



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
JUNE 29, 2017**

I. CALL TO ORDER

The June 29, 2017 Meeting of the Board of Selectmen was called to Order by Mr. Kimball, Chairman, at 7:00 P.M., held in the First Floor Conference Room.

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

B. Pledge of Allegiance

II. LICENSES AND PERMITS

1. Application of Fatima Watt, for a one-day All Alcohol License, to be utilized at Everett Leonard Park, Saturday, July 15, 2017, 3:30 P.M. - 8:30 P.M., for a private party

MOTION was made by Mr. Bramwell to Approve Application of Fatima Watt, for a one-day All Alcohol License, to be utilized at Everett Leonard Park, Saturday, July 15, 2017, 3:30 P.M. - 8:30 P.M., for a private party. Second by Mr. Flaherty. Vote: Unanimous. MOTION CARRIES.

2. Application of New England Rodeo, LLC, 185 N. Washington Street, Norton, MA 02766, for a Live Entertainment License

Ms. Landry was present on behalf of New England Rodeo, LLC. This is a community event; riding horses and bulls. They have done small productions previously and other ones have been held at the fair at Fitchburg Fair. There will be kids' event first.

Mr. Yunits said this company had good reports from the Town's Board of Health and Animal Control departments, as well as the Fire Department. The Building Inspector indicated if this is approved, he will need to conduct some inspections at this location.

It was noted the hours will start at 8:00 P.M.; the show with youth will begin at at 8:20 P.M.; and 8:30 P.M. will be their opening ceremony. Their productions are about 2 ½ hours, however, it depends on contestants who show up. There is a participation fee and gate fee for anyone 13 years of age and older.

Mr. Salvo noted it appears Lt. Jackson of the Norton Police Department needs to be notified.

Mr. Yunits stated the company needs to contact Lt. Jackson so he can ensure there is enough parking.

Ms. Landry responded they will do that and if they end up with overflow, they do have a back area.

Mr. Yunits noted they will also have two EMT's present during this event.

MOTION was made by Mr. Flaherty to Approve Application of New England Rodeo, LLC, 185 N. Washington Street, Norton, MA 02766, for a Live Entertainment License, with stipulation that there is final approval from Building Inspector and Police Department. Second by Mr. Bramwell. Vote: Unanimous. MOTION CARRIES.

III. ANNOUNCEMENTS

Town Offices will be closed Tuesday, July 4, 2017, in Observance of Independence Day. Have a happy and safe Fourth of July!

IV. BUSINESS

A. NEW BUSINESS

1. Report on the Open Space Plan

Discussion on this agenda item would be held off for now.

2. Accept Cable Access Grant

Mr. Yunits said this was a \$6,000 grant which would be used to improve the Town's committee/board meetings. It would be used to project things and tv screens, etc.

MOTION was made by Mr. Salvo to Accept Cable Access Grant in the amount of \$6,000. Second by Mr. Bramwell. Vote: Unanimous. MOTION CARRIES.

3. Accept Grant Award from Taunton River Stewardship Council

Mr. Yunits noted a grant of \$3,000 was offered to the Town and would assist with the appraisal of Camp Edith Reed to see what the value is, etc.

MOTION was made by Mr. Bramwell to Accept Grant Award from Taunton River Stewardship Council. Second by Mr. Salvo. Vote: Unanimous. MOTION CARRIES.

4. Vote to approve and sign revision to AFSCME Clerical Contract

Mr. Yunits indicated he had, in error, left out the three week vacation line from two weeks to four weeks.

MOTION was made by Mr. Bramwell to approve and sign revision to AFSCME Clerical Contract regarding vacation, and discussed above. Second by Mr. Flaherty. Vote: All Board members Voted in Favor of this Motion, except for Mr. Salvo who voted "present". MOTION CARRIES.

5. Discussion - Town Meeting Article for Reserve Accounts

Mr. Kimball stated a certain percentage is put aside for capital improvements, stabilization, etc., and once percentage is put aside, whatever is left over would be used for other items such as the Town Hall building, etc.

Mr. Bramwell clarified this was a certain percentage of free cash.

Mr. Kimball said they should probably put something together on this and hold a joint meeting with the School Committee and Finance Committee preferably first thing in the fall.

6. Discussion - XFINITY Traffic

Mr. Kimball referenced emails regarding new traffic pattern and they are trying to come up with a way to make it work. He received an email from Xfinity today which discussing trying to let the police chiefs handle this. Options/ideas were looked at and they were trying to close off roadway at 10:30 P.M., however this seems to be sporadic as road has been closed earlier than 10:30 P.M. Therefore, Xfinity (Jeff Mann) and police chiefs from Mansfield and Norton are working on what would work for everyone. It is important to make it one single time and be consistent.

