

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



Darius Gregory
Andrew Shanahan
Andrea Slobogan
Patricia St. Pierre

Town of North Attleborough

TOWN COUNCIL

43 South Washington Street, North Attleborough, MA 02760

Phone: (508) 699-0100

3/25/2024 - Minutes

I. Pledge Of Allegiance

President Pare' called the meeting to order at 7:00 P.M. and led the Town Council in the Pledge of Allegiance.

Town Council Members Present:

Justin Paré President

John Simmons Vice President

Daniel Donovan

Mark Gould

Pat St. Pierre

John Costello

Andrew Shanahan

Andrea Slobogan

Members Absent:

Darius Gregory

Staff Present:

Town Manager Mike Borg

Assistant Town Manager Antonio Morabito

Treasurer/Tax Collector Chris Sweet

Town Accountant Linda Catanzariti

Public Buildings & Facilities Director Tim Chouinard

Public Buildings & Facilities Director Ernie Sandland

Residents Present:

Kevin McCarthy chair of the Cultural Council

John Casey resident in support of Boad/Commission/Committee Stipends

Lisa Champaign of North Attleboro Junior Football

Julie Lapointe of North Attleboro Junior Football

Documents Reviewed:

- Town Council Minutes of March 11, 2024
- Measure 2024-072- Authorization to approve a New Request for Bid Sale of Real Property for the parcels of land only located at both 35 Johnson St. and 35 Whiting St.
- Measure 2024-073- To Authorize the transfer of \$50,000.00 from the Public Buildings Full Time Salaries Account to Town Attorney Account
- Measure 2024-064- That the Town Council amend the North Attleborough Zoning Bylaws, Chapter 290, Section 54, Schedule B, Principal use Agriculture #5 Commercial Stables, Kennels... and Selected words and terms; Animal Kennel, or Hospital.
- Measure 2024-065- To See if the Town Council will vote to amend the North Attleborough Bylaws, Chapter 108, Animals.
- Measure 2024-020- Approval to Establish Regular Scheduled Town Council Sub-Committee Meetings
- Measure 2024-075- Rescind Borrowing Authorization - High School Outdoor Athletic Complex \$2.5 mm & Townwide Telephone System Upgrade \$500,000.00
- Measure 2024-082- Repurpose \$1.1 MM of the HS Athletic Complex Borrowing for the Amvet Roof Project
- Measure 2024-077- Authorization to re-purpose \$30,000.00, previously authorized from FY24 Free Cash for the Hazard Mitigation Plan Review, for the Fire Station Feasibility Study CIP Project
- Measure 2024-078- Authorization to begin the negotiation process with the current owners of the Webster Mill Property
- Measure 2024-079- Approval to transfer funds from the Reserve Fund to the Public Buildings Fund for the demolition of the Webster Mill Property in the amount of \$72,562.31.
- Measure 2024-080- Authorization to Transfer \$5,000.00 from ARPA Funds to the Downtown North Attleborough Collaborative to support Police Details at the Annual Downtown Block Party
- Measure 2024-085- Approval of \$44,000.00 to be funded by NEU ARPA Funds in support of the Public/Private Partnership with North Attleborough Junior Football to

replace the scoreboard at Community Field.

II. Approval Of Minutes

a. Minutes of the March 11, 2024 Town Council Meeting

Approval of Town Council Minutes of March 11, 2024

Vice-President Simmons made a motion to approve the March 11, 2024, Minutes.

Councilor Slobogan seconded the motion.

Motion carried 8-0.

III. Town Councilor Community Announcements

- Councilor Donovan thanked the Town Manager and Assistant Town Manager for the Tour of 451 Elm Street, the future home of Lenore's Pantry, Senior Center and other departments. This building will be a hug asset for the Town!

- Councilor Gould thanked NAFD for fighting the fire that occurred on Falls Pond today. We are very grateful for their service.

IV. Town Manager's 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

Mr. John Casey was in attendance to report to the Town Council of why Stipends for Boards, Committees, and Commissions should be reinstated. He gave a brief history of stipends and why they had been taken away.

