

**BOARD OF SELECTMEN
MINUTES OF MEETING FOR
MAY 26, 2011**

I. CALL TO ORDER BY CHAIRMAN

The May 26, 2011 Meeting of the Board of Selectmen was called to Order by Mr. Bramwell, Chairman at 7:00 p.m., held in the First Floor Selectmen's Conference Room in the Municipal Center.

A. Roll Call: Mr. Brad Bramwell, Chairman of Board of Selectmen; Mrs. Mary Steele, Vice-Chair; Mr. Timothy Giblin, Clerk; Mr. Robert Kimball; and Mr. Robert Salvo were present. Mr. Michael Yunits, Town Manager, was also present.

B. Pledge of Allegiance

II. WARRANTS AND MINUTES

A. Approve bills Warrant #70, dated May 26, 2011, in the amount of \$1,493,901.89

MOTION was made by Mr. Giblin to approve bills Warrant #70, dated May 26, 2011, in the amount of \$1,493,901.89. Second by Mr. Salvo. Vote: Unanimous. MOTION CARRIES.

B. Minutes – No Minutes were reviewed/approved.

III. LICENSES AND PERMITS

1. Application of Karyn McMahon d/b/a McMahon's Countryside Grille, 336 Old Colony Road, for a Common Victualler's License

Ms. McMahon said they were hoping to take over Old Colony Cafe with a full menu and ice-cream to be on menu; possibly breakfast on weekends. They would like to have a comfortable family restaurant.

Mr. Kimball asked if they will apply for a common victualler all alcoholic license?

Ms. McMahon responded possibly eventually will apply but not at this time.

Mr. Kimball said they need to wait for present license-holder to return license or would need to send a letter to revoke as well.

Mr. Yunits said a letter was sent to previous license-holder and he has fourteen (14) days to respond.

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MOTION was made by Mr. Kimball to approve Application of Karyn McMahon d/b/a McMahon's Countryside Grille, 336 Old Colony Road, for a Common Victualler's License. Second by Mr. Salvo.

Discussion: It was noted all inspections have been approved.

Vote: Unanimous. MOTION CARRIES.

IV. ANNOUNCEMENTS

Elaine Jackson, Head Librarian is retiring and celebration at the Norton Library on June 5 from 1-4 p.m.
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Memorial Day Parade to be held Monday, May 30, with a 10 a.m. stepoff from Yelle Elementary School.
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Vacancy on Water and Sewer Commissioners. Intro letter to be sent to Water and Sewer Dept. and Board of Selectmen no later than may 31, 2011.

V. BUSINESS

A. NEW BUSINESS

1. 7:05 P.M. - Brian M. Clark, Chief of Police, Re: Recognition of Police Officers

Chief Clark introduced the new officers: Christopher McCarthy who was a member of Marine Corp. and Kevin Schleicher, who received The Top Gun award. The third officer -David Schepis; staff sergeant overseas and on August 28, 2010, his base was attacked by Taliban insurgents and he was very instrumental in this attack and recognized by military for his efforts. Officer Schepis is on leave until June 1st.

Mr. Bramwell told Officer Schepis it was an honor to have him back from overseas.

A Norton Tri-Centennial pin was awarded to all officers and also a pin awarded to Officer Schepis' wife.

Mr. Kimball said the quality of Norton Police Department is excellent and many are in or have had military experience. He congratulated all on behalf of the Board.

2. 7:20 P.M. - Danielle Sicard, Town Clerk, Re: Request to vote on Redistricting

Ms. Sicard spoke of redistrict/re-precincting and referenced "The Town of Norton Draft – Precinct Boundaries". The current population is at 19,031 and each precinct has not more than 4,000 residents. Map shown by Ms. Sicard.

MOTION was made by Mr. Kimball to approve the Re-Precincting Plan for the Town of Norton,

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**including the map, legal description, and block listings as presented. Second by Mr. Giblin.
Vote: Unanimous. MOTION CARRIES.**

Ms. Sicard wanted to communicate to folks that the Town website is a very good tool. People can subscribe to receive automatic e-mails when something new is added to website under “e-mail subscriber”.

Mr. Kimball discussed voter registration and absentee ballots availability and deadlines.

3. 7:40 P.M. - Clarence P. “Butch” Rich Re: Tri-Centennial Parade, June 12, 2011

It was noted Mr. Rich did not appear to be present this evening.

