



TOWN OF NORTON
BOARD OF SELECTMEN
MUNICIPAL CENTER,
70 EAST MAIN STREET, NORTON, MA 02766

Telephone: (508) 285-0210 Fax: (508) 285-0297

BOARD OF SELECTMEN
MINUTES OF MEETING
MARCH 3, 2016

I. **CALL TO ORDER BY CHAIRMAN**

The March 3, 2016, Meeting of the Board of Selectmen was called to Order by Mr. Bradford Bramwell, at 7:00 P.M., held in the First Floor Conference Room.

- A. **ROLL CALL**: Mr. Bradford K. Bramwell, Chairman; Mr. Timothy R. Giblin, Vice-Chair; Mr. Robert K. Kimball, Jr., Clerk; and Mrs. Mary T. Steele were present. Absent: Mr. Robert S. Salvo, Jr. 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 February 27, 2016, Warrant #53, dated March 3, 2016, in the amount of \$1,171,062.07**

MOTION was made by Mr. Kimball to Approve bi-weekly payroll for the period ended February 27, 2016, Warrant #53, dated March 3, 2016, in the amount of \$1,171,062.07. Second by Mr. Giblin. Vote: Unanimous. MOTION CARRIES.

- B. Approve bills Warrant #54, dated March 3, 2016, in the amount of \$1,022,258.63
MOTION was made by Mr. Kimball to Approve bills Warrant #54, dated March 3, 2016, in the amount of \$1,022,258.63. Second by Mr. Giblin. Vote: Unanimous. MOTION CARRIES.

- C. Approve Minutes – December 22, 2015
January 28, 2016
MOTION was made by Mr. Giblin to Approve Board of Selectmen Minutes of Meeting, dated December 22, 2015, as written. Second by Mr. Kimball. Vote: Unanimous. MOTION CARRIES.

MOTION was made by Mr. Giblin to Approve Board of Selectmen Minutes of Meeting, dated January 28, 2016, as written. Second by Mr. Kimball. Vote: Unanimous. MOTION CARRIES.

III. LICENSES AND PERMITS

1.Vote to delay the issuance of the Retail Package Goods Store License to expose, Keep for Sale, and to Sell Wines and Malt Beverages Not To Be Drunk on The Premises, To: 20 Broad Street, Inc. d/b/a Pinecrest Beer and Wine, Manager: Stephen E. Goulston, 175 Mansfield Avenue, Norton, MA 02766

Mr. Yunits said they were concerned they would not be ready Monday, but now, it turns out, they actually will be ready on Monday. He respectfully requested the Board take "No Action".

No Action was taken by the Board of Selectmen.

IV. ANNOUNCEMENTS

The "It Takes A Community" Kathy Bailey Memorial Annual Basketball Game will be held on Friday, March 11 at 7:00 P.M. Tickets are \$8.00 each.

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The Special Town Meeting will be held on May 9, 2016, at the Norton High School.

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Bristol County Mosquito Control Project cordially invites the public to an Open House at their new facility at 38R Forest Street, Attleboro, MA, on Thursday, March 24 from 12-3 P.M. They will provide information about the services they offer to their member cities and towns and showcases their equipment. Light refreshments will be served.

V. **BUSINESS**

A. **NEW BUSINESS**

1.7:05 P.M. – Luis G. Lopes, Ed.S., Superintendent, Southeastern Regional School District Re: Presentation of FY2017 Budget

Mr. Mark Morris was present on behalf of Southeastern Regional and reviewed the budget with the Board. \$25,531,215 was Southeastern Regional's FY2017 budget. It is a 3% increase from last year. He said Norton's assessment was \$980,213.

Mr. Morris noted their school receives approximately 800 applications for 300 openings. He said it is based on grades, discipline, and attendance.

Mr. Kimball noted Norton has the biggest decrease in student enrollment.

Mr. Morris responded he can look into the reason for this decrease and get back to Mr. Kimball.

Mr. Giblin noted East Bridgewater had a large decrease also; Brockton has an increase.