Vice-President Simmons made a motion to refer a discussion of reinstating Stipends for Boards, Committees, and Commissions to the Finance Sub-Committee Meeting for further discussion and review.

Councilor Donovan seconded the motion.

Motion carried 8-0.

V. Resident And Community Comment

- Mr. Kevin McCarthy Chair of the Cultural Council was in attendance to address the Town Council. He stated that Boy Scout Troop 23 was part of a Food Drive in collaboration with the YMCA. This Food Drive collection is on Saturday, March 30, 2024. He asked for the Communities support in this effort. Residents can make food donations by hanging bags on their doors and the Boy Scouts will come to your home and pick them up. Donations can also be dropped off to Angle Tree Brewery on Saturday, March 30, 2024. Please reach out to Troop 23 for more information.

VI. Confirmations

- a. None at this time.

VII. Sub-Committee Reports

- a. Finance

- i. Measure 2024-072-Authorization to approve a New Request for Bid Sale of Real Property for the parcels of land only, located at both 35 Johnson St. and 35 Whiting St.

Measure 2024-072-Authorization to approve a New Request for Bid Sale of Real Property for the parcels of land only located at both 35 Johnson St. and 35 Whiting Street.

On April 28, 2023, bids were solicited for two properties, but all offers received fell short of expectations. The 2023 assessed valuation of 35 Whiting Street stood at \$223,800, and that of 35 Johnson Street was \$308,000, representing the minimum amounts the Town was willing to accept. Due to the inadequacy of the bids, they were consequently declined.

Given the declining state of the houses on these properties, I propose selling the parcels for no less than 90% of the land's assessed value.

35 Whiting Street

2024 Total Assessed Value \$243,400.00

Land-only Assessed Value \$ 113,800.00

90% of Land-only Assessed Value = \$102,420.00

35 Johnson Street

2024 Total Assessed Value \$330,200.00

Land-only Assessed Value \$144,600.00

90% of Land-only Assessed Value = \$130,140.00

I respectfully request the Town Council approve this measure allowing the Town Manager to initiate a new bidding process for the sale of real property situated at 35 Johnson Street and 35 Whiting Street. The bids should start at a minimum of 90% of their appraised land values.

Vice-President Simmons reported that this measure was discussed at the March 20, 2024 Finance Sub-Committee Meeting. Topics of discussion included: Houses on each of the properties are in such disrepair that they will need to be torn down; Whoever wins the bid, would be responsible for the demolition of the building; and Once sold, then both of the properties can go back on the tax rolls. This measure was referred back to the Full Town Council Meeting with a favorable recommendation 5-0.

Vice-President Simmons made a motion to approve Measure 2024-072-Authorization to approve a New Request for Bid Sale of Real Property for the parcels of land only located at both 35 Johnson St. and 35 Whiting Street.

Councilor Slobogan seconded the motion.

Motion carried 8-0.

- ii. Measure 2024-073-To Authorize the transfer of \$50,000.00 from the Public Buildings Full Time Salaries Account to the Town Attorney Account

Measure 2024-073- To Authorize the transfer of \$50,000.00 from the Public Buildings Full Time Salaries Account to Town Attorney Account

It is requested that the Town Council approve the transfer of \$50,000.00 from the Public Buildings Full-Time Salaries Account (011928-511000). \$25,000.00 will be transferred to the Legal Services Account (011519-530003) and \$25,000.00 will be transferred to the Labor Relations Account (011519-530004).

The balances in each of these accounts is almost zero and will need to be replenished to pay anticipated future invoices for Legal Services and Labor Relation Services rendered.

Vice-President Simmons reported that this measure was discussed at the March 20, 2024 Finance Sub-Committee Meeting. At the meeting it was explained to the Committee by Town Manager Borg of why the attorney expenses are so high to date:

1. 451 Elm Street Purchase
2. Proposed Chapter 40B project on Draper Ave.
3. Webster Mill Property
4. Personnel actions
5. Discipline actions
6. 21 East Street
7. Holbrook Ave.
8. **Town Contract Review**
9. 95% or greater these Legal Fees are on an hourly basis at \$260.00 an hour.

