

**NORFOLK BOARD OF FINANCE
MINUTES OF NOVEMBER 14, 2023 MEETING**

Members present were: M. Sconyers, G. Allyn, S. Anderson, N. Ritson, J. Tarrant and alternates L. Battis, J. Bickford and K. Hester.

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

K. Hester was appointed to fill in for G. Mudge.

The October 10, 2023 minutes were approved on Motion of G. Allyn, second by S. Anderson and unanimously approved.

Under correspondence, the Tax Collector's requests for refunds were approved on Motion of N. Ritson second by S. Anderson and unanimously approved.

The First Selectman will present a more solid number to the BOF regarding the temporary bridge and put the issue to a Town Meeting thereafter. The First Selectman has submitted a third claim to Federated Insurance for the gas spill. The first was for approximately \$168,000, and the Town has received total reimbursement, the second was for approximately \$99,000 and the last claim was for \$58,000 to assist two families with alternate housing and for attorneys' fees. There are 5 houses on Route 44 that are still not occupied, as additional testing by the Connecticut Department of Public Health continues. The Town will incur expenses for the foreseeable future, estimated at another month or two, for the displaced families.

The First Selectman indicated the flood expenses were quite high, the Town spent an estimated \$550,000 in repairs. He has submitted a third application for Locip funds of \$208,000. The First Selectman suggests discussing whether the balance of approximately \$360,000 will come from Capital Reserve funds and recommends posing this question to George Sinnamon.

There were questions posed about information contained in the Town monthly report. The First Selectman will correct the errors in the form.

Regarding the non-lapsing fund, there is approximately \$66,793.10 in the non-lapsing BOE/BOF fund. There are significant problems with the furnaces at Botelle School. M. Sconyers proposes utilizing \$30,000 from the non-lapsing fund towards the repair or replacement of the furnaces at Botelle School, on Motion of M. Sconyers, second by K. Hester, and unanimously approved. Superintendent Iacobelli expressed that the BOE is fine with this proposal because that is what the non-lapsing fund would do, offset this type of expense for which there are no available funds in the BOE budget. The Superintendent relayed that the boilers are 30 years old, one went completely down three weeks ago, as soon as it got fixed, the second one went down. In the event that both boilers were to go down, school would have to be cancelled. The Superintendent is waiting on an estimate from Perotti's and was told it needed to be fixed "yesterday". The Superintendent does not yet have an estimate and wondered at the possibility of replacing one boiler, hoping the other lasts until next year, or completing the entire job with the full funds in the non-lapsing fund. The quote is expected before the BOE meeting next month. The First Selectman indicated the boilers have outlived their life, been patched, fixed, adjusted, and worn out their life expectancy.

There was nothing under 2/3 vote.

Under Public Comment, there was a question posed to the Superintendent to ensure that the Board of Education seeks more than one quote for the repair/replacement of the boilers at Botelle School.

Chairman Sconyers expressed his gratitude to Graham Allyn, Katie Hester and Nina Ritson for their hard work as Board of Finance members over the years.

On Motion of J. Tarrant, second by S. Anderson and unanimously approved, the meeting adjourned at 7:51 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to read "Jennifer M. Ryan".

Jennifer M. Ryan, Secretary