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

4 **MAY 22, 2023 7:00 PM**

5 **NORTH HAMPTON TOWN HALL**

6 ***DRAFT MINUTES***

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

10 **ALSO PRESENT:** Town Administrator Michael Tully, Fire Chief Jason Lajoie, Recreation Director Joe Manzi  
11

12 Chairman Pinette welcomed everyone to the Select Board Regular Meeting of May 22, 2023 and called  
13 the meeting to order at 7:03 pm, followed by the Pledge of Allegiance.

14  
15 **First Public Comment Session**

16  
17 **Janet Larsen** of 121 Post Road said in a March 6<sup>th</sup> email to Mr. Tully she offered to chair a Citizens'  
18 Committee to brainstorm ideas for a Cell Tower and asked for an update. Chairman Pinette said the Board  
19 is currently still in the process and there is nothing to add to previous comments; Town Administrator  
20 Tully said they are still expecting that to come sometime soon.  
21

22 **Consent Calendar**

- 23 3.1 Payroll Manifest of May 11, 2023 in the amount of \$78,289.05  
24 3.2 Payroll Manifest of May 18, 2023 in the amount of \$72,334.77  
25 3.3 Accounts Payable Manifest of May 11, 2023 in the amount \$81,875.36  
26 3.4 Cemetery Deeds  
27

28 **Motion:** To approve the Consent Calendar as presented.

29 **Motioned:** Vice-Chair Sununu

30 **Seconded:** Selectman Maggiore

31 **Vote:** Motion approved 3-0  
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](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.**

40

41 **Correspondence**

42 From Commander Berk Bennett, Jr of Hamptons American Legion Post 35: Chairman Pinette read the  
43 correspondence in full; invitation to Town Administrator and Select Board to attend the rededication of  
44 “The Lady of the Sea” marine memorial, Saturday, June 3, 2023 at 8:00 am at the Marine Memorial on  
45 Hampton Beach; ceremony to honor New Hampshire Sailors: RD2 Ronald Thibodeau and QM3 Gary Vigue,  
46 lost at sea in June 1969 on the USS Frank E. Evans.

47

48 **Committee Updates**

49 Selectman Maggiore said the *Heritage Commission* will have an update later on in the agenda; no update  
50 from the *Water Commission*.

51

52 Vice-Chair Sununu said *Rails to Trails* has not met; *Budget Committee* met last Monday and appointed  
53 new member Andrew Raucci, presented Economic Review about economy and things facing the Town  
54 moving into budget season; also discussed Public Safety wages and wages in general facing municipalities.

55

56 **Public Hearing**

57 To Consider the Discretionary Barn Easement Application of Tax Map 001, Lot 120, 48 Ocean Boulevard;  
58 Owner: LBH LLC

59 Chairman Donna Etela read the Heritage Commission Memo in full stating that 6 members of the Heritage  
60 Commission visited the site at 48 Ocean Boulevard and inspected and considered conditions the  
61 Commission may recommend for a preservation easement at 75% reduction of assessment: (1) Scenic  
62 Enjoyment from a public way; (2) Structure is historically important: Barn lies in Village District of Little  
63 Boars Head on National Registry of Historic Places; (3) Structure’s physical or aesthetic features contribute  
64 to historic or cultural integrity of a property on the National Registry of Historic Places.

65

66 Ms. Etela said the Barn/Carriage House at 48 Ocean Boulevard fits all three of the above requirements  
67 and the property owners are committed to restoring the 1650 sq ft structure and maintaining its historic  
68 features. Repairs are in progress now and additional work is planned for 2024 with anticipated costs of  
69 \$50,000 plus maintenance expenses. Ms. Etela stated that in the opinion of The North Hampton Heritage  
70 Commission the structure will continue to contribute to the Historic District.

71

72 Selectman Maggiore said the structure is amazing inside and restoration will be significant; he said the  
73 relief is reasonable and he fully supports it.

