



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
APRIL 21, 2016**

I. CALL TO ORDER BY CHAIRMAN

The April 21, 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 Mr. Robert S. Salvo, Jr., were present. Mrs. Mary T. Steele arrived at 7:20 P.M. Mr. Michael Yunits, Town Manager, was also present.

B. Pledge of Allegiance

II. WARRANTS AND MINUTES

A. Approve bills Warrant #64, dated April 21, 2016, in the amount of \$870,404.50

MOTION was made by Mr. Kimball to Approve bills Warrant #64, dated April 21, 2016, in the amount of \$870,404.50. Second by Mr. Giblin. Vote: Unanimous. MOTION CARRIES.

B. Approve Minutes –

No Minutes were reviewed/approved.

III. LICENSES AND PERMITS

IV. ANNOUNCEMENTS

Canoe River Aquifer Advisory Committee 29th Annual Awareness Day in Conjunction with the Easton Water Division Open House to be held Saturday, April 30, 2016, at 417 Bay Road, Easton, from 10:00 A.M. – Noon.

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Norton Public Schools 2017 Proposition 2 ½ Override meeting to be held on April 27 at North High School and also another session to be held on May 10 at 7 p.m. at Norton Middle School auditorium.

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Memorial Day Parade to be held on May 30 with step off at 10 A.M. from H. A. Yelle School. Lee Tarantino will be the Parade Marshall accompanied by his wife, Patricia.

V. BUSINESS

A. NEW BUSINESS

1.Award Bid for Norton Public Library Interior Water Damage Renovations

Mr. Yunits said there were three quotes solicited.

Mr. Yunits said the lowest price was from Miller Construction at \$11,933.70.

MOTION was made by Mr. Kimball to Award Bid for Norton Public Library Interior Water Damage Renovations to Miller Construction in the amount of \$11,933.70. Second by Mr. Giblin. Vote: Unanimous. MOTION CARRIES.

2.Award Engineering Contract for Norton Rail/Trail Extension Project

The BETA Group, Inc. was the best bid in the amount of \$421,000 and bid was under what was budgeted at Town Meeting. There were five total bids that were received.

MOTION was made by Mr. Kimball to Award Engineering Contract for Norton Rail/Trail Extension Project to BETA Group, Inc., in the amount of \$421,000. Second by Mr. Giblin. Vote: Unanimous. MOTION CARRIES.

B. OLD BUSINESS

1.Review FY2017 Budget and/or Vote on Town Meeting Articles

Article 8

Ms. Diane McElligott and the Water & Sewer Superintendent, Bernie Marshall were present. A \$900,000 amount was referenced. This site was chosen because it provides 2/3 of capacity to Town; the site is in close proximity to where school was. This was voted several Town Meetings ago. There were delays to project for various reasons; archeological issue and potential that site could be significant. She said they had to do redesign and Mass Historical wanted site somewhere else. Possible option would be to connect to Taunton water and pay for Taunton water; however, Taunton chlorinates their water, which Norton does not do. Additionally, they need to look at the compatibility with Norton's water; such as it has a higher ph, along with some other things. The other option was to revisit the desalinization (desal) route. Several years ago, they had a binding contract to buy into desal plant and it was very expensive then, and this was further explained by Ms. McElligott. She said to go ahead with this water treatment plant makes sense. Question is, could it be located somewhere else in Town and would be less difficult to do from an archeological standpoint. It is an area they agreed they would not disturb, and reconfigured site itself. She referenced a map/drawing by Wesson & Sampson and she explained some additional costs associated with looking for artifacts, associated with the archeological aspect of this.

Mr. Marshall said money was set aside before he was hired and they are asking for more money: \$500,000 for additional costs after archeological recovery.

It was noted they were able to stay out of wetlands and went through MEPA, etc. It was approved by Conservation Commission and Jennifer Carlino, Conservation Agent, who was present in audience this evening as well.

Ms. Carlino stated she supported the Water Department's change in plan and amendment of permit, and they do have the permits.

Mr. Salvo asked about top soil and taking off 22".

Process was explained by Water & Sewer.

Mr. Giblin said it appeared they need \$930,000 for redesign and redoing this. What happens if top 12 inches is scraped off and they discovered something of archeological significance?

Ms. McElligott responded they have a provision if they do find something, even a couple isolated burial sites, they will be relocated. It appears this area was used more for a place to live than a place to bury. If they found a substantial burial ground, it would be a problem, but that has not been the evidence thus far. They found evidence of habitation.

Mr. Marshall said they did not find any bones. They have basically found arrowheads and chippings.

Mrs. Steele arrived at 7:20 P.M.

Mr. Kimball said he liked that the Town of Norton was in control of their own water.

Mr. Marshall said when the plant is brought up to speed, he did not foresee it being a 24 hour operation, but operators would be working with mechanics and once "bugs" worked out, there would be less working and it would become fully automated.

Mr. Yunits asked if Mr. Marshall had staff that would be willing able to do this work?

