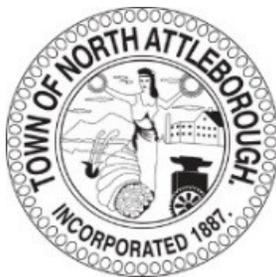


Justin Paré, President  
John Simmons, Vice President  
Daniel Donovan  
Mark Gould, Jr.



Darius Gregory  
Kathleen Prescott  
Patrick Reynolds  
Andrew Shanahan  
Andrea Slobogan

Town of North Attleborough  
**TOWN COUNCIL**

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**MINUTES**  
**TOWN COUNCIL MEETING**  
**TOWN HALL LOWER-LEVEL CONFERENCE ROOM**  
**43 SOUTH WASHINGTON STREET**  
**JANUARY 30, at 7:00 PM**

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**1. PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE**

President Paré called the meeting to order at 7:02 P.M. and lead the Council and the audience in the pledge of allegiance.

**Members Present:**

Justin Paré  
John Simmons  
Patrick Reynolds  
Darius Gregory  
Mark Gould  
Kathleen Prescott  
Andy Shanahan  
Daniel Donovan  
Andrea Slobogan

**Members Absent:**

**Staff Present:**

Town Manager Mike Borg  
Assistant Town Manager Antonio Morabito III  
Town Accountant Linda Catanzariti  
Treasurer/Tax Collector Chris Sweet  
Elections Coordinator Pat Dolan  
Council on Aging Director Pam Hunt  
Park & Recreation Director Steve Carvalho  
Schools Superintendent Dr. John Antonucci

**Invited Guests:**

Kevin O'Donnell  
Lisa Bladen Pollack

**Residents Present:**

Members of the Senior Center

**Documents Reviewed:**

- Minutes from the January 18, 2023 Meeting
- Town Manager’s Report January 30, 2023
- Measure 2023-035- Confirmation of Appointment of Kevin O’Donnell to the Town Forest Committee
- Measure 2023-036- Confirmation of Appointment of Lisa Bladen Pollack to the Elections Commission
- Measure 2023-032- Approval of Transfer of Funds from FY23 Free Cash for a Big Red Bus
- Measure 2023-009- Allocation of \$100,000.00 of ARPA Funds for Formation of NA Business Initiative
- Measure 2023-030- Approval of Transfer of Funds to the School Building Committee for the MSBA Feasibility Study
- Measure 2023-034- Approval of Transfer of Free Cash for Constructing Roadway for Boulter Farm Cleanup

**II. APPROVAL OF MINUTES**

- a. Approval of Town Council Minutes of January 18, 2023.

Vice President Simmons moved to approve the Town Council Meeting Minutes of January 18, 2023.

Councilor Prescott seconded the motion.

**Motion carried 8-0-1.**

- b. Approval of Executive Session Minutes of January 18, 2023.

Vice President Simmons moved to approve the Town Council Meeting Minutes of January 18, 2023.

Councilor Prescott seconded the motion.

**Motion carried 8-0-1.**

**III. TOWN COUNCILOR COMMUNITY ANNOUNCEMENTS**

- Thoughts and prayers go out to Leo Larocque, a boy in North Attleboro who has been battling cancer. – There is a Go-Fund-Me Page “LEO Stronger” on Facebook. Please think about donating to this cause.

**IV. TOWN MANAGER’S REPORT**

- a. 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

## V. RESIDENT AND COMMUNITY COMMENT

- None at this time

## VI. CONFIRMATIONS

- a. Measure 2023-035- Confirmation of Appointment of Kevin O'Donnell to the Town Forest Committee

Town Manager Borg explained that an interview Kevin O'Donnell of 294 South Washington Street , North Attleborough was completed to serve on the Town Forest Committee. After a favorable interview, he was recommended for appointment to the Committee.

The Town Manager respectfully requested the Town Council confirm the appointment of Kevin O'Donnell as a member of the Town Forest Committee. His Term will expire on June 30, 2025.

Mr. O'Donnell expressed his thanks to the Town Manager and the Council for allowing him to serve his community and is excited for the opportunity to give back to the Community.

Vice-President Simmons made a motion to approve Measure 2023-035- Confirmation of Appointment of Kevin O'Donnell to the Town Forest Committee. His term to expire on June 30, 2025.

Councilor Prescott seconded the motion.

