

Norwell Board of Selectmen Open Meeting Minutes 8/8/18

Present: Ellen Allen, Jason Brown, Gregg McBride, Joe Rull, Peter Morin

Open session; 7:02pm

The meeting was called to order by Chair Ellen Allen. Ms. Allen updated the board on the status of the Norwell Grange Restriction. She reported that Ms. Demong called the MA Historical Commission this week to request a status report and a firm deadline for receipt of this restriction. Ms. Allen will update all on this building's status, as well as that of the 40 River Street project in the Open Session. The board discussed the 40 River Street project with regard to the 3rd Amendment to the purchase option agreement with Metro West (project developer). Motion; made by Gregg McBride, seconded by Jason Brown, to approve the 3rd Amendment to the Purchase Option Agreement with Metro West Development. Unanimously voted The board signed the agreement.

Motion; made by Gregg McBride, seconded by Jason Brown, to approve the 7/18/18 open meeting minutes. Unanimously voted

Motion: made by Gregg McBride, seconded by Jason Brown, to approve the comments for the Town Administrator's review.

Motion; made by Gregg McBride, seconded by Jason Brown, to enter into Executive Session at 7:25pm, returning to Open Session, for the purpose of discussing a potential property negotiation. Unanimously voted

To discuss this topic in Open Session would be detrimental to the Town's interests. Ms. Allen polled the board, McBride voting yes, Allen voting yes, Brown voting yes, Rull voting yes

At this time the board met in Executive Session.

Open Session, Reconvened at 7:35pm after Executive Session

Alison Demong joined the meeting.

All rose to recite the Pledge of Allegiance. Ms. Allen reminded all that the meeting is recorded and televised.

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

Citizen Comments - None

Selectmen's Reports and Announcements

Jason Brown, who is the BOS rep to the Advisory Board Nominating Committee, announced the list of new appointees to the Advisory Board. The new members are; Brian Greenberg, Peter Smellie, Julie Sim and Katie Steele. Congratulations to all.

Town Administrator's Report

Mr. Morin had a post-implementation meeting with MIIA for the new health insurance plan and shared feedback on the plan received at the meeting.

Movie night will be rescheduled to a Friday in September, which will allow more time to plan and organize this community event.

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Discussion/ Action Items

7:35 Police Chief Ted Ross - Police Officer Swearing In

Police Chief Ted Ross was present to swear in new police officer Sarah Harding. Chief Ross gave a history of her background, noting her extensive training and previous job history. She is replacing Sgt. Nurmenniemi, who retired on July 13th. Her family was present for the ceremony and pinning of her badge. Assistant Town Clerk Laurie Davis was present to swear in the new officer. A number of Officer Harding's coworkers were present at the ceremony. She was congratulated by all.

Chief Ross reported that he has been in touch with Ms. Wahl, Chair of the Conservation Commission to discuss the proposed flower planting project on the Carleton property.

Accept Resignation from David Osborne, Conservation Commission

Mr. Osborne has served for 13 years on the Conservation Commission and for 8 years as its rep to the CPC and the Pathways Committee. He will continue to be the Veterans Agent for the Town.

Motion; made by Gregg McBride, seconded by Jason Brown, to accept the resignation of David Osborne from the Conservation Commission. Unanimously voted

7:45 Ellen Markham – Conservation Commission Applicant

Ms. Markham was present to talk about her background and reasons for applying. She is very interested in this committee with relation to the wooded areas in her neighborhood. Mr. McBride updated her on the charge by the Town to the Conservation Commission and the education options that are available to her. She is eager to learn and get up to speed to serve on the Commission. She has the time to take the classes as well as the availability to help with site visits.

Motion; made by Gregg McBride, seconded by Alison Demong, to appoint Ellen Markham to the Conservation Commission for a term ending 6/30/19. Unanimously voted

7:50 Fred Bousquet – Open Space and Recreation Implementation Committee Applicant Mr. Bousquet was present to share his background and reasons for applying. Questions were asked by Mr. Bousquet and answered by the board about other Town boards who interact with open space and its usage in the Town. This committee also works on implementing the Town's open space plan, which is reviewed and updated about every 10 years.

