

**NORTH HAVEN SELECT BOARD
NOVEMBER 1, 2023
MINUTES**

BOARD MEMBERS PRESENT: Jeremiah MacDonald, Amilia Campbell, and Bruce Gilman
BOARD MEMBERS ABSENT: Scot Baribeau, Jacqueline Curtis
TOWN ADMINISTRATOR: Rick Lattimer
ALSO PRESENT: Josephine Curtis (via Zoom) and Claire Oxford

1. Call to Order 5:00 pm

2. Approval of Minutes of October 4, 2023 and October 18, 2023

Motion to approve made by Gilman, seconded by Curtis

Approved 3-0-0

3. Public Comment – Josephine Curtis made the following comments:

- As observed during the extreme rainstorm on 7 October 2023, the ditches and culverts along the Town’s roads need attention, not only to keep water off the roads but to prevent chemicals and pollutants from running into the bay.
- The shooting in Lewiston was a tragedy. The Town should consider a moratorium on automatic rifles to send a signal of our support to shooting victims and to make the statement that North Haven does not condone gun violence.

4. Treasurer’s Report

a. Approval of Bills, Payroll Journals, Warrants, and Journal Entries:

Warrant #37	in the amount of	\$317,655.48
Warrant #37-A	in the amount of	\$42,008.32
Warrant #38	in the amount of	\$553,809.13
Warrant #37-A	in the amount of	\$2,234.76
Sewer Department Warrant #23	in the amount of	\$9,370.76
Water Department Warrant #24	in the amount of	\$8,093.96
Water Department Warrant #24-A	in the amount of	\$9,233.35
Payroll Journal #40	in the amount of	\$32,959.86
Payroll Journal #40-A	in the amount of	\$7,996.80
Payroll Journal #41	in the amount of	\$1,603.25
Payroll Journal #41-A	in the amount of	\$408.10
Journal Entries – Sept/Oct	in the amount of	\$2,936,760.46

Motion to approve Bills, Warrants, Payroll Journals and Journal Entries:

Made by Gilman, seconded by Campbell

Approved 3-0-0

5. Correspondence – Penobscot Island Air’s Facebook post about its sale to Sean Creevey

6. Reports

- i. Clinic: The Board would like to meet with the Medical Services Board soon.
- ii. Ferry Service: The Ferry Service continues to work on a new rate structure to close the anticipated 18 percent gap in its 2024 budget
- iii. Fire Department/EMS: No update
- iv. Floats & Docks: Thayer’s Y-Knot Boatyard is working on a new float for the Thorofare
- v. Legal: Following the Maine DEP Commissioner’s approval of the Town’s Shoreland Zone Ordinance, this new ordinance, the new Land Use Ordinance, and the amendments to the Fresh Pond Ordinance will go into effect on 20 November 2023.
- vi. Roads & Bridges:
 - Campbell noted that the Town should ensure road control measures are in place whenever paving is taking place; flaggers were not present when the Clinic driveway was getting paved.
 - Lattimer said the Town is exploring putting up flashing speed limit signs adjacent to the School per Deputy Lemoi’s recommendation.
 - Road Commissioner Martin is working to update signs around the island.
- vii. Sewer Department: No update
- viii. Sheriff’s Department
 - Incidents

Date	Incident	Deputy
10.18.23	School visit	Lemoi
10.24.23	Fish & game (x2)	Lemoi
10.25.23	Fish & game	Lemoi
10.26.23	Wellbeing check	Lemoi
10.26.23	Unsecured premises	Lemoi
10.27.23	School visit	Lemoi
10.27.23	911 hangup	Smith
10.31.23	School visit	Lemoi

- ix. Town Properties: The Board noted that the Town might pursue grants to help fund the new North Haven Community Fitness center
- x. Transfer Station: Need to obtain a contractor to install a new metal roof on the redeemables building. The Board noted that the Town staff should visit the Vinalhaven transfer station as VH has a new layout.
- xi. Water Department: The Board reiterated its desire to have Lattimer arrange for Department Manager Glen Marquis to provide a tour of the Water Treatment Plant.

