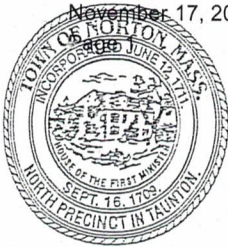


November 17, 2016



TOWN OF NORTON

BOARD OF SELECTMEN

MUNICIPAL CENTER,

70 EAST MAIN STREET, NORTON, MA 02766

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

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BOARD OF SELECTMEN MINUTES OF MEETING NOVEMBER 17, 2016

I. CALL TO ORDER

The November 17, 2016 Meeting of the Board of Selectmen was called to Order by Mr. Giblin, Chairman, at 7:00 P.M., held in the First Floor Conference Room.

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

B. Pledge of Allegiance

II. LICENSES AND PERMITS

III. ANNOUNCEMENTS

Town Offices will be closed Thursday, November 24, and Friday, November 25, 2016, for the Thanksgiving Holiday. Have a Happy and safe Thanksgiving Holiday weekend!

Personal Best Karate Charity is offering a cooked Thanksgiving meal to a veteran or a senior to be delivered on Thanksgiving Day. For more information, please call the Senior Center at (508)-285-0235

IV. BUSINESS

A. NEW BUSINESS

1. 7:02 P.M. - Rainbow Kids - Presentation on its business

Mr. Giblin explained the Board will invite various local businesses to come in to discuss their business and he asked Rainbow Kids to do this.

Jessica Tessier, Program Director, of Rainbow Kids thanked the Board for the opportunity to be here this evening. Rainbow Kids Learning Center is located at 366 Old Colony Road on Route 123 and has been a part of the Norton community since 1999. In 2004, they built a new facility which is located at their present address and they enroll children from four weeks to eight years of age and licensed through the Early Education Department. They offer a high quality committed program. They also offer before and after school care. There are currently 86 students enrolled.

Mr. Giblin noted his children attended Rainbow Kids when they were younger and they did an excellent job at that time as well.

It was noted they can be contacted at (508)-285-9091 or at www.Rainbowkids.org.

2. 7:10P.M. - Swearing-In-Ceremony - Promotion of Norton Firefighter/EMTP Robert Wood to the Permanent Full-Time Fire Lieutenant position in the Norton Fire Department

Chief Schleicher and Deputy Chief Myles were present.

Chief Schleicher thanked the Board of Selectmen along with the Town Manager, Mr. Yunits. He noted this promotion was bittersweet as it was created by the sudden death of Lieutenant Todd Jones.

Firefighter Wood was looking forward to rise up to be a lieutenant of the Fire Department. It was noted Firefighter Wood has been married for 22 years, has three children, has been a resident of Norton for over 21 years, and a member of the Norton Fire Rescue Department for 20 years. He is also an active member of Norton's Dive Team, is the superintendent of fire alarms, and a member of the Bristol County Rescue Team and was looking forward to his new capacity.

Mr. Salvo read aloud the correspondence, dated November 8, 2016, addressed to the Board of Selectmen, from Michael D. Yunits, Town Manager, Re: Notice of Appointment of Fire Lieutenant.

MOTION was made by Mr. Salvo to approve Promotion of Norton Firefighter/EMTP Robert Wood to the Permanent Full-Time Fire Lieutenant position in the Norton Fire Department, made on November 8, 2016, to be effective November 20, 2016. Second by Mr. Kimball. Vote: Unanimous. MOTION CARRIES.

Firefighter Wood was sworn in by the Town Clerk and ceremonial pinning was performed by his wife. He was congratulated by the Board of Selectmen.

3. 7:15 P.M. HEARING - Petition of Massachusetts Electric Company/National Grid to place approximately 60' of (4) 5" concrete encased conduits from a new driveway at 20 Commerce Way to an existing Manhole at the entrance to Penske Trucking, to service a new customer

MOTION was made by Mrs. Steele to Open this Hearing. Second by Mr. Salvo. Vote: Unanimous. MOTION CARRIES.