Vice-President Simmons reported that this measure was referred back to the Full Town Council 5-0 with a favorable recommendation.

Vice-President Simmons made a motion to approve Measure 2024-073- To Authorize the transfer of \$50,000.00 from the Public Buildings Full Time Salaries Account to the **Town Attorney Account.**

Councilor Slobogan seconded the motion.

Motion carried 8-0.

b. Economic Growth & Sustainability

Nothing to Report at this time.

c. By-Law

i. PUBLIC HEARING

1. SECOND READING, DISCUSSION and VOTE:

1. Measure 2024-064- That the Town Council amend the North Attleborough Zoning Bylaws, Chapter 290, Section 54, Schedule B, Principal use Agriculture #5 Commercial Stables, Kennels... and Selected words and terms; Animal Kennel, or Hospital.

Measure 2024-064- That the Town Council amend the North Attleborough Zoning Bylaws, Chapter 290, Section 54, Schedule B, Principal use Agriculture #5 Commercial Stables, Kennels... and Selected words and terms; Animal Kennel, or Hospital.

To clarify and expand the definitions of Kennels in the Zoning Board of Appeals By-law language. That the Town Council vote to amend the North Attleborough Zoning Bylaws, Schedule B, Principal Use, Agriculture.

See recommendations (in red print) for proposed amendments attached)

This measure will be referred to the Bylaw Subcommittee and the Planning Board. The Planning Board is required to have a Public Hearing. The Town Council is required to have a First Reading, and then a Public Hearing with a Second Reading and Vote on the amended Zoning Bylaws.

Therefore, it is respectfully requested that the Town Council amend the North Attleborough Zoning Bylaws, Chapter 290, Section 54, Schedule B, Principal Use Agriculture #5 Commercial Stables, Kennels... and Selected words and terms; Animal Kennel, or Hospital.

Vice-President Simmons read the Legal Ad into the record:

On Monday, March 25, 2024 at 7:00 PM, the North Attleboro Town Council

will hold a public hearing on proposed zoning changes to add new definitions pertaining to kennels. The following definitions have been added: Commercial Animal Establishment, Commercial Boarding or Training or Doggie Daycare Kennel, Commercial Breeder Kennel, Personal Kennel, Pet Shop, and Veterinary Clinic and/or Hospital. The existing definition of Animal Kennel or Hospital is proposed to be stricken for these updated terms. Further, Commercial Animal Establishments are proposed to be added to the Schedule B Use Table and allowed by special permit in the R-20, C-30, C-60, IC-30 zones from the Zoning Board of Appeals (ZBA). Personal Kennels are proposed to be allowed by special permit in the R-10, R-10S, R-15, C-30, C-60, and IC-30 zones from the ZBA. Veterinary Office/Hospital is proposed to be allowed by special permit in the R-40, C-30, C-60, IC-30 from the ZBA.

This Public Hearing will be broadcast by North TV.

For complete text of these proposed changes, please visit the Town Manager's Office or you can view it online at the Town Council's website:

[HTTPS://WWW.NATTLEBORO.COM/548/TOWN-COUNCIL-MEASURES-DATABASE](https://www.nattleboro.com/548/TOWN-COUNCIL-MEASURES-DATABASE)

Vice-President Simmons made a motion to open the Public Hearing.

Councilor Donovan seconded the motion.

A Roll Call Vote was taken:

Councilor Costello	YES
Councilor Gould	YES
Councilor Shanahan	YES
Councilor Donovan	YES
Vice-President Simmons	YES
President Pare'	YES
Councilor Slobogan	YES

Councilor St. Pierre YES

Motion passed 8-0.

Vice-President Simmons asked if there was any Public Comment.

Nothing Heard.

Vice-President Simmons made a motion to close the Public Hearing.

Councilor Donovan seconded the motion.

