

**BOARD OF SELECTMEN
MINUTES OF MEETING FOR
SEPTEMBER 8, 2011**

1. CALL TO ORDER BY CHAIRMAN

The September 8, 2011 Meeting of the Board of Selectmen was called to Order by Mr. Bramwell, Chairman, at 7:00 p.m. at the Municipal Center held in the Selectmen's Conference Room.

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

B. Pledge of Allegiance

II. WARRANTS AND MINUTES

A. Approve bills Warrant #13, dated September 1, 2011, in the amount of \$389,038.95

MOTION was made by Mr. Steele to Approve bills Warrant #13, dated September 1, 2011, in the amount of \$389,038.95. Second by Mr. Kimball. Vote: Unanimous. MOTION CARRIES.

B. Approve bi-weekly Payroll, for the period ended September 3, 2011, Warrant #14, dated September 8, 2011, in the amount of \$1,096,962.78

MOTION was made by Mrs. Steele to Approve bi-weekly Payroll, for the period ended September 3, 2011, Warrant #14, dated September 8, 2011, in the amount of \$1,096,962.78. Second by Mr. Kimball. Vote: Unanimous. MOTION CARRIES.

C. Approve bills Warrant #15, dated September 8, 2011, in the amount of \$102,068.90

MOTION was made by Mrs. Steele to Approve bills Warrant #15, dated September 8, 2011, in the amount of \$102,068.90. Second by Mr. Kimball. Vote: Unanimous. MOTION CARRIES.

D Minutes – There were no Minutes reviewed/approved.

LICENSES AND PERMITS

1. Application of Joseph A. Costa, Adjutant/Treasurer, Disabled American Veterans, Westcott-Houghton Chapter 56, No. Attleborough, MA 02760, for annual “Forget-Me-Not” Drive, to be held Thursday, Friday, and Saturday, September 22, 23, and 24, 2011-Rain date Sunday, September 25, 2011, at Roche Bros. Supermarket, 175 Mansfield Avenue, Norton, MA

It was noted every penny received is donated to support the veterans.

MOTION was made by Mr. Kimball to approve Application of Joseph A. Costa, Adjutant/Treasurer, Disabled American Veterans, Westcott-Houghton Chapter 56, No. Attleborough, MA 02760, for annual "Forget-Me-Not" Drive, to be held Thursday, Friday, and Saturday, September 22, 23, and 24, 2011-Rain date Sunday, September 25, 2011, at Roche Bros. Supermarket, 175 Mansfield Avenue, Norton, MA, and to waive all fees. Second by Mrs. Steele. Vote: Unanimous. MOTION CARRIES.

IV. ANNOUNCEMENTS

Sunday, 9/11/11, a September 11th Memorial at Norton Fire Dept. at 10 a.m.
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Flea Market to take place on 9/17/11 at the Old Schoolhouse from 9 a.m. -3 p.m. Sponsored by the Historical Society. Volunteers are needed to set up and for sales. Call 285-4048 to sell items; raindate is 9/24/11.

Mr. Kimball said if anyone wants to do community outreach or involvement this is a good place to volunteer.
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Mr. Bramwell said a meeting to be held on Sept. 27 at Norton High School between Finance Committee and School Committee and invited all from community to attend. W.T. Rich, the newly selected Construction Management Team will be present and presentation of up-to-date status of Norton High School building project.

V. BUSINESS

A. NEW BUSINESS

1. 7:10 P.M. - Head Librarian, Lee Parker, Library Board of Directors President, Brian Stalters Re: Budget

Mr. Stalters spoke of the three criteria needed for library to gain accreditation again. He said in 2008 budget was cut by 40% and lost accreditation. Mr. Stalters spoke of library hours: 26 hours to 30 hours and now overtaxing staff. Current budget is \$311,000 (need \$327,400; therefore \$16,400 more needed). Forty hours week is one of mandates by State. Ms. Parker is working 50-70 hours per week currently. The library cannot do this without funds. Discussion occurred on mandates.

Mr. Bramwell spoke of substantial increase from 19 to 26 hours – (employee hours).

Mr. Stalters said three people are full-time to handle public.

Ms. Parker said the Norton Public Library is part of SAILS and need to pay dues.

It was noted Norton is only sharing with those towns/cities who are sharing with Norton.
It was noted 64,000 people were served last year at Norton Library.

