

**TOWN OF NORWELL – ADVISORY BOARD
MEETING MINUTES
Thursday, November 18, 2010**

The Advisory Board was called to order by Chairman Ellen Allen at 7:30 p.m. Present: Ellen Allen, Jason Brown, Tim Greene, Ralph Gordon, Mary Ellen Coffey, Peter Shea and Gary Thomas. Not in attendance: Ralph Rivkind and Jim Boudreau.

Acceptance of Minutes

MOTION: Ellen Allen moved that the Board accept the minutes for the November 4, 2010 meeting. Seconded and UNANIMOUSLY PASSED.

Transfer Requests – None

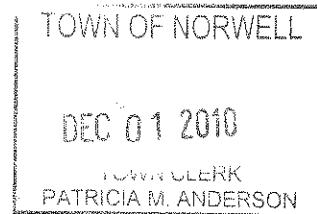
Bills – None

Correspondence/Notices – None

Hearings

Water Department – Jack McInnis

Highway/Tree Department – Paul Foulsham



The Advisory Board inquired how the Water Department can help the Highway Department during storms. Jack McInnis and Paul Foulsham have worked together whenever possible and explained to the Advisory Board the four areas which they have agreed to corroborate. Jack will send Ellen this list to include in the minutes. Paul said that the problem is that the Highway person could be out with the highway department for 4 hours or 40 hours and he stated that he needs dedicated people that could be out during the storms. Paul and Jack stated that they have always helped each other out and work well together. Highway Department has taken the debris from the High School parking lot repaving job and this had saved a lot of money. Question was asked if debris could be sold and Paul Foulsham said yes only as a finished product. Paul needs to order sand at which is about \$9 – \$10 per ton.

Jason Brown suggested that there be a benchmark or a certain amount to be allocated for Capital before requests start.

Ellen has been to meetings in Scituate and Hanover and they have put out the Forecast for Revenue and we do not have numbers yet.

Highways requests for 2012 are a mower and trailer for \$30,000 and a pick-up with plow for \$35,000.

Old Business

Discussed the list for Town Employee salaries and its purpose. Ellen said that there are web pages that have listing of job salaries for comparisons.

Mary Ellen inquired when the Advisory Board will have the 9th member appointed. Gregg McBride came into the meeting and explained that it is on the Board of Selectmen's agenda this week and is not sure why it has been put off.

Advisory Board Budget Discussions

Ralph Gordon was pleased that one of the items on the April memo has been acted on. Ellen explained that there have been several items that have been acted on: Best Practices, Town Clerk fees reviewed, and Ambulance Fees reviewed.

AB Member had inquired about the possible opportunity to turn over some of our debt to a lower rate. Another member said that if this was possible Angela would be all over it.

Jason Brown briefed the AB on the Capital Budget. He hopes that there will be a plan in place so things will be done differently and stated that a schedule for the expiration of debt over the next few years would be very helpful in terms of planning for capital. Ellen asked Jason to grab what the Capital Budget approvals have been over the past years.

Ellen will call S&P to find out how many Towns are funding OPEC and how they measure reserves.

Discussions on the Library and Recreation. Ellen wondered if a study should be done to see what the Town would like the Library to look like in years to come. Per State data, Norwell Library receives 125% of the state average per resident.

Next Meeting: November 30, 2010

Public Comments – Marie Molla asked the Advisory Board what ever happened to the Salt Use Committee and why this was not asked of Paul tonight.

Adjourn – Motion was made to Adjourn. Seconded and UNANIMOUSLY PASSED.

Approval by the Advisory Board in session this 30th day of November, 2010.

Ellen H. Allen

Ellen Allen, Chairman
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