

**BOARD OF SELECTMEN
MINUTES OF MEETING
SEPTEMBER 19, 2013**

I. CALL TO ORDER BY CHAIRMAN

The September 19, 2013, Meeting of the Board of Selectmen was called to Order by Mr. Kimball, Chairman, at 7:00 p.m., held in the First Floor Selectmen's Conference Room.

- A. ROLL CALL: Mr. Robert W. Kimball, Jr., Chairman; Mrs. Mary T. Steele, Vice-Chair; Mr. Robert S. Salvo, Sr.; and Mr. Timothy R. Giblin were present. Mr. Bradford K. Bramwell, Clerk, was absent. Mr. Michael Yunits, Town Manager, was present.
- B. Pledge of Allegiance

II. WARRANTS AND MINUTES

- A. Approve bi-weekly payroll for the period ended September 14, 2013, Warrant #17, dated September 19, 2013, in the amount of \$1,217,360.59

MOTION was made by Mrs. Steele to Approve bi-weekly payroll for the period ended September 14, 2013, Warrant #17, dated September 19, 2013, in the amount of \$1,217,360.59. Second by Mr. Giblin. Vote: Unanimous. MOTION CARRIES.

- B. Approve bills Warrant #18, dated September 19, 2013, in the amount of \$1,202,492.85

MOTION was made by Mrs. Steele to Approve bills Warrant #18, dated September 19, 2013, in the amount of \$1,202,492.85. Second by Mr. Giblin. Vote: Unanimous. MOTION CARRIES.

- C. Approve Minutes –
There were no Minutes reviewed/approved.

III. LICENSES AND PERMITS

IV. ANNOUNCEMENTS

Fire Truck Pull to be held at Comcast Center on September 28 to benefit Special Olympics.

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Blood-drive to be held on September 30 from 2-7 p.m. at Norton VFW. For more info or to donate, please call 1-800-Red-Cross.

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Mr. Giblin noted a September 23rd (Monday) Public Hearing location change from Norton Library to Norton Middle School. This public hearing relates to Island Brook Ch40B project on East Main Street which is one of the main items for discussion.

V. BUSINESS

A. NEW BUSINESS

1. 7:05 P.M. – Sam Arena Re: Presentation of Key to the Board of Selectmen, for the Cannon, which was donated to the Town by the American Legion

Mr. Arena distributed photos related to cannon and he read letter describing his part and thanked many people who helped him. He presented the key to cannon to Board of Selectmen. The Historical Society will have the other key.

Mr. Kimball said the Board cannot thank Mr. Arena enough for his efforts.

Mr. Kimball said someone is interested in doing some refurbishing of Town Common. Possibly some work around cannon too and any help by Mr. Arena would be appreciated.

History of the cannon was discussed. All that is known is it is a German cannon from WWI. Mr. Giblin said he would be curious about the specific history of it.

2. 7:15 P.M. - Aaron Lacher Re: Interview for appointment to the Norton Open Space Committee

It was noted the Open Space Committee needs a member. Mr. Lacher has been attending meetings already. This is supported by the Town's Conservation Commission Agent, Jennifer Carlino.

Mr. Giblin thanked Mr. Lacher for coming forward and supporting the Town.

Mr. Yunits said he was in Brewster, Massachusetts, and they had a brochure listing all trails, etc.; having a brochure detailing Norton's trails/parking areas would be beneficial. Mr. Lacher agreed that would be a good idea.

MOTION was made by Mr. Giblin to appoint Aaron Lacher to the Open Space Committee. Second by Mr. Salvo. Vote: Unanimous. MOTION CARRIES.

3. 7:30 P.M. - Joint meeting with Norton Housing Authority to make appointment to fill the vacancy created by the resignation of Frederick W. Annas, effective June 20, 2013. The candidate, Ms. Slandy Ogine-Noel, stated she was a graduate of University of Mass Lowell and attended University of Mass Dartmouth School of Law for two years, and also has been a resident of Norton for two years.

The following members of the Housing Authority were present: Mr. Robert Salvo, Sr. Chairman; Mr. Stephen Ceckowski, Treasurer; and Mr. James Dinsel, State Appointee to Committee. Absent: Mr. Ralph Stefanelli, Vice-Chair. Also attending was Ms. Andrea Downey.

It was noted this position is open until April. The Committee said an ad was run on Town website and there was one candidate only who posed an interest.

