

**Town of North Yarmouth
Select Board
Meeting Minutes March 07, 2023, 7:00 PM**

Executive Session- 1 M.R.S. § 405 (6)(A) to discuss personnel matters.

**Chairperson Sites, seconded by Selectperson Perrin moved to enter executive session at 6:45 PM.
Vote 5 Yes/0 No.**

**Chairperson Sites, seconded by Selectperson Berry moved to end executive session at 7:07 PM.
Vote 5 Yes/0 No.**

Call to Order: (1:23-1:24:08)- Members Present: Brian Sites, Chairperson, Amy Haile, V. Chair, Paul Hodgetts, Selectperson, Katherine Perrin, Selectperson, and Andrea Berry, Selectperson, and Diane Barnes, Town Manager. Chairperson Sites called the meeting to order at 7:07 PM.

Pledge of Allegiance.

Announcements- (1:24:09-1:26:25)

Chairperson Sites talked about recent workshop on the code of conduct policy. The board is to model that behavior. All questions will be addressed to the Chairperson, and he will find the best person to answer the question. All public comments should be addressed to the Chairperson.

Consent Agenda: (1:26:26-1:27:18)

- A. Municipal Accounts Payable Warrants
 - #73 \$ 7,650.11
 - #74 \$ 2,366.50
 - #76 \$812,430.81
- B. Municipal Payroll Warrants
 - #75 \$ 48,511.06
- C. Select Board Minutes-February 21, 2023

Selectperson Hodgetts, seconded by Vice Chairperson Haile moved to approve the consent agenda as presented. Vote 5 Yes/0 No.

Public Comment: (1:27:19-1:30:30)

David Reed, Country Creek expressed concerns about the conduct policy presented at the last meeting and its potential to discontinue a person's right to free speech. He also questioned Selectperson Haile and Berry regarding comments made at the last meeting. Both Selectpersons declined to comment further on the subject.

Town Manager's Report, Diane Barnes: (1:30:31-1:33:15)

Audio/Visual Project

- Last week Connectivity Point was on site and was able to rough all the wiring to their general areas.
- They still need to coordinate the electrical with the projector screen. The Electrician wants the screen in before they do that portion.
 - This includes the projector.
- CO#1 - Projector screen is to ship next week we should have this in our warehouse the week of the 20th.

- CO#1 – Gear has landed we should have the revised wireless microphones shipping and in their hands by the end of March.
- Here are some rough time frames going forward:
 - Rack build – this will be built in their lab and tested to the best of their abilities; should start week of the 27th at the latest.
 - Projector & screen install - week of 27th (I'll firm up a date in the next week or 2)
 - Gear deployment – Mid April
 - Testing of systems – 2 weeks after final deployment
 - Full operational system – projected to be 1st week of May.

Solar Array/CMP Credits

During the 12/20/2022-1/19/2023 WH&NYCC billing cycle, the solar generation from the Solar generated more power than was used. CMP applied the credits resulting in a savings of \$1,256.19. The net savings after paying \$500.15 to Blue Haven (owner/developer solar array) for power generated from the solar array was \$756.04.

LD 290-North Yarmouth

The Assessing Department received 360 Senior Property Tax Stabilization forms. Of the 360, three did not qualify and fifteen still need age verification.

Assessing Hours & Information

The Assessor does not have set hours in North Yarmouth. Anyone needing to speak with the Assessor should contact the Regional Assessing office at 207-699-2475. A meeting place, date, and time will be scheduled if needed. Taxpayers can contact Regional Assessing Monday-Friday

Old Business-(1:30:31-1:42:54)

Chairperson sites went over the definitions of Bylaws, Policy, and Ordinance. Selectperson Hodgetts stated that the EDSC chair should have a Town email address.

Select Board Bylaws Amendment-Section 10 Committee Liaison.

Selectperson Berry, seconded by Selectperson Haile moved to approve the Select Board Committee Liaison Amendment to the Select Board Bylaws as presented. Vote 5 Yes/0 No.

Revised Budget Schedule.

Selectperson Perrin, seconded by Selectperson Hodgetts moved to approve the revised budget schedule as amended. Vote 5 Yes/0 No.

New Business-(1:42:55-2:31:50)

LUO & Zoning Amendment Process.

