

**BOARD OF SELECTMEN
MEETING MINUTES – January 9, 2012**

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

MEMBERS PRESENT: Jeff Amberson, Chairman
Dawn Rand, Vice Chairman
William Pantazis
Aaron Hutchins

MEMBERS ABSENT: Leslie Rutan

*Pledge of Allegiance

APPROVAL OF MINUTES – DECEMBER 19, 2011 REGULAR MEETING

Selectman Rand moved the Board vote to approve the meeting minutes of the December 19, 2011 regular meeting as submitted, Selectman Pantazis seconded the motion; all members voted in favor.

7:00 p.m. - KEN GOLDEN & SKIP DOYLE, ROTARY CLUB

Acceptance of the Rotary Club's recent donation of an Automated External Defibrillator Device to the Senior Center.

Rotary Club President Ken Golden and Member Skip Doyle were present to discuss the Rotary Club's recent donation of an external defibrillator to the Senior Center. To fund the machine, the Rotary Club raised money that was then matched by Rotary District 7910 Simplified Matching Grant Funds.

Members of the Board thanked the Rotary Club for the external defibrillator and for the support and assistance that they continue to provide to the various organizations and people of our community.

Senior Center Director Kelly Burke was present. She extended her appreciation to the Rotary Club, stressing how extremely valuable this piece of equipment is for the Senior Center.

Selectman Pantazis moved the Board vote to accept an Automated External Defibrillator device donated by the Rotary Club and received by the Senior Center pursuant to Massachusetts General Laws, Chapter 44, Section 53A1/2; Selectman Hutchins seconded the motion; all members voted in favor.

7:10 p.m. - KATHY JOUBERT, TOWN PLANNER

Execution of a 2012 Community Innovation Challenge Grant by the CMRPC through the Executive Office of Administration and Finance seeking funds to continue the efforts of the 495 Metro-West Development Compact Project.

Town Planner Kathy Joubert informed the Board that the CMRPC is seeking funds through a 2012 Community Innovation Challenge Grant for "implementation activities"

KATHY JOUBERT, TOWN PLANNER CONT. . .

in the continuing efforts of the 495 MetroWest Development Compact Project. This project provides the opportunity to assist communities with the resource-intensive aspect of the implementation of a regional initiative that provides many benefits at both the local and regional levels.

Ms. Joubert stated that without these funds, neither the CMRPC nor the participating communities of Berlin, Shrewsbury, Westborough and Northborough would have the necessary resources to begin the implementation process of this regional initiative. This one-year grant will allow CMRPC staff to coordinate initial forums with the participating communities. Shortly after receipt of the grant funds, the CMRPC staff will begin to identify opportunities for bylaw and regulatory revisions that will help to promote the project's vision; specifically, the realization of priorities for housing, infrastructure, development, preservation and transportation. Recommendations will then be provided electronically to each community beginning in November 2012. It is anticipated that the implementation phase of the project will be completed no later than December 28, 2012.

Selectman Pantazis moved the Board vote to execute on behalf of the Town of Northborough the 2012 Community Innovation Challenge Grant by the Central Massachusetts Regional Planning Commission through the Executive Office of Administration and Finance in support of the continued efforts of the 495 MetroWest Development Compact Project; Selectman Rand seconded the motion.

7:15 p.m. - FRED LITCHFIELD, TOWN ENGINEER

Follow-up on the Requested Truck Exclusion on Ridge Road, Collins Road, Maple Street and Brigham Street.

Town Engineer Fred Litchfield informed the Board that Mass Highway will approve the Town's request for a truck exclusion on Collins Road. The requests for truck exclusions on Ridge Road, Maple Street and Brigham Street were not approved.

Mr. Litchfield recommended that the Board accept the truck exclusion for Collins Road. He will revise and resubmit an alternate route map and signage plan per the request of Mass Highway. Mr. Litchfield added that the Town will continue pursuing the other roads until such time that they meet the criteria.

