



TOWN OF NORWELL
Norwell Town Offices, Room 112
345 Main Street
Norwell, Massachusetts 02061
(781) 659-8000

TOWN OF NORWELL
TOWN CLERK
2022 MAY 23 PM 2:22

Norwell Advisory Board Meeting Minutes
April 7, 2022

RECEIVED

The Advisory Board was called to order by Chair Jesse McSweeney at 7:30 PM. Also present were Town Administrator Peter Morin, Finance Director Darleen Sullivan, and Board Members Mark Cleveland, Bob Perniola, Susan Darnell, Brian D'Souza, Elizabeth Hibbard, Peter Leppanen, Ned Maguire, and Dane Hutchison.

AGENDA

Motion by Ms. Hibbard to approve the agenda as submitted. Seconded by Mr. Cleveland and unanimously voted.

ADMINISTRATIVE MATTERS

Minutes

The minutes of the March 22 meeting were distributed and reviewed.

Motion by Ms. Hibbard to accept the minutes of the March 22, 2022 meeting as submitted. Seconded by Mr. Hutchison and approved 7-0-2, Members Cleveland and Darnell having abstained.

Bills – None

Reserve Fund Transfer Requests – None

Correspondence/Notices – None

Action Items / Discussions

Town Meeting Speakers

The Board discussed speakers for both sides of an issue for articles where there had been a split vote. All agreed, after further discussion, to designate “pro” and “con” speakers to make brief remarks for both articles.

Conservation Fund

Ms. Hibbard agreed to speak for the “no” votes on the article. Her rationale, which the two other “no” voters agreed with, was that there was no specific use identified or restrictions for the funds requested, and was already a sufficient balance in the fund. Mr. Leppanen added that the Commission could obtain additional funds for an emergency, and large expenses such as a land purchase should be voted on.

Carleton Transfer

Mr. McSweeney opined this article, which the Board voted 6-3-0 not to recommend, was potentially controversial enough to warrant two speakers but was open to the pleasure of the Board.

Mr. Morin noted that a written summary of both sides to the discussion would appear in the warrant. Members noted there were likely to be multiple speakers to the article, and expressed concern at dragging out the matter with Board members repeating the points in the warrant; however, others felt residents might want to hear oral arguments at the meeting, and doing so was good for the visibility of the Board.

TOWN OF NORWELL
TOWN CLERK
2022 MAY 23 PM 2:22

FY 2023 BUDGET OVERVIEW

Article 3 - Amendment & Vote

Mr. Morin advised that Article 3 of the Annual Town Meeting had been amended, as the cost of a Ford 550 pickup was \$9000 more than originally entered, and asked that the Article be revoted. Vehicle prices are pre-negotiated through a municipal buying consortium.

RECEIVED

Motion by Mr. Perniola to reconsider Article 3 of the Annual Town Meeting. Seconded by MC and unanimously voted by roll call: Darnell yes, D'Souza yes, Leppanen yes, Cleveland yes, Perniola yes, McSweeney yes, Hibbard yes, Hutchison yes, Maguire yes.

Motion by Mr. Perniola to support Article 3 of the Annual Town Meeting in the amended amount of \$1,561,000. Seconded by Mr. Leppanen and unanimously voted by roll call: Darnell yes, D'Souza yes, Leppanen yes, Cleveland yes, Perniola yes, McSweeney yes, Hibbard yes, Hutchison yes, Maguire yes.

MISCELLANEOUS

Mr. McSweeney suggested that the Board handle all outstanding business now to avoid the need for a second April meeting. Mr. Morin indicated he would just need some leeway to add funding for union contracts on one article; this can be handled at the meeting just prior to Town Meeting.

Mr. McSweeney noted that the Governor's executive order allowing for remote municipal meetings has been extended to July 15, but Mr. Morin advised there was serious consideration of making the provision permanent, as it enhances participation in meetings.

Mr. Morin suggested that Board members attend the Moderator's Meeting at 6 PM on May 3. Mr. Perniola thanked Mr. Morin for all his assistance to the Board.

FUTURE MEETINGS

May 9 - 6:30 PM, Middle School

ADJOURNMENT

There being no further business, a motion was made by Mr. Perniola to adjourn at 8:16 PM. Seconded by Mr. Cleveland and unanimously voted.

Jesse McSweeney, Chair