

**PROCEEDINGS**  
**SPECIAL TOWN MEETING**  
**APRIL 9, 2001**

Chairwoman of the Board of Selectmen, Marjorie Kraskouskas, opened the Special Town Meeting at 7:09PM with 94 RTM members present. (The Moderator & Town Clerk were absent.)

Pledge to the Flag.

New RTM Members sworn in.

Patricia McNielly unanimously elected as temporary Town Clerk and sworn in by justice of the Peace Kevin Poirier.

John Burke elected as Moderator *pro tempore* and sworn in by Justice of the Peace Kevin Poirier.

Moderator read the warrant.

**NORTH ATTLEBOROUGH  
WARRANT  
FOR THE REPRESENTATIVE  
SPECIAL TOWN MEETING  
MONDAY, APRIL 9, 2001  
AT 7:00 P.M.  
THE COMMONWEALTH OF MASSACHUSETTS**

**Bristol, ss.**

**To either of the Constables of North Attleborough:**

**GREETINGS:**

**In the name of the Commonwealth of Massachusetts, you are hereby directed to notify and warn the legal voters of the Town of North Attleborough to meet at the North Attleborough Middle School Cafetorium, 564 Landry Avenue, in said North Attleborough on:**

**MONDAY, THE NINTH OF APRIL, 2001 A.D.**

**At 7:00 P.M., then and there to act upon the following articles to wit:**

**And you are hereby directed to serve this warrant by posting up attested copies thereof in at least seventeen public places in said Town and also in one place in each of the voting precincts within the Town at least twenty-one days before the time of said meeting. Hereof, fail not, and make due return of this warrant with your doings thereon to the Town Clerk at or before the time of said meeting.**

**Given our hands and seal of the Town of North Attleborough on this March 8, 2001.**

**Mark C. Fisher, Chairman  
Thomas F. Simms, Sr., Vice-Chairman  
Marjorie A. Kraskouskas  
Bradley A. Plante  
John C. Rhyno**

**BRISTOL,SS.**



Or to do or act in any manner relative thereto.

Board of Public Works

**PURPOSE AND JUSTIFICATION**

**The inordinate amount of snowstorms this past winter has increased costs for snow and ice control.**

**FINANCE COMMITTEE VOTE: 6-0**

**MAJORITY VOTE**

**FINANCE COMMITTEE RECOMMENDATION:** That consideration of this article be indefinitely postponed.

**FINANCE COMMITTEE REASON:** An alternative funding source may become available at a later date. Requirements have exceeded the amount indicated within the article.

**RTM members approved the Finance Committee's recommendation as read.**

**ARTICLE 3 ACCEPT GIFT/NELSON J GULSKI**

**PARK AND REC**

To see if the Town will vote to accept under Section 5.e of Article V of the Town By-Laws the sum of \$50,000.00, and any future sums, to establish the Nelson J Gulski Park Beautification Fund, \$45,000 of which will be a permanent fund from which interest can be used by the Park & Recreation Department to develop and maintain the Harold Burns Memorial Arboretum that is adjacent to the World War I Memorial Park.

Or to do or act in any manner relative thereto.

Park Commissioners

**PURPOSE AND JUSTIFICATION**

**To accept this generous gift and establish a permanent trust fund.**

**FINANCE COMMITTEE VOTE: 6-0**

**MAJORITY VOTE**

**FINANCE COMMITTEE RECOMMENDATION:** That the Town vote to accept under Section 5.e of Article V of the Town By-Laws the sum of \$50,000.00, and any future sums, to establish the Nelson J Gulski Park Beautification Fund, \$45,000 of which will be a permanent fund from which interest can be used by the Park & Recreation Department to develop and maintain the Harold Burns Memorial Arboretum that is adjacent to the World War I Memorial Park.

**FINANCE COMMITTEE REASON:** This article will allow the Town to accept a gift of \$50,000.

**RTM members approved the Finance Committee's recommendation as read.**

**ARTICLE 4**

**SPECIAL ACT CHARTER**

**PETITION**

To see if the Town will vote to petition the Legislature (as authorized by Section 8 of Article 89 of the amendments to the State Constitution) for the enactment of a special law consisting of a Charter establishing a Mayor-Council form of government for the Town of North Attleborough in the form contained in the draft charter, prepared by Northgov copies of which are on file and copies of which have been available for distribution to voters requesting the same at the Office of the Town Clerk and at the circulation desk of the Richards Memorial Library and that Northgov be authorized to consult with the members of the General Court to respond to any questions posed by said body and to consent to such changes, if any, as the General Court may deem to be necessary or desirable to make said Special Act Charter to be presented to the voters as a ballot question at a special election to be held on November 6, 2001 and to take effect only if approved by a majority of the voters voting thereon at said election.

Or to do or act in any manner relative thereto.

To see if the Town will vote to petition the Legislature (as authorized by Section 8 of Article 89 of the amendments to the State Constitution) for the enactment of a special law consisting of a Charter establishing a Mayor-Council form of government for the Town of North Attleborough in the form contained in the draft charter prepared by Northgov copies of which are on file and copies of which have

been available for distribution to voters requesting the same at the Office of the Town Clerk and at the circulation desk of the Richards Memorial Library and that the said Ballot Question Committee be authorized to consult with the members of the General Court to respond to any questions posed by said body and to consent to such changes, if any, as the General Court may deem to be necessary or desirable to make said Special Act Charter to be presented to the voters as a ballot question at a town election, said election to be held no less than 60 days or no more than 120 days after legislative approval and to take effect only if approved by a majority of the voters voting thereon at said election.

