

TOWN OF NORTON

BOARD OF SELECTMEN

70 EAST MAIN STREET

MUNICIPAL CENTER, NORTON, MASS. 02766

TELEPHONE (508) 285-0210

Board of Selectmen Meeting Thursday, March 11, 2010 7:00 P.M.

I. <u>CALL TO ORDER BY CHAIRMAN:</u> The March 11, 2010, Board of Selectmen meeting was called to order at 7:00 p.m. by Chairman, Mr. Giblin.

A. <u>Roll Call</u>: Chairman, Mr. Timothy Giblin; Messrs. Bradford Bramwell; Robert Kimball; and Robert Salvo were present. Mrs. Mary Steele arrived at 7:08 p.m. 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 March 6, 2010, Warrant #53, dated March 11, 2010 in the amount of \$1,020,956.93

MOTION was made by Mr. Salvo to Approve bi-weekly payroll for the period ended March 6, 2010, Warrant #53, dated March 11, 2010 in the amount of \$1,020,956.93. Second by Mr. Bramwell. Vote: Unanimous. MOTION CARRIES.

B. Approve bills Warrant #54, dated March 11, 2010, in the amount of \$440,763.79

MOTION was made by Mr. Salvo to Approve bills Warrant #54, dated March 11, 2010, in the amount of \$440,763.79. Second by Mr. Bramwell. Vote: Unanimous. MOTION CARRIES.

C. Approve Minutes - December 17, 2009

MOTION was made by Mr. Salvo to Approve the Board of Selectmen Minutes of Meeting, dated December 17, 2009, as written. Second by Mr. Bramwell. Vote: Unanimous. MOTION CARRIES.

III. LICENSES AND PERMITS

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It was noted a person from registry was checking licenses and appears Ed's Auto Repair needs to change name on license.

MOTION was made by Mr. Kimball to change the Seller Class II License to state: Edward F. Breault d/b/a Edd's Auto Repair, 32 King Philip Road, Norton, MA.

<u>Discussion</u>: Mr. Giblin said his decision was not to have Mr. Breault attend this meeting since situation happened last week.

Second by Mr. Salvo. Vote: Unanimous. MOTION CARRIES.

IV. ANNOUNCEMENTS

Senior Citizen pancake breakfast sponsored by Norton Fire Dept. to be held 4/9/10 from 8-11 a.m. at Norton VFW
Norton High school Early Repair tours to be held 3/23, 3/31 at 6 p.m. at Norton High school.
Norton Grange meeting to be held $3/15$ at 7:30 p.m. at Unitarian Church and they are seeking new members and a good opportunity to learn more about the Grange.
"Smiles" at Yelle School is a school-based mentoring program and those interested can call 508-999-
9300 or 285-0100.

3/13 NEED Fundraiser-Texas Hold'Em event at VFW ; call 285-8545 for more info.

V. BUSINESS

A. NEW BUSINESS

1. <u>7:05 P.M.</u> – D. Marcus Dennett Re: Interview for appointment to the Industrial Development Commission

Mrs. Steele said it has been a struggle to get this going again and she had a chance to talk to applicants and it seems they are from varied backgrounds; banking; childcare; construction, etc. Thanks to all candidates.

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Mr. Giblin said D. Marcus Dennett was unable to make it this week; next week he will plan to be in as he had a family emergency this evening.

2. 7:10 P.M. – Patrolman David Schepis

Mr. Giblin recognized Patrolman Schepis who is leaving for Afghanistan and said it was an honor to have Patrolman Schepis at the Board meeting and wished Patrolman Schepis good luck and congratulations.

Mrs. Steele said they will be collecting chap stick and hand warmers; collection box at police station.

It was noted Patrolman Schepis was in Afghanistan in 2002 also. 3/23 is training and will deploy on April 26.

Mr. Kimball said the Board of Selectmen will be glad to help him with anything he needs and to let them know if he needs anything.

