



TOWN OF NORTON

BOARD OF SELECTMEN

70 EAST MAIN STREET

MUNICIPAL CENTER, NORTON, MASS. 02766

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BOARD OF SELECTMEN MINUTES OF MEETING FOR JANUARY 29, 2009

- I. **CALL TO ORDER BY CHAIRMAN:** The January 29, 2009 Board of Selectmen meeting was called to order at 7:00 p.m. By Chairman, Mrs. Steele.

A. **Roll Call:** Chairman, Mrs. Mary Steele; Messrs. Timothy Giblin, Steve Gradie; and Robert Kimball were present. Mr. Robert Salvo was absent. Mr. James Purcell, Town Manager, was also present.

B. **Pledge of Allegiance**

II **WARRANTS AND MINUTES**

A. **Approve bi-weekly payroll for the period ended January 10, 2009, Warrant #42, dated January 15, 2009, in the amount of \$941,401.75**
MOTION was made by Mr. Giblin to approve bi-weekly payroll for the period ended January 10, 2009, Warrant #42, dated January 15, 2009, in the amount of \$941,401.75. Second by Mr. Kimball. Vote: Unanimous. MOTION CARRIES.

B. **Approve bills Warrant #43 dated January 15, 2009, in the amount of \$1,189,215.87**
MOTION was made by Mr. Giblin to approve bills Warrant #43, dated January 15, 2009, in the amount of \$1,189,215.87. Second by Mr. Kimball. Vote: Unanimous. MOTION CARRIES.

C. **Approve bills Warrant #44, dated January 22, 2009, in the amount of \$330,838.80**
MOTION was made by Mr. Giblin to approve bills Warrant #44, dated January 22, 2009, in the amount of \$330,838.80. Second by Mr. Kimball. Vote: Unanimous. MOTION CARRIES.

D. **Approve bi-weekly payroll for the period ended January 24, 2009, Warrant #45, dated January 29, 2009, in the amount of \$1,024,681.47**
MOTION was made by Mr. Giblin to approve bi-weekly payroll for the period ended January 24, 2009, Warrant #45, dated January 29, 2009, in the amount of \$1,024,681.47. Second by Mr. Kimball. Vote: Unanimous. MOTION CARRIES.

E. **Approve bills Warrant #46, dated January 29, 2009, in the amount of \$145,756.79**

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MOTION was made by Mr. Giblin to approve bills Warrant #46, dated January 29, 2009, in the amount of \$145,756.79. Second by Mr. Kimball. Vote: Unanimous. MOTION CARRIES.

F. Approve Minutes – August 21, 2008

MOTION was made by Mr. Giblin to Approve Board of Selectmen Minutes of Meeting, dated August 21, 2008, as written. Second by Mr. Kimball. Vote: Unanimous. MOTION CARRIES.

Approve Minutes – November 20, 2008

MOTION was made by Mr. Giblin to Approve Board of Selectmen Minutes of Meeting, dated November 20, 2008, as written. Second by Mr. Kimball. Vote: Unanimous. MOTION CARRIES.

Approve Minutes – November 20, 2008 Executive Session

MOTION was made by Mr. Giblin to Approve Board of Selectmen Minutes of Meeting of Executive Session, dated November 20, 2008, as written. Second by Mr. Kimball. Vote: Unanimous. MOTION CARRIES.

III. LICENSES AND PERMITS

IV. ANNOUNCEMENTS

- **Parks and Recreation members needed to serve on this committee; it meets on Wednesday one time per month.**
- **Friends of Norton Library Fundraiser at the Chateau Restaurant on Wednesday, Feb. 11, 2009 and 20% of total bill to be donated to Friends of Norton Library.**
- **Virtual Town Hall is up and running. Commendation to Tom Golota for his hard work and effort. This is a work in progress and suggestions are welcomed by web master.**

V. BUSINESS

A. NEW BUSINESS

1. 7:05 P.M. - Fire Chief Richard J. Gomes Re: Vehicle Maintenance Program

Chief Gomes asked if there was a fire hydrant located in front of any resident's home to please try to shovel it out.

Chief Gomes spoke of a recent tragedy where firefighter was killed in apparatus and wanted to review what Norton's procedures are and preventative maintenance. The apparatus officer and mechanic report to him and he is also a firefighter. A trained certified mechanic is doing work on these heavy trucks. Annual inspections are conducted by state, etc.

Chief Gomes stated the officer understand when there are complaints with vehicles, etc., and things are

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immediately maintained/repaired and looked at immediately. It is a good culture at Norton Fire Dept. Five year replacement cycle vs. four year replacement cycle is currently used.

Mr. Gradie asked if maintenance person is a certified mechanic?

Chief Gomes responded mechanic has some certifications but break work is done outside (not in-house). He said he is happy with work mechanic does on vehicles.

Chief Gomes said no CDL's are needed for firefighters. He said he personally is an advocate of CDL certified drivers. Some of Norton's employees are CDL certified; some are not.

Chief said he had a good fleet: 2005; '95; '99; and '89 and '84; and discussed his replacement cycle concern.

