

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

4/28/2025 - Minutes

I. Pledge Of Allegiance

PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

President Pare' called the meeting to order at 7:00P.M. and lead the Town Council and the audience in the pledge of allegiance.

Town Council Members Present:

Justin Pare'

John Simmons

Andrew Shanahan

Pat St. Pierre

Mark Gould

Dan Donovan

John Costello

Members Absent:

Andrea Slobogan

Darius Gregory

Staff Present:

Town Manager Michael Borg

Assistant Town Manager Antonio Morabito

Clerk of the Council Kerrin Billinghoff

Health & Human Services Coordinator Stephen Berdos

Superintendent of Schools Dr. John Antonucci

NAHS Principal Pete Haviland

Residents Present:

Laura Wagner- Elected Town Councilor to begin her term July 1, 2025

Kevin McCarthy- Elected Town Councilor to begin his term July 1, 2025

Keith Lapointe - Elected Town Councilor to begin his term July 1, 2025 and Member of the School Committee

Guests Present:

Joy Ticca of CMTA

Brad Dore of Dore & Whittier

Documents Reviewed:

- Town Council Meeting Minutes of April 14, 2025
- Town Manager's Report April 28, 2025
- **Measure 2025-081**- Confirmation of Approval of Amy Sullivan as I.T. Director for the Town of North Attleborough
- **Measure 2025-059**- Authorization to pay FY24 Invoices for AT&T Mobility in the amount of \$190.06 and FY23 Invoices for Verizon Global in the amount of \$24.34 for the I.T. Department
- **Measure 2025-079**- Authorization to Repurpose Funds in the amount of \$30,000.00 for the New High School Debt Exclusion Election
- **Measure 2025-080**- Authorization to Transfer \$60,000.00 from the Reserve Account to the K.P Law Account for Legal Services
- Dore Whittier Presentation on MSBA Building Project- **Sustainability**

II. Approval Of Minutes

- a. Approval of Town Council Minutes of April 14, 2025

Approval of Town Council Minutes of April 14, 2025

Vice President Simmons made a motion to approve the Town Council Minutes of April 14, 2025.

Councilor Costello seconded the motion.

Motion carried 7-0.

III. Town Councilor Community Updates

1. Keep North Attleborough Clean up Day is this coming Saturday, May 3, 2025

2. LNAL Opening Day is also this Saturday, May 3, 2025

IV. Town Manager's Report

Town Manager Michael Borg gave an overview of the Town Manager Report.

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

a. Opioid Update from Stephen Berdos Health and Human Resources Coordinator

Opioid Update from Stephen Berdos Health and Human Resources Coordinator

Mr. Berdos was in attendance to address the Town Councilors and the residents. He discussed:

- Opioid Funds
- Opioid Crisis
- Opioid Task Force
- Town Survey - On Health Department Webpage of Town Website
- Proposing to add a position - Crisis Manager- To be funded by Opioid Funding- Will be eliminated when funds are depleted
- Grants
- Vocational Counseling

b. Celebration of 40th Birthday of Food n' Friends- "HUNGER to HOPE" Event

V. Resident And Community Comment

None at this time.

VI. Confirmations

a. Measure 2025-081- Confirmation of Approval of Amy Sullivan as I.T. Director for the

Town of North Attleborough

Measure 2025-081 - Confirmation of Approval of Amy Sullivan as I.T. Director for the Town of North Attleborough

The purpose of this measure is to request Town Council confirmation of the appointment of Amy Sullivan as the Information Technology (IT) Director for the Town of North Attleborough.

Ms. Sullivan has served as the Acting Information Technology Director since March 17, 2025, following the departure of the previous Director. During this interim period, she has demonstrated a high level of professionalism, technical expertise, and leadership in managing the Town's information technology operations. Her performance in the acting role has reinforced her qualifications and readiness to assume this critical position on a permanent basis.

With a strong background as the Town's Senior User Support Specialist, Ms. Sullivan brings institutional knowledge, strategic vision, and a collaborative approach to the department. Her dedication to ensuring the stability, security, and advancement of the Town's IT infrastructure has been evident, and her promotion represents both a continuity of leadership and a recognition of her outstanding service.

I respectfully request that the Town Council confirm the appointment of Amy Sullivan as the Information Technology Director, effective immediately upon approval of this measure.

Amy Sullivan was in attendance and stated that she is excited for the opportunity and thanked them for their support.

Vice-President Simmons made a motion to approve **Measure 2025-081** - Confirmation of Approval of Amy Sullivan as I.T. Director for the Town of North Attleborough.

Councilor St. Pierre seconded the motion.

Motion carried 7-0.

VII. Sub-Committee Reports

a. Finance

At this time there are two budget hearings left. FY26 Budget Hearing is May 12, 2025.

b. Economic Growth & Sustainability

Nothing to report at this time.

c. By-Law

Nothing to report at this time.

d. Rules

Nothing to report at this.

- e. School Committee Representative

Nothing to report at this.

- f. School Building Committee (MSBA)

- i. Sustainability

Dore & Whittier was in attendance and presented a Power Point Presentation on MSBA Building Project- Sustainability.

- g. Communication, Public Participation & Engagement

Nothing to report at this time.

- h. Local Emergency Planning

Nothing to report at this time.

- i. RFP Town Auditor Ad Hoc Committee

President Pare' stated that he had shared the audit results with the Councilors and the Audit Committee will be meeting soon after the Audit Letter is received.

