

**Norwell Board of Selectmen  
Meeting Minutes  
February 11, 2015**

Ellen Allen opened the meeting and introduced Jason Brown, Gregg McBride, David DeCoste, Tammie Garner and Interim Town Administrator Peter Hechenbleikner.

Agenda Amended to add: Approval of temporary 1 way restrictions on Bowker Street from Main Street to Grove Street *MOTION: Jason Brown moved the Board approve the agenda as amended. Seconded by David DeCoste and unanimously voted.*

**CITIZEN COMMENTS**

7:35pm Maya McViney, Lee Road, asked that an Article be placed on the Annual Town Meeting Warrant to lift a 1971 restriction in order to join two abutting lots. Pete Hechenbleikner will add this Article to the Warrant.

**Norwell Half Marathon Request – November 1, 2015** – Racewire would like to sponsor this road race, and expects about 4000 participants max. It will be the same as last year, with assistance from the Norwell Boosters, to whom Racewire donated \$10,000 last year. They hope to start the race at the Hanover Mall, which would avoid busing to the High School. This needs further discussion with the Police Chief. The board discussed the proposed route and some issues with blocked roads for residents. There will be better training for volunteers this year. Last year there were 1750 finishers and 2800 registrants. The promoters hope to be better prepared and plan for fewer delays this year. The proposed rain date is 11/8/15. Next Steps: the committee will finalize the route and come back to the BOS for formal approval to hold this event.

**Treasurer/Highway – Main Street Pathway/CPC Application**

7:40pm Darlene Sullivan, Treasurer, gave an overview of various borrowing scenarios for this project. There are specific debt plan figures in the attached handout. The board asked what to propose to the CPC. Pete Hechenbleikner offered the following advice:

1. Keep the borrowing period as short as possible, which will help the bond rating
2. Construct the pathway with granite curbing, which will last much longer than Cape Cod berms. Granite is a safer, better barrier.

The board will discuss bonding with the CPC, and Ms. Sullivan will prepare a separated cost of borrowing for this project. The board also discussed the scenario of bonding the project even if the CPA surtax is eliminated. The surtax would still be collected to service the debt until paid.

Per Ms. Sullivan, the current interest rate for borrowing is 2-3%, but closer to 2%.

The board discussed the curbing options and debated the safety and durability of the different materials.

*8:09pm Motion: Made by Jason Brown, seconded by David DeCoste: to propose the pathway option with granite curbing to the CPC. The vote was 3 yes, 0 no, 2 abstain. Motion carried*

**Close the Warrant for Special and Annual Town Meeting**

8:10pm Warrant Review:

Fire Truck Request – there is a placeholder to bond the purchase or use the capital stabilization fund, which is currently \$900,000. (attached fact sheet for debt cost to bond the purchase)

Jason Brown asked for the reason to purchase this now, and could it be deferred. Per Mr. Hechenbleikner, the useful life of a fire truck is twenty years; ten years as first line, ten years as reserve engine. The current truck is twenty two years old, and one other truck is broken. The town should get rid of both trucks, and should budget for a new one every five years. If borrowing is necessary do a five year debt. There have been no replacements in the last eight

years. Next year, an ambulance will need to be purchased. More discussion ensued about the equipment needs of the town. The Capital Budget committee should come to the BOS to give an overview of the town's capital needs. There will be a placeholder Article in the Warrant to anticipate the Capital budget discussion in March. The board discussed putting a capital budget line item in the operating budget. It should be a constant percentage which increases with the budget. Per Mr. Brown, Norwell doesn't have a capital budget but needs one. Mr. McBride asked for a good capital budget percent.:Peter Hechenbleikner's answer: 10% of the operating budget. In Reading, the percent was 5.6%. A good capital plan should be ten years.

#### **Public Hearing-Clapp Brook Road, cont'd.**

*8:30pm Motion: Made by Jason Brown, seconded by David DeCoste, to continue the hearing to February 25, 2015 at 9pm. Unanimously voted*

#### **Update on 40B Forum**

8:31pm The forum will be held on Monday, March 2, at 7pm in the Osborne Room. Senator Bob Hedlund, Town Counsel Bob Galvin, Easton Selectman Colleen Corona, David DeCoste, and Gregg McBride will speak at the forum. Each speaker will have ten to fifteen minutes, then conduct a question and answer period. Mr. DeCoste gave an overview of the topics and stated that each would probably be a different length of time. Publicity for this event was discussed, with PSA's scheduled to run on WATD and in the Mariner. All will spread the word of this event.

#### **NEW BUSINESS**

The request for approval of the Evan Henry Road Race has been postponed.

The discussion of the Mayflower Municipal Contract has been postponed.

Approval of the Personal Services Contracts has been postponed.

