

**Norwell Board of Selectmen  
Meeting Minutes  
July 28, 2016**

Mr. Brown opened the meeting at 7:30pm, and introduced Ellen Allen, Gregg McBride, Alison Demong, Peter Smellie and Town Administrator Peter Morin. Mr. Brown said that the board had been in Executive Session to discuss a possible land acquisition.

*Motion; made by Ellen Allen, seconded by Peter Smellie, to approve the agenda as written.  
Unanimously voted*

**Citizen Comments**

Resident Vin Bucca, 38 Main Street, shared his concerns about the possibility of brush fires with the current dry weather conditions. He hopes that all will exercise caution when in the woods or local parks as a fire would be a very difficult situation with the current water shortage. Mr. Bucca handed out literature explaining how the Town can apply to the state for fire-fighting equipment at no charge. Mr. Brown thanked Mr. Bucca for the information, and Ms. Allen gave an example of the prescient use of the Plymouth County water plane.

**Selectmen's report**

Mr. Brown warned all about brush fires and drought, and read the MA statewide drought advisory memo aloud. Ms. Allen warned all that the Water Department finds water usage is still way above the Town average seen earlier in the year, and should be much lower! Please say something if you see people using water inappropriately.

Mr. Brown announced the passing of long time Norwell resident Joe Carty, and gave a short summary of Mr. Carty's service to the Town, serving as both a long time committee member and advisor. The board offered their condolences to Mr. Carty's family.

**Vote to Close the 2009 Stormwater Project**

Treasurer Darleen Sullivan and Town Clerk Pat Anderson were present. Ms. Sullivan gave a recap of the project and informed all that this board vote is needed to close out the loan and certify that the work was completed for the purpose of which the bond was intended.

*Motion; made by Ellen Allen, seconded by Peter Smellie, to authorize Darleen Sullivan to act on behalf of the Town by signing and closing out the paperwork as needed for this project.  
Unanimously voted*

Mr. Morin announced that Ms. Anderson, has achieved the title of Certified Municipal Clerk. She was congratulated by all.

**Town Administrator**

Mr. Morin would like to pass along get well wishes from all to Ben Margro in the Health Department, and also the thanks of the Town for all his hard work on the transition to Pay As You Throw (PAYT). Per Ms. Allen, he has gone above and beyond to help residents through this period, and the board would like to say thank you.

Ms. Demong reminded all that the PAYT program begins next week, starting August 1<sup>st</sup>.

**Facilities Manager, Dave Sutton, De-leading of Jacobs farmhouse**

Mr. Sutton summarized the proposal received from one company to de-lead the tenant apartment of the farmhouse. The lead inspection states that encapsulation would not be a viable solution due to the condition of the lead paint, and that leaded surfaces would have to be scraped and windows dipped down to bare wood. The work will be done both indoors and outdoors. The amount of this proposal is \$98,300, to de-lead the interior, and an additional

\$79,900 to de-lead the exterior but Mr. Sutton reminded all that the project must go out to public bid. There would be additional costs to repaint. All discussed the ramifications of the lead paint, which is a hazmat issue on the rental side of the farmhouse. The museum side can be left as is since children would not be living there.

All discussed the need to look at rental revenue and expense and the pros and cons of the use of the property with reference to the original Jacobs farmhouse plan. The possibility of using CPA funds was discussed. Town Counsel advised that the insurance position is probably that it's better to have the building occupied. Town Counsel also advised that if the town wants to continue to rent, it should de-lead the property.

Further discussion ensued about options for this rental apartment. All agreed that the Historical Commission should be invited to a future meeting to discuss which path to consider and to help understand the working future of this property. Two members of the NHC were present to offer opinions and ideas (Chair Noel Ripley and David DeGhetto).

This discussion will be continued at a future BOS meeting.

#### **8:10 Change of manager for Not Your Average Joe's**

Ilia Sanchez has applied to be the new general manager. Her CORI check was fine.

