

**BOARD OF SELECTMEN
MEETING MINUTES – March 26, 2012**

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

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

*Pledge of Allegiance

APPROVAL OF MINUTES – MARCH 12, 2012 REGULAR MEETING

Selectman Rutan moved the Board vote to approve the meeting minutes of the March 12, 2012 regular meeting as submitted, Selectman Pantazis seconded the motion: all members voted in favor.

**7:00 p.m. - SENATOR JAMES B. ELDRIDGE
SENATOR HARRIETTE L. CHANDLER
STATE REPRESENTATIVE STEVEN L. LEVY
CHIEF OF STAFF SUSAN TEMPLETON FOR
STATE REPRESENTATIVE HAROLD P. 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, Senators Eldridge and Chandler, Representative Levy and Chief of Staff Susan Templeton (on behalf of Representative Naughton) were present.

Mr. Coderre reviewed the following top two legislative priorities: 1) Restoration of Circuit-Breaker Funding; and 2) Reauthorization of Chapter 90 Funds. He then spoke briefly about each of the additional secondary issues and initiatives.

Senators Eldridge and Chandler, Representative Levy and Ms. Templeton, on behalf of Representative Naughton, expressed their support of the top two priorities listed above. They each spoke of their own priorities that, if passed, would benefit the Town.

Following several questions and comments from Mr. Coderre and members of the Board, a short discussion focused on the need to modernize procurement and public construction laws by exempting construction projects of \$100,000 or less from the prevailing wage law.

Mr. Coderre thanked the Legislators for coming in this evening and for always being attentive to the needs of Northborough.

**7:15 p.m. - JOINT PUBLIC HEARING WITH APPROPRIATIONS COMMITTEE
FY 2013 Proposed Budget.**

Present for the Appropriations Committee were Chairman Elaine Kelly and members Richard Nieber, Janice Hight, Robert D'Amico, Anthony Poteete and Dan McInnis.

At 7:15 p.m., Chairman Kelly called the meeting of the Appropriations Committee to order.

Mr. Coderre presented the FY2013 Proposed Budget, which included the latest information available regarding revenue projections and departmental expenditure requests. The FY2013 Operating Budget for all funds, including General Government, Northborough K-8, Regional High School, Assabet Valley Regional High School and Special Warrant Articles increased 4.10% over FY2012.

Following his presentation, Mr. Coderre thanked the members of the Financial Team – Assistant Town Administrator Kim Hood, Finance Director June Hubbard-Ward and Town Accountant Jason Little.

Several questions and comments were heard from members of the Board. Chairman Amberson expressed his appreciation to Mr. Coderre and his Financial Team, the School Superintendent and the Appropriations Committee for their collaborative efforts in bringing forth the FY2013 Budget.

There were no comments from the audience.

At 8:35 p.m., Appropriations Committee Member Janice Hight moved the Committee vote to adjourn; Member Richard Nieber seconded the motion; all members of the Appropriations Committee voted in favor.

REPORTS

Aaron Hutchins

- Noted that the downtown construction project has begun. Requested that drivers avoid the downtown corridor whenever possible. In response to a question by Selectman Hutchins, Chief Leahy clarified that because this is a state project, the traffic flow and any potential detours will be up to the State to determine.

William Pantazis

- Questioned if the Town has a Tree Warden? Mr. Coderre responded that the DPW Director is the Town's Tree Warden.
- Requested an update on the status of the street sign replacements. Mr. Coderre advised that all remaining street signs will be replaced during the 2013 Fiscal Year.

Leslie Rutan, Clerk

- Welcomed Dan Nason as the newly appointed DPW Director and invited him to introduce himself to the community.
- Noted that efforts are taking place to standardize all Departmental Police Badges/ Security ID Cards throughout Massachusetts.
- Encouraged residents to sign up for the Town notification feature on the Town Website.

Dawn Rand, Vice Chairman

- Noted that she has heard complaints from downtown businesses about not being notified about the start of construction. Questioned if there is any plan to notify those businesses that may be affected by the construction in the future? Mr. Coderre stated that the Town Engineer and the DPW Director will help to advocate for those businesses that will be affected.

Jeff Amberson, Chairman

- No report.

John Coderre, Town Administrator

- Announced that he and the School Superintendent will be interviewing three citizen parents to serve on the Lincoln Street School Building Committee in the next week or so. He requested that the Board approve his appointments. See below for approval.

**APPROVAL OF APPOINTMENTS TO THE LINCOLN STREET
ELEMENTARY SCHOOL BUILDING COMMITTEE**

Selectman Rand moved the Board vote to approve the Lincoln Street School Building Committee as presented by the Town Administrator; Selectman Rutan seconded the motion; all members voted in favor.

PUBLIC COMMENTS

None.

APPROVE/EXECUTE WARRANT FOR ANNUAL TOWN MEETING

Selectman Pantazis moved the Board vote to approve and execute the Warrant for the April 23, 2012 Annual Town Meeting; Selectman Rutan seconded the motion; all members voted in favor.

APPROVE/EXECUTE WARRANT FOR ANNUAL TOWN ELECTION

Selectman Rutan moved the Board vote to approve and execute the Warrant for the May 14, 2012 Annual Town Election; Selectman Hutchins seconded the motion; all members voted in favor.

MEETING SCHEDULE FOR MAY - AUGUST

Selectman Pantazis moved the Board vote to set the meeting schedule for May through August as follows:

May 21st
 June 11th & 25th
 July 16th
 August 20th

Selectman Hutchins seconded the motion; all members voted in favor.

TRANSFER CEMETERY DEED A280

Selectman Hutchins moved the Board vote to approve the transfer of Cemetery Deed A280 as presented by the DPW Department; Selectman Pantazis seconded the motion; all members voted in favor.

EXECUTION OF CEMETERY DEED A890

Selectman Hutchins moved the Board vote to execute Cemetery Deed A890; Selectman Pantazis seconded the motion; all members voted in favor.

OTHER BUSINESS

None.

8:55 p.m. - EXECUTIVE SESSION

Selectman Rutan moved the Board vote to enter into Executive Session pursuant to Massachusetts General Laws, Chapter 30A, Section 21, 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 Rand seconded the motion; the roll call vote was taken as follows:

Rand	"aye"	Hutchins	"aye"
Rutan	"aye"	Amberson	"aye"
Pantazis	"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 Rutan seconded the motion; all members voted in favor.

Meeting adjourned at 9:05 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Diane M. Wackell
 Executive Assistant to the
 Board of Selectmen

Documents used during meeting:

1. March 26, 2012 Meeting Agenda.
2. March 12, 2012 Meeting Minutes.
3. Information packet – Legislative Priorities.
4. Annual Town Meeting Warrant.
5. Annual Town Election Warrant.
6. Information packet – Transfer of Cemetery Deed 280.
7. Cemetery Deed A890.