



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

**DECEMBER 22, 2020 1:00 PM**

**NORTH HAMPTON TOWN HALL**

***Approved January 11, 2021***

MEMBERS PRESENT: Chairman Jim Maggiore, Vice Chairman James Sununu, Selectman Larry Miller

ALSO PRESENT: Town Administrator Michael Tully, Finance Director Ryan Cornwell, Public Works Director John Hubbard, Rick Stanton

**AGENDA**

Chairman Jim Maggiore welcomed everyone to the December 22, 2020 Select Board Workshop Meeting and called the meeting to order at 1:03 pm, followed by the Pledge of Allegiance.

**NEW BUSINESS**

**2.1 Discussion and Approval of Warrant Articles**

Town Administrator Michael Tully said the first Warrant Article is the Town Operating Budget for FY2021/2022 which is \$7,682,313 totaling 3.44% increase after Budget Committee added \$24,999 for Social Services. The increase also includes Debt Service & Principal for the new Library; 3.44% is below the Default at 4.62%; the Budget was appropriated by a vote of 8-1 at the Budget Committee Meeting last night.

**Motion:** Select Board to recommend the FY2022 Town Operating Budget Warrant Article as presented.

**Motioned:** Vice-Chair Sununu

**Seconded:** Selectman Miller

**Vote:** Motion approved by a vote of 3-0

Town Administrator Tully said the second Warrant Article is for a Lease/Purchase of a Medium-Duty Truck for \$90,000 by taxation, raising \$18,000 of the cost this year, for the Department of Public Works. This purchase is approved by CIP and on the replacement schedule. Director Hubbard is looking at trading in the current 2011 vehicle for a wing and plow for the new vehicle.

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**Motion:** That the Select Board recommend the Lease/Purchase of a DPW Medium-Duty Truck Warrant Article as presented.

**Motioned:** Vice-Chair Sununu

**Seconded:** Selectman Miller

**Vote:** Motion approved by a vote of 3-0

Town Administrator Tully said the next Warrant Article is for yearly Road Resurfacing for Director Hubbard to move forward with required paving; to withdraw \$30,000 from the Municipal Transportation Improvement Capital Reserve Fund and \$210,000 by taxation. This also helps the Town prove they are spending more money towards the Highway Block Grant; \$105,000 received last year plus another \$100,000 from doing more.

**Motion:** That the Select Board recommend the Road Resurfacing Warrant Article as presented.

**Motioned:** Vice-Chair Sununu

**Seconded:** Selectman Miller

**Vote:** Motion approved by a vote of 3-0

Town Administrator Tully said the next Warrant Article is for \$33,000 by taxation to Repave the Recycling Center Parking Lot. Public Works Director John Hubbard said the project would involve an overlay of all good pavement, removing broken pavement, and putting in a base and topping the whole lot. Vice-Chair Sununu asked if the traffic flow would be affected, and Director Hubbard said it would not but eventually there will be a change.

**Motion:** That the Select Board recommend the Paving & Recycling Center Warrant Article as presented.

**Motioned:** Selectman Miller

**Seconded:** Vice-Chair Sununu

**Vote:** Motion approved by a vote of 3-0

Director Hubbard added that the Truck lease-purchase includes a new plow and sander, is waiting for an estimate on the trade-in, and the Warrant amount will probably be much less.

Town Administrator Tully said the next Warrant Article is for an Automatic Fingerprint Scanner which updates the situation of officers working with new equipment. It is a piece of equipment Police Chief Mone brought to the CIP and put in the Budget; he asked that it be taken out and put in as a Warrant Article instead and the Board Agreed.

**Motion:** Move the Select Board recommend the purchase of an Automatic Fingerprint Scanner Warrant Article as presented.

**Motioned:** Vice-Chair Sununu

**Seconded:** Selectman Miller

**Vote:** Motion approved by a vote of 3-0

Town Administrator Tully said the next Warrant Article is for the Purchase of a Police Cruiser which was approved by CIP. He said he recommends not taking action on it as 2 Police Cruisers were purchased last year and were just recently delivered in December. He said the \$45,000 for this Warrant Article is to be paid out of the Police Detail Revolving Fund, but because of COVID they have not had many details and the fund is low (\$24,000) and would need to be paid through taxation; approved by Chief Mone.  
*Warrant Article deferred.*

Town Administrator Tully said the next Warrant Article is to Rebuild the Stone Wall at Center Cemetery after removal of the trees; approved by CIP; Cemetery Superintendent Brian Chevalier will look into possible Grant funding; due to the historic nature of the wall the cost is estimated at \$50,000.

