

**TOWN OF NORWELL
Advisory Board
Meeting Minutes
March 21, 2015**

TOWN OF NORWELL
TOWN CLERK

2015 APR -2 AM 11:00

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The Advisory Board was called to order by Chairman Roger Hughes at 8:04a.m. Present were Skip Joseph, Chad Forman, Ralph Gordon, David McEachern, Mark Maiellano, Jacky McClean and Karen Reynolds. Fran Molla was absent. Interim Town Administrator Peter Hechenbleikner was also present.

ADMINISTRATIVE MATTERS

Acceptance of Minute: Minutes from March 17, 2015 are not ready.

Bill: None

Transfer Request: None

Correspondence/Notices: None

NEW BUSINESS

Warrant Articles for Annual Town Meeting

Jane Stout of the Personnel Board and Barbara Childs, the Town's Human Resources Manager, were present to discuss Article 36, 37 and 38.

- **Article 36** - This Article seeks to add language to the Compensation Plan of the Personnel Plan to pay a flat shift rate for eligible exempt employees of the Norwell Library working Sunday hours. The funds are in the FY 16 Library budget and this language clarifies the rate of pay for eligible employees. Motion to accept Article 36 of the Warrant for Annual Town Meeting as drafted. *Seconded and unanimously passed 8-0.*
- **Article 37** - This Article seeks to add language to the Compensation Plan of the Personnel Plan to pay eligible employees out of classification pay for work performed due to any positions vacated due to illness, approved leave of absence or termination. The eligible employee would receive out of class pay at Step 1 of the higher class or 5% above the employee's regular salary, whichever is greater. In the case of two people sharing the same job, they would receive 2.5% above their regular salary. Motion to accept Article 37 of the Warrant for Annual Town Meeting as drafted. *Seconded and unanimously passed 8-0.*
- **Article 38** - This Article seeks to have the Town approve updates and modifications recommended by the Personnel Board to the Personnel By-Laws. Motion to accept the document submitted by the Planning Board and to be handed out at Town Meeting. *Seconded and unanimously passed 8-0.*

John Mariano present to discuss Articles relating to the Community Preservation Fund.

- **Article 39** - This Article seeks to reserve money from the Community Preservation Fund (CPF) for affordable housing, historic resources and open spaces which are the three components of the Community Preservation Act. The AB deferred a vote on this Article because the Community Preservation Committee (CPC) has not made a final decision.
- **Article 43** - This Article seeks to restore the Cider Room at the Jacobs Farmhouse for a sum of \$9,000. The CPC contacted a restoration firm for an estimate to preserve and restore windows, floorboards, sills, foundation, posts etc. Motion to accept Article 43 of the Warrant for Annual Town Meeting as drafted. *Seconded and unanimously passed 8-0.*
- **Article 40** - This Article seeks \$1,400,000 from the CPF to construct a pedestrian and bicycle pathway adjacent to Main Street. Discussion about the use of this pathway as a sidewalk or recreational path connecting other recreational facilities delayed CPC action. These questions challenge the eligibility of this project through the CPA. Town Counsel is reviewing this request. The AB will continue discussion in the future as more information comes available.