Mr. Kimball said info would be beneficial on 50 hour/week regarding stats, etc. Discussion ensued.

Mr. Kimball recommended to put in a separate Article in Spring Town Meeting under "Special".
Timing discussed.

Mr. Kimball said Town is negotiating at 0% themselves and wanted everyone to keep that in mind.

Mr. Stalters aid there is no money available at all for raises, etc.

Mr. Kimball said a couple of windfalls may come through in the future. He understood the need for full-time library hours being important.

Mr. Kimball said he will personally support the Norton Public Library on their request of \$16,000-\$17,000 for accreditation level. Mr. Kimball said he will support the library on Town Meeting floor.

Ms. Parker said the correct figure is actually \$16,413; not \$17,413 on question 2.

Mrs. Steele said loss of accreditation bothered this Board of Selectmen. The Board is impressed with the Norton Library with the limited resources in which the Town gave to them. The library has worked hard for it and the library has her personal support for the \$16,413 also.

Mr. Bramwell said as long as money is available, he will also support the library, and it sounds like the Board of Selectmen will also. He congratulated Ms. Parker on her promotion to Head Librarian.

Ms. Parker said there is a new Youth Services Librarian due to her promotion.

2. 7:30 P.M. - Water/Sewer Commissioners Re: October 12, 2011 Fall ATM Warrant Articles

Ms. McElligott, Chairman of Water/Sewer Commissioners, referenced two articles; one for water and one for sewer. Under MGL, it must go to accounting for revenue and expenses for water budget and sewer. Discussion ensued.

Discussion on Tri-town District with Mansfield and Foxboro. Intent to ensure more transparency for funds.

Mr. Knapp said by going enterprise, users will be paying; not all taxpayers.

Mr. Kimball said a true enterprise account for water he agreed with, but not sure about sewer portion.

Ms. McElligott said revenue will exceed over expenses by approximately \$100,000 next year. Bond discussed.

Enterprise fund will pay Town if any shortfall in revenue, which is not anticipated. Construction costs were still being analyzed. Once figures were finalized, it will be presented to Board of Selectmen.

Mr. Bramwell said with proper data he would be in support of this.

3. 8:00 P.M. - Tri-Centennial Park Committee Re: Update

Mr. Butch Rich said the Town Picnic was a great success! He thanked the volunteers.

Mr. Rich said the first phase of the Tricentennial park is over (layout of park/all stones in place) and putting up for purchase 11 seats; some trees; and the arbour, and people came forward to purchase/fund. Arbour was bought with funds from "Friends of Suzanne Erikson".

Ms. Kathy Ebert-Zawasky said this was a wonderful experience.

Mr. Rich said second phase of park will be brick pavers (two sizes) with engraving.

Ms. Ebert-Zawasky spoke of new brick campaign (small brick for \$50; larger brick for \$100). October 23 on Sunday at 2 p.m. is park dedication.

All volunteers were thanked including, but not limited to, Mr. Keith Silver, and North Cottage who was a huge help, too. Business donations by many, including, but not limited to, Ribierio Enterprises, Chris Baker, Dorrance family, and Brendan Jones, future Eagle Scout.

Ms. Ebert-Zawasky said this Saturday Wheaton students are coming in to help also, and Girl Scouts will help with a specific desired-garden.

Ms. Ebert-Zawasky recognized Dana Rapineau also, and spoke of native plants (native to Norton as far back as 300 years ago will be planted). There will be five gardens in park.

Map of Tricentennial Park denoting gardens etc., was displayed to Board.

Ms. Ebert-Zawasky said there was a lot of input from community as well. Profits from bricks will be used to purchase plants and there will probably be some donations of some plants.

It was noted all donations for Park are tax-deductible.

Ms. Ebert-Zawasky said Haskins Pharmacy and Norton Public Library will have brick order forms available tomorrow.
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Regarding Campbell House, they are currently waiting for State to give Norton money to make it a salt box style again and they will be getting rid of barn. Chris Cox ins in charge of this.

4. Vote to Accept and Sign Easement Re: Ellis Road and Pratt Drive only

Mrs. Steele said there appeared to be no paperwork in her packet, but appeared it was all signed off.