4. Discussion – Fire Chief Position

Mr. Yunits said Fire Chief Gomes is retiring July 28, 2011, and former Town Manager, Mr. Purcell was made aware of this in 2009. State HR division testing occurred on 3/10/11 and there were fewer than four applicants. Some things are still being looked into for clarification. He was under impression they did need four members. Departmental promotional exam discussed. He will let Board know as soon as he gets previous results in from test in March.

Mr. Kimball said this Board of Selectmen makes decision as to what direction they will go in (either in-house or open assessment). Mr. Yunits is the appointing authority. Discussion ensued.

Mr. Bramwell asked if Board of Selectmen has decided on how they wish to proceed?

Mr. Kimball said he thinks Board can think about it. He said he was personally not in favor of an only in-house hire last time and has not changed his mind. He believes in an open candidate list and to narrow down to top three. Before final decision made, should be put on next agenda.

Mr. Bramwell said he was in favor of the in-house exam himself; there are very experienced candidates in-house and Town has paid for many to attend the Fire Academy. Discussion ensued.

Mr. Kimball said there are other people who Town may not want to exclude; former Norton firefighters who may have moved on to other towns, etc.

Mr. Giblin said he believed there were many quality people on Norton Fire Dept., but do not want to limit the candidates. He said it is not known who has taken the test so there is no bias.

Mr. Kimball said Fire Chief Gomes did a great job and he was an in-house hire, and started on an interim basis. The sooner they make a decision the better.

Mr. Bramwell stated due to next week's heavy agenda, they may need to wait until week afterward to continue this discussion.

Mr. Giblin stated he was comfortable voting this evening.

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Mr. Kimball stated Mr. Salvo is a call firefighter so he cannot participate in vote.

Mr. Salvo stated he was letting Ethics Board decide this.

Mrs. Steele said to give Mr. Salvo the possible chance to vote they should wait on this item.

Mr. Bramwell said there is no meeting scheduled for June 9 as there is a meeting in Mansfield on sewer issues, so they should hold this agenda item until June 16 and vote then.

5. Discussion – State-owned land on Hill Street

Mr. Yunits said land was declared surplus state land and SRPEDD sent letter saying Town may have interest. Norton needs to respond back to state if there is any interest in land and if they don't purchase it they will auction it. Discussion of Condyne possibly having interest in it. It was noted it was zoned industrial.

Mr Kimball said he hoped Condyne knows property well regarding zoning, etc. Putting it back on tax rolls would help. If Board can help Condyne in any way, they would be happy to do so. Discussion ensued.

Mr. Bramwell said it was possible Condyne or maybe others may feel it would be less expensive to purchase at auction.

It was noted there were possibly several vernal pools on property. It would be excellent to have someone like Condyne with an interest . Discussion ensued.

Mr. Bramwell said Town of Norton has no money to appraise nor to buy it.

MOTION was made by Mr. Giblin to have Mr. Yunits send a letter to State stating Town of Norton has no interest in Hill Street (state-owned land). Second by Mrs. Steele. Vote: Unanimous. MOTION CARRIES.

6. Award of Bid for Ambulance Billing

Mr. Yunits stated three responses were back and two met requirements. EMS Billing Solutions; 2.5% first year; 3% next; and 3.25% following year. Discussion ensued.

MOTION was made by Mrs. Steele to award bid for Ambulance Billing to EMS Billing Solutions to include above-indicated percentages. Second by Mr. Giblin. Vote: Unanimous. MOTION CARRIES.

7. Award of Bid for DPW Supplies & Services

MOTION was made by Mr. Kimball to award contracts to the bidders, as presented, under the SERSG DPW Supplies IFB for a twelve month period commencing July 1, 2011. Second by Mr. Giblin. Vote: Unanimous. MOTION CARRIES.

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It was noted Mr. Rich was still not present so the Board decided to continue to Table Mr. Rich - Tri-Centennial Parade agenda item.
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Mr. Nadworny regarding agenda item relating to Pot Belly Jim's was not yet present and it is requirement of Board of Selectmen to have applicant in before Board.

Mr. Giblin stated it should be Tabled as applicant(s)/owner(s) should be present.

Mr. Yunits stated he believed Mr. Nadworny was trying to arrange childcare.

