

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

I. CALL TO ORDER BY CHAIRMAN

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

B. Pledge of Allegiance

II. WARRANTS AND MINUTES

A. Approve bills Warrant #58, dated March 26, 2015, in the amount of \$2,257,581.22
MOTION was made by Mr. Giblin to Approve bills Warrant #58, dated March 26, 2015, in the amount of \$2,257,581.22. Second by Mr. Kimball. Vote: Unanimous. MOTION CARRIES.

B. Approve Minutes – There were no Minutes of Meeting reviewed/approved.

III. LICENSES AND PERMITS

IV. ANNOUNCEMENTS

Mr. Kimball spoke of the Motorcycle Ride to be held on May 31st in honor of Master Sgt. Trent and to assist the Master Sgt. Trent Memorial Park. This will be held at the VFW, Summer Street, Norton.

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Rabies Clinic will be held on Saturday, April 11 from 10 a.m. to 11 a.m. (\$13.00 per animal) at the Town of Norton Fire Department, 70 East Main Street.

V. BUSINESS

A. NEW BUSINESS

1. 7:05 P.M. – Luis G. Lopes, Superintendent, Southeastern Regional Vocational Technical School
Re: Presentation of FY16 Budget

Superintendent Lopes provided an overview of the 2016 budget for Southeastern Regional. There was an overall increase in enrollment up 4.4% and continuing to grow. This school has seen more growth in english and math than any other school district in Massachusetts. The co-op program was also discussed.

Superintendent Lopes stated something new they are struggling with is the Mass Teachers Retirement System which their teachers are a part of; it is 100% employee funded. They were put on notice they will need to make some type of contribution according to statute of law. Going forward it's an employee contribution of \$600,000/year.

Transportation costs were down due to state reimbursement numbers and restructuring of runs and efficiency. Overall enrollment is down in Norton of approximately \$96,000. He noted they were also seeking programs at the Associate's Degree level.

2. 7:30 P.M. HEARING – Petition from Verizon New England, Inc. and Massachusetts Electric Company proposing to place one new jointly owned pole 3723S on the southwesterly side of North Washington Street

Notification of Public Hearing, dated March 10, 2015, was read aloud by Mr. Giblin.

A representative of Verizon, Kelly Condon, referenced first pole on North Washington Street and to remove wires from tree.

A Norton resident, Adam Warren of 202 North Washington Street, asked for clarification and Verizon representative responded.

Mr. Warren said there was a pole in yard today and a second pole in yard.

Mr. Warren said their yard detracts from value of their house and not esthetically pleasing and asked about other options to do this.

The representative responded she can check with their engineer and send him back out.

Mr. Warren said they still plan to do more landscaping, etc.

Mr. Kimball said it is a live tree basically (guy wires out of tree is what they need to do). Options were discussed.

MOTION was made by Mr. Kimball to Table this Hearing to the Board of Selectmen's next meeting at 7:30 P.M. Second by Mr. Giblin. Vote: Unanimous. MOTION CARRIES.

3. Vote to authorize Board of Selectmen Chairman Mary T. Steele to sign the Memorandum of Landfill Lease Agreement between Norton Landfill Solar LLC and the Town of Norton

Mr. Yunits said this was reviewed by Town Counsel and explained to Board; he was still waiting on a date for this and once date arrives will add it in.

MOTION was made by Mr. Giblin to authorize the Board of Selectmen Chairman Mary T. Steele to sign the Memorandum of Landfill Lease Agreement between Norton Landfill Solar LLC and the Town of Norton, subject to the effective date being entered in Section B or D. Second by Mr. Bramwell. Vote: Unanimous. MOTION CARRIES.

Mr. Yunits explained that the engineers were planning to fix the slope. DEP filed this week and at Town Meeting, the Planning Board voted to approve project.

4. Aggregation Program Outline

Mr. Yunits said Town Meeting voted to go to Aggregation Program with various communities. This must be voted on and voted on by the Board of Selectmen. He said this needs to be read regarding what it is exactly, etc. Mr. Giblin read the "Outline of the Aggregation Program" aloud. Good Energy LP was selected as the company.

Mr. Kimball said it was important to ensure provisions are included and that there is notification if rates increase and if there are any changes.