Chief Gomes said their trucks are fully loaded all the time and thus cannot fool around with brakes and tires.

Chief Gomes invited the Bd of Selectmen and FinCom in prior to one of their meetings to see the fire dept. and what personnel did with renovations and used their own labor and mostly their own funds with some coming from budget.

Did some work to three rooms upstairs in headquarters(kitchen/classroom). Seems every ten years something new is done. He did not know how to thank the Fire Dept. personnel properly for this.

Chief Gomes discussed the fire at the Treatment plant that occurred the other day and distributed photos of this two-alarm fire. Plants (power plants, etc.) are very dangerous inside of building. Fire remains under investigation but is not suspicious.

Mr. Purcell stated an officer off the clock stayed at station until station was adequately manned and commended that officer for that. Manpower levels are pretty tight.

2. Create Task Force Re: Virginia Graeme Baker Pool and Spa Safety Act which became effective December 20, 2008

(a) Designate member of Board of Selectmen to Task Force

This relates to children killed with suction in pools/spas.

Mrs. Steele stated she spoke with Mr. Salvo and he is willing to take on this job.

MOTION was made by Mr. Kimball to Create Task Force Re: Virginia Graeme Baker Pool and Spa Safety Act which became effective December 20, 2008. Second by Mr. Gradie. Vote: Unanimous. MOTION CARRIES.

Friendly Amendment:

MOTION was made by Mr. Kimball to add that Task force to include two members of Park and Rec; one member of Bd. Of Health; and one member of Board of Selectmen and Finance

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Committee. Second by Mr. Giblin.

Discussion:

Mr. Purcell said Bd. Of Health had regulatory authority; and called "ex-officio" and recommended to drop Board of Health members to this Task Force.

Friendly Amendment:

MOTION was made by Mr. Kimball to exclude Board of Health members to this Task Force. Second by Mr. Giblin. Vote: Unanimous. MOTION CARRIES.

MOTION was made by Mr. Kimball to designate Robert Salvo as member of Board of Selectmen to this Task Force. Second by Mr. Giblin. Vote: Unanimous. MOTION CARRIES.

B. OLD BUSINESS

1. Review special Town Meeting Warrant

Mr. Purcell stated Finance Committee has made their recommendations and reviewed Warrant with Board.

C. APPOINTMENTS/RESIGNATIONS

VI. SELECTMEN'S REPORT AND MAIL

Mr. Kimball said he attended the MMA on Saturday in Boston and a couple of things came up; he attended a session on "housing for the future"/regs re:ch40B housing. A housing plan needed in order for this to work. He was told this costs money. He suggested through Planning Bd. and ZBA involvement and some money be earmarked for housing needs. This is an important issue.

Mr. Kimball also discussed info from MMA; an assessment (this through Honeywell)a look at your costs for building (may be two halves of building be separate). High school heating system to look at. Upfront money to us and through their savings can make improvements, etc. Save energy, make capital improvements and does not cost town more money). He would like to call references and invite Honeywell in and have a joint meeting with School Committee (a timeline agreement; 10-20 year payback. With Board's permission he would like to place some calls.

Mr. Giblin said through Nat'l Grid they do the same type of idea that they did at his own business.

Mr. Purcell spoke of energy audit results; school and Town Hall working with energy dept.;their work is almost done. Dr. Ansay worked on getting this done. Baseline data will be helpful and to sit down with Honeywell. Discussion followed.

A letter received from Rep Barrows and Poirier re: letter of support for waiver of public library to maintain its accreditation. Discussion ensued.

Mr. Kimball spoke of Gov. Patrick's bleak picture for the Commonwealth. Ch70 funding can be discussed at a future meeting. And, yes, there will be an impact on school system.

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Mr. Purcell said meals and room tax increase would help Norton;close to \$300,000 if passed.

Mr. Purcell said he had a two hour meeting with Lt. Governor this morning re: economy; and target numbers for hotel/motel and meals and was assured it was an estimate.

Mr. Gradie spoke of W. Main St. project; some completion on it?

Mr. Purcell said before 4/15; cannot go out onto state highway. April a potential start date and if weather permits can waive that and start earlier (possibly in March).

Mr. Gradie asked if there was any changes, please report back to Board.

Mr. Purcell responded he would report back if any changes.

VII. TOWN MANGER'S REPORT

VIII. NEXT MEETING'S AGENDA

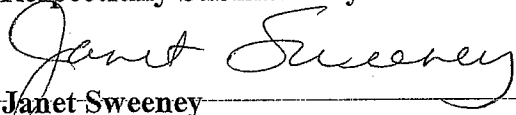
IX. EXECUTIVE SESSION

X. ADJOURNMENT

MOTION was made at 8:30 p.m. by Mr. Kimball to enter into Executive Session for purpose to discuss strategies with respect to litigation and return to open session for purpose of adjournment. Second by Mr. Giblin. Vote: Unanimous. **MOTION CARRIES.**

XI. SIGNING OF DOCUMENTS

Respectfully Submitted by:



Janet Sweeney

Board of Selectmen – Recording Secretary