

**NORFOLK BOARD OF FINANCE
MINUTES OF NOVEMBER 10, 2020 MEETING**

Members present were: M. Sconyers, G. Mudge; N. Ritson J. Tarrant and D. Torrey.

Alternate members present were: S. Anderson, L. Battis and A. Bennett.

Alternate member absent: None.

S. Anderson was appointed to fill in for G. Allyn.

Member G. Allyn later joined the meeting.

The meeting was called to order at 7:30 p.m. by M. Sconyers.

Minutes of the September 8, 2020 and September 24, 2020 meetings were approved on a motion by N. Ritson, second by D. Torrey and unanimously approved.

Under correspondence, the Tax Collector's request for refunds was approved on a motion by M. Sconyers, second by J. Tarrant and unanimously approved. The list of refunds is attached.

The Meeting dates for 2021 were approved on a Motion by J. Tarrant, second by G. Mudge and unanimously approved. The schedule is attached.

Selectman's Report: Things are good, the Town is at about the 33% mark. The Town is going to be over in a couple of lines – one being elections. The Town received \$4,300 from the State; there were unforeseen expenses for plexiglass, additional people for cleaning.

The Selectmen usually receive donations for maintenance for the Cemetery Fund and would like permission to move funds from General Funds. There is tree work as well – a large tree came down in Grantville. The Veterans have asked that wars be designated on graves, the cost is approximately \$1,000. At South Norfolk Cemetery granite posts are going to be added in the back part of the cemetery to have it be more organized. There will not be time to complete these projects before winter.

By way of update, one of the trucks is done, the new body will be done this week. So far, they have only had to go out once this year.

The Fire Department has asked about getting a new tank for their tanker truck. It has been leaking for a couple of years. The First Selectman talked to Paul Padua and Matt Ludwig, the Fire Department would put up \$20,000 and the Town would be responsible for the balance. The tank takes 6 to 8 weeks to arrive, the Town's portion is estimated somewhere between \$50-\$60,000 for the tank. The First Selectman believes the funds can be moved from Capital Reserve. The truck was evaluated by a tank company and the recommendation is to retain the truck as it is in good working order, only the tank requires replacement.

The First Selectman met with the Fire Department and there is a committee looking into building a new firehouse. They met approximately a month ago and have an upcoming meeting Thursday night. There is still a lot of discussion going on, trying to keep as simple as possible. He has heard estimates of \$2 million to \$4 million. The Town desperately needs a new firehouse. It is very cramped.

The First Selectman also met with an Engineer last week regarding the school. As of tonight, he has all of the paperwork ready to submit to Department of Administrative Services (DAS) for a new oil tank. The Town would receive approximately 30% of the cost back, the total estimate is \$180,000. The First Selectman

met with a tank company last week, and has contacted 3 different companies. Thus far, he has only received one (1) estimate.

The First Selectman also met with a roofing company, and went onto the roof at Botelle. It is in pretty good shape, there are repairs that should be done through the DAS school construction grant program the Town would receive 30% back. Currently the gutters are in very good condition. The recommendation from Garland was to not take them off as they are all cooper. Garland is in favor of a metal roof, which is good for a long time. Mr. Riiska also discussed the ability to add clips onto the roof for solar panels for future installation.

The First Selectman indicated that next year's budget will need to include the Mountain Road bridge and oil tank at the school. He has not yet heard back from the State regarding funding availability for Mountain Road bridge. The Town's portion for the bridge would be approximately \$310,000.

The specifics for all these proposals will be presented when finalized.

The Treasurer recently met with George Sinnamon who is pretty satisfied with the way things are going.

N. Ritson reported on the Fiber Optics Committee. Kim Maxwell was elected Chair. The committee has had a couple of meetings. The fiber optics would be for Norfolk only. The network would be public/private. The cost estimate: it is strung through Eversource poles, owned by the Town, then individuals would pull from the pole. The current estimate is \$5,742,400, with over \$3,943,000 would be funded through Norfolk taxes. N. Ritson is monitoring potential money coming to Connecticut for a lot of projects including broadband. The committee is looking at a company out of Massachusetts which has had success with rural areas in getting fiber optics to everyone. The committee is trying to figure out costs of maintenance, and will explore funding through the Department of Agriculture, and is researching how it would effect the mill rate. The fiber optics would bring internet to everyone, but does not bring in TV, townspeople would still have to maintain that provider.

The Fiber Optics Committee hopes to present a proposal to the BOF by January 2021 and go to a vote by May 2021. The committee wants to hear from the people of Norfolk as to what they want and would businesses come in. There is a survey on the Town website. There is another meeting Thursday, November 12th. The Town would own the lines which would be serviced by the Massachusetts agency. There is a lot of discussion about what this would look like in 5 years.

There was nothing under 2/3 vote.

There was nothing under Public Comment.

On Motion of J. Tarrant, second by D. Torrey and unanimously approved, the meeting adjourned at 8:00 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Jennifer M. Ryan, Secretary

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November 9, 2020

Board of Finance
Norfolk, CT 06058

The following is a list of refunds.

The below refunds are for an adjustment on motor vehicle taxes, which were paid.

2019-03-0050997	KOCHISS, James E	refund- \$149.12
2019-03-0050060	ANDERSON, Samuel A	refund- \$52.69
2019-03-0051442	PETERSON, Elizabeth B	refund- \$19.62
2019-03-0051213	MERMANN, Cecily R	refund- \$10.73
2019-03-0051831	Ally Financial	refund- \$577.62
2019-03-0050797	GUNDLACH, Eric	refund- \$127.30
2019-03-0050794	GUNDLACH, Eric	refund- \$368.92
2018-03-0050796	GUNDLACH, Eric	refund- \$12.73
2019-03-0050806	GUNDLACH, Henry	refund- \$117.43
2019-03-0050728	GODLEWSKI, Walter	refund- \$67.55
2019-03-0051680	SMITH, Nicolette	refund- \$32.99
2019-03-0051623	SCHARNBERG, Julia	refund- \$55.60

2019-03-0051968	YELSITS, Kerry & Katherine	refund- \$74.62
2019-03-0051966	YELSITS, Kerry & Katherine	refund- \$13.67
2019-03-0051112	LUCIANO, Kim	refund- \$12.27
2019-03-0050870	HILPMAN, Elizabeth	refund- \$78.91

Respectfully,



Sarah Brusco, CCMC
Tax Collector

NORFOLK BOARD OF FINANCE

2021 MEETING DATES

Norfolk Town Hall at 7:30

Tuesday, January 12, 2021 (previously approved with 2020 dates)

Tuesday, February 9, 2021

Tuesday, March 9, 2021

Tuesday, April 13, 2021

Tuesday, May 11, 2021

Tuesday, June 8, 2021

Tuesday, July 13, 2021

Tuesday, August 10, 2021

Tuesday, September 14, 2021

Tuesday, October 12, 2021

Tuesday, November 9, 2021

Tuesday, December 14, 2021

Tuesday, January 11, 2022