

**BOARD OF SELECTMEN  
MINUTES OF MEETING  
NOVEMBER 6, 2014**

**I. CALL TO ORDER BY CHAIRMAN**

The November 6, 2014, Meeting of the Board of Selectmen was called to Order by Mrs. Steele, Chairman, at 7:00 P.M., held in the First Floor Conference Room.

- A. ROLL CALL: Mrs. Mary T. Steele, Chairman; Mr. Robert W. Kimball, Jr.; and Mr. Robert S. Salvo, Sr., were present. Absent: Mr. Bradford Bramwell, Vice-Chair, and Timothy R. Giblin, Clerk. Mr. Michael Yunits, Town Manager, was also present.
- B. Pledge of Allegiance

II. WARRANTS AND MINUTES

- A. Approve bills Warrant #28, dated November 6, 2014, in the amount of \$1,804,020.65

**MOTION was made by Mr. Kimball to Approve bills Warrant #28, dated November 6, 2014, in the amount of \$1,804,020.65. Second by Mr. Salvo. Vote: Unanimous. MOTION CARRIES.**

- B. Approve Minutes –

There were no Minutes of Meeting reviewed/approved.

III. LICENSES AND PERMITS

IV. ANNOUNCEMENTS

Town Offices will be closed Tuesday, November 11, 2014, in Observance of Veterans' Day. Parade to step off at 10:00 A.M. from the Henri A. Yelle School.

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Fillmore Post-VFW will be holding an Octoberfest on Saturday, November 8th from 3 to 8 P.M. with a \$20 cover charge at door. For more information contact the Veterans' Office.

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St. Mary's Christmas Bazaar will be held on Nov. 9 from 8:30 A.M. to 2 P.M. Also, a flu clinic will be available at this bazaar from 9 A.M. to 12 noon.

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A Flu Clinic will be held November 17 from 4-6 P.M. at the Yelle School.

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If anyone is aware of a Norton senior citizen or a veteran that may need an individual Thanksgiving dinner, please contact (508)-285-0235. This is sponsored by Personal Best Karate.

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On November 19 from 6-9 P.M. there will be a Norton Cable Studio Open House.

**V. BUSINESS**

**A. NEW BUSINESS**

**1. 7:15 P.M - FY2015 Tax Classification Hearing**

Lisa Cathcart, Director of Assessors, was present, and communicated the values in Norton are increasing about 5% as well as are other communities. The real estate market has not recovered totally. She discussed the shift from residential to commercial not being a huge change. The tax rate changed only 1%; this year they had more money on the debt exclusion. Ms. Cathcart distributed to the Board a document entitled: "Town of Norton – Tax Rate Classification Hearing Summary FY2015". The document was reviewed by Ms. Cathcart.

Mrs. Steele stated she disagreed with the split rate and stated the Town's businesses are very active and supportive in this community.

Mr. Kimball said the renovated/newer high school has not been a major impact on the community thus far, but in a couple of years it will be seen.

It was noted four votes were needed.

**MOTION was made by Mr. Kimball to maintain a single tax rate with a factor of 1.00 (one). Second by Mr. Salvo. Vote: Unanimous. MOTION CARRIES.**

**MOTION was made by Mr. Kimball to not adopt a residential exemption. Second by Mr. Salvo. Vote: Unanimous. MOTION CARRIES.**

**2. Bill McKenna, Old Colony Habitat for Humanity Re:**

. Update on home building activities;

. Introduction to new program "A Brush with Kindness"

Mr. McKenna explained their services, such as constructing a ramp, assisting with accessibility issues, replacing a bathroom, etc. Their focus is to help folks who live in their own home and to maintain it and assist them in doing so. People who qualify would be 30-60% of the median income of the community

and any able bodied people in the house to do some of the work. All houses are Energy Start houses also.

Mr. Kimball said if they do anything in Norton, to please let the Board of Selectmen know what is being planned. Mr. Kimball also asked Mr. McKenna to leave the Board of Selectmen any brochures he may have regarding this. Mr. Kimball asked if this could also be advertised on the Town website.

It was encouraged that any departments in Town that Habitat for Humanity wanted to meet with, they should do so such as the Council on Aging, Building Inspector's Department, Veterans' Agent, etc.).

3. Lloyd Geisinger, President, Thorndike Development Corporation, Re: Proposed alignment in the area of 274 East Main Street

It was noted this agenda item will be held off until a future meeting.

4. Vote to approve and sign a Lease and Power Purchase Agreement with Citizens Enterprises Corporation on the capped Hill Street Landfill

Mr. Yunits said this agenda item will be held off until a future meeting as more information is needed.

