

**BOARD OF SELECTMEN  
MEETING MINUTES – MARCH 14, 2011**

7:00 p.m. - Selectmen's Meeting Room, 63 Main Street, Northborough, MA

**MEMBERS PRESENT:** Dawn Rand, Chairman  
Jeff Amberson, Vice Chairman  
Leslie Rutan, Clerk  
Fran Bakstran  
William Pantazis

\*Pledge of Allegiance

**APPROVAL OF MINUTES – FEBRUARY 28, 2011 REGULAR MEETING**

Selectman Amberson moved the Board vote to approve the meeting minutes of the February 28, 2011 regular meeting as submitted, Selectman Rutan seconded the motion; all members voted in favor.

**7:00 p.m. - KARA BUZANOSKI, DPW DIRECTOR**

Request for Deficit Spending of the Water Enterprise Fund Pursuant to MGL, Chapter 44, Section 31.

In the absence of DPW Director Kara Buzanoski, Finance Director June Hubbard-Ward was present to request the Board's approval to place an article on the Town Meeting Warrant to pay for leak detection in the water lines and emergency repair bills from the Water Enterprise Fund.

Selectman Amberson moved the Board vote to approve that the Department of Public Works, Water Division incur liabilities and make payment thereof in excess of Water Enterprise Fund appropriations for a total not to exceed \$61,000 in order to repair leaking water lines posing an immediate threat to the health and/or safety of persons and/or property, pursuant to Massachusetts General Laws, Chapter 44, Section 31; Selectman Bakstran seconded the motion; all members voted in favor.

**REPORTS**

Fran Bakstran

- Announced the resignation of Ron Parker from the Wind Turbine Committee. The Board agreed to appoint alternate member John Cragin to fill the vacancy. See below for appointment.
- Announced two options for residents to dispose yard waste. 1) yard waste, including leaves can be dropped off during the DPW's first brush days on April 22 & 23; and 2) yard waste, not including leaves, may be burned with a burning permit obtained from the Fire Department.

William Pantazis

- No report.

Leslie Rutan, Clerk

- Congratulated the Algonquin Girls Basketball Team for winning the Massachusetts Championship for the first time ever.

Leslie Rutan, Clerk Cont ...

- Provided an update on the Cemetery Data Entry Project. Noted that about 80% of the cemetery record cards have been scanned into the computer. Thanked resident Bill Allen for his work on the project. The next step is to develop a database that is searchable and readable. The last step will be to record each headstone location using GPS software.

Jeff Amberson, Vice Chairman

- Announced that the Annual Town Meeting will be held on April 25<sup>th</sup> at 7:30 at the High School.
- Mentioned a recent article in the Boston Globe in which Northborough received a very favorable write-up, specifically detailing the Northborough Crossing project and the Town's recent receipt of the GFOA Award for Budgeting.
- With regard to the Town of Shrewsbury's recent sewer main break on Thayer and Davis Streets, thanked the Northborough Town Staff and the Town of Shrewsbury for doing an exceptional job in addressing the issue and the concerns of the affected residents. Also thanked the affected residents for their patience.

Dawn Rand, Chairman

- Thanked John and his staff, as well as the DPW, for their efforts during the Town of Shrewsbury's recent sewer main break.

John Coderre, Town Administrator

- Announced that our Bond Rating Review resulted in a very favorable rating of Aa2. Noted that Moody's Investors Services recognized all that has been done by Town staff to strengthen our bond rating. Extended his appreciation to all who worked together in order to achieve this rating.

**APPOINTMENT TO THE WIND TURBINE COMMITTEE**

Selectman Bakstran moved the Board vote to appoint John Cragin to the Wind Turbine Committee for a two-year term; Selectman Amberson seconded the motion; all members voted in favor.

**7:20 p.m. - HEARING**

To consider an application for a Change of Manager as submitted by Honey Farms, Inc. for their Wine & Malt Package Store License for premises located at 369 West Main Street.