7. Old Business

- a. *Community Priorities Update* – Lattimer gave a brief update on the Town’s three priorities:
 - (1) Access to Housing – Lattimer is meeting monthly with Hannah Itzler, the new Executive Director of North Haven Sustainable Housing. The Town will continue exploring housing options, focusing initially on the old fire station. Scot Baribeau and Amilia Campbell will represent the Select Board on this working group.

(2) Workforce Development & Economic Diversification – See Thorofare Waterfront Project, below

(3) Environmental Sustainability & Climate Change Impacts. Oxford and Lattimer are working to schedule a meeting of the Priority 3 Working Group. Gilman will represent the Select Board on this working group.

- b. *Public Safety Building Update* – Construction remains on time and on budget. The Town will host an open house on 16 December 2023 and potentially a second open house in the summer of 2024.
- c. *Thorofare Waterfront Project* – Oxford and Lattimer are working with a panel of volunteers to evaluate the proposals for engineering support. The panel will make a recommendation to the Board in November.

8. New Business

- a. *Ferry Service Update – Jon Emerson*: Emerson noted that he was pleased that the Ferry Service decided not to change the winter schedule for the *Burgess* after all. Emerson then updated the Board on the proposed rate increase. DOT Commissioner Van Note proposes to increase the truck rates more than the passenger rates because trucks are taking up increasingly more space on the ferries, to the detriment of passenger vehicles. The Board noted its concern that this could drive up prices for businesses on the island, such as the grocery store and propane. Emerson also noted that the ferry terminal employees were getting a substantial pay increase, which is good for both recruiting and retention. Campbell noted that the Ferry Service’s focus should be on providing more trips to the island each day. Gilman suggested a meeting once Matinicus’s new ferry – the *Shay* – is operating to explore using that ferry for regular freight/truck runs.

- b. *Transfer Station Fees*

- Station manager Peter Cooper recommended the Board increase the fees for bulky chairs and couches to \$15 and \$30 respectively.

**Motion to approve Cooper’s recommendation made by MacDonald,
seconded by Gilman** **Approved 3-0-0**

- North Haven Sustainable Housing (NHSH) requested that the Board waive demo container fees for the demolition materials will generate repurposing houses into year-round rental properties. Lattimer noted that he supports this recommendation as consistent with Priority 1, Access to Housing.

Motion to waive the demolition fees as requested by NHSH provided this effort is coordinated by the Town and approved by Lattimer, made by MacDonald, seconded by Gilman

Approved 3-0-0

- c. *Priority 2 Working Group* – The Board tabled this topic so that Board member Curtis could be present.
- d. *Fresh Pond Saltwater Intrusion Study – Transducer Purchase, \$4,850*: As part of the Town’s Coastal Communities Grant, Ransom Engineering requests the Town purchase four transducers to better support sea level rise analysis. The Town will own and retain the devices.

Motion to approve the purchase of four transducers for a total cost of \$4,850 made by Gilman, seconded by Campbell **Approved 3-0-0**

- e. *Fire Department Sweatshirts - \$1,740 – Special Fund*: Chief Stone asked the Board to approve the purchase of sweatshirts for Fire Department members using donation funds.

Motion to authorize the use of \$1,740 from Special (donation) Funds to purchase sweatshirts for Fire Department members made by Gilman, seconded by Campbell **Approved 3-0-0**

- f. *Certificate of Commitment – 4th Quarter, Sewer, \$38,858.34*

Motion to approve the Sewer Department Certificate of Commitment in the amount of \$38,858.34 for the fourth quarter, made by Gilman, seconded by Campbell **Approved 3-0-0**

- g. *Certificate of Commitment – 4th Quarter, Water, \$17,652.48*

Motion to approve the Water Department Certificate of Commitment in the amount of \$17,652.48 the fourth quarter, made by Gilman, seconded by Campbell **Approved 3-0-0**

9. Other

- MacDonald and Campbell both directed Lattimer to contact Fox Islands Electric Cooperative (FIEC) about replacing burned out streetlight bulbs
- Campbell asked to have FIEC look into trimming trees away from power lines, including the lines from the pole to the home (service drops)
- Campbell noted she recognizes the need for more capacity in the Town Office to support community planning

10. Motion to adjourn at 7:44 pm made by Gilman, seconded by Campbell

Approved 3-0-0