*Motion; made by Ellen Allen, seconded by Peter Smellie, to approve the change of general manager from Stuart Masure to Ilia Sanchez at the company's request. Unanimously voted*

#### **Police Department Update- Chief Ted Ross**

Chief Ross updated the board on the status and activities of the department. He offered thoughts and prayers on behalf of Norwell Police Department for all of the attacks on police officers around the country. He thanked the Town on behalf of the department and himself for all of the good wishes and thank yous; citing the vigil on the Town common, cards and flowers from residents and Town Hall workers. Chief Ross announced that Bob Meagher retired from the department after 30 years of distinguished service. There are currently four openings in the department, and these candidates being interviewed this evening are from the civil service list and lateral transfer requests.

Chief Ross presented Craig Simpson as a lateral transfer. He recommended Officer Simpson for a hire date of July 31st, and gave an overview of his service record, stating that he meets all the criteria.

*Motion; made by Ellen Allen, seconded by Peter Smellie, to accept the lateral transfer of Officer Craig Simpson from the MBTA Police Department to the Norwell Police Department.*

*Unanimously voted*

The BOS signed the lateral transfer.

#### **Police Department Update, cont'd.**

Chief Ross summarized the department's in-service training and gave updates on new hires and assignments to positions in the department, including the new School Resource Officer (SRO). In response to a question from Mr. McBride, Chief Ross updated the board on different levels of force recommended and utilized to bring an incident under control.

Chief Ross requested that the BOS appoint Officer Meagher and Derek Campanelli as special police officers. Per the chief, these special police officers do traffic details and are paid as external private details.

*Motion; made by Ellen Allen, seconded by Peter Smellie, to appoint Officer Bob Meagher and Officer Derek Campanelli as special police officers thru 6/30/17. Unanimously voted*

Chief Ross also updated the board on the current repaving road work, stating that he is working in conjunction with the Highway Department to use social media to inform residents about each day's current roadwork plan. Mr. Brown added that while residents are having trouble navigating the roads during the construction, all should support the Highway Surveyor for pushing to complete these repairs before school starts. Chief Ross stated that the Norwell Police

Department Facebook page updates the traffic information every evening at 6pm. He requested that anyone trying to get to Town Hall or the Middle School just ask the detail officers for access. There is an average of 10-16 detail officers on duty every day. The NPD recently began a kids' safety citation program. Officer Bill Pasteris approached both Shields General Store and Hornstra's Farm to donate free ice cream cones for "safety citations" to children for acts of safety witnessed by police officers. The program has been a big hit in the Town!

#### **Police candidates; 4 candidates for 3 department open positions**

The candidates have all been interviewed and are top scorers on the civil service exam. All have undergone a rigorous review of their backgrounds and have been thoroughly vetted. The board will ask each candidate the same list of questions which are included in their meeting packets.

#### **8:30 Kevin McCurdy – police candidate**

The BOS asked the candidate the list of questions in the meeting packet. Mr. Brown introduced the board. Questions were asked and answered, and the candidate gave a summary of his background and reasons for wishing to work in Norwell.

#### **8:40 Nicole Flaherty – police candidate**

The BOS asked the candidate the list of questions in the meeting packet. Mr. Brown introduced the board. Questions were asked and answered, and the candidate gave a summary of her background and reasons for wishing to work in Norwell.

#### **8:50 Shane McNamara – police candidate**

The BOS asked the candidate the list of questions in the meeting packet. Mr. Brown introduced the board. Questions were asked and answered, and the candidate gave a summary of his background and reasons for wishing to work in Norwell.

#### **9:00 Charles Merrill – police candidate**

The BOS asked the candidate the list of questions in the meeting packet. Mr. Brown introduced the board. Questions were asked and answered, and the candidate gave a summary of his background and reasons for wishing to work in Norwell.

The board concluded the interviews and discussed each candidate's resumes with Chief Ross, who stated that the candidates were interviewed in order of civil service exam ranking. He recommended appointing the following candidates;

Kevin McCurdy

Nicole Flaherty

Shane McNamara

with the condition that they meet the academy criteria and pass the physical and other tests required.

When asked by the board about candidates with military service, Chief Ross stated that one candidate was deployed and asked to be considered for the next opportunity.

