



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

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**Board of Selectmen
Meeting Minutes
December 5, 2019**

I. Call to Order by Chairman

The December 5, 2019 meeting of the Norton Board of Selectmen was held in the Board of Selectmen's Meeting Room and was called to order at 7:00 P.M., by Mr. Bradford K. Bramwell, Chairman. Member(s) present: Mr. Michael Flaherty, Mr. John Conway, Ms. Mary Steele, and Ms. Renee Deley. Also in attendance: Michael D. Yunits, Town Manager.

II. Appointments/Resignations/Retirements

- a. Appointment of Full-Time Water/Sewer Technicians: Christopher Neves, Jordan Harris, and Jennifer McConville.

MOTION was made by Mr. Conway to appoint Christopher Neves as a Full-Time Water/Sewer Technician. Seconded by Mr. Bramwell. Vote: Unanimous. MOTION CARRIES.

MOTION was made by Ms. Steele to appoint Jordan Harris as a Full-Time Water/Sewer Technician. Seconded by Mr. Bramwell. Vote: Unanimous. MOTION CARRIES.

MOTION was made by Mr. Bramwell to appoint Jennifer McConville as a Full-Time Water/Sewer Technician. Seconded by Mr. Conway. Vote: Unanimous. MOTION CARRIES.

Ms. Deley asked with these three appointments if the Water/Sewer Plant was now fully staffed, which Mr. Yunits confirmed. Mr. Yunits informed the Board that the only position left to fill is the Assistant Water/Sewer Superintendent. Ms. Deley asked if the Water/Sewer Superintendent or someone from the Water/Sewer Commission would be coming to the give an update at the next Selectmen's meeting. Mr. Yunits stated he would ask them if they can and get back to them.

III. Licenses and Permits

1. FY20 License Renewals.

CVAA, CVWM, RPAA, RPWM, CV:

A & E of Norton, Inc. d/b/a
Barrowsville Station
194 South Worcester St.

RPAA

Bog Iron Brewing, LLC
33 West Main St.

Malt Only Pouring Permit

292 LME, Inc. d/b/a The Downtown
292 West Main St.

CVAA
CV
Live Entertainment; Dancing; Jukebox
MA S.E. for Live Entertainment;
Dancing; Jukebox

Emma's Enterprises, Inc. d/b/a Emma's
Pub & Pizza
130 Mansfield Ave.

CVAA
CV
Jukebox; Toy Taxi Automatic
Amusement
Vending Machine; Live Entertainment
MA S.E. for Jukebox; Live
Entertainment; Toy Taxi Automatic
Amusement Vending Machine

Fillmore-Nason Post #8049 V.F.W. of USA
38 Summer St.

CLUB AA
CV
Live Entertainment
Jukebox
Dancing
1 Coin-Operated Pool Table
MA S.E. for Live Entertainment;
Jukebox; Dancing; Coin-Operated Pool
Table

Raffaele Bruzzese d/b/a Fisherman's Three
411B Old Colony Rd.

CVAA
CV
Live Entertainment

MOTION was made by Mr. Conway to approve/renew the above 2020 licenses as specified on document, 2020 License Renewals, Page 1 as presented to the Board on December 5, 2019. Seconded by Ms. Steele. Vote: Ms. Steele – Yes; Ms. Deley – Yes; Mr. Conway - Yes; Mr. Bramwell – Yes; and Mr. Flaherty - Yes. MOTION CARRIES.

Zheng's International, Inc. d/b/a
Greatwoods Mandarin
175 Mansfield Ave.

CVAA
CV

336 Toth, LLC d/b/a Norton Tavern on
the Hill

CVAA
CV
Live Entertainment
1 Video Game "Golden Tee"
2 Pool Tables
Jukebox

Produce Barn Incorporated
d/b/a Produce Barn

RPAA

72 Mansfield Ave.

Sabatino's Trattoria, Inc.
d/b/a Sabatino's Trattoria
111 West Main St.

CVAA
CV

Tournament Players Club of Boston at
Great Woods LLC
400 Arnold Palmer Blvd.

CVAA
CV

CV:

KMPZ, Inc. d/b/a Honey Dew Donuts
61 West Main Street

CV

MA PIZZA, Inc. d/b/a Roma Italian Pizza
360 Old Colony Rd.

