

**TOWN OF NORTH HAVEN
SELECT BOARD
SEPTEMBER 30, 2020
5:00 P.M.**

MINUTES

BOARD MEMBERS PRESENT: Jon Demmons (Chair), Linda Darling (Vice Chair), Alex Curtis, Jeremiah MacDonald, and Patsy Lannon

BOARD MEMBER(S) ABSENT: None

TOWN ADMINISTRATOR: Rick Lattimer

OTHER PERSONS PRESENT: Shaun Cooper, Fire Chief
Donald Brown, Foy E. Brown, Erin Cooper, Scott Higgins, Chris Stone, and John Waterman (Fire Department Officers)
David Almy (via phone)

1. Demmons called the Meeting to order at 5:00 pm in the Community Building
2. **Motion to approve the Minutes of September 23, 2020 as amended by Darling Made by Lannon, seconded by MacDonald Approved 5-0-0**
3. **Public Comment:** None
4. **Treasurer's Report**
 - a. Approval of Bills, Payroll Journals, Warrants, and Journal Entries:

Payroll Journal #37	in the amount of	\$25,456.92
Payroll Journal #37-A	in the amount of	\$4,180.50
Warrant #39	in the amount of	\$146,896.44
Warrant #39-A	in the amount of	\$16,828.21
Sewer Department Warrant #14	in the amount of	\$2,395.56
Water Department Warrant #18	in the amount of	\$3,649.22

Motion to approve Bills, Warrants, Payroll Journals and Journal Entries Made by MacDonald, seconded by Lannon Approved 5-0-0

5. **Correspondence:** None
6. **Reports**
 - a. Administrator:
 - i. Clinic — The new answering service is scheduled to begin in early October after testing
 - ii. Fire Department/EMS
 - Awaiting development of revised air ambulance regulations

- The Road Commissioner is working on a plan to store the small plow truck in his garage so that the new Fire Truck can be stored inside the Town garage
 - Talking with forest management professionals about reducing the fire risk at Mullens Head Park
- iii. Floats and Docks
- Getting an estimate to repair the ramp at the Thoroughfare floats
 - MacDonald noted that the rubber bumper needs repair on one of the floats and also that a ring-bolt needs to be added to a float on the dingy side
 - Harold Cooper is going to install lights that shine on the Town ramp and float
- iv. Legal — Lattimer and Planning Board Chair, Pat Curtis intend to arrange a joint meeting of the Select Board and the Planning Board via Zoom.
- v. Roads & Bridges — Elliott Brown, the Road Commissioner, is working on getting ready for winter
- vi. Sewer Department — Representatives from Olver Associates visited the Sewage Treatment Plant on September 24th to determine how best to treat the influent for bacteria, which is now a year-round requirement under our operating permit. The Town was going to begin using peracetic acid instead of chlorine to disinfect for bacteria. After reviewing the setup, Olver recommends continuing to use chlorine instead because it will be more effective in reducing to acceptable levels the two types of bacteria for which the Town must now test. Use of chlorine requires introducing sodium bisulfite later in the process to neutralize the pH level before the remaining effluent is discharged. Sodium bisulfite freezes around 40 degrees Fahrenheit. Olver will work with the Town to heat the chemical feed lines that transfer sodium bisulfite to the tanks to allow this process to continue throughout the winter.
- vii. Sheriff's Department
- The Sheriff's Office is obtaining a boat for Deputy Lemoi to use when he must cross the Thoroughfare
 - Deputy Lemoi recommends installing new signs at the School to warn drivers about the 15 mph speed limit when students are present

Date	Incident	Deputy
9.24.20	Radar detail	Lemoi
9.24.20	Agency assist	Lemoi
9.24.20	911 hang-up	Lemoi

- viii. Town Properties
- The State may conduct a courtesy safety inspection of the Town's departments this fall or next spring.

- Adam Rahbee has dismantled the cabin on Burnt Island at his own expense; he is arranging for the sections to be removed from the island
- ix. Transfer Station
- Two new containers have arrived for the Transfer Station.
 - Environmental Projects Inc. is scheduled to remove used oil from the Transfer Station on October 15th
- x. Water Department
- Lattimer will work with the CEO to obtain a permit for the new shed at the Pumping Station
 - The Town may extend the deadline for requests for proposals to paint the interior and exterior of the Standpipe because additional firms are interested

7. **Old Business:** None

8. **New Business:**

- a. *Fire Department* — Chief Cooper notified the Board that he will not run for chief again when his term expires in March 2021. He said he has talked to his current officers and none of them are interested in running for the position. He and his officers made the following points and suggestions:

- The Town should consider adopting the Vinalhaven model by making the chief a full-time Town employee. He noted that the paperwork, inspections, and other requirements are too much to expect of a volunteer.
- Whenever someone is promoted within the Fire Department a gap is created in that person's previous position. Those gaps can be hard to fill in a volunteer environment.
- Perhaps a model with co-chiefs might work, so that one person was not responsible for the Department every day of the year.
- The position should be structured so there is a person who can serve as chief whenever the permanent chief leaves the island.
- The job is much more time-consuming than it was 20 years ago. And unlike EMS, the Fire Department cannot schedule a relatively small crew to be on call at any one time. Because the nature of a fire emergency can range in scope from an isolated woods fire to a much more significant fire, the entire Fire Department must be on call all the time.
- It is important to establish a structure in which responsibility can be delegated and people can be relied on to fulfill their responsibilities.
- Perhaps a rotation could be arranged in which the chief was on call for three weeks and then another officer took over for a week before the chief resumed another three-week shift

In response, the Board made the following comments:

- MacDonald noted that different town jobs might be added together, including fire chief, to make one full-time position.
- Curtis asked whether a candidate for fire chief must possess certain certifications. Higgins responded that the administrative side of the job could be learned by a candidate without those skills, but the skills needed to serve as an on-scene commander must be obtained through experience.
- Darling asked if the job could be advertised off the island to see if someone might move here for the job. Chief Cooper said that might work.

9. Other:

- Curtis noted that he would like to follow up on the conversation at last week's meeting concerning Pulpit Harbor. He noted the time is probably right to draft a new harbor management ordinance. He is willing to lead a small group to put together drafts for consideration by the Town's voters during the March 2021 Annual Town Meeting. He believes we might need separate plans to cover Pulpit Harbor and the Thoroughfare because they function differently.

[**Note:** Darling had to leave the meeting at 6:18.]

10. Adjournment — Motion to adjourn at 6:21 pm made by Lannon, seconded by MacDonald
Approved 4-0-0