Mr. Salvo is looking for someone to commit to monthly meetings and to add input. Ms. Ogine-Noel is a law student and has taken some time off and she would provide her input and be able to help.

Mr. Dinsel stated he was impressed by Ms. Ogine-Noel's background and noted it was difficult to get volunteers to come forth.

Resume of Ms. Oginé-Noel was distributed by Mr. Yunits to Board of Selectmen.

Mr. Salvo said if it was agreeable with Board of Selectmen, possibly they could make this appointment at their next meeting of a full Board.

Mr. Kimball responded it would need to be a joint meeting.

It was noted Mr. Stefanelli was out on a medical leave.

Mr. Kimball said it is up to the Housing Authority to decide.

Mr. Dinsel said an appointment this evening would be effective.

Mr. Giblin agreed an appointment made this evening would be ideal.

Roll call vote:

It was noted the only candidate was Ms. Slandy Oginé-Noel.

Mr. Salvo said in the capacity as Chairman of Housing Authority, he would like the courtesy of Housing Authority to vote first.

MOTION was made by Mr. Salvo to recommend this vote take place this evening to recommend Slandy Oginé-Noel as Housing Authority member. Second by Mr. Dinsel. Vote: Unanimous. MOTION CARRIES.

MOTION was made by Mrs. Steele to appoint Slandy Oginé-Noel as a member of Housing Authority. Second by Mr. Giblin. Vote: Unanimous. MOTION CARRIES.

4. Vote to Lay Out Feck Way

It was noted to hold off on this agenda item for now; they need to receive recommendation of Planning Board.

5. Vote to Lay Out Country Club Way

It was noted to hold off on this agenda item for now; they need to receive recommendation of Planning Board.

6. Board of Selectmen Meeting Schedule for October, 2013

Mr. Kimball indicated he may have some conflicts with some meetings in October. It was discussed to possibly schedule meetings on October 3, 17, and 23. They could plan to skip a meeting on October 10th since that is the week of Town Meeting and skip the 31st of October (Halloween).

7. Vote to award Elevator Contract and to authorize Town Manager, Michael D. Yunits, to sign the Contract

Atlantic Elevator South Co., Inc. currently services Town's elevators. Atlantic Elevator South Co. was lowest of two quotes. Slight increase from \$165 to \$175 and markup of materials are 6% which is same as last year's increase.

MOTION was made by Mr. Giblin to award Elevator Contract to Atlantic Elevator South Co., Inc., and to authorize Town Manager, Michael D. Yunits, to sign the Contract for elevator maintenance and repair (with a markup of 6%) for Municipal Center and Norton Police Department. Second by Mrs. Steele.

Discussion: Mr. Kimball asked Mr. Yunits to check with Superintendent of Schools to see if they could go with a joint bid including their elevators.

Vote: Unanimous. MOTION CARRIES.

B. OLD BUSINESS

1. Appointment of Board of Selectmen Representative to the Water Shed Plan RFQ Selection Committee

It was discussed this Committee should be comprised of a member of the Board of Selectmen, Conservation Commission, and Water Bodies Committee (only three members). It would be ideal to have this done before Town Meeting and it also depends on how many responses are received back on RFQ's.

Mr. Giblin said he would be happy to volunteer for this Committee.

MOTION was made by Mrs. Steele to appoint Mr. Giblin as the Board of Selectmen's rep to the Water Shed Plan RFQ Selection Committee. Second by Mr. Salvo. Vote: Unanimous. MOTION CARRIES.

2. Review and/or Vote October 7, 2013 Fall Annual Town Meeting Warrant Articles

Mr. Yunits said a lot of Articles were already voted on.

Article 8: This is for repairs to Yelle School \$44,345.21

MOTION was made by Mrs. Steele to support Article 8. Second by Mr. Giblin. Vote: Unanimous. MOTION CARRIES.

Article 12:

This relates to a parcel that sits on the Freeman Street side of the Reservoir.

Mr. Yunits explained they are not taking the road, just the parcel.

MOTION was made by Mrs. Steele to support Article 12. Second by Mr. Giblin. Vote: Unanimous. MOTION CARRIES.

Article 13:

Mr. Yunits explained this Article was presented the other evening by Conservation Agent. This is the Reilly property. The Reilly's want to maintain and preserve land out front. \$400,000 is cost of the land but there will be grants, etc., therefore, cost to Town would be only \$5,000.

MOTION was made by Mrs. Steele to support Article 13. Second by Mr. Giblin. Vote: Unanimous. MOTION CARRIES.