74

75 *Chairman Pinette opened the Public Hearing at 7:20 pm.*

76

77 **Joan Ganotis**, Chairman of the Agricultural Commission, said the AG Commission fully supports the  
78 granting of the preservation easement provided by RSA 79-D to help save old North Hampton barns. She  
79 said the Bell-Sullivan property at 48 Ocean Boulevard is an 1896 Carriage Barn in excellent condition and  
80 well maintained and was confident the owners would provide exemplary repairs to the water damage.

81

82 *Chairman Pinette closed the Public Hearing at 7:22 pm.*

83

84 Vice-Chair Sununu said a memo was received from Town Assessor Scott Marsh confirming the application  
85 meets all requirements under the statute and saw no reason the Board should not approve it.  
86

87 **Motion:** Move that for the Barn/Carriage House located at 48 Ocean Boulevard, Tax Map 001, Lot 120,  
88 the Select Board grant the preservation easement at full 75% reduction to the square footage of the  
89 structure resulting in an easement of \$540 to taxes.

90 **Motioned:** Selectman Maggiore

91 **Seconded:** Vice-Chair Sununu

92 **Vote:** Motion approved 3-0  
93

#### 94 Report of the Town Administrator 95

96 Period: May 9 – May 19, 2023: Finance at 13% of Budget with 7 weeks left in FY; Chief Kurz is working on  
97 expanding search capabilities for new Police Chief and officer positions, resumes collected with 5 passing  
98 physical fitness tests; Fire Department received a resignation; 2 FFs enrolled in Water Rescue Instructor  
99 summer class; High School intern shadowing FFs graduating in June has shown interest in studying Fire  
100 Science; work on Stone Building to be completed this fall; Recreation: Director Manzi will give rundown  
101 of Memorial Day events; Old Home Day, 2<sup>nd</sup> Saturday in August with 5K race; Highway crew removed  
102 graffiti at Dearborn Park; Police negotiations begun with dates to be set for Firefighters Union; Grant of  
103 \$12,000 to update Flood Plain Regulations; DOT working quickly on Rail Trail.  
104

#### 105 Items Left on the Table 106

#### 107 **NEW BUSINESS** 108

##### 109 9.1 Discussion of Memorial Day Events

110 Recreation Director Joe Manzi said Memorial Day is Monday, May 29<sup>th</sup> and parade will be run by Hampton  
111 Legion; meeting at Library parking lot at 9:45 am then march to the School. A ceremony will be held to  
112 honor all our veterans followed by a barbecue with plenty of great parking.  
113

114 Selectman Maggiore said will be unable to attend this year as he will be out of the country.  
115

##### 116 9.2 Building Update

117 Town Administrator Tully said building framing is just about complete, concrete slabs poured in bays,  
118 membrane across flat roof completed, asphalt shingles starting next week, windows started. Once the  
119 building is weather-tight can start siding; site work continues to progress; first course of pavement 2<sup>nd</sup>  
120 week of June, then start moving employee vehicles to back of complex.  
121

##### 122 9.3 Legislative Update

123 Mr. Maggiore, as one of North Hampton's State Representatives, he would provide an update on progress  
124 and said Committee work is largely over and there are a few outstanding things to be taken up on  
125 Wednesday. He said the largest issue is the Budget of around \$15 Billion and there will be changes.  
126

127 Proposals: Fund for \$1.2 Mil in FY2024 and \$1.6 Mil in FY2025 for Cyber Security grants will be set up; full  
128 one-time State contribution to NH Retirement System mandate of 7.5% changed to \$50 Mil payment to  
129 reduce that debt; \$250 Mil proposal to roll back some pension reforms enacted in 2011 with \$50 Mil in  
130 appropriations in next biennium for retirement contributions for certain Group 2 (Police & Fire) with some  
131 effort to restore them to where they should have been with some net affect on municipal budgeting.

