

**Norwell Board of Selectmen
Meeting Minutes
4/4/18**

TOWN OF NORWELL
TOWN CLERK
2018 MAY -3 AM 10:51

Present: Jason Brown, Gregg McBride, Alison Demong, Ellen Allen, Peter Smellie, Peter Morin

Open session; 7:08pm

The meeting was called to order by Chair Jason Brown.

Approve minutes – 3/7/18

Motion; made by Alison Demong, seconded by Peter Smellie, to approve the Open Meeting minutes of 3/7/18. Unanimously voted

Town Counsel will work with the Finance Director to finalize the language for the Carleton property Warrant Article.

40 River Street Project Update

Mr. McBride updated the board about the status of the PILOT program. All discussed the options; leave the generic Article in the Warrant and bring it to Town Meeting, or pull it and address the program next year. Metro West will pay taxes, perhaps starting in July when they take control. The pros and cons of this issue were discussed, but the decision was made to exclude the Article from this year's Warrant.

Follow-up Items from prior meetings

LED street lighting – Mr. McBride will follow up with the streetlight inventory and Green Communities for next steps to apply for a grant in the next year.

MOU for Shared Space at the Sparrell Building – the document was signed by the School Committee. The BOS will sign in Open Session at the meeting on 4/11/18.

The 3 charter schools contacted Mr. Morin about hiring a School Resource Officer from the Town. The schools would reimburse the Town for this cost. The details need to be worked out.

Ms. Allen updated all about the House Ways and Means meeting yesterday, noting that there is some circuit breaker money coming to the Town.

Future meetings – emergency team storm recap and planning – 8am meeting instead of evening time. Date to be determined

Ms. Allen suggested that the CHT prepare some power point slides for Town Meeting to allay fears from residents about the Carleton property purchase. The board discussed information to be included in the slides that would answer most questions and help to combat the scare tactics being used to spread rumors about the purchase.

Open Session – 7:30pm

Jason Brown called the meeting to order in the Osborn Room at 7:38pm.

Reminded all that the meeting is recorded and televised

Motion; made by Alison Demong, seconded by Peter Smellie, to approve the agenda as written. Unanimously voted

Citizen Comments – None

Selectmen's Reports and Announcements

Mr. Brown reminded all about the Rabies Clinic on April 7th, at Norwell Animal Hospital. All leashed dogs and cats in the Town are welcome. Microchipping is also available. April 19th at 11am - Groundbreaking Ceremony for 40 River Street, all are invited

Citizens Emergency Response Team – Thank you

Mr. Brown gave a summary of the scope of hard work that this team does for the Town, especially during the recent bout of storms. The team allocates resources and help in emergencies, coordinates utility work, etc. and gets resources to residents and Town Departments that are needed to work on the roads, trees, etc.

Chief Reardon, Capt. Simpson and the CERT team were present. Chief Reardon thanked the board and gave a short history of the team. Capt. Simpson trained the CERT team, working in cooperation with the Town of Hingham. The team still needs volunteers. Note: training for the team requires a fair amount of time in classes. Members of the team at the meeting included; Art Joseph, Andrew Mahoney, John, Henry and Ryan Joseph, Brian Neame. Art Joseph stated that the goal is to staff for sheltering as well as other areas to supplement first responders. Future plans include communications and public information. Mr. McBride commended the team, who has many ideas to expand and improve in the future. Chief Reardon added his kudos, giving examples of CERT assistance with the storm procedures. Ms. Allen commended the team, noting how far they have come since 2013. Per Mr. Joseph, a regional shelter is better for Red Cross assistance, as one central location can take care of several towns vs. several shelters needing assistance. Warming stations are now an important part of the storm readiness plan, but Mr. McBride noted that most seniors won't leave their houses. The team gave additional examples of people reaching out to find a place to stay. Mr. Brown added that residents went out of their way to help people get them to safe shelter.

Ms. Allen asked about CERT assistance for other activities such as Summerfest and the 2 half marathons. Mr. Joseph gave examples of assistance. Mr. Joseph and Capt. Simpson noted examples of additional training received by the CERT team which enabled them to contact and assist first responders. In the event of a major fire, the CERT team would provide firefighter support and assistance.

Chief Reardon added that there is quite a large group of CERT teams in our area.

Mr. Brown presented a certificate of recognition to the CERT team for outstanding service to the Town, with the thanks of the board.

Peter Morin – Conservation Budget and Interim Agent Discussion

Mr. Morin updated the board on the budget, noting that the only change is two support staff positions for the Conservation and Planning Departments. The budget will ID one staff position for each department instead of allocating partial salaries to both departments. The two staff people will continue to support both departments as needed.

Interim Conservation Agent – Ms. Hemingway is currently out on sick leave and still utilizing sick time. Her return date is to be determined. However, increasing field work demands indicate the need for an interim agent to fill in the gap. Mr. Morin has ID'ed several candidates from other towns as well as legal backup for any issues that might arise. The payment arrangement might be either per diem or task oriented. Mr. Morin explained the mechanics of the salary line as it impacts the budget for the Conservation Agent. Trees and Grounds is taking over more and more of the work that was done with Con Com, although the work will still be overseen by the Conservation Agent.

Appointment of Inspector of Animals

Motion; made by Alison Demong, seconded by Peter Smellie, to appoint Brian Willard to the office of Inspector of Animals for a term expiring 4/30/19. Unanimously voted

Appointment of the Harbormaster

Motion; made by Alison Demong, seconded by Peter Smellie, to reappoint Ron Mott to the position of Harbormaster for a term expiring 12/31/18. Unanimously voted

Endorsement of Articles for Town Meeting

Ms. Allen voiced concerns about the work of the Bylaw Review Committee, asking why they are involved in Articles proposed by the Planning Board. The concern of the BOS is that the Planning Board is bypassing the proper channels. Warrant Articles 28, 29 and 30 were all discussed with concern, the board noting that they should have been citizens' petitions, not Warrant Articles.

Mr. Morin stated that the Chair of the Planning Board was the sole author of these 3 bylaws, not the Planning Board. All agreed that there should be legislative history for these bylaws. All agreed to leave them where they are for now as a courtesy to the chair of a town board. The consensus of the BOS is that one bylaw Article is acceptable, the other two are not. These types of Articles will not be accepted in the future unless there is a recorded vote and acceptance from the board generating the bylaw. Article 30 is acceptable, and hopefully Articles 28 and 29 will not pass.


There was no vote on these Articles at last night's Advisory Board meeting.

Future Meetings

4/11 cable committee
4/18 school vacation, yes if meeting is needed
4/25 no Jason - maybe no meeting
4/26 MAPC at Cushing Center
4/30 Complete streets Public Hearing

Adjournment

*Motion; made by Alison Demong, seconded by Peter Smellie, to adjourn at 8:28pm.
Unanimously voted*



Jason Brown, Chair