Mr. Purcell said in about 2004, Town Meeting went beyond the states/ cities and towns and accepted a certain provision of state law; Town will cover family health insurance.

Mr. Kimball said Patrolman Schepis will be gone for a whole year.

Patrolman Schepis' three daughters were introduced.

Police Chief Clark said Patrolman Schepis is the top producer at police dept. and he will be missed when he is gone. One of Patrolman Schepis' daughter's was born when he was deployed in the past.

Mr. Giblin said they have an item that is not on actual agenda.

Mr. Purcell referenced a list which expires on March 16th and he was not here when agenda was posted, therefore, not on agenda.

Mr. Kimball referenced Article 4, Section 2b.

Police Chief Clark referenced Christopher McCarthy from Canton, MA and is a Boston Police Officer at Prudential Center . 4/12 is academy start date; Mr. McCarthy was in U.S. Marine Corp. (Corporal). He is a 1999 graduate and was in Marines from 1999-2003 and he will fill Patrolman Schepis' position. Patrolman Schepis will have position when he returns.

Police Chief Clark said historically people leave each year /retirement eligible and this is for planning purposes.

MOTION was made by Mr. Kimball to appoint Mr. Christopher McCarthy as patrolman, effective as of 4/12/10. Second by Mrs. Steele. Vote: Unanimous. MOTION CARRIES.

3. <u>7:20 P.M.</u> – Thomas Beauchene Re: Interview for appointment to the Industrial Development Commission

Mr. Thomas Beauchene said he saw an article the other day regarding reactivating IDC and Alec Rich III was appointed to it who is one of his customers. He was a member of Finance Committee 10-12 years ago and has been a Norton resident for 16 years. He works at Mansfield Bank as a commercial loan officer and involved with business development organizations across state and also with SEED in Taunton and would like to be an ambassador for Town and make networking part of his ordinary day.

Mr. Giblin said it appears to be a good fit especially with current new members. It is encouraging to him to see candidates coming forward.

MOTION was made by Mrs. Steele to nominate Mr. Beauchene to IDC. Second by Mr. Bramwell. Vote: Unanimous. MOTION CARRIES.

It was noted this would make #4 and next week another candidate bringing total to five. Number can be expanded if needed. Discussion ensued.

Mr. Purcell said whoever comes up; first one in door gets three year term. This evening's appointment was a two year term, and two year for next one, then one year term.

Mrs. Steele stated she is interested in being on committee and glad to see it going in right direction. Discussion on her interest of being appointed ensued.

MOTION was made by Mr. Kimball to appoint Mary Steele to a one year term on IDC. Second by Mr. Bramwell. Vote: Unanimous. MOTION CARRIES.

Mr. Giblin asked Mr. Salvo if he was still interested in the IDC?

Mr. Salvo responded he was still interested.

Mr. Giblin said if appointing person next week; it would bring members to seven; could possibly increase it.

Mrs. Steele suggested to give IDC opportunity to decide. Start with 7 members and let IDC decide if they want more members.

Mr. Kimball said they are not closing membership for this down. All interested residents can contact town hall; he didn't want to discourage anyone from applying.

Mr. Giblin said the more members there are, the more networking to take place.

MOTION was made by Mr. Kimball to appoint Robert Salvo to IDC for a one year term. Second by Mrs. Steele. Vote: Unanimous. MOTION CARRIES.

4. <u>7:30 P.M.</u> - Luis G. Lopes, Ed.S., Superintendent, Southeastern Regional School District Re: FY11 Budget

Mr. Lopes said this was a very preliminary type of budget (2011 budget was discussed).

Anticipate 5% cut in governor's initial budget number. Stimulus money helped with jobs that would have been lost; lowered reimbursement number and school committee absorbed. Current budget about \$20 Million.

Mr. Lopes said \$1.5 M worth of cuts made.

Potential of 24 employees having elimination of positions and reduction of 40+ hours.