A Roll Call Vote was taken:

Councilor Costello YES

Councilor Gould YES

Councilor Shanahan YES

Councilor Donovan YES

Vice-President Simmons YES

President Pare' YES

Councilor Slobogan YES

Councilor St. Pierre YES

Motion passed 8-0.

Vice-President Simmons made a motion to waive the second reading.

Councilor Shanahan seconded the motion.

A Roll Call Vote was taken:

Councilor Costello	YES
Councilor Gould	YES
Councilor Shanahan	YES
Councilor Donovan	YES
Vice-President Simmons	YES
President Pare'	YES
Councilor Slobogan	YES
Councilor St. Pierre	YES

Motion carried 8-0.

There was discussion amongst the Town Council regarding this measure.

Vice-President Simmons made a motion to approve Measure 2024-064- **That** the Town Council amend the North Attleborough Zoning Bylaws, Chapter 290, Section 54, Schedule B, Principal use Agriculture #5 Commercial Stables, Kennels... and Selected words and terms; Animal Kennel, or Hospital.

Councilor Donovan seconded the motion.

Motion carried 8-0.

ii. PUBLIC HEARING

1. SECOND READING, DISCUSSION and VOTE:

1. Measure 2024-065- To See if the Town Council will vote to amend the North Attleborough Bylaws, Chapter 108, Animals

Measure 2024-065- To See if the Town Council will vote to amend the North Attleborough Bylaws, Chapter 108, Animals.

To See if the Town Council will vote to amend the North Attleborough Bylaws, Chapter 108, Animals.

A study was conducted by a working group consisting of the Bylaw Sub-Committee members, Town Clerk, Town Planner, ZBA Administrative Assistant, and Animal Control Officer.

The group met and reviewed, studied, and made recommendations for amendments to the General Bylaws as per Measure 2024-040- To see if the Town Council will conduct a comprehensive examination of Chapter 108, Article 1 within the General Bylaws, as well as Chapter 290, Use Schedule B found in the Zoning Bylaws and then provide revisions as necessary or

needed.

See recommendations for amendment (in red print) attached.

This measure will be referred to the Bylaw Sub-Committee for review and a referral back to the Town Council where there will be a First Reading, and a Public Hearing with a Second Reading and Vote.

Therefore, it is respectfully requested that the Town Council vote to amend the North Attleborough Bylaws, Chapter 108, Animals.

Vice-President Simmons read the Legal Ad into the record:

On Monday, March 25, 2024 at 7:00 PM, the North Attleboro Town Council will hold a public hearing on proposed amendments of the North Attleborough Bylaws, Chapter 108, Animals.

This Public Hearing will be broadcast by North TV.

For complete text of these proposed changes, please visit the Town Manager's Office or you can view it online at the Town Council's website:

[HTTPS://WWW.NATTLEBORO.COM/548/TOWN-COUNCIL-MEASURES-DATABASE](https://www.nattleboro.com/548/TOWN-COUNCIL-MEASURES-DATABASE)

Vice-President Simmons made a motion to open the Public Hearing.

Councilor Donovan seconded the motion.

A Roll Call Vote was taken:

Councilor Costello	YES
Councilor Gould	YES
Councilor Shanahan	YES
Councilor Donovan	YES
Vice-President Simmons	YES
President Pare'	YES
Councilor Slobogan	YES
Councilor St. Pierre	YES

Motion passed 8-0.

Vice-President Simmons asked if there was any Public Comment.

Nothing Heard.

Vice-President Simmons made a motion to close the Public Hearing.

Councilor Donovan seconded the motion.

A Roll Call Vote was taken:

Councilor Costello	YES
Councilor Gould	YES
Councilor Shanahan	YES
Councilor Donovan	YES
Vice-President Simmons	YES
President Pare'	YES
Councilor Slobogan	YES
Councilor St. Pierre	YES

Motion passed 8-0.

Vice-President Simmons made a motion to waive the second reading.

Councilor Shanahan seconded the motion.

A Roll Call Vote was taken:

Councilor Costello	YES
Councilor Gould	YES
Councilor Shanahan	YES
Councilor Donovan	YES
Vice-President Simmons	YES
President Pare'	YES
Councilor Slobogan	YES

Councilor St. Pierre

YES

Motion carried 8-0.