Rep of National Grid was present and explained their intention.

The Operations Manager, John Tweedie, of Penske Truck Leasing, asked how they were going to exit the manhole? It did not appear to show this on the plans he received.

Mr. Yunits explained the manhole by Penske Truck Leasing would be coming out and running down to where Alnylam project is located. He also noted all notifications of abutters were obtained.

Mr. Tweedie provided his business card to the rep of National Grid and asked if someone from National Grid could call him and he could meet them. He said as long as nothing is blocking his driveway it should be fine; he was hoping it would be coming out of manhole and going right across grass.

Mr. Kimball said it appeared some clarification was needed on specifics of this, especially with Penske's concerns.

Mr. Yunits stated based on sketch they were provided, he referenced street line and it showed line out of manhole and running along off the street. It appeared it was in the grass area.

Mr. Giblin stated Penske does have a concern and asked if Board wanted to hold off on this vote for a week?

Mr. Yunits stated Penske's operations manager, Mr. Tweedie, provided info/business card to National Grid rep and they will coordinate with Penske before they start and Penske indicated that was fine.

MOTION was made by Mrs. Steele to close Public Hearing. Second by Mr. Salvo. Vote: Unanimous. MOTION CARRIES.

MOTION was made by Mr. Kimball to accept/approve Petition of Massachusetts Electric Company/National Grid to place approximately 60' of (4) 5" concrete encased conduits from a new driveway at 20 Commerce Way to an existing Manhole at the entrance to Penske Trucking, to service a new customer. Second by Mrs. Steele. Vote: Unanimous. MOTION CARRIES.
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Mr. Giblin asked Cory from Alnylam, who was in the audience, to provide the Board with a quick update of project.

Cory of Alnylam stated there was progress on site and moving ahead quickly. If Board had any questions, he'd be happy to try to answer them. Timeline should be approximately the same, but will advise Mr. Yunits if something changes.

Mr. Giblin said he had no questions on project, but if there was anything the Board could help with, please ask them.

Mr. Bramwell thanked Alnylam for reaching out to the community already with helping clearing of conservation land.

4. 7:25 P.M. - Swearing-In-Ceremony

- Firefighter /Paramedic Nicholas Dyer
- Firefighters/Paramedic Jon Starr
- Firefighter/Paramedic John Patten

Fire Chief Schleicher and Deputy Fire Chief Myles were present.

Fire Chief Schleicher noted these three firefighters completed their probationary period.

Nicholas Dyer:

Firefighter Dyer is a fourth generation firefighter; his father is a retired Braintree Fire Chief with 39 years of service and his older brother is a member of the Stoughton Fire Department. Firefighter Dyer is married and has a 13 month old son. He was appointed to the Norton Fire Department on November 3, 2014 and graduated from the Mass Fire Academy with the Class of 2016. He was appointed as a fire alarm technician in 2015 and hopes to advance his career with the Norton Fire Department.

Firefighter Dyer was sworn in by the Town Clerk and the ceremonial pinning was performed by his father, Retired Fire Chief Dyer.

Jon Starr:

Firefighter Starr started working for the Norton Fire Department on December 14, 2014, and relocated shortly thereafter from western Massachusetts. He is married with two sons. He graduated with the Mass Fire Academy Class 2016. He was appointed as a fire alarm technician in September 2015 and has been a paramedic for four years and excited about this transition.

Firefighter Starr was sworn in by the Town Clerk and the ceremonial pinning was performed by his wife.

John Patten:

Firefighter Patten was hired on April 13, 2015 and is a lifelong resident of Norton and worked in emergency medical services as an EMT and paramedic for the past six years. He attended the Mass Firefighter Academy and graduated July 10, 2015. Firefighter Patten is a new father, and his fiancée also works as a paramedic. His future father-in-law is also a Captain on the Marshfield Fire Department, and Jim Patten, who also works for Norton Fire Department, is his brother.