Mr. Salvo said it is important to have a person speak regarding this to explain it further. Also, the bills need to be explained as they are very difficult to understand.

It was noted on April 16, 2015 there will be a public hearing held regarding this.

Mr. Bramwell said if Good Energy LP is at this April 16 meeting, they are informative, etc., so that would be beneficial.

5. Discussion – Inclusion of “Petitioned” Zoning Article of Roman Catholic Bishop of Fall River

Attorney Costa was present on behalf of his client, and said this was partially within industrial and residential district on South Worcester Street. It is presently a rectory building and no reason why it should be in industrial district. He referenced Mass General Laws and said he submitted a petition requesting matter be placed on warrant for May 11 Special Town Meeting. He said they would like to ask Board of Selectmen to place it on Special Town Meeting Warrant.

Mr. Kimball recommended for them to work with Planning Board. He did not want to get in area of “tug of war”. He said they can put it on warrant, but it would be rushing it for Spring Town Meeting. There is another Town Meeting in the Fall. In past experience, if you rush it, it is viewed in a suspicious nature from some residents. Discussion ensued.

Mr. Giblin agreed with Mr. Kimball to rush it would be a concern and thought it would be better to wait for Fall Town Meeting.

Mr. Bramwell agreed it is kind of late in the process to add this.

Attorney Costa said from his perspective, he is confident that he is providing enough information for Planning Board needs and this could be done.

Mr. Bramwell also noted the map provided was outdated.

Mrs. Steele said there is a risk he would be taking with it not being done in ample time for Town Meeting. If it is not a time concern, it was recommended he should not rush it.

Attorney Costa said there was no great urgency, but wanted to do it as expeditiously as possible. He agreed it would be fine to wait for Fall Town Meeting.

Mr. Kimball suggested he could talk to Planning Board about it and obtain their opinion as well.

6. Referral of Special Town Meeting Articles to the Planning Board

B. OLD BUSINESS

1. Continued Discussion Re: ALL response letter

It was noted the 30 day comment period ends April 10, 2015.

Mr. Bramwell spoke of a few more items: Mr. Salvo had referenced a stipulation on contained trucks and a silo system on site. He said he believed the Town of Norton cannot restrict truck traffic on Union Road, but Mr. Yunits should clarify this.

Mr. Yunits said it can be restricted where they should limit their truck traffic, etc.

Mr. Kimball said since trucks are travelling through Norton this is a concern. Why are trucks not directly going through Attleboro; not using the roads of Attleboro? We need to have a professional look at this whole process.

Mr. Salvo said the product being traveling on the Town of Norton roads and being brought to fill the landfill, the Town of Norton needs to be aware what materials are being hauled. Any other distributor carries a manifest stating what the actual product/chemical is. Also, if a truck rolls over, etc., the Town needs to know for its own safety and for the Town of Norton's Fire Department's knowledge.

Mr. Kimball said it is not a public landfill.

Mr. Kimball also questioned what will happen to residents who live around this landfill? They have not heard from the city of Attleboro as to why they cannot use certain streets.

Mr. Salvo said it would be helpful if the Town of Norton's Health Agent would be involved as it is a health concern. Possibly he can get some feedback about this material of what is in that pouch, etc., and contact the company that manufactures these products.

Mr. Kimball asked to Mr. Yunits to find out where it is being stored/brought to so he can take a look at it.

C. TOWN MANAGER'S REPORT

. Update – Traffic Signalization Route 123 @ 495

Mr. Yunits said the State Mass DOT Committee supported the signalization at that intersection and spoke to VHB engineers to give them a proposal to incorporate that design into project. He thanked Senator Timilty and Representative Barrows.

. MassDOT Winter Recovery Assistance Program

It was noted the Town of Norton will receive money to patch pot holes, fill cracks, fix guardrails, etc. It is a tight timeframe and all must be completed by June 30 and Mr. Silver, Highway Superintendent, is working on this.

. Hill Street Solar Project Update

This was previously discussed.

. FY16 Budget Update

There was a decrease with Southeastern Regional Vocational School and an increase in State aid which helped the Town of Norton. The schools are looking at a 3% increase; possibly 4%. There is a need to cut approximately \$200,000 out of Town budget.