There was discussion amongst the Town Council regarding this measure.

Vice-President Simmons made a motion to approve Measure 2024-065- To See if the Town Council will vote to amend the North Attleborough Bylaws, Chapter 108, Animals.

Councilor Donovan seconded the motion.

Motion carried 8-0.

d. Rules

- i. Measure 2024-020- Approval to Establish Regular Scheduled Town Council Sub-Committee Meetings

Measure 2024-020-Approval to Establish Regular Scheduled Town Council Sub-Committee Meetings

Purpose and Justification:

Purpose:

The purpose of establishing regularly scheduled subcommittee meetings is to facilitate efficient and focused collaboration among members of the subcommittee. These meetings serve as a structured forum for subcommittee members to discuss, plan, and execute their responsibilities effectively, ultimately contributing to the successful achievement of the subcommittee's and the Town Council's goals.

Justification:

Enhancing Productivity and Accountability: Regularly scheduled subcommittee meetings provide a dedicated platform for members to review progress, share updates, and set priorities. This fosters a sense of accountability, thereby reducing the risk of tasks being overlooked.

Timely Decision-Making: Scheduled meetings help expedite decision-making processes. As issues arise, subcommittee members can convene promptly to discuss and resolve them, preventing delays and ensuring that important matters are addressed in a timely manner.

Optimizing Resource Allocation: Regular meetings allow subcommittees to access

needed resources that support their requirements. Regular meetings allow for **deconstriction of constrained meeting resources such as conference rooms**. Further, regular meetings ensure media coverage of subcommittee meetings.

Continuous Progress Monitoring: Consistent meetings enable continuous progress monitoring. Subcommittees can track their achievements, identify obstacles, and adjust their strategies as needed to stay on course and meet their objectives.

Stakeholder Engagement: Most importantly, regularly scheduled meetings offer a structured platform for engaging with stakeholders, whether they are community members, experts, or other relevant parties. This engagement ensures that the subcommittee's work aligns with the needs and expectations of its constituents.

Alignment with Strategic Goals: An established an regular meeting schedule supports the Town Council's strategic priorities of Good Governance and a Thriving Community.

In conclusion, the establishment of regularly scheduled subcommittee meetings serves a vital purpose in promoting productivity, communication, and accountability among subcommittee members. It enhances decision-making, resource allocation, and progress monitoring while aligning subcommittee efforts with strategic goals and fulfilling potential regulatory obligations. These meetings provide a structured framework for effective collaboration, ensuring that the subcommittee can fulfill its mission and deliver value to the residents of North Attleborough.

Vice-President Simmons reported that the Rules Sub-Committee met on February 5, 2024 to review this measure. Vice-President Simmons reported that as per the North Attleborough Town Council Rules of Procedure, Section 1: Town Council Meetings, e. Schedule- "The Council President shall release a schedule for Regular Meetings that extends at a minimum of six (6) months into the future. This allows for Town Council Members to properly plan to attend and participate in as many meetings as possible."

It is recommended that the Sub-Committees follow this same rule.

There was discussion amongst the Committee and it was decided that this would be appropriate for the Sub-Committees to follow this rule as well moving forward.

Vice-President Simmons made a motion to approve Measure 2024-020-Approval to Establish Regular Scheduled Town Council Sub-Committee Meetings.

Councilor Slobogan seconded the motion.

Motion carried 8-0.

- e. School Committee Representative

Nothing to report at this time.

- f. Communication, Public Participation & Engagement

Nothing to report at this time.

- g. Local Emergency Planning

Nothing to report at this time.

- h. RFP Town Auditor Ad Hoc Committee

Councilor Gould made a motion "To create a permanent Town Auditor Committee" and forwarded it to the Bylaw Sub-Committee for further discussion and consideration.

Vice-President Simmons seconded the motion.

Motion carried 8-0.

VIII. Old Business

None at this time.