Mr. Salvo said a few people contacted him regarding this traffic issue as well. Another issue is where the Uber drivers are parking at Cumberland Farms, etc. There needs to be more communication regarding this issue. This traffic issue is creating a backflow of traffic going in one direction of Route 140 and needs to get addressed.

Mr. Yunits referenced XFinity closing the road 30 minutes before a concert ends, and noted this is in the town of Mansfield and it is a state highway. He said one of the issues is when drivers coming out of Mansfield take a right and have to go all the way to School Street and turn around. The town of Mansfield presented this to state highway and it got approved. It is difficult for people to understand this reasoning and he understands their concern. Discussion ensued.

Mr. Bramwell recommended they make a suggestion to the Chief of Police in various areas to have signs stating "No Parking or Standing", and if it is marked, it can be enforced.

Mr. Kimball said, perhaps, they could find a place where they can go to sit and wait (Uber drivers, etc.).

Mr. Salvo recommended to also post a sign in the area to remind residents/people about the concerts and redirecting of traffic.

7. Discussion - Town Common Update

Mr. Kimball updated the Board the well was put down to ground and they started working on sidewalks (they will rebuild old asphalt sidewalks to concrete). Mr. Kimball also referenced the parking area where people can park behind it and it will have handicap accessibility from all four points of access.

B. OLD BUSINESS

C. TOWN MANAGER' REPORT

- Update on Houghton Farm Development

Mr. Yunits stated he met with developers on Houghton Farm project and they are moving forward and new sewer/water lines are being installed. Also, at this same meeting, they mentioned they purchased property on South Washington Street and plan to build a 130,000 square foot building for a client at this location (this location is next to Extended Stay hotel) and the client hopes to occupy this building as quickly as possible; hopefully will be built in approximately one year. They also have space available at this location for a couple of smaller buildings). They will have a pre-plan meeting with the developer, the owner of the company, and all department heads. Mr. Yunits referenced a water line that travels through this property (under Route 495) and thought there would have been an easement.

Mr. Kimball noted he believed that was in the ground before Route 495 was built.

- Update on Wheaton College Meeting

Mr. Yunits indicated he and the Highway Superintendent, Mr. Silver, met with Wheaton College and an update was provided regarding work to be conducted on Route 123. There will be a public hearing held by the State Highway in the Norton Public Library in July 2017 for an update, and is on TIF for 2018, therefore, all is moving ahead.

Mr. Silver is discussing with Wheaton College sidewalks near the College, and Mr. Silver would like to extend left hand turn on Route 140 to enable more cars to fit at that location, and more bike lanes also. Wheaton College was provided information as to what was happening at Library Square as well.

Mr. Yunits stated Wheaton College was looking to build another building in Fall 2019 for 150-160 additional beds, near the Pine Street area and they are also working on the Admissions Center and their power plant.

Mr. Yunits referenced a meeting with GATRA as well to discuss putting a hub somewhere on Route 140.

Mr. Kimball suggested to have a hub in the area of East Main Street, Taunton Avenue, and Mansfield Avenue would make sense.

- Recreation Commission Status Update

Mr. Yunits stated the Town is still looking for people to volunteer on this Commission. The current director will be resigning as of June 30, 2017. The person the Town currently has that oversees the pool 30 hours per week will work 40 hours per week in the interim to fill accounts payable and payroll, and he thanked her for stepping up in the interim. Hopefully, the Town will have a director in place within two weeks.

Mr. Kimball said he would like to ensure the Town's Halloween Parade and Festival of Lights still happens. The Town needs to figure out how this will be done and needs to make these appointments. The Recreation Commission should be responsible for any programs like this in Town and hopefully that position is full-time at some point. There are generally plenty of volunteers to help, but they do need someone to charge it.

Mr. Salvo stated when the new Recreation Commission Director starts, he would like to take time to meet with the Director and help and try to make it the way it was many years ago, where they had a camp for children and so many other things they had, and where they did not need to ask the Town for any money. He said last night, the town of Mansfield had a duck race, and they hold this event every year, and he spoke to chairman and was told the town of Mansfield raises \$6,000, and was told all they do is from fundraising and nothing from town funds.

Mr. Kimball said to obviously build a full-time position at some point would be beneficial, but the Town is not at this point yet.

Mr. Flaherty asked how many members the Mansfield Recreation Department has?

Mr. Salvo responded he was not sure of the number of members.

Mr. Kimball said if there is the ability to raise money; more people can be hired.
.....