Susan Reno, Compliance Director for Honey Farms introduced the new manager Richard Padula to the Board. Mr. Padula will replace the retired manager David Pierce. Mr. Padula has been with the company and worked directly with Mr. Pierce for several years.

Selectman Pantazis moved the Board vote to approve the application to change the manager from David Pierce to Richard Padula as submitted by Honey Farms, Inc. for their Wine & Malt Package Store License for premises located at 369 West Main Street; Selectman Rutan seconded the motion; all members voted in favor.

**7:25 p.m. - SENATOR JAMES ELDRIDGE  
SENATOR HARRIETTE CHANDLER  
STATE REPRESENTATIVE HAROLD NAUGHTON**  
Discussion of Legislative Priorities.

In preparation for tonight's legislative update, letters were sent in early February from the Board of Selectmen to Senators Eldridge and Chandler and Representative Naughton advising them of Northborough's legislative priorities. At the request of the Board, Senator Eldridge, Senator Chandler and Representative Naughton were present.

Mr. Coderre reviewed the following top three legislative priorities:

1. Greater Control over Health Insurance
2. Restoration of Circuit-Breaker Funding
3. Reauthorization of Chapter 90 Funds

Senators Eldridge and Chandler and Representative Naughton commented on each of the priorities listed above. They also provided an update on recent actions at the State level that may directly affect the Town of Northborough, including a possible cut to Chapter 70 funds and the potential that only \$200M in bonding over the next three years will be authorized for Chapter 90 funds. Each Legislator offered their congratulations to the Board and Town Staff on the recent award by the GFOA recognizing the Town's exceptional budgeting practices.

Following several questions and comments from Mr. Coderre and members of the Board, a lengthy discussion focused on the need for greater control over health insurance, circuit breaker funding and for legislation that would modernize procurement and public construction laws by exempting construction projects of \$100,000 or less from the prevailing wage law.

Representative Naughton informed the Board that a Bill was filed last year to exempt projects under \$50,000 from the procurement laws. Unfortunately, the Bill received no support at the House Level. He suggested that the Town push the MMA to place this as one of their top priorities and to reach out to the Massachusetts Building Trade.

In closing, Mr. Coderre thanked the Legislators for coming in this evening and for always being attentive to the needs of Northborough. Each of the legislators spoke about future endeavors that will benefit the Town of Northborough.

#### **PUBLIC COMMENTS**

None.

#### **CLOSE TOWN MEETING WARRANT**

Selectman Bakstran moved the Board vote to close the Town Meeting Warrant; Selectman Rutan seconded the motion; all members voted in favor.

**SCHEDULE PUBLIC HEARING FOR STREET ACCEPTANCES**

Selectman Rutan moved the Board vote to schedule a public hearing on March 28, 2011 to consider the acceptance of the following as public ways: Copley Drive, Dartmouth Drive, Woodstone Road and Fawcett Orchard Road; Selectman Amberson seconded the motion; all members voted in favor.

**EXECUTION OF CEMETERY DEEDS A858 - A860**

Selectman Bakstran moved the Board vote to execute Cemetery Deeds A858 - A860; Selectman Rutan seconded the motion; all members voted in favor.

**OTHER BUSINESS**

None.

**ADJOURNMENT**

Selectman Amberson moved the Board vote to adjourn; Selectman Bakstran seconded the motion; all members voted in favor.

Meeting adjourned at 8:15 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Diane M. Wackell  
Executive Assistant to the  
Board of Selectmen

**Documents used during meeting:**

1. March 14, 2011 Meeting Agenda.
2. February 28, 2011 Meeting Minutes.
3. Information packet - Legislative Priorities, including a letter handed out during the meeting from Senator Eldridge.
4. Information packet - Change of Manager - Honey Farms, Inc.
5. Information packet - Town Meeting Warrant.
6. Memo - Scheduling of Street Acceptances Public Hearing.
7. Cemetery Deeds A858 - A860.