



**TOWN OF NORTON**  
**BOARD OF SELECTMEN**  
70 EAST MAIN STREET  
MUNICIPAL CENTER, NORTON, MASS. 02766  
TELEPHONE (508) 285-0210

**BOARD OF SELECTMEN**  
**MINUTES OF MEETING FOR**  
**MARCH 31, 2011**

**I. CALL TO ORDER BY CHAIRMAN:** The March 31, 2011, Board of Selectmen meeting was called to order at 7:00 p.m. by Chairman, Mr. Kimball.

A. Roll Call: Chairman, Mr. Robert Kimball; Vice-Chair, Mrs. Mary Steele; Messrs. Bradford Bramwell, Clerk; and Timothy Giblin were present. Mr. Robert Salvo was absent. Mr. Michael Yunits, Town Manager, was also present.

B. Pledge of Allegiance

**II. WARRANTS AND MINUTES**

A. Approve bills Warrant #58, dated March 31, 2011, in the amount of \$10,699,667.02

It was noted the bills Warrant was a large number due to refinancing Middle School and refinancing of Police Station loan.

**MOTION was made by Mr. Bramwell to approve bills Warrant #58, dated March 31, 2011, in the amount of \$10,699,667.02. Second by Mr. Giblin. Vote: Unanimous. MOTION CARRIES.**

B. Minutes – January 6, 2011  
January 19, 2011  
January 27, 2011

**MOTION was made by Mr. Bramwell to approve the Board of Selectmen Minutes of Meeting, dated January 6, 2011, as written. Second by Mr. Giblin. Vote: Unanimous. MOTION CARRIES.**

**MOTION was made by Mr. Bramwell to approve the Board of Selectmen Minutes of Meeting, dated January 19, 2011, as written. Second by Mr. Giblin. Vote: Unanimous. MOTION CARRIES.**

**MOTION was made by Mr. Bramwell to approve the Board of Selectmen Minutes of Meeting, dated January 27, 2011, as written. Second by Mr. Giblin. Vote: Unanimous. MOTION CARRIES.**

### **III. LICENSES AND PERMITS**

#### **1. Application of Norton High School Parent Advisory Board for Run 4 Norton High 5K Run/Walk Permit, May 8, 2011, 9:00 A.M. - 12:00 Noon**

This will start at Everett Leonard-Parker Street. It is for a good cause and last year there was a great turnout.

**MOTION was made by Mr. Bramwell to approve Application of Norton High School Parent Advisory Board for Run 4 Norton High 5K Run/Walk Permit, May 8, 2011, 9:00 A.M. - 12:00 Noon, starting at Parker Street and back to Parker Street and to waive all fees. Second by Mr. Giblin. Vote: Unanimous. MOTION CARRIES.**

### **IV. ANNOUNCEMENTS**

Saturday, April 2, 2011, is Rabies Clinic at Norton Fire Dept.; \$13 per animal and Town Clerk's Office to be open to obtain dog licenses from 2-3:30 p.m. That same day.

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April 16, 2011 is Earth Day event from 9 a.m. - 1 p.m. At Comcast Center (recycle, reuse, donate).

### **V. BUSINESS**

#### **A. NEW BUSINESS**

##### **1. 7:05 P.M. - In Recognition of Steven Lee Ford, Jr., Specialist in Army National Guard**

Mr. Ford said he has been home for about one month and is in a good unit and hopes to be home for about a year. There was a great yellow ribbon ceremony this past weekend. In Army he is a heavy equipment operator; an engineer.

Mr. Kimball thanked Mr. Ford for his service and support of his country.

A certificate was presented to Mr. Ford and a Soldiers Award pin was given to Mr. Ford.

##### **2. 7:15 P.M. - Superintendent of Schools Patricia H. Ansay Ed.D., Architect, Project Manager, and Norton High School Building Committee Re: Update – Norton High School Building Project**

Mr. Kevin O'Neil, Chairman of the Norton High School Building Committee, was present along with Ms. Wood of Pinck and Co. and architect.

Mr. O'Neil said Board of Directors voted to support the feasibility study; it is on schedule and halfway through schematic design. It is due April 15 to MSBA

Plan/diagram was shown and explained to Board—"Option 2.2-First Floor Program Revisions". It is a 16,000 square foot addition. Second floor was discussed. "Option 2.2-Second Floor Program Revisions" was also presented to Board.

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Mr. O'Neil said a tremendous amount of work was done behind the scenes and if sewer project not voted on it impacts this school addition and Ms. Wood will speak to sewer matter.