Mr. Morris said they may possibly add some satellite campuses for the future; they cannot expand on the property they currently have due to wetlands, etc.

He said over 90% of their students graduate and 75% proceed on to a four year college.

Mrs. Steele said she would like to see data on how many students from the Town of Norton apply on a yearly basis and how many are accepted, and would like to see this incorporated into report for next year.

Mr. Morris invited the Board members to visit the school and see what the students are doing. He indicated the culinary department is open on Tuesday evenings and they are always open for lunch.

Mr. Morris also noted they also own their own buses and also garage them.

2. Ballot Question(s) and Letter to Voters – Town Clerk

Mr. Yunits said Town Counsel has reviewed ballot question and letter, and it has been finalized.

MOTION was made by Mrs. Steele to approve the Letter and Ballot Question as approved by Town Counsel. Second by Mr. Giblin. Vote: Unanimous. MOTION CARRIES.

3. Vote to Open Special Town Meeting, Monday, May 9, 2016, 7:30 P.M., in the Norton High School Auditorium

It was noted there was a change in time to 7:30 P.M.

MOTION was made by Mr. Giblin to Open Special Town Meeting, Monday, May 9, 2016, 7:30 P.M., in the Norton High School Auditorium. Second by Mr. Kimball. Vote: Unanimous. MOTION CARRIES.

4. Preliminary discussion with regard to the joint meeting with the School Committee, Monday, March 7, 2016, 7:00 P.M., in the Norton Middle School Library, concerning topics related to the Town side of the FY17 Budget, and other issues

Mr. Yunits indicated all budgets were submitted and explained budget documents. He said there was a \$310,355 increase on Cherry Sheet. Under School Choice it increased from \$64,000 to \$207,000, which is a direct pass through to School department. Total Revenue increase of \$1,112,906; projected health insurance increase of \$1,194,903.

Mr. Yunits said cuts will have to be made to have a level-funded budget, and he was working on that currently. One of the options is to seriously look at is health insurance. The plan the town of Mansfield is on now has an increase in co-pays and deductibles. There would be a \$780,000 savings if the Town of Norton switched plans (\$195,000 in mitigation; 25% would need to go in mitigation funds).

Mr. Yunits said it would cover some of the deficits on Town budget. He said the Town stabilization account is something they should not be looking into. He said he has reached out to another insurance group for next year.

Mr. Bramwell stated it appears options are being explored.

Mr. Yunits said if there are questions before Monday evening, to please let him know.

B. OLD BUSINESS

1. 7:30 P.M. – Gary Cameron Re: Circle of Flags Update

It was noted Mr. Cameron could not attend the meeting this evening.

C. TOWN MANAGER'S REPORT

Updates:

. Plain Street Bridge Project

Mr. Yunits said the preliminary construction with Mass Highway is starting. Plain Street will be closed on April 4 to November 30, 2016 between Leonard Street and South Washington Street for bridge the replacement project.

. Horizon Beverage EDIP Annual Report

Mr. Yunits said Horizon Beverage now has 16 Norton residents on their full-time payroll. It was discussed Horizon Beverage is very involved with the Town and is an excellent addition to the Town of Norton.

. Project Updates – New England Ice Cream and Alnylam

Mr. Yunits thanked Ms. Wierling, Director of Planning & Economic Development, for steering this. The Mass Office of Business Development met with he and Ms. Wierling because the Town of Norton “is doing things right”. Alnylam said their department heads saw a difference in Norton from other communities.

He said department head meetings were occurring one time per month to address things before any emergencies may possibly happen. Next month, they will meet with a rep from the State Energy Office dealing with “Green Communities” and how the Town can start/continue with process with their bylaws, etc.

Mr. Kimball thanked department heads for their assistance. He said Ms. Wierling is a welcomed addition and getting things done very quickly. It was noted she also attends the Chamber of Commerce meetings and meetings outside Town Hall, and is doing a great job.

Mr. Yunits noted there was a Chamber Economic Development meeting at Wheaton College tomorrow and Ms. Wierling is planning to attend.

