

**Town of North Yarmouth
Select Board
Meeting Minutes of January 03, 2023, 7:00 PM-8:36 PM**

Call to Order: (17:37-17:58)- Members Present: Brian Sites, Chairperson, Amy Haile, Selectperson, Paul Hodgetts, Selectperson, Katherine Perrin, Selectperson, and Andrea Berry, Selectperson, and Diane Barnes, Town Manager. Chairperson Sites called the meeting to order at 7:00 PM. Pledge of Allegiance. Chairperson Sites wished everyone a Happy New Year.

History Minutes: (17:59-20:21)-Presented by Selectperson Haile. Dixie Hayes provided an annual report dated 1933. The 90-year-old report, states painting the Town Hall cost \$69.00. Pipe and fittings for railing cost \$5.57. The North Yarmouth historical society just paid \$8500.00 for the same railings. There were 15 members on the budget committee. No one could pay a tax less than \$60.00. Livestock and musical instruments were assessed for personal state taxes. The highest teacher salary was \$750, and they received an extra \$25.00 for cleaning the school. Thanks, Dixie Hayes, for the fun facts from 1933.

Appointments: no appointments tonight.

Special Presentations: (20:21-56:26)-Guest, Eric Gagnon from the Yarmouth Water District. He is here to go over results from samples taken from the three aquifers. He wants to explain the system first. There are three aquifers that the Yarmouth Water district uses. Hayes well, pumps 260 gallons per minutes. Estabrook pumps 350-450 gallons per minutes. Reinsborough/Stevens pumps 600-1200 per minute. When a tank in Yarmouth drops below a point the well pump automatically turns on. In the winter, we use .5 million gallons and 1.4 in the summer. This is mainly from people watering lawns and gardens. North Yarmouth pressure zones can get water from the Yarmouth system at any time. There are a few variables that determine which pumps run at certain time.

Eric explained that all three wells were tested, and the Hayes well was the only well that tested positive for PFAS. The results were below the EPA standards. The other 2 wells are off the testing list. The Hayes well must be tested yearly. Yarmouth Water District will test other areas to see if they can determine where the PFAS it is coming from. Due to the test results, The Yarmouth Water district puts the Hayes well as third. In the winter, they will not use all three wells. During a storm or power outages they will pull water from the Hayes well as the others lost power.

Eric stated that if homeowners are concerned about the presence of PFAS in their wells, they can install carbon or resin filters. The filter media is incinerated after use to get rid of the chemicals.

A new well was purchased from the Portland Water District on the Cumberland town line. They will put smaller pumps inside it and do some samples on this new well. They do not want to spend a lot of money on the new well until they know the water quality.

Questions:

Selectperson Berry thanked Eric for coming in to talk with the Select Board. When are you planning on testing, and will you go over the results? Eric advised, they will be testing in the winter and spring. They will share the results. The cost is \$500.00 per sample. Selectperson Berry asked if the samples would tell you where the PFAS is coming from. Eric advised, we can find the area, but may never find the cause.

Select Person Hodgetts asked how much PFAS is coming out of septic systems? There is PFAS in a lot of cleaners. Eric is not sure how much goes in the septic system. The ground water protection overlay, according to the Land Use Ordinance is only supposed to have 450 dwellings. It is not up to date. Selectperson Hodgetts asked about the Shape files and if they can help us update our records. Eric said the shape file he has is probably from 2017. Eric said he could try to get updated shape files. Selectperson Hodgetts asked the Town Manager if we can get the shape files from GIS? Diane will make the request.

Selectperson Perrin asked, what is the risk of one aquifer infecting another. It is unlikely, as clay layers separate them. How do the new development and new septic systems tie in? Eric advised he would need to come back to answer this. He knows the current septic designs do not treat for PFAS. Septic systems remove nitrates. Are firefighter chemicals, landfills, and sludge the cause of the PFAS? Eric advises yes. Selectperson Perrin thanked Eric for being here tonight.

