

**BOARD OF SELECTMEN
MINUTES OF MEETING FOR
OCTOBER 20, 2011**

I. CALL TO ORDER BY CHAIRMAN

The October 20, 2011 Meeting of the Board of Selectmen was called to Order by Mr. Bramwell, Chairman, at 7:00 p.m., at the Municipal Center, first floor Selectmen's Conference Room

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

B. Pledge of Allegiance

II. WARRANTS AND MINUTES

A. Approve Bills Warrant #22, DATED October 13, 2011, in the amount of \$128,416.77

MOTION was made by Mr. Giblin to Approve Bills Warrant #22, dated October 13, 2011, in the amount of \$128,416.77. Second by Mr. Kimball. Vote: Unanimous. MOTION CARRIES.

B. Approve bi-weekly payroll for the period ended october 15, 2011, Warrant #23, dated October 20, 2011, in the amount of \$993,085.65

MOTION was made by Mr. Giblin to Approve bi-weekly payroll for the period ended October 15, 2011, Warrant #23, dated October 20, 2011, in the amount of \$993,085.65. Second by Mr. Kimball. Vote: Unanimous. MOTION CARRIES.

C. Approve bills Warrant #24, dated October 20, 2011, in the amount of \$153,661.49

MOTION was made by Mr. Giblin to Approve bills Warrant #24, dated October 20, 2011, in the amount of \$153,661.49. Second by Mr. Kimball. Vote: Unanimous. MOTION CARRIES.

D. Minutes – June 30, 2011

MOTION was made by Mr. Giblin to approve the Board of Selectmen Minutes of Meeting, dated June 30, 2011, as written. Second by Mr. Kimball. Vote: Unanimous. MOTION CARRIES.

III. LICENSES AND PERMITS

1. Application of Edward J. Brault, for Veterans' Day Parade Permit, to be held Friday, November 11, 2011, 10:00 A.M. - Approximately 11:15-11:30 A.M.

Mr. Kimball said this will be the first time in 16 years he will miss this Parade due to business travel.

MOTION was made by Mr. Kimball to approve Application of Edward J. Brault, for Veterans' Day Parade Permit, to be held Friday, November 11, 2011, 10:00 A.M. - Approximately 11:15-11:30 A.M., and to waive all application fees. Second by Mr. Giblin. Vote: Unanimous. MOTION CARRIES.

2. 7:05 P.M. - Request of Kenneth Paul Gilchrist d/b/a Goosebrook Garage, for a Limit of 150 Cars, on the Class II License, to be utilized at 36 Dean Street, Norton, MA

Mr. Bramwell said 150 cars seemed like a lot of vehicles.

Mr. Gilchrist said he is thinking 50 or 60 vehicles but does not want to lock himself into a smaller number. Previous license was for 250 cars.

Mr. Kimball said this is a Class II-Resale license. Not sure if enough property and also it is not on a main street. Mr. Kimball also had a concern with the number of cars.

Mr. Gilchrist said sometimes a company like Zipcar sells the whole fleet.

Mr. Kimball asked if Class III would cover this? 150 cars sounds like a lot.

Mr. Bramwell said 250 cars for class II; and under 250 for a Class III, from previous owner/license.

Mr. Giblin said space issue and large number of vehicles at site appears to be a concern.

Mr. Kimball said applicant could put as many as he wants; Board could add in a restriction.

Mr. Bramwell said a Class II less likely since possibility of leaking fluids, etc.

Mr. Giblin had concern with no limitation on Class III also.

License was discussed.

Mr. Bramwell stated the applicant is cleaning up property and trying to work with Town. He would personally support 150 cars at this time.

Mr. Giblin agreed with Mr. Bramwell, but still would want limitation on Class III.

Mr. Yunits spoke of some issue with respect to septic system; and referenced a portable toilet use for about a year until business has it's "feet on ground".

Discussion on the language of "with limit of 150 cars on Class II license".

MOTION was made by Mr. Giblin to approve Request of Kenneth Paul Gilchrist d/b/a Goosebrook Garage, for a limit of 150 Cars, on the Class II License, to be utilized at 36 Dean Street, Norton, MA. Second by Mr. Kimball. Vote: Unanimous. MOTION CARRIES.

