



## Questions posed at the Candidates' Night – Thursday June 2 – Regarding the Memorial School Redevelopment Project

The following are responses by Paul (Chip) Metevier to questions asked during the Candidates' Night, June 2. Mr. Metevier was not present due to an error on behalf of the Communication Committee who did not confirm his invitation.

The original responses of the other five candidates can be viewed in a recorded video on the town's website.

### **1. Moderator: You may all make an opening statement.**

I have been a resident here in North Yarmouth since building my house in 1985. My wife and I have always been attracted to the small historical town we call home and the roots that exist here. We participated primarily in activities that revolved around our 4 children as they grew up here. Little league, Girl Scouts and some time helping to develop the recreational aspects here in the town were areas that I volunteered. Both my wife and I were active with church committees. Now that all of my children are grown, married and we have been blessed with grandchildren, I feel its time to give back to this town that has been home for our family. Being semi-retired now, I believe I have the time to devote to a position as important as selectman.

### **2. Moderator: What skills and experience including collaboration do you have that will serve you well if you were elected?**

My skills and experience is primarily in the area of the insurance industry and finances. I graduated from college with my degree in Business Administration and minor in Accounting. Skills I developed in this area provided me a background to manage people, processes and get things accomplished. What substantially prepares me for a role as selectman is over 40 years of experience in the insurance claims industry. Aside from managerial positions I've held during a 33 year career with a major insurance company until consolidations forced me to consider relocation. My family was not willing to move away from our roots here for the sake of a job. I have lots of experience as a property claims adjuster. Technical expertise with building construction (both residential and commercial), heavy equipment , auto repairs and an ability to effectively negotiate a proper resolution on difficult issues. I understand contracts, contract law and am a highly skilled negotiator.

### **3. Linc Merrill: Are you going to support the Wescustogo Grange Association in our plan to re-build our building? In not, why not?**

I strongly support the rebuilding of the Westcustago Grange Hall. Aside from the sense of community that a building like this provided for activities ranging from girl/boy scout meetings, to contra-dances, wedding receptions, and town meetings, functions the grange represented the history of this town in so many ways. From a financial perspective, the

insurance policy through Maine Municipal likely provides added benefits which are only recoverable if we incur rebuilding. If elected and able to review the specifics of the policy pursuant with the 2013 fire loss damage evaluation, I can assure that the Town of North Yarmouth gets everything it may still be entitled to. Since time is of the essence and the policy does generally provide time restraints, I hope its not to late to recover the difference between actual cash value and replacement cost (policy limits). This should be the town's top priority .... To wait further would only jeopardize an ability to recover additional funds.

**4. Moderator: Other than redevelopment, what 2 or 3 most critical issues are facing the town?**

Our town faces a number of critical issues to remain vibrant and responsive to all residents. Our town fathers and the "old blood" that guided this town so very well should never be overlooked. Many wise people and strong families have made this the town we all know and love. We do need to recognize that times continue to change .... Even the definition in today's world of what constitutes a "family" continues to add pressures unforeseen years ago. Without forgetting the roots and history of this town, we also need to be vigilant. This requires fostering community and recognizing the diversity that can be a real asset. Encouraging a sense that "new blood" can come forth with vibrant ideas not only avoids stagnation for the town, it also gives of many of our previous visionaries (elderly) an opportunity to enjoy their great gifts to our town. Community, teamwork and a vision which considers the majority of residents is critical at this point.

**5. Darla Hamlin: Aging in place is important and keeping our taxes as low as possible relates to that. We have no control over the school budget. Have you thought of ideas of how to keep the taxes down?**

Keeping taxes down so that those of this town can continue to age and live here comfortably at home is a primary fiscal responsibility that has and should continue. That means no unnecessary added spending that isn't needed. I watched my previous old towns of Fremont, N.H. and Kittery, Me "price themselves out of the home for its roots residents" because they adopted ideas which those from away (like Massachusetts previous residents who moved to these towns because of high taxes etc.) The result was they got involved with town government and then the excess with street lights, paved walkways, excessive gardens and landmarks all bought about higher taxes. People like me couldn't afford to live there anymore because of the high costs of being a resident. The result .... Leaving ones roots. I'm comforted that our town officials recognize very well the need to be fiscally responsive in what is funded and the reason why. As a selectman (if elected), I would continue to ask the main question before voting on anything that would affect higher axes ..... WHY?