. Discussion on Route 495

Mr. Yunits indicated the Chief of Police is getting info together regarding this. A letter will be sent to the State as the median was crossed a couple of times resulting in tragic/fatal vehicular accidents. It was discussed that possibly installation of cable-wire may be beneficial. There are a lot of accidents in this area of Route 495 in Norton, including fatalities, and causes stress on many, including the employees of the Town. Senator Howitt also called him regarding this.

Mr. Bramwell said some cable-wire in Cape Cod is at an angle.

Mr. Giblin said more of a State Police presence in this location may be needed.

Mr. Yunits noted the Chief of Police indicated Bay Road is the split of two separate state police locations.

Mr. Yunits said if someone is selling/purchasing items on-line, this can be done at the police station, and there is a sign posted "Purchase Exchange location". This area is under video surveillance as there are some scams/robberies taking place with these on-line transactions.

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Mr. Yunits said there is a new website that was established for the Town and encouraged others to visit it.

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Mr. Yunits said the RFQ is out for engineering design for Rail Trail and will meet with Rail Trail Committee on 3/21/16.

D. APPOINTMENTS/RESIGNATIONS

VI. SELECTMEN'S REPORT AND MAIL

. A letter dated February 28, 2016, was sent to Mr. Yunits from Edward Costa, who has a close friend who resides at Epoch Assisted Living and is a WWII Navy Veteran. He commended the Veteran's Agent, Estelle Flett, for her efforts and assistance.

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Mrs. Steele referenced the opioid abuse epidemic and the Norton Police Department involvement, and stated the Town entered into a MOU (Memorandum of Understanding), thanks to Chief Clark and Laura Washington, who the Board met with last week. Members of the Police, Fire, veterans, legislators, Rep Howitt, Rep Barrows, and reps from Senator Timilty and Kennedy's Office will meet regularly; this group is up and running.

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Mr. Bramwell said with the upcoming presidential election, he would suggest to separate the five precincts. There are traffic issues and having precincts all in one building defeats the purpose of precincts. They could possibly explore L.G. Nourse School.

Mr. Yunits said he will speak to the Town Clerk regarding this and also will discuss with Chief of Police regarding traffic issues, etc.

VII. NEXT MEETING'S AGENDA

1. 7:05 P.M. – Priscilla Matton M.S., Superintendent, Bristol County
Mosquito Control – Update of the services provided

2. Catherine VanDyne, Treasurer/Collector Re: "Vote to approve the issuance and details of Notes and Bonds to be issued to the Massachusetts Clean Water Trust (CW-14-33) and sign related closing documents"

VIII. EXECUTIVE SESSION

IX. ADJOURNMENT

MOTION was made by Mrs. Steele to Adjourn at 8:10 P.M. Second by Mr. Kimball. Vote: Unanimous.

MOTION CARRIES.

Respectfully Submitted by:


Janet Sweeney

Board of Selectmen – Recording Secretary

Documents Presented at March 3, 2016, Board of Selectmen Meeting

- . Draft Board of Selectmen Minutes of Meeting dated December 22, 2015, and January 28, 2016

- . Public Notice – Town of Norton, Notice of Special Town Meeting (date: May 9, 2016 at 7:30 P.M. in the Norton High School Auditorium, 66 West Main Street, Norton, MA. Deadline for the submission of warrant articles if 4:00 P.M. on March 15, 2016. Proposed warrant articles must be submitted to the Selectmen's Office, Norton Municipal Center, 70 East Main Street, Norton, MA, 02766

- . March 3, 2016 Budget Review

- . FY17 Estimated Operating Revenues and Expenditures


- . Southeastern Regional School District FY17 Budget Summary

- . Copy of Ballot Question and Letter to Voters (final document reviewed by Town Counsel)

BOARD OF SELECTMEN

MINUTES OF MEETING OF

MARCH 3, 2016



BRADFORD K. BRAMWELL, CHAIRMAN



TIMOTHY R. GIBLIN, VICE-CHAIR

ROBERT W. KIMBALL, JR., CLERK

ROBERT S. SALVO, SR.



MARY T. STEELE

Dated: _____

4/14/16