

**Norwell Board of Selectmen  
Meeting Minutes  
January 29, 2014**

Ellen Allen opened the meeting. All Board members were present. Town Administrator Jim Boudreau was not in attendance.

Agenda Amended to postpone New Business #1 FY15 Budget and Free Cash discussions because Jim Boudreau was not present to make his presentation. *MOTION: Jason Brown moved that the Board approve the agenda as amended. Seconded and unanimously voted.*

**CITIZEN COMMENTS** – None

**APPROVAL OF MINUTES** – None

**APPOINTMENTS**

**Auditor's Exit Interview** – Melanson, Heath & Co. presented their completed audit for FY13. The Town again received a clean audit and no items in the management letter constituted material weaknesses or significant deficiencies. The auditors noted that the statements would start to include unfunded pension liabilities in FY15 per GASB 68. The first 5 years of the 30 year funding schedule for OPEB liabilities that have not been funded are already included. The Unassigned Fund Balance, a major focus of debt ratings agencies, continues to be strong and was up from FY12 to \$3,470,917. S&P suggests that the UFB + Stabilization represent 10-15% of General Fund Expenditures; Norwell's was 10.63%. The Change in fund balance, which is comparable to the net profit in a business, was \$879,688 before the use of Free Cash and Overlay Surplus. The positive variance in revenues of \$1,034,069 was similar to FY12. Expense turn backs of \$1,061,312, of which \$567,389 was from employee benefits, were deemed an appropriate level, reflecting appropriately tight budgeting.

**NEW BUSINESS**

**Selectmen Warrant Articles** – Ellen Allen listed the standard articles that are put forward by the Selectmen. For the Special Town Meeting these are placeholders for Union and Personal Contracts, Legal Services and Stabilization. For the Annual Town Meeting, these are Acceptance of Town Reports, Union and Personal Contracts, Transfer to the OPEB Trust, Transfer to the Capitalization and regular Stabilization Funds, and an article to potentially Decrease the Tax Rate. Additional potential articles this year are funding for furnishings for the new police station, a version of the Economic Development Committee zoning article, funding for a Library/Town Hall Committee study and/or a By-Laws review (to be discussed with the Planning Board on Feb. 12, 2014). Gregg McBride said he would like there to be an article to fund changes to the intersection of Prospect and Grove Streets unless Paul Foulsham is definitely doing this already.

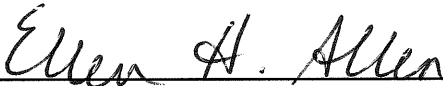
**The Silent Chef One Day License Request – March 1, 2014** – *MOTION: Jason Brown moved that the Board approve a request from The Silent Chef for a one day license to serve All Alcohol for a Birthday Party at the Cushing Center on March 1, 2014 between the hours of 6:30PM to 10:30PM. Seconded and unanimously voted.*

**Mass Bay Bike Race Request for July 14, 2014** – *MOTION: Jason Brown moved to approve the request from Mass Bay Road Club for a Bike Race to be held in Norwell using Circuit Street and Forest Street on Sunday July 14, 2014 providing, per the Fire Chief's request, that the organizer hire a Norwell Fire/EMS detail and not have any other EMT present. Seconded and unanimously voted.*

**UPCOMING MEETINGS:** Jim Boudreau's Budget & Free Cash presentation will be next week, as well as members' feedback from the MMA Annual Meeting.

**ANNOUNCEMENTS:** None

**ADJOURNMENT** – *Motion was made to adjourn. Seconded and unanimously voted.*

  
\_\_\_\_\_  
Board of Selectmen