IX. New Business

- a. Measure 2024-075- Rescind Borrowing Authorization - High School Outdoor Athletic Complex \$2.5 mm & Townwide Telephone System Upgrade \$500,000.00

To rescind the borrowing authorization for the authorized and unissued amount of \$2.5mm for which borrowing authority is no longer required for the High School Outdoor Athletic Complex - authorized for \$5mm and approved at the 6/30/2022 Town Council Meeting - Measure 2022-109,

and

To rescind the borrowing authorization for the authorized and unissued amount of \$500,000.00 for which borrowing authority is no longer required for the Townwide Telephone System Upgrade - authorized for \$1mm and approved at the 6/7/2021 Town Council Meeting - Measure 2021-053 **Item #6.**

Total to rescind: \$3mm

These projects are either complete or are using funding from other sources.

Vice-President Simmons made a motion to approve Measure 2024-075- Rescind Borrowing Authorization - High School Outdoor Athletic Complex \$2.5 mm & Townwide Telephone System Upgrade \$500,000.00.

Councilor Slobogan seconded the motion.

Motion carried 8-0.

- b. Measure 2024-082-Repurpose \$1.1 mm of the HS Athletic Complex Borrowing for the Amvet Roof Project

That the Town appropriates the amount of One Million One Hundred Thousand Dollars (\$1,100,000) for the purpose of paying the costs of the AMVET Blvd. School Roof Replacement project, including without limitation all associated Americans with Disability Act (ADA) compliance work, and for the payment of all other costs incidental and related thereto, and that to meet this appropriation the Treasurer, with the approval of the Town Manager, is authorized to borrow said amount under and pursuant to M.G.L. c.44, §7(1) or pursuant to any other enabling authority, and to issue bonds and notes therefore; that the Town Manager is authorized to accept and expend any state or federal grants that are or may become available for this project under the provisions of the Town By-Laws where applicable; and that the Town Manager is authorized to expend all funds available for the project and to take any other action necessary to carry out the project.

Public Facilities Director Tim Chouinard was in attendance to answer any questions that the Town Council may have had. There was discussion amongst the Town Council and Mr. Chouinard.

Vice-President Simmons made a motion to refer Measure 2024-082-Repurpose \$1.1 MM of the HS Athletic Complex Borrowing for the Amvet Roof Project to the Finance Sub-Committee for further review and discussion.

Councilor Slobogan seconded the motion.

Motion carried 8-0.

- c. Measure 2024-077- Authorization to re-purpose \$30,000.00, previously authorized from FY24 Free Cash for the Hazard Mitigation Plan Review, for the Fire Station Feasibility Study CIP Project

Purpose:

The purpose of this measure is to reallocate the previously approved \$30,000 in funding, initially designated for the review and update of the Town of North Attleborough's Hazard Mitigation Plan. This plan, crucial for identifying potential hazards impacting the town, mandates an update every five years. Due to a fortunate development, the state of Massachusetts has included our town in the 2025 cohort for state-funded updates to this plan, thereby freeing up the initially allocated funds for alternative urgent needs.

Justification:

The newfound availability of the \$30,000 presents an opportunity to address two unforeseen expenses that have arisen within the scope of the fire station feasibility project, specifically, the requirements for wetlands delineation and a comprehensive site survey. During the initial proposal phase of the feasibility study, it was incorrectly assumed that a current site survey of the property was available. By redirecting the funds initially intended for the Hazard Mitigation Plan update—now covered by the state—to these unexpected but essential expenses, the Town Council ensures that the fire station feasibility project progresses without delay, ultimately supporting the town's safety and infrastructure development goals.

Vice-President Simmons made a motion to refer Measure 2024-077- Authorization to re-purpose \$30,000.00, previously authorized from FY24 Free Cash for the Hazard Mitigation Plan Review, for the Fire Station Feasibility Study CIP Project to the Finance Sub-Committee for further review and discussion.

Councilor Slobogan seconded the motion.

Motion carried 8-0.