CV

MOTION was made by Mr. Conway to renew the aforementioned licenses. Seconded by Mr. Bramwell. Vote: Ms. Steele – Yes; Ms. Deley – Yes; Mr. Conway - Yes; Mr. Bramwell – Yes; and Mr. Flaherty - Yes. MOTION CARRIES.

CLASS I, II, and III

Gregory Degnan d/b/a
Block Buster Auto
409 Old Colony Road

Class II

Goosebrook Garage & Recycling LLC
d/b/a Goosebrook Garage
36 Dean St.

Class II

Goosebrook Garage & Recycling LLC
d/b/a Goosebrook Garage
36 Dean St.

Class III

John Freeman and Dorothy A. Freeman
d/b/a Freeman's Garage
29 Ford Rd.

Class II

John Freeman and Dorothy A. Freeman
d/b/a Freeman's Garage
29 Ford Rd.

Class III

Kevin's, LLC
187 West Main Street

Class I

MOTION was made by Mr. Conway to renew the aforementioned licenses. Seconded by Mr. Bramwell. Vote: Ms. Steele – Yes; Ms. Deley – Yes; Mr. Conway - Yes; Mr. Bramwell – Yes; and Mr. Flaherty - Yes. MOTION CARRIES.

LODGING HOUSE:

The North Cottage Program, Inc.
69 East Main St.

Lodging House
CV

MOTION was made by Mr. Conway to renew the following licenses for The North Cottage Program, Inc., 69 East Main St. for a lodging house license and common victualler license. Seconded by Ms. Deley. Vote: Ms. Steele – Yes; Ms. Deley – Yes; Mr. Conway - Yes; Mr. Bramwell – Yes; and Mr. Flaherty - Yes. MOTION CARRIES.

IV. Announcements

1. The Festival of Lights will be held at the Town Common on Sunday, December 8, 2019 from approximately 5:00 P.M. to 6:00 P.M. There will be hot cocoa, crafts, dancing, singing, and lights. Come sing holiday songs, write letters to Santa, and see the Common light up along with a very special visit from Santa and Mrs. Claus. A special thanks was given to Bob Kimball, the Chartley Garden Club, Norton Community Lions, Norton Fire Department, Norton Girl Scouts, Norton Singers, and On the Bar Dancers.

2. The Wreaths Across American – Norton Ceremony will be held on December 14, 2019 at 12:00 Noon at the Norton Common Cemetery (across from St. Mary's Church). The public is invited to attend. This is Norton's first year participating in Wreaths Across America. Norton has approximately 600 graves and the goal is to place a live wreath on the grave of every veteran in Norton. Ceremonies are performed across the nation simultaneously and are followed by the placement of wreaths on all veterans' graves. You can reach out to Veterans' Services if you would like to purchase more wreaths at (508) 285-0274.

Mr. Yunits mentioned that the wreaths arrived today. He recognized the hard work the Highway Department did working with Estelle Flett, the Veterans' Agent.

V. Business

A. New Business

1. Recognition of Boy Scouts Community Service Project.

Ms. Beth Rossi, the Director of Human Services, introduced Mr. Ryan Morley of Norton Boy Scouts Troop 61. She explained that he is working on his Eagle Scout project and the project he chose to do was to repaint the exterior of the Senior Center. Ms. Rossi said that the Senior Center looks excellent thanks to Mr. Morley's hard work. Mr. Morley thanked the Selectmen for this honor and Mr. Flaherty thanked him for the work he did. Mr. Flaherty asked how much more he had to do in order to receive his Eagle Scout badge. Mr. Morley stated that he just had some paperwork and he will be finished. Ms. Rossi informed the Board that the Eagle Scout badge ceremony for Mr. Morley will be in May.

2. Surplus Property – Norton Fire-Rescue Department.

The Town Manager explained that this is in regards to a piece of equipment. The Fire Department just received their Chevy 4500 Series flatbed truck, so they no longer need the 1967 Kaiser M35 Forestry Truck. The equipment will now be declared as surplus.

MOTION was made by Mr. Bramwell to declare the 1967 Kaiser M35 2.5 Ton Forestry Truck as surplus. Seconded by Mr. Conway. Vote: Unanimous. MOTION CARRIES.

MOTION was made by Mr. Bramwell to declare a pickup body off of a 2000 Ford F350 as surplus. Seconded by Mr. Conway. Vote: Unanimous. MOTION CARRIES.

