

**Norwell Board of Selectmen
Meeting Minutes
March 19, 2014**

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

RECEIVED

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

Agenda Amended to add: moving the personal contracts discussion out of the Executive Session. The Executive Session will include discussion of the collective bargaining agreement.

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

CITIZEN COMMENTS – None

APPROVAL OF MINUTES

MOTION: Jason Brown moved to approve the following minutes: February 12, 2014 Executive Session and March 27, 2013 Open Meeting. Seconded and unanimously voted.

7:35 Norwell Reads – Nancy Perry and Kathryn Mudgett - Norwell Public Library

Ms. Mudgett gave a summary of the events taking place, and introduced this year's book; **Loving Frank**, a historical novel about Frank Lloyd Wright. Copies of the book were given to BOS members and the Town Administrator. This program is underwritten each year by a grant which includes donations from local businesses. Each year has a different theme, and the group chooses both fiction and non-fiction based on topics of local and regional interest. Residents can begin to pick up the books in the next few weeks.

OLD BUSINESS

Committee Liaison Updates – Ms. Allen attended a BOH meeting discussion on the Pay As You Throw program. Per Mr. McBride – the CHT continues to work numbers for the Police Station project and has hired a consultant from Oxbow Partners. The board discussed voting in support of this project, which will wait until the Trust has a viable financial plan. The American Legion should also be invited to the BOS meeting to discuss their plan.

8:00 Bond Award – Darleen Sullivan, Treasurer, Peter Frazier, Financial Advisor:

Ms. Sullivan stated that the bond sale went very well. The document recording the vote by the BOS needs to be signed by the board members. Mr. Frasier summarized the competitive bid bond sale of about \$7 million at an interest rate of 2.76%.

S & P reviewed the Town's credit rating of AAA, which is the highest rating allowed. Mr. Frasier conveyed to the board the excellent review details that were noted in the credit report. The debt service chart was reviewed by the board. The average tax impact per household was calculated to be \$84 per household, due to some school bonds coming off the books and a lower than anticipated interest rate at the Town Meeting 2013 discussion of this project. Mr. Frasier summarized the police station bond information for the board.

Certification, read into the minutes: Voted:

I move that the BOS approve the sale of the \$7,322,000 general obligation municipal purpose loan 2014 bonds of the Town dated March 27, 2014; the bonds to UBS financial services inc., for the price of \$7,659,188.21 and accrued interest, if any, is hereby approved and confirmed. The bonds shall be payable on March 15 of the years and in principal amounts and bear interest at respective rates as follows: year 2015 - \$372,000, interest rate 3%, 2016 - \$375,000, interest rate 3%, 2017 - \$375,000, interest rate 3%, 2018 - \$370,000, interest rate 4%, 2019 - \$370,000, interest rate 4%, 2020 - \$370,000, interest rate 3%, 2021 - \$370,000, interest rate

3%, 2022 - \$370,000, interest rate 3%, 2023 - \$370,000, interest rate 3%, 2024 - \$370,000, interest rate 3%, 2025 - \$365,000, interest rate 3%, 2026 - \$365,000, interest rate 3.25%, 2027 - \$360,000, interest rate 3.25%, 2028 - \$360,000, interest rate 3.25%, 2029 - \$360,000, interest rate 3.25%, 2030 - \$360,000, interest rate 3.25%, 2031 - \$360,000, interest rate 3.5%, 2032 - \$360,000, interest rate 3.5%, 2033 - \$360,000, interest rate 3.5%, 2034 - \$360,000, interest rate 3.5%.

