

**BOARD OF SELECTMEN
MINUTES OF MEETING
APRIL 30, 2015**

I. CALL TO ORDER BY CHAIRMAN

The April 30, 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; and Mr. Robert W. Kimball, Jr., were present. Absent: Mr. Robert S. Salvo, Sr. Mr. Michael Yunits, Town Manager, was also present.

B. Pledge of Allegiance

II. WARRANTS AND MINUTES

A. Approve bi-weekly payroll for the period ended April 25, 2015, Warrant #65, dated April 30, 2015, in the amount of \$1,069,076.10

MOTION was made by Mr. Giblin to Approve bi-weekly payroll for the period ended April 25, 2015, Warrant #65, dated April 30, 2015, in the amount of \$1,069,076.10. Second by Mr. Kimball. Vote: Unanimous. MOTION CARRIES.

- B. Approve bills Warrant #66, dated April 30, 2015, in the amount of \$730,357.94

MOTION was made by Mr. Giblin to Approve bills Warrant #66, dated April 30, 2015, in the amount of \$730,357.94. Second by Mr. Kimball. Vote: Unanimous. MOTION CARRIES.

- C. Approve Minutes – December 18, 2014
April 23, 2015

MOTION was made by Mr. Giblin to Approve the Board of Selectmen Minutes of Meeting, dated December 18, 2014, as written. Second by Mr. Kimball. Vote: Unanimous. MOTION CARRIES.

MOTION was made by Mr. Giblin to Approve the Board of Selectmen Minutes of Meeting, dated April 23, 2015, as written. Second by Mr. Kimball. Vote: Unanimous. MOTION CARRIES.

III. LICENSES AND PERMITS

IV. ANNOUNCEMENTS

Canoe River Awareness Day to be held Saturday, May 2, 2015, from 10 a.m. to 12 noon at the Gertrude Cornish Town Forest, Plain Street.
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2015 MSG Trent Memorial Gold Star Ride to be held May 31 (ride registration begins at 9:30 a.m.; kickstands up at 11:00 a.m.).
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The Norton Fire fighters Union Local 2678 is holding their annual free senior pancake breakfast on Thursday, May 14, 2015 at St. Mary's Parish Center on West Main Street, Norton. Breakfast will be served from 7 a.m. to 10 a.m.

V. BUSINESS

A. NEW BUSINESS

1. 7:05 P.M. – Dedication of the Town of Norton 2014 Town Report

. Dale R. Clark

Many members of Mr. Clark's family were in attendance. Mr. Kimball said Mr. Clark was a good friend of his and held many positions in the Town of Norton, including, being a constable as well as an officer with the Norton Police Department. Mr. Clark was remembered and recognized for his assistance to the Town of Norton

. Albert C. Watson

Mr. Kimball said Mr. Watson, a veteran, served this Town well in many ways, and was recognized for his assistance to the Town, including, placing flags on the veterans' graves. It was noted the map Mr. Watson uses for this has been updated.

2. 7:20 P.M. – Council On Aging Director Elizabeth Taylor-Rossi and Board Members Re: Update/Space Needs Issues

Ms. Taylor-Rossi said they are holding many different classes at the Senior Center, including exercise classes, wellness, nutrition, and Medicare counseling. Outreach is an important program that they are also doing. There has been an increase of 77% in attendance at the Senior Center.

Ms. Taylor-Rossi wanted to thank Bill LaPlante who helped with Medicare training/assistance. She said they are "busting at the seams" currently regarding the room they have in the building. Also she noted there are 13 parking spaces; parking is an issue also as well as the current office space. She noted the kitchen is also tiny at the Senior Center, and it has only one men's bathroom and one women's bathroom. They have outgrown this building, and also the aging population will continue to grow until 2030.

Ms. Taylor-Rossi stated she "wears many hats". Many communities have other staff members for a Senior Center (i.e., an outreach worker, etc.).

