

**Norwell Board of Selectmen
Open Meeting Minutes
3/20/19**

TOWN OF NORWELL
TOWN CLERK

2019 APR 25 AM 10:27

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

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Ellen Allen called the meeting to order at 7:06pm in the BOS conference room.

The board discussed the capital budget/funding Warrant Articles coming up later on the agenda. Mr. Brown would like to achieve all of the Town's performance metrics/financial policies for this fiscal year, which means reducing some of the asks like the Complete Streets sidewalks request for \$500K to \$250K.

Michelle Balconi of Harbor Media would like to have Spotlight Media Day, with a welcome reception, on April 4th in the Osborn Room from 4-6pm.

All discussed the voting hours for the upcoming election, noting that they will probably remain the same as last year's.

Either Ms. Allen or Ms. Demong will try to attend the next Planning Board meeting to help promote the sign bylaw changes.

The Pine Street proposal has been included with the Community Compact grant, and Mr. Morin is waiting for the contract to come back for phase 1, which should be soon. The plan is to wait for the second phase to spend all of the grant money. SITECH is the recommended engineer.

Architect Ed Forte is looking for full plans for Town Hall as well as the as-built drawings.

Approval of Minutes
None

Future Meeting Agendas Discussion

Open Session at 7:30pm

The meeting was called to order by Chair Ellen Allen at 7:33pm in the Osborn Room. She reminded all that the meeting is televised and recorded. All rose to recite the pledge of allegiance.

Approval of Meeting Agenda

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

Citizen Comments

Bill Dolan, a member of the Jacobs Pond Estates (JPE) board of trustees, was present at the meeting to react unfavorably to the Conservation Commission's CPA funding request for a feasibility study for the Jacobs Pond West area. He read a letter from a concerned JPE resident to the board. A copy of the letter is attached to these minutes. The study would research options to complete the circumference trail around Jacobs Pond and add a parking area in the vicinity of Jacobs Pond Estates. In return for granting an easement to construct a small parking area, the residents of JPE would have access to the shore of the pond behind their building with a small recreation area. Ms. Hemingway has offered to hold an informal meeting with the JPE residents to answer questions and discuss the trail and parking options. Per Mr. Dolan, the residents think that the public would park in their lot and use the trails, so they are emphatically not in favor of

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this project. The major objection to the idea is the construction of additional parking, because the current lot is already tightly controlled with very few visitor spots. Mr. Dolan also noted that "residents are worried about undesirable persons having access to the trail so close to the residences on the ground floor." Mr. McBride explained that this area is the smallest section of this proposed project.

Perhaps a next step for Mr. Dolan and other residents would be to attend the Advisory Board meeting tomorrow evening when the CPC Articles will be further reviewed and discussed.

Selectmen Reports

Long time Norwell resident Dot Dixon passed away recently at 96. She was the Town's oldest veteran and was a participant in many Town activities, serving on such boards as the COA. She was also a dispatcher for the Fire Department. She will be very much missed, especially for Town events honoring those who served our country such as the Memorial Day parade.

Update on the sign bylaw: the Warrant will include an Article to revise this bylaw. In addition to the two meetings held to give local businesses an opportunity to have input into the bylaw changes, there will be a public hearing next Wednesday, 3/27/19 at 7:40pm at the Planning Board Meeting in Room 112 at Town Hall.

The Norwell Council on Aging (COA), and the CERT team will host a grand opening of Norwell COA warming center from 1-3pm on Sunday, 3/24/19. The board gave a heartfelt thank you to Fire Chief Reardon, COA Director Susan Curtin and Selectman Alison Demong for making this happen.

Any resident wishing to run for a Town office must take out papers for the election by Wednesday 3/27/19. The papers must be returned with the requisite number of signatures by Friday, 3/29/19 at 5pm. The Town election is May 18th.

Thursday, 4/4/19 is Norwell Spotlight TV Day. Harbor Media has taken over the operation of the Town's local cable channels and broadcasting duties for Town department and committee meetings. They will host a reception for all in the Osborn Room from 4-6pm on 4/4/19. Harbor Media would like to invite residents to the reception, and also to develop content for local programming and come to them with ideas.

Town Administrator Report- none

Capital Improvement Plan

The 10-year capital plan completed two years ago has served as a guideline for capital costs and a benchmark for funding. There have been some unexpected items and asset replacements. Mr. Morin has asked each department to examine and update the plan to avoid any surprises with the goal of creating a better roadmap for the next 15 years. This ongoing effort will hopefully be completed by end of next week. Capital requests came in to the Capital Budget Committee, who made recommendations to the Advisory Board. The majority of funding requests were already part of the capital plan, but some large expenditures were not included, such as the request for Police department repeaters (to allow better cell phone service in the school buildings) and roof repairs. A number of requests were not approved. The board and Mr. Morin are also in the process of developing next steps for an action plan with regard to Town Hall and the Sparrell building.

Reopen and Close Town Meeting Warrant

Mr. Morin updated the board on the status of the ground lease for the Road To Responsibility (RTR) group home on Prospect Street. The original lease was for 40 years with two 10 year renewals. The owners are seeking to extend the lease in order to be eligible for a federal mortgage subsidy and are asking in an Article for the Town to vote to give them the authority to enter into an 80-year lease. Mr. McBride reminded all that the Town voted to allow Affordable Housing on that property, and the board leased it to RTR. This parcel is Town owned land that had been taken for tax title.

Motion; made by Gregg McBride, seconded by Alison Demong, to open the Town Meeting Warrant. Unanimously voted

Motion; made by Gregg McBride, seconded by Alison Demong, to accept the Article as written. Unanimously voted

Motion; made by Gregg McBride, seconded by Alison Demong, to close the Town Meeting Warrant. Unanimously voted

Town Administrator Review - Town Meeting Articles, Recommendations and Additions

Mr. Morin reviewed with the board each Article requesting funds. In most cases this is a proposed but not a final identified source for funding. The attached spreadsheet provides funding sources and amounts with comments for each Article in the Warrant.

Vote to Layout Forest Ridge and Henry's Lane

Motion; made by Gregg McBride, seconded by Alison Demong, that the board vote to layout Forest Ridge as a Public Way. Unanimously voted

Motion; made by Gregg McBride, seconded by Alison Demong, that the board vote to layout Henry's Lane as a Public Way, subject to payment of the existing tax liens. Unanimously voted

Request for approval for the Best Buddies Road Race Application – 6/1/19

Motion; made by Gregg McBride, seconded by Alison Demong, to approve the Best Buddies Road Race application for their challenge fundraiser bike ride on 6/1/19, between 7:30 and 9am, subject to the requirements from the Police Department for 2 police details and emergency contact information for the race organizers as noted in the approval memo. Unanimously voted

Request for approval for Summerfest

Ms. Allen briefly summarized the meetings that have been held to organize this event, noting that it is well managed and well run with good coordination with the police and other departments.

Motion; made by Gregg McBride, seconded by Alison Demong, to approve the permit application for the Summerfest event on 6/1/19 between the hours of 9:30am and 8pm, subject to approval by the Police Department of the final event plans and any subsequent changes. Unanimously voted

Announcement

Ms. Allen announced that the Metropolitan Area Planning Council will be holding a community "listening session" open to all South Shore residents on March 21st from 3-8pm at the Cushing Center. All are invited to attend and share ideas for the future of the south shore.

Adjournment

Motion; made by Gregg McBride, seconded by Alison Demong, to adjourn at 8:35pm. Unanimously voted



Ellen Allen, Chair