. Review Special Town Meeting Articles List

Mr. Yunits referenced a draft list of some of the Articles in Board's packets.

D. APPOINTMENTS/RESIGNATIONS

1. Resignation of Albert C. Watson, Veterans' Services Graves Officer, effective July 15, 2015

Mrs. Steele said Mr. Watson has done a phenomenal job in the past years for the Town.

Mr. Kimball agreed with Mrs. Steele and said the Veterans' Agent should be involved in this process.

Mr. Bramwell said this position needs to be filled by a Veteran. He also noted he had a copy of a map at home.

Mrs. Steele asked Mr. Yunits to send Mr. Watson a thank you letter for his years of service to the Town.

VI. SELECTMEN'S REPORT AND MAIL

Mr. Kimball noted if the Town Cleanup is not being organized, he suggested the Board of Selectmen clear one Saturday in May and just ask people to go out in front of their own property to pick items up.

Mrs. Steele suggested to contact the group who volunteered to do this Cleanup last year and find out their intentions.

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Mr. Kimball referenced the Bike Trail and said this was a commitment by State to fund and the Town of Norton cannot afford without the \$500,000. He suggested to send a strong letter to everyone involved, including the governor, reminding them the commitment was made. There are people in this community who are quite interested in this Bike Path and the Town of Norton has an obligation to ask why commitment was made to Town, and if not going to provide funding, the Town needs to be made aware of that. It is supposed to be a regional type of thing to eventually create that "Green Belt". It is important to keep moving forward on this.

VII. NEXT MEETING'S AGENDA

VIII. EXECUTIVE SESSION

To discuss strategy with respect to Collective Bargaining

IX. ADJOURNMENT

DECLARATION BY THE CHAIRMAN (at 8:30 P.M.):

I declare, under General Laws Chapter 30A, Section 21A(a)(3), that the purpose of the executive session will be to discuss strategy with respect to Collective Bargaining – Norton Police Patrolmen and Norton Police Superior Officers , because a discussion of this strategy in open session could compromise the purpose of the executive session and with the Board not to return to open session at the conclusion of the executive session.

MOTION BY MEMBER:

MOTION was made by Mr. Giblin:

I move that the Board go into executive session under G.L. c.30A, Section 21(a)(3) for the purposes and reasons declared by the Chairman and with the Board to not return to open session thereafter. Second by Mr. Salvo. Vote: All Members Voted in Favor of Motion, except for Mr. Bramwell, who abstained. MOTION CARRIES.

Respectfully Submitted by:

Janet A. Sweeney
Board of Selectmen – Recording Secretary

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

- . Petition for Joint or Identical Pole Locations, dated February 13, 2015, addressed to the Board of Selectmen from Verizon New England, Inc., Daryl Crossman, Manager – Rights of Way with accompanying map/plan for Placement of 3723-84 North Washington Street (dated 1/14/15)

- . Memorandum of Landfill Lease Agreement between Norton Landfill Solar LLC and the Town of Norton

- . Map prepared by RIM Engineering, Mansfield, MA – Plan of Proposed Zoning Amendment at 133 South Worcester Street, Norton, MA (Owner & Applicant: Roman Catholic Bishop of Fall River, A Corporation Sole, 450 Highland Avenue, Fall River, MA 02720)

- . Outline of the Aggregation Program (To be read at a meeting of the Board of Selectmen)- At a Town Meeting on October 20, 2014 the residents of Norton voted to authorize the Board of Selectmen to research, develop and implement an aggregation program and enter into a contract with a competitive supplier of electricity

- . Resignation Letter, addressed to Mr. Michael D. Yunits, Town Manager, from Albert C. Watson (received March 23, 2015)

- . May 11, 2015 Spring Special Town Meeting List of Articles

BOARD OF SELECTMEN

MINUTES OF MEETING OF

MARCH 26, 2015

MARY T. STEELE, CHAIRMAN

BRADFORD K. BRAMWELL, VICE-CHAIR

TIMOTHY R. GIBLIN, CLERK

ROBERT W. KIMBALL, JR.

ROBERT S. SALVO, SR.

Dated: _____