Chairperson Sites asked where North Yarmouth stood with PFAS in relation to other communities? Eric advised that we are about the same as the other communities. We are in good standards. For test results, you can go to the State of Maine drinking water program test site. Chairperson asked what could people do? People can test and

install a carbon filtration system. Once the carbon system is installed, he recommends taking another test. This would be the easiest solution for a single-family home.

Selectperson Hodgetts asked about the aquifer on Mill Road. Eric advised they have the well, but there is no piping. work for this well site is far down on the list.

Public Comment: (56.25-1:04:15)

Mike Mallory, Walnut Hill Road. Carbon dioxide is changing the whole climate of the world. He wanted to make sure the filters we use don't add more contamination. A short-term solution is not what we need to do.

Link Merrill, 1572 North Road. When you test well water; where do you test? Eric says, the test does go through our internal plumbing, but they do their best not to contaminate the sample. Link asked if the test results are posted. Eric states they are posted on the State of Maine Website.

Nelson Smith advised that firefighter foam was used here, but mostly used up at Pineland.

Consent Agenda: (1:04:10-1:04:30)

- A. Municipal Accounts Payable Warrants
#55 \$104,928.77
#57 \$795,183.27
#58 \$38,120.74
- B. Municipal Payroll Warrants
#56 \$41,495.61
- C. Select Board Minutes-December 13, 2022

Selectperson Perrin seconded by Selectperson Hodgetts moved to approve the consent agenda as presented. Vote 5 yes/0.

Public Comment: (1:04:31-1:07:39)

Bill Young stated that he was concerned about a proposed sidewalk in front of the Purple House. What is the point of it and how is going to be paid for? Chairperson Sites said they have a grant. They are waiting on feedback from the engineer. Nothing has been decided or voted on.

Paul Whitmarsh, 1 Wild Turkey Lane, noticed the EV charging stations on the agenda. Chairperson Sites advised it is on the agenda. We do not have much information on it. He is welcome to comment, but we do not have much information.

Bill Young asked if the fire department study came back yet. Diane Barnes, Town manager states not yet they are still working on it.

Town Manager's Report, Diane Barnes: (1:07:40-1:16:39)

Budget

The Town Manager will be presenting a draft budget schedule for the Select Board to approve at the next Select Board meeting. The budget schedule will include a proposed date for the Annual Town Meeting.

Playground

North Yarmouth has the opportunity to accept a playground that is in very good condition. The playground will be demolished this week if the Town. The contractor feels he can remove the playground in 3 large sections and delivered to PW which then could be retrofitted to an area at WH&NYCC. If it cannot be removed without damage, then the contractor will dispose of it on site.

The Select Board was in favor of receiving the playground equipment if it is up to standards and will not cost too much to upgrade.

Old Business: (1:16:40-1:25:40)

Board and Committee Appointment Process.

Chairperson Sites stated that he wants to wait for more feedback. He said he will allow feedback until Tuesday, January 10, 2023, and added to the next agenda to discuss.

Andy Walsh, 10 Firefly Lane, stated that this is the first he has heard of the process. In the case of an appointment to an elected position, do you appoint to the next general election or to the end of term? Chairperson Sites advised that the elected position is only filled to the end of the current term. This is stated in the Charter.

Paul Whitmarsh, 1 Wild Turkey Lane, stated that the Charter states that any elected position except, the school board is filled to the end of the term. School Selectpersons goes to the next election.

New Business: (1:25:41-1:27:16)

NorthStar planning is going to do an audit of our Land Use Ordinance. Workshop scheduled January 17, 2023, at 6:00PM. Selectperson Berry seconded by Selectperson Perrin moved to schedule a Workshop on January 17th at 6pm with NorthStar Planning and The Planning Board. Vote 5 yes/0.

Keeping Cumberland County Warm-Agreement: (1:27:18-1:32:40)

Presented Diane Barnes, Town Manager

Cumberland County has allocated \$1.3 million of its State and Local Fiscal Recovery Funds (ARPA) to support and address heating assistance needs in the Cumberland County region.

Funding is available to Local Municipalities and administered through their General Assistance Department. The program will run until April 15, 2023.