Firefighter Patten was sworn in by the Town Clerk and the ceremonial pinning was performed by his fiancée.

Mr. Giblin congratulated these three firefighters who were just sworn in and recommended they pay attention and follow the lead of the senior staff.

Mr. Yunits said he visited the Fire Department earlier that day and noted the excellent job they did with the renovations in their building. It is quite an effort of obtaining grant money and a lot of work. He noted grants were received for new washing machines which will help equipment last longer.

B. OLD BUSINESS

C. TOWN MANAGER'S REPORT

. Update - 274 East Main Street Road Construction

Mr. Yunits noted in the Board's packets is the Standard & Poor report and the Town is maintaining an AA+ rating. There was a recommendation they should work on putting in financial policies like handling free cash, etc., and the Town Accountant is working on that.

Mr. Kimball referenced certified cash and said they should come up with a different way of handling this (a cleaner way of doing it).

Mr. Yunits stated he wanted to make it clear a lot of that is by design and reflected in this report that the Town should have \$1.5 - \$2 Million of free cash every year. If they did not have that, they would not be in an AA+ category.

Mr. Kimball said he is aware of this but was referring to overrides, etc. Discussion ensued.

Mr. Yunits said there is not a mindset of Finance Committee of putting money into OPED. If the Town did not have to use that money for their budget each year, it would be beneficial.

Mr. Kimball said it is the taxpayer that does not understand the process. The perception every Spring is the Town needs money, etc., then in the Fall all is fine.

. Double Pole Updates

Mr. Yunits said Mr. Silver, Highway Superintendent, provided the Board a partial list on the double poles, however, he is still working on it.

Mr. Giblin noted this partial list is probably about 75 poles, so that is quite a lengthy list already.

Mr. Kimball asked Mr. Yunits to see if other towns have a policy in place.

Mr. Yunits replied he will look into this, but he believes it is a common problem and that is the reason why there is legislation regarding this.

It was discussed Mr. Yunits may want to consider contacting Town Counsel regarding this issue.

Mr. Bramwell said it was difficult because there are too many different utility companies involved with these poles.

Mr. Yunits said they are regulated by the Department of Public Utilities, so they cannot be fined.

Mr. Yunits said if a vehicle hits a pole and there is an insurance policy involved, he does not understand why there is a problem; they should be able to bill insurance company.

Mr. Salvo said communication is a huge factor in this, as well as who is responsible. He was not even aware if the Fire Department gets paid to switch wires off or overtime, etc. A lot of this work requires Fire Department involvement. Every town is letting it get this way and they need to talk to their legislature. It is an eyesore and a safety hazard for site view.

Mr. Kimball said they need to figure out a way to correct this as they have been talking about this for about two years. He was tired of talking about it and need to figure out a way to correct it.

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Mr. Yunits referenced the property on Maple Street and indicated it was not an imminent hazard and nothing major was going off site.

. Road Closure Update

Mr. Yunits stated the Chief has notified everyone in the department not to close the roads, etc.

. New England Ice Cream Update

Mr. Yunits said New England Ice Cream is planning to move in the first week of December. On November 22, the Building Inspector and Deputy Fire Chief will go out and do another inspection and there have been no issues seen as of now. They are still finalizing sprinkler and fire alarm systems.

Mr. Giblin said it looks like they have done a nice job!

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Mr. Yunits said he met with department heads regarding 274 East Main Street. They agreed they are not paving road until next spring and a \$400,000 bond is in place for that work. That would be more than enough money to handle the road work as he received an estimate from Mr. Silver. It was noted Mr. Silver and other parties will be attending the December 1 Board of Selectmen meeting.

