For questions contact Susan Buchanan or Bobbi Burns at rburns@northhampton-nh.gov.

Town Administrator Tully said residents can register to vote tomorrow at the election.

MINUTES OF PRIOR MEETINGS

12.1 Approval of Minutes of the Regular Meeting of January 8, 2024

Motion: To approve the Regular Meeting Minutes of January 8, 2024, as presented.

Motioned: Vice-Chair Sununu

Seconded: Selectman Maggiore

Vote: Motion approved 3-0

12.2 Approval of the Minutes of the Non-Public Meeting of January 8, 2024

Motion: To approve the Non-Public Meeting Minutes of January 8, 2024, as presented.

Motioned: Vice-Chair Sununu

Seconded: Selectman Maggiore

Vote: Motion approved 3-0

Any Other Item that may legally come before the Board

Second Public Comment Session

Select Board Regular Meeting
January 22, 2024

133 *Phone: 603-758-1447*

134 Chairman Pinette opened Second Public Comment; no public comments; closed at 7:22 pm.

135

136 Town Administrator Tully informed the Board that a resident asked for the call-in number to be displayed
137 throughout the meeting which he has not done to discourage calls coming in outside of public comment.

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139 **Next Regular Meeting:** February 12, 2024

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141 **ADJOURNMENT**

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143 Chairman Pinette adjourned the meeting at 7:22 pm.

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145 Respectfully submitted,

146 Patricia Denmark, Recording Secretary

DRAFT