

**Town of North Yarmouth
Select Board
Meeting Minutes October 17, 2023, 6:30 PM**

Select Board Members

Amy Haile, Chairperson	Andrea Berry, Vice Chairperson	Katherine Maloney, Board Member
Karl Cyr, Board Member	Paul Hodgetts, Board Member	

Call to Order (18:31-18:56)

Pledge of Allegiance

Appointments (18:57-25:05)

Waste Reduction Committee-Michael Billon

**Chairperson Haile, seconded by Vice Chairperson Berry moved to appoint Michael Billon as a regular member to the Waste Reduction Committee with a term expiring June 30, 2024.
Vote 5 Yes/0 No.**

GA Maximums

Each year the municipal officers must adopt the local General Assistance Ordinance and yearly Appendices. The law requires that the municipal officers conduct a notice and hearing prior to the adoption of the Ordinance and or Appendices.

Chairperson Haile opened the public hearing to see if anyone would like to speak on the General Assistance Ordinance.

Anne Graham, Farms Edge Road, stated she supports the GA Ordinance. She thanked the residence for considering the GA Ordinance.

Mike Mallory, Walnut Hill Road, stated we do not leave people behind. Anyone that needs help, gets it.

Chairperson Haile Closed the public hearing.

Chairperson Haile, seconded by Selectperson Hodgetts moved to amend the GA Ordinance and Appendices as presented. Vote 5 Yes/0 No.

Public Comments (25:06-52:29)

Mike Doyle, Portsmouth NH stated the seating was not ADA compliant. The chairs must be 24 inches from the floor and include armrests. He advised the board to contact Bill Shane in Cumberland if we need to know where to order chairs.

Judy Potter, Walnut Hill Road, read the State Law regarding the Planning Land Use Regulations. It is a municipal reviewing authority. Judy stated she felt the Code of Conduct needs to be rescinded. She stated communication is a goal and she does not feel she should be timed. She thanked Kim Merrill, Scott Kere and Steve Palmer for their hard work and dedication to the Parks and Recreation Committee. Chairperson Haile advised Judy her three-minute time limit was up.

Diane Burnell, 26 Split Rock Road, finished Judy Potters speech. She thanked Kevin Robinson for his hard work on the EDSC. Paul Napolitano for his hard work on the ZBA Board. Kimry Corrette and Paul Metevier

for everything they have done for the Planning Board.

Larry Aufiero, Cumberland Center, stated he is against banning books. What about books that describes how to build a bomb, or what is the least painful way to commit suicide, or pornography. Thankfully all these books are banned from the school library. All but pornography. He does not approve of pornography. He feels books should be age appropriate. Parents did you know that if a boy identifies as a girl, he can enter the girl's locker rooms and bathrooms. Call the superintendent, the librarian and principal and demand these books be removed.

Scott Jordan, Cumberland, stated he was opposed to pornography in middle school. Expressed concern over the book Gender Queer. He read some of Gender Queer. He said it was offensive. He asked the Selectboard what they were going to do about it.

Chairperson Haile advised Scott Jordan that his three-minute time is up. She asked him to sit down so that others could speak.

Diane Morrison, Brown Dog Drive, stated if we start eliminating books where does it stop. She asked why people from other towns are allowed in our meeting? She stated we had an agenda and work to do and did not feel this subject belonged at a Select Board meeting.

David Messinger, Walnut Hill Road, stated he did not feel this was the correct forum for this. The Board does not have any control over the School Board. He would like to see us return to the meeting.

Larry Aufiero, Cumberland Center, stated people get upset that we are emotional. Our kids' lives are at stake, and we get emotional. We do not want our kids looking at that book.

Scott Jordan, Cumberland apologized to the board. This is an emotional subject. We are allowing 6th graders to pick their gender. He is here because North Yarmouth is part of MSAD 51. Talk to Cumberland. The book is not age appropriate. He would like the book banned from the school.

Mike Doyle, Portsmouth NH stated that open meeting law required the meeting room door be open.

Chairperson Haile closed public comment.