**6. Moderator: development of commercial tax base: Should pursue and if so, how?**

**7. Steve Palmer- All of you said we should have commercial development: will each of you state how you will assist that and where should it occur?**

*(Answer for both 6 and 7)* There are probably around 196 small businesses in town that do support our community. These entrepreneurs both work and live here as residents. If any tax base is looked at to address differences for residential versus commercial, that should be looked at very carefully and diligently. Let's remember that many of our residents also work from home. Is that a basis to consider them commercial .... I would not jump to those conclusions just so higher tax revenue could be "justified". There are much better and more progressive ways to increase tax revenue without taxing the residents. Here's a thought .... Who among us 10 years ago would have ever believed revenue could be derived from selling water and rocks. Consider that the town of North Yarmouth has both. . . Without knowing the specifics, I believe our aquafer supplies water to the Town of Yarmouth?

**8. Moderator – If we project 5 years into the future, what changes do you see and how do you see your part in it?**

9. Moderator- Are you familiar with the FY 17 budget and do you agree or disagree with it? In 5 yrs I would envision that this community would continue to value its history and roots as one of the best places to call home. It would be nice to see that farming, agriculture and recreational advantages are still maintained throughout the character of the town. I personally believe that the historical granite mining character of the town is important as well. Even the steeple landmarks in a simple with historical character, say to me (and everyone) who we are and what we stand for. Wouldn't it be fitting to consider some granite exterior into the Westcustago Grange Building or in conjunction in some way with whatever is eventually decided for the NYMS building. Our town has many exciting opportunities .... We are already well positioned with the course charted already previously by past town fathers. Let's remember our town website that states: "The Town Where Others Began" along with >>> The Tree of Life. I see this as our vision statement which we all can agree upon. There is a "Small Town in Each of Us".

**10. Dixie Hayes- Bottom line for me is your effectiveness is only as good as your interpersonal skills. What would your spouse say are your two best skills and two worse skills? Remember this is about communication.**

My wife (Gay Mettevier) would say my 2 best skills would be a compassionate manner and passion for doing the right thing. I'm accused often for going overboard to help others .....

My worst skills are not always responding to Gay's wants or desires. This is evidenced by an ever growing "honey -dew" list that seems to be getting longer regarding projects around our house to finish. I also have a tendency to go a little overboard when doing something .....

I guess it might be the "French-Tight" in me that says you can do this a little better .... A little tighter if you will. Over the years , though, I have learned that if you try do things too well, the bolt might brake

**11. Anne Sitz- A sense of community, a community spot. Doesn't a gym, sports field, and Grange present a place to go and create a sense of community?**

I believe I have already commented quite a bit about the need for sense of strong community.

**12. Darla Hamlin- Do you think the voters are crazy? (In that they had already voted overwhelmingly to support the current plan and now it seems to be up for another vote.) The moderator altered this question to pose "Do you feel a vote on the prior election truly reflects the sentiment of the town?"**

13. The vote for the current plan was voted upon and I believe strong sentiment resulted because the original proposal included a vision for town sewerage. That was the "deal breaker" in my opinion that caused the overall well thought out vision for the Town of North Yarmouth to be further questioned. I'm in favor of moving forward and considering the best interests of all the residents. It's time to consider the best available options and move forward using the vision and direction already established. It's important to recognize that sometimes by thinking there's a better way and procrastinating for that may result in doing nothing. I would not like to see us get overly caught up in trying to "build a better mousetrap" when we have one that seems to accomplish all the objectives

**14. Each candidate was allowed a closing statement.**

In closing, I am running for selectman in order to make a contribution for the continued betterment of my home. I believe I have the time to devote to such a responsibility as well as the character, technical skills and abilities to represent the interests of the residents of this town. I pledge to do so with the highest degree of integrity. Thank you for considering me as a candidate for selectman.

