

**Norwell Board of Selectmen  
Amended Meeting Minutes  
August 12, 2015  
(Amended 9/2/15)**

TOWN OF NORWELL  
TOWN CLERK  
2015 SEP -8 AM 9:45  
RECEIVED

Gregg McBride opened the meeting and introduced Alison Demong, Peter Smellie and Town Administrator Peter Morin. *MOTION: Alison Demong moved the Board approve the agenda as written. Seconded by Peter Smellie and unanimously voted.*

**3. Reports**

**a) Citizen Comments – None**

**b) Selectmen’s Report and Announcements**

Alison Demong updated the board on the Lyme disease education issue.

**c) Town Administrator’s Report**

Mr. Morin approved a liquor license request from Norwell Farms, to serve all alcohol at 4 Jacobs Lane for the Farm to Fork Experience dinner, to take place on September 25, 2015 from 5:30-11pm, with compliance to have a police detail and TIPS certified servers.

**4. Discussion/Action Items**

**Committee Appointment – Cable TV Committee**

*Motion: made by Alison Demong, seconded by Peter Smellie, to appoint Stephen Muzrall to the Cable TV Committee for a 3 year term ending June 30, 2018. Unanimously voted*

**Approve Letter to First Parish from THLSC**

The board discussed the draft of the letter from the BOS to First Parish asking about the land across the street from the church. Church members Dexter Robinson and Sally Turner were in attendance to provide information on the issue of ownership and deed research for this property. The board discussed the size of the lot, questioning whether there is enough land to accommodate a library/Town Hall. The THSLC has stated that there is only space for a library. Ms. Demong mentioned that this is by no means the only option for this project. Per Mr. Robinson, Attorney Carol Neely researched all of the property holdings of the church, tracing the ownership back 300 years. According to the church records, in 1707 the parish voted to build a meeting house, and appointed 3 agents to secure the land from the current owners. There is a copy of this documentation on CD at the Norwell Public Library. Mr. McBride stated that the sole intent of the BOS at this point is simply to open a dialog on the land.

**Next Steps:** The BOS will send the letter with edits as requested by the board to begin the dialogue on this piece of property. Mr. Robinson stated that a survey would be required to make an application to Land Court.

*Motion: made by Alison Demong, seconded by Peter Smellie, to send the letter as amended to First Parish Church. Unanimously voted*

**Town Administrator Focus Areas for FY 2016**

Mr. Morin offered to tailor his list of goals to be more in line with the BOS focus areas. There are number of items that Mr. Morin would like to keep on the list, which will be reviewed at next week’s meeting.

**Liquor License Hearing**

Chief Ross was in attendance to provide input on the question of whether a hearing should be held for a July 23<sup>rd</sup> incident at The Tinker’s Son bar and restaurant. Chief Ross gave an overview of the incident in which 8 people were involved in a fight in the parking lot in back of

the restaurant. A restaurant employee called the police to break up the fight, but the participants had left the scene when police arrived. The Marshfield police pulled a car over later in the evening (around 2am) and discovered that the occupants of the car were some of those involved in the fight. One individual was underage, and stated that she had been drinking at the Tinker's Son, but was never carded at the door or the bar. The Norwell Police Department spoke to her on August 4<sup>th</sup>, when she confirmed that she had not been asked for ID when entering the bar or before ordering a drink. Chief Ross believes that this is a clear violation of Massachusetts General Law.

*Motion; made by Alison Demong, seconded by Peter Smellie, to schedule a hearing on this incident. Unanimously voted*

Mr. Morin will follow up with scheduling details for the hearing.

### **Community Compact Approval**

Mr. Morin gave a summary of this program, which was created to enhance the relationship between Governor Baker's administration and municipal governments. Towns can agree to adopt these "Best Practices", and the state will provide a consultant to assist with achieving these goals. Mr. Morin has identified two priority goals that fit well with the FY16 Focus Areas:

1. Best Practices in Economic Development Strategies that would be complimentary to Norwell's rural character. The program would provide state funds to work with the Economic Development Committee. Mr. Morin summarized additional steps for the EDC that would be done concurrently with participation in this program. Per Mr. McBride, this would be helpful, as the recent lack of success at Town Meetings indicates the need for more help.

2. Best Practices in Capital Planning; the town proposes to adopt this plan so that sustainable capital needs are addressed annually.

Mr. Morin added that there are no financial or other liabilities that will be incurred by the Town when adopting this program, and there may be an upside for such things as grant application assistance.

*Motion: made by Alison Demong, seconded by Peter Smellie, to approve the Town's application to the Community Compact for two Best Practices: Capital Planning and Economic Development. Unanimously voted*

### **Additional Committee Appointments**

Mr. Morin stated that there are still vacancies for election workers, so please send suggestions for volunteers or apply for one of these (paid) positions.

### **Discussion of a Community Housing Trust Alternate Member**

One current member of the CHT has been unable to attend meetings due to illness, but has indicated his intent to return to regular attendance at committee meetings. In the meantime perhaps another potential "alternate member" would be welcome to participate and help out. The applicant is scheduled to attend the BOS meeting to be held next week.

### **Approval of Minutes**

*Motion; made by Alison Demong, seconded by Peter Smellie, to approve the minutes of the BOS meeting held on July 29, 2015. Unanimously voted*

**Adjournment** – *Motion; made by Alison Demong, seconded by Peter Smellie, to adjourn at 9:05pm. Unanimously voted*

  
\_\_\_\_\_  
Board of Selectmen