



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

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Select Board  
Meeting Minutes  
January 21, 2021

I. Call to Order by Chair

The January 21, 2021 meeting of the Norton Select Board was held remotely (Web: <https://us02web.zoom.us/j/6391519600>; Phone: 646-558 8656; Meeting ID: 639 151 9600, and was called to order at 7:04 P.M., by Mr. John Conway, Chair. Member(s) present: Ms. Renee Deley, Mr. Michael Toole, Mr. Bradford K. Bramwell, and Ms. Megan Artz. Also in attendance: Mr. Michael D. Yunits, Town Manager.

A moment of silence was held in memory of Detective Sergeant Stephen Desfosses.

II. Appointments/Resignations/Retirements

There were no appointments, resignations, or retirements to discuss.

III. Licenses and Permits

1. ABCC 2021 Season Population Increase Estimation Form.

Mr. Yunits informed the Board that he followed-up about Wheaton College in regard to if they could be factored into the Town's seasonal population. He explained that the Town could gain an additional liquor license for its seasonal population for every 5,000 seasonal residents, but Wheaton College only had about 1,500 students who lived in Town. In result, the seasonal population from Wheaton College is not high enough to make Norton eligible for an additional liquor license.

2. Update on All Alcohol Package Store Licenses/Special Legislation.

Mr. Yunits advised that if the Town filed for special legislation to gain two additional liquor licenses and the population did increase to over 20,000 residents, the Town would still get the two by special legislation because these stand-alone and it would also get the additional license resulting from the population increase, giving the Town a total of three additional retail package (all alcohol) licenses.

The Town Manager went on to explain that the Town does already have one special legislation license (413 of 1983) from the October 6, 1983 Town Meeting that is currently being utilized and this license will always carry forward. Mr. Yunits asked the Board if they would like him to put an article on the warrant for the Spring Town Meeting to gain additional licenses through special legislation. He reminded the Select Board that the warrant closes on February 1<sup>st</sup>, but they could also just put this as a placeholder. Mr. Toole advised that he would be recusing himself from this topic.

Ms. Deley responded that the Economic Development Commission (EDC) did talk about this at their meeting and there wasn't any objection to the idea, but they also didn't have the questions answered that Mr. Yunits answered at this meeting. She explained that a majority of the EDC is in agreement to move forward with special legislation. Mr. Yunits said he believed the big thing was setting the districts as far as the EDC's concerns. Ms. Deley agreed and pointed out that one proposal for a location was along Route 140 near the Xfinity Center/Roche Bros., which creates a saturation of liquor licenses. Ms. Deley further stated that the EDC discussed having one near Exit 10, LLC and then another one somewhere else within town that isn't already saturated and could promote growth, such as Route 123 West near Attleboro or 140 South (near Mike's Pizza). She informed the other Select Board members and Town Manager that the EDC has a meeting next Wednesday where they could discuss this further. Mr. Yunits reminded everyone that the language doesn't have to be finalized at this time and that a placeholder simply needs to be put on the warrant for this.

Ms. Deley asked when they would need to remove the placeholder if they change their minds and asked for clarification if it was 14 days before town meeting and Mr. Yunits confirmed that was accurate. Ms. Deley said that if they can confirm the districts and have the EDC meeting to discuss this on January 27<sup>th</sup>, then they could do this. Mr. Conway agreed with the placeholder and clarified that this would be for an additional retail package store license not for a restaurant, which Mr. Yunits confirmed. Mr. Bramwell agreed to add the placeholder figuring that there would be no loss in doing so and can put it on while they have the chance and take it off if they decide to before the warrant has to be finalized.

#### IV. Announcements

Mr. Toole announced the following:

1) The Veterans' Agent, Ms. Estelle Flett: Veterans already enrolled in VA Health will be contacted by the VA Boston in order of priority for the COVID-19 vaccine. They are currently working with the high-risk population and the next group being done in February for those 85 years-old and older, 75 years-old and older will be in March, etc. Veterans will be contacted if enrolled in the VA Healthcare to schedule an appointment. You do not have to call if you are eligible for VA Health and have put off enrolling, it is never too late to apply. Those interested can reach out to Ms. Flett to do so.

