

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

4/29/2025 - Minutes

I. Pledge Of Allegiance

PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

Vice-President Simmons called the meeting to order at 6:30 P.M. and lead the Committee and the audience in the pledge of allegiance.

Members Present:

Members Absent:

John Simmons

Craig Cameron

John Costello

Pat St. Pierre

Dan Donovan

John Donohue

Kathleen Prescott

Staff Present:

Town Manager Michael Borg

Assistant Town Manager Antonio Morabito

Town Council Clerk, Kerrin Billinghoff

DPW Director Mark Hollowell

Solid Waste Director Laura Munson

Residents:

Laura Wagner

Invited Guests Present:

None at this time.

Documents Reviewed:

- FY26 MUNIS Sheets for DPW and Solid Waste
- FY26 Final Budget Presentation
- FY2026 DPW and Solid Waste Presentation Slides
- 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 Funds to the K.P Law Account for Legal Services

II. Approval Of Minutes

None at this time.

III. Resident And Community Comment

None at this time.

IV. Old Business

- a. None at this time.

V. New Business

- a. DEPARTMENT OF PUBLIC WORKS

DPW Director Mark Hollowell was in attendance to present the DPW FY2026 Budget to the Finance Sub-Committee and answer any questions they may have had. Mr. Hollowell presented his Power Point Slide and reviewed MUNIS with the Committee.

- i. Administration (421)

1. Administration (421)

MISSION: Provide comprehensive oversight and management of Public Works operations, ensuring efficient service delivery, regulatory compliance, and the effective administration of all related functions. The department is committed to supporting the efforts to maintain and improve the infrastructure of North Attleborough, while fostering a responsive, accountable, and customer-oriented environment.

SERVICES: Permit processing, bill payments, service request handling, contract administration, payroll management, and customer service.

ii. Highway (422)

1. Highway (422)

MISSION: Manage and maintain infrastructure within the Town Right of Way, including roads, bridges, sidewalks, signage, trees, and brush, ensuring safe, efficient, and accessible intermodal transportation for all residents.

SERVICES: Road and sidewalk maintenance, Right of Way (ROW) mowing, public shade tree care, street sweeping, catch basin inspection and maintenance, compost facility oversight, dam operations, parking lot upkeep, and compliance with MS4 stormwater permit regulations.

iii. Sewer (440)

1. Sewer (440)

MISSION: Ensure the efficient collection, transport, treatment, and safe disposal of wastewater generated by approximately 6,500 residents and businesses in North Attleborough, along with 2,800 customers in Plainville, while upholding environmental and public health standards.

SERVICES: Industrial pretreatment program, sewer collection system maintenance (including flushing and camera inspections), pumping station maintenance, Dig Safe markouts, construction inspections, wastewater treatment plant operations and maintenance, in-house wastewater laboratory sampling and testing, and compliance reporting to the DEP and EPA.

iv. Water (450)

1. Water (450)

MISSION: Produce, treat, and distribute potable drinking water to approximately 9,500 customers in North Attleborough and Plainville, ensuring adequate fire flow and

minimum pressure levels at all times.

SERVICES: Well maintenance, treatment system upkeep, water service and main break repairs, hydrant flushing, backflow prevention, Dig Safe markouts, construction inspections, valve exercising, hydrant maintenance and painting, leak detection, and inspections.

v. Solid Waste (430)

Solid Waste Director Laura Munson was in attendance to present the Solid Waste FY2026 Budget to the Finance Sub-Committee and answer any questions they may have had. Ms. Munson presented his Power Point Slide and reviewed MUNIS with the Committee.

1. Solid Waste (430)

MISSION: The Solid Waste Division is responsible for the efficient management of trash and recycling collection, disposal, and processing for resident subscribers. In addition to these services, the department ensures the safe operation and maintenance of the capped and closed landfill, including its gas collection system and methane flare, to safeguard the environment and public health.

SERVICES: The Solid Waste Division provides essential services, including weekly curbside collection of trash, recycling, bulky waste, and 6 weeks of yard waste collection, as well as monthly bulky metal pickups. The division operates the Recycling Center which handles materials that are difficult to dispose of or recycle and offers hazardous waste disposal, bag and tag sales, and rain barrel and compost bin sales. Additionally, it organizes annual litter clean-up events, participates in year-round litter collection, and provides recycling education. The department also ensures environmental safety by maintaining the landfill cap, managing the gas collection system and flare, and conducting water testing to prevent contamination.

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

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.

Councilor Donovan 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 back to the Full Town Council with a positive recommendation.

Motion carried 6-0.

- 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 Funds to the K.P Law Account for Legal Services

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.

Councilor Donovan requested that this measure be discussed in Executive Session at the May 8, 2025 Finance Sub-Committee.

Mr. Donohue seconded the motion.

Motion carried 6-0.

VI. Adjournment

Mr. Donovan made a motion to adjourn.

Councilor Costello seconded the motion.

Motion carried 6-0.

Meeting adjourned at 7:38PM.