Mr. Kimball said there have been only band aids put on this building in the past. It would be ideal to think of a creative way to build a Town Hall that is efficient and needed for the Town, and to accommodate the seniors as well.

Mr. Kimball agreed the Senior Center building is not adequate and this should be an item for the Building Committee to explore. Mr. Kimball said he also read recently poverty is at 11% in Bristol County, which is concerning.

Mrs. Steele asked Ms. Taylor-Rossi to come back to the Board regarding this issue.

3. Highway Superintendent Keith Silver Re: Discussion – Town Cleanup Day

Mr. Silver said this cleanup could be split in four sections of the Town. Safety is a huge concern. They are trying to get prisoners to cleanup the main drag.

Mr. Kimball said possibly they could also work with schools, including Wheaton College, and form a small subcommittee.

Mrs. Steele said to try to organize this now, at the last minute, is too huge to do. It is important to encourage people to cleanup and to put something together in Fall 2015.

Mr. Silver said residents could call him to pickup trash bags.

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Mr. Silver referenced the \$84,000 winter recovery. Pine Needle Lane has deteriorated. Therefore, their priority is Crane Street and Pine Needle Lane, then South Worcester Street. He would also like to do some spot-milling and still doing tree work.

4. Review and/or Sign Mitigation Agreement concerning Billboard Advertising – John T. Carroll, Carroll Advertising Company, Inc.

Mr. Yunits referenced the Mitigation Agreement and asked Board to review it and possibly they can put this back on agenda for the next meeting.

Mr. Carroll referenced some locations on Route 495 as potential spots for these billboards. The first step to discuss with Town would be digital signage; state of the art. It is a good way for Town to generate some money, and probably two to three sites would work. This also depends on the State as well.

Mr. Kimball said he had no issue with it.

Mr. Bramwell said it sounded like a great idea. It was discussed that billboards are now attractive.

Mrs. Steele said she agreed, it sounded like a good idea, but she would like a week to digest it if possible.

Mrs. Steele asked for this to be placed on agenda for next week at 7:05 P.M.

5. Board of Selectmen Meetings – Summer Schedule

Planned Board meetings to be held July 9 and 23; August 6 and 20.

B. OLD BUSINESS

1. Review and/or Vote on Annual and Special Town Meeting Warrants

FinCom (Finance Committee) revoted Article 6 for Hazardous Waste Day for \$10,000.

Article 4 was also revoted by FinCom. Mr. Yunits said it is now \$246,145 out of "Free Cash".

**MOTION was made by Mr. Bramwell to support Article 4 in the amount of \$246,145 from "Free Cash".
Second by Mr. Kimball. Vote: Unanimous. MOTION CARRIES.**

MOTION was made by Mr. Kimball to support Article 6, Household Hazardous Waste Day, in the amount of \$10,000. Second by Mr. Giblin. Vote: Unanimous. MOTION CARRIES.

C. TOWN MANAGER'S REPORT

. Update – 274 East Main Street

Mr. Yunits said he, David Eastridge of Thorndike Development, the Fire and Police Chiefs, Dave Myles, Deputy Chief of Norton Fire Department, met regarding 274 East Main Street.

The concern of the Fire Chief is closing of road down completely. Hopefully there will be some emergency access or have a fire truck sit on side for 24 hours during the 2 ½ weeks of this construction.

The Board discussed the plan of where the road is supposed to be closed five days at most.

Mrs. Steele asked if this message can be brought back to Thorndike and she would also like to see minutes of that meeting to see specifics.

Mr. Kimball said this is not what was originally presented by Thorndike and is a concern. He said he will object to anything over five days regarding closure of road.

Mrs. Steele said the safety issue is a huge concern and an inconvenience for people commuting/travelling that road.

. Report on IDC Meeting

Mr. Yunits spoke of recent meeting with Jeff O'Neil of Condyne earlier in week regarding the 200,000 square foot building he is planning and the need for a variance. It was discussed automated warehouses need to be 60-80 feet high. Also, it was noted they would build an attractive building, especially where Horizon Beverage is across the street.