**Motion carried 9-0. UNANIMOUS**

- b. Measure 2023-036- Confirmation of Appointment of Lisa Bladen Pollack to the Elections Commission

An interview with Lisa Bladen Pollack of 60 Wild Acres Road, North Attleborough was completed with the Town Manager to serve on the Elections Commission. After a favorable interview, she was recommended for appointment to the Commission.

The Town Manager respectfully requested that the Town Council confirm the appointment of Lisa Bladen Pollack as a member of the Elections Commission. Her Term will expire on June 30, 2025.

Vice-President Simmons made a motion to approve Measure 2023-036- Confirmation of Appointment of Lisa Bladen Pollack to the Elections Commission. Term to expire on 6/30/2025.

Councilor Prescott seconded the motion.

**Motion carried 9-0. UNANIMOUS**

## **VIII. SUB-COMMITTEE REPORTS**

### a. Finance

- i. Measure 2023-032- Approval of Transfer of Funds from FY23 Free Cash for a Big Red Bus

**Purpose and Justification:**

Request for a Transfer from FY23 Free Cash for the purchase of a Big Red Bus for the Town of North Attleboro

Town of North Attleboro received a grant in the amount of \$50,000.00 from the Massachusetts Department of Transportation from State Representative Adam Scanlon's Office. \$50,000 was appropriated to help purchase a bus for the community. The cost of a 2022 twenty-two passenger bus with wheelchair capability is \$155,00.00 delivered to North Attleboro (this includes approximately \$10,000 to wrap it). The grant funds need to be sent by June of this year.

Amount for Bus:	\$155,000.00
To Wrap the Bus:	\$10,000.00
Bus Total:	\$165,00.00

Grant from Mass DOT \$50,000.00  
Balance to be funded from FY23 Free Cash- \$115,000.00

Vice-President Simmons gave a summary of this measure that the Finance Sub-Committee met on and discussed on January 26, 2023.

- This bus would be a Multi-Departmental Bus servicing Veterans, Seniors, Park and Recreation Program Participants, and various departments such as the School Department.
- This bus is not a replacement for GATRA. Would not run on a circular route.
- Is handicapped accessible.
- Does require a COL Operator License
- DPW will provide maintenance for the vehicle.
- Between the Seniors and Park & Recreation, they will provide a driver.
- Will help the community support our Veterans and Seniors.
- Can take Veterans to the VA Hospital on scheduled days.

- Seniors can go on field trips into Boston, to the beach, art museums, and walking trails.
- Bus will reside at Park and Recreation for the time being.
- Bus will be wrapped to celebrate our community.
- Park and Recreation Director Steve Carvalho was in attendance to explain to the Committee just how important this bus will be to the community and answer any questions the Committee may have had. He explained the history of the “Old Big Red Bus” and that when it broke down it had never been replaced. It was used by the Seniors and Park & Recreation. The new bus will be smaller than Big Red, but much better because it is handicapped accessible/ AD compliant. The community is in desperate need for this bus.
- There were seniors in attendance speaking on behalf of all of the members of the Senior Center and how much they would love and utilize this bus. By having a bus:
  - Seniors can travel in a group.
  - Safety Issue by eliminating an additional 22 cars on the road, they can all go in one bus.
  - JABA walkers will use this bus to travel to different walking trails out of Town.
  - Seniors would be able to attend many more events.
  - There was discussion amongst the Committee, and they were all in agreement that this bus would be great for the entire community as well as the seniors. The Town will not just be giving something to the seniors but rather giving something back to them that they had already had.

There was a motion made to refer to the Full Town Council with a favorable recommendation. The vote was 4-0. UNANIMOUS

Vice-President Simmons made a motion to vote in favor of Measure 2023-032- Approval of Transfer of Funds from Fy23 Free Cash for a Big Red Bus.

Councilor Prescott seconded the motion.

**Motion carried 9-0. UNANIMOUS**

b. Economic Growth & Sustainability

- i. UPDATE on Measure 2023-009-Allocation of \$100,000.00 of ARPA Funds for Formation of NA Business Initiative By-Law

Councilor Gregory gave an update on this measure. The Committee had just met on this measure at 6:00PM before this Town Council Meeting on 1/30/2023. Councilor Gregory reported that Town Manager Borg laid out the framework for this

initiative, it was very detailed and thorough. In addition to the \$100,000.00, Senator Feeney earmarked an additional \$150,000.00 for this initiative. This measure will need to be revisited, deliberated, and more detail and information will be needed before a decision can be made.

c. Rules

Nothing to report at this time.

d. School Committee Representative

President Pare'

e. Communication, Public Participation, and Engagement

Nothing to report at this time.

f. Local Emergency Planning

Nothing to report at this time.