B. OLD BUSINESS

C. TOWN MANAGER'S REPORT

FinCom/School Building Committee presented reviewed bleacher project and lower than expected amount. FinCom was in support of that project and over \$100,000 in monies being donated.

Also, FinCom approved the Building Project dollar figures. 64.4% reimbursement.
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Mr. Yunits stated he attended the Flag Retirement Ceremony by Boy Scouts last night and they did a wonderful job.
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Proposed solar project on Norton's landfill was referenced and they will come out June 3 to look at landfill, etc. Hopefully someone to take over monitoring of cap.
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Mr. Salvo said a joint meeting is planned for next week with water and sewer commissioners regarding alternative routes etc., on Mansfield Avenue.
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Mr. Kimball said on May 10 a 40B proposal is coming to Norton.

Mr. Yunits said Norton has met with developer and Mr. Busby, from State. Plans were very limited. An email he did receive from engineer that they would redesign. Other issue is how they would handle sewerage on that site. Kopelman and Paige to be involved; also questions is whether Norton has to respond.

Mr. Kimball referenced active Housing Partnership in Town and Mr. Junior, developoer, has been in Town in past. This should be passed onto Local Housing Partnership and brought to their attention.

Mr. Salvo spoke of a Shell underground gas line also in area.

Mr. Kimball said there was a junkyard in that area at one time; a 21E factor also.
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Mr. Bramwell spoke of list of appointments from Micheelle Brown and he needs permission from Board for her to send letters out to members asking whether or not they are still interested in serving on boards/committees.

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Board said please have Ms. Brown send letters out to incumbents as to whether or not they are still interested in serving.
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Mr. Bramwell said cemeteries look in excellent condition. Mr. Bramwell said there are many “Unsung Heroes” and Mr. Albert Watson is one of them for placing markers, placing flags, etc. Able to learn a lot of history from Mr. Watson and want to thank him for his efforts.

D. APPOINTMENTS/RESIGNATIONS

VI. SELECTMEN'S REPORT AND MAIL

VII. NEXT MEETING'S AGENDA

1. Rita Kelleher, Dei.Cura Adult Day Health
2. Joint Meeting with Board of Water/Sewer Commissioners to interview applicants and appoint member to the Water/Sewer Commission
3. Executive Session with Board of Water/Sewer Commissioners to discuss negotiations

VIII. EXECUTIVE SESSION

Re: Collective Bargaining and Litigation

IX. ADJOURNMENT

MOTION was made by Mr. Kimball to enter into Executive Session at 8:45 p.m. for purpose to discuss Collective Bargaining and Litigation and to return to Open Session for purpose of Adjournment. Second by Mr. Salvo. Vote: Unanimous. MOTION CARRIES.

Respectfully Submitted by:

Janet A. Sweeney
Board of Selectmen – Recording Secretary

Documents Viewed/Distributed at Board of Selectmen Meeting of May 26, 2011

. Memorandum from Town Manager, Michael Yunits, to Board of Selectmen, dated May 26, 2011, re: Hill Street State-Owned Land in reference to letter dated April 29, 2011, from Carole Cornelison, Commissioner, The Commonwealth of Massachusetts, Division of Capital Asset Management, re: possible interest by Town of Norton re: Hill Street State-Owned Land

. Memorandum to Board of Selectmen from Town Manager, Michael Yunits, dated May 26, 2011, re: Fire Chief – 7/28/11 Retirement

. Document Packet from Town Clerk (letter dated May 26, 2011 to Commonwealth of Massachusetts re: Town of Norton – 2011 Re-Precincting; 2011 Re-Precincting Data sheet; Town of Norton 2011 Re-Precincting Legal Descriptions for Precincts 1, 2, 3, 4, 5).

. Letter from Richard J. Gomes, Chief of Fire Dept., dated May 25, 2011, to Norton Board of Selectmen/Chairman of the Board, Mr. Bramwell, regarding request for approval of bid for ambulance service billing for the department for the next three fiscal years 2012-2014.

SERSG DPW Supplies IFB-Fiscal Year 2012-Contract Award Sheet

**BOARD OF SELECTMEN
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Bradford K. Bramwell, Chairman

Mary T. Steele, Vice-Chair

Timothy R. Giblin, Clerk

Robert W. Kimball, Jr., Chairman

Robert S. Salvo, Sr.

Date Approved: _____