Selectman Hutchins suggested that the next time the Town submits a request for truck exclusions on Ridge Road, Maple Street and Brigham Streets, that a letter from the Police Chief be included indicating the safety concerns with having one road excluded but not the surrounding roads. Mr. Coderre responded that although it wouldn't hurt to send the additional letter, he doesn't feel that it will make much of a difference to Mass Highway. Mr. Coderre recommended that the Board start with accepting the truck exclusion on Collins Road. Once it's in place, the impact to the neighboring roads can be better monitored. If at some point during the future there is a significant amount of increased truck traffic on the neighboring roads, the Town can then resubmit the new data to be considered by Mass Highway.

FRED LITCHFIELD, TOWN ENGINEER CONT. . .

Mr. Coderre added that the Town will continue to work with the trucking companies in that area to request that their drivers not use Ridge Road, Maple Street and Brigham Street.

Selectman Hutchins moved the Board vote to send a letter to Mass Highway accepting the approved truck exclusion for Collins Road and to resubmit a revised map and signage plan per the request of Mass Highway, with the intent to continue pursuing additional truck exclusions for Ridge Road, Maple Street and Brigham Street; Selectman Pantazis seconded the motion; all members voted in favor.

REPORTSAaron Hutchins

- Happy New Year!
- Attended the Holiday Concert at Algonquin High School.
- After recently seeing Officer Martin on foot patrol near the center of town, he questioned how often police officers did this? Lt. Lyver responded that the Police Department has a program called "park and walk". The officers park their cruisers and patrol the area on foot. Selectman Hutchins commended the Police Department and Officer Martin in particular for showing a police presence.

William Pantazis

- Thanked Town staff for the continued clean up after the October 29th storm.

Dawn Rand, Vice Chairman

- Announced that the Annual Winter Ball is scheduled to take place on Saturday, January 28th at the White Cliff's. Tickets are now on sale.
- Announced that the 8th Annual Chocolate Spectacular event sponsored by the Friends of the Senior Center is scheduled for Saturday, February 11th at Whitney Place.

Jeff Amberson, Chairman

- Requested that Mr. Coderre provide an update on the final cost for the October 29th storm clean up. Mr. Coderre stated that he would be happy to provide an update at a future meeting.

John Coderre, Town Administrator

- Informed the Board that Wind Committee will attend the January 23rd Board Meeting to make a presentation on the completed Feasibility Study.

PUBLIC COMMENTS

None.

DISCUSSION OF DRAFT LEGISLATIVE PRIORITIES

Mr. Coderre informed the Board that he is currently in the process of updating the Town's 2011 Legislative Priority letter for 2012. The letter will include the Town's position on various State mandates and/or regulations that we would like to see changed. He asked members of the Board to contact him if they wish to have anything included in the letter.

DISCUSSION OF DRAFT LEGISLATIVE PRIORITIES CONT. . .

Chairman Amberson requested a detailed report that would include the top priorities from previous years; detailing whether or not our representatives worked to bring any of them forward; and if so, whether or not they voted in favor. Selectman Hutchins agreed and requested that the Board receive this information in advance of inviting the Representatives to a future Board meeting.

Mr. Coderre stated that a draft letter will be presented to the Board at one of their February meetings. The letter will then be mailed to the Governor, as well as the Legislative Delegation. The goal is to provide them with clear direction regarding our priorities prior to their attendance at a future meeting with the Board of Selectmen.

OTHER BUSINESS

None.

7:50 p.m. - EXECUTIVE SESSION

Selectman Rand moved the Board vote to enter into Executive Session pursuant to Massachusetts General Laws, Chapter 30A, Section 21, Subsection 1 (personnel matter) and Subsection 3 (litigation matter) due to the Chair's determination that a discussion regarding this matter in an open meeting may have a detrimental effect on the position of the Board; Selectman Pantazis seconded the motion; the roll call vote was taken as follows:

Rand	“aye”	Hutchins	“aye”
Pantazis	“aye”	Amberson	“aye”

Chairman Amberson announced that the Board would return from Executive Session only to adjourn.

ADJOURNMENT

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

Meeting adjourned at 8:35 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Diane M. Wackell
Executive Assistant to the
Board of Selectmen

Documents used during meeting:

1. January 9, 2012 Meeting Agenda.
2. December 19, 2011 Meeting Minutes.
3. Information packet – Rotary Club Presentation.
4. Information packet – Community Innovation Challenge Grant.
5. Information packet – Truck Exclusion Follow-up.
6. Information packet – FY 2013 Legislative Priorities.