New Business (52:30-1:03:40)

Interview Committee

Selectperson Hodgetts advised he was appointed to the interview committee in July. He was removed from the committee on September 5, 2023. He was shocked and he felt it should have gone to a vote.

Chairperson Haile advised it was not a standing interview committee. She did not understand why the concerns were not addressed that night. She advised that she will make sure the process is clear in the future. If a new candidate needs to be selected, a new interview committee will be selected each time.

Selectperson Cyr suggested they have a vote in the future and work on a clearer process for the alternates as well.

Old Business (1:03:41-1:32:47)

EDSC Charges

The EDSC is charged with gathering community input and collecting public feedback from North Yarmouth residents and businesses on priorities associated with the proposed sidewalk design drafted by Olver Associates. The EDSC will create multiple opportunities and avenues for feedback, potentially including but not limited to joint meetings with other town committees, workshops, and public forums. A comprehensive presentation to the NY Select Board on the feedback gathered is required for the completion of the charge no later than May 31, 2024.

Judy Potter, Walnut Hill Road, stated she thinks residence should be on this committee.

Paul Whitmarsh, Wild Turkey Lane, stated the EDSC should use the public to get the information, but how they do it is up to them.

Mike Mallory, Walnut Hill Road, stated he doesn't like the word potentially in the EDSC charge.

Chairperson Haile, seconded by Selectperson Maloney moved to approve the EDSC Charge as edited. Vote 5 Yes/0 No.

Charter Commission Discussion (1:32:48-2:03:45)

Chairperson Haile stated this is to explore public interest in switching from a Select Board to a Town Council. She shared the timeline and deadlines for switching.

Vice Chairperson Berry would like to have a workshop on this topic



7.B TIMELINE re
Charter Revision (Ju

Paul Whitmarsh, Wild Turkey Lane, stated there are only 4 Select Board meetings from now to the end of the year. It would be difficult to get this done within the timeline deadlines. He stated it seems rushed.

Judy Potter, Walnut Hill Road, asked why the rush was? She suggested trying the town meetings on weeknight first to see if there is more participation.

Chairperson Haile advised there is no rush.

Diane Morrison, Brown Dog Drive, asked if any town has made this switch recently? Falmouth is going through it now. She thinks it will take a few years and she thanked the Select Board for reviewing it.

Chairperson Haile does not know of any town. She advised she can ask Gray.

Consent Agenda (2:03:46-2:04:00)

Payroll Warrants

#30 \$ 48,051.82

Municipal Accounts Payable Warrants

#27 \$ 997,562.88

#28 \$ 6,413.32

#29 \$ 46,306.06

October 3, 2023, Select Board Minutes

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

Management Reports & Communications (2:04:01-2:20:08)

Select Board Committee Reports:

EDSC-Kit Maloney

Stated the EDSC nominated Eliza Bachelder to the climate action plan. They have three members and are coordinating with GPCOG for their first meeting.

Recreation Advisory Board-Karl Cyr

He stated they are planning to install a playground at Twin Brooks. He advised there was a budget Surplus from the recreation activities last fiscal year.

Parks-Karl Cyr

He stated, Robert Abbott and Laurie Gilman were elected co-chairs. They are working on getting volunteers for installing a land bridge at Knight's Pond. There were questions on the village trail that is supposed to be built in in the fall and they spoke about invasives.

School Fund Committee-Paul Hodgetts

He stated there were no updates.

Joint Standing Committee-Amy Haile, Andrea Berry

She states that they met last week and next week they have a Select Board, Town Council and MSAD 51 School Board joint meeting. They talked about questions and conversations they wanted to be part of. They are committed to regular investigations of shared services between the three entities. They are committed to having regular meetings.

Prince Memorial Library-Amy Haile

She stated that they are looking at updating the website. They have committed to doing 40% of their programing in North Yarmouth. They were excited that North Yarmouth was in the group.

Waste Reduction Committee-Andrea Berry

She stated October is plastic free month. Encouraging all town residents to limit single use plastic. They are continuing their speaker series, "Defend our Health", on October 26 6:30 PM at Westcustogo Hall and North Yarmouth Community Center.

