

**Norwell Board of Selectmen
Meeting Minutes
April 12, 2017**

TOWN OF NORWELL
TOWN CLERK

2017 APR 27 PM 12: 51

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

Open Session (BOS office):

Ms. Allen updated the board on yesterday's Mass Municipal Association meeting discussions and current legislative issues. Local county issues were also discussed.

Approval of Minutes

Motion; made by Ellen Allen, seconded by Peter Smellie, to approve the BOS minutes for the Open Meeting on 3/15/17, and the BOS Executive Session with the CPC on 3/23/17.

Unanimously voted

Website Discussion/Update will be a regular administrative topic for future BOS agendas.

The board will not meet next week, April 19th. They will meet before attending the Planning Board meeting on April 26, 2017.

A request for bids to perform the annual financial audit will be put out in the next couple of weeks and a decision will be made by the end of May.

Open Session (Osborn Room):

The meeting was called to order by Chair Jason Brown at 7:30. Mr. Brown updated all on the earlier meeting discussions.

Motion; made by Ellen Allen, seconded by Peter Smellie, to approve the agenda as amended to postpone item(b)Police 5K Road Race request, which will be discussed at a future meeting.

Unanimously voted

Citizen Comments – none.

BOS Announcements -

Chief Reardon received a letter of thanks for his department's outstanding service during the recent Rockland fire.

Ms. Allen updated all on the House Ways and Means budget in terms of local state aid. There are both increases and decreases in various line items, with a net decrease of \$10K from last year's amount of aid.

There were lengthy discussions re: the recreational marijuana law, with possible options still unclear. Projected revenue will not cover projected expenses as this law is currently written. The CPA state match percentage has gotten so low that there is a bill to propose an increase in the registry fees to allow a 50% match.

The fight is continuing against potential legislation capping ambulance reimbursements from insurers at the Medicare rate. If this passes, annual revenue would decrease by about \$377K, or 10% of budgeted local receipts. Fortunately, this bill is not in the house ways and means budget now.

Ms. Allen will update the board with any changes to these items.

Ms. Demong announced that a tick awareness event will take place on April 29th. There will be a shoe spray event at Devine Feed and Pet Center. FYI, shoes should be sprayed once a month. Experts are predicting a bad tick infestation this year. Stay safe!

Ms. Allen announced that the state budget now includes an entomologist as part of the 4H extension services for Plymouth County. He will serve as a deer tick outreach coordinator.

Town Administrator Announcements

None

7:35 Public Hearing – CV License, Bo Café, 433 Washington St.

Motion: made by Ellen Allen, seconded by Peter Smellie, to open the public hearing.

Unanimously voted

Peter Smellie read the notice of public hearing.

Arthur Iskanderian, owner, introduced himself, and told the board about his plans to serve deli items and sandwiches (take out style). He has prior experience in the food service industry, and hopes the Town will welcome a new place to have lunch.

Per Ms. Allen, all Town departments have no issues with this new business. The Building Inspector still needs to issue an occupancy permit after approving the interior changes to the deli configuration.

Motion; made by Ellen Allen, seconded by Peter Smellie, to approve the CV license application for Bo Café at 433 Washington Street, subject to obtaining the permits necessary from the Building Department, expiring 12/31/17. Unanimously voted

All wished him the best of luck in his new business.

Motion; made by Ellen Allen, seconded by Peter Smellie, to close the public hearing at 7:50pm. Unanimously voted

Inspector of Animals Appointment

Motion; made by Ellen Allen, seconded by Peter Smellie, to appoint Brian Willard as the Inspector of Animals for the Town of Norwell, for a term of office from 5/1/17 to 4/30/18.

Unanimously voted

2017 Junk License Renewals

Motion; made by Ellen Allen, seconded by Peter Smellie, to approve the renewal of the junk license for Stonehouse Antiques, expiring 4/30/18.

Assignment of Articles

All discussed the Consent Agenda for the Special and Annual Town Meetings and assignments to present the Warrant Articles. Ms. Demong expressed concern about a larger consent agenda, stating that residents should be entitled to an explanation of the purpose and intent for the majority of the Warrant Articles. This argues for a smaller consent agenda. Final resolution of the Articles presentations and consent agenda will be made at the Moderator's meeting on May 1st.

Complete Streets Membership

The committee would like to propose an increase in the number of members from 6 to 7 in order to avoid a tie when voting.

Motion; made by Ellen Allen, seconded by Peter Smellie, to increase the Complete Street membership to 7 members, adding one At-Large member. Unanimously voted.

Jacobs Farmhouse Discussion

The board discussed the pros and cons of re-opening the museum side of the Jacobs farmhouse in light of the complaint filed with the AAB. Per Ms. Demong, the architect hired by the Town has designed and submitted a plan for remediation. Architect Jim Kelliher added that the AAB has received the plans well but has not made a decision yet. As there is no impending

fine if the museum is reopened, the board would like that to happen so that the Norwell Historical Society may host upcoming events. Town Counsel has no issues with this decision. Mr. Brown added that he is comfortable moving forward in good faith that the AAB will approve a plan for remediation.

Motion; made by Ellen Allen, seconded by Peter Smellie, to reopen the museum side of the Jacobs farmhouse. Unanimously voted

Accept CPC Resignation

Motion; made by Ellen Allen, seconded by Peter Smellie, to accept with regret the resignation of John Mariano from the Community Preservation Committee. Unanimously voted

Cemetery Committee Resignation

Motion; made by Ellen Allen, seconded by Peter Smellie, to accept with regret the resignation of Bill Malloy from the Cemetery Committee. Unanimously voted

Mr. Brown thanked Mr. Malloy for his committee service, adding that this is a time commitment issue on Mr. Malloy's part.

Website Discussion

Ms. Allen reported that Ben Margro and Nancy Hemingway joined the website group meeting for discussion about website issues. The group would like to have Town committees look at their webpages for suggested updates. Both Mr. Margro and Ms. Hemingway have agreed to train Town Hall employees in each department to work on their web pages.

Future Agendas and Upcoming Meetings

The board is cancelling the meeting next week, and will meet on April 26th with the Planning Board. There may be a short meeting beforehand, which would be posted.

Adjournment

Motion; made by Ellen Allen, seconded by Peter Smellie, to adjourn at 8:08pm. Unanimously voted



Jason Brown, Chair