Ms. Wood said current high school was built using a septic system so it is undersized currently. She discussed sewerage at High School and Yelle School sewerage to Middle School. Cost of connection about \$750,000 - \$900,000; and a separate article. It will also stack up to appropriate standards.

Mr. Kimball spoke of sewerage issue; Otter Creek discussed (company who already did work).

Ms. Wood spoke of a fine-tuning of design; connecting Yelle, High School and Middle School; however, J.C. Solmonese School will not be included. Renovations and sewerage articles are important. It was noted Warrant is closed. Sixty cents of every dollar will be given back on this project. It is important to put aside personal opinions, and look at whole/entire project.

Mr. O'Neil referenced sprinklers and roof; those two things alone could be \$4 or \$5M at Town's full expense (without State's reimbursement).

Mr. Yunits said Fire Chief expressed concern about electric.

Mr. O'Neil spoke of safety on athletic fields. Track is original track or close to original. There are splits and other things wrong with track, and it is just not safe. Mr. O'Neil stated the bleachers/stands are old and require a lot of maintenance also.

Mr. O'Neil said School Building Committee tries to meet every Tuesday or every other week they meet. In a couple of weeks, they will have more info on cost estimates.

May 25 vote is a binding vote. He spoke of project scope and binding agreement showing State's reimbursement, etc.

Mr. Kimball said on a Tuesday night when they meet everyone is invited to attend; no need to wait until Town Meeting.

Mr. O'Neil said they solicit community's feedback. Anyone who so desires, can ask to add things to plan and should attend April 5<sup>th</sup> meeting.

Mr. Kimball spoke of revision/plan; no "u" shape in high school; a lot of dead-ends inside high school and it is concerning. Additional staircases being proposed to enable to get out of building easier.

Mr. O'Neil stated the high school is not compliant with the current codes, etc.

Mr. Bramwell spoke regarding financing and said this is a building that is not up to code and not maintained and basically deferring to "our children" and "grandchildren" to take care of this burden and inexcusable for generation it currently is. It is bothersome to him to defer this to children/grandchildren.

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Mr. Kimball reiterated, it is 60 cents on every dollar Town will be reimbursed.

Mr. Bramwell referenced debt exclusion vote; Town won't be in debt for full amount (i.e., if total amount is \$30M; Town will be liable for about \$12M). Therefore, the total amount (i.e., \$30M) is not a true number for the debt exclusion; however, it's the way the State makes towns do this. Discussion ensued.

Mr. O'Neil thanked everyone and said he looked forward to seeing everyone on the 12<sup>th</sup>.

Mr. Giblin commended Mr. O'Neil and said this letter was sent to State in 2007. State is helping Town with 60% reimbursement and this may never happen again. Renovating of an old building; science labs are not large enough and State will mandate Town to educate Town's children even more, so it will hurt if Town delays this project. It will hurt "pocketbooks" more if mandated by State in future while also hurting children's education.

**3. Discussion Re: South Coast Rail; Report from Heather A. Graf, Selectmen's Representative to the Commuter Rail Task Force**

Mrs. Graf was not present. It was noted there is a public hearing in Mansfield on May 4, 2011 at Qualters Middle School. Draft Environmental Impact statement made public on March 1<sup>st</sup>. Website is "Southcoastrail.com", Norton Library, or contact 617-357-5772-Mr. Patten for information. Public comment period will be until May 27, 2011.

It was noted original Stoughton Route was selected. Mr. Kimball read aloud information document regarding Southcoast Rail.

Mr. Giblin thanked Mrs. Graf for going through this report and her work on this project.

It was noted nothing was announced officially so Mrs. Graf is still concerned until official announcement is made.

Mr. Kimball thanked Mrs. Graf as well for all her efforts on this matter.

Mr. Kimball said they received a letter from the town of Raynham re: Southcoast Rail/Raynham mitigation.

Mr. Kimball said Raynham appears to be impacted by this and city of Taunton will help.

Mr. Kimball said he did not believe Norton should get involved in this process at this time regarding Raynham's letter. Raynham is looking for mutual interest.

Mr. Giblin believed Norton should respond to Raynham of their intentions.

Mr. Kimball said he wished Raynham well in their endeavor; Norton fought same issue.

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Mr. Kimball asked Mr. Yunits to send a letter to Raynham regarding Norton's intentions.

