

Justin Paré, President
John Simmons, Vice President
Daniel Donovan
Mark Gould, Jr.
Darius Gregory



Kathleen Prescott
Patrick Reynolds
Andrew Shanahan
Andrea Slobogan

Town of North Attleborough
TOWN COUNCIL
43 South Washington Street, North Attleborough, MA 02760
Phone: (508) 699-0100

3/13/2023 - Minutes

I. Pledge Of Allegiance

President Paré called the meeting to order at 7:01 P.M. and lead the Council and the audience in the pledge of allegiance.

Members Present:

Justin Paré
John Simmons
Mark Gould
Darius Gregory
Andy Shanahan
Daniel Donovan
Andrea Slobogan

Members Absent:

Patrick Reynolds
Kathleen Prescott

Staff Present:

Town Manager Mike Borg
Assistant Town Manager Antonio Morabito III
Fire Chief Chris Coleman

Invited Guests:

Firefighter Richard Burns

Residents Present:

Holly Pelletier of Mount Hope Street
Charlie Limoges of 63 Laurel Wood Drive

Documents Reviewed:

- Minutes from the February 27, 2023 Meeting
- Town Council Executive Session Minutes of February 13, 2023
- Town Council Executive Session Minutes of February 27, 2023
- Town Manager's Report March 13, 2023 Letter from Oakcrest Village Homeowners

Realty Trust

- Measure 2023-042- Confirmation of Appointment of Charnita McClain to the Cultural Council
- Measure 2023-041- Approval of Transfer of \$125,000.00 from Capital Improvement Stabilization for North Attleboro Fire Station Feasibility Study
- Measure 2023-043- Approval of Request for the Transfer of \$9,500.00 for an FY22 Invoice for Weights & Measures.
- Measure 2023-044- Authorization of Payment for the FY22 EMT Stipend Pay out of the FY23 Budget

II. Approval Of Minutes

- a. Approval of Town Council Minutes of February 13, 20223

Vice-President Simmons moved to approve the Town Council Meeting Minutes of February 27, 2023.

Councilor Gould seconded the motion.

Motion carried 4-0-3.

- b. Approval of Town Council Executive Session Minutes of February 27, 2023

Vice-President Simmons moved to approve the Town Council Executive Session Meeting Minutes of February 27, 2023. Minutes to be approved only, and not released.

Councilor Gould seconded the motion.

Motion carried 4-0-3.

- c. Approval of Town Council Executive Session Minutes of February 13, 2023

Vice-President Simmons moved to approve the Town Council Executive Session Meeting Minutes of February 13, 2023. Minutes to be approved only, and not released.

Councilor Gould seconded the motion.

Motion carried 7-0. UNANIMOUS

III. Town Councilor Community Announcements

- Councilor Donovan reported that he was honored to be asked read to the kindergarteners at Roosevelt School last week. Roosevelt had their Reading Week themed "Bringing Communities Together. "
- President Pare' was also asked to read to the students. He read to the Third Graders. The Councilors were happy to have been part of their event.
- President Pare' reported that he spoke with Electric Commissioner Craig Cameron and he shared his long-term vision at NAED. President Pare' thanked Mr. Cameron for his great creativity and helping the Town both financially and productively.

IV. Town Manager Report

Town Manager Michael Borg gave an overview of the Town Manager Report. Items he reviewed included:

- Emergency Management -Updates
- Communications-Updates
- Operations-Updates
- Budget-Updates
- Personnel-Updates

Chief Coleman and Firefighter Richard Burns were both in attendance. Chief Coleman wanted to recognize and congratulate Firefighter Burns on receiving the Christopher Cornetta Award.

CHRIS CORNETTA AWARD 2022

The Firefighter Christopher Cornetta award is an award that is presented to a firefighter who has gone above and beyond his/her normal duties with the North Attleboro Fire Department and who instills the values that Firefighter Chris Cornetta set each day he reported to work.

Chief Coleman stated that Firefighter Burns goes above and beyond all the time and is very deserving of this award. Besides being a Firefighter he also handles all of the uniforms and badges, is the point person for the Honor Guard, and is on the Funeral Committee.

Fire Chief Coleman, Town Manager Borg, and the Town Council all congratulated him on receiving this award.

There was discussion regarding Outdoor Dining, mentioned in the Town Manager Report. Andrew Shanahan made a motion for an Outdoor Dining By-Law. Outdoor Dining will be referred to the By-Law Sub-Committee and then Economic Development, then vetted through other Departments.