2) Reminder from Park and Recreation that they are still working on the DJ Nate visits. If you have any special events coming up, a \$10 donation to Norton Park and Recreation will have DJ Nate come and play five songs.

3) Director of Human Services/Council on Aging, Ms. Beth Rossi: If anyone is in need or knows of anyone in Town struggling and needs food assistance, Ms. Rossi's office is open to meet your needs.

4) Board of Health Agent, Mr. Christian Zahner: Effective January 25<sup>th</sup>, the stay-at-home advisory from 10:00 P.M. to 5:00 A.M. will be lifted. By the end of the following week, restaurants can operate past 9:30 P.M. and gatherings and liquor stores can go beyond 9:30 P.M.

5) Mr. Conway reminded residents of the “Go Fund Me” page to help support the Desfosses family. He advised that those interested in donating can google “Go Fund Me” and search the name (Desfosses) or go to <https://www.gofundme.com/f/help-for-the-desfosses-family>.

V. **Business**

A. **New Business**

1. Discussion and/or Vote on Warrant Article and Ballot Question for Council on Aging/Community Center, Town Hall, and School Sports Complex Projects.

The Chair of the Permanent Building Committee (PBC), Ms. Dinah O’Brien, and Mr. Bob Briscoe, the representative for the Council on Aging came before the Select Board to discuss the projects. Mr. Conway explained that the School Committee went for Option H and pointed out that the original option was around \$10 million and now it is between \$5 million and \$6.4 million. Mr. Conway said the sooner the Select Board discusses and votes on the plan for these three projects, the sooner the PBC can move forward. The Chair of the Select Board explained that the Board needs to decide how these projects will be presented on the warrant, if it should be on the April 10<sup>th</sup> election ballot followed by a vote at the Spring Town Meeting in May, or have it on the Spring Town Meeting warrant in May followed by vote to be held at a special election.

Ms. O’Brien said the only date the PBC is working with right now is the Purchase and Sales Agreement for 120-116 Mansfield Avenue, which expires on May 30<sup>th</sup>. Mr. Conway emphasized that the Purchase and Sales Agreement is contingent upon town meeting approval and the ballot question passing. Mr. Conway reported that all three boards/committees came to a consensus that all three projects should be on the warrant as one article to show a united front.

Mr. Toole expressed that he understands from their joint meeting the idea of having this as a united front with the three projects on one article. He emphasized he wouldn’t say it is per se “needs vs. wants” and further commented that he understands the fields need to be redone; however, if the fields/track don’t get redone, the schools are not going to be shut down. Mr. Toole pointed out that in contrast, if the Town Hall and Senior Center projects do not move forward/get approved, then there is a real possibility that the Town Hall and/or Senior Center will get shut down and the employees will be working out of trailers.

Ms. Artz expressed that the only thing to bring forward is that if they lose all these families because the Town’s school system is not up to par with any of the surrounding towns and facilities are not where they should be, then this could result in shutdowns because they are losing these families and will not be attracting new people to come to Norton. She emphasized that this is why she feels it is necessary to keep all three projects together on one article.

Ms. Deley said that she has always emphasized the need to have a “Plan B” and expressed that something does have to be done with getting Town Hall and Senior Center done. In contrast the earlier opinion of Mr. Toole, Ms. Deley expressed her opinion that the need for the structure at this exact time isn’t entirely necessary because Town Hall has been closed down [due to COVID-19], so there is a large population of municipal employees working from home. She further stated that as Ms. Artz pointed out, when people are looking at a



community, they are looking at services, schools, etc. and by doing the fields it will attract people and/or families as well as businesses, exemplifying a downstream impact. Ms. Deley asked for a summary of the timeline. Mr. Yunits said they will know better after the PBC meeting on February 8<sup>th</sup>, but the architect's timeline suggests three years. Mr. Yunits said looking at a year at least before construction even starts. Ms. O'Brien agreed and said it would actually be closer to at least a year and a half for construction to commence. Mr. Yunits emphasized that all three of these projects can be used by the Town using the examples of the Community Center being used by Girl Scouts and Boy Scouts, the Senior Center for their programs, residents using the track to exercise and go for walks, etc. Ms. O'Brien said PBC discovered that the Town is in the position of having a crumbling municipal infrastructure at this point. She said it is time to take care of this Town as a group and move us forward.