Chairperson Sites stated the following on this draft ordinance:

Purpose -

- Provide clarity to residents and other groups/committees on how to engage in the amendment process
- Provide clarity on roles and responsibilities between the Planning Board and Select Board
- Provide a mechanism for the Select Board to evaluate all amendments before they are sent to the voters

While NorthStar is looking at an audit of the LUO, this amendment may be an easy addition to that process, assuming the Select Board votes to take it up. Item one above has been a point of contention in the

community with past amendments, and while item two is implied in statute, it is not explicit in the current LUO or town policies. Item three is to give future Select Boards certainty that what they are sending to the voters, regardless of the origin of the amendment, has undergone the appropriate due diligence.

Current Status

This ordinance is a draft and has been preliminarily reviewed by GPCOG and MMA.

Next Steps

If the Select Board elects to adopt this amendment, the draft language would go to the Town Attorney to review, as per MMA's guidance and to NorthStar for guidance on where it would fit in the audited LUO. The draft would then follow steps 2-4 of the process laid out in the amendment. It was determined to move this forward as a policy instead of an ordinance.

Mike Mallory, Walnut Hill Road, asked why the Town isn't using MMA as a resource. Chairperson Sites stated that MMA's response is in the memo.

David Reed, County Creek, commented on the conflict of interest. He stated that those changes were made for the benefit of the town. Chairperson Sites stated that he wants to make sure the public has visibility and access to a process.

Link Merrill, 1572 North Road, questioned if citizen-initiated petitions were going to have to adhere to the proposed process. Chairperson Sites says this has nothing to do with Petitions. This is a process. All this is saying is here is a process to do that. Citizen initiated petitions would not change as that is statutory per Maine State Law.

Jeff Brown, 470 Mountfort Road, stated that the planning board' is out in the open. The Select Board liaison reports back to the Selectboard. He does not agree on the comment that the Select Board did not know what the Planning Board was doing. He felt this seems like an assertion of dominance.

Chairperson Sites states these are real problems, that he has had to deal with since he has been on the Board.

David Reed County Creek had questions on where this proposed policy/ordinance fit in with the Land Use Ordinance.

Selectperson Perrin stated that this is something other towns had. Other towns see a need for this, and it is not an assertion of dominance.

Jeff Brown, 470 Mountfort Road, asked if this becomes a policy tonight. Chairperson Sites stated the selectboard will send this draft policy to Legal and NorthStar planning review. The Selectboard will clean it up and send it to the Planning Board for review and comments.

Chairperson Sites, seconded by Selectperson Perrin moved The LUO & Zoning Amendment Process forward as a policy contingent on Legal Review and NorthStar Planning review. Vote 5 Yes/0 No

Other Business: (2:31:51-2:36:04)

Selectperson Hodgetts advised the Purple House is opening this weekend. He asked if we would contact the owner regarding parking issues. He said he did not hear complaints from the last time that they were open. Diane Barnes, Town manager advised they changed their business plan.

Vice Chairperson Haile advised she had invited the Greely High School drama club to speak and to promote their upcoming Musical, The Little Shop of Horrors.

Chairperson Sites advised that a group of students won the Samsung State competition and studied PFAS, and he invited the team to a future meeting so that the Select Board can present them with a proclamation. to a meeting.

Adjournment:

Vice Chairperson Haile, seconded by Chairperson Sites moved to adjourn at 8:30 PM.

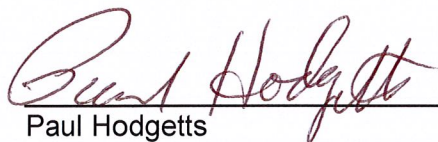
Vote 5 Yes/ 0 No.

Karen Casale, Recording Secretary

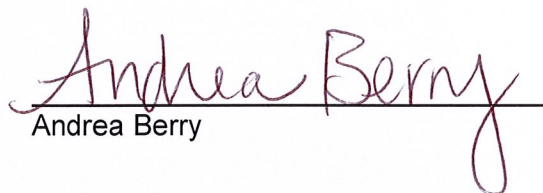
Select Board



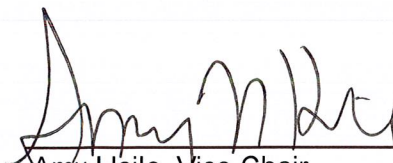
Brian Sites, Chair



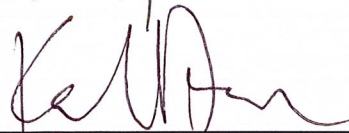
Paul Hodgetts



Andrea Berry



Amy Haile, Vice Chair



Katherine Perrin