D. APPOINTMENTS/RESIGNATIONS/RETIREMENTS

V. SELECTMEN'S REPORT AND MAIL

Mr. Salvo apologized that he missed the Veterans Day Parade as he had to work.
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Mr. Kimball stated he is the Chairman of the Gold Star Committee in Norton and wanted to speak of the Master Sgt. Trent Memorial. He feels it is one of best looking parks in Town and Gold Star Committee maintains it without help from Town and finds creative ways to raise money. They have been using the sprinkler system and have been using Town water since 2012, however, recently he received a few warnings to not use sprinkler system. A few weeks ago he was told by Water & Sewer Commissioners not to use sprinkler system; to cease and desist and abide by the regulations and stop using the water. He said they have pretty much stopped using it anyhow. He did receive a call today from someone from the Water Department indicating the Commissioners had decided to remove water meter and remove Town water from the Master Sgt. Trent Memorial entirely. He said they still have the right to use hand held hoses, but it did not matter and they are being disconnected from Town water. This is not free water, as they pay hundreds of dollars a year to pay for Town water from the Master Sgt. Trent fund. They are going to try to drill an artesian well and trying to come up with funds; they spend about \$3200 on facility itself per year. They need to come up with the money and it is projected to cost about \$9,000 to build an artesian well. His point was, regardless of political disagreements they have with Water & Sewer Commissioners, he is disappointed that politics stretched over to a Memorial for a Norton

native who succumbed to injuries from fighting in the war in Afghanistan. He cannot imagine how the Water Commissioners could lower themselves to a point where they would endanger one of the best looking Town-owned facilities. Now they need to come up with a creative way to make that happen. This is another example of how government does not always work well together. He was disappointed and is certain they will come up with the money somehow for the well. Also, he is the Chairman of the Town Common Committee for the restoration of the Town Common, and they were also told they would not be able to use Town water for the Town Common either. He is hoping to find a company to do two wells at the same time to save money. He is aware CVS had to go down very deep into the ground for their well and it cost them approximately \$9,000. They also approached CVS, but were told they don't have the quantity they need for their own needs. He said they will prevail.

Mr. Salvo said he was very disappointed in the fact that this Town cannot work together between departments. There is a Stage IV drought in Massachusetts, yet the hydrants can be flushed. He did not see a lot of other towns do it this drastically. There must be a better way to get that material out of the pipes; they need to get that iron out as it is ruining residents' clothes, etc. This is inexcusable and in the upcoming town meeting next year there will be an attempt to try to have have Water & Sewer Commissioners appointed and not elected.

Mr. Giblin said he was appalled at this situation. It is a slap in the face to veterans and not necessarily to Mr. Kimball. This Memorial is in remembrance of someone who gave his life for this country. This has got to stop and there needs to be a change.

Mr. Salvo said also this type of well will change the look of this park and the walkways will turn brown; overall the park will look old and less attractive.

Mr. Kimball said they would try to get deeper down to ledge where cleaner water is. He said basically every department in this Town works very well together being under direction of Town Manager. The change from elected to appointed has nothing to do with personnel; it has to do with accountability, and when the Town Manager has control of departments there are no issues. If they don't work well together he will call them in and discuss.

Mr. Kimball said with water issues, their hands are tied and the Town Manager cannot do anything directly. This is the reason why change in spring is to have a professional Town Manager run department; not volunteers.

Mrs. Steele asked if they can just arbitrarily cut water off?

Mr. Salvo responded usually there is a warning.

Mrs. Steele asked if there were minutes of that meeting; was it an open meeting? She would like to know if Town Counsel could take a look at this; it appears to be some sort of discrimination against the veterans.

Mr. Salvo said he did not think a verbal conversation would stand any ground any way.

Mr. Kimball said there was a verbal phone call first and then a letter addressed to Gold Star Committee in September to cease and desist and they did stop using it.

Mr. Yunits said it appears the water has not been used since the Gold Star received the warning and they still took meter away.