Vice-Chair Sununu said if there is a possibility of a grant or LCHIP he preferred to wait to see if either is available before moving forward. Town Administrator Tully said he spoke with Marcy McKann of Centennial Hall who offered to work with Brian on an LCHIP application. He said he could invite Brian Chevalier to come to the next Select Board meeting for a quick discussion.

*Warrant Article on hold.*

Town Administrator Tully said the next Warrant Article is for a \$20,000 Contribution to the Earned Time Capital Reserve Fund to be deposited in that fund; gives the Town about 2 years' worth of liability; have \$87,368 anticipated to be payable before July 1, 2022. Finance Director Ryan Cornwell said the Warrant Article is currently written to come from Unassigned Fund Balance which is at 7.1%. Vice-Chair Sununu said he is not in favor of taking anything out of Fund Balance as their target is 8%.

**Motion:** To recommend the Contribution to the Earned Time Capital Reserve Fund with the amendment that source of funds is taxation rather than Unassigned Fund Balance.

**Motioned:** Vice-Chair Sununu

**Seconded:** Selectman Miller

**Vote:** Motion approved by a vote of 3-0

Town Administrator Tully said the next Warrant Article is for Contribution to the Coakley Landfill Capital Reserve Fund for \$75,000; fund currently has \$154,000 but payment not made up for this year (average \$50,000-\$52,000). He said there is a yearly liability, and also at any time a new treatment system could be put in and we are sent the bill. He said looking ahead to 2031 when a \$250,000 payment is due, they should divide that into 10 years of \$25,000 payments per year.

Selectman Miller said if and when remediation required to offset pollution going into Berry's Brook is identified that is above and beyond, and they should start putting money away now. Vice-Chair Sununu agreed on the amount but with funding through taxation.

**Motion:** That the Select Board recommend a contribution to Coakley Landfill Capital Reserve Fund Warrant Article with amendment that funds come from taxation and not Unassigned Fund Balance.

**Motioned:** Vice-Chair Sununu

**Seconded:** Selectman Miller

**Vote:** Motion approved by a vote of 3-0

Town Administrator Tully said the next Warrant Article is to establish the Town Land Environmental Remediation Capital Reserve Fund. He said they have the PFAS Investigation coming up and RFPs back deciding on a firm; we have a range and Board has not yet discussed how to fund that; no other account is available for those funds. He said he sees this as an up-and-coming thing on properties and is trying to create a fund that can be used on any Town properties for environmental concerns.

Vice-Chair Sununu said he does not like the idea of another Capital Reserve Fund, but suggested they divert approving this until discussion on Monday about the RFP put out for remediation for testing required by DES.

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*Warrant Article deferred.*

Town Administrator Tully said the next Warrant if for the proposed Fire Department Collective Bargaining Agreement and numbers are not yet available until January 6, 2021. Chairman Maggiore said the next CBA meeting is December 29, 2020 so they cannot discuss this at their next meeting on January 28, 2020.

Town Administrator Tully said he would also like to talk to the Board about a few Warrant Articles not in the packet: (1) Philbrick Pond for Cobble Weir; have 2 funding mechanisms for the project which should cover the cost; project still waiting for language from DOT re long-term maintenance. (2) No Warrant Article for Building Maintenance Capital Reserve because they have \$300,000, out of which \$50,000 to be paid for the Town Hall roof. Still have work on Clock face but siding is done with no large expenses anticipated.

Town Administrator Tully said Mr. Miller brought up the old Library if the Select Board planned on doing short-term work there after it is vacated. Vice-Chair Sununu said they want a Warrant Article that will address some of the costs but it is not yet clear how much expense associated with the RFP proposals would come before we come to a Warrant Article and they need to consider where the money is going to come from.

Town Administrator Tully said it should be split into 2 funds, Building Maintenance Capital Reserve and New Building Capital Reserve to cover design costs. He said there is already a fund established with approximately \$250,000 not for Building Maintenance costs.

Chairman Maggiore asked how the upkeep of the old Library would be funded. Town Administrator Tully said his plan was to minimally heat it, use for storage, and wait for the decision on Town buildings. Selectman Miller asked that they think about it. Mr. Rick Stanton said they should be careful about changing the purpose because it would provoke the Disabilities Act and require ADA accessible bathrooms and entry.

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

**Next Regular Meeting:** December 28, 2020

**Adjournment**

Chairman Maggiore adjourned the meeting at 1:54 pm.

Respectfully submitted,

Patricia Denmark, Recording Secretary