

**BOARD OF SELECTMEN
MINUTES OF MEETING
MARCH 22, 2012**

I. CALL TO ORDER BY CHAIRMAN

The March 22, 2012, 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. Bradford 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 bi-weekly payroll for the period ended March 17, 2012, Warrant #56, dated March 22, 2012, in the amount of \$999,578.85

MOTION was made by Mr. Giblin to Approve bi-weekly payroll for the period ended March 17, 2012, Warrant #56, dated March 22, 2012, in the amount of \$999,578.85. Second by Mrs. Steele. Vote: Unanimous. MOTION CARRIES.

B. Approve bills Warrant #57, dated March 22, 2012, in the amount of \$1,112,237.78

MOTION was made by Mr. Giblin to Approve bills Warrant #57, dated March 22, 2012, in the amount of \$1,112,237.78. Second by Mrs. Steele. Vote: Unanimous. MOTION CARRIES.

C. Minutes – November 3, 2011

MOTION was made by Mr. Giblin to approve the Board of Selectmen Minutes of Meeting, dated November 3, 2011, as written. Second by Mrs. Steele. Vote: Unanimous. MOTION CARRIES.

III. LICENSES AND PERMITS

IV. ANNOUNCEMENTS

V. BUSINESS

A. NEW BUSINESS

1. 7:00 P.M. – Luis G. Lopes, Ed.S., Superintendent, Southeastern Regional School District Re: FY13 Budget

Mr. Michael Maloney, Business Manager of Southeastern Regional School District, was present as Mr. Lopes could not attend this meeting this evening. Also Mr. Christopher DeLeo, Norton's Southeastern Regional Rep, was also present. Mr. Maloney said this past Tuesday evening the budget was approved. It was noted

Southeastern Regional was down 24 students this year (down 9 students from 122 in Norton). Discussion ensued. Acceptance to school depends on grades/absenteeism, etc.

Enrollment was discussed, as well as transportation and State is supposed to reimburse at 100% "subject to appropriations". It was noted this was an issue that should be promoted to state reps.

Board asked Mr. Yunits to draft a letter to the state reps regarding this.

Mr. Kimball said possibly Mr. DeLeo could help with this task..

Mr. DeLeo spoke of discussions with Rep Barrows about transportation and "Day on Hill" is Tuesday.

Mr. Bramwell stated this falls under Chapter 766, therefore, should be reimbursable.

Mr. Maloney referenced how assessment is calculated. Numbers were discussed. \$1,102,075 – assessment: increase of \$6,305 from last year.

Southeastern receives about \$15,400 from State. It is a \$9,752 cost to Norton. It was discussed the number of students decreased but assessment increased. Discussion followed.

Transportation number was discussed, as well as the various program offerings at Southeastern. Newer programs: Biotech (green program) and geothermal. Solar/geothermal is the future.

Mr. Maloney invited Board of Selectmen to take a tour.

Mr. Kimball stated a Norton Energy Fund was organized this winter, and asked if they could look into the possibility of a partnership with Town/Southeastern if a person in need needs help repairing a furnace, etc.

Mr. Maloney responded he would point this issue in direction of Southeastern's principal.

Mr. Bramwell said Southeastern's culinary arts department is excellent, and his wife graduated from the LPN program at Southeastern.

Mr. Yunits stated it appeared Southeastern's school committee voted budget already and he just wanted to confirm this.

Mr. Maloney responded, yes, on Tuesday it was voted.

2. 7:30 P.M. - Ronald A. Crutcher, President, Wheaton College Re: Update on the current year at Wheaton

Dr. Crutcher stated he was pleased to be here this evening. Dr. Crutcher referenced the start of the school year with the hurricane and new students dealing with this, as well as the power outage. This spurred College to look closely at emergency preparedness. Many students say it was a defining memory/moment in their lives.

Dr. Crutcher stated Rick Wallick passed away about a year ago. A search was conducted last Fall and Brian Douglas was welcomed to the campus and comes to Wheaton as an Associate V.P. For U-Mass, graduated from Colgate University and Harvard Graduate School. It is a very exciting and challenging time.

Dr. Crutcher referenced Wheaton's \$45,000,000 building for science (the raised \$35,000,000 for this building). He hoped Board has a chance to visit it. Also the College remodeled the Meadows Residential Hall with energy efficient windows, light woodwork vs. dark, and new study places, and students love it.

The state of the economy is affecting College families ability to pay tuitions, etc., and families are expecting more scholarship money. Increase is 13 percentage points (\$9,000 is each percentage point). Tuition and fees are not earning enough revenue for College. Some consultants have been engaged to work with Wheaton and will work out financial (now economic diversity at college). Middle class students have an economic impact. Staff

and faculty positions have been cut, but are moving forward. Fifty percent of students are involved in some type of sport. One Wheaton student was named the Academic All American with synchronized swimming.