**IX. OLD BUSINESS**

None at this time

**X. NEW BUSINESS**

a. Measure 2023-030- Approval of Transfer of Funds to the School Building Committee for the MSBA Feasibility Study

To see if the Town will vote to appropriate Two Million (\$2,000,000.00) Dollars for the MSBA Feasibility Study.

**Purpose and Justification:**

Attachment A

ARTICLE

To see if the Town will vote to appropriate, borrow or transfer from available funds, an amount of money to be expended under the direction of the North Attleborough High School Building Committee for the feasibility study for North Attleborough High School, 1 Wilson Witty Way, North Attleborough, MA, for which the Town may be eligible for a grant from the Massachusetts School Building Authority. The MSBA's grant program is a non-entitlement, discretionary program based on need, as determined by the MSBA, and any costs the Town incurs in connection with the feasibility study in excess of any grant approved by and received from the MSBA shall be the sole responsibility of the Town.

## MOTION/VOTE/ORDER

That the Town of North Attleborough appropriate the amount of Two Million (\$2,000,000) Dollars for the purpose of paying costs of the feasibility study for North Attleborough High School, 1 Wilson Witty Way, North Attleborough, MA, including the payment of all costs incidental or related thereto, and for which North Attleborough may be eligible for a grant from the Massachusetts School Building Authority ("MSBA"), said amount to be expended under the direction of the North Attleborough High School Building Committee. To meet this appropriation the sum of One Million Dollars (\$1,000,000) Dollars will be transferred from the Capital Improvement Stabilization Fund and the sum of One Million Dollars (\$1,000,000) will be transferred from Fiscal Year 2023 Free Cash. The Town of North Attleborough acknowledges that the MSBA's grant program is a non-entitlement, discretionary program based on need, as determined by the MSBA, and any costs the Town of North Attleborough incurs in excess of any grant approved by and received from the MSBA shall be the sole responsibility of the Town of North Attleborough.

\$1 Million from the Capital Stabilization Fund. This requires a 2/3 majority.

\$1 Million from FY23 Free Cash.

Town Manager Borg requested that this measure be referred to the Finance Sub-Committee for further discussion and deliberation. Mr. Borg told the councilors that half of the \$2 million will be allocated from the Town's Capital Stabilization Fund while the remaining monies will come from FY23 Free Cash. Town Manager Borg stated that this is the next step for many on this council and this town to refurbish, renovate, or rebuild our High School and this will start the Feasibility Study for our High School.

Schools Superintendent John Antonucci was in attendance to answer any questions that the Council may have had. Dr. Antonucci said that this is one of the most exciting things that he has been working on and it will be incredible for the community too. Dr. Antonucci thanked the Council for their consideration and explained that it will be incredible for the community. Dr. Antonucci said that the \$2 million was an estimated amount based on past projects the MSBA shared with the district. While the exact price is not known, the superintendent said the current amount of funds was reasonable. He said that the number comes from past projects that the MSBA shared with us, there was a big range.

Councilor Gould said he will be asking why a study under \$1 million could not be done. He is in support of a feasibility study, but he will be listening carefully as to why it can't be done under \$1 million dollars.

Vice-President Simmons made a motion to refer Measure 2023-030- Transfer of Funds to the School Building Committee for the MSBA Feasibility Study to the Finance Sub-Committee for further deliberation.

Councilor Prescott seconded the motion.

**Motion carried 9-0.**

- b. Measure 2023-034- Approval of Transfer of Free Cash for Constructing Roadway for Boulter Farm Cleanup

Purpose and Justification:

The Director of Public Works, through the Town Manager, is requesting a transfer in the amount of \$30,000 to the Highway Division Regular Overtime Budget 014228-513000 for the purpose of assisting in providing matching funds of \$125,000 in support of an EPA funded grant of \$500,000 to clean up the Town-owned Boulter Farm contamination site.

Town Manager requested that this measure be referred to the Finance Subcommittee for further discussion.

Vice-President John Simmons made a motion to refer Measure 2023-034- Approval of Transfer of Free Cash for Construction a roadway in support of an EPA Funded Cleanup for Boulter Farm.

Councilor Prescott seconded the motion.

**Motion carried. 9-0. UNAMIOUS**

## **XI. ADJOURNMENT**

Vice-President Simmons made a motion to adjourn.

Councilor Prescott seconded the motion.

**Motion carried 9-0.**