Mr. Yunits stated the Treasurer provided him with a letter from Harbor One Bank, where they awarded a \$5,000 scholarship to Norton resident, Joseph Annand, to assist with his tuition at Stonehill College.

D. APPOINTMENTS/RESIGNATIONS/RETIREMENTS

1. Appointments - Board of Health

Mr. Yunits referenced a letter of Mr. Hebard, a professional engineer with 49 years experience in the water and wastewater field. Mr. Hebard is a wastewater treatment plant operator and would be a good addition to this department. The previous appointee, Mr. Corr, was in this position for nine years. The Town does have in its Charter, they need to appoint someone with an engineering background.

MOTION was made by Mr. Bramwell to appoint William C. Hebard to the Board of Health position. Second by Mr. Flaherty. Vote: Unanimous. MOTION CARRIES.

V. SELECTMEN'S REPORT AND MAIL

Mr. Kimball noted they received communication from Wheaton College keeping the Town informed of the happenings/news at the College. There will be concerts at the College being held Friday, July 7, and Friday, July 28 for all to attend.
.....

Mr. Kimball said a letter of commendation was sent to the Town in recognition of Mr. Christian Zahner of the Board of Health. The sender of the letter was conducting construction work in the Town and stated it was a privilege working in Norton and Mr. Zahner almost daily and noted Mr. Zahner is an asset to the community.

VI. WARRANTS AND MINUTES

A. Approve bi-weekly payroll for the period ended June 17, 2017. Warrant #76, dated June 22, 2017, in the amount of \$3,902,786.96

MOTION was made by Mr. Salvo to Approve bi-weekly payroll for the period ended June 17, 2017, Warrant #76, dated June 22, 2017, in the amount of \$3,902,786.96. Second by Mr. Bramwell. Vote: Unanimous. MOTION CARRIES.

B. Approve bills Warrant #77, dated June 22, 2017, in the amount of \$199,041.42

MOTION was made by Mr. Salvo to Approve bills Warrant #77, dated June 22, 2017, in the amount of \$199,041.42. Second by Mr. Bramwell. Vote: Unanimous. MOTION CARRIES.

C. Approve bills Warrant #78, dated June 29, 2017, in the amount of \$1,023,095.93

MOTION was made by Mr. Salvo to Approve bills Warrant #78, dated June 29, 2017, in the amount of \$1,023,095.93. Second by Mr. Bramwell. Vote: Unanimous. MOTION CARRIES.

D. Approve Minutes - March 23, 2017

MOTION was made by Mr. Bramwell to Approve Minutes of the Board of Selectmen, dated March 23, 2017, as written. Second by Mr. Salvo. Vote: Unanimous. MOTION CARRIES.

VII. NEXT MEETING'S AGENDA

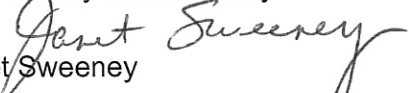
- President Dennis Hanno Re: Wheaton Update
- Reserve Accounts Update
- Recreational Commission Update

VIII. EXECUTIVE SESSION

IX. ADJOURNMENT

MOTION was made by Mr. Salvo to Adjourn at 7:50 P.M. Second by Mr. Bramwell. Vote: Unanimous. MOTION CARRIES.

Respectfully Submitted by:


Janet Sweeney
Board of Selectmen - Recording Secretary

**BOARD OF SELECTMEN
MINUTES OF MEETING
JUNE 29, 2017**



ROBERT W. KIMBALL, JR., CHAIRMAN



BRADFORD K. BRAMWELL, VICE-CHAIR



ROBERT S. SALVO, SR., CLERK

MICHAEL C. FLAHERTY

MARY T. STEELE

Dated: 07/13/17

Documents Presented at Board of Selectmen's Meeting of June 29, 2017

- Application of Fatima Watt, for a one-day All Alcohol License, to be utilized at Everett Leonard Park, Saturday, July 15, 2017, 3:30 P.M. - 8:30 P.M., for a private party
- Application of New England Rodeo, LLC, 185 N. Washington Street, Norton, MA 02766, for a Live Entertainment License
- AFSCME Clerical Contract (vote to approve and sign revision)
- Letter of Interest/Application, dated June 6, 2017, for appointment to the Board of Health from William C. Hebard, Norton, MA, addressed to Norton Board of Selectmen
- Letter dated June 16, 2017, addressed to Catherine VanDyne, Treasurer, from Harbor One Bank (Joseph Norton, VP Government Banking and Debra Thibodeau, VP Government Banking) regarding award of \$5,000 scholarship from HarborOne Bank to a Norton resident on his pursuit of higher education at Stonehill College
- Draft Board of Selectmen Minutes, dated March 23, 2017