Mr. Bramwell said his personal opinion is that while they may need all three, they need to prioritize these projects and the buildings are a priority. He asked if they could stagger the construction and the borrowing so it does not all hit at once to make it more financially tolerable to the taxpayers. Ms. O'Brien said when they do go out to bid for the building of this project, they need to consider the economy of scale with using the same architect, same subcontractors, etc.; if the Town bids separately and are dealing with different companies, the Town is not getting the financial benefit of bidding together. Mr. Bramwell clarified that what he was saying is that the buildings should come first and the fields second where the buildings are almost unusable and deficient where the fields are still usable. He emphasized that while the fields are important, they are secondary to the two buildings. Mr. Bramwell stated that he has no problem with doing buildings first and the fields later.

Ms. Deley asked if it would be more advantageous to borrow for all three projects at the same time. Mr. Yunits said the Town could probably get better rates right now and a better rate borrowing for all the projects being done at once rather than separately. The Treasurer/Collector, Ms. Catherine VanDyne, advised that it would be more advantageous to borrow all at once, but the money would have to be spent immediately; in other words, they can only borrow what is going to be spent within that one-year period of time. Ms. Deley asked in respect to interest on the borrowing if it would make more sense to do all at once (simultaneously) so that earlier in the project costs are lower. Ms. VanDyne said you can't final borrow the project until they are almost done. So, if it is a three-year process and Town Hall is done first then the Town can final borrow on that. The Treasurer/Collect expressed that she understood what they were saying in respect to current interest rates being low, but pointed out that they are still going to be paying it off over 30 years and upfront it will be more interest and then switch later to principal. She added that other borrowings will also be getting paid off in the meantime.

Mr. Yunits clarified that they cannot borrow for as long a term for field projects as the buildings, so they may have to do a separate borrowing. Ms. VanDyne told the Town Manager that this was correct with regard to the term of the borrowing being different for the field projects, but the Town could do all of the projects under the same borrowing. Mr. Toole asked what the yearly impact would be per household and if \$450-\$600 sounded about right based on the average household in Norton being around \$375,000. Ms. VanDyne replied that was outside of her jurisdiction and would have to base this off the assessed value and the tax rate at the time, but that the range sounded about right.

Mr. Conway said that his opinion is to do the 3 projects on one article and so far, it appears that three Select Board members are for having the three projects on one article and two Select Board members are in favor of having them as separate articles. Mr. Toole said that even though he expressed that the buildings seem like they are a more of a dire need, he will be voting for all three projects on one article, but expressed an extreme concern with this article not passing, especially with the Town Hall and Senior Center being at the end of their life-expectancy. Mr. Conway said that there is an article on the warrant to keep the Town and Senior Center up and running that he believed to be north of \$5 million for the Town Hall alone just to renovate/overhaul the building and it still wouldn't even solve all the problems, such as the inadequate square footage. Mr. Conway emphasized that the Town Hall would have to be shutdown indefinitely to do so.

Mr. Toole pointed out that the PBC's discussion about having the Council on Aging and the new building they are proposing as a Community Service Center where the vision is currently larger than what we have. Ms. O'Brien said that this is correct where it would be used as a Community Center as well as a Council on Aging.

**MOTION was made by Ms. Deley to support the Council on Aging/Community Center, Town Hall, and School Sports Complex Projects as one warrant article and one ballot question. Seconded by Mr. Toole. Vote: Ms. Artz – Yes; Mr. Toole – Yes; Mr. Bramwell – Yes (reluctantly for the need of all three things); Ms. Deley – Yes; and Mr. Conway – Yes. MOTION CARRIES.**

Mr. Conway proposed having town meeting first (in early May) to give the PBC and support team more time (approximately 5 weeks) and then hold a special election. He said he understands the timeline may shift a little bit and that they may need to rework the Purchase and Sales Agreement for Mansfield Avenue.