Article 15:

Mr. Yunits said this Article relates to the water bodies in Town; \$500,000 for the next five years.

Mr. Kimball said it is important to maintain the water bodies in Town. If it comes to more than \$500,000, they can reconsider, but having said that, he will support Article 15 in its present state and if they can get more solid numbers on this that would be beneficial.

Mr. Giblin agreed and was also in support of Article 15. Although RFQ's are not in yet, he thought they have a good estimate of what it will cost. If they don't do it now, it will cost much more in the future.

Mr. Kimball referenced the two choices; take a position on it this evening or wait for RFQ's.

MOTION was made by Mr. Salvo to recommend Article 15. Second by Mr. Giblin. Vote: Unanimous. MOTION CARRIES.

Mr. Yunits said even when/if the RFQ's are obtained, that will be for the study, not the entire cost of project.

Article 21:

This Article was presented by Treasurer/Collector.

Mr. Kimball said choice was to go to State or keep with Town (abandoned funds). Discussion ensued.

MOTION was made by Mr. Giblin to support Article 21. Second by Mrs. Steele. Vote: Unanimous. MOTION CARRIES.

Article 24:

It was discussed it makes sense for the Town to have a Committee for repair/remodel projects (i.e., repairing the JCS roof). A vote would be needed by Board of Selectmen and School Committee. It is not a requirement, however, having an architect, an attorney, a builder, and an engineer would be the goal for this Committee. Having five Norton residents with some experience in the field of construction, etc. (i.e., someone with knowledge if an a/c unit needs to be replaced or roof needs to be replaced). A ten year plan for any major maintenance would be ideal; if it happens to be a school project another person could be added on by School Committee and if it is a Town project, the Town would appoint someone. The Committee also turns projects over when necessary. The School Committee is in support of this Article. A question of if a joint meeting occurs and only four members were present, how would that be legislated? The committees must work together with the other board(s) and it is for the benefit of the Town as a whole.

Mr. Kimball didn't agree with the temporary members; he would think it makes sense to leave it at five. Ensure school and/or town government make opinions known.

Mr. Giblin said he felt the committee to be formed should be an attorney, engineer, etc.; not the committee plus one.

Mr. Kimball spoke of alternates; not a deal-breaker, but something that jumps out at him.

Mr. Yunits said this Board of Selectmen would not do site plan review; they would work in conjunction with Planning Board, and would also need to involve Capital Improvements Committee and Finance Committee.

MOTION was made by Mr. Giblin to support Article 24. Second by Mr. Salvo. Vote: Unanimous.

C. TOWN MANAGER'S REPORT

. Senior Tax Reduction Program – Mandatory OBRA Requirement:

Mr. Yunits stated he was a bit concerned regarding senior tax reduction program, and he emailed many towns and most are doing it right now. Marshfield tried to fight it with IRS and Senator Kennedy's Office tried however IRS refused to change it. \$500 worth of tax they need to contribute to the State Retirement Fund/contribute to the Massachusetts Deferred Smart Plan. A person does full hours and contributes; a person can take it out in December. Roughly \$1.49 will come out of their pockets. It reduced tax liability but it is a lot of hassle and paperwork for everyone. IRS says it is considered income, etc.

. Report on Applications received for the Alternative Transportation Committee

Mr. Yunits said they received seven letters of interest, therefore, this can be placed on the next agenda.

Mr. Kimball agreed to place this on the next agenda. Mr. Kimball said if anyone else would like to serve for development and building of a bike path, they should send interest letters to Board of Selectmen's Office at 70 East Main Street.

. Meeting on Reservoir Dam Repair

Mr. Yunits said this meeting will occur Monday evening at 7 p.m., (2nd floor) at Conservation Dept. offices. Conservation Commission/Office is holding this meeting regarding Reservoir Dam Repair. Concern is spillway at dam to not rise over a certain elevation. At times, in a heavy rainstorm, it is an issue.

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Mr. Yunits referenced the Flushing Program and showed a bottle of water which was discolored. He advised Water & Sewer Dept. this is happening. His recommendation is they attend the next Water & Sewer Commission meeting and state their concerns. Mr. Yunits explained which roads have been flushed and road which will be flushed in future.

Mr. Kimball said the Town has never had this issue before.

Mr. Yunits noted Norton Country Club had a problem with black water also.

Mr. Yunits said the Water Superintendent, Mr. Marshall, has been returning residents phone calls and emailing people. Many people are very frustrated with the discolored/rusty water.