**B. OLD BUSINESS**

**C. TOWN MANAGER'S REPORT**

Mr. Yunits stated he traveled into Boston yesterday and EOA amendment for Norton Commerce Center received. \$350,000 investment tax credit to Horizon Beverage was approved. He thanked Mr. Purcell, former town manager, who attended this hearing yesterday as well.  
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Mr. Yunits said an IMA meeting will be held next Tuesday regarding intermunicipal agreement.  
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Mr. Yunits stated there were a couple of streets on warrant regarding street acceptance (Ellis Road and Pratt Drive). There is some concern of a bridge over a stream and 8' drop and 3' high guardrail. Mr. Silver, Highway Superintendent, will meet with developer. It is Town's liability if someone fell off bridge.

Mr. Kimball said he believed this was turned over to Planning Board and will not accept anything if there is an issue/concern. They won't take action on this.  
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Mr. Yunits said there was a finance committee meeting last night with public safety. A public hearing by finance committee to take place on 4/25/11.  
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Mr. Kimball said a Capital Meeting was held last night also; no position taken on anything yet but will address issues.

**D. APPOINTMENTS/RESIGNATIONS**

**1. Appointment of Permanent Full-Time Fire Fighter/Paramedic**

Mr. Yunits said this is replacing a vacancy on Fire Dept. and Mr. Schmidt scored highest on civil service exam.

Mr. Kimball said it costs Town more in overtime than it does to fill position.

Mr. Giblin said Fire Chief keeps very good track of overtime and Mr. Kimball is correct, it would cost Town more money using overtime. Mr. Giblin said if this is already funded he would not want it to be understaffed.

**MOTION was made by Mr. Bramwell to support appointment of Thomas F. Schmidt as Fire Fighter/Paramedic, as of April 8, 2011 and with effective date of June 13, 2011, conditioned upon satisfactory completion of all required medical and agility testing. Second by Mr. Giblin. Vote: Unanimous. MOTION CARRIES.**

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**VI. SELECTMEN'S REPORT AND MAIL**

Mr. Giblin spoke of a followup meeting with Leon Dumont and energy company (Mr. Regan). They have been working on engineers regarding scope of project and can see where status is at at another meeting.  
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Mr. Giblin spoke of electricity issue by Campbell House, he spoke about in past, quote from National Grid is between \$4,000-\$4500.

Mr. Silver got involved and did a great job and Campbell House to shed electricity cost under \$500 and commended Mr Silver. Pop Warner will pay for this. He also appreciated the patience by Pop Warner.  
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Mr. Yunits referenced solar proposed project - "Green Community", and solar on landfill possibility. If town has zoning by right or solar by permitting (two of five issues) it's possible to become a "green community". The most difficult issue is what is required for building codes. Discussion ensued.  
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Mr. Giblin said Town Charter Committee will meet on 4/19/11 to discuss Town Clerk position regarding it be appointed or not appointed/elected. Also, on May 3 will discuss Water/Sewer position being elected or appointed enterprise. 7:30 is the start time when Town Charter Committee meeting begins.

**VII. NEXT MEETING'S AGENDA – April 14, 2011**

1. Discussion Re: Waiving of fees for the school building project

**VIII. EXECUTIVE SESSION**

**IX. ADJOURNMENT**

**MOTION was made by Mr. Bramwell to Adjourn at 8:15 p.m. Second by Mr. Giblin. Vote: Unanimous. MOTION CARRIES.**

Respectfully Submitted by:

Janet Sweeney  
Board of Selectmen-Recording Secretary

**Documents Reviewed/Distributed at March 31, 2011 Board of Selectmen Meeting**

. Plans regarding Norton High School proposed renovations: “Option 2.2-First Floor Program Revisions” and “Option 2.2-Second Floor Program Revisions”

. Correspondence from Heather Graf (“Comprehensive Update/Report”) regarding Southcoast Rail

. Letter dated March 28, 2011 from Randall A. Buckner, Town Administrator, Town of Raynham, Massachusetts, regarding South Coast Rail Project Mitigation

. Memorandum dated March 23, 2011, to Board of Selectmen, from Michael D. Yunits, Town Manager, regarding Notice of Appointment of Fire Fighter (Thomas F. Schmidt)

**BOARD OF SELECTMEN  
MINUTES OF MEETING OF  
MARCH 31, 2011**

**BOARD OF SELECTMEN:**

Robert W. Kimball, Jr., Chairman

Mary T. Steele, Vice-Chairman

Bradford K. Bramwell, Clerk

Timothy R. Giblin

Robert S. Salvo, Sr.

**Date Approved:**\_\_\_\_\_