- d. Measure 2024-078-Authorization to begin the negotiation process with the current owners of the Webster Mill Property

Purpose:

The purpose of this measure is to reallocate the previously approved \$30,000 in funding, initially designated for the review and update of the Town of North Attleborough's Hazard Mitigation Plan. This plan, crucial for identifying potential hazards impacting the town, mandates an update every five years. Due to a fortunate development, the state of Massachusetts has included our town in the 2025 cohort for state-funded updates to this plan, thereby freeing up the initially allocated funds for alternative urgent needs.

Justification:

The newfound availability of the \$30,000 presents an opportunity to address two unforeseen expenses that have arisen within the scope of the fire station feasibility project, specifically, the requirements for wetlands delineation and a comprehensive site survey. During the initial proposal phase of the feasibility study, it was incorrectly assumed that a current site survey of the property was available. By redirecting the funds initially intended for the Hazard Mitigation Plan update—now covered by the state—to these unexpected but essential expenses, the Town Council ensures that the fire station feasibility project progresses without delay, ultimately supporting the town's safety and infrastructure development goals.

Vice-President Simmons made a motion to refer Measure 2024-078-Authorization to begin the negotiation process with the current owners of the Webster Mill Property to the Finance Sub-Committee for further review and discussion.

Councilor Slobogan seconded the motion.

Motion carried 8-0.

- e. Measure 2024-079-Approval to transfer funds from previous projects to fund the demolition of the Webster Mill Property in the amount of \$72,562.31.

Purpose:

The purpose of this measure is to secure an additional \$72,562.31 in funding for the completion of the demolition and subsequent environmental remediation of the Webster Mill building located on Broadway. This funding is essential to address the financial **shortfall encountered after the initial \$40,000 allocated from the current operational budget was expended.** The requested funds will be used to pay the remaining invoices associated with the emergency demolition work that has been successfully carried out according to state regulations and the Board of Survey's recommendations.

Justification:

The demolition of the Webster Mill building was completed in compliance with MGL Chapter 143 Section 14. This action was necessitated by the building's deteriorated condition and the risk it posed to public safety. The demolition process has been completed without any issues, with all debris properly covered to prevent the release of asbestos or other hazardous materials into the environment. Air quality tests post-demolition have shown negligible levels of asbestos, far below the limit of quantification, thereby confirming the effectiveness of the containment measures.

Additionally, the absence of pest infestation has been verified by a specialist, and the Department of Environmental Protection has expressed satisfaction with the demolition work conducted.

This measure represents a prudent investment in public safety and environmental protection, underscoring the Town Council's commitment to the well-being and prosperity of our community.

Webster Mill Demolition Project:

Item	\$/Unit	Units	Total
Demo Contractor (Contract in progress)	\$1,025.00	37	\$37,925.00 Final
Snow Fence	\$155.00	2	\$310.00
Stakes	\$75.00	2	\$150.00
Police Detail Actual	\$65.00	64	\$4,539.52
Fabric Estimated	\$225.20	22	\$5,657.79
Pest Control Through March 29th	\$1,030.00	LS	\$1,030.00
Fencing Final	\$9,400.00	LS	\$9,400.00
Fire Hose	\$350.00	1	\$350.00 Final
Verdantas-Scope (Contract in Progress)	\$53,200.00	LS	\$53,200.00 Final

\$112,562.31 Total

Vice-President Simmons made a motion to refer Measure 2024-079-Approval to transfer

funds from the Reserve Fund to the Public Buildings Fund for the demolition of the Webster Mill Property in the amount of \$72,562.31 to the Finance Sub-Committee for further review and discussion.

Councilor Slobogan seconded the motion.

Motion carried 8-0.

- f. Measure 2024-080-Authorization to Transfer \$5,000.00 from ARPA Funds to the Downtown North Attleborough Collaborative to support Police Details at the Annual Downtown Block Party

Purpose:

The purpose of this measure is to allocate \$5,000 in American Rescue Plan Act (ARPA) Non-Entitlement Unit (NEU) funding to support the Downtown North Attleborough Collaborative's Annual Block Party. This allocation aims to restore funds lost due to the recent enactment of 9C cuts by the Governor, which reduced the previously earmarked Commonwealth contribution from \$10,000 to \$5,000. The provision of these funds is critical for ensuring the success of this highly anticipated event, which significantly contributes to the local economy and community spirit.