- **Article 44** - This Article seeks \$48,000 from the CPF to construct a playground at the Vinal School. This project includes installation of playground surface and replacement of structure. The total cost is \$78,000. The School Department will appropriate the first \$30,000. Motion to accept the request of Article 44 for \$48,000 from CPF contingent upon School Department allocating \$30,000. *Seconded and unanimously passed 8-0.*
- **Article 41** - This Article seeks to transfer \$500,000 from the CPF to the Norwell Community Housing Trust (CHT) for Affordable Housing. Greg McBride present to give brief history and overview of CHT. Previous projects include senior grant program, buy units at Jacobs Pond Condominiums, feasibility study for a project on Wildcat. Currently seeking funds for Affordable Housing project on River St. This Article was placed on hold until CPC takes action.
- **Article 25** - This Article seeks to transfer control of the land at 40 River Street to the Community Housing Trust for the purpose of providing Affordable Housing. This program is designed to address the critical housing needs in Norwell. Peter Shea presented detailed information about the proposed 14 Affordable units targeting moderate income tenants. 2010 Census confirms up to 34% of Town households would qualify. A mix of one and two bedroom units are planned to attract downsizing seniors with preference to individuals with Norwell connections. Affordability in perpetuity for all units and all 14 units will count on the Norwell Subsidized Housing Inventory tracked by the Commonwealth. AB will continue to discuss this Article at future meetings.
- **Article 26** - This Article seeks to transfer the land at 40 River Street to the Veterans organization of Norwell for the purpose of constructing a new Veterans Hall. Bill Malloy and Peter Kulka made the presentation on behalf of the American Legion. The proposal includes design by Symmes, Maini & McKee Associates which is a Veterans Development Corporation. Estimated cost is \$950,000. Design features include a Great Room/Community Room/Military History Museum with large fireplace and outside deck/patio. Facility uses include community center for small nonprofits. Maintenance through dues, rental income, Powerball, liquor license and meat raffle etc. Concerns about other American Legion facilities across the country closing due to lack of membership. AB will continue to discuss this Article at future meetings.
- **Article 32** - Marie Molla presented an amendment to Town ByLaws of Town Meeting by allowing the Moderator to call for a vote by written ballot if citizens feel influenced in their vote by reason of the public nature of a voice or standing vote. Motion to NOT accept proposed Article 32. *Seconded and 8-0 voted in favor of rejecting Article 32.*
- **Article 33** - Marie Molla presented reasons to seek a secret ballot at Town Meeting. Motion to accept Article 33 of the Warrant for Annual Town Meeting as drafted. *Seconded and unanimously defeated 0-8.*
- **Article 3** - This Article seeks \$611,000 for Capital Outlay. Kevin Burns presented the items recommended by the Capital Budget Committee. Highway Department requested a sander truck, pick-up truck, mower, and over seeder. Public Safety for heart monitors on fire/rescue trucks. Central Fire Station requested maintenance for insulation, windows, and doors. Town Facilities requested money to repair the Library roof. Other requests include new voting equipment, HVAC at Schools, radios and tasers for the Police Department. AB continued discussion of purchasing tasers for each officer for a total of \$32,283.81. Also money to repair Donovan Field Barn and Council on Aging requests money to replace a minivan. The Capital Budget Committee rejected proposals from the School Department via Highway Department for a synthetic turf sweeper and line painter. Motion to accept Article 3 for a total of \$633,000 of the Warrant for Annual Town Meeting which includes the total sum for tasers. *Seconded and unanimously passed 8-0.*
- **Article 10** - This Article seeks \$500,000 for the Fire Department to purchase a new fire pumper truck. This item will be bonded and paid over five years. The service of the truck is estimated at 20 years. Motion to accept Article 10 for the purchase of a new fire pumper truck in the amount of \$500,000 of the proposing the bonding over five years. *Seconded and unanimously passed 8-0.*

Note: Pathways from Forest to Center and Pathways Planning Simon Hill were continued until an Article is written.

Warrant Articles for Special Town Meeting

- **Article 8** - This Article seeks \$190,000 for the purpose of acquiring a deed restriction on the land and structures at 165 Norwell Avenue for Historic Preservation. A Historic Restriction placed on the property protects the property from being subdivided into house lots and protects the look and character of the property. AB will wait until Town Meeting to vote as this process is still in negotiation.

OLD BUSINESS

Reconsider budget items

- Emergency Management Code Red - Jason Brown asked the AB to reconsider the Code Red System for notifying Town residents of non-emergency activity around Town. This is a phone system to get information quickly to residents about state of emergency, local travel bans, trash pickup, and other useful information. Motion to reconsider Code Red Emergency Management budget. *Seconded and passed 7-1.* Motion to accept the recommendation of the Town Administrator for the revised budget for Emergency Management of \$11,500. *Seconded and passed 6-2.*

FUTURE MEETINGS

March 24, 2015

March 28, 2015

Adjourn - Motion made to Adjourn. *Seconded and passed unanimously 8-0.*



Roger Hughes, Chairman

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