VIII. Old Business

- a. None at this time

IX. New Business

- a. Measure 2025-059- Authorization to pay FY24 Invoices for AT&T Mobility in the amount of \$190.06 and FY23 Invoices for Verizon Global in the amount of \$24.34 for the I.T. Department

Measure 2025-059- Authorization to pay FY24 Invoices for AT&T Mobility in the amount of \$190.06 and FY23 Invoices for Verizon Global in the amount of \$24.34 for the I.T. Department

Purpose and Justification:

The I.T. Department requests approval to pay outstanding invoices form AT&T Mobility for services rendered in April, May, & June for 2024. The total amount due is \$190.06, to be charged to the I.T. Expense, Data Lines account (011559-534003). Our understanding is that these invoices remained unpaid because the previous I.T. Director was unaware that the account required paperless billing. We are also requesting approval to pay outstanding invoices from Verizon Global (land-lines) for the IT Expense, Town Hall Telephone account (011559-534000). The unpaid bills were discovered during a recent review of accounts, after Fy23 and FY24 were closed. We are looking to remedy these outstanding balances as soon as possible and are working on putting into place new strategies for preventing this type of oversight from happening in the future.

Vice-President Simmons made a motion to approve **Measure 2025-059-** Authorization to pay FY24 Invoices for AT&T Mobility in the amount of \$190.06 and FY23 Invoices for Verizon Global in the amount of \$24.34 for the I.T. Department.

Councilor Donovan seconded the motion.

Motion carried 7-0.

- b. Measure 2025-079- Authorization to Repurpose Funds in the amount of \$30,000.00 for the New High School Debt Exclusion Election

Measure 2025-079- Authorization to Repurpose Funds in the amount of \$30,000.00 for the New High School Debt Exclusion Election

The purpose of this measure is to authorize the appropriation and transfer of \$30,000 to the Elections Office to fund the costs associated with conducting a Special Election scheduled for June 3, 2025. This election, authorized by Town Council Measure 2025-051 and approved unanimously (8-0) at the February 24, 2025 Town Council meeting, will allow North Attleborough voters to decide whether to approve a debt exclusion for the construction of a new North Attleborough High School.

The new high school is a critical investment in the Town's future, replacing an aging facility that no longer meets modern standards for safety, accessibility, or educational effectiveness. The proposed project addresses long-standing infrastructure deficiencies and positions the Town to better serve current and future students.

This Special Election was not forecasted in the current fiscal year and not included in the FY25 operating plan. As a result, the Elections Office does not have sufficient funds remaining in its FY25 budget to conduct the election. Approval of this transfer is required to ensure the Town can carry out the election in a timely, secure, and effective manner.

Funding for this election will be transferred from the following accounts:

Economic Development Coordinator - 011238 511028: \$19,675.21

Conservation Clerical Salaries - 011718 511001: \$10,324.79

This measure ensures that the Elections Office has the necessary resources to execute the Special Election and provide voters the opportunity to make an informed decision on this important capital investment.

Vice-President Simmons made a motion to refer **Measure 2025-079-** Authorization to Repurpose Funds in the amount of \$30,000.00 for the New High School Debt Exclusion Election to the Finance Sub-Committee for further review and discussion.

Councilor Donovan seconded the motion.

Motion carried 7-0.

- c. Measure 2025-080- Authorization to Transfer \$60,000.00 from the Reserve Account to the K.P Law Account for Legal Services

Measure 2025-080- Authorization to Transfer \$60,000.00 from the Reserve Account to the K.P Law Account for Legal Services

Purpose and Justification:

The purpose of this measure is to authorize the transfer of \$60,000 from the Town's Reserve Fund to the Legal Services line item to address unanticipated legal expenses incurred over the past several months.

The Town has been involved in a series of complex and time-sensitive legal matters that have resulted in significantly increased legal expenditures beyond what was forecasted in the FY25 operating budget. These matters include a combination of litigation, land use issues, regulatory challenges, and contractual disputes that required immediate and **sustained legal representation.**

The following cases and matters have contributed to the increased legal service costs:

Bankert/Vikon Properties

451 Elm Street

40R Development on Kelley Boulevard

40B Development on Draper Avenue

Marijuana-related matters: Holland Brands & Green Leaf Health

Town vs. Brady

Ledgehill vs. Conservation Commission

Webster Mills site-related matters

Town vs. Cunningham

Town vs. Mason

Town vs. Hilltop LLC

Given the scope and volume of these legal issues, this transfer is necessary to ensure that the Town remains in compliance with contractual obligations for legal representation and is able to effectively defend its interests in ongoing and future proceedings.

This measure will allow the Town to maintain financial continuity in legal operations without disrupting other departmental budgets, ensuring the Town can continue to respond to legal matters with appropriate diligence and resources.

Vice-President Simmons made a motion to refer **Measure 2025-080-** Authorization to Transfer \$60,000.00 from the Reserve Account to the K.P Law Account for Legal Services to the Finance Sub-Committee Executive Session for further review and

consideration.

Motion carried 7-0.

X. Adjournment

Vice President Simmons made a motion to adjourn the meeting.

Councilor St. Pierre seconded the motion.

Motion carried 7-0.

Meeting adjourned at 8:00PM.

XI. Town Council Meeting Schedule

- a. Monday, May 12, 2025