Or to do or act in any manner relative thereto.

Petition  
SEE ATTACHED

**PURPOSE AND JUSTIFICATION**  
**Special Act Charter**

**FINANCE COMMITTEE VOTE: 6 - 0**

**MAJORITY VOTE**

**FINANCE COMMITTEE RECOMMENDATION:** That the Town vote to petition the Legislature (as authorized by Section 8 of Article 89 of the amendments to the State Constitution) for the enactment of a special law consisting of a Charter establishing a Mayor-Council form of government for the Town of North Attleborough in the form contained in the draft charter, prepared by Northgov copies of which are on file and copies of which have been available for distribution to voters requesting the same at the Office of the Town Clerk and at the circulation desk of the Richards Memorial Library and that Northgov be authorized to consult with the members of the General Court to respond to any questions posed by said body and to consent to such changes, if any, as the General Court may deem to be necessary or desirable to make said Special Act Charter to be presented to the voters as a ballot question at a special election to be held on November 6, 2001 and to take effect only if approved by a majority of the voters voting thereon at said election.

**FINANCE COMMITTEE REASON:** The Finance Committee recommends approval based on results of a recently conducted survey and for discussion on Town Meeting floor. It is clear that residents are interested in an alternative form of government. It should be noted however, that the Finance Committee remains concerned that the potential cost of the change in Town government has yet to be determined.

**Mr. Wood, Precinct 7 and a member of the Northgov, encouraged RTM members not to try to amend the Charter document on Town Meeting floor but to pass it on to the State Legislature as it is.**

**There was a 10 minute recess at 7:30pm before Article 4's discussion.**

**Mr. Baker, Precinct 7 and a member of the Northgov, gave a presentation on frequently asked questions about the Charter document.**

**Mr. Manoogian, Precinct 6 made a motion and seconded, to amend article 4, section 4-1 as follows:**

- (1) Deleting the words "Six of these" in the second sentence of paragraph 4-1(a) and replacing said language with the word "All" and by deleting the third sentence of paragraph 4-1(a)
- (2) Deleting the word "six" in paragraph 4-1(b) in the first line and replacing said work with the word "seven".
- (3) Deleting section 4-3 in its entirety.

**After much discussion a motion was made and seconded to move the question and go directly to a vote on the amendment. Motion carried, 2/3 vote obvious to the Moderator.**

**The RTM members defeated the amendment as read.**

**Mr. Stack, Precinct 6, made a motion and seconded, to amend section 5-7 (3) as follows:**

**Remove the second paragraph; and add “that there be 5 members of this board and that the Mayor with the approval of the council appoint 5 registered voters to this commission.**

**Motion made and seconded to move the question and go directly to a vote on amendment. Motion carried, 2/3 vote obvious to the moderator.**

**The RTM members defeated the amendment as read.**

**Mr. Magnan, Precinct 7, made a motion and seconded, to amend the recommendation of the Finance Committee as follows:**

**After the word “that” in line 8 delete the word “Northgov” and insert the words: “a committee comprised of three (3) members of the Northgov committee selected by that committee, and three (3) members of the Board of Selectmen selected by that Board, and three (3) members of the Representative Town Meeting Coordinating Committee selected by that committee”**

**and, in line 9, after the word “body” delete the word “and” and insert the words:**

**“after a public hearing, or public hearings as deemed necessary to review the matters, called by the Board of Selectmen in a timely manner in concert with the Northgov and Representative town Meeting Coordinating Committee member of the above described committee on revisions”.**

**After much discussion a motion was made and seconded to move the question and go directly to a vote on the amendment.**

**Moderator, John Burke: At the request of 18 RTM members we will have a roll call vote on the amendment.**

**Motion carried with a majority roll call vote. 102 members voting, Yes-56 No-46. Motion carried.**

**AMENDED RECOMMENDATION: That the Town vote to petition the Legislature (as authorized by Section 8 of Article 89 of the amendments to the State Constitution) for the enactment of a special law consisting of a Charter establishing a Mayor-Council form of government for the Town of North Attleborough in the form contained in the draft charter, prepared by Northgov copies of which are on file and copies of which have been available for distribution to voters requesting the same at the Office of the Town Clerk and at the circulation desk of the Richards Memorial Library and that a committee comprised of three (3) members of the Northgov committee selected by that committee, and three (3) members of the Board of Selectmen selected by that Board, and three (3) members of the Representative Town Meeting Coordinating Committee selected by that committee be authorized to consult with the members of the General Court to respond to any questions posed by said body after a public hearing, or public hearings as deemed necessary to review the matters, called by the Board of Selectmen in a timely manner in concert with the Northgov and Representative town Meeting Coordinating Committee member of the above described committee on revisions to consent to such changes, if any, as the General Court may deem to be necessary or desirable to make said Special Act Charter to be presented to the voters as a ballot question at a special election to be held on November 6, 2001 and to take effect only if approved by a majority of the voters voting thereon at said election.**

**After some discussion, a motion was made and seconded to move the question and go directly to a vote on the amended recommendation. Motion carried.**

**Moderator, John Burke: At the request of 18 RTM members we will have a Roll call vote on the amended recommendation.**

**The RTM members approved the amended recommendation with a majority Roll Call Vote, 101 members voting, Yes-64 No-37.**

**Sine Die 10:15pm.**