Mr. Marshall responded, yes, he will have the staff and has more than enough staff.

Ms. McElligott noted the artifacts they have found, they are leaving them in place.

Mr. Kimball said it would be a great idea to have artifacts on display as it is a part of Norton's history.

Mr. Marshall said they need to be transparent, but also need to honor the Native Americans.

Mr. Marshall discussed flushing and two of wells were scheduled to be cleaned; there was one defect in screen, and also cleaning of additional well. Therefore, it was determined it was not a good idea to flush system as originally planned. They will provide an alert beforehand and a downscaled version will occur.

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

Article 6:

Mr. Yunits explained this related to the 40B legal fund. There was a decrease of \$9,000 in fund and asking Finance Committee (FinCom) for \$10,000 to be put in fund.

MOTION was made by Mr. Giblin to support Article 6. Second by Mr. Kimball. Vote: Unanimous. MOTION CARRIES.

Mr. Yunits referenced the Job/Salary Classification Article – FinCom wants to wait on this Article.

Article 11 – FinCom wants to wait on this Article.

Article 17 – Stabilization Fund - FinCom wants to wait on this Article.

Article 16 – Mr. Yunits said FinCom discussed this Article regarding free cash and School Department.

Mr. Kimball said at end of year, any Town department not expending their budget; the School Department has the right to encumber money.

Mr. Yunits said it is usually used to prepay SPED tuition in August.

Mr. Yunits noted the sheet entitled, "Fixed & Shared Expenses", and referenced "Employee Benefits-910"; it was his recommendation and FinCom agreed on the change from \$11,060,256 to \$10,388,755 for making change to less expensive health plan. It is a \$671,501 net savings. He thanked Town employees for their efforts with this.

Mr. Yunits explained this plan will be less expensive for employees.

Mr. Yunits discussed the Cherry Sheet and a decrease in assessments and local aid estimates in revenue resulted in an increase of \$21,506. Also, School Choice brings in approximately \$207,000+ and it is a direct pass through to school.

Mr. Yunits stated FinCom pointed out that this \$207,000 was not included in budget.

Mr. Yunits said local aid was \$15,198,900 and noted the Charter School tuition decreased. He reviewed information with the Board. \$11,226,368 was approved by FinCom and an increase in school budget (excluding the School Choice amount of approximately \$207,000); therefore, an increase of \$706,286 for School Department; and general government increase of \$49,857.

Mrs. Steele referenced School Choice and said school reaps these benefits; at least put it in budget. Other students come to the Town of Norton for school and they receive the benefit; and with out of district students, the Town loses money.

Mr. Giblin said that School Choice amount of \$207,000 needs to be part of budget.

Mr. Salvo referenced the parking fees the Norton High School students are required to pay, should be directed to Mr. Silver, Highway Superintendent, to be reimbursed for maintenance and upkeep of grounds, etc.

Mr. Yunits said some of the items on wishlist are: assistance to COA with part-time staff person, recreation staff member of 18 hours and five hours in summer season, and additional money for library. Other than that, everything is the same as operation of the Town last year.

Mr. Yunits said if override passes, they would need to go back to FinCom and this money would be financing process of override and further explained. Hopefully, they could put some money in the Stabilization Account. FinCom approved a total budget of \$51,535,754.

MOTION was made by Mr. Kimball to support Article 16 in the amount of \$51,535,754. Second by Mr. Giblin. Vote: Unanimous. MOTION CARRIES.

Mr. Kimball said Town Common Revitalization Committee decided Town does not have extra funds to assist them and they will solicit donations. They are looking at approximately \$175,000/\$200,000 by the

time they are done, so they removed their Article at this time. It appears the reproduction of fence will be approximately \$80,000.

Mr. Bramwell said it is a safety hazard with the Town Common fence.

Mr. Kimball agreed the fence is in deplorable condition, and need to take it down in a logical manner. Possibly they can sell sections of it to raise money.

Mr. Bramwell said they cannot have people hurting themselves with the condition it is in; it is a liability for Town.

Mr. Kimball said this fence was installed in 1865 by Elizabeth Wheaton. Wheaton, Trinitarian Church and old library appear to have the same style of fence.

Mr. Kimball said they did approve recently the installation of an artisan well as there was money in the account. Also, they have funds to do a well at the Master Sgt. Trent Memorial.

Mr. Kimball said they will probably need a civil engineer to draw a plot plan and decide where it should be located.

Mr. Yunits said he spoke to Mr. Yarworth of Yarworth Engineering and he would send CAD file to engineer.

Mr. Kimball said an engineer wants \$19,000+ and he has file.

Mr. Kimball said someone from the Director of Planning & Economic Development, Ms. Wierling's, engineering class would come out to assist (a student).

Mr. Kimball said, therefore, they are not moving forward at this time on this Article.

