

**BOARD OF SELECTMEN  
MEETING MINUTES – December 15, 2014**

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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  
William Pantazis  
Jason Perreault

\*Pledge of Allegiance

**APPROVAL OF MINUTES – NOVEMBER 24, 2014 REGULAR MEETING**

Selectman Amberson moved the Board vote to approve the meeting minutes of the November 24, 2014 regular meeting as submitted; Selectman Rutan seconded the motion; all members voted in favor.

**7:00 p.m. - ADAM COSTELLO, DIRECTOR OF  
VETERANS SERVICES**

Presentation of POW/MIA Chair of Honor to the Central  
Massachusetts Veterans Service District.

Director of Veterans Services Adam Costello presented the POW/MIA Chair of Honor on behalf of the town. The Chair will serve as a portable memorial to remind residents of the approximately 100,000 servicemen and women who remain unaccounted for from the nation's wars.

Mr. Costello spoke about the continued missions aimed at recovering the missing, noting that within recent weeks the remains of a soldier who died as a prisoner of the Korean War in 1951 were returned home. The Chair of Honor will serve as a reminder of all those soldiers and their families who never came home and to those who continue to try to find and recover them.

State Secretary of Health and Human Services John Polanowicz was present and thanked Mr. Costello for his efforts in coordinating this important memorial. Also present were members of the American Legion Post #234 and members of the Rolling Thunder motorcycle club. The Rolling Thunder motorcycle club began the program as a way of keeping prisoners of war and those unaccounted for on battlefields from being forgotten.

In recent years, the Massachusetts chapter of the club helped get the chairs installed at Gillette Stadium and other sports venues, the Statehouse and a growing number of individual communities. Some 150 chairs are now on display across the state. Mr. Costello noted the contributions of Crown Trophy, which made a plaque for the chair and students at Assabet Valley Regional Technical High School, who fashioned wooden stanchions for a display around the chair.

The Chair of Honor will be displayed at the Northborough Senior Center and will then be moved to other locations throughout the Veterans District communities of Grafton, Shrewsbury and Westborough.

**7:10 p.m. - FRED LITCHFIELD, TOWN ENGINEER**  
Approval/Execution of First Amendment to the Wheelabrator  
Millbury, Inc. Waste Disposal Agreement.

Town Engineer Fred Litchfield stated that Northborough, along with 35 other Central Massachusetts communities, also known as the Central Massachusetts Resource Recovery Committee (CMRRC) entered into a 20-year agreement for disposal of solid waste with Wheelabrator Millbury, Inc. in 2006. The contract included the option to terminate the agreement as of December 31, 2017 provided notice of such termination is submitted in writing to the other party no later than December 1, 2015. Early negotiations between CMRRC and Wheelabrator resulted in the First Amendment to the Wheelabrator Waste Disposal Agreement.

Mr. Litchfield reviewed the highlights of the first amendment, which will include a new tipping fee schedule as of January 1, 2015. The new tipping fee will be \$64.00/ton (the current tipping fee is \$75.66/ ton) for the first 18 months moving forward (until June 30, 2016). In FY2017 the tipping fee will increase to \$66.00/ton, resulting in savings of approximately \$11,000 for the remainder of the current fiscal year and an average projected savings of approximately \$23,000 per year for the next two years.

Mr. Litchfield added that the savings mentioned above will help to maintain the overall cost of the solid waste program. The timing of this amendment is key, as the Town will be entering the fifth year of a five year contract for solid waste collection on July 1, 2015. This amendment will allow the Town to confirm the location of the disposal site which will be an important factor when negotiating the terms of the next collection contract. The savings will also help to offset any increase in future collection costs.

Mr. Coderre stated that this is a very positive step for Northborough, adding that he expects that all of the other 35 Central Massachusetts communities will accept this first amendment as well.

Selectman Rutan moved the Board vote to approve the First Amendment to the Wheelabrator Millbury Inc. Waste Disposal Agreement as presented and to authorize Chairman Rand to execute same; Selectman Amberson seconded the motion; all members voted in favor.

## **REPORTS**

### Jason Perreault

- Offered condolences to Chief Durgin and his family on the recent passing of his father.
- Attended the Tree Lighting ceremony. Thanked all involved for coordinating this annual event.
- Attended the annual presentation of the Financial Trend Monitoring System. Thanked Mr. Coderre and the Finance Team for their efforts.
- Wished everyone a happy and healthy Holiday.

William Pantazis

- Noted that the 39 West Main Street Adhoc Sub Committee met twice and is looking forward to making a recommendation to the Board at an upcoming meeting.
- Noted that Army Specialist Brian Arsenault will be honored at the December 17<sup>th</sup> Algonquin Ice Hockey game.
- Noted the passing of Richard Kane and remembered him as a very active member of our community.
- Recommended that the Board consider closing Town Offices at 12 noon on Christmas Eve, Wednesday, December 24 and for the full day on Friday, December 26, 2014 to allow non-essential employees to spend the Holidays with their families. See below.
- Wished everyone Happy Holidays.