Wheaton is building a new turf fields and alum have come forward with a gift and hopeful this field will be ready by Fall 2013. May 18, and especially May 19, a lot of people will be on campus for commencement, etc. Janet Robinson, CEO for New York Times in past, and she brought New York Times into digital world will be commencement speaker. Next time he visits town hall, he would like to bring Brian Douglas with him as well.

Mr. Bramwell thanked Dr. Crutcher for helping in celebrating the Tricentennial. Mr. Bramwell said it appears there are two separate worlds with Norton and Wheaton students. Cable tapes Norton sports, but Wheaton sports would also be great to see on cable.

Dr. Crutcher said Mr. Bramwell's idea was a great one and Wheaton has students who major in film and produce films.

Dr. Crutcher spoke of Wheaton's involvement with Norton and other towns with the tutoring/theater program/english language program in Attleboro, and lectures and concerts are open to the public.

Mr. Giblin said Jason Benjamin is the cable person contact.

Dr. Crutcher said Wheaton also has a staff member who is on the cable commission and they do streaming of some of the Wheaton games. Discussion ensued.

Mr. Giblin said what Wheaton offers academically to Town is excellent and Wheaton is a staple to Norton.

Mr. Kimball said Town has streaming capability (it should not just be sports).

Mr. Kimball indicated to Dr. Crutcher that Turtle Crossing is back in front of Town and proposal for 177 apartments, and now has a different design.

Dr. Crutcher asked how he could obtain more info?

Mr. Kimball responded Mr. Yunits could provide info.

Mr. Kimball said on May 5 a Community Cleanup Day will be held in Norton and additional help from Wheaton would be helpful.

Dr. Crutcher responded he will give this info to appropriate person at Wheaton.

Mr. Kimball asked Mr. Yunits to advise boards/committees/dept. heads, that May 18 and 19 is the weekend for Wheaton Commencement.

3. Discussion Re: FY13 Town Budget

Sheet discussed and distributed to Board on estimated operating revenues/budget and Mr. Yuntis will need to adjust some numbers again. "FY13 Estimated Operating Revenues and Expenditures" was document Board perused.

Mr. Yunits said Finance Committee recommendations were also added on this sheet. More information he will obtain on water and sewer in future.

Levy money discussed, and these are self-sufficient budgets.

Mr. Yunits said increase in communications/new requirements where there needs to be two dispatchers on at all times.

B. TOWN MANAGER'S REPORT

Fire Chief had stated earlier that air temp is warm but water temp is still cold (yesterday on Winnecunnet someone tipped over and, fortunately, was basically ok but need to be careful

regarding hypothermia setting in.

Also, on April 1st Chartley Fire Station closing so as to live within their budget.

Norton High School project update: bids arrived in which is good news and all bids being reviewed. Appears to be still within budget.

Special Town Meeting Warrant closes on 3/20/12.

Two names came forward for Conservation Commission interest/interviews for a future meeting.

C. APPOINTMENTS/RESIGNATIONS

VI. SELECTMEN'S REPORT AND MAIL

Scouts Troop #12, Brandon Beale, to become an Eagle Scout on April 22 at 2 p.m. Mr. Giblin said this takes a tremendous amount of effort and dedication to become an Eagle Scout. Letters of commendation from President of United States received and congratulations was given to Brandon Beale.

U.S. Census Bureau Survey was referenced. Mr. Yunits said it is a survey to see how many employees are in town. He would be responsible for obtaining info.

VII. NEXT MEETING'S AGENDA

1. Application of Norton VFW Post 8049, 38 Summer Street, for Two-Day Poppy Drive at Roche Bros., Produce Barn, CVS, St. Mary's, and Sun Market
2. Application of J&F Norton Group LLC d/b/a Mangia Pizziera, 288 E. Main Street, for a Common Victualler License
3. 7:10 P.M. - John Freeman Re: Interview for appointment to the Conservation Commissioners
4. 7:30 P.M. HEARING – application of Northeast Golf Properties, Inc. d/b/a Norton Country Club, 188 Oak Street, for a modification of the licensed premises on its Common Victualler All Alcoholic Beverages License to include the sale of All Kinds of Alcoholic Beverages on its golf course from one (1) beverage cart
5. 8:00 P.M. - Patrick Daly Re: Interview for appointment to the Conservation Commission

VIII. EXECUTIVE SESSION

Re: To consider the purchase, exchange, taking, lease, or value of real property

IX. ADJOURNMENT

MOTION was made by Mr. Kimball to enter into Executive Session at 8:07 p.m. for purpose to consider the purchase, exchange, taking, lease, or value of real property, and to not return to Open Session. Second by Mr. Giblin. Vote: Unanimous. MOTION CARRIES.

Respectfully Submitted by:

Janet Sweeney

Board of Selectmen – Recording Secretary

**BOARD OF SELECTMEN
MINUTES OF MEETING OF
MARCH 22, 2012**

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 March 22, 2012, Board of Selectmen Meeting

. Draft Board of Selectmen Minutes – dated November 3, 2012

. FY13 Estimated Operating Revenues and Expenditures

. FY 2013 Operating Budget