Mrs. Steele said this is an elected Board and elected officials are voted in by the Town. She has been on the Board of Selectmen for ten years and every single year there seems to be a problem with the Water Department. She said the Board has given them support on most of the projects they wanted. It appears they do not handle resident and business complaints but are doing this to a Veteran's Memorial. A Town of Norton elected board to take this action is terrible.

Mrs. Steele said she will be the first one to sign a petition and go door to door to petition the Water Department and to restore it back to the way it was. Not one person in this Town would shut water off to a Veteran's Memorial, especially where it is about a week after Veterans' Day.

Mr. Giblin asked Mr. Yunits to please check into this for the Board.

VI. WARRANTS AND MINUTES

A. Approve bills Warrant #30, dated November 17, 2016, in the amount of \$133,057.32
MOTION was made by Mr. Salvo to Approve bills Warrant #30 , dated November 17, 2016, in the amount of \$133,057.32. Second by Mr. Bramwell. Vote: Unanimous. MOTION CARRIES.

B. Approve Minutes - September 22, 2016
MOTION was made by Mr. Kimball to approve the Board of Selectmen Minutes of Meeting, dated September 22, 2016, as written. Second by Mr. Bramwell. Vote: Unanimous. MOTION CARRIES.

VII. NEXT MEETING'S AGENDA

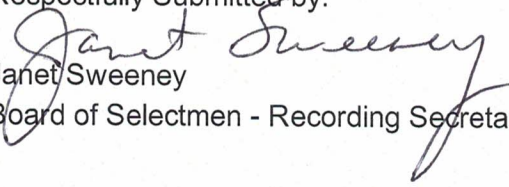
It was noted the next meeting will be a joint meeting with the School Committee, on Monday, November 21st, at the Norton Middle School Library at 6:30 P.M. The next Board of Selectmen meeting following that will be held on December 1, 2016.

VIII. EXECUTIVE SESSION

IX. ADJOURNMENT

MOTION was made by Mr. Kimball to Adjourn at 8:24 P.M. Second by Mr. Bramwell. Vote: Unanimous. MOTION CARRIES.

Respectfully Submitted by:


Janet Sweeney
Board of Selectmen - Recording Secretary

Documents Presented at November 17, 2016 Board of Selectmen Meeting

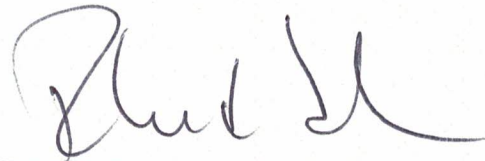
- Correspondence, dated November 8, 2016, addressed to Board of Selectmen, from Michael D. Yunits, Town Manager, Re: Notice of Appointment of Fire Lieutenant (Robert Wood)
- Public Hearing Notice dated November 4, 2016, to be held November 17, 2016, at 7:15 P.M. in the Selectmen's Meeting Room, Norton Municipal Center, 70 East Main Street, Norton, MA 02766, relative to a Petition of Massachusetts Electric Company/National Grid to place approximately 60' of (4) 5" concrete encased conduits from a new driveway at 20 Commerce Way to an existing Manhole at the entrance to Penske Trucking, to service a new customer, per Petition and Plan attached (copied to Abutters, per Assessors' Certified Abutters List; Bulletin Board; Eric Widman, Engineering Supervisor, Distribution Design; and National Grid
- Document: "Double Poles of Concern: Utilities to be removed from the old pole", dated 11/15/2016
- Draft Board of Selectmen Minutes dated September 22, 2016

**BOARD OF SELECTMEN
MINUTES OF MEETING
NOVEMBER 17, 2016**



TIMOTHY R. GIBLIN, CHAIRMAN

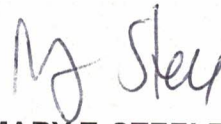
ROBERT W. KIMBALL, JR., VICE-CHAIR



ROBERT S. SALVO, SR., CLERK



BRADFORD K. BRAMWELL



MARY T. STEELE

Dated: 2/16/17