**MOTION was made by Mrs. Steele to Accept and Sign Easement Re: Ellis Road and Pratt Drive only. Second by Mr. Kimball. Vote: Unanimous. MOTION CARRIES.**

**B. TOWN MANAGER'S REPORT**

**C. APPOINTMENTS/RESIGNATIONS**

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

Mr. Kimball referenced #36 Evergreen Road, and said a gentleman will be coming in to see Board regarding this. A certified letter to Board of Assessors who owns property was received, and asking Board of Assessors to look at property immediately within 14 days of letter and building inspector also involved (possibly to demolish or similar).

Mr. Kimball spoke of recent hurricane. Town Manager, Police and Fire Chiefs, Communications Director and National Grid, and others, received numerous calls. Norton did all possible to assist in this crisis. National Grid workers were sent in from Canada and all over country and thanked so much for efforts as the additional assistance helped. TPC received power before most of Town did not which was not the intention, however, once hit border of Norton and Mansfield, Norton's trunk line comes in through Mansfield area. Senior housing, nursing homes, and Wheaton College had no power, as well.

It was refreshing to see all volunteers/people who helped each other.

There is frustration with National Grid itself.

Mr. Kimball asked Town Manager to schedule a roundtable amongst Fire and Police Chiefs, Communications Director, Highway Superintendent, National Grid, Home Security, and Red Cross regarding recent hurricane. Mr. Kimball said Norton had no specific contact person to contact at National Grid and felt like there was no one really in charge of National Grid during this storm.

Mr. Kimball said generators were at schools. 120 W. Main Street residents (senior housing) had to be moved to shelters and extremely dangerous for those on oxygen. Norton needs to have its own shelter in Town. On that Wednesday after hurricane/storm, shelter was shut down with not a lot of notice. Mr. Kimball indicated he spoke to Senator Timilty regarding technology/generator. Fortunately, by Wednesday, 120 W. Main Street had its power restored. Mr. Kimball said they will work on this issue. Dept. heads; National Grid, and others can meet and figure out what can be done better or different next time in the event something similar to this occurs.

Mr. Kimball referenced Norton's own shelter in Town. He said the American Red Cross is "on hook" so to speak as Norton did not receive anything from Red Cross (no hot meals set up, etc.). At the same time, Norton did not ask Red Cross for anything; possibly Norton's own program is needed.

Mr. Kimball said town departments/employees did a great job. Town employees cannot touch wires on trees. The highway dept. employees should be able to do part of job and if National Grid compensates

Town then that is fine.

Mr. Kimball put request out to National Grid through Senator Timilty for generator for 120 West Main Street. Mr. Kimball was unaware of this issue until Tuesday evening re: 120 West Main Street.

Mr. Kimball said, with Board's permission, he would like to work with Town Manager and Board of Selectmen and others he mentioned previously.

Mr. Bramwell responded, he supported Mr. Kimball and he commended town employees. It was noted, Fire Chief Schleicher was the newly-appointed Fire Chief when this hurricane occurred, however, he did an excellent job despite this.

Mr. Kimball said Police Chief Clark with Facebook communication worked out great. Both chiefs from Police and Fire Departments were in control and did a great job. Charlene Fisk, Communications Dept., also did a great job.

Mrs. Steele referenced 120 West Main Street facility and had thought that an emergency plan was in place. Director of Housing Unit should be part of committee regarding emergency plan and a plan should be in place. It is a state-funded facility. This could have turned into a disaster.

**VII. NEXT MEETING'S AGENDA**

**VIII. EXECUTIVE SESSION**

**IX. ADJOURNMENT**

**MOTION was made by Mrs. Steele to Adjourn at 8:30 p.m. Second by Mr. Kimball. Vote: Unanimous. MOTION CARRIES.**

Respectfully Submitted by:

Janet A. Sweeney  
Board of Selectmen – Recording Secretary

**BOARD OF SELECTMEN  
MINUTES OF MEETING OF  
SEPTEMBER 8, 2011**

**Bradford K. Bramwell, Chairman**

**Mary T. Steele, Vice-Chair**

**Timothy R. Giblin, Clerk**

**Robert W. Kimball, Jr.**

**Robert S. Salvo, Sr.**

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

**Documents Distributed/Reviewed at September 8, 2011 Board of Selectmen Meeting**

. Water/Sewer Commissioners Warrant Articles for October 12, 2011 Fall Annual Town Meeting

. Map of Tricentennial Park