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TOWN OF NORWELL Advisory Board Meeting Minutes March 1, 2018

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The Advisory Board was called to order by Tim Greene at 7:00pm. Present were Mark Cleveland, Susan Powell, Amy Koch, Harry Solis and Karen Reynolds. Jane Stout and Mark Maiellano were absent. Town Administrator, Peter Morin was also present.

ADMINISTRATIVE MATTERS

Bills - One bill at \$30.20 for binders from W.B. Mason for each Advisory Board member. Motion to pay the bill from W.B. Mason for \$30.20. Seconded and passed 6-0.

DEPARTMENT BUDGETS OVERVIEW AND ARTICLE DISCUSSIONS

Animal Control - Animal Control Officer, Brian Willard and TA proposed new language for the Animal Control By-Law.

- 1. To see if the Town will vote to amend Article XV Section 11 of the Town Bylaws by amending subsection (a) by adding the following: "All dogs within the Town of Norwell shall at all times display on a collar or harness the Town/City License tag in which the dog is licensed and a current rabies vaccination tag." And further amending subsection (k)(1) by inserting after the word "unlicensed" the word "unvaccinated"; and further by deleting subsection (k)(3) and inserting the following new subsection:
- 2. (k)(3) In addition, any violation shall permit the Animal Control Officer to order the dog/animal restrained and enable the Animal Control Officer to impound the dog/animal. Return to the owner or keeper shall not be made until after the payment of a sum to the Town established by the Board of Selectmen. Disposition of dogs impounded and unclaimed shall be in accordance with the laws of the Commonwealth." And further by deleting subsection (m)(1) and inserting in place thereof the following:
- 3. (m)(1) No person shall allow a dog onto any Town property posted NO Dogs Allowed. Service dogs under close control of their owners wearing a valid dog license and certified as a service dog shall be excluded from this provision. Any person in violation of this section shall be punishable by fine of not more than fifty (50) dollars for each offense. The Board of Selectmen shall have authority to dispose of said violations in accordance with Massachusetts General Laws chapter 40 section 21D.
- 4. (m)(2) All dogs being walked on the Pathways under the jurisdiction of the Town shall be on a leash.

Water Department - Peter Dillon, Fred St Hours and Jack McInnis from the Board of Water Commissioners initiated an in depth conversation about the projects the Water Department completed throughout the year. Well #2 at Grove Street was rehabilitated with the expectation to double capacity, land was purchased abutting the Grove Street property for water supply protection and water exploration and through an easement from Harbor Lane, Kings Landing will be on Town water supply in the next month. Norwell was also granted a new Water Management Act permit. This is a permit from the State sets the expectations and restrictions for pumping and consumption. Norwell pioneered a new Tier Based Water Restrictions Program a few years ago as a result of the severe drought that year. The State's Restrictions are based on the Program Norwell developed. The Town has year round restrictions that help keep our aquifers balanced and productive.

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While maintenance is an unpredictable, costly and large part of the budget, and most water mains are 50-60 years old but have a life expectancy of 110-130 years. The Water Department works hard to inspect the mains when problems occur at the arteries which divert water to smaller water conduits into neighborhoods. The health of Town water mains is very good. The Water Department uses both cell phones and tablets to control the water system. These devices can pinpoint the location of a leak and the shutoff valve quickly. One result of this efficiency is the Water Department has fewer employees than neighboring communities.

The Water Department is completely self funded as mandated by the EPA.

The Water Department drafted two Articles one for the Special Town Meeting for water exploration and drilling and one Article for Annual Town Meeting for the purchase of another parcel of land for water supply protection, and it is also adjacent to Well #2 at Grove Street.

Total budget for Water Department is \$1,383,249

Cushing Memorial - Representing the Cushing Center, Jef Fitzgerald and Mary Lou O'Leary reviewed the year at the Cushing Center. The building is in good condition due to continued maintenance; it was painted, storm windows replaced and a new parking lot paved. The HVAC system is in good order at about ten years old. Each office space is rented and the revenue is \$30,702 this year. Two offices are leased to a church, and the meeting hall has regular church service on Sunday. The meeting hall is also rented for events including weddings. The revenues for hall rental is \$25,690. It is also important to note that the meeting hall is reserved regularly for Town Departments at no charge. Town residents rent the hall at a discounted rate from non-residents. This charming site is a gem of Norwell.

During the last year, before a new tenant moved in, a rug was replaced. Also a car accident caused damage to the front steps and the 20yr old slate roof has tiles slipping off. Maintenance will continue. *Total budget for Cushing Memorial Center is* \$65,670

FUTURE MEETINGS

March 6, 2018 March 8, 2018 March 13, 2018

Adjourn - Motion made to Adjourn. Seconded and passed 6-0.

Tim Greene, Chairman