

**TOWN OF NORWELL  
Advisory Board  
Meeting Minutes  
March 21, 2019**

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TOWN CLERK  
2019 APR 12 AM 9:22  
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The Advisory Board was called to order by Susan Powell at 7:00 pm. Present were Peter W. Smellie, Julie Sim, Karen Reynolds, Susan Powell, Mark Maiellano, Mark Cleveland, Harry Solis and Brian Greenburg. Kate Steele was absent. Town Administrator, Peter Morin, was also present.

**ADMINISTRATIVE MATTERS:**

**Minutes --**

All members reviewed the minutes from 2/26/19. *Motion made to accept the minutes from February 26, 2019. Seconded and passed 6-0-2*

**Bill(s) -- None**

**Reserve Fund Transfer Requests -- None**

**Correspondence/Notices -- None**

**Board Vote: Approval of Department Budgets Discussed at Prior AB Meetings**

**Norwell Public Schools** - A motion was made to accept the TA recommended budget for \$28,178,328. *Motion seconded and passed 8-0*

**South Shore Vo-Tech** - A motion was made to accept the TA recommended budget for \$315,566. *Motion seconded and passed 8-0*

**ARTICLES:**

**Conservation Commission**

Nancy Hemingway, Conservation Agent, and Marynel Wahl, Conservation Commission Board Chair, presented two Articles to the AB.

**Hazardous Tree Removal**

This Article seeks the sum of \$25,740 for the purposes of conducting a trail hazard removal program along the Town's Woodland Conservation Trails. The current condition of many major trees along the trail system has deteriorated due to the extreme wind and snow storms of March 2018 following close to a decade of alternating near drought/torrential rains, which have weakened and killed many trees resulting in dangerous trail conditions.

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Under normal circumstances, the regular maintenance budget is sufficient to take care of routine trail and woodland maintenance. However, the recent storms have necessitated additional funding to remove hazardous trees. A request to the CPC to fund this Article was denied since it exceeds the scope of CPC authorized projects. State law prohibits the use of CPC funds for maintenance projects. TA recommended that the Conservation Commission utilize money available in its trust fund. However, the Conservation Commission would prefer to preserve this fund for land preservation needs. The TA noted that there is no money available in free cash this year to help fund this article. The AB agreed that this work needs to get done.

After further discussion and a failed proposal to defer the vote to allow the TA to seek alternate funding sources, a motion was made to vote the Article.

***Seconded and failed 1-7***

#### **Jacobs Pond Weed Treatment**

A request for \$10,000 was presented to treat and manage the invasive weeds in Jacobs Pond. This Article is also not eligible for CPA funds.

Motion made to accept the proposed Article to remediate weeds in Jacobs Pond in the sum of \$10,000. ***Seconded and passed 8-0***

#### **Community Preservation Committee**

Bob Norris presented and spoke to the eight Articles requests for Town Meeting. He also explained that as more towns join the optional CPA state program, the state funding allocation for participating towns has declined. Norwell had in the past received a 100% state match, however, this has now been reduced to 11.5%.

(1) The Pathways Committee is requesting \$350,000 from CPC to construct a parking area and access road for entry to Wompatuck State Park in Norwell. This would provide for 20 vehicles to park at this location off of Grove Street at the entry point to the Wompatuck trails.

Motion made to accept the proposed article. ***Seconded and passed 8-0***

(2) The Conservation Commission is seeking the sum of \$30,000 from CPC to update the Open Space and Recreation Plan as required by the state to remain eligible and qualified to apply for and receive DCR and other land protection grants.

Motion made to accept the proposed Article. ***Seconded and passed 8-0***

(3) The Conservation Commission is requesting the sum of \$70,000 from the Community Preservation Fund for trail development to connect the Simon Hill trails to the Hatch Lot trails.

Motion made to accept the Article as written. ***Seconded and passed 7-1***

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(4) The Conservation Commission seeks the sum of \$30,000 from CPC for a feasibility study to develop and expand trails and recreation areas around Jacobs Pond.

Residents of Jacobs Pond Estates were in attendance and furnished the AB with a copy of a letter addressed to the Board of Trustees, Jacobs Pond Condominium Trust. The residents strongly oppose the idea of a public trail along the western shore of Jacobs Pond abutting or on Jacobs Pond Estate Condominium property, and any other public parking on or at the entrance way to the JPE area. The Conservation Commission duly noted these concerns and will work with the residents to reach a satisfactory outcome.

Motion made to accept Article as written. **Seconded and passed 8-0**

(5) The Historical Society is requesting the sum of \$17,200 from the Community Preservation Fund for the historic resource purposes pursuant to M.G.L Chapter 44B, for the restoration of four North River shipyard plaques in the Town along the North River.

Motion made to accept Article as written. **Seconded and passed 8-0**

(6) The Historical Society and the Norwell Public Library is seeking the sum of \$1,085 from the Community Preservation Fund for the historic resource purposes pursuant to M.G.L Chapter 44B, for the restoration of the 1857 Walling map of Plymouth Country to hang in the new Norwell Public Library.

Motion made to accept Article as written. **Seconded and passed 8-0**

(7) The Recreation Commission is requesting the sum of \$225,000 from the Community Preservation Fund for recreation purposes pursuant to M.G.L Chapter 44B, to renovate and upgrade the Osborne Ball Field to meet Little League requirements and the Osborne side soccer field to meet current soccer standards.

Motion made to accept Article as written. **Seconded and passed 8-0**

(8) To see if the Town will vote pursuant to Massachusetts General Law Chapter 44B to reserve the sum of \$120,000 from Community Preservation Fund FY2020 revenues for the creation, preservation and support of affordable housing; to reserve the sum of \$120,000 from Community Preservation Fund FY2020 Revenues for the acquisition, preservation, rehabilitation and restoration of historic resources; and to reserve the sum of \$120,000 from Community Preservation Fund FY2020 revenues for the acquisition, creation and preservation of open space, or to take any other action relative thereto.

Requested by the Community Preservation Committee

This is an annual routine housekeeping article to comply with state law.

Motion made to accept the Article as written. **Seconded and passed 8-0**

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**Board of Selectmen**

**Street lights (STM)**

Gregg McBride, BOS, presented to the AB. \$30,000 is being sought for a Geographic Information Systems (GIS) inventory audit of the Town's existing street and other outdoor lights. The ultimate goal is to purchase the street lights from National Grid and to replace all the bulbs with cost saving LED technology. Gregg explained the scope of this study in some detail which includes the design analysis and the procurement procedures.

Motion made to accept the Article as written. ***Seconded and passed 8-0***

**Matters Not Anticipated by the board - None**

**FUTURE MEETINGS:**

**March 26th**

**March 28th**

**April 2nd**

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



Susan Powell, Chair