

Board of Selectmen Meeting
October 1, 2025
4:30 PM Town Hall



Present: Matthew Riiska, Henry Tirrell, Barbara Gomez, Avice Meehan and
Sandy Evans (arrived at 4:56 P.M)

The meeting was called to order at 4:30 p.m.

Public Comments: None

MOTION M. Riiska to add the Greystone Electronics 26th Annual 10-Mile Road Race to the agenda. Second H. Tirrell. Motion carried.

Minutes: September 2, 2025 and September 26, 2025

MOTION H. Tirrell to approve the minutes of the September 2, 2025 meeting as presented. Second M. Riiska. Motion carried.

MOTION H. Tirrell to approve the minutes of the September 26, 2025 special meeting as presented. Second M. Riiska. Motion carried.

Greystone Electronics 26th Annual 10-Mile Run

Will Graustein, race director, has requested the use of the Town Hall building/grounds to host the 26th Annual 10-Mile Run in the Town of Norfolk on Saturday, December 20th at 11:00 AM (snow date of Saturday, January 3rd). A custodial fee was received for use of the Town Hall restrooms/grounds.

MOTION M. Riiska to approve the request for use of the Town Hall building/grounds for the date(s) requested. Second H. Tirrell. Motion carried.

Selectman's Report

- Ashpohtag Road Bridge – On Saturday, September 27th the bridge in front of 214 Ashpohtag Road was struck by a vehicle driven by a Mountainside Treatment Center employee. The top of the bridge was shifted over. A state trooper filled out an accident report and public works was called in to install a jersey barrier. M. Riiska contacted Will Sweeney from Evergreen Construction for a repair quote (\$73,200) and forwarded the quote to Dan Smith (Mountainside) for their insurance company. We would like this resolved before winter. M. Riiska discussed damage and repairs needed.
- Speed Detection Cameras – The State of CT Traffic Administration needs to be officially notified that the town is looking into an automated traffic control system. M. Riiska discussed the process which includes a traffic study conducted by the company we choose (Sitestream), a town plan for the State of CT DOT, a town ordinance and a committee or person to monitor the results. This will be a lengthy process, and we will likely place the cameras on Route 44 and in a few places on Route 272. This will generate revenue for the Town and slow traffic down.

Selectman's Report (continued)

- Town Meeting – A Special Town Meeting will be held Monday evening, 10/6/25 at 7:00 PM at Botelle School to increase the appropriation and the amount to be borrowed for the new Firehouse project. The Town will be using Phoenix Advisors for our bond council. Matt Spoerndle from Phoenix Advisors suggested we get a bond anticipation note with the monies coming in. The project will probably begin mid to late November after the new administration takes office.
- OSHA – A Public Works employee was recently injured on the job while cutting trees on Lovers Lane. State of CT OSHA was contacted by another Public Works employee and a representative came and interviewed the First Selectman and all employees involved. The Town was cited for violations regarding proper protective gear when using a chainsaw, improper use of the woodchipper and lack of road signage. While the inspector was here, he also noticed that the use of the backhoe on Maple Avenue without safety cones was also a violation. The Town received \$2,000 in fines for 4 out of the 5 violations. It was recommended that employees attend safety training classes and proper procedures be written up. Troy LaMere, PW Supervisor is working on procedures. Safety training has been set up through UConn's T2 Center.
- Maple Avenue – M. Riiska submitted reimbursement for \$752,000 which to date has not been received from Federated Insurance for the fuel spill. The Town has received a subpoena from the insurance company for more information, which has been forwarded to our attorneys at Shipman & Goodwin. Also submitted was information regarding the three homes on Greenwoods Road East that were affected, as they received relief through the assessment appeals process at a cost of \$5,200 which amounted to lost revenue for the Town of Norfolk.
- Mountain Road Bridge – bids are due next Thursday. WMC engineering will be the consultant for the project. The State of CT will be paying for everything but the interest on the loan.
- Town Hall rear outside staircase is being rebuilt by Joe Marolda using State of CT LOCIP money. The brick is impossible to match but we will be using the brownstone received some time ago from the State of CT, which has been stored at the Town Farm.
- Dog Kennel – Public Works is rebuilding the dog kennel in accordance with State criteria. The four old kennels were torn down as they did not pass a State of CT inspection. We will be rebuilding one kennel which is all we need.

MOTION S. Evans to adjourn at 5:31 p.m. Second H. Tirrell. Carried unanimously.

Respectfully submitted,


Barbara Gomez, Secretary