Ms. Deley spoke on the timing and expressed her opinion that it would be more valuable to have the discussion at town meeting before asking people to vote on it and relying a lot on the PBC to get the word out. Ms. Deley said a lot of people like to wait until town meeting to get their questions out. She stated that by having town meeting first, residents would have the opportunity to have a discussion on the projects and then vote later. Ms. Deley pointed out that with the timing of this with the Charter Commission question, if it passes at the April 10<sup>th</sup> election, they later have to elect town council members. She explained that if they do things in the order she is suggesting, they could have on the special election the election of the members for the town council. Ms. Laura Parker of the Charter Commission said that if it passes, they will have to elect the members at a convenient date of June 2021.

Mr. Toole disagreed and believes that this should be on the ballot for April 10<sup>th</sup> and then go to town meeting. Mr. Toole said they may still have to do mail in voting, which is going to increase the cost, so they need to consolidate their elections. He also pointed out that these are two big issues within Town and he would like to see a large population come out and vote. Mr. Toole added that if these projects don't pass at the election, but does pass at town meeting, they could always put the projects on at the following election. Ms. Artz agreed with Mr. Toole. She also pointed out that if the projects fail and the Charter Commission question passes, then they could have a totally different legislative body for these topics.

Ms. Deley pointed out that there is a lot going on in Town between the debt-exclusion, the Charter Commission question, and then all of the different positions between the Select Board, Planning Board, and School Committee and would rather have residents more educated and comfortable with this before going out and voting. She emphasized that if this fails at town meeting, there will not be a need to call for another election. Ms. Deley expressed that she believes that they should call for a special town meeting and have that article (the debt-exclusion) on the warrant so it can open and close and then can move on with the rest of town meeting.

Mr. Bramwell said he agreed with Mr. Toole and Ms. Artz that it should be one ballot and one vote because they want as many people to come out and voice their opinions. He further stated that they don't want to make residents jump through hoops multiple times, so they should just get it done all at once.

Ms. O'Brien expressed a concern with the Purchase and Sales Agreement expiring on May 30<sup>th</sup> because it will be up to the seller as to whether or not they want to grant an extension. She emphasized to the Board that the PBC is ready to go in April, June, or November, but April would be good.

**MOTION was made by Mr. Toole to include this [the debt-exclusion] in the April election and to move the Permanent Building Committee's recommendations to the April election. Seconded by Ms. Artz. Vote: Mr. Toole – Yes; Ms. Artz – Yes; Mr. Bramwell – Yes; Ms. Deley – No; Mr. Conway – No. MOTION CARRIES.**

As part of the discussion, Ms. Deley pointed out that one of the questions the Board had for the Town Clerk was if the absentee ballots were going to be available for the Town election. Ms. Lucia Longhurst, Town Clerk, pointed out to the Board that legislature could affect the April election, which could even require making mail-in-ballots available to those who opt for this method of voting and may even be put into place for all elections. Ms. Longhurst advised that the Town has 14,000 registered voters and the election process has an extreme amount of work and deadlines involved; so, if this happens and the Town has an election in April, May, and/or June, the Town is looking at a cost of \$36,000 for all these elections. She further pointed out that with the risk for poll workers relating to COVID-19, it is becoming more difficult to find poll workers because they are usually seniors and this population is getting hesitant to work because they are scared of getting sick. Ms. Longhurst brought to the Board's attention that the mail-in-ballots, if they go for an election April, May, and June, the Town Clerk's Office has deadlines to meet and will be getting ready to probably be mailing things for the May election at the same time.

Ms. O'Brien extended an invite to the Select Board and Council on Aging and shared the PBC's support to get the word out. Mr. Yunits advised that they can't use Town resources for support of a debt-exclusion vote because it is not allowed, so anything they are thinking of doing he will run by town counsel first.

