



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

APRIL 11, 2022 7:00 PM

NORTH HAMPTON TOWN HALL

Approved April 25, 2022

SELECT BOARD MEMBERS PRESENT: Chairman James Sununu, Vice Chairman Jim Maggiore, Selectman Jonathan Pinette

ALSO PRESENT: Town Administrator Michael Tully

AGENDA

Chairman James Sununu welcomed everyone to the April 11, 2022 North Hampton Select Board Meeting and called the meeting to order at 7:03 pm. He said the Board was just coming from Non-Public Meetings and asked for a motion to seal the minutes, followed by the Pledge of Allegiance

Motion: To seal the Meeting Minutes of Non-Public Sessions I and II of April 11, 2022.

Motioned: Selectman Pinette

Seconded: Vice-Chair Maggiore

Vote: Motion approved by a vote of 3-0

First Public Comment Session

For comments please call 603-758-1447; email jsununu@northhampton-nh.gov

No public comment.

Consent Calendar

- 6.1 Payroll Manifest of March 31, 2022 in the amount of \$73,270.41
- 6.2 Payroll Manifest of April 7, 2022 in the amount of \$271,607.21
- 6.3 Accounts Payable Manifest of March 31, 2022 in the amount of \$63,334.45
- 6.4 Veterans Tax Credit
- 6.5 Intents to Cut Wood or Timber

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

Select Board Regular Meeting

April 11, 2022

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

Motion: To approve the Consent Calendar as presented.

Motioned: Selectman Pinette

Seconded: Vice-Chair Maggiore

Vote: Motion approved by a vote of 3-0

Correspondence

Correspondence from New Hampshire Department of Transportation (DOT): Regarding North Hampton Project 24457 – Finding Necessity of Public Meeting scheduled for April 28, 2022 at DOT Headquarters in Concord at 2:00 pm; letter from Gabrelle N. Hayes, NHDOT Right of Way Bureau hearing coordinator; read in full by Chairman Sununu.

Town Administrator Tully said this is not a meeting for public comment but a meeting on the Bridge Project. The Public Meeting was held 1-2 years ago at the North Hampton School and DOT is just getting to it now.

Correspondence from Greg Jordan, County Forester: Chairman Sununu said the letter is In response to questions raised at the last meeting regarding Red Pine Scale discovered on Town-owned property behind the School where some logging will be going on and the Board requested the opinion of the County Forester on how to handle that.

Town Administrator Tully suggested handling the correspondence under New Business Item 12.2 on the agenda.

Committee Updates

Vice-Chair Maggiore said he has nothing for the *Water Commission* but may have an update for the Board at the next meeting on a rate case to discuss in Non-Public.

Chairman Sununu said neither the *Rails to Trails Committee* nor *Budget Committee* have met, but *Budget Committee* will hold an organizational meeting later this week to elect Chair and Vice-Chair.

Public Hearing: To Consider the Acceptance of Unanticipated Revenue in the Amount of \$99,425, Awarded to the Town of North Hampton from the Nature Conservancy for the Philbrick Pond Culvert Project

Chairman Sununu opened the Public Hearing at 7:10 pm.

Town Administrator Tully said the project has been completed, updates have been provided, and seeding will be done in the spring. He said the project was a success and the Town gained 14-15 inches of tide difference for the health of the marsh, and explained these funds are to repay us for the grant funds.

Chairman Sununu closed the Public Hearing at 7:12 pm.

Motion: To accept the funds in the amount of \$99,425 for the Philbrick Pond Project.

Motioned: Selectman Pinette

Seconded: Vice-Chair Maggiore

Vote: Motion approved by a vote of 3-0

Report of the Town Administrator

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

Report from March 29 – April 8, 2022: Finance: 24% of Budget remaining with 12 weeks left in fiscal year; Chief Mone working on signage with DOT on Route 151/111 intersection; Chief Lajoie finalizing Fire Dispatch move; Deputy Cook working on grants for new building to offset costs; RFP put forward for Clerk of the Works for new building project; Building Inspector will be moving to a job in the private sector; Route 1 Culvert meeting tomorrow with resident; Seacoast Private Well Initiative to provide well testing at no cost, with possible extra charge for PFAS testing.

Questions/Comments: Vice-Chair Maggiore said he had promised to go the RC Club but missed the meeting due to a long legislative session and would try for the next one. Chairman Sununu asked the anticipated closing date for the Bond Bank. Town Administrator Tully said it will not happen until the July Bond Sale but they were trying to move the date up one month to get a better rate.

Items Left on the Table – None

NEW BUSINESS

12.1 Channel 22 Report

Channel 22 Director John Savastano said he and his colleagues have been working on their own website to include everything from a video standpoint for Channel 22, with YouTube programming, meetings, highlights, and Town events. He provided a quick video of highlights over the past year, and demonstrated how to negotiate the Channel 22 Website at North Hampton Community Media.com.

Director Savastano said they started up Radio North Hampton, a podcast they will try to do weekly, are trying to bring back TownCenter Talks, and are working on the Dining-Out show. He said in spring they were able to archive 10 years of meetings, and have a link to the Town Website and are hoping to get a cross link. He said they are working to provide time and temperature and possibly a webcam; current events and a weekly schedule of upcoming events is listed and everything is on this one website.

