

**Norwell Board of Selectmen
Meeting Minutes
July 24, 2013**

Ellen Allen opened the meeting and introduced Vice Chair Jason Brown, Gregg McBride, David DeCoste, Tammie Garner and Town Administrator Jim Boudreau. *MOTION: Jason Brown moved the Board approve the agenda as written. Seconded and unanimously voted.*

CITIZEN COMMENTS – None

School Department – Present: School Committee (SC) Members Kiersten Warendorf, Mary Lou O’Leary, Brian Noble and Amy Koch. Ellen explained the Board had been discussing items to place on the Town’s website and David suggested that Town employees’ salaries be available on the website. Ellen felt the SC should be part of the discussions since more than half the employees are school personnel. David said Hanover and Cohasset publish salaries in the Town Report and you can download Weymouth and Hingham from their web page. Kiersten said this was discussed by the SC on July 15, 2013. In the Annual Report, Administrative salaries are listed and Teachers’ Contracts are on the Dept. of Education website with salary schedules. At the last SC meeting they unanimously agreed that publishing each individual salary on the web site is unnecessarily controversial, confrontational, a violation of individual privacy and causes a negative work environment. David said that it is public information and asked if the SC is saying public information should not be public. Mary Lou confirmed that, yes, it is public information but as a Town you can decide how it is distributed. Mary Lou inquired what purpose it would serve publishing salaries and David stated transparency. Jason suggested that it could be posted with salaries, but without names. Tammie inquired if you are posting by position will there be an explanation of the wide range of salaries, for example years of service or education. Ellen explained discussions are not because of requests; it is being proactive. Kiersten suggested that a link be provided that would take you to the Dept. of Ed. salary schedule. Gregg suggested this is not time pressing, to gather more thoughts and information, find a middle ground and discuss at a future meeting. Kiersten updated the Board that the Schools have been busy implementing Common Core, Evaluations, iPads and Technology.

Jim briefly updated the group on the status of ESCO, the pros and cons. The Superintendent and Jim agree the cost vs. the cost savings would not be in the best interests of the Town at this time and they both agree not to recommend it.

PBMC – No members present. Board has a list from Pomroy Associates on the Development Budget for the Norwell Police Station dated 5/15/13. Cost estimate for project is approx. \$5.2M. Jason, David and Ellen are attending PBMC meetings. Board had discussions on the differences between municipal bidding vs. private sector bidding on price per sq. foot, costs, labor and bidding. The State’s “prevailing wage” laws drive up the cost significantly relative to the private sector.

OLD BUSINESS

Library/Town Hall – Next Steps – Tammie reported that the Library is looking at past plans and options for a Town Hall/Library and not having to spend money at this time. The past plans for a new library were before digital media and we have to take a better look at what a library will look like going forward. The Board feels it would be best not to put this on the PBMC, but create a Library/Town Hall Study Committee. Ellen, Jim and Tammie will put together thoughts on membership and a mission they could be charged with.

NEW BUSINESS

Advance in Lieu of Borrowing – Water Borrowing – Jim explained the purpose of advancing funds. \$1,250,000 is for Water mains not < 6” nor > 16” in diameter. Authorization for the debt was approved at Town Meeting on 5/6/13 in Article 22. *MOTION: Pursuant to Mass General Laws Chapter 44 Section 20A, Jason Brown moved to authorize the Treasurer/Collector to issue an advance of funds in lieu of borrowing in the amount of \$920,000. Seconded and unanimously voted.*

Warrant Article Discussions – Articles received so far: 8 place holders from CPC, 1 place holder from EDC, place holder from pathways for small piece of property, 3 potential Selectmen articles are: personal and union contracts, police station, CPA surcharge. Ellen Allen feels the Police Station and reduction of CPA surcharge should go hand in hand. Police Station would have to be an override. \$5.2M excluded debt override. No Free Cash available for this. Capital Stabilization has approx. \$800,000.

MOTION: Jason Brown moved the Selectmen put an Article in the Special Town Meeting Warrant for Contracts. Seconded and unanimously voted.

MOTION: Jason Brown moved the Selectmen put an Article in the Special Town Meeting Warrant for the Police Station. Seconded and unanimously voted.

MOTION: Jason Brown moved the Selectmen put an Article in the Warrant for a reduction in the CPA surcharge. Seconded and unanimously voted.

Close Warrant – *MOTION: Jason Brown moved that the Board of Selectmen Close the Warrant for the Special Town Meeting to be held on October 7, 2013. Seconded and unanimously voted.*

Set Election Date – October 19, 2013 – *MOTION: Jason Brown moved that the Board set the Special Election date for October 19, 2013. Seconded and unanimously voted.*

Animal Control Officer Appointment – Paul Murphy – *MOTION: Jason Brown moved the Board appoint Paul W. Murphy as the Animal Control Officer to a term expiring June 30, 2014. Seconded and unanimously voted.*

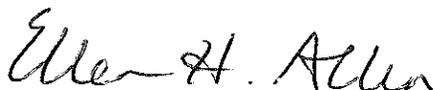
Deputy Chief Contract – Carol Brzuszek – This contract had been discussed in Executive Session and will be voted on by the Selectmen in Open Meeting. Jim explained the details as set in the Contract, which is publicly available. *MOTION: Jason Brown moved the Board of Selectmen approve the Contract between the Town of Norwell and the Deputy Chief of Police Carol Brzuszek as written. Seconded and unanimously voted.*

UPCOMING MEETINGS: Board discussed availability for August. Next meeting August 14th.

ANNOUNCEMENTS: Condolences offered to the families of Calle Cronk and Lisa Trojano.

EXECUTIVE SESSION – SEIU Contract and Finance Director Contract

MOTION: Jason Brown moved the Board enter into Executive Session for the purpose of discussing the SEIU Contract and the Finance Director's Contract and not return to open session. Seconded and unanimously voted. Chairman Ellen Allen explained that to discuss this in an open meeting may have a detrimental effect on the Town's bargaining or litigating position. Ellen Allen polled the Board. DeCoste voted yes, McBride voted yes, Brown voted yes, Garner voted yes and Allen voted yes.



Board of Selectmen