IV. ANNOUNCEMENTS

E-mail from Heather Graf regarding Shpack Superfund Site meeting to be held Nov. 14 at 10 a.m. at Norton Library-Community Room regarding "Updates on status of cleanup, etc."
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Advanced Dental Care of Norton stating October 24-28 is "Oral Cancer Awareness Week".
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Public Hearing to be held Nov. 17 at 7:30 p.m. in Selectmen's meeting room regarding Percentage of FY2012 tax levy.

V. BUSINESS

A. NEW BUSINESS

1. 7:15 P.M. - Discussion with Kenneth R. Leavitt, Proponent of Norton Team Building & Adventure Camp Re: Use of Island on Norton Reservoir

Mr. Kimball stated he and Mr. Yunits saw this presentation and felt it could fill a need and sounds very interesting.

It was discussed there would be a Ropes Course on this site. Mr. Yunits said Mr. Leavitt wants to see Board of Selectmen's feeling on this. There is a purchase and sale agreement in place which Mr. Leavitt has on this property currently.

Mr. Leavitt said he is the entrepreneur-type and has experience in high tech, the ski industry, and had the first snow tubing facility built. His family is primarily in education. He said the aerial adventure parks out of Europe are popular and it is a beautiful experience with trees, nature, outdoors, etc. These parks started in France, and it is a tested and proven product. Other nearby areas that have these activities are Gunstock; Lake George, New York; Bolton landing. He said he had a video from Adironadack Extreme and had a few slides to propose what they were planning for Norton via Powerpoint presentaton/video/slides.

Mr. Leavitt stated island is for sale and has lots of great trees with no impact to neighborhoods. This is a "Tree Go" company from Canada, a type of franchise with a patented compression system. Camps, schools boy scouts, and others would enjoy this.

Mr. Bramwell said this proposal appeared to be exciting.

Mr. Leavitt said Tree Go are designed to promote safety. He said 200 harnessess are usually available and double-clips used at all times. Discussion ensued. Protection of trees was discussed.

Mr. Bramwell said personally he felt it looks like it would be quiet. Discussion with Norton's Emergency Response personnel and "working bugs" out would be necessary.

Mr. Giblin spoke of liability insurance.

Mr. Leavitt responded one provider likes business and rates lower than in ski areas. Training of guides and safety checks (similar to ski business) are conducted.

Mr. Leavitt said accessibility is important and senior citizens would use lighter course usually and it is a great senior activity.

Mr. Giblin spoke of safety; public safety; and also kayak business in that area so would probably need to coordinate so not over capacity.

Mr. Leavitt responded access to island is different than kayak business.

Mr. Kimball said he would like the whole package to be here in Norton. Possibly consider a smaller welcoming station/center. If it goes forward it would be beneficial to contact land owners and some property on Route 140. If it is a Norton experience, it would be ideal to have it all in one town as a lot of jobs to be offered and brings people to town and helps Norton's businesses. Interesting

concept/idea. Mr. Leavitt should sit with the police and fire departments, as well as Conservation Commission, Recreation, etc., if it goes forward.

Mr. Leavitt said parking is needed (140 spaces necessary). Facilities to be on island, so it is important to see island.

Mr. Leavitt said he has already spoken to fire chief and will meet with him the following week also.

Mr. Kimball said environmental impact will be minimal. He encouraged Mr. Leavitt to proceed and look at options (possibly someone on Reservoir has a piece of land to sell, etc.). Wheaton College also owns a large piece of land in that area (about 32 acres). The Highway Superintendent, Keith Silver, may be a person Mr. Leavitt would want to speak with as he may have some innovative ideas. Could possibly look at a lease agreement with Wheaton.

Mr. Kimball said they are having a breakfast meeting with Wheaton soon and they could pass his name along, etc.

Mr. Leavitt said he would love to do this sooner rather than later.

Mr. Leavitt stated he may contact Wheaton the next day if the Board of Selectmen did not mind him doing so.

