

Norwell Board of Selectmen
11/10/20
Open Session – Remote meeting

Present: Ellen Allen, Alison Demong, Jason Brown, Peter Morin

Open Session

The meeting was opened by Chair Ellen Allen at 7:03pm. She announced that all votes will be roll call votes as the meeting participants are using remote access software. The meeting is being recorded and the audio file will be available on the Town website. Ms. Allen noted that this meeting will be conducted pursuant to the Executive Order dated March 12, 2020 suspending certain provisions of the Open Meeting Law, Gen. L. c. 30A §20 et seq. and 940 CMR 29.01 et seq.

Approval of Agenda

Motion; made by Jason Brown, seconded by Alison Demong, to approve the amended agenda excluding item g. Unanimously voted by roll call vote

BOS Reports

Congratulations to the Town Clerk's office for a job well done on the recent national election process. Norwell was the first of the 27 towns on the South Shore to report their results, with over 80% of registered voters participating. Ms. Allen and the board thanked all of the election workers by name.

Tomorrow is Veteran's Day, and the board thanked and remembered all of those who have served our country.

Town Administrator Report - None

Citizen Comments

Vin Bucca commented on the recent 61A property purchase option that was not exercised by the board. He expanded on the proposed building plan that will bring in real estate tax revenue, but opined that the Town's projected expenses for community services will exceed this revenue. Mr. Bucca would like to acquire the bog land if it ever comes up for sale, adding that the Town could apply for state grant assistance to help fund the purchase. Mr. Brown noted that the board is fully aware of the tax revenue vs. the projected deficit for community services issue. Ms. Allen added that decision process for 61A properties will be on an upcoming agenda topic and invited Mr. Bucca to that meeting.

Not Your Average Joe's – Change of Manager

General manager Tiffany Lodico joined the meeting to give the board her background information and reason for the change. She noted that as manager, her name should be included on the all alcohol license issued by the Town and the ABCC. This is a standard change.

Motion; made by Jason Brown, seconded by Alison Demong, that the board approve the change of manager at Not Your Average Joe's to Tiffany Lodico. Unanimously voted by roll call vote.

All Are Welcome Committee (AAWC) Update

AAWC members Jamilla Kielhorn (Chair), Nick Salvatoriello, Jennifer Coyle, Jennifer Greenberg and Maya Levitt joined the meeting to give a committee update.

- 2019 – part of Summerfest, First Parish fair – community participation project with an integrated world map to mark people's country of origin.
- Lawn signs were created for All Are Welcome in different languages. The cost of \$500 was covered by donations.
- Competition – prizes from Hornstra Dairy and YMCA
- Celebrated with Cole School, diversity day, produced newsletter
- Committee member Jennifer Coyle updated the board about the 2020 initiative with James Library for a series of talks about race, diversity, hate symbols, etc. This is on hold due to COVID.
- Harbor Media will help produce a diversity series to cover a wide range of topics: Gender equity, Wampanoag experience, Plymouth 400, local history thru diversity, black lives matter, teaching social justice thru children's literature. See the webpage for more information.
- Future projects were reviewed and discussed with the board.

Ms. Allen thanked the committee for their hard work and creative process. The board is happy to assist, just let them know. All thanked them for coming in.

Vote to Approve Peaceful Protest Policy

The board reviewed the revised version, concluding that it is best to keep it simple. Mr. Brown noted that this policy is for Town employees. Protestors are protected by 1st amendment rights. Any lawbreakers will be the purview of the Norwell Police Dept.

Motion; made by Jason Brown, seconded by Alison Demong, that the board approve the peaceful protest policy as presented and revised. Unanimously voted by roll call vote.

Cemetery Committee – proposed price, rules and regulations change

Wendy Bawabe gave background information on these proposed changes.

Motion; made by JB, seconded by Alison Demong, to approve the updated price list for the Town of Norwell cemetery as presented. Unan.

All reviewed the mission statement and rules and regulations. Ms. Bawabe recapped these changes with the board and all discussed the option to have BOS approval or not. The board would like to be the approving authority.

All thanked the committee, especially Ms. Bawabe and Ms. Nestor for all their hard work.

Motion, made by Jason Brown, seconded by Alison Demong, that the Board of Selectmen approve the Cemetery rules and regulations with the minor changes as presented here. Unanimously voted by roll call vote.

Donation of land to Town of Norwell

Mr. Morin updated the board about his receipt of a letter from a 90 year old former resident who would like to donate this piece of land to the Town. The land is located in the cemetery on Old Oaken Bucket in return for a deed of gift. The tomb has the name Cushing carved on the stone; there is no one interred in this site. Ms. Bawabe gave history of this tomb and the land. Janet Watson and Dave DeGhetto contacted the property owner about this very tiny piece of land, located among other pieces of private property. It makes sense for the Town to own the land. The tomb probably needs some maintenance, which could possibly be done with CPA funding.

Motion; made by Jason Brown, seconded by Alison Demong, to accept this gift of land located on Old Oaken Bucket Road from Kathryn Inskeep. Unanimously voted by roll call vote.

Meeting minutes approval

Motion; made by Jason Brown, seconded by Alison Demong, to approve the minutes for the 9/30/20, 10/14/20 and 10/28/20 BOS meetings.

Future meetings: See schedule

Adjournment

*Motion; made by Jason Brown, seconded by Alison Demong, to adjourn at 7/52pm.
Unanimously voted by roll call vote.*

Ellen H. Allen

Ellen Allen, Chair