

**Norwell Board of Selectmen  
Meeting Minutes  
April 23, 2014**

TOWN OF NORWELL  
TOWN CLERK

2015 SEP -8 AM 9:45

RECEIVED

Ellen Allen opened the meeting and introduced Gregg McBride, Jason Brown, Tammie Garner, David DeCoste and Town Administrator Jim Boudreau. *MOTION: Jason Brown moved the Board approve the agenda as amended to add the Mass Bay Bike Race to New Business. Seconded by David DeCoste and unanimously voted.*

**Citizen Comments – None**

**New Business**

Amend date of approved Mass Bay Bike Race –

*Motion; made by Jason Brown, seconded by David DeCoste, to amend the date of the Mass Bay Bike Race from Sunday, July 27<sup>nd</sup> to Sunday, August 3<sup>rd</sup>. Unanimously voted*

**Library/Town Hall Study Committee Update**

Ms. Allen met with Frank White regarding this update and asked the audience to hold questions until the end of the presentation. Ms. Allen summarized the status of support for the proposed Article to spend \$30,000 for “study money”; the BOS fully supports this Article, but the AB does not. Mr. White stated that this is not funding for a study as performed in prior years, but will provide the necessary information for Town residents to make an informed decision. He presented the objectives of the committee to identify options for a new Library or Library/Town Hall in each location. Surveys sent out by the Library will provide input into the decision making process for the committee. Mr. White recapped the plan for a combination Library/Town Hall that was created in 2008/2009 utilizing the current Town Hall and answered questions about the proposed plan. The Cushing Center option was discussed with pros and cons for use of the space in conjunction with a potential sale/alternate use for the site of the current Town Hall. Mr. White led a discussion utilizing maps of the Town to illustrate options for various locations for a new combination building. Building and parking options were discussed for the Cushing Center location as well as other options for current buildings in Town Center. The State grant cycle is the catalyst for the timeline for this project. Mr. White gave cost estimates for the initial project development (\$30,000). The committee will be reviewing this proposed Article with the AB in one week. Mr. Brown stated that options other than just the Cushing Center proposal should be presented to the residents because there are many different perceptions of the direction that this project should take. However, the committee should be cognizant of the tax implications of this project, which will be a major concern for residents. Mr. McBride stated that the Cushing Center option is probably not feasible, but the study is needed in order to have a comprehensive plan going forward. Board members expressed concern over rising tax rates, but thanked the committee for their hard work on this complex project. Ms. Garner asked what the Town would get for funding this Article, and perhaps plans for both the Cushing Center and Sparrell School should also be funded. Mr. White gave an overview of the options for building a combination library and “other” space, stating that the costs have to be separated by use for the proposal. Ms. Garner asked if other locations were being considered; Mr. White stated that these are the two most prominent locations being discussed, but other locations are certainly still being considered, and further options were discussed by the board.

*Motion; made by David DeCoste, seconded by Tammie Garner, to support the expenditure of \$35,000 to study actionable options for a new Library/ Town Hall. Unanimously voted*

## **Old Business**

### **Article Discussion**

Jim Boudreau discussed updates for Warrant Articles. Mr. DeCoste clarified that the Town Meeting Forum is not a debate, but proponents of Articles may give explanations. Ms. Garner gave an update on the Personnel Board, who will meet before Town Meeting to continue work on the hiring process for the new Recreation Director, as well as updates to overtime regulations for Library personnel. This will not be discussed at Town Meeting.

### **Bylaw Review Committee Discussion**

Ms. Allen led a discussion of the need to have two separate committees for Zoning bylaws and other bylaws. This topic will be put on the agenda after Town Meeting for further discussion.

### **Town Meeting Forum**

Ms. Allen invited all residents to the Town Meeting Forum to be held next Wednesday, April 30<sup>th</sup> at 7pm in the Osborne Room. Questions are invited and will help with better understanding of Articles on the Warrant. Mr. DeCoste asked about posting the study for the proposed AH plan at 40 River Street on the Town website. Mr. McBride gave a short summary of the proposed plan status.

### **Road Opening Season**

Ms. Allen announced that it is again Road Opening Season. If work needs to be done on a particular street residents should contact the Highway Department.

### **Upcoming Meetings**

Ms. Allen gave a list of upcoming meetings.

### **Announcements**

Monday night is Candidates Night.

Tuesday night is the Moderator's meeting.

Wednesday night is the Town Meeting Forum.

Absentee ballots are available at the Town Clerk's office.

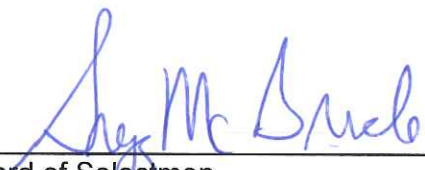
Norwell Housing Production Plan certification letter of approval has been received. There is a two year safe haven because of the Simon Hill proposed project, but there are limitations to this safe period.

The Norwell Police Department announced that residents may bring unused prescription drugs to the River St. Police Station lobby this Saturday (or anytime) in recognition of National Drug Take-back Day.

Marshfield Fire Department will be holding training next Saturday for rescue training.

### **Adjourn to Executive Session**

*Motion; made by Jason Brown, seconded by David DeCoste, to enter into Executive Session to discuss Collective Bargaining and Personal Contracts. Ms Allen polled the board; Mr. Bride-yes, Ms. Garner-yes, Mr. Brown-yes, Ms. Allen-yes, Mr. DeCoste-yes.*



Board of Selectmen