

**BOARD OF SELECTMEN
MEETING MINUTES – June 11, 2012**

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

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

*Pledge of Allegiance

APPROVAL OF MINUTES – MAY 21, 2012 REGULAR MEETING

Selectman Rand moved the Board vote to approve the meeting minutes of the May 21, 2012 regular meeting as submitted; Selectman Hutchins seconded the motion. Vote 4-0-1 (Selectman Rutan was absent from the May 21st Meeting and therefore abstained).

7:00 p.m. - ELECTION OF OFFICERS

Chairman

Nominations for Chairman were called by Town Clerk Andrew Dowd.

Selectman Amberson moved the Board vote to nominate Selectman Pantazis to the position of Chairman; Selectman Rutan seconded the motion. No other nominations were presented. Mr. Dowd closed the nominations for Chairman. The motion to nominate Selectman Pantazis to the position of Chairman passed unanimously.

Vice Chairman

Nominations for Vice Chairman were called by Town Clerk Andrew Dowd.

Selectman Pantazis moved the Board vote to nominate Selectman Rutan to the position of Vice Chairman; Selectman Rand seconded the motion. No other nominations were presented. Mr. Dowd closed the nominations for Vice Chairman. The motion to nominate Selectman Rutan to the position of Vice Chairman passed unanimously.

Clerk

Nominations for Clerk were called by Town Clerk Andrew Dowd.

Selectman Rutan moved the Board vote to nominate Selectman Amberson to the position of Clerk; Selectman Pantazis seconded the motion. No other nominations were presented. Mr. Dowd closed the nominations for Clerk. The motion to nominate Selectman Amberson to the position of Clerk passed unanimously.

7:05 p.m. - FRED LITCHFIELD, TOWN ENGINEER
Approval/Execution of Agricultural Preservation Restriction
and Co-Holder Agreement for property located on Ball Street.

Town Engineer Fred Litchfield was present to request the Board's approval and execution of an Agricultural Preservation Restriction (APR) and Co-Holder Agreement for a 35 acre parcel of land located on Ball Street currently owned by the New England Forestry Foundation. This project has been in the works for almost two years and has received support from the Planning Board, Conservation Commission, Open Space Committee and the Board of Selectmen in the past. The parcel has been appraised for more than \$1M. The development rights are being purchased for \$500,000 with \$430,000 being provided by the State and \$70,000 being provided by the Town. After the APR is in place, the agricultural rights will be purchased by the Tougas Family Farm.

Selectman Rand moved the Board vote to approve and execute the Agricultural Preservation Restriction and Co-Holder Agreement for property located on Ball Street granted by New England Forestry Foundation, Inc. to the Commonwealth of Massachusetts, with the Town of Northborough holding the Restriction jointly with the Commonwealth; Selectman Amberson seconded the motion; all members voted in favor.

REPORTS

Aaron Hutchins

- Noted the receipt of a memorandum from the Fire Chief regarding a non-compliance issue with a business at 23 Belmont Street. In response to Selectman Hutchins' question as to whether or not this situation has been rectified, Chief Durgin answered that the company is working towards compliance.
- Requested an update on the Indian Meadows property. Mr. Coderre outlined the Chapter 61B process, adding that he is awaiting recommendations from the land-use Boards and Committees. He will plan to provide another update to the Board at their next meeting on June 25th.
- Enjoyed participating in the Memorial Day Parade.
- Questioned if the Police Department is taking steps to monitor those alternate routes that drivers are using in order to avoid the downtown construction. Chief Leahy responded that the department is paying close attention primarily to Summer Street, as this is the street that was officially posted as the alternate route.

Dawn Rand

- Thanked those who coordinated, attended and participated in the Memorial Day Parade.
- Attending a recent hearing by the proponents who wish to purchase Indian Meadows.

Jeff Amberson, Clerk

- Thanked those who coordinated, attended and participated in the Memorial Day Parade.
- Noted that many of the Algonquin Sports Teams became State and/or Central Mass Champions this season.

Jeff Amberson Report Cont. . .

- Extended congratulations to the graduating seniors at Algonquin.