Looking at \$1,155,005 - +\$76,000 increase over last year.

Mr. Giblin spoke of the specific formula; three less students but increase of 10%.

Mr. Lopes said it is because of the transportation assessment. \$58,000 new transportation assessment.

Mr. Lopes said it is higher than 29% reimbursement; thinking 48/50%.

Same conditions even with same formula; 2011 assessment reduction of 19%. Mr. Lopes said it was a very conservative budget.

Mr. Purcell referenced the E&D account which is the same as free cash. \$1M cap on it for Southeastern besides varying transportation figure. Discussion ensued.

Mr. Purcell said last year Norton got favorable shake on E&D funds.

Mr. Lopes said last year Norton received about 28% from E&D account. It cannot be dropped any lower.

Mr. Kimball stated the formula has been used for a number of years; not sure how it works and seems to be not much of a choice. He applauded Mr. Lopes and school committee with reduction of 5%.

It was noted five unpaid furlow days to be taken by superintendent and sr. administrator.

Mrs. Steele thanked Mr. Lopes as always for coming in and every year it has been difficult. She felt badly at cuts they have to take. She agreed with Mr. Kimball regarding formula issue and knows Mr. Lopes is doing his best.

Mr. Lopes clarified cuts are not cutting quality of education, etc.

5. Vote to Lay Out Rubin Drive

Mr. Purcell referenced Planning Board letter and recommendation of acceptance of Rubin Drive as a public way and letter read aloud. There was objections on floor of Town Meeting for street trees and

failed on 10/5/09 due to objections. On 10/20/09 all released but \$2500. Planning Board voted on 3/9/10 to recommend to Board of Selectmen for Rubin Drive to be laid out. Putting tree issue aside; surety issue backing up trees and \$2500 being withheld.

Mr. Purcell said on Feb. 11 Board voted their intention to layout this way. Action is third part for Board of Selectmen to layout Rubin Dr. as a public way.

MOTION was made by Mr. Kimball to vote to layout Rubin Drive, as recommended by Planning Board. Second by Mr. Bramwell. Vote: Unanimous. MOTION CARRIES.

6. Vote to designate GATRA Advisory Board Member

Mr. Kimball said there is no human service director currently. Any member of this Board could volunteer. The meetings for GATRA usually are at 2 p.m. which makes it difficult for most of the Board to attend, so need someone with that flexibility. If any residents are interested please send letter of interest to 70 East Main Street or call 774-226-1273-GATRA. April 1st at 2pm is first meeting.

7. Vote to set Special Town Meeting

Mr. Giblin said 3/11/10 warrant opens; 3/12 depts./committees notified and other important dates were given. May 10th is Special Town Meeting.

MOTION was made by Mr. Kimball to call for a special Town Meeting to be held on May 10, 2010 at the H.A. Yelle School. Second by Mr. Bramwell. Vote: Unanimous. MOTION CARRIES.

B. TOWN MANAGER'S REPORT

C. APPOINTMENTS/RESIGNATIONS

VI. SELECTMEN'S REPORT AND MAIL

Mrs. Steele said the Kathy Bailey Memorial Basketball Game was originally set up to assist the Bailey family and now goes to other families in need. It was a huge success Friday night and thanked Michelle Peterson and all others involved. A tremendous amount of work goes into this. Families on receiving end of this are very appreciative.

Letter was received from Bruce Finch, owner of Swirling Vine, thanking Board for their consideration as he had a scheduling conflict that evening and could not attend the meeting.

VII. NEXT MEETING'S AGENDA

VIII. EXECUTIVE SESSION

IX. ADJOURNMENT

MOTION was made by Mrs. Steele to Adjourn at 8:12 p.m. Second by Mr. Salvo. Vote: Unanimous. MOTION CARRIES.

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Respectfully Submitted by:

Janet Sweeney, Board of Selectmen - Recording Secretary

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