This program is intended to provide additional heating assistance for persons or families that otherwise would not be eligible to receive funding through General Assistance due to income eligibility. The goal of the funds is to target families with incomes above the General Assistance and LIHEAP income caps but no more than 300% of the federal poverty guidelines.

Eligible expenses for heating assistance include- Oil, Wood, Propane, Natural Gas, Electricity, Kerosene, and Wood Pellets. The funds are specifically targeting heating costs only.

Diane Barnes, Town Manager will administer the program.

Chairperson Sites, seconded by Selectperson Haile moved to enter into an agreement with Cumberland County for the purposes of accepting grant funds to keep North Yarmouth residents warm through the "Keeping Cumberland County Warm" program and authorize the Town Manager to execute the agreement. Vote 5yes/0

Public Comments:

Mike Mallory Walnut Hill Road. Why is there a minimum income requirement to get assistance. Chairperson Site explains, the minimum income requirement is because if you qualify for general assistance or LIHEAP you cannot qualify for this one. It is one or the other.

Any Other Business: (1:32:41-1:49:15)

EV Charging Stations

Diane Barnes, Town Manager The existing charging stations do not have the ability to charge. We would need the smart charging machines. The smart Charging stations cost between \$10,000 to \$15,000. The charging station we currently have is limited to 2 hours.

Selectperson Hodgetts states there are at least six cars that are there overnight 4 times a week. We do not know if they are even North Yarmouth Residence. Chairperson Sites states that it only takes 2 hours to charge a battery. His car only takes 20 minutes to charge. Chairperson Sites advised we do not have enough information to answer questions.

Selectperson Hodgetts says it's not fair for taxpayers. Chairperson Sites advised that folks may not mind chipping in for the cost, but we need to figure out how to administer it. Selectperson Berry suggests if overnight parking is an issue, we can put up signs. Chairperson Sites advised we will get more information, determine the problems, and fix them.

Selectperson Berry asked if the volunteer list that Living well maintains is just for them or can the Parks Committee use it to recruit volunteers to track downed logs on the trails? Selectperson Haile advised it is for everyone to use. Selectperson Hodgetts asked if the Zoning Board of Appeals could use it too and Selectperson Haile advised yes. She will reach out to Steven Palmer for them.

Selectperson Berry would like to put on the next agenda a potential update and reaffirmation of the resolution supporting the rail trail.

Selectperson Berry advised she received a message from a resident whose dog ran a little off the trail and got stuck in a trap. If you are trapping on the land, can you put up a sign warning of trappings if you abut one of our public parks? The dog owner understands it is their responsibility to control the dog, but a sign would be helpful. Buster the dog is doing well.

Selectperson Hodgetts asked where we are at for the quotes for the appliances out in the kitchen of the Community Center. Diane Barnes, Town Manager advised she has those and will get those to him.

Chairperson Sites asked Diane for an update on AV Equipment. The design came up for just the meeting room so that went back to the drawing board. We are still waiting on an updated design. Selectperson Hodgetts suggested that we purchase two new wireless microphones. Chairperson Sites advised we can get the microphones since this is taking longer than expected.


Adjournment: (1:49:16--1:49:22)

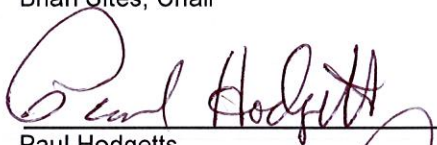
Chairperson Sites, seconded Vice Chairperson Haile moved to adjourn at 8:36pm. vote 5/0.

Karen Casale, Recording Secretary

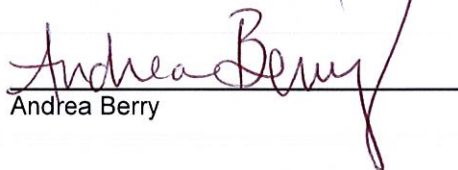
Select Board



Brian Sites, Chair

Amy Haile, Vice Chair

Paul Hodgetts

Katherine Perrin

Andrea Berry