C. TOWN MANAGER'S REPORT

- **Update on Community Compact Grant**

Mr. Yunits said earlier today he attended a ceremony in Taunton with the Lt. Governor and signed Community Compact, so Town would be eligible for grants. Town of Norton will be part of this contract, it has incentives, technical assistance, etc. Hopefully the Town can eventually have more sidewalks .

- **Notice of commencement of renewal process for Comcast Agreement**

Mr. Yunits stated a Notice was received from Comcast in reference to start working on a renewal. Mike Galla, Sr. Manager of Government & Regulatory Affairs of Comcast, will be in contact with Mr. Yunits. This was sent to Norton Cable Access as well.

Mr. Giblin said he would be interested in being a part of this.

Mr. Yunits said he wanted to clarify the Town is not keeping Verizon out of Norton, the Town has no control over Verizon, as it is Verizon's decision regarding FIOS, etc.

Mr. Bramwell said the Board has actually asked them to come to Town.

Mr. Kimball said he would be interested in volunteering for this also.

Mr. Salvo said he would volunteer also if needed.

Mr. Salvo commented that the Comcast bill has increased. He said his bill went up \$100, and it appears Comcast customers must pay for people who pay late, etc.

- **Xfinity Traffic Plan for 2016 Season**

Mr. Yunits said the Chief of Police, Brian Clark, met with Xfinity Center regarding traffic issues and one of the things they are looking at is stopping the left turn onto Reservoir Street during certain times. Chief Clark also told them not to open up the gates too early. Mr. Yunits said if there were any questions, Chief Clark would be happy to answer them.

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Mr. Yunits noted on May 23 there will be a Public Forum on the Route 140 Improvements from 4-6:30 P.M. at Norton Public Library.

D. APPOINTMENTS/RESIGNATIONS

1. Constable Reappointments

Mr. Yunits said all individuals wanted to be reappointed.

Mr. Giblin asked if all were fairly active?

Mr. Yunits responded he would say all but one or two were fairly active.

MOTION was made by Mr. Giblin to reappoint the current Constables for a three year term. Second by Mr. Kimball. Vote: Unanimous. MOTION CARRIES.

Mr. Kimball referenced the five constables; all should be in rotation with appointments (staggering appointments).

MOTION was made by Mr. Kimball to rescind above Motion.

Discussion : Mr. Kimball said it should be a three year term to three top Constables who are the most active.

Second by Mr. Giblin. Vote: Unanimous. MOTION CARRIES.

2. Vote to designate Bristol County Advisory Board Member

It was noted Mr. Giblin is the current member of this Board.

MOTION was made by Mr. Kimball to designate Mr. Timothy Giblin, of the Board of Selectmen, as the Bristol County Advisory Board Member. Second by Mrs. Steele. Vote: Unanimous. MOTION CARRIES.

VI. SELECTMEN'S REPORT AND MAIL

Mr. Giblin thanked the Finance Committee, School Department, Town Manager, and all others, including Town employees, for their hard work and effort with the budget process.

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Mr. Salvo thanked all who served this year and wished everyone the best of luck, and thanked Mr. Bramwell for being Chairman. He would like the residents' support, even though it is not a contested race for Board of Selectmen, but hoped residents would be able to vote.

VII. NEXT MEETING'S AGENDA

1. 7:05 P.M. – Application for transfer of the Common Victualer License to Expose, Keep for Sale, and to Sell All Kinds of Alcoholic Beverages To Be Drunk On the Premises, at 184 West Main Street, Norton, MA 02766, from Farney Brothers, Incorporated d/b/a Trinity Bar & Grill, Manager; Terence O'Reilly, to Home Plate Norton LLC, Manager: Robert E. Anderson, Jr. & Natalie R. Anderson, same address

VIII. EXECUTIVE SESSION

IX. ADJOURNMENT

MOTION was made by Mr. Kimball to Adjourn at 8:40 P.M. Second by Mr. Giblin. Vote: Unanimous. MOTION CARRIES.

Respectfully Submitted by:


Janet Sweeney

Board of Selectmen – Recording Secretary

Documents Presented at April 21, 2016, Board of Selectmen Meeting

. Town of Norton – Spring Annual Town Meeting Articles– May 9, 2016

. FY2017 Budget Documents: FY17 Estimated Operating Revenues And Expenditures; Free Cash;
Massachusetts Department of Revenue Division of Local Services-Municipal Databank/Local Aid Section
Cherry Sheet Budgets; Fixed And Shared Expenses; School Encumbrances FY2006-FY2015

. Letter addressed to Board of Selectmen, dated April 13, 2016, from Comcast, Nick Leuci, Vice President
of Franchising & Community Investment, Re: Commencement of Renewal Process

BOARD OF SELECTMEN

MINUTES OF MEETING OF

APRIL 21, 2016



BRADFORD K. BRAMWELL, CHAIRMAN



TIMOTHY R. GIBLIN, VICE-CHAIR



ROBERT W. KIMBALL, JR., CLERK

ROBERT S. SALVO, SR.



MARY T. STEELE

Dated: _____

5/26/16