

**NORFOLK BOARD OF FINANCE
MINUTES OF JULY 14, 2026 MEETING**



Members present were: M. Sconyers, S. Anderson, J. Bickford, M. Kwast, G. Mudge and J. Torrant.

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

The April 21, 2026 and May 19, 2026 minutes were approved on Motion of J. Torrant second by S. Anderson and unanimously approved.

M. Sconyers relayed that teacher contract negotiations are scheduled to begin on August 11, 2026. Chairman Sconyers will review upcoming Town obligations with the First Selectman as well as meet with Superintendent Kevin Case.

The First Selectman reported: the Firehouse construction process has been slow to progress. A new plumber is being sought. The Town has received \$858,000 from the \$2.5 million dollar state grant. The First Selectman can submit for the remaining \$1.2 million dollar reimbursement shortly. The Town is in the process of finalizing its obligation for the \$500,000 USDA grant, which will be received once the project is fully complete. The Mountain Road bridge construction is proceeding along very quickly; it is temporarily paused for a bracket for the water main. The reimbursement process from the State for this bridge construction has been quick. The Old Goshen Road bridge is planned for 2027 through a Grant Anticipation Note and then Smith Road bridge in 2028. A temporary bridge is currently in place on Smith Road. The Town has a new Building Official and a new building permit system with adjusted fees. The new transfer station in Torrington is up and running. The State provided additional aid of approximately \$30,000-\$40,000 in the current Fiscal Year.

The Rails to Trails went out to bid. A grant was awarded for Rails to Trails in 2023 in the amount of \$399,725 from the DEEP. Construction is estimated to begin in August. The full bid is over \$700,000. The project will be broken into phases with the hope of receiving additional funding. Expenses are reimbursed on a quarterly basis after being paid out. While a Grant Anticipation Note is a possibility, the Town could instead put forth the funds. The Board is inclined to not take on additional debt and is in favor of not utilizing a Grant Anticipation Note.

There was nothing under 2/3 vote.

Under Public Comment, John DeShazo and the Board of Education are looking forward to meeting with the BOF and going through teacher contract negotiations at Botelle.

On Motion of J. Torrant, second by J. Bickford, and unanimously approved, the meeting adjourned at 7:45 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Jennifer M. Ryan, Secretary