

**BOARD OF SELECTMEN
MINUTES OF MEETING
FEBRUARY 26, 2015**

I. CALL TO ORDER BY CHAIRMAN

The February 26, 2015, 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: Mr. Bradford Bramwell, Vice-Chair; Mr. Timothy R. Giblin, Clerk; Mr. Robert W. Kimball, Jr., and Mr. Robert S. Salvo, Sr., were present. Absent: Mrs. Mary T. Steele, Chairman. Mr. Michael Yunits, Town Manager, was also present.

Due to Mrs. Steele's absence, Mr. Bramwell would be the Acting-Chairman this evening.

- B. Pledge of Allegiance led by Spencer Kitchen, Colin Holloway, and John Bamford, new Boy Scouts from Troop 61

II. **WARRANTS AND MINUTES**

- A. Approve bills Warrant #52, dated February 26, 2015, in the amount of \$919,924.04

MOTION was made by Mr. Giblin to Approve bills Warrant #52, dated February 26, 2015, in the amount of \$919,924.04. Second by Mr. Kimball. Vote: Unanimous. MOTION CARRIES.

- B. Approve Minutes – No Minutes were reviewed/approved.

III. **LICENSES AND PERMITS**

IV. **ANNOUNCEMENTS**

Annual Town Census: Residents should have received their Annual Town Census Forms as they were mailed out the first week in January. Residents are reminded that census forms need to be returned even when no changes are necessary to their census information. Blank census forms are available on the Town's website under "Town News" on the home page for anyone who does not believe they received one.

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Dog Licensing: Dog Licensing for 2015 must be completed by the end of next week, February 27, or online by March 1st to avoid late fees. Residents are encouraged to take advantage of the online licensing system which can be accessed from the home page of the Town's website by clicking on "Pay Town Bills Online". Licensing forms can also be found with the annual census form.

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Annual Town Election: Nomination papers for the Annual Town Election in Norton are currently available at the Town Clerk's Office. The last day to obtain nomination papers is Friday, March 6, at 5:00 P.M. The Annual Town Election in Norton will be held on Tuesday, April 28th. A full listing of available offices and calendar of candidate deadlines as well as additional information for potential candidates is available on the Town's website at www.nortonma.org.

Pesticide Spraying Exclusions: Please be advised that requests for 2015 Pesticide Spraying Exclusions must be filed with the Town Clerk by March 1st.

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St. Patrick's Day Luncheon to be held at Norton VFW on Tuesday, March 17, 2015, from 12 P.M. – 1 P.M. Tickets may be purchased at the Norton Fire Department for \$8 each and proceeds go to MDA.

V. BUSINESS

A. NEW BUSINESS

1. 7:05 P.M. – Recognition of the three (3) new Troop 61 Boy Scouts, Spencer Kitchen, Colin Holloway, and John Bamford

Troop 61 Boy Scouts were welcomed to the Board of Selectmen meeting.

It was noted Mr. Giblin attended their recent banquet. They noted Troop 61 will hold their annual pancake breakfast from 8 a.m to 11 a.m. on March 29 and donations are being accepted. Any businesses or anyone in Town who wants to advertise on placement can do so.

Mr. Kimball asked Mr. Yunits to place this information on the Town Website and on cable also.

Mr. Bramwell said he was glad to see how strong scouting is in the Town of Norton.

Mr. Giblin said he had the privilege of attending Sunday's event - crossing over to boy scouts. He was very proud and congratulated the troops and family members as well.

The "Recognition by Board of Selectmen" was read aloud and the scouts were congratulated by the Board of Selectmen.

2. Discussion – FY16 Budget

Mr. Yunits updated the Board on this Budget and reviewed "Fixed and Shared Expenses". There was a 3% increase in health insurance; an increase of 2.5% in other insurances and 7% increase in pension costs. Local Receipts were also discussed.

It was noted the Building Department has been busy and permits are up, etc.

This leaves the Town of Norton with \$962,000 for next year for the entire Town.

Mr. Yunits indicated he also provided the Board with a draft warrant also.

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Mr. Kimball said snow removal cost almost 3x the Town's usual cost. It is a difficult budget ahead.