3. Set Spring Annual Town Meeting.

Mr. Yunits recommended to the Selectmen that the Annual Town Meeting be held on May 18, 2020 and that the warrant be opened this evening. He informed the Selectmen that the warrant needs to close at least 90 days before the town meeting, so the warrant would close on February 12, 2020. Ms. Deley asked Mr. Yunits if he knew off-hand the dates of the last two meetings (she clarified that she was looking for the dates of the Spring Annual Town Meetings for 2018 and 2019). Mr. Yunits answered he did not, but it is always around May 15th, which Mr. Flaherty confirmed. Ms. Deley explained that the reason she was asking was because one of the potential articles to be submitted is regarding one of the bylaw changes that has been voted down previously. She further stated that she believes that when an article is voted down at town meeting, it cannot be brought up again at a town meeting for at least two years. It was determined that in 2018 the meeting was on May 14th and in 2019 it was on May 15th.

MOTION was made by Mr. Bramwell to set the Spring Annual Town Meeting for May 18, 2020 at the Norton High School at 7:00 P.M. Seconded by Mr. Conway. Vote: Unanimous. MOTION CARRIES.

B. Old Business

1. Water Bodies Discussion.

Mr. David Lennon, Mr. Brian Brady, and Ms. Carol Zwicker of the Water Bodies Committee were present at the meeting. Mr. Lennon mentioned that the Town Manager had also sent out the estimates for maintaining the water bodies for the next couple of years. Mr. Lennon asked Mr. Yunits if he knew what was left in the budget for this fiscal year, which the Town Manager stated was \$255,452. Mr. Yunits mentioned that he was given a conservative estimate (staying at the higher end) of what it would cost the Town through June, which was \$345,400. The Town Manager informed everyone that he told the company maintaining the lakes that the Town would not be able to afford this because they would be \$89,948 short. The company's response was that this was not necessarily going to be the cost, but wanted the Town to be prepared. Mr. Yunits emphasized the importance of having an article on the warrant to be able to have the funds necessary. Mr. Lennon clarified that the Town would need to have the article by February, which Mr. Yunits answered was correct.

Mr. Yunits stated that ESS Group voiced a concern regarding Chartley Pond because a new [invasive] plant is growing there. The representative of ESS Group expressed that this plant

needs to be treated this year so it doesn't take over the pond. Next, Mr. Yunits described that Lake Winnecunnet looked good, but some beds were coming back. Lastly, at the Reservoir the water chestnuts have been kept up with. Mr. Lennon stated that he had placed some calls with DCR, but he hasn't heard back yet. He informed the Selectmen and Town Manager that the State signage is faded at the Reservoir and asked if it would be possible to have someone from the Town contact DCR or Mass. Wildlife to get the signage replaced. Mr. Lennon then asked Mr. Yunits for an update on the signs that were to be provided by the Town. Mr. Yunits stated that Mr. Silver of the Highway Department said he could do the signs except for the pictures. Mr. Lennon replied that the prior signage had a very tiny invasive plant icon on it and the new signs need to have larger icons. He emphasized that what is really important is having the laws clearly stated on the signs.

Ms. Steele asked Mr. Yunits in regards to the money the Town needs to have available for next year if money was already set aside, which he confirmed. Ms. Steele then asked if there was a mechanism for after this to put money aside. Mr. Yunits answered that they will need to have an article and appropriate money. Mr. Lennon asked if this would be amending the current article or if it would be a new article. Mr. Yunits replied that it would be a new article. Ms. Steele expressed her support of the project, but reiterated her previous concerns as far as expending money without having money set aside for the maintenance going forward. Ms. Steele stated that the Town should be seeing a lot of revenue coming in from the Blue Star Business Park and asked if they could take some of this income and put it in a conservation account/an account for the water bodies. Mr. Yunits explained that they could have an article and through capital they could put a certain amount into it. Ms. Steele then asked if the boat ramp at Lake Winnecunnet is State owned, which Mr. Lennon stated he believed this was correct. In response, she asked if the Town could ask the State for money. The Board agreed this was something to look into.

Mr. Lennon moved on to discussing how to enforce the rules and regulations at the water bodies. He stated that it would be nice to get town enforcement at the water bodies. Ms. Steele mentioned that this was something also previously discussed by the Board and asked to have a seasonal part-time employee, such as a police official, to monitor the lakes. Mr. Bramwell said that liability-wise it would be tough to have a part-time employee monitoring the lakes and would probably need to have on-call officers. Ms. Deley stated that they need to have the Police Chief in to discuss this more in detail. Ms. Deley suggested bringing in a private company to monitor the public lakes. Mr. Flaherty stated that he didn't believe they could do this. Mr. Bramwell said that he doesn't believe a private company could come in and regulate public property because they would not have the authority.