Motion; made by Gregg McBride, seconded by Alison Demong, to appoint Fred Bousquet to the Open Space and Recreation Committee for the duration. Unanimously voted

7:55 Matthew Greene – ZBA Associate/Recreation Committee Applicant

Mr. Greene is a fairly new Norwell resident who is interested in applying for a seat on these two and perhaps additional committees. He shared his background and reasons for applying with the board. He is an attorney. Ms. Allen discussed appointing Mr. Greene to both the ZBA as an associate (which is part-time) and also the Recreation Committee. The board elaborated on the role of the ZBA for Mr. Greene.

Motion; made by Gregg McBride, seconded by Alison Demong, to appoint Matthew Greene to the Zoning Board of Appeals for a term ending June 30, 2019. Unanimously voted Motion; made by Gregg McBride, seconded by Alison Demong, to appoint Matthew Greene to the Recreation Commission for a term ending June 30, 2021. Unanimously voted

8:00 Noel Ripley - Jacobs Farm Architect Update

NHC Chair Mr. Ripley was present to give highlights of the negotiation with the architectural firm TBA for phase II of the rehab project. He reported that Facilities Manager Ted Nichols

negotiated a price of 10K less than the original quote. TBA found some overlap in the 2 phases of the project so the cost will be less. The NHC supported moving forward with TBA for phase II. The proposal has been made with a reduction from the original quote of 62,535 to 52,600. The NHC originally hoped to spend about 30K for this design work, but the CPA project accounts for this property have sufficient funding to cover these costs. Per Mr. Ripley, the firm is their first choice as they seem to be the most qualified. Supporting documentation for the new quotes will be forthcoming, and will be reviewed with Facilities Manager Ted Nichols next week. There is no set timeline at this point, but the NHC hopes to make progress on it in the near future. TBA must complete phase II before the project goes out to bid. All commented on how shabby the property looks, but noted that it can't be painted yet due to the pending lead removal. However, some work can be done in the winter such as all interior de-leading and ADA compliance construction.

Ms. Allen asked about a date to move the Stetson house to its permanent location. There was some misunderstanding about the work that Merrill Engineering is doing, which is now back on track for the foundation issues. Questions were asked and answered about the plans, which can now be finalized. Once that is done, the Town will look for a contractor to complete the move.

Accept Resignation from Becky Freed, Carleton Property Committee

Motion; made by Gregg McBride, seconded by Alison Demong, to accept with regret the
resignation of Becky Freed from the Carleton Property Committee. Unanimously voted

Board of Selectmen Committee Appointments

All discussed appointing a replacement for Ms. Freed to the Carleton Property Committee. The board will postpone this decision until the meeting on August 22nd.

Motion; made by Gregg McBride, seconded by Alison Demong, to appoint Joe Rull to the Complete Streets Committee as the BOS representative. Unanimously voted

Accept Resignation from Dennis Mahoney, North River Commission

Motion; made by Gregg McBride, seconded by Alison Demong, to accept with regret Dennis Mahoney's resignation from the North River Commission. Unanimously voted Mr. McBride gave all the history of the North River Commission, which is composed of 2 members each from three towns; Norwell, Marshfield and Pembroke. The members are the regulators for the scenic river aspect of the North River. This unique landmark is designated as a scenic river.

Ms. Allen updated all on the current list of Town Committee vacancies.

Carleton Property Committee Timeline, Wall Cleaning, Daffodil Planting

Ms. Demong reviewed the proposed committee timeline with the board. Mr. Brown would like this committee to have a kickoff meeting with the BOS before starting the program. They will be scheduled on a BOS meeting agenda in September. All discussed the current status of the paths and the stone walls that need to be cleaned. Mr. Ferguson's schedule is overloaded right now, and doesn't include time to interact with this project. This project may be rescheduled for a future point in time that works for the Town departments.

Town Administrator Final Review

All reviewed the BOS comments, which were included in the BOS meeting minutes from the 7/18/18 meeting approved earlier.

Motion; made by Gregg McBride, seconded by Alison Demong, to approve the BOS comments for the Town Administrator's review on July 11. 2018. Unanimously voted.

Norwell Historical Restriction for the Grange

Ms. Allen noted that there is no word yet from the MA Historical Commission for the proposed restriction on the Norwell Grange. Mr. Morin will call the Town Counsel to morning for an update.

Future Agenda items

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A revised schedule will be available in time for the meeting on August 22nd.

Mr. Morin talked to Kopelman and Paige about obtaining examples of other towns' sign bylaws for review.

Adjournment

Motion; made by Gregg McBride, seconded by Alison Demong, to adjourn at 8:40pm. Unanimously voted

Ellen H. Allen
Ellen Allen, Chair