Director Savastano for this year alone 34,546 people went on YouTube to watch something we produced. He said they had to upgrade their Zoom capability equipment, retired the NEXUS controller after 13 years and activated CASTUS System, added a new operations PC that helps us do livestreams and edit show production, and will be resuming Atlantic Avenue and Radio New Hampshire programming schedule. He said station purchases were limited to cabling and small electronics, and mentioned a few weeks ago a possible construction cam and may call for some recalibration of their 2014 cameras in future.

Questions: Selectman Pinette asked if the construction cam will be on a time lapse. Director Savastano said it would not and said is a live cam 24/7. He said for the Library project they sent up a drone every 2 weeks for about 5 minutes of video and would do something similar.

12.2 Discussion and of Red Pine at North Hampton School

Town Administrator Tully said months ago logging at the School was investigated as well as on other Town properties in the area and it was decided to move forward for the health of the forest to take down dead trees and let new growth come in. He said things were going as planned when it was discovered that Red Pine trees planted 60 years ago have Red Pine Scale disease and beetles burrowing into the trees. He said he walked the trail several times with Nate of Sweets Logging and they are willing to take them out while they are in there.

Town Administrator Tully said there are about 10 acres of 80 that have a lot of Red Pine and had not intended to take that many trees. He said at the last meeting the Board asked that he bring in the Tree Warden, who said the trees do not belong there and are infested and should be taken out, and said he did not believe in plantings as the forest will just grow up naturally. He said Mr. Maggiore also talked to the County Forester, which is the letter in the packet. For tonight he said he is looking for what the Board would like to do: (1) not touch any of the Red Pine, (2) have the logging company uses their judgement, or (3) take out the majority of the Red Pine for the health of the forest.

Selectman Pinette suggested clearing out the infection and taking down all the Red Pine. Town Administrator Tully said it is cost effective to not have to pay for Red Pine removal later and said the exit is off the Rail Trail and loggers would then have to exit through the School parking lot.

Chairman Sununu said the letter from the County Forester did not recommend removing every single tree, and the Board could defer judgement to the expertise of a warden or forester. The Board discussed the issue and decided to have Nate use his best judgement to do what has to be done and move forward. Town Administrator Tully said he would have Nate not eradicate the Red Pine but use his best judgement.

12.3 Discussion of Request for Proposal (RFP) for 2023 Revaluation of the Town

Town Administrator Tully said there are two ways to do the Town revaluation: (1) by full measure and list, or (2) by statistical revaluation. He said the price difference is quite large and the Town has planned for a smaller one and has a Capital Reserve Fund ready to go, but the Board has the choice to delve deeper.

Vice-Chair Maggiore said in 2018 they did a statistical revaluation and have found this gives a fair representation for what we should be doing. He said the full measure list is knocking on every single door and costs hundreds of thousands of dollars but does not seem to give you the return on investment.

Selectman Pinette said he did not think door-to-door was needed, and said it was his impression the Town would do 10% or 5%, whatever the fair market value is per property, based on current property sales and based on a fair percentage targeted. Town Administrator Tully said in addition they do quarterlies, so it is updated as we go through. He said last time he waited too long and could not get a competitive price as schedules had already been set.

Selectman Pinette said also when there is a revaluation, the tax rate is adjusted accordingly. Town Administrator Tully said yes tax rate is adjusted, but the Town may see certain ranges of home get hit differently because of the market.

Chairman Sununu said regarding the method, we have been putting money away for 5 years for the statistical revaluation and that is what we should do. If they decide to do a full list it should be planned for well in advance to have enough money put aside. The Board authorized Town Administrator Tully to go ahead post the RFP.

Select Board Regular Meeting
April 11, 2022

MINUTES OF PRIOR MEETINGS

Approval of Regular Meeting Minutes of March 28, 2022

Motion: To accept the Regular Meeting Minutes of March 28, 2022 as presented.

Motioned: Selectman Pinette

Seconded: Vice-Chair Maggiore

Vote: Motion approved by a vote of 3-0

Approval of Non-Public Meeting Minutes of March 28, 2022

Motion: To accept the Non-Public Meeting Minutes of March 28, 2022.

Motioned: Selectman Pinette

Seconded: Vice-Chair Maggiore

Vote: Motion approved by a vote of 3-0

Any Other Item that may legally come before the Board

Vice-Chair Maggiore said at the last Planning Board Meeting the North Hampton Business Association came before the Planning Board to talk about Outdoor Dining, and the Planning Board was very receptive to coming up with a permit for restaurants to be able to do a simple permit process to extend their outdoor dining privileges through a date certain this year. He said the Planning Board will have something for our next meeting.

Second Public Comment Session

For comments please call 603-758-1447; or email jsununu@northhampton-nh.gov

No public comment.

Next Regular Meeting: April 25, 2022.

Adjournment

Chairman Sununu adjourned the meeting at 7:53 pm.

Respectfully submitted,
Patricia Denmark, Recording Secretary