Health insurance and GIC was discussed. Questioned was is the State subsidizes GIC; shouldn't it subsidize other insurances?

C. OLD BUSINESS

1. Discussion – ALI

This meeting is currently being scheduled for March 10 at JC Solmonese School. Discussion on rebuilding Union Road. ALI is proposing to use Routes 140 and 123. The route should be Myles Standish to Eddy Street, etc.

Mr. Kimball had a couple of issues with this and respectfully requested Mr. Yunits to send a very strong message to them and hoped Board of Selectmen supported him regarding travel route as it is a deal-breaker. He is very adamant about this and would like to be considered to be one of members to help with negotiations.

MOTION was made by Mr. Kimball to send a letter to appropriate officials that the Board of Selectmen will not consider proposed route and need to go back to last proposal being travel route from Industrial Park to Eddy Street, to John Scott Blvd; same route in and out. Second by Mr. Salvo. Vote: Unanimous. MOTION CARRIES.

Mr. Bramwell said they speak of rebuilding Union Road; however it would make sense to rebuild it before versus afterward.

Mr. Giblin said the proposed route of traveling down Route 123 does not make sense to him. He asked to consider that to be added to letter as well.

Mr. Salvo said each morning from 7:15 to 7:40 from Route 123 to cemetery is backed up with traffic. Adding more vehicles would make it more difficult. He spoke of possibly having assistance from a crossing guard.

Mr. Bramwell said he believed a crossing guard is able to stop traffic for school buses but that is the limit. As long as bus is in line of cars, crossing guard can move that line of traffic along.

D. TOWN MANAGER'S REPORT

. Traffic Signalization Route I-495 and Route 123 Interchange

Mr. Yunits indicated a letter was sent out to John Raposo at District V at his request regarding signalization and thanked SRPEDD for the report and also thanked the state reps and senator, especially Representative Howitt for keeping process moving. This project needs to be designed and constructed.

. Snow and Ice Update

Mr. Yunits stated as of Wednesday of this week, February 24th, \$169,528 was expended. Deficit spending was approved by Finance committee. He commended Mr. Silver, Highway Superintendent, with overseeing the subs and monitoring them; and appreciated Mr. Silver working long hours and doing a great job. He said some towns have spent \$500,000 on snow and ice already.

There was a letter from a family in Norton commending and thanking the Highway Dept. and Mr. Silver for the plowing and hard work they do.

Mr. Yunits said the governor is trying to declare storms "a disaster", especially with the roofs collapsing/keeping roads clear and hoped some money is given back for those storms.

Mr. Giblin was concerned there would be damage to the roads when all the snow melts.

E. APPOINTMENTS/RESIGNATIONS

VI. SELECTMEN'S REPORT AND MAIL

Mr. Bramwell thanked the Fire Department for their efforts on Sunday at Gold's Gym where a gas pipe broke off the meter. Initially the shut off valve could not be found; and gas was leaking for six to seven hours. There were seven foot drifts on top and it was dangerous. Important to keep clearing those type of things (vents, etc.).

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Mr. Kimball referenced "GIS" which Chief Schleicher had spoken of recently; it is a map where gas shut offs are located, etc. It is probably well worth the investment. Discussion of also placing some type of signage high on wall to alert where the shut offs and meters are located.

VII. NEXT MEETING'S AGENDA

VIII. EXECUTIVE SESSION

IX. ADJOURNMENT

MOTION was made by Mr. Giblin to Adjourn at 7:52 P.M. Second by Mr. Kimball. Vote: Unanimous. MOTION CARRIES.

Respectfully Submitted by:

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

Documents Distributed/Reviewed at February 26, 2015, Board of Selectmen Meeting

- . Attleboro Landfill, Peckham Street, Attleboro – Proposed Closure Project – Fact Sheet – February 2015
- . FY16 Budget Information (Fixed and Shared Expenses, Local Receipts, etc.)

BOARD OF SELECTMEN

MINUTES OF MEETING

FEBRUARY 26, 2015

MARY T. STEELE, CHAIRMAN

BRADFORD K. BRAMWELL, VICE-CHAIR

TIMOTHY R. GIBLIN, CLERK

ROBERT W. KIMBALL, JR.

ROBERT S. SALVO, SR.

Dated: _____