Mr. Tsilis asked that if this passes, if there is a timeline of when the money needs to be spent and suggested staggering the construction of the projects so that the residents aren't hit all at once. Mr. Yunits said that approval of the debt-exclusion at town meeting authorizes the Town to borrow the money and clarified that there is no set timeline because it is really based on the time it takes to complete the project. The Town Manager reminded the Board that the

Treasurer previously explained that the Town could do a temporary borrowing on what the Town needs as they go along and however long it takes them to do all these projects, then they go out and do their final borrowing. Mr. Conway explained that based on the average cost of a home in Town at \$372,000, for a thirty-year borrowing, the average annual cost would be about \$344 (\$92.66/\$100,000 assessed value) a year per household for the projects at the peak borrowing, but this figure is not including athletic complex.

## 2. Review and/or Vote to Sign Purchase and Sale Agreement Regarding 120-116 Mansfield Avenue.

Mr. Yunits advised that the purchase price of the property located at 120-116 Mansfield Avenue is \$800,000 with a closing date of May 30<sup>th</sup> with the possibility of 90-day extension in case the State still has the eviction prevention in place during COVID-19 and there is an issue with the tenants vacating the property. The Town Manager further stated that there is a provision in the Purchase and Sale Agreement that the transaction is subject to the debt-exclusion vote on the ballot passing and approval at town meeting.

**MOTION was made by Mr. Toole to sign the Purchase and Sale Agreement for 120-116 Mansfield Avenue for \$800,000 subject to the successful votes at town meeting and town election. Seconded by Mr. Bramwell. Vote: Ms. Artz – Yes; Mr. Toole – Yes; Mr. Bramwell – Yes; Ms. Deley – Yes; and Mr. Conway – Yes. MOTION CARRIES.**

Mr. Conway asked to have an update on the negotiations of the other property at their next meeting.

## 3. Chief Brian Clark Update on Change of Security at Wheaton College.

Mr. Conway opened the discussion by stating that Wheaton College is getting rid of their security staff and hiring a new party. He commented that the Board wanted to make sure that there were no issues associated with this for the Norton Police Department. Mr. Clark said on January 11<sup>th</sup> that Wheaton College had switched to a private security company, Securitas Security Company, but there are two remaining sworn public safety officials there. Chief Clark advised that the Police Department was notified two weeks prior that this was happening. He explained that historically, the Norton Police Department has always had a good relationship with Wheaton College and will continue to work with the Director to keep the highest level of safety for the community. Chief Clark reported that a popular question he gets is if the Norton Police Department had anything to do with this and the answer is no.

Mr. Toole expressed a concern with this. Ms. Deley asked what authoritative powers they have. Chief Clark said they have no police powers whatsoever with the exception of the two remaining sworn public safety officials that are still there.

Chief Clark, in reference to Detective Sergeant Desfosses, said the outpouring of support has been second to none and emphasized that this is what Norton is all about. He expressed that the Police Department does its best to serve the community the best they can and can see that the community understands that with the amount of support being shown.

## **B. Old Business**

### **1. Update on COVID-19 Testing and Vaccination Programs.**

Mr. Yunits informed the Select Board that the Board of Health Agent and Public Health Nurse couldn't be on the call this evening, but will be at their next meeting. He advised that they are working on getting information for the Select Board as far as vaccinations. The Town Manager reported that right now public safety and healthcare workers have been receiving vaccines. He advised that they have now moved on to home health aides, dentists, and physical therapists. The next phase of vaccinations, which will begin next month, will be for teachers, transportation workers and "other essential workers" (the definition of who falls under this category has not been provided yet).

Fire Chief, Shawn Simmons, gave an update in regards to testing and vaccinations. He reported that they have a temporary lab license in order to do the testing and to date have done 77 tests (45 rapid antigen tests and 32 PCR tests). Chief Simmons stated that they have 12 people trained to do the testing and have developed procedures to increase the efficiency. Ms. Artz asked who was eligible for testing. Chief Simmons answered that it was available for municipal employees, board/committee members, school employees and people that work for the Town to keep it running. Ms. Deley asked what population has been getting tested. Chief Simmons said a majority has been first responders (the Fire Department and Police Department) and municipal employees.