Mr. Giblin said he is aware Mr. Marshall was recently in to a Board of Selectmen meeting, however, it would be beneficial for him to explain it to the Board and the residents about the method of flushing, etc. The Board of Selectmen are not experts, however, Water & Sewer are more experienced.

Mr. Kimball said Mr. Silver, Highway Superintendent, has nothing to do with it and he cannot give residents an answer. Mr. Kimball recommend to everyone to not do their laundry or make coffee, unless residents ensure they know what color is coming out of their faucet. Regarding laundry, if washing light/white colored laundry, it will be a problem.

Mr. Salvo said he found a Facebook page called "Norton Social" and many people on it are discussing water issue. He said residents should not have to run water before it gets less discolored and if this is needed, he believed some compensation should be granted to townspeople. He learned of one person who ran her water for one hour and still could not take a shower.

Mr. Yunits commented if people are on septic, what is it doing to their septic system?

Mr. Kimball said he is disturbed it is a town-wide issue. With Board's permission, if they can allow Mr. Yunits to contact Water & Sewer Dept., and ask them to stop until this issue can be resolved.

Mr. Yunits said if laundry gets rust colored after washing, do not dry laundry; arrange to obtain Rid Out at Water & Sewer Dept.

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Comcast launched "Internet Essentials" for kids who are provided a free lunch; computer, internet service, and training are discounted. More info can be obtained at www.internetessentials.

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\$11,000+ check received from FEMA to cover police and fire overtime for last winter's storm, which was a lot of work. This is put back into the general fund.

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Mr. Yunits stated he recently met with Mr. Carney from former Raynham/Taunton Track along with two reps from SRPEDD and the Chief of Police. The slot machine proposal is one of three and all applications are due October 4th and proposing 1500 slot machines; 1,000 seat auditorium; an upscale restaurant, and an Irish bar/restaurant. They are working with a company who runs a similar track out of Pennsylvania. They have 500-600 people who were laid off when the dog track was closed and hope some of those people will return to this location. Another phase to be adding is a possible hotel. SRPEDD's responsibility is to look at traffic and emergency response requirements, and which towns are impacted. They will study that. The developer stated the only neighboring community will be Easton.

Discussion occurred on impact to other towns other than Easton.

SRPEDD gave them the "go ahead" to do a study on Route 123 off-ramp, so there will be the help of State doing traffic counts, etc. Mr. Kimball said another study is needed as it has been since 2002 and that area is very dangerous.

Mr. Yunits said the mosquitoes that do survive this type of cold weather are the worst ones so hopefully a freeze occurs soon.

Mr. Yunits thanked the Sherriff's Office as seven or eight women from the prison cleaned out the downstairs/basement. Some items were marked "save". The Highway Dept. provided a truck and they piled up old computers/monitors, etc.

VI. SELECTMEN'S REPORT AND MAIL

Nothing was discussed.

VII. NEXT MEETING'S AGENDA

Cemetery Commission to come in to discuss cemetery rates/fees. These fees have not been raised since 1990. If taxpayers will be supportive of this, it would be a benefit to the Town to increase these rates.

VIII. EXECUTIVE SESSION

IX. ADJOURNMENT

MOTION was made by Mr. Giblin to Adjourn at 8:20 p.m. Second by Mrs. Steele. Vote: Unanimous. MOTION CARRIES.

Respectfully Submitted by:

Janet A. Sweeney
Board of Selectmen – Recording Secretary

Documents Distributed/Reviewed at September 5, 2013, Board of Selectmen Meeting

- . Resume of Slandy Ogine-Noel – candidate for member of Housing Authority
- . Town of Norton Warrant (Articles) for the Annual Town Meeting, October 7, 2013
- . Photographs related to cannon donated to Town by the American Legion
- . “Nearby Communities Impact Report for Raynham Park Casino, Raynham, Massachusetts” document
- . Correspondence dated September 9, 2013 from Cindy Riley, Treasurer/Tax Collector’s Office regarding Senior Tax Reduction Program – Mandatory OBRA

BOARD OF SELECTMEN

MINUTES OF MEETING OF

SEPTEMBER 19, 2013

ROBERT W. KIMBALL, JR., CHAIRMAN

MARY T. STEELE, VICE-CHAIR

BRADFORD K. BRAMWELL, CLERK

TIMOTHY R. GIBLIN

ROBERT S. SALVO, SR.

Dated: _____