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There was a recent fundraiser at LJ's Car Wash on Route 123 car wash, and it was noted the Board of Selectmen were not aware ownership had changed. It may be a good idea to have IDC bring business to Board of Selectmen to introduce themselves, etc.

Mr. Kimball said the Town does not require a business permit, therefore, some businesses the Town/Board of Selectmen are unaware of.

Mrs. Steele said the Town is limited because there is not a lot of space. It may be beneficial to switch gears and focus on existing businesses currently in Town. It would be a good idea to have businesses come in and introduce themselves/their business; many businesses are very generous with fundraising/donating.

Mr. Kimball said another idea is to have a business come in without IDC involved, with the business having five minutes at microphone describing their particular business.

Mrs. Steele said the Town really needs members on IDC.

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Mr. Yunits said Norton was listed as "One of the Top 100 Safest Communities in America"; Norton was number 43.

D. APPOINTMENTS/RESIGNATIONS

1. Appointment of Special Police Officers:

. Kevin Sellers

. Michael Booher

It was noted there were three resignations last year; the Police Department roster is at eight people.

Chief of Police, Brian Clark, introduced the proposed appointees and provided a brief description of their experience and education. He also noted Michael Booher resides in Norton, and Kevin Sellers resides in Attleboro.

MOTION was made by Mr. Giblin to appoint Kevin Sellers and Michael Booher, effective May 3, 2015. Second by Mr. Kimball. Vote: Unanimous. MOTION CARRIES.

2. Appointment of Water/Sewer Technician

. Daniel Novick

Mr. Novick was introduced to the Board and raised in Norton and is a Norton High School graduate. Education and experience was explained, and includes experience as an auto mechanic and Mr. Novick also details cars on the side. He also has assisted with various Master Sgt. Trent fundraisers/volunteer opportunities.

MOTION was made by Mr. Giblin to appoint Daniel Novick as a Water/Sewer Technician, effective May 11, 2015. Second by Mr. Kimball. Vote: Unanimous. MOTION CARRIES.

VI. SELECTMEN'S REPORT AND MAIL

Correspondence from Town Clerk was received regarding the Planning Board open position and failure to elect and the Board of Selectmen shall fill vacancy, effective until April 2016. There were no candidates for this position to the Board of Selectmen's knowledge.

Mrs. Steele said one person tried to do a write-in at the last minutes for a temporary position for one year.

Mr. Kimball said interested parties should send a letter to Town Hall and an interview can be conducted, and then Planning Board and Board of Selectmen would make a decision.

Mr. Giblin thanked the voters for providing him the opportunity to serve on the Board of Selectmen for the next three years. He noted there was a low voter turnout, and a need to make the public more aware.

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Mr. Giblin said the Board should have a bylaw discussion at the next meeting and discuss forming a Bylaw Committee.

Mr. Bramwell said 162 residents voted for him, and this was the first time he has ever run and not had someone run against him. He thanked those who came out to vote and thanked the people working the election that were there all day, as well as those who ran for office.

Mrs. Steele said there did not appear to be a lot of controversy at this election. Unfortunately, the Norton Mirror does not exist any longer so there was no vehicle to advertise the election/candidates, etc.

Mr. Kimball said it appears at the educational, the Town may not be educating people enough regarding voting. Possibly civics as a course offering in school should be offered again. Possibly the Department of Education should take a look into this.

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Mr. Kimball spoke of the importance of receiving more information regarding postings to the community bulletin board. He understood it is in the works and Town Clerk would be more involved with posted meetings.

VII. NEXT MEETING'S AGENDA

1. 7:30 P.M. HEARING – Application of Jay Laxmi Corporation d/b/a MAS GAS, Manager: Jack M. Patel, for a Retail Package Goods Store License to Expose, Keep for Sale, and to Sell Wines and Malt Beverages Not to Be Drunk on The Premises, at 62 Mansfield Avenue, Norton, MA 02766

VIII. REORGANIZATION OF THE BOARD OF SELECTMEN

Chairman

Mr. Yunits asked the Board if there were any nominations for Chairman of the Board of Selectmen?

