

**TOWN OF NORWELL**  
**Advisory Board**  
**Meeting Minutes**  
**March 21, 2013**

**TOWN OF NORWELL**  
**TOWN CLERK**

**2013 SEP 10 AM 9:20**

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

**ADMINISTRATIVE MATTERS**

**Acceptance of Minutes:** None

**Transfer Requests:** None

**Bills:** None

**Correspondence/Notices:** None

**NEW BUSINESS**

**Article Hearings for the Assessors** – Present: Becky Freed, Sue Kirby, Maureen Clark and Barbara Gingras.

**Article 19 (Revaluation)** – The Board of Assessors is requesting a sum of \$88,000, to be expended under the Board of Assessors for professional and contracted services in order to perform an interim and triennial revaluation of real and personal property in the Town as of January 1, 2014, including any defense of said values, and computers. MOTION: The Advisory Board recommends this article as written. Seconded and voted 8-0.

**Article 20 (Senior Work Program)** – Becky Freed briefed the AB on what the surrounding Towns are funding for the Senior Work Program and Norwell is on the high end. Becky Freed explained that Rosemary O'Connor had requested that the Board of Assessors (BOA) increase the dollar amount released for the senior work program but the BOA is looking for the Council on Aging to make some changes to the program to ensure all seniors who need the program are able to get into the program. The BOA would not increase the dollar amount at this time. This Article is requesting that the Town transfer from available funds the sum of \$38,000 for the purpose of continuing a Senior Real Estate Tax Work off Program established pursuant to an agreement with the Council on Aging (COA), the Board of Selectmen and the Board of Assessors. The Advisory Board inquired about means testing for this program so that a resident in need is not turned away. The BOA had offered to handle this for the COA. MOTION: The Advisory Board recommends this article as written in the amount of \$38,000. to be administered by the Council on Aging. Seconded and passed (voted 7-0-1).

**Article 21 (Brush Pile Maintenance)** – Board of Health Member John Litchfield explained that this article is seeking available funds in the amount of \$14,000 to be expended under the direction of the Board of Health for the care and maintenance of the brush pile located at the Recycling Center, or act on anything relative thereto. MOTION: The Advisory Board recommends this article as written. Seconded and voted 8-0.

**Special Article 2 (Regional Dispatch)** – Jim Boudreau presented the Article for the Police Department and explained this article would be to appropriate \$40,000 from available funds to be added to line item

1-233-201-5690, Regional Dispatch. MOTION: The Advisory Board recommends this article in the amount of \$40,000. Seconded and voted 8-0.

**Special Article 5 (February Blizzard Costs)** – Jim Boudreau explained that this Article is seeking funds in the amount of \$68,000 to be added by the Town Accountant to various line items to defray costs related to the February blizzard, known as NEMO. MOTION: The Advisory Board recommends this article in the amount of \$68,000. These funds will cover extraordinary expenses incurred by the Police, Fire and School Departments for the February blizzard. Seconded and voted 8-0.

**Special Article 9 (Veterans Benefits)** – Jim Boudreau explained that this article is seeking funds in the amount of \$20,000 to be added to the Veterans Benefits line. MOTION: The Advisory Board recommends this article as written in the amount of \$20,000. Seconded and voted 8-0.

**Special Article 10 (Unpaid Bills)** – To see if the Town will vote to raise and appropriate or transfer from available funds a sum of money for the payment of bills incurred from prior years; or act on anything relative thereto. MOTION: The Advisory Board recommends this article in the amount of \$1,485. Seconded and voted 8-0.

**Special Article 11 (Stabilization Fund)** – To see if the Town will vote to transfer from available funds or otherwise provide a certain sum of money to be added to the Stabilization Fund as established in accordance with the provisions of Massachusetts General Law, Chapter 40, Section 5B, or act on anything relative thereto. MOTION: The Advisory Board will make a recommendation at Town Meeting. Seconded and votes 8-0.

**Article 1 (Acceptance of Town Reports)** – To see if the Town will accept the reports of its Officers, Boards, Departments, Committees and Commissions, as printed in the 2012 Annual Report, or act on anything relative thereto. MOTION: The Advisory Board recommends this article as written. Seconded and voted 8-0.

**Article 4 (Union and Personal Contracts)** – To see if the Town will raise and appropriate, or appropriate from available funds a sum of money to meet obligations for union and personal contracts, said sum to be apportioned by the Town Accountant to the applicable line items in Article 2, or act on anything relative thereto. MOTION: The Advisory Board will make a recommendation at Town Meeting. Seconded and voted 8-0.

**Article 8 (Turf)** – withdrawn

**Article 57 (OPEB)** – To see if the Town will vote to raise and appropriate, transfer from available funds or otherwise provide a sum of money to be deposited into the Town's OPEB Trust Fund to offset the cost of retired employee health insurance, or act on anything relative thereto. MOTION: The Advisory Board will make a recommendation at Town Meeting. Seconded and voted 8-0.

**Article 58 (Capital Stabilization Fund)** – To see if the Town will vote to transfer from available funds or otherwise provide a certain sum of money to be added to the Capital Stabilization Fund as established in accordance with the provisions of Massachusetts General Law, Chapter 40, Section 5B, or act on anything relative thereto. MOTION: The Advisory Board will make a recommendation at Town Meeting. Seconded and voted 8-0.

**Article 59 (Stabilization Fund)** – To see if the Town will vote to transfer from available funds or otherwise provide a certain sum of money to be added to the Stabilization Fund as established in accordance with the provisions of Massachusetts General Law, Chapter 40, Section 5B, or act on anything relative thereto. MOTION: The Advisory Board will make a recommendation at Town Meeting. Seconded and voted 8-0.

**Article 60 (Decrease Tax Rate)** – To see if the Town will appropriate a sum of money from available funds and authorizes the Assessors to use this sum to decrease the tax rate for FY 2014, or act on anything relative thereto. MOTION: The Advisory Board will make a recommendation at Town Meeting. Seconded and voted 8-0.

**ARTICLE 51 (Flag)** – David DeCoste had presented this Article to the Advisory Board on March 5<sup>th</sup> but due to missing AB Members it was suggested that David present article to a full Board. The Board voted on March 5<sup>th</sup> but then reconsider Article. David explained the reason and purpose behind this Article. MOTION: The Advisory Board voted not to recommend this Article as written. Seconded and voted 8-0. Tim Greene asked the Board if they would support this Article if paragraph B was removed and the Board agreed.

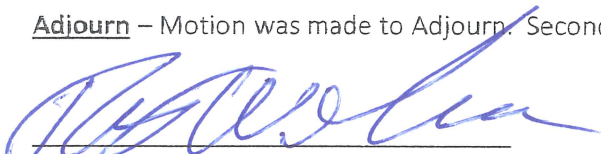
**Article 23 (Common Driveways Proposed Amendment)** – The Advisory Board voted to recommend this article with a vote of 4-3-1 on March 19, 2013. Ralph Gordon has asked the Advisory Board to reconsider this vote and the Board agreed. MOTION: The Advisory Board voted NOT to recommend this article as written. Seconded and passed not to recommend 7-0-1. MaryEllen Coffey will let the Planning Board know that this was reconsidered and not recommended by the Advisory Board. Gary Thomas feels the Planning Board should make reasonable provisions for the allowance of common driveways in Norwell.

**PUBLIC COMMENTS** – None

**NEXT MEETING**

March

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

  
Tim Greene, Chairman

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