Mr. Bramwell said it is an exciting proposal and it was discussed Mr. Leavitt will speak with fire chief. It appears Mr. Leavitt has already met with Jen Carlino of Conservation Commission, and will continue to meet with her. Speaking for Board, they would like to see this progress and Mr. Leavitt should let Board know what they can do to help.

2. Request to formally adopt the Statewide Public Safety and Public Works Mutual Aid Law (GL C. 40, Section 4) that was enacted earlier in 2010

Mr. Yunits indicated this was regarding the "Hurricane" and would help public safety and public works enter into a mutual agreement.

Mr. Bramwell said it appears it would be a win-win situation.

Mr. Kimball said it appears to be another step in the direction of regionalization (possibly could share equipment).

MOTION was made by Mr. Giblin that the Town of Norton accept the provisions of MGL C. 40, Section AJ – Statewide Public Safety Mutual Aid Agreement and MGL C. 40, Section 4K 0 Statewide Public Works Mutual Aid Agreement and that the Town Manager contact the Massachusetts Emergency Management Agency notifying the Director of Norton's Acceptance. Second by Mr. Kimball. Vote: Unanimous. MOTION CARRIES.

3. Proclamation – United Nations Day, October 24, 2011

Mr. Giblin read Proclamation aloud.

MOTION was made by Mr. Giblin to endorse Proclamation – United Nations Day, October 24, 2011. Second by Mr. Kimball. Vote: Unanimous. MOTION CARRIES.

4. Vote to award Joint Salt Bid

It was noted Eastern Mainerals, Inc. was selected at 47.20 per ton. Three bidders bid on calcium chloride; and solar ice melt Eastern Minerals was only bid received.

MOTION was made by Mr. Giblin to accept to award Joint Salt bid to Eastern Minerals, Inc. At \$47.20/Ton. Second by Mr. Kimball. Vote: Unanimous. MOTION CARRIES.

5. Vote proposed Resolution in support of H1972 “An Act Regulating Election Primaries”

Mr. Yunits explained this; ballots sent to servicemen 45 days before election, however, no time to do this. This will move primary election to state election; move to June and will save money, etc. State saves \$8M by putting this on the same day.

MOTION was made by Mr. Giblin to support proposed Resolution in support of H1972 "An Act Regulating Election Primaries". Second by Mr. Salvo. Vote: Unanimous. MOTION CARRIES.

Mr. Kimball asked Mr. Yunits to notify appropriate people regarding Board's support of this.

B. TOWN MANAGER'S REPORT

A thank you to Highway Dept. again for storm / Hurricane Irene assistance. These employees used their own chainsaws, etc.
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State of Economy discussed; Town is one of best in state with rainy day fund. MMA meeting Mr. Yunits attended earlier that day. \$130M surplus state ended year with half going back to cities and towns.

There was a caution regarding healthcare changes and Evergreen changes. Governor putting something in to supplemental bill, now retroactive with Evergreen Bill.

"GIC" cannot just raise co-pays looking to change a provision so GIC cannot set contribution ratio.

Redistricting; Norton will have two state reps (appears Betty Porier won't be representing Norton).

Mr. Kimball said Representative Poirier has done a great job for Norton and sad to see her go. He was sure she would still help if Norton needed her assistance.

Mr. Giblin said if this happens, a thank you letter should be sent to Representative Poirier.
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State Ethics class to be held on December 1 at 6:30 p.m. at Norton High school auditorium and is a requirement. Asking Board if Town Hall can close so all employees can attend. Mr. Bramwell sill not attend as he will be out of state. Thanks to high school for allowing this class to be held there.
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Mr. Giblin said James Puello, Town Accountant, and Mr. Yunits are working on accumulated comp time, and asked about status of this.

Mr. Yunits said Mr. Puello is working on it.

Mr. Salvo said he would like to know how this actually works; who gets comp time, why they receive it, etc.

Mr. Giblin said for contracts going forward, it is important to know all info about this.

Mr. Kimball said the entire package itself needs to be looked at; why people retire at age 55 and why not prorate over years. Some of these retirements will put Town behind the "eight ball". Why allowing payouts to be based on present day salary; why not prorated? Discussion followed.