Shellfish Commission-Karl Cyr

He stated that there were no updates.

Walnut Hill Parkway-Paul Hodgetts, Kit Maloney

They stated there were no updates. The next meeting is October 25, 2023, 4:00 PM.

Budget Committee-Andrea Berry

She stated Diane sent the Budget Committee first quarter reports. They do not meet until budget season.

Town Manager's Report, Diane Barnes

Reminder on October 24, 2023, at 6:00 PM we have a joint workshop with the Planning Board.

The Select Board also has a meeting on October 25, 2023, at 6:00 PM with The Cumberland Council and MSAD51.

We have a vacancy in the town office. Cheryl Goodwin is going to retire on November 30, 2023. She does an excellent job, and it will be a loss for the town. Diane congratulated her and stated it has been a privilege to work with her.

Department Reports

Financial Reports-First Quarter 2024

Diane states we will probably go over budget on building repairs because of all the issues we are facing. The revenues are coming in strong. We are getting a great interest rate due to changing banks. She hopes there will be a FY 2023 audit soon.

Chairperson Haile asked about the part-time Westcustogo Hall and North Yarmouth Community Center position and the full-time Fire Department position.

Diane Barnes advised there were no candidates for the part-time position, and she is not sure on the Fire Department Position. She will check with the Fire Chief.



9.C Fire Rescue Q1
Report FY24.docx



9.C Municipal
Administration Q1 R



9.C PWD Q1 Report
FY24.docx



9.C WH&NYCC Q1
Report FY24.docx

Any Other Business (2:20:09-2:29:45)

Chairperson Haile advised she has a sign-up sheet for the Select Board to meet with the public. Please don't leave without signing up. Selectperson Maloney and Hodgetts will work together to host the December 05, 2023, public forum.

The town was popping last weekend with the Veterinarian Hospital ribbon cutting, home coming at Greely, the Fire Department bean supper and soup and cider for the Historical Society. It was a nice weekend.

Selectperson Maloney advised she wanted to correct her prior response to the senior housing threshold. She said it was \$41,000.00 but she was incorrect, and the correct income threshold is \$40,000.00. She stated to the board that she wanted to keep up with the presentation on senior housing for a future meeting.

Selectperson Hodgetts asked if we were having any email trouble. He stated he received emails weeks later than sent. Paul will forward the e-mail to Diane, and she will have ION investigate it.

Selectperson Hodgetts asked if there was any update from the State on PFAST.

Diane Barnes, Town Manager, advised she does not have any updates. She will follow up with them.

Selectperson Hodgetts asked Diane Barnes what happened on September 30, 2023; he stated he heard the finance committee decided to use 24% of TIF funds.

Chairperson Haile stated there is no finance committee. She advised there was a question at the town meeting on how we came up with the TIF percentage. The use of TIF Funds is connected to economic development. The Town Manager, Select Board and Budget Committee all supported the 24% use of TIF funds for the purchase of the fire truck.

Adjournment

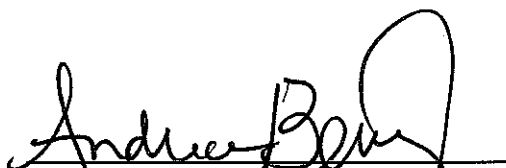
Chairperson Haile, seconded by Selectperson Hodgetts moved to adjourn at 8:44 PM. Vote 5 Yes/0 No.

Karen Casale, Recording Secretary



Amy Haile, Chairperson

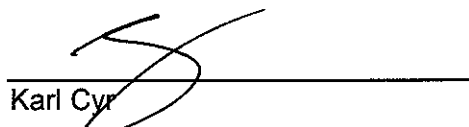
Select Board



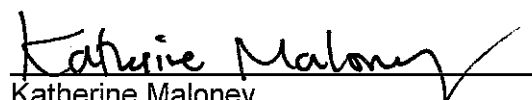
Andrea Berry, Vice Chairperson



Paul Hodgetts



Karl Cyr



Katherine Maloney