Best Regards, Paul "Chip" Metevier

# Town of North Yarmouth Fireworks Ordinance

## **Section 1. Title and Authority.**

This ordinance shall be known as the “Town of North Yarmouth Fireworks Ordinance.” It is adopted pursuant to the enabling provisions of the Maine Constitution, the provisions of 30-A M.R.S.A. § 3001, and the provisions of 8 M.R.S.A. § 223-A

## **Section 2. Definitions in accordance with 8 MRSA 221-A, sub 1-A.**

Consumer Fireworks. “Consumer fireworks” has the same meaning as in 27 Code of Federal Regulations, Section 555.11 or subsequent provision, but includes only products that are tested and certified by a 3rd-party testing laboratory as confirming with United States Consumer Product Safety Commission standards, in accordance with 15 United States Code, Chapter 47. “Consumer fireworks” does not include the following products:

A. Missile-type rockets, as defined by the State Fire Marshal by rule;

B. Helicopters and aerial spinners, as defined by the state Fire Marshal by rule; and

C. Sky rockets and bottle rockets. For purposes of this paragraph, “sky rockets and bottle rockets” means cylindrical tubes containing not more than 20 grams of chemical composition, as defined by the State Fire Marshal by rule, with a wooden stick attached for guidance and stability that rise into the air upon ignition and that may produce a burst of color or sound at or near the height of flight.

Fireworks. “Fireworks” means any:

A. Combustible or explosive composition or substance;

B. Combination of explosive compositions or substances;

C. Other article that was prepared for the purpose of producing a visible or audible effect by combustion, explosion, deflagration or detonation, including blank cartridges or toy cannons in which explosives are used, the type of balloon that requires fire underneath to propel it, firecrackers, torpedoes, skyrockets, roman candles, bombs, rockets, wheels, colored fires, fountains, mines, serpents and other fireworks of like construction;

D. Fireworks containing any explosive or flammable compound; or

E. Tablets or other device containing any explosive substance or flammable compounds.

The term “fireworks” does not include consumer fireworks or toy pistols, toy canes, toy guns or other devices in which paper caps or plastic caps containing 25/100 grains or less of explosive compound are used if they are constructed so that the hand cannot come in contact with the cap when in place for the explosion, toy pistol paper caps or plastic caps that contain less than 20/100 grains of explosive mixture, sparklers that do not contain magnesium chlorates or perchlorates or signal, antique or replica cannons if no projectile is fired.

## **Section 3. Sales Prohibited.**

No person or group may sell, possess with the intent to sell or offer for sale consumer fireworks or fireworks.

## **Section 4. Use Prohibited.**

No person or group of persons shall use, display, fire or cause to be exploded fireworks or any of said items enumerated in Section 38-101 “Consumer Fireworks.”

## **Section 5. Fireworks Display.**

A fireworks display requires a permit from the Maine Commissioner of Public Safety or his or her designee under the provisions of 8 M.R.S.A. §§ 221 – 237, and particularly section 227-A. The Fire Chief, or his or her designee, shall inspect the proposed display site at the time of the inspection conducted by a representative of the Maine Public Safety Department under 8 M.R.S.A. § 227-A(2).

### **Section 6. Use Prohibited Within Fifty Feet of Public Way.**

No person shall use, display, throw, drop or cause to be discharged or exploded, any consumer fireworks or fireworks at any time, within fifty feet of any public way.

### **Section 7. Civil Penalties.**

Whoever violates any of the provisions of the foregoing Sections shall be subject to a civil penalty of not less than one hundred dollars (\$100) per day and not more than twenty-five hundred dollars (\$2,500) per day, plus attorney's fees and costs.

