

Town of North Yarmouth
Select Board
Meeting Minutes of Tuesday, February 16, 2021
REMOTE BUSINESS MEETING

 ORIGINAL

Call to Order – Steve Berry, James Moulton, Brian Sites, and Austin Harrell were present. Town Manager, Rosemary Roy, was also present. Chairperson Berry called the meeting to order.

Minutes of Previous Meeting(s) – Chairperson Berry moves to approve the minutes for February 3, 2021, as presented. Selectperson Harrell seconded the motion. Discussion: none. **Vote: 4 Yes – 0 No.**

Public Comment - Non-Agenda Items –

Judy Potter, Walnut Hill Road, asked the Board if all committee and Board workshops could be recorded and archived for future use. Judy Potter also asked if she could receive the proposed amendments to the Land Use Ordinance. Ms. Potter also asked if an updated copy of the Village Master Plan could be updated to reflect the village center's final changes. Chairperson Berry asked the Town Manager if the Master Plan was on the website and the most updated copy. The Town Manager stated that the plan was on the website but not with the updated drawing as it was still under review by the Economic Development & Sustainability Committee.

Diane Morrison, Chairperson of Economic Development & Sustainability Committee, stated that the Master Plan is a vision for the town's Village Center and that residents should read the full document. Mrs. Morrison stated that the executive session on January 19, 2021, complied with Maine State Statute.

Kit Maloney, 546 Walnut Hill Road, stated that there might seem to be a lack of transparency when viewing the difference between a "plan" and a "vision." Ms. Maloney noted that the purpose was not to be evasive and that the Economic Development & Sustainability Committee was providing all the information the committee has addressed.

David Reed, Country Creek, stated that he had a question regarding FOAA. Chairperson Berry noted that he could not address specific information regarding the executive session on January 19, 2021. Mr. Reed also stated that he had heard rumors about Sharp's Field. Chairperson Berry noted that the town is in the process of addressing Sharp's Field. The Town Manager reiterated that the Board had the jurisdiction to go into the executive session on January 19, 2021, due to confidential material.

Ms. Mitchell submitted a letter to the Board. The letter stated concerns with development and demographic growth in North Yarmouth. The letter continued to speak about taxpayers' financial obligations about the growth of the school district. Furthermore, the letter talked about the drought in the summer of 2020 that was critical to water resources. The letter mentioned concerns with increased crime due to the population growth.

Paul Hodgetts, Sligo Road, asked if the Board could vote to have all committee meetings and workshops recorded and broadcasted. The Chairperson stated that the item would be addressed later in the meeting.

Ms. Potter stated that she agreed with the statement from Ms. Mitchell. Ms. Potter shared concerns with the town's water bills to residents.

Stacey Caulk, Mountfort Road, stated her support for a Racial & Equity committee.

Eliza Batchelder, Walnut Hill Road, voiced her support for a Racial & Equity committee.

Allyson Ford, Edna Lane, stated that she was concerned with forming a Racial & Equity committee. Also, Ms. Ford noted that she was concerned with developing the committee based on who would be a committee member. Ms. Ford stated that a letter was submitted to Selectperson Moulton and would be shared with the Chairperson.

Selectperson Moulton thanked the Board for their participation. Selectperson Moulton shared the Organizational Chart. Selectperson Moulton stated that the Select Board has the authority to approve warrants and that all decisions go through the Select Board. Selectperson Moulton noted that the Select Board was the governing body of the town.

Audrey Lones, Baston Road, commented on the Planning Board's responsibility to Maine State Statute.

Selectperson Sites noted that the two-minute limitation is not a current practice of the Select Board.

Selectperson Moulton stated that legislation proposed for townspeople approval is the Select Board's responsibility to place on the warrant articles to be decided at town meeting.

Mr. Reed stated that he agreed with the comment from Selectperson Moulton.

The Town Manager stated that the Planning Board has the authority over the Land Use Ordinance (LUO). Selectperson Moulton asked why the zoning changes go through the Select Board. The Chairperson asked for comments to refer back to the Chair. Selectperson Moulton stated that he had not received answers to his questions to understand the Land Use Ordinance changes. Chairman Berry again requested that comments continue to be addressed through him. Selectperson Moulton repeated that he did not see an explanation for the changes in the LUO and could not explain it to the public. The Town Manager provided comments on the process of proposing legislative articles to the townspeople. Selectperson Moulton stated that he believes the articles should be explained.

Management Reports & Communications:

Town Manager's Report – the Town Manager's report is located on the town website, www.northyarmouth.org, or at the Town Office.

The Board, by consensus, agreed to return to in-person meetings in March. Furthermore, by consensus, the Board asked the Town Manager to investigate the costs for contracting more time to broadcast workshops and committee meetings. The Board further agreed to have workshops of the Select Board and Planning Board recorded and broadcasted.

Financial Reports – the Town Manager provided financial reports for January to the Board. Those reports can be found in the meeting materials for February 3, 2021.

Old Business:

Recycling Reform Resolution – Chairperson Berry moved to endorse the Recycling Reform for Maine resolution. Selectperson Harrell seconded the motion. Discussion: Rob Wood, EcoMaine Representative, presented the benefits of supporting the resolution. Selectperson Sites asked a question regarding organizations of various sizes and the different scales of production. Rob Wood stated that there is a financial interest for towns if the bill is passed. Selectperson asked if the businesses using non-recyclable materials would be fined. Rob Wood answered in the affirmative. Selectperson Moulton stated that he supported Rob Wood and would support the resolution. **Vote: 4 Yes – 0 No.**

Economic Development Update – The Town Manager presented the timeline of developing the Strategic Plan, Village Center Master Plan, the Village Center Tax Increment Financing District (TIF), and Senior Housing. The timeline and presentation can be found in the meeting materials of February 16, 2021. The Town Manager suggested a workshop to discuss senior housing. Selectperson Sites suggested that a forum be held to discuss senior housing to include a Q&A and professional help to explain the topic to residents. Chairperson Berry stated that he wanted to communicate senior housing costs and support a forum format. Selectperson Moulton noted that the issue deserved consideration after the budget and town meeting. Selectperson Sites stated that professional help to explain the topics could help residents understand senior housing's complexity. The Town Manager said that she would speak with the Economic Consultant and aim to have a May forum on the topic.

New Business:

Recycling Committee Request – Chairperson Berry moved to request that the Town Manager bring forth a committee charge, member specifications, and term for review and solidification to the Select Board in March. Selectperson Harrell seconded the motion. Discussion: none. **Vote: 4 Yes – 0 No.**

Special Town Meeting (election) – Signing of Warrant

Chairperson Berry moved to endorse the Special Town Meeting Warrant for March 23, 2021, as presented. Selectperson Harrell seconded the motion. Discussion: Selectperson Moulton asked what was the purpose of the warrant. Chairperson Berry answered that it was for the open seat for the Select Board position. **Vote: 4 Yes – 0 No.**


Accounts Payable – Chairperson Berry moved to approve accounts payable warrants 34 and 35 in the amount of \$785,586.90, as presented for FY21. Selectperson Moulton seconded the motion. Discussion: none. **Vote: 4 Yes – 0 No.**

Any Other Business – The Town Manager asked the Board to coordinate with the Executive Assistant to sign the warrant and recycling resolution.

Adjournment – Chairperson Berry moved to adjourn.

Prepared By: Draven Walker
Executive Assistant/Recording Secretary

Select Board



Steve Berry, Chair



Brian Sites



James Moulton, Vice Chair



Austin Harrell