Leslie Rutan, Clerk

- Attended the Tree Lighting ceremony. Thanked the Community Affairs Committee for their efforts in coordinating this annual event.
- Congratulated Algonquin High School on the success of its musical *Pajama Game*.
- Thanked DPW Director Dan Nason and his staff for their efforts in making continuous improvements to our community and especially for keeping everyone safe during winter storms.
- Thanked Rita Matraia for her efforts in organizing the annual Turkey Trot 5K fundraiser. Close to 200 runners and walkers participated in this year's event, raising \$5,655 for the Northborough Food Pantry.
- On behalf of Liz Nolan of the Northborough Education Foundation, announced the Golden Apple program. You can show your appreciation for the educators who make a difference in your child's learning by gifting them a personalized Golden Apple. All donations provide grants for unique educational programs that fall outside the realm of the annual school budget.

Jeff Amberson, Vice Chairman

- Attended the annual presentation of the Financial Trend Monitoring System. Thanked Mr. Coderre and the Finance Team for their efforts.
- Noted the recent passing of Richard Kane and offered condolences to his family. Remembered Mr. Kane for always having the best interest of Northborough in mind.
- Attended the Tree Lighting ceremony. Thanked everyone who came out to support the event.
- Thanked the Police Fire and DPW Departments for their efforts during the recent ice storm.
- Happy Holidays!

Dawn Rand, Chairman

- Happy Holidays!

John Coderre, Town Administrator

- On behalf of Town Staff, thanked the Board for closing Town Offices at 12 noon on Christmas Eve, Wednesday, December 24 and for the full day on Friday, December 26<sup>th</sup>.

**CHRISTMAS HOLIDAY SCHEDULE**

Selectman Pantazis moved the Board vote to close Town Offices at 12 noon on Christmas Eve, Wednesday, December 24 and for the full day on Friday, December 26, 2014 to allow non-essential employees to spend the Holidays with their families; Selectman Rutan seconded the motion; all members voted in favor.

**PUBLIC COMMENTS**

None.

**MEETING SCHEDULE FOR JANUARY – APRIL**

The Board agreed to set the following meeting schedule for the months January through April:

January 12<sup>th</sup>

January 26<sup>th</sup>

February 9<sup>th</sup>

February 23<sup>rd</sup>

March 9<sup>th</sup>

March 23<sup>rd</sup>

April 13<sup>th</sup>

April 27<sup>th</sup> – Town Meeting

**RENEWAL OF SELECTMEN'S LICENSES FOR THE CALENDAR YEAR 2014**

Mr. Coderre indicated that all licensees who hold a liquor license and/or a common victualler license have been inspected by the Fire and Building Departments. All licensees who hold a Class I, II or III license have been inspected by the Police Department. Most are in compliance or are expected to be in compliance with both Municipal and State codes and regulations by December 31, 2014, with the exception of JJ's Sports Bar & Grill who has been given a January 9, 2015 deadline.

Selectman Amberson moved the Board vote to approve the renewal of the annual licenses by the Board of Selectmen for the calendar year 2015 as indicated on the "2015 License Renewals List", provided that all licensees are in compliance with both Municipal and State codes and regulations by December 31, 2014, with the exception of JJ's Sports Bar & Grill who has been given a January 9, 2015 deadline; Selectman Pantazis seconded the motion; all members voted in favor.

**EXECUTION OF CEMETERY DEED A960**

Selectman Perreault moved the Board vote to execute Cemetery Deed A960; Selectman Pantazis seconded the motion; all members voted in favor.

**OTHER BUSINESS**

None

**7:45 p.m. - EXECUTIVE SESSION**

Selectman Perreault moved the Board vote to enter into Executive Session pursuant to Massachusetts General Laws, Chapter 30A, Section 21, Subsection 3 (litigation) 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:

Perreault	“aye”	Amberson	“aye”
Pantazis	“aye”	Rand	“aye”
Rutan	“aye”		

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

**ADJOURNMENT**

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

Meeting adjourned at 8:10 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Diane M. Wackell  
Executive Assistant to the  
Board of Selectmen

Documents used during meeting:

1. December 15, 2014 Meeting Agenda.
2. November 24, 2014 Meeting Minutes.
3. Information packet – POW/MIA Chair of Honor.
4. Information packet – Wheelabrator Millbury, Inc. Waste Disposal Agreement.
5. Memo – Meeting Schedule for January – April 2015.
6. Information packet – License Renewals.
7. Cemetery Deed.