

**Norwell Board of Selectmen
Meeting Minutes
April 2, 2014**

Ellen Allen opened the meeting and introduced Jason Brown, Gregg McBride, David DeCoste, Tammie Garner and Town Administrator Jim Boudreau.

MOTION: Jason Brown moved the Board approve the agenda as written. Seconded and unanimously voted.

CITIZEN COMMENTS – None

APPROVAL OF MINUTES – June 19, 2013 open & public hearing.

MOTION: Jason Brown moved to approve the open meeting and public hearing minutes for June 19, 2013 as amended showing that Mrs. Garner was not in attendance. Seconded and unanimously voted.

7:35 Capital Budget Recommendations – Kevin Burns, Chair of the Capital Budget Committee presented the Committee's recommendations for FY15 to the Board of Selectmen (see attached). Committee would also like to see if the Town can get an intern to help document and digitize the capital budget requests to make it easier for future boards.

OLD BUSINESS

Article Discussion:

Affordable Housing – Mr. DeCoste, Mrs. Garner and Mr. Brown all supported the concept of turning the River St. property (current police station) over to the Community Housing Trust; however, they are not sure why the proposal has to go forward at this point without further information as to the viability of the project and other details. Mr. McBride pointed out that the Trust is trying to meet community needs for affordable housing and rental housing rather than spending the Town's money fighting 40B's. He thinks it is a good project and will also help the Town Center. Trust came up with a very raw concept and has hired an architect and engineer to flesh out the project. Know that the septic system can fit. Building and parking can fit and can be a visual fit with the church and other architecture in the Center. Same architect as designed First Parish Hall. Have also brought on an expert familiar with friendly 40B's. Have wanted to keep all the consultants on a short leash until they were given the property rather than waste the town's money designing something that the Town would later reject. He is sensitive to the needs of the American Legion Post and wants to work with them to find a home. Thinks that the Grange is a better option and would like to work on that.

Mr. Boudreau updated the Board on the issue of housing certification and protections from 40B's. Mr. McBride stated that this is for Norwell residents to stay here, either seniors who wish to stay in Town or younger residents who want to stay here but cannot afford a home. Would be for Norwell residents.

Mrs. Allen spoke of her concern over the condition of the station and the expense there would be for the Post to renovate the building. She wondered if there was a possibility of a fall town meeting where these alternative possible uses of the River St. property could be better vetted.

Residents in the audience spoke of pulling the article and waiting and having a fall town meeting. Mrs. Allen said the advantage of leaving it on the warrant is that it allows the Trust to

get a read from the Town and see if the Town wants to go forward with the project before they spend any more money.

Chief Reardon spoke of how conscious the Trust was of spending the Town money without knowing if they have the land. Feel that a comprehensive proposal will be ready by the time of Town Meeting.

Citizen Petition for Land Transfer of Main St. property from BOS to Conservation – Mr. Brown and Mrs. Garner expressed concern that this idea was not presented by the petitioners to the Board from the beginning. Mrs. Garner supports giving it to Conservation. Mr. McBride testified that the land's highest and best use is agriculture. Having said that, not sure why the land needs to be in Conservation. Solution looking for a problem. Mr. DeCoste pointed out that there are not a lot of other uses. Recreation has no interest. Thinks that the property should be protected. Town needs to protect open space. Would support a Special Town Meeting and an Override to purchase the fields at the corner of Lincoln Street (Whiting Fields).

Motion by Mr. Brown to support Article 49 to transfer 3.19 acres from BOS to Conservation. Seconded and voted 4-0-1 (Mr. McBride abstained).

Main Street – Borrowing article for Upper Main Street. Mr. Boudreau explained the borrowing process and costs for the Main Street project. *Motion by Mr. Brown seconded by Mr. DeCoste to support article 21 for the reconstruction of upper Main Street. Unanimous.*

Committee Liaison Updates – Mr. DeCoste congratulated the Planning Board on removing the solar article from the warrant.

Mr. Boudreau announced that the floor for the police station was being poured today.

NEW BUSINESS

Inspection of Animals Appointment – The Town's current Animal Control Officer & Inspector of Animals is Paul Murphy. The term for this appointment is May 1, 2014 until April 30, 2015. These dates are dictated by the State. *MOTION: Jason Brown moved that the Board appoint Paul W. Murphy as the Inspector of Animals to a term running May 1, 2014 through April 30, 2015. Seconded and unanimously voted.*

One Day License Request from James Library/First Parish Church – April 11, 2014
MOTION: Jason Brown moved that the Board approve a request from James Library/First Parish Church of Norwell for a one day license to sell Wine & Malt only for a Storytelling Event held at the James Library, 24 West Street on April 11, 2014 between the hours of 7:00pm to 8:30pm. Seconded and unanimously voted.

The Silent Chef One Day License Request – May 3, 2014 – *MOTION: Jason Brown moved that the Board approve a request from The Silent Chef for a one day license to sell All Alcohol for Retirement Party at the Cushing Center on May 3, 2014 between the hours of 7:00pm to 11:00pm. Seconded and unanimously voted.*

Vote Equal Pay Day Proclamation – Ellen explained that the Board had received a request to Proclaim Equal Pay Day in Norwell. She is torn as to whether or not the Town should consider these sorts of things when they are political. Mr. DeCoste pointed out that he had opposed a similar proclamation for United Nations Day because he, as a soldier, had seen how poorly the UN had done in protecting people. Mrs. Garner and Mr. Brown expressed reservations about the Board approving a proclamation of this type. The proclamation was not made.

Acceptance of Confirmatory Deed – Mr. Boudreau explained that there was an issue when the old 81 Washington St. fire station was originally purchased by the Town in 1944. *Motion by Mr. Brown that the Board of Selectmen vote to accept a partial deed to the Fire Station property located at 81 Washington Street Norwell, MA from Anita Schollossberg which confirms partial title to the property in the Town of Norwell. Seconded and unanimously voted.*

Amend Approved Car Wash Date – *Motion by Mr. Brown to approve a rain date for the 5th grade car wash for currently scheduled for Saturday May 3rd with a rain date of Saturday May 10, 2014.*

UPCOMING MEETINGS:

ANNOUNCEMENTS: Town Forum is April 30 at 7:00 pm. Trash Bash is April 12 with a rain date of April 13.

ADJOURNMENT – *Motion was made to adjourn. Seconded and unanimously voted.*

EXECUTIVE SESSION – Personal Contracts and Collective Bargaining

MOTION: Jason Brown moved the Board enter into Executive Session for the purpose of discussing Personal Contracts and Collective Bargaining and not return to open session. Seconded and unanimously voted. Chairman Ellen Allen explained that to discuss this in an open meeting may have a detrimental effect on the Town's bargaining or litigating position. Ellen Allen polled the Board. Jason Brown voted yes, Gregg McBride voted yes, David DeCoste voted yes, Tammie Garner voted yes and Ellen Allen voted yes.



Board of Selectmen