Justification:

Economic Boost: The Downtown North Attleborough Collaborative's Annual Block Party is not just a festive event; it is a major economic catalyst for the town. By drawing in large crowds, the event supports local businesses, increases sales, and promotes North Attleborough as a vibrant community. The ARPA funds will ensure that this economic boost is not compromised.

Alignment with ARPA Objectives: The allocation of ARPA funds to support the block party aligns with the ARPA's guidance to support economic development initiatives. Investing in community events like the Downtown North Attleborough Collaborative's Annual Block Party stimulates local economies, promotes small business growth, and contributes to the overall recovery and development of the community post-pandemic.

Restoration of Earmarked Funds: The Commonwealth had recognized the value of this event through an initial earmark of \$10,000, which was intended to defray the costs associated with police details and other essential services for the event. The recent 9C cuts have halved this earmark, threatening the event's success.

Promotion of North Attleborough's Image: The annual block party not only serves the immediate economic and social interests of North Attleborough but also significantly contributes to the town's reputation as one of the best towns in Massachusetts. Supporting this event reaffirms the town council's commitment to maintaining and enhancing this reputation.

Vice-President Simmons made a motion to approve Measure 2024-080-Authorization to Transfer \$5,000.00 from ARPA Funds to the Downtown North Attleborough Collaborative to support Police Details at the Annual Downtown Block Party.

Councilor Slobogan seconded the motion.

Motion carried 8-0.

- g. Measure 2024-085- Approval of \$44,000.00 to be funded by NEU ARPA Funds in support of the Public/Private Partnership with North Attleborough Junior Football to replace the scoreboard at Community Field.

Purpose:

The purpose of this measure is to secure \$44,000 in funding from the Town's American Rescue Plan Act (ARPA) Non-Entitlement Unit (NEU) allocation to replace the existing scoreboard at the Community Field. This initiative is a result of a collaborative effort between the Town Administration and North Attleborough Junior Football, embodying a Public-Private Partnership aimed at enhancing community recreational facilities. The new scoreboard will be a significant upgrade over the current installation, which is obsolete and inefficient, particularly in terms of visibility during sunny days.

Justification:

Enhanced Visibility and Utility: The current scoreboard at the Community Field is outdated and suffers from poor visibility, especially during sunny days, which significantly hampers the spectator experience.

Revenue Generation through Advertising: A feature of the new scoreboard is its small advertising space. This space can be used to generate revenue by allowing local businesses to advertise during events. This not only opens a new revenue stream but also strengthens ties with local businesses by providing them with a platform to reach their audience directly.

Leveraging ARPA Funds for Community Benefit: The funding request leverages the town's allocation from the ARPA NEU, which is intended to support the community's recovery and development post-pandemic. By investing in community infrastructure, such as the scoreboard, the project directly contributes to enhancing public spaces and facilities. This aligns with the broader objectives of ARPA funds to foster resilient and inclusive communities.

Public-Private Partnership Model: The collaboration between the Town Administration and North Attleborough Junior Football serves as a model for public-private partnerships. By working together, both entities can achieve a common goal that benefits the community, demonstrating effective use of resources and community engagement.

Ms. Lisa Champaign and Julie LaPointe of North Attleboro Junior Football were both in attendance in support of this measure.

Vice-President Simmons made a motion to refer Measure 2024-085- Approval of \$44,000.00 to be funded by NEU ARPA Funds in support of the Public/Private Partnership with North Attleborough Junior Football to replace the scoreboard at Community Field to the Finance Sub-Committee for further review and discussion.

Councilor Slobogan seconded the motion.

Motion carried 8-0.

X. Adjournment

Vice-President Simmons made a motion to adjourn the meeting.

Councilor Slobogan seconded the motion.

Motion carried 8-0.

Meeting adjourned at 8:15 PM.