# Norwell Board of Selectmen Meeting Minutes April 3, 2013

Gregg McBride opened the meeting and introduced Vice Chair Ellen Allen, Clerk David DeCoste and Town Administrator James Boudreau. Agenda amended to move the Stetson Cemetery Proposal from New Business to Old Business. MOTION: Ellen Allen moved the Board approve the agenda as amended. Seconded by David DeCoste and unanimously voted.

# **CITIZEN COMMENTS** – None

<u>APPROVAL OF MINUTES</u> – January 2, 2013 and two for January 9, 2013, all open meetings. *MOTION: Ellen Allen moved to approve the open meeting minutes for January 2, 2013, and for both the first and second open meeting sessions for January 9, 2013. Seconded by David DeCoste and unanimously voted.* 

7:35 Audit Engagement – Jim Boudreau told the Board that the Town has engaged Melanson Heath for the past 5 audits. Finance Director and Town Accountant Donna Mangan requested that the Board of Selectmen extend the engagement with Melanson Heath for another 3 years because her office will be going through a financial software conversion that will last into 2015. Melanson Heath & Co. are familiar with the system and the books, which will facilitate this conversion. She also noted that the Town's AAA Bonding occurred during MH&Co.'s second year and that MH&Co. are very helpful all year, not just during the audit. Ellen Allen inquired if there is turnover of the individuals from MH&Co. who do the audit work. Mangan explained that is mostly the case with the junior auditors. David DeCoste asked to defer this decision for a week because of a question from an Advisory Board Member. Gregg McBride asked if the question was about not bidding this out or about making a change in auditors. David DeCoste said it was both. Jim Boudreau explained that under MGL, this is exempt from public bid laws. The Board decided to take up the matter at their next meeting.

7:45 Public Hearing – Herb Chambers Lexus, Motor Vehicle Cl. 1 License, Pond St.

8:15 Public Hearing - Shields General Store, Alter Premise, 682 Main St.

# OLD BUSINESS

**Budget Discussion and Warrant Articles** – Jim Boudreau explained that the Advisory Board voted to recommend the budget that was presented to them. Warrant goes to printer Friday or Monday. The process with the Advisory Board was smooth this year.

#### **NEW BUSINESS**

McGreal's Tavern – Request to Serve outside, 4/14/13, 1pm – 2:30pm – MaryAnn McGreal of McGreal's Tavern requested permission to serve alcohol outside during a "Bike Run" to be held on Sunday April 14, 2013 from 1:00PM to 2:30PM. MOTION: Ellen Allen moved that the Board approve the request to allow McGreal's Tavern to serve alcohol outside on April 14, 2013 between the hours of 1:00PM to 2:30PM, subject to having a Police Detail as requested by the Police Chief. Seconded by David DeCoste and unanimously voted.

Bartending Service of New England One Day License Request – April 26, 2013

MOTION: Ellen Allen moved that the Board approve a request from Bartending Service of New England, LLC for a one day license to serve Wine & Malt only for the Hobamock PTO Fundraiser to be held at the

Cushing Center on April 26, 2013 between the hours of 7:00PM to 11:00PM. Seconded by David DeCoste and unanimously voted.

**Town Meeting Forum** – April 24, 2013. The purpose of this forum will be to educate citizens about the Warrant Articles. Articles will not be debated; that is saved for the Town Meeting floor. David DeCoste would like to hold this in a larger venue. Gregg McBride and Ellen Allen felt it was important to have it televised. Gregg McBride asked Jim to draft and submit a memo to all individuals involved with Warrant Articles inviting them to this Forum.

Stetson Cemetery Proposal – Jim Boudreau briefed the Board on the proposed Stetson Cemetery plans which came in at under \$1.1M. Gregg McBride explained that this proposal includes landscaping, a maintenance building, and installed conduit for future electrical hookup. There will be no septic on site, but water will be available. Ellen Allen stated that Phase I of this project would be a 20 year bond that would fit under the tax levy, i.e. require no override. This assumes an interest rate of 3%, but it could be lower. The Board commended the Cemetery Committee for its efforts to scale back the original plans. MOTION: Ellen Allen moved that the Board of Selectmen support this proposal and include it in the Annual Town Warrant. Seconded by David DeCoste and unanimously voted.

# **UPCOMING MEETINGS:**

April 10, 2013

### **ANNOUNCEMENTS:**

None

**EXECUTIVE SESSION** - Collective Bargaining, Pending Litigation, Contracts

MOTION: Ellen Allen moved that the Board enter into Executive Session for the purpose of discussing collective bargaining and pending litigation and not return to open session. Seconded by David DeCoste and unanimously voted.

Chairman Gregg McBride explained that to discuss this in an open meeting might have a detrimental effect on the Town's bargaining or litigating position. Gregg McBride polled the Board. Gregg McBride voted yes, Ellen Allen voted yes and David DeCoste voted yes.

Board of Selectmen