Councilor Gould seconded the motion.

Motion carried 7-0. UNANIMOUS

President Pare' stated that he would like Councilor Prescott to review the "K.P. Law Handout" at the next Rules Sub-Committee Meeting.

V. Resident And Community Comment

a. Resident Holly Pelletier was in attendance and addressed the Council. She was requesting that the moratorium on hens be lifted. She explained that many residents would like to have chickens in their yards, and the BOH put a moratorium on putting in new chicken coops because of the rat problem in Town. She requested that the Town look into this and reassess the moratorium on not granting Special Permits at this time. This moratorium is expected to expire in August 2023. Ms. Pelletier would like it lifted as soon as possible so that she can have backyard hens.

Vice-President Simmons suggested that Ms. Pelletier reach out to the Board of Health, as this would be the first step. He thanked her for coming to the meeting and expressing her concerns.

b. Resident Charlie Linoges was in attendance and addressed the Council. He read a letter from the Oakcrest Village Homeowners Association into the record. The letter expressed the concerns of the homeowners of Laurelwood Drive during Kids Day. They are requesting that the Town direct the NAPD to control parking on Laurelwood Drive to allow for passage of emergency vehicles if necessary.

Town Manager Borg stated that this issue would be addressed through the Special Events Working Group. The Kids Day Association will be made aware of this situation when they apply for their permit.

VI. Confirmations

- a. Measure 2023-042- Confirmation of Appointment of Charnita McClain to the Cultural Council

Town Manager Borg explained that an interview with Charnita McClain of 206 East Street, North Attleborough was completed with him to serve on the Cultural Council. After a favorable interview, Town Manager Borg recommend her for appointment to the Council.

Therefore, he respectfully requested the Town Council confirm the appointment of Charnita McClain as a member of the Cultural Council. Her term will expire on June 30, 2026.

Vice-President Simmons made a motion to approve Measure 2023-042-Confirmation of Appointment of Charnita McClain to the Cultural Council. Term to expire on 6/30/2023.

Councilor Gould seconded the motion.

Motion carried 7-0. UNANIMOUS

VII. Public Hearing

VIII. Sub-Committee Reports

- a. Finance
 - i. Measure 2023-041- Approval of Transfer of \$125,000.00 from Capital Improvement Stabilization for North Attleboro Fire Station Feasibility Study

Purpose and Justification:

To see if the Town will vote to transfer from Capital Improvement Stabilization Funds, the amount of \$125,000.00 to be expended under the direction of the North Attleborough Town Manager, to be approved by the Town Council, for the feasibility study for the North Attleborough Fire Station (currently located 50 Elm Street, North Attleborough, MA.) to be constructed at a new location.

Town Manager Borg explained this measure to the Committee. He requested that the Town Council vote in favor of transferring the amount of \$125,000.00 from the Capital Improvement Stabilization Funds for a Feasibility Study for a new Fire Station. Conducting this study would be the first step of the process.

Vice-President Simmons reviewed this measure and reported what was discussed at the Finance Sub-Committee Meeting. This He explained that a new Fire Station would be a great asset for the community as well as the firefighters. Chief Coleman also stated that they were looking into building a Training Tower as a part of the new Facility. He explained that currently North Attleboro, Stoughton, Swansea and Norfolk all go to Fall River for their "Live Burn" Training Sessions. If North Attleboro had their own Training Tower, the Town could save money on the out-of town training sessions and could also collect a fee from neighboring towns who would also use the facility for their training sessions as well. Chief Coleman explained that a Request for Qualifications was conducted, and the most qualified bidder was selected and then a

price was negotiated upon. Dore & Whittier was the company selected to conduct the feasibility study. They were used by many surrounding towns, and they are highly recommended and very qualified in Feasibility Studies for Fire Stations. The Study will include:

- Finding a location that is the right location for the community and the Fire Department.
- Look at the 3.5 acres of land on Landry Ave. that is owned by the Town.
- Look at optimal response times.
- Detailed report on location.
- Deliverables
- Cost will be determined.
- The Feasibility Study will take about 6 months to complete.
- At the end of the study, we will have conceptual plans.

Vice-President Simmons reported that this measure was before the Finance Sub-Committee on March 8, 2023 and was voted back to the Full Town Council with a favorable recommendation, Vote 6-0.