#### **Review of the Town Administrator Profile**

The comments on the draft of the profile were mixed, and the board made several changes, which will be incorporated into the document, reviewed and signed by Ellen Allen, Chair

*9:50pm Motion: Made by Jason Brown, seconded by David DeCoste, to approve the Town Administrator profile subject to review and edits by the Chair. Unanimously voted.*

#### **Warrant Review, resumed:**

There is nothing of special interest in the STM Warrant. Ms. Allen asked if there was any need for additional placeholders – per Mr. Hechenbleikner, he will add one for potential transfer of funds and potential land purchase. He could combine Articles 2-7 into one transfer Article. The effective date of Articles in both the Annual and Special Town Meetings was discussed. Mr. DeCoste asked if Town Counsel has reviewed the Citizen Petitions. There was discussion of the Senior Work program allocation, which should be paid directly out of the Overlay. Mr. DeCoste suggested discussing this funding with Charles Markham. Ms. Allen asked to set up a meeting with Assessor Barbara Gingras to discuss this and other matters. This will be scheduled for March 4<sup>th</sup> Executive Session at 6:45pm, with the Open Meeting beginning at 7:30pm. Mr. Hechenbleikner will confirm. Discussion continued on the Senior Work Program. Mr. Hechenbleikner suggested wording; "to see what the town will authorize".

There was further discussion of the proposed Articles for the Police Station property at 40 River St. Mr. DeCoste asked that it include a "clawback" provision (in which land reverts back to the town within a period of time) if the project fails. Mr. McBride suggested talking to Town Counsel, who could write this into the transfer.

Discussion of Articles 29 and 52, Secret Ballot - BOS will change the wording to; "ask from the floor, then at the discretion of the moderator or 2/3 majority vote". BOS will ask the Town

Counsel to do the change. Also, Article 52 will be moved after Article 29. The Planning Board is scheduled to meet with the BOS in March.

*10:42pm Motion: Made by Jason Brown: to close the STM and ATM Warrant, seconded by David DeCoste. Unanimously voted*

*10:44pm Motion: Made by Jason Brown: to authorize Bowker Street to be made one way from Main St. to Grove St. indefinitely. Unanimously voted*

**UPCOMING MEETINGS:**

The Quik Pik and Sunoco hearings will be held at the next meeting, which will be February 25, 2015

**ANNOUNCEMENTS:**

With all the snow, and more on the way, please help your neighbors, no trash cans in the street, help keep children safe with so much snow impeding clear vision in driveways and intersections. Go to the town web page for storm emergency information

**EXECUTIVE SESSION –**

*MOTION: Jason Brown moved the Board enter into Executive Session for the purpose of discussing Personal Contracts and not returning 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. DeCoste voted yes, McBride voted yes, Brown voted yes, Allen voted yes and Garner voted yes.



Board of Selectmen

**Attachments:**

1. Fact Sheet with Bonding options for the Main St. pathwalk project
2. Fact Sheet for Debt Cost - Fire Truck purchase bond

**Subject:** Selectmen Meeting 2-11-15

**Date:** Tuesday, February 10, 2015 at 5:07:43 PM Eastern Standard Time

**From:** Darleen Sullivan

**To:** Peter Hechenbleikner, Lynda Allen, Ellen Allen, David DeCoste, Gregg McBride, Tammie Garner,  
Jason Brown

Good Afternoon,

Please see attached.

For discussion purposes, there are five separate borrowing scenarios attached for your review. I believe we will just be discussing the impact of borrowing for sidewalks tomorrow evening.

- |    |                              |   |
|----|------------------------------|---|
| 1. | 3.3 Million Dollar Borrowing | Road Project –No Sidewalks (Ban FY15 & LT FY16). This is the only scenario with short term interest/debt payment. |
| 2. | 1.1 Million Dollar Borrowing | Sidewalks only (Low Estimate) LT Borrowing Only in FY16   |
| 3. | 1.4 Million Dollar Borrowing | Sidewalks only (High Estimate) LT Borrowing Only in FY16  |
| 4. | \$450,000 Borrowing          | Fire Truck @ 5 Years LT Borrowing Only in FY16  |
| 5. | \$450,000 Borrowing          | Fire Truck @ 10 Years LT Borrowing Only in FY16   |

Respectfully,

Darleen

PLAN	PROJECT	AMOUNT	Financing Scenario	FY 2016 Debt Service	FY 2017 Debt Service	Notes
PLAN 1A	ROADS 15yr	\$3,300,000.00	Equal Principal	\$52,944.00	\$325,550.00	4/3/15 Ban Interest 1% \$3,444.00 & 8/7/15 Bond Interest 3% \$49,500
PLAN 2A	SIDEWALK/PATHWALK 15yr	\$1,100,000.00	Equal Principal	\$16,500.00	\$106,875.00	
PLAN 3A	SIDEWALK/PATHWALK 15yr	\$1,400,000.00	Equal Principal	\$21,000.00	\$135,575.00	
PLAN 4A	FIRETRUCK 5yr	\$450,000.00	Equal Principal	\$6,750.00	\$102,150.00	
PLAN 5A	FIRETRUCK 10yr	\$450,000.00	Equal Principal	\$6,750.00	\$57,825.00	