

**Norwell Board of Selectmen
Open Meeting Minutes
11/14/18**

2018 DEC 20 AM 11:36

Present: Ellen Allen, Gregg McBride, Jason Brown, Alison Demong, Peter Morin

Open Session; 7:00pm

The meeting was called to order by Chair Ellen Allen at 7:05pm.

Motion; made by Gregg McBride, seconded by Alison Demong, to approve the open meeting minutes for 10/17/18. Allen, Brown, Demong voting yes, McBride abstaining due to absence at that meeting. Motion carried

Future Meeting Agendas

1. Tablet discussion on 11/28
2. Authorization of Assistant Assessor to sign DOR form on 12/5
3. Sec. of State Jay Ash 12/19, then BOS dinner at 7:30

Authorization of Assistant Assessor to sign DOR forms

Discussion ensued about the board's concerns with this form.

Next steps: reschedule this discussion for the 12/5/18 meeting, in conjunction with the tax levy hearing. Mr. Morin explained that the form is now submitted electronically, so in effect it becomes an electronic signature. This will be discussed further at the 12/5/18 BOS meeting.

Open Session Continued at 7:30pm

Ms. Allen welcomed all to the meeting. She reminded all that the meeting is being televised and recorded. All rose to recite the pledge of allegiance.

Motion; made by Gregg McBride, seconded by Alison Demong, to approve the agenda as amended. Unanimously voted

Discussion of Agenda item 4d will be rescheduled to the 12/5/18 BOS meeting.

Citizen Comments - None

Selectmen Reports

Ms. Allen announced that the tax classification hearing will be held at the BOS meeting on December 5, 2018. All are welcome to attend.

The BOS is meeting with Norwell business owners at the Police Station on Friday, November 16th at 7:30am to discuss the sign bylaw. This initial meeting will review business owners' concerns with the current bylaw and discuss proposed changes. The goal is to bring an updated and revised sign bylaw to the Annual Town Meeting in May 2019 which will strike a better balance with the Town's businesses.

The sign bylaw powerpoint may be available on the Town website for review by residents who cannot attend the meeting.

The BOS is not meeting next week, the night before Thanksgiving, but will resume their regular meeting schedule on Wednesday, November 28th.

Town Administrator's Report - None

Stephen Bright – Committee Applicant

Mr. Bright reviewed his background with the board, and all discussed the committee vacancy list and options for At Large seats. His legal background will work well with for the Board of Appeals, and his financial interest is a good fit for the Capital Budget Committee.

Motion; made by Gregg McBride, seconded by Alison Demong, to appoint Stephen Bright to the Board of Appeals as an Associate Member for a term expiring 6/30/20. Unanimously voted

Motion; made by Gregg McBride, seconded by Alison Demong, to appoint Stephen Bright to the Capital Budget Committee for a term expiring 6/30/21. Unanimously voted

Town Counsel, Robert Galvin - welcome new associate Anthony Riley

Atty. Galvin introduced his new associate Anthony Riley to the board and gave a short summary of his background and legal experience.

Mr. Riley thanked the board for the welcome. He noted that his legal experience includes work at Superior Court and the Court of Appeals as well as the Land Court. Atty. Galvin noted that Mr. Riley is a welcome addition to his staff to help with the workload. Ms. Allen mentioned her goal to update the Town's best practices for the public records law. Atty. Galvin did a presentation last year that he will forward to Ms. Allen about this topic.

Event Planning

Ms. Allen noted that this discussion came about because of the Racewire's late filing for a half marathon that was turned down by the Board due to insufficient time for the town to organize it. All discussed key issues. How much time is needed to plan safely and effectively for a big event? Sample applications from other towns were reviewed and discussed. Verbiage could be added to the application to indicate that a much longer lead time may be needed for such events as Summerfest and large road races, due to the fact that many races utilize the streets of the Town instead of park trails. The board would also like to get the opinion of the police department. The permit procedure timing is key in the approval process. The town of Braintree's application is the best example. Ms. Demong will review the event application policies further and bring ideas to a future meeting.

Announcements

Mr. Morin report that he and the Town Planner Ken Kirkland met with a representative from the Department of Energy Resources about promoting the use of alternate energy resources such as solar power in the Town. The state program would encourage alternate energy use through benefits and incentives. The hope is to have an Article ready for the spring Town Meeting. Mr. Bright added some information about the state's SMART program, which has incentives/credits for implementing the use of solar energy. This is a very complex subject. The board will follow up with Mr. Bright for more information.

Summerfest Discussion

Kristin Jervey and Art Joseph are present to discuss next year's Summerfest event. The proposed date would be June 1st 2019, from 1-7pm, with road closures from 8am-8pm. The Cushing Center has been reserved for this date. The group is partnering with Friends of Norwell because Summerfest is not a big enough entity to apply for its own 501(c) 3 status. Any profits from the event will go to the Norwell Food Pantry. Vendors are being asked to donate a percentage to the Food Pantry and the Norwell Scholastic Arts Society. Joseph's is sponsoring this event to celebrate their 90th year in business. Ms. Jervey gave a timeline for next steps, noting the need for extra funding this year because the Highway Department will have a larger role in the event. The. Ms. Jervey summarized the arrangements for parking, vendors, police, EMT's, etc.

Mr. Morin added a concern that has been raised by the Town's insurer: the bouncy houses provided for the children need additional liability insurance, as they and other amusements will be on Town property. The event's insurance is purchased thru Gordon Atlantic Insurance. Jeff Gordon, Ms. Jervey and Mr. Morin will meet in January to discuss this insurance issue, which

arose last summer when the Recreation Department wanted to rent the bouncy houses for a department event.

Art Joseph complimented Ms. Jervey on the excellent preparation work being done by both the Summerfest committee and the Norwell police (specifically Deputy Chief Brzuszek). Kudos to both from the BOS.

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Adjournment to Executive Session

Motion; made by Gregg McBride at 8:29pm, seconded by Alison Demong, to adjourn from Open Session and move into Executive Session to discuss personal contracts, not returning to Open Session. To discuss these matters in Open Session would be detrimental to the negotiating position of the Town. Unanimously voted

Ms. Allen polled the board; McBride voting yes, Brown voting yes, Demong voting yes, Allen voting yes.



Ellen Allen, Chair