Further voted: that in connection with marketing and sale of the bonds, preparation and distribution of the notice of sale and preliminary official statement dated March 4, 2014 and final official statement dated March 11, 2014, the official statements, each in such form as may be approved by the Town Treasurer be and are hereby ratified, confirmed, approved and adopted. Further voted, that the bonds shall be subject to redemption at the option of the Town on such terms and conditions as set forth in the official statement. Further voted, that the Town Treasurer and Selectmen be and hereby are authorized to execute and deliver a continuing disclosure of the taking and compliance with SEC rule 15C 2-12 in such form as may be approved by Bond Counsel to the Town, which undertaking shall be incorporated by reference to the bonds for the benefit of the holders of the bonds from time to time. Further voted, that each member of the BOS, the Town Clerk, and the Town Treasurer be and hereby are authorized to take any and all such actions and execute and deliver such certificates, receipts or other documents as may be determined by them or any of them as may be necessary or convenient to carry into effect the provisions of the forgoing votes. I further certify that the votes were taken in a meeting open to the public and no vote was taken by secret ballot, that a notice stating the place, date, time and agenda of the meeting, which agenda included the adoption of the above votes, was filed with the Town Clerk and a copy thereof posted in a manner conspicuously visible to the public at all hours in or on the municipal building or the office where the Town Clerk is located or if applicable in accordance with the alternative method of notice prescribed or approved by the Attorney General as set forth in 940CMR 29.03 section 2B at least 48 hours, not including Saturday, Sunday and legal holidays prior to the time of the meeting and remained so posted at the time of the meeting and no deliberations or decision in connection with the sale of the bonds were taken in Executive Session all in accordance with general law Section 30a, sections 18-25, as amended, dated march 19, 2014. Seconded by David DeCoste. Unanimously voted

Mr. Frasier gave an overview of coupon rates. Mr. Boudreau thanked both Mr. Frasier and Ms. Sullivan for the enormous amount of work done to make this bond award happen. Ms. Allen added the thanks of the board.

The official bond documents were signed by the BOS.

The first payment of the bond comes in the next fiscal year, six months after the bond issuance.

Mr. Boudreau stated that the interest rate adjustment will have very little impact on the budget.

The board also discussed options for future bond issuance.

8:15 Paul Foulsham, Highway Surveyor – Grove and Prospect Intersection Discussion –

The Town has been talking about this intersection for quite some time. The traffic engineers who consult with the Town were also present, and gave an overview of the issues with this intersection. The crash rating is twice the MA DOT rate for intersections of this type. Traffic density does not warrant additional controls such as a four way stop or traffic light. The Town could add a left turn lane on Grove St., add granite curbing, and also reduce the edge of road radii to aid traffic flow and safety. The board asked questions about these solutions, including how to reduce the speed of traffic on Grove St. Hopefully the granite curb and narrower road bed will prevent cars from going around those cars turning left. Bicycle safety is also a concern, which the engineers stated would be helped by the narrower road and granite curbing to slow down the speed. Mr. Boudreau asked about a roundabout, which is not feasible because the four roadways do not have equal traffic. There would be a significant delay on Grove Street at rush hour. The line of sight was reviewed by the engineers, who stated that the intersection meets the minimum required line of sight requirements. The small amount of brush on one roadside was discussed. Mr. McBride discussed the problem in Norwell of easy access for people who drive through the Town to other destinations, which causes driving at unsafe

speeds in the Town. The speeding problem was discussed with relation to other roads in the Town. The timing on the construction at this intersection would be summer, when the Chapter 90 money forms have been completed. It will cost about \$160,000. Mr. Boudreau discussed a similar situation on Circuit Street. The Grove Street project will only take a couple of weeks. The Forest Street and Circuit Street intersection will be done as well.

