

TOWN OF NORWELL
Advisory Board
Meeting Minutes
March 5, 2013

TOWN OF NORWELL
TOWN CLERK

2013 SEP 10 AM 9:20

RECEIVED

The Advisory Board was called to order by Vice Chairman Gary Thomas at 7:30 p.m. Present were: Mary Ellen Coffey, Ralph Gordon, Jacky McClean, Jason Brown and Gary Thomas. Not Present: Tim Greene, George Jamieson and Megan Collins. Skip Joseph was at the Capital Budget meeting and arrived late. Also present: Town Administrator James Boudreau and Selectmen Gregg McBride, Ellen Allen and David DeCoste.

ADMINISTRATIVE MATTERS

Acceptance of Minute: None

Bill: None

Transfer Requests:

Town Meetings/Elections – \$2,020.00 – MOTION: The Advisory Board moved to approve the transfer request from the reserve fund in the amount of \$2,020.00 to Fund 1, Department 113, Schedule 101 Account 5114. Present balance in the appropriation line is \$4,524.00. Seconded and unanimously passed.

Unemployment – \$7,032.78 – MOTION: The Advisory Board moved to approve the transfer request from the reserve fund in the amount of \$7,032.78 to Fund 1, Department 913, Schedule 201, Account 5173. Present balance in the appropriation line is \$1,092.49. Seconded and unanimously passed.

NEW BUSINESS

Town Meetings/Elections Transfer Request – Town Clerk Pat Anderson explained that this will be used for the unforeseen elections to fill the vacated seat of Senator John Kerry for Senator in Congress. The additional elections will be Special State Primary Elections held on April 30, 2013 and Special State Elections on June 25, 2013. According to State Auditor Suzanne Bump, cities and towns will be reimbursed.

Article 16 (Election Date) – Town Clerk Pat Anderson explained the purpose of this article to the Advisory Board and recommends the Town to amend the Town of Norwell By-Laws, Article IV Town Meetings, Section 9, by striking the first paragraph of said section 9 and replacing it with the following: SECTION 9. A meeting shall be held on the second Saturday following the Annual Town Meeting and shall be conducted as prescribed by law, with polling hours set by the Board of Selectmen before each Annual Town Election and/or Special Town Election, for the determination of such matters as shall properly be placed on the official ballot for the election of Town Officers, in accordance with and as required by law and these by-laws. **MOTION:** The Advisory Board recommends this Article as written. Seconded and passed 5-0.

Article 17 (Alternate Office Hours) – Town Clerk Pat Anderson explained that this article is to see if the Town will vote to accept the provisions of Massachusetts General Laws Chapter 41, Section 110A, which would allow for alternate office hours whenever the required performance of any act falls on a Saturday

or holidays, or act on anything relative thereto. MOTION: The Advisory Board recommends this Article as written. Seconded and passed 5-0.

Article 12 (Resurfacing Town Roads) – Paul Foulsham briefed the board on this article and recommends the Town to raise and appropriate, or appropriate from available funds the sum of \$200,000, or any other sum, to be expended under the direction of the Highway Surveyor for resurfacing and related construction/maintenance of Town Ways, or act on anything relative thereto. MOTION: The Advisory Board recommends this article as written. Seconded and passed 5-0.

Article 14 (Stormwater) – Paul Foulsham briefed the Board on this article and recommends the Town to raise and appropriate, transfer from available funds or otherwise provide the sum of \$30,000, or any other sum, to be expended under the direction of the Highway Surveyor for the purpose of complying with the EPA's 2012 MS4 (Municipal Separate Storm water Sewer System) Storm water General Permit. MOTION: The Advisory Board recommends this Article as written. Seconded and passed 5-0.

Article 51 (Flag Article) – Citizen's petition presented by David DeCoste of 285 Grove Street. David DeCoste briefed the Advisory Board that the genesis of this was at the request of the American Legion in response to the Town's lack of a flag policy. Since being elected to the BOS, David stated there were two items on the Selectmen's Agenda with the first item having to do with enabling the Town Administrator and/or Board of Selectmen to raise & lower flag at the whim of some group depending on who died, which goes against the National Flag Codes. This Article, written in two parts, would establish a Flag protocol for the Town. Section A adopts the U.S. Flag Code. Section b prohibits the display of another nation's flag, including that of the United Nations, in front of any of the Town's Buildings. Questions asked: AB Member asked if this has gone before the Selectmen and David answered that the Selectmen felt it should go to Town Meeting, The Advisory Board had questions for David on this Article and feels that the second part is not necessary. Motion: The Advisory Board voted not to recommend this Article as written by a vote of 3-2 and then a motion was made for reconsideration when more Advisory Board members were present. Seconded and passed for reconsideration 4-1.

David DeCoste inquired when he should be back and Gary Thomas suggested that he can come back any time but it may be better when the Advisory Board hears the Selectmen Articles.

Correspondence/Notices: None

Skip Joseph joined the meeting.

FUTURE MEETINGS

March 7, March 12 and March 14

Adjourn – Motion was made to Adjourn. Seconded and unanimously passed.