C. APPOINTMENTS/RESIGNATIONS

VI. SELECTMEN'S REPORT AND MAIL

1. Newsletter from Norton Historical Society;
2. Letter from Comcast Re: High-speed Internet Service to the Town of Norton schools and library free of charge

The Board thanked Comcast for this offer from their letter of October 7, 2011. Discussion ensued on senior discounts from Comcast and if this is possible. This could possibly be readdressed with Mr. Jerry Buckley. Also need to discuss Middle School and Comcast wiring/live feeds; revisit contract guidelines and senior discount. However, wanted to thank Comcast for free service to schools and library.

3. Invitation from Tri-Centennial Park Committee to the dedication of the Tri-Centennial Park of Norton, Sunday, October 23, 2011, at 2:00 P.M.
4. Invitation from the Norton Veterans' Council to participate in the Parade in observance of Veterans' Day, Friday, November 11, 201
5. Letter from President and CEO of CO-OP, a non-profit organization that supports local citizens with developmental disabilities and their families
6. Request from Massachusetts Tree Wardens' and Foresters' Association for Nomination of Tree Warden - Year 2012
7. Town Hall's exterior is being painted. Corrections facility and Sherrif Hodgson did a great job.

8. Flag pole discussed; cannot put up flag. Duplicate wires in back if possible. Scott Barbato, building inspector, is doing a great job (if wires have to stay there then flagpole will need to be moved).
9. An email received from Dr. Ansay regarding a search committee for a new superintendent and looking for town manger and one member of Board of Selectmen to be on this committee.

Mr. Kimball volunteered to be a member of this Committee. Expected to run Janaury to April.

It was discussed that Mr. Yunits should advise Dr. Ansay of Mr. Kimball's interest in volunteering, etc.

VII. NEXT MEETING'S AGENDA

VIII. EXECUTIVE SESSION

Re: 1) Collective Bargaining
2) Litigation

MOTION was made at 8:55 p.m. by Mr. Salvo to enter into Executive Session for purpose to discuss 1) collective bargaining and 2) litigation, and to return to open session for purpose of Adjournment. Second by Mr. Giblin. Vote: Unanimous. MOTION CARRIES.

IX. ADJOURNMENT

MOTION was made by Mr. Giblin to Adjourn at 9:52 p.m. Second by Mr. Kimball. Vote: Unanimous. MOTION CARRIES.

Respectfully Submitted by:

Janet A. Sweeney
Board of Selectmen – Recording Secretary

**BOARD OF SELECTMEN
MINUTES OF MEETING OF
OCTOBER 20, 2011**

Bradford K. Bramwell, Chairman

Mary T. Steele, Vice-Chair

Timothy R. Giblin, Clerk

Robert W. Kimball, Jr.

Robert S. Salvo, Sr.

Date Approved:_____

Documents Distributed/Reviewed at October 20, 2011 Board of Selectmen Meeting

- . Application of Edward J. Brault, for Veterans' Day Parade Permit, to be held November 11, 2011
- . Written Request, dated October 14, 2011, of Kenneth Paul Gilchrist d/b/a Goosebrook Garage, for Limit of 150 Cars, on the Class II License, to be utilized at 36 Dean Street, Norton, MA
- . Powerpoint presentation presented by Mr. Kenneth R. Leavitt, Proponent of Norton Team Building & Adventure Camp
- . Letter dated August 17, 2011 from Massachusetts Emergency Management Agency (The Commonwealth of Massachusetts-Executive Office of Public Safety and Security) to encourage cities/towns to formally adopt the Statewide Public Safety Mutual Aid Law (GL C. 40, Section 4J) enacted in 2010
- . Letter dated August 15, 2011, from United Nations Association of Greater Boston to Board of Selectmen/Town of Norton to Proclaim October 24, 2011 as United Nations Day (Proclamation)
- . Letter dated October 13, 2011, from Kathleen Ebert-Zawasky to Board of Selectmen: invitation to attend the dedication of Tricentennial Park of Norton on October 23, 2011 at 2 p.m.
- . Memo from Keith Silver, Highway Superintendent, dated October 6, 2011, to Board of Selectmen regarding "Joint Salt Bid" including Summary of Joint Salt Bid