Leslie Rutan, Vice Chairman

- Thanked those who coordinated, attended and participated in the Memorial Day Parade.
- Congratulated all of the Algonquin Sports Teams on their accomplishments.
- Noted that out of 22,000 public high schools, Algonquin ranked 487th in the Country and 25th in the State.
- Noted that the Northborough Food Pantry website has been newly redesigned. Thanked those who donate and volunteer their time and encouraged more participation from the community.
- Attended the Senior Center Volunteer Recognition Luncheon on May 29th.
- Attended the Pops Concert on May 30th.
- Congratulated the Class of 2012.
- Requested that the DPW Department cut back overgrown brush at the end of Allen Street when approaching Hudson Street in order to improve site visibility.

William Pantazis, Chairman

- Announced that the Scholarship Committee recently awarded scholarships to Algonquin students Abigail Campbell, Katie Wilson and Richard Thompson.
- Thanked everyone who participated in the Memorial Day Parade.

John Coderre, Town Administrator

- Announced that National Grid will be conducting tree trimming throughout town. If any more information becomes available, it will be posted on the Town website.

PUBLIC COMMENTS

John Fouracre of 99 Pleasant Street brought forward his concerns about the downtown construction, possible silt flow into Cold Harbor Brook and overgrown brush on the sidewalks on Lincoln Street and on Route 20 from Duke's Automotive to The Coleman House.

David Henry of Indian Meadow Drive questioned what the process is in regards to the potential sale of Indian Meadows. Mr. Coderre explained the process and confirmed that a decision would not be made by the Board of Selectmen at their June 25th meeting.

DISCUSSION REGARDING SIGN BYLAW

Building Inspector William Farnsworth was present to provide an overview of the Town's Sign Bylaw. Following an overview of some of the so-called "sandwich" signs, of which some are allowed and some are not and the process of enforcement, a discussion ensued amongst members of the Board.

Members of the Board stressed the importance of enforcement, emphasizing that the intent is not to punish businesses, but to see that everyone is treated fairly. Mr. Coderre indicated that he and the Building Inspector will look into options for education and enforcement.

APPROVAL/EXECUTION OF UTILITY EASEMENT AGREEMENT AT 211 MAIN STREET

Mr. Coderre requested that the Board approve and execute the permanent Utility Easement Agreement relative to the previously executed January 14, 2011 Lease Agreement with US Wireless, LLC for a cell tower at the Police Station. It is anticipated that construction will begin in July.

Selectman Amberson moved the Board vote to approve and execute the Utility Easement Agreement between the Town and Verizon New England, Inc. for 211 Main Street pursuant to Article 34 of the April 28, 2012 Annual Town Meeting; Selectman Rand seconded the motion; all members voted in favor.

APPROVAL OF WESTBOROUGH SPRINT TRIATHLON EVENT

Mr. Coderre informed the Board that Sun Multisport Events, LLC has requested permission to allow cyclists to ride through Town as part of the annual Westborough Sprint Triathlon. It is estimated that approximately 375-450 cyclists will pass through Town between the hours of 8:15 am and 9:30 am on Sunday, August 19th.

The application has been reviewed by the Police Chief and Fire Chief and both recommend approval.

Selectman Rutan moved the Board vote to approve a request from Mark Walter to allow the Westborough Sprint Triathlon to run through the Town of Northborough on August 19, 2012 with the condition that the applicant shall be responsible for the strict adherence to the agreed-upon plan with the Northborough Police Department, as well as any and all related expenses with regard to an EMS detail as required by the Fire Chief; Selectman Rand seconded the motion; all members voted in favor.

APPROVAL/EXECUTION OF CEMETERY DEEDS A892, A893 & A894

Selectman Hutchins moved the Board vote to approve and execute Cemetery Deeds A892, A893 & A894; Selectman Rand seconded the motion; all members voted in favor.

OTHER BUSINESS

None.

8:00 p.m. - EXECUTIVE SESSION

Selectman Hutchins 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:

Hutchins	“aye”	Rutan	“aye”
Rand	“aye”	Amberson	“aye”
Amberson	“aye”		

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

ADJOURNMENT

Selectman Hutchins moved the Board vote to adjourn; Selectman Rand 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. June 11, 2012 Meeting Agenda.
2. May 21, 2012 Meeting Minutes.
3. Information packet – APR & Co-Holder Agreement – Ball Street.
4. Information packet – Sign Bylaw.
5. Information packet – Utility Easement Agreement – 211 Main Street.
6. Information packet – Westborough Sprint Triathlon Event.
7. Cemetery Deeds.