Chief Simmons advised that they developed a procedure where testing is done at 2:00 P.M. and have asked those looking to be tested to make an appointment by 11:00 A.M. Ms. Deley clarified that they are not going out for testing and that those being tested are coming to them, which Chief Simmons confirmed. The Fire Chief added that people being tested wait in their cars and line up as they come. Testing occurs while they are in the car to avoid any potential COVID-19 patients from coming in the building. This way, they are reserving as much PPE as they can by doing the grouping of the testing. Ms. Deley asked if the tests are purchased with the Cares Act funds and as they run out will they continue to purchase more tests with the remaining funds, which both Mr. Yunits and Chief Simmons confirmed.

Chief Simmons explained that right now they are testing patients that are exhibiting symptoms or a close contact to someone who has COVID-19 as defined by the Board of Health. He emphasized that they are staying in line with State guidelines. Mr. Yunits added that they also require that they go through the Health Department and speak to them first. The Town Manager explained that some people wanted to get tested, but weren't identified as a close contact, so it is being limited in that way.

Mr. Yunits informed the Board that Representative James Hawkins from Attleboro contacted him about trying to set up a regionalized testing site in Attleboro for neighboring communities. He stated that the question is how it would be funded. Mr. Yunits advised that one idea was to charge \$5 per community for people who get tested there. He pointed out that if everyone from Norton got tested there, then it would be no big deal, but if someone from Taunton goes there to get tested, the Town will pay \$5 for that person to get tested; so, the Town might be better off to pay the \$58 per resident that goes and gets tested rather than joining into this initiative. The Town Manager emphasized that the Fire Department also can't expand this out to too many people because of their other responsibilities as



EMTs/Paramedics and Fire Fighters. Mr. Toole thanked Chief Simmons for taking the leadership role with this program.

Ms. Deley asked if there were any incentive programs they were putting in place for getting the vaccine. Chief Simmons and Mr. Yunits said there isn't one and Mr. Yunits clarified that they cannot give any money, but maybe a day off. Ms. Deley asked if the vaccine is being offered to municipal employees or just first responders. Chief Simmons replied that it is still only first responders at this time.

## 2. Discussion on Marijuana Establishments.

Ms. Deley gave the following updates:

- The Select Board will see another Host Community Agreement (HCA) at their next meeting because they have a previous applicant who is going to present to the Economic Development Commission (EDC) to talk about a delivery operator license. Mr. Yunits and Ms. Deley had discussions with town counsel and explained that the delivery operator license is more associated with cultivation and manufacturing. Town counsel did recommend updates be made to the bylaw to include this new section of marijuana establishments, specifically delivery operators. She stated that they are open to social equity and social empowerment companies.
- Exit 10, LLC is looking to shift the ownership of the company. The company will also have to come back to them for an additional HCA for a delivery license, but this is more in the future. The Board would have to opine on the ownership before entering into additional HCA for delivery.
- There is an issue in the existing bylaw that they didn't catch initially. She stated, currently, in order for an applicant to get a building permit from the Town, they have to have the final license from the Cannabis Control Commission (CCC). However, they can't get the final license until the CCC inspects the building that has been built. Ms. Deley advised that they will be proposing a change to the bylaw. She said the plan is to modify the bylaw and essentially separate the provision for needing the final license before issuing a building permit.
- Things are progressing nicely with Solar Retail.

Mr. Conway asked how much the ownership would change the HCA. Ms. Deley said that town counsel advised them it would really just change the signature page with regard to the percentage ownership. Ms. Deley also reported that town counsel said it is something commonly seen. Mr. Conway clarified that the ownership (individuals) is the same it is just the percentage ownership that is the difference, which Ms. Deley confirmed. Mr. Toole asked if it was still going to be Exit 10, LLC and Ms. Deley answered that they will operate under the name "Cultivate."