132

133 A Bill was tabled for \$2 Mil funding for PFAS/PFOA remediation; \$10 Mil in additional Highway Block  
134 Grants, \$10 Mil for municipal bridges; also tabled bill with language for a Housing Champions Program,  
135 Municipal Grant Program, Housing Infrastructure Municipal Grant Program with a \$5 Mil appropriation to  
136 give communities that meet certain criteria a preference to grant opportunities for different housing  
137 initiatives; bill that would enable logging companies to begin a cut upon expiration of 15 days to the filing  
138 and the Select Board must sign the Intent to Cut.

139

140 Another item is a recommendation that would require an employer with over 15 employees to pay for  
141 unused earned vacation and paid time off. A new group formed through House Speaker called Braver  
142 Angels who sit and try to figure out conflict resolution during the legislative process. Amendments to the  
143 Parental Bill of Rights were supported but without agreement; bill neutered by unexpected amendments.

144

#### 145 **9.4 Discussion of Hazard Mitigation Plan Update**

146 Fire Chief Jason Lajoie said the Town of North Hampton recently received funding from a grant through  
147 Office of Homeland Security and Emergency Management in the amount of \$7,500 to update our Hazard  
148 Mitigation Plan; total cost is \$10,000 with Town responsible for 25%. Plan last updated in 2018 with  
149 updates required every 5 years; will receive assistance from Rockingham Planning Commission.

150

151 Chief Lajoie explained Hazard Mitigation Plans as affording communities the opportunity to lay down a  
152 foundation for mitigation with a plan that identifies long-term strategies to reduce future risk from natural  
153 hazards and create a framework for risk-based decision making to reduce damage from future disasters.  
154 He said necessary changes and updates will be made over the next few months and will then be presented  
155 to the Board for Public Hearing for final approval.

156

#### 157 **9.5 Discussion of Police Chief Search**

158 Town Administrator Tully stated that MRI received 32 resumes for Police Chief position, 13 were moved  
159 forward in process, and 12 were accepted. Essays were graded by MRI transferring into phone interviews;  
160 there are some really good candidates from across the country.

161

### 162 **MINUTES OF PRIOR MEETINGS**

#### 163 **10.1 Approval of Minutes of Regular Meeting of May 8, 2023**

164 **Motion:** To approve the Regular Meeting Minutes of May 8, 2023 as presented.

165 **Motioned:** Vice-Chair Sununu

166 **Seconded:** Selectman Maggiore

167 **Vote:** Motion approved 2-0. with 1 abstention

168

#### 169 **Any Other Item that may legally come before the Board**

170

#### 171 **Second Public Comment Session**

172

173 **Janel Larsen** shared her experience of working in Healthcare as Director of Surgical Services and another  
174 hospital severely short-staffed actually called her operating room and hired away her Ortho/Surgical  
175 team, offering a \$10,000 sign-on bonus. She said within 2 weeks one of the employees asked to come  
176 back and the other person was back within 6 months. She said she understands recruitment and retention  
177 bonuses but said other things come into play over the long term, and she asked that the Select Board and  
178 Town Administrator use creative ideas using different approaches that set North Hampton apart.

179

Select Board Regular Meeting  
May 22, 2023

180 Town Administrator Tully said he reached out to Unions and asked for a comprehensive list of issues they  
181 were experiencing and it came back with one thing: wages. He explained that since the Police Contract  
182 was negotiated other communities have closed bigger contracts with higher raises which has left our  
183 officers down in the wage band for this area.

184

185 **John Savastano** followed up on Memorial Day activities and said he would do the setup for the event at  
186 the school with parking on left, parade vehicles on right, and ceremony in front; weather sunny and 72  
187 degrees and sound system will be set up.

188

189 **Next Regular Meeting:** June12, 2023

190

Chairman Pinette adjourned the meeting at 7:56 pm.

191

192 Respectfully submitted,

193 Patricia Denmark, Recording Secretary

DRAFT