Mr. Giblin nominated Mr. Bramwell as Chairman. Second by Mrs. Steele.

Mr. Yunits asked if there were any other nominations for Chairman?

No other nominations were communicated by the Board.

Mr. Yunits closed the nomination for Chairman.

Mr. Yunits asked if all were in favor of Mr. Bramwell as Chairman. The Board unanimously voted In the Affirmative.

Vice Chair:

Mr. Yunits asked the Board if there were any nominations for Vice-Chair of the Board of Selectmen?

Mr. Bramwell nominated Mr. Giblin as Vice-Chair. Second by Mr. Kimball.

Mr. Yunits asked if there were any other nominations for Vice-Chair?

No other nominations were communicated by the Board.

Mr. Yunits closed the nomination for Vice-Chair.

Mr. Yunits asked if all were in favor of Mr. Giblin as Vice-Chair. The Board unanimously voted In the Affirmative.

Clerk:

Mr. Yunits asked the Board if there were any nominations for Clerk of the Board of Selectmen?

Mr. Bramwell nominated Mr. Kimball as Clerk. Second by Mrs. Steele.

Mr. Yunits asked if there were any other nominations for Clerk?

No other nominations were communicated by the Board.

Mr. Yunits closed the nomination for Clerk.

Mr. Yunits asked if all were in favor of Mr. Kimball as Clerk. The Board unanimously voted In the Affirmative.

DECLARATION BY THE CHAIRMAN:

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, because a discussion of this strategy in open session could compromise the purpose of the executive session and with the Board to not return to open session at the conclusion of the executive session.

MOTION BY MEMBER:

MOTION was made by Mr. Giblin at 9:02 P.M.:

I move that the Board go into executive session under G.L. c.30A, Section 21A(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. Kimball. Vote: All In Favor, except for Mr. Bramwell who abstained. MOTION CARRIES.

Respectfully Submitted by:

Janet A. Sweeney

Board of Selectmen – Recording Secretary

Documents Distributed/Reviewed at April 30, 2015, Board of Selectmen Meeting

- . Draft Board of Selectmen Minutes of Meeting, dated December 18, 2014 and April 23, 2015

- . Mitigation Agreement Concerning Billboard Advertising In The Town of Norton (John T. Carroll, Carroll Advertising Company, Inc.)

- . Annual and Special Town Meeting Warrants

- . Memorandum addressed to Board of Selectmen, from Danielle M. Sicard, Town Clerk, dated April 29, 2015, Re: Failure to Elect Re: Planning Board Open Position

- . Memorandum addressed to the Board of Selectmen, from Michael D. Yunits, Town Manager, dated April 27, 2015, Re: Notice of Appointment of Water/Sewer Technician-Daniel Novick

- . Memorandum addressed to the Board of Selectmen, from Michael D. Yunits, Town Manager, dated April 29, 2015, Re: Notice of Appointment of Special Police Officer-Kevin Sellers

- . Memorandum addressed to the Board of Selectmen, from Michael D. Yunits, Town Manager, dated April 29, 2015, Re: Notice of Appointment of Special Police Officer-Michael Booher

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MINUTES OF MEETING OF

APRIL 30, 2015

MARY T. STEELE, CHAIRMAN

BRADFORD K. BRAMWELL, VICE-CHAIR

TIMOTHY R. GIBLIN, CLERK

ROBERT W. KIMBALL, JR.

ROBERT S. SALVO, SR.

Dated: _____

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BRADFORD K. BRAMWELL, CHAIRMAN

TIMOTHY R. GIBLIN, VICE-CHAIR

ROBERT W. KIMBALL, JR., CLERK

ROBERT S. SALVO, SR.

MARY T. STEELE

Dated: _____