## **Safe Disposal of Household Medical Sharps**

Each year, thousands of Mainers use millions of syringes, pen needles and lancets or “sharps” to control medical conditions like diabetes, arthritis and allergies. Stockpiling used sharps in the home or improper disposal by throwing them in the trash or flushing them down the toilet puts you and your family, janitorial and solid waste staff, and the general public at risk for accidental and painful needle sticks that can lead to infection, tetanus and transmission of diseases.

**If you or a loved one use sharps at home, you are allowed under Maine law to dispose of them in your household trash if you take the proper precautions to secure and label the container before doing so.**

### **Homemade Household Sharps Containers**



Make your own sharps container using a heavy puncture-proof plastic bottle – like for laundry detergent. Place sharps in the bottle and when it's full, seal it with the cap and heavy-duty tape, mark “Do Not Recycle” and simply place in your household trash.

There are also products for sale – usually at your local pharmacy – that make containment convenient and that can be thrown away in your regular trash when full.

### **Needle Clipping Devices**



Devices that clip the needle off a syringe allow you to throw the remaining piece in your household trash. When the device is full, wrap it in heavy-duty tape and throw in the trash too.

**Maine Residents:** [Request a free needle clipping device](#), courtesy of the Maine Department of Environmental Protection, Becton, Dickinson and Company, and Rite Aid Pharmacy.

### **Designated Sharps Containers**



Rigid home sharps containers with locking lids may be placed in your household trash when full. While these containers may be available for purchase at your local pharmacy, some manufacturers may also provide them free of charge through patient support programs.

### **Mail-Back Sharps Containers/Envelopes**



Pre-paid mail-back containers or envelopes, available for purchase at your



Pre-paid mail-back containers or envelopes, available for purchase at your local pharmacy, are designed to be filled and mailed back to the manufacturer or manufacturer's disposal partner for proper disposal.

### **Hospital Disposal**

Some hospitals may accept used household sharps and dispose of them as part of their waste stream. Contact the Environmental Services Department at your local hospital for more information.

### **When You Are Away From Home**

All Maine Turnpike Authority rest stops, some Maine airports and some retail stores have sharps disposal boxes for use while you are away from home.

### **Please Do...**

- Clip needles with a proper device OR
- Place sharps in proper containers
- Label containers "DO NOT RECYCLE"
- Use heavy-duty tape to secure container lids

### **Please Do Not...**

- Throw loose sharps into the trash or toilet
- Leave sharps anywhere they could injure someone
- Put containers of used sharps in with recycling
- Store used sharps in glass bottles, soda bottles, milk jugs, aluminum cans, coffee cans, or plastic bags

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[MSAD 51](#)

[Skyline Farm](#)

[Casco Bay CAN](#)

[Cooperative Extension](#)

[Lyme Disease Support Group](#)

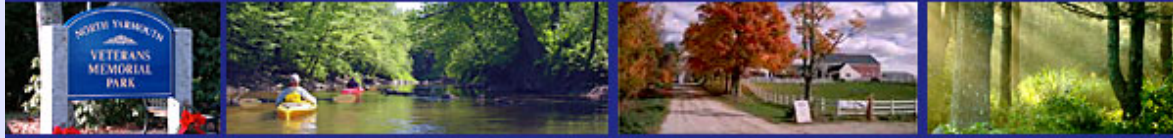
[MSAD 51 Ranger Connection](#)

[Prince Memorial Library](#)

[Royal River Conservation Trust](#)

[North Yarmouth Historical Society](#)

## Cumberland/North Yarmouth Recreation



### Town News & Information

[<< www.northyarmouth.org >>](http://www.northyarmouth.org)

Looking for a meeting date? Click here. [Meeting Calendar >>](#)

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### Online Services

Dog Licenses



Hunting and  
Fishing Licenses



Vehicle & Trailer  
Registration  
Renewals



Burning Permits



Snowmobile  
Registration  
Renewals



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