Main Street project – Mr. Foulsham handed out information on this project to the board. The engineers were asked to work on five different options for this 3.2 mile stretch of road, ending either at West Street or Dover St. They highlighted the upgrades that would be done as part of the project. The board discussed current road issues and how they will be addressed by the engineers. The options are costed out separately. The major elements would cost \$2.7-\$4.2 million, depending on the option chosen. Mr. Brown asked if there had been any coordination between this project and the Pathways Committee/Planning Board. The engineer stated that there have been some discussions with both committees. Mr. Brown stated that there must be an overall plan to accomplish the goals without redundancy. Mr. Foulsham asked the engineers to present all options so that the board would know what was available. Mr. McBride led a discussion of various funding options for a sidewalk on Main St. Some options would necessitate the removal of a large number of trees. The board referenced previous attempts to widen this road, and the Town would prefer to upgrade the road without major reconfiguration of the road's footprint and character. Mr. Boudreau would like to bring the various groups together to discuss which option is best; however, the state of Main Street must be addressed, because the road is falling apart in the Town Center. Both the Pathways and the sidewalk options have momentum and need to be addressed. Mr. Foulsham stated that the road repair on Main Street is extremely urgent, and will take a couple of seasons. To ask for part of the funding in an Article at next year's Town Meeting might be an option. If there were no improvements, just repaving would cost \$1.5 million, with no improvements to drainage (which adds \$600,000), but the roads wouldn't last as long. The cost/benefit of road repair vs. replacement was discussed with relation to long range planning. Mr. Boudreau discussed interfund borrowing to phase the project over the next several years, in conjunction with how much of the project the tax levy would support. The Highway Dept. will work together with the Planning Board when redoing the Town Center.

8:30 Chief Ross – Approve Lateral Transfer of Officer Daniel Dooley –

The Police Department has a vacancy, and Officer Dan Dooley would like to transfer back to the Town's police force.

Motion: made by Mr. Brown, seconded by Mr. DeCoste, that the BOS approve the lateral transfer of Officer Daniel Dooley, effective March 24, 2014. Unanimously voted

Old Business, cont'd.

Cemetery Committee Budget – Request to increase the stipend of the Committee Chair, cont'd. Ms. Allen discussed the stipend of this volunteer position with Mr. Boudreau, who stated his recommendation. The committee needs some clerical help. He reviewed the duties of the Chair, noting the many similarities to other volunteer positions in the Town. There are some unique duties, such as attending each burial (the attending committee member is paid \$25) and scheduling burials during the winter. The duties should be spread across the committee so that the majority of the work doesn't fall to the Chair. Stipend vs. salary was discussed. However, it would be the only volunteer position in the Town that is paid. The Chair's expenses are reimbursable. The board would like to finish the lots in the Washington St. cemetery and then sell lots for Stetson Meadows, which would eliminate running back and forth between locations. The first phase of Stetson Meadows will be ready in a year. Mr. Boudreau recommends that the stipend stay at \$4800, and save any stipend changes for the new cemetery opening. There is currently no available clerical help for this committee, but some will be available in the future, when a permanent position for this committee might be needed. Discussion ensued about the new cemetery. The board would like Mr. Boudreau to go ahead with his recommendation in his proposed budget.

Article Discussion – The CPC has a large number of Articles, but some will not be going forward. The Jacobs Farmhouse Articles have been combined into one Article, and may be flexible pending the award of some grant money. The Pathways Article will be less than requested by that committee. There is concern about the Chittenden Landing reconstruction and why it was necessary. Per Mr. McBride, the original improvements made this a usable area of the river. Concerns were raised by neighbors, so the engineering consultant chose a fishing platform, not a dock. The lateral supports were never completed. Con Com was overseeing this project. A larger dock is planned if the Article passes at Town Meeting. The board should try to attend other committee meetings as time is getting short to finalize Warrant Articles.

UPCOMING MEETINGS:

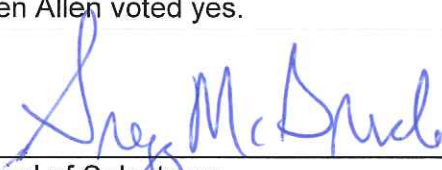
The next BOS meeting is scheduled for March 26, 2014. Scheduled on the agenda are attendance by the Town Hall/Library Study Committee (asking for \$20,000) and Legislative Updates from Senator Bob Hedlund and Representative Rhonda Nyman.

ANNOUNCEMENTS – None

EXECUTIVE SESSION – Collective Bargaining

MOTION: Jason Brown moved the Board enter into Executive Session for the purpose of discussing Collective Bargaining and not return to open session. Seconded by Mr. DeCoste 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