5. Discussion Re: Board of Selectmen meetings location

Mr. Yunits said if construction ever occurred to this specific meeting room, they would need to meet at an alternate venue. The Norton Public Library would be a possibility, however, that would not be live on cable; or Selectmen meetings could be held at the Norton Cable Studio which would be live.

Mr. Kimball offered another suggestion: the second floor of Town Municipal Center; they would need to bring equipment upstairs and utilize that space. The best scenario would probably be the library, but it would not be live. Discussion ensued.

Mr. Kimball asked Mr. Yunits to work with Jason Benjamin of Norton Cable on this issue.

**C. OLD BUSINESS**

**D. TOWN MANAGER'S REPORT**

. Discussion on Senior Citizen Property Tax Work –Off Program

Mr. Yunits stated minimum wage was \$8.00 this year and will be \$9.00 effective January 1; and increasing \$1.00 each year until it reaches a certain point. They cannot add more money to the program, therefore, there are two options: reduce number of hours or reduce the number of people that are part of the program. 62.5 hours to 55.56 hours.

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It was noted Union Road is open and Attleboro did a good job of needed patching and sweeping the road.

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Mr. Yunits said Bernie Marshall, Superintendent of the Water & Sewer Department, communicated to him that flushing was done on various streets.

Mr. Salvo stated the Town of Mansfield posts everyday on what streets they are working on; possibly this is something Norton can consider doing in the future via advertising on cable, etc., and to also list which streets will have a detour, etc.

**E. APPOINTMENTS/RESIGNATIONS**

**1. Request of Janet Linehan for appointment to the Norton Cultural Council**

It was noted Ms. Linehan had a family obligation and could not be present this evening.

Mr. Kimball stated he spoke to Ms. Linehan recently and she is very excited. Ms. Linehan stepped in as temporary/interim town clerk a few years ago for the Town of Norton. It was noted no one else was interested in this position. Mr. Kimball encouraged Board members to vote in favor of her.

**MOTION was made by Mr. Kimball to appoint Janet Linehan to the Norton Cultural Council. Second by Mr. Bramwell. Vote: Unanimous. MOTION CARRIES.**

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

Mr. Kimball referenced receiving responses back from Mass Highway regarding school crossing on Taunton Avenue. The school asked the Board of Selectmen to look into some signage/signalization. There was discussion on who was responsible for providing this. It is a private school, not a public school. Representative Howitt recommended the Town have a joint meeting to discuss this and to figure out how to do this. He would like to keep a dialog going on

this. It was noted Mr. Yunits added something on the calendar regarding this for the first part of January 2015.

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Mr. Kimball stated Marcus Dennett contacted him regarding improvements on the Town Common. He wanted to know what exactly he needed to do. It was noted there is a Town Common Committee but not certain how active they are.

Mr. Kimball asked Mr. Yunits to form a small ad hoc committee and work on it during the winter months regarding this (i.e., a new welcome sign; look at trees; electricity for festival of lights and less extension cords) and try to get it all done for Spring 2015.

Mr. Salvo said there has been no entranceway in past on Route 140 and suggested they review Planning Board files. He referenced the intersection of Routes 140 and 123 and contacting Mass Highway. It possibly can be changed with a bit of technology; changing of traffic light patterns, etc.

Mr. Kimball said they should find out about this and asked Mr. Yunits to research this.

**VII. NEXT MEETING'S AGENDA**

1. 7:30 P.M. HEARING – Transfer of ownership on the CVAA License for Mike's Famous Pizza, 105 Taunton Avenue

**VIII. EXECUTIVE SESSION**

**IX. ADJOURNMENT**

**MOTION was made by Mr. Kimball to Adjourn at 8:15 P.M. Second by Mr. Salvo. Vote: Unanimous. MOTION CARRIES.**

**Respectfully Submitted by:**

**Janet A. Sweeney  
Board of Selectmen – Recording Secretary**

**Documents Distributed/Reviewed at November 6, 2014, Board of Selectmen Meeting**

. Town of Norton Tax Rate Classification Hearing Summary FY 2015

. Old Colony Habitat for Humanity: "A Brush With Kindness" – Serving People, Preserving Houses, Revitalizing Neighborhoods

**BOARD OF SELECTMEN  
MINUTES OF MEETING OF  
NOVEMBER 6, 2014**

**MARY T. STEELE, CHAIRMAN**

**BRADFORD K. BRAMWELL, VICE-CHAIR**

**TIMOTHY R. GIBLIN, CLERK**

**ROBERT W. KIMBALL, JR.**

**ROBERT S. SALVO, SR.**

**Dated:** \_\_\_\_\_