Mr. Lennon mentioned that another topic discussed at their Water Bodies meeting was the possibility of putting in a community kayak/canoe rack somewhere. That way people could bring their own kayaks and canoes, bring their own locks, and leave them there. Mr. Lennon believed this would be a good Boy Scouts project. Depending on the demand, he suggested building another rack each year. Mr. Lennon suggested South Lakeview or 237 Mansfield Avenue as possible locations for the kayak/canoe rack. Mr. Yunits suggested to Mr. Lennon to contact Conservation. Mr. Lennon replied that he had, but he is still waiting on a response. Mr. Lennon asked if South Lakeview is owned by the Town, which Mr. Yunits stated believes it is.

C. Town Manager's Report

1. Elm Street Demolition Update.

Mr. Yunits informed the Selectmen that the building on the corner of Elm Street and Cross Street is 50% demolished now. He mentioned that the roads have been closed from 7:00 A.M. to 4:00 P.M. and that hopefully in a couple of weeks this will be completed. Mr. Conway asked who holds title to the property. Mr. Yunits explained that there is no owner of record, but if the Town does decide to do anything with the property, it would all be governed by the court. The Town Manager stated that the EPA continues to work on the abatement of the oil. EPA has been putting the soil in the parking lot on Elm Street and covering it at night. Ms. Deley questioned if there were other things that needed to be addressed from prior meetings. Mr. Yunits stated it could be the wood that was stacked on the side of the buildings, but he was unsure of that status of this and said he would check with the Building Commissioner.

2. Blue Star Business Park Update.

Mr. Yunits stated that they lost some time to work this week due to the weather, but they were out there today and everything seems to be going fine with the detour. Mr. Flaherty asked the Town Manager if he had received any complaints about the detour, which Mr. Yunits answered he had not. He informed the Board that they have their groundbreaking next Wednesday. Ms. Steele asked that Mr. Yunits speak with the Police Chief about getting a couple of cops on Plain Street due to people speeding down that road. Mr. Yunits stated that he would do so.

3. Notice of Debt-Authorization – Southeastern Massachusetts Regional 911 District.

Mr. Yunits explained that as required by legislation when the regional dispatch was established, whenever there is any borrowing, they have to notify each Board of Selectmen. They provided a notice for a borrowing of \$1,500,000 for the construction of the building. Mr. Yunits stated from the notice that the bids came in higher than expected. He informed the Selectmen that they got six bids and the one they went with was a bid of \$7,000,000; however, the project ended up costing \$8,700,000, so this is the reasoning for the borrowing. Mr. Yunits emphasized that all of the bids were close. He added that he received a letter from State 911 still committing to funding the increased costs.

V. Selectmen's Report and Mail

Mr. Bramwell wanted to thank everyone that reached out to him checking on his health during his absence.

Mr. Conway wanted to welcome Mr. Bramwell back and stated that he hopes his health continues to improve.

Ms. Deley expressed it was great to see Mr. Bramwell. Ms. Deley asked Ms. Steel and Mr. Bramwell if either of them were the liaison for Wheaton College and both replied it was not them. Mr. Bramwell stated that he believes it was Mr. Robert Kimball and that they haven't assigned a new liaison since. Mr. Bramwell expressed that he had no problem being the liaison if no one else wished to do it. Mr. Bramwell and Ms. Deley volunteered to be co-

liaisons for Wheaton College. Ms. Deley stated that she met with the AVP of Student Affairs last week and they had a conversation about interns. She expressed that she believes it would be a good idea to get interns working at town hall. Ms. Deley stated that if the Board was ok with it, she would contact Mr. William Rotondi, Chair of the Finance Committee, to see if they would have any interest in an intern as well. She said that the Board had also spoken in the past about somebody who could help with social media and web design. She mentioned that Wheaton has a marketing group there as well that the Town could utilize. Ms. Steele stated that they have had Wheaton interns work at the town hall in the past. Mr. Yunits agreed. Mr. Flaherty suggested to the Town Manager having this as an agenda item for in the future, which Mr. Yunits agreed to. Ms. Deley then brought up Wheaton College in regards to Howard Street. Mr. Yunits informed the rest of the Board that when the Town was looking to Wheaton to donate some land to the Town, as an exchange the Town would give Howard Street to Wheaton College.

