

**NORFOLK BOARD OF FINANCE  
MINUTES OF OCTOBER 8, 2024 MEETING**



Members present were: M. Sconyers, J. Bickford, G. Mudge, J. Torrant and alternates L. Battis and R. Miller.

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

L. Battis was appointed to fill in for S. Anderson. R. Miller was appointed to fill in for M. Kwast.

The September 10, 2024 minutes were approved on Motion of J. Bickford, second by J. Torrant and unanimously approved.

The First Selectman reported that the former Town Clerk, Linda Perkins, resigned as of October 1, 2024. Deb Nelson, who was the Assistant Town Clerk, obtained her certification and has been acting as Town Clerk since July 1, 2024. Ms. Nelson was officially appointed as Town Clerk on October 1<sup>st</sup> and sworn into office today. Ms. Nelson previously worked approximately 16 hours per week. A proposal was raised to provide back pay to Clerk Nelson, on Motion of M. Sconyers second by L. Battis and unanimously approved. The Town will be searching for an Assistant Town Clerk to ensure the hours suit the needs of the Town. The Town Clerk position will become an appointed position via Town Ordinance, in order to ensure the position is fulfilled by a person with certification credentials, ensure continuing educational requirements are fulfilled and to create hours that best suit the needs of the Town.

The Maple Avenue project is complete. When the project began, it was bonded at \$2,100,000 and the First Selectman sought a \$500,000 STEAP grant. With all of the engineering and construction work, the final cost amounted to approximately \$2,506,058.42. The Town has received the STEAP grant and applied the funds. A claim is being submitted to the insurance company for flood damage to Maple Avenue in the amount of \$752,827.18.

The First Selectman relayed that the residents of Smith Road and Old Goshen Road have requested a temporary bridge. M. Riiska has researched several prefabricated bridge options. Three (3) culverts with jersey barriers will last an estimated 2 to 2.5 years. M. Riiska has contacted and has a meeting with the Army Corps. of Engineers, DEEP, the DOT, State Senator Seminara and Representative Maria Horn. The funding for this temporary bridge would need to be paid through the Capital Reserve account. The First Selectman received one estimate thus far for the culverts. M. Sconyers appointed S. Anderson and J. Torrant to be emissaries from the BOF for this bridge project.

First Selectman Riiska provided an update on the River Place bridge as follows: the original cost set aside was \$3,028,082. The most recent figure is approximately \$3,489,419.46. He has been contacted by the bank to close out the first loan that was at a 2.25% interest rate.

The Treasurer reported the Tax Collector recently collected \$4,000,000.

There was nothing under 2/3 vote.

Under Public Comment, there was a brief inquiry regarding the bridge materials for Smith Road.

On Motion of J. Tarrant, second by G. Mudge and unanimously approved, the meeting adjourned at 7:54 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Jennifer M. Ryan, Secretary