C. **Town Manager's Report**

1. Update on Establishing an Electric Light Plant and/or Joining Another Municipal Light Plant.

Mr. Yunits mentioned that he met with the Town Managers of Foxboro and Mansfield to discuss Norton possibly establishing a municipal light plant or joining Mansfield Light Plant. The Town Manager informed the Board that this is not an easy process because they are dealing with the idea of moving away from the use of a multi-national corporation with lots of money. Mr. Yunits stated that he would be happy to have the attorney come and talk to the Board about it. Mr. Conway, Ms. Deley, and Mr. Toole said that this would be beneficial. Mr. Toole expressed that the Town should exhaust this until they hear they can't do anything more.

2. Mr. Yunits emphasized that even though the Town Hall is closed, they are still open to conducting business. He advised that the phone numbers are listed on the doors and e-mails can be provided as well. Mr. Yunits explained that if you need to meet in person, you can schedule/coordinate a meeting. The Town Manager stated that he appreciates everyone's patience.

VI. **Select Board's Report and Mail**

There was no Select Board's report or mail to discuss.

VII. **Meeting Minutes**

**MOTION was made by Ms. Deley to reconsider the previous vote to approve the December 10, 2020 Minutes to be amended and re-presented to the Board. Seconded by Mr. Toole. Vote: Ms. Artz – Abstain; Mr. Toole – Yes; Ms. Deley – Yes; Mr. Bramwell – Yes; and Mr. Conway – Yes. MOTION CARRIES.**

The Board did not vote on the January 7<sup>th</sup> Minutes because they had not reviewed them at this time.

VIII. **Warrants**

Report of Chair, John Conway, on the following Payroll and Invoice Warrants:

A. Payroll Warrant PR21-15 for the week ended January 9, 2021, Warrant dated January 14, 2021, in the amount of \$1,554,403.37.

B. Invoice Warrant AP21-29 dated January 14, 2021, in the amount of \$1,271,130.22.

C. Invoice Warrant AP21-30 dated January 21, 2021, in the amount of \$742,015.31.

IX. **Other Business**

Mr. Peter Wiggins, resident, read an article published by an Attleboro City Council member stating that Comcast's predatory behavior to raise prices for residents in a community like

Attleboro with no other options for broadband internet is “morally reprehensible.” The article further expressed that Comcast needs to immediately lift these increased fees where the company holds a monopoly on internet access.

Mr. Zack Tsilis, resident and member of the Finance Committee, commented that T-Mobile is offering unlimited high-speed internet (5G) as of January 1, 2021 for \$50 a month.

X. **Next Meeting’s Agenda** – February 4, 2021.

XI. **Executive Session**

There was no need for an executive session.

XII. **Adjournment**

*\*At this time, it was necessary for Ms. Artz to leave the meeting. There being no need for further discussion, a motion was made to adjourn.*

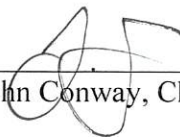
**MOTION was made by Mr. Toole to adjourn at 9:07 P.M. Seconded by Ms. Deley. Vote: Mr. Toole – Yes; Mr. Bramwell – Yes; Ms. Deley – Yes; and Mr. Conway – Yes. MOTION CARRIES.**

URL Link: <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=U3xtw9klfSU>

Respectfully Submitted by:

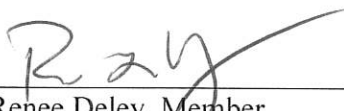
  
\_\_\_\_\_  
Jennifer Reid, Office Administrator

**SELECT BOARD  
MINUTES OF MEETING  
JANUARY 21, 2021**

  
\_\_\_\_\_  
John Conway, Chair

\_\_\_\_\_  
Michael Toole, Vice-Chair

  
\_\_\_\_\_  
Christine Deveau, Clerk

  
\_\_\_\_\_  
Renee Deley, Member

  
\_\_\_\_\_  
Megan Artz, Member

Minutes Approved by Board on: August 5, 2021