Ms. Deley then moved on to discuss a Host Community Agreement she had sent to Mr. Yunits in an e-mail. She asked that the Town Manager put more pressure on town counsel to get the comments/revisions back. In respect to this, Ms. Deley mentioned that Sandra Ollerhead had sent an e-mail regarding the overlay and hours for SRPEDD. In Ms. Ollerhead's e-mail, she had indicated that there are forty hours that are provided (20 go to the Board of Selectmen and 20 go to the Planning Board). Mr. Yunits stated that he knew that the Director of Planning and Economic Development, Paul DiGiuseppe, said he was trying to arrange a meeting to see how they are allotting all of the hours this year because there are so many different things they are working on. Ms. Deley stated she would like to have a discussion in the future about how these hours will be allocated.

Ms. Steele wanted to point out that although the Boy Scout, Ryan Morley, did the work at the Senior Center regarding the painting of the exterior of the building, she wanted to recognize that it was Bob Kimball that had donated the paint.

VI. **Meeting Minutes**

1. June 3, 2019
2. June 27, 2019 – Executive Session
3. August 29, 2019
4. September 5, 2019
5. September 19, 2019 – Open Session and Executive Session

Mr. Bramwell asked that for the meeting minutes, item number five (September 19, 2019) be voted on separately because the other four sets of minutes he was present at the meeting.

Ms. Steele asked if the June 27, 2019 executive session topic was still an ongoing matter. Mr. Yunits stated that the Board can approve the minutes, but not release them to the public yet.

MOTION was made by Mr. Bramwell to approve the Minutes of June 3, 2019. Seconded by Mr. Conway. Vote: Unanimous. MOTION CARRIES.

MOTION was made by Mr. Bramwell to approve the Minutes of June 27, 2019 (Executive Session) to be released at a later date. Seconded by Mr. Conway. Vote:

Ms. Steele – Yes; Ms. Deley – Abstained; Mr. Conway – Yes; Mr. Bramwell – Yes; and Mr. Flaherty – Yes. MOTION CARRIES.

MOTION was made by Mr. Bramwell to approve the Minutes of August 29, 2019. Seconded by Mr. Conway. Vote: Unanimous. MOTION CARRIES.

The Board agreed to table approving the Minutes of September 5, 2019 and September 19, 2019 (Open and Executive Session) until a later date.

VIII. Warrants

Report of Vice-Chairman, Michael Flaherty, that the following Payroll and Invoice Warrants he had approved:

- A. Approve Invoice Warrant AP 20-29 dated January 16, 2020, in the amount of \$1,565,133.81.
- B. Approve Invoice Warrant AP20-23 dated December 5, 2019, in the amount of \$327,641.17.
- C. Approve Payroll Warrant PR20-12 for the week ended November 30, 2019, Warrant dated December 5, 2019, in the amount of \$1,769,506.26.

IX. Other Business

There was no other business to discuss.

X. Next Meeting's Agenda – Tuesday, December 17, 2019 – Joint Meeting with the School Committee.

XI. Executive Session

There was no need for an executive session.

XII. Adjournment

MOTION was made by Mr. Bramwell to adjourn the Board of Selectmen meeting at 8:01 P.M. Seconded by Mr. Conway. Vote: Unanimous. MOTION CARRIES.

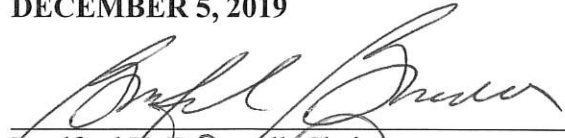
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Respectfully Submitted by:



Jennifer Reid, Office Administrator

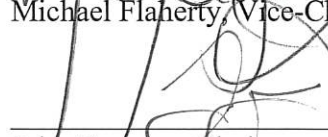
**BOARD OF SELECTMEN
MINUTES OF MEETING
DECEMBER 5, 2019**



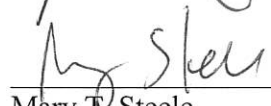
Bradford K. Bramwell, Chairman



Michael Flaherty, Vice-Chairman



John Conway, Clerk



Mary T. Steele

Renee Deley

Minutes Approved by Board on: February 6, 2020