*Motion; made by Ellen Allen, seconded by Peter Smellie, at the request of Chief Ross, to appoint Kevin McCurdy, Nicole Flaherty and Shane McNamara as police officers for the Town of Norwell. Unanimously voted*

#### **William Raveis Ride and Walk – October 1, 2016**

Mr. Morin gave a summary of this request, which will be the same route as in the past, and noted that it has been approved by all departments with detail requirements added by the Police Department.

*Motion; made by Ellen Allen, seconded by Peter Smellie, to approve the request from the William Raveis Company for the ride and walk on October 1, 2016, noting that no change in the route can be made without approval of all departments. Unanimously voted*

### **Request for Norwell Half Marathon**

This is the third year for this particular race in the Town. All discussed this race, which was very successful, but Chief Ross stayed at the meeting to discuss some issues with Racewire and concerns of residents who live in the Till Rock Road area. The residents had access issues trying to leave their house for over 3 hours during last year's race. All discussed how best to minimize these types of inconveniences. Per Chief Ross, this was a miscommunication issue with the residents who lived there. Any resident may talk to the detail officers about the need to leave the area and make arrangements to do so.

Chief Ross discussed parking and other proposed changes with the Racewire reps and gave a recap of meetings with Town departments to ensure that the event runs smoothly. The board suggested that Racewire consider alternate routes this year to avoid the bottle neck at Till Rock Road. Mr. McBride would like to leave this up to Chief Ross and Racewire.

Further discussion and a decision were tabled until both chiefs talk to Racewire.

### **Town Administrator review for FY16**

Mr. Brown asked Mr. Morin to review his job performance based on last year's goals and objectives.

Self-assessment by Mr. Morin:

Mr. Morin used his August 2015 memo as a basis for outlining goals and focus areas, along with additional focus areas in his memo.

Important points included in the assessment were budget development and finance, accurate revenue projections and identifying spending patterns. Part of Mr. Morin's overall plan was to remove budget "cushions" in order to realize free cash. He has been very conservative in predicting both revenue and spending.

Economic Development is still a work in progress, with new funding and income sources being identified.

Mr. Morin has worked hard to develop good relationships with department heads and establish monthly meetings. He has maintained good contact with School Superintendent Matthew Keegan.

The board is provided with quarterly financial and management updates. A capital plan is in the development stage. Assistance with procurement and project contract administration for various Town boards and departments has taken up a large amount of Mr. Morin's time.

He is working to improve communications with residents. One example is improving the accuracy and timeliness of the information available on the Town website, such as meeting postings and minutes. He has reached out to local media to provide good PR for the Town.

Meetings with other Town Administrators have been very helpful.

In conclusion, Mr. Morin has really enjoyed his first year in Norwell, and feels privileged to work with such a supportive board who puts the residents first. He appreciates their patience and support.

Mr. Brown thanked Mr. Morin for the review, which the board will use as a working document for the BOS' review. This will be scheduled on an agenda in the near future.

### **Upcoming Meetings**

August 24<sup>th</sup> meeting – the agenda has several items. Ms. Demong will be absent.

### **BOS tracking system**

Mr. Morin stated that he will be better prepared to discuss this project at the August 10<sup>th</sup> BOS meeting.

**Resignation from Beautification Committee**

*Motion; made by Ellen Allen, seconded by Peter Smellie, to accept with regret the resignation of Susan Solis from the Norwell Beautification Committee. Unanimously voted*

The creation of a new committee, "Friends of Norwell Beautification Committee", will allow expanded funding opportunities for some great projects in the Town, such as the landscaping at the group home on Main Street.

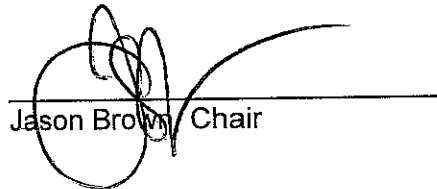
**Approval of Minutes**

*Motion: made by Ellen Allen, seconded by Peter Smellie, to approve the open meeting minutes of May 25, 2016 and June 8, 2016. Unanimously voted*

Ellen McKenna will email the draft of the 7/13 minutes to Peter Smellie for edits.

**Adjournment**

*Motion; made by Ellen Allen, seconded by Peter Smellie, to adjourn at 9:50. Unanimously voted*



Jason Brown, Chair