Chief Coleman was in attendance to answer any questions that the Sub-Committee may have had.

Vice-President Simmons made a motion to approve Measure 2023-041- Approval of Transfer of \$125,000.00 from Capital Improvement Stabilization for North Attleboro Fire Station Feasibility Study.

Councilor Gould seconded the motion.

Roll Call:

Councilor Slobogan- I
Councilor Shanahan- I
Councilor Gregory- I
Vice-President Simmons- I
President Pare'- I
Councilor Gould- I
Councilor Donovan- I

Motion carried 7-0. UNANIMOUS

- ii. Measure 2023-043- Approval of Request for the Transfer of \$9,500.00 for an FY22 Invoice for Weights & Measures.

Purpose & Justification:

The Department of Standards from the State of Massachusetts has performed the Weights & Measures Sealer functions for the Town. The State informed the town that they are no longer able to perform these functions as of June 30, 2022. The FY23 funds budgeted in the Contracted Services Account to pay for these FY22 services were used to compensate the FY23 contract for the contractor, Kevin Duquette, who has been appointed as the Town Sealer of Weights & Measures.

It is requested that the amount of \$9,500.00 be transferred from the Boiler Fuel Allen Avenue Account 011929-521300 to the Contracted Services Fund 012469-530010. There is currently \$20,000.00 in the Boiler Fuel Allen Avenue Account and \$00.00 in the Contracted Services Account. The total amount needed for Invoice

#2023DOSCONFEEEDOS2338 is \$9,500.00.

Vice-President Simmons reported that the Finance SubCommittee reviewed this measure at the March 8, 2023 Meeting.

He explained that because this invoice was not received until FY23 and services were rendered in FY22 that it crossed fiscal years and therefore it required Town Council Approval. This measure was referred back to the Full Town from the Finance

Sub-Committee with a favorable recommendation. The vote was 6-0.

Vice-President Simmons made a motion to approve Measure 2023-043- Approval of Request for the Transfer of \$9,500.00 for an FY22 Invoice for Weights & Measures.

Councilor Gould seconded the motion.

Motion carried 7-0. UNANIMOUS

b. Economic Growth & Sustainability

Nothing to report at this time.

c. By-Law

d. Rules

Nothing to report at this time.

e. School Committee Representative

Nothing to report at this time.

f. Communication, Public Participation, & Engagement

Councilor Slobogan reported that they met on March 1, 2023 at 6:00PM and it was a very informative and productive meeting. I.T. Director Keith Mueller, Customer Service Representative Chanelle Sae-Eaw, and North T.V. Director were all in attendance and spoke with the Committee.

g. Local Emergency Planning

Nothing to report at this time.

IX. Old Business

None at this time.

X. New Business

a. Measure 2023-044- Authorization of Payment for the FY22 EMT Stipend Pay out of the FY23 Budget

Purpose & Justification:

Per the firefighters' contract, EMT Tech. Stipends are paid on or before June 15th of each year. Two of the newer firefighters that began working at the Fire Department in January were not paid a Pro-rated stipend of \$1,885.75 each. The oversight occurred due to the hiring time, when they went on the salary and wage sheet and the two firefighters did not believe they were eligible.

The money to cover this is currently in the EMT Tech Stipends line.

It was requested that the Town Council approve the payment of prior year FY22 stipend payout totaling \$3,771.48. Town Manager Borg explained that Chief Coleman can pay this amount from his current budget. He asked that this item be voted off the floor.

Vice-President Simmons made a motion to approve Measure 2023-044-Authorization of Payment for the FY22 EMT Stipend Pay out of the FY23 Budget.

Councilor Gould seconded the motion.

Motion carried 7-0. UNANIMOUS

XI. Executive Session

- a. M.G.L. c.30A, Sec.21(a), Sec.6- To consider the purchase, exchange, lease, or value of real estate, if the chair declares that an open meeting may have a detrimental effect on the negotiating position of the public body.

President Pare' announced that the Council would be entering into Executive Session at 7:57PM and would not be returning back into Open Session. They would be adjourning right from Executive Session.

Vice-President Simmons made a motion to go into Executive Session.

Councilor Gould seconded the motion.

Roll Call:

Councilor Slobogan- I
Councilor Shanahan- I
Councilor Gregory- I
Vice-President Simmons- I
President Pare'- I
Councilor Gould- I
Councilor Donovan- I

Motion carried 7-0. UNANIMOUS

XII. Adjournment