

**Town of Norwell
Select Board
Open Meeting Minutes
9/14/22**

TOWN OF NORWELL
TOWN CLERK
2022 OCT 17 AM 11:07
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Present: Bruce Graham, Jason Brown, Ellen Allen, Andy Reardon, Peter Smellie, Peter Morin, Darleen Sullivan

Motion; made by Jason Brown, seconded by Pete Smellie, to approve the agenda as presented. Unanimously voted.

Approval of Executive and Open Session minutes: 9/14/22

Motion; made by Jason Brown, seconded by Pete Smellie, to approve the Executive Session minutes for 9/14/22. Unanimously voted.

Motion; made by Jason Brown, seconded by Pete Smellie, to approve the Open Session minutes for 9/14/22. Brown voting yes, Graham voting yes, Reardon voting yes, Smellie voting yes, Allen abstained as she was absent.

Select Board Reports - None

Town Administrator Reports

Mr. Morin updated the board on the Town Hall visit from the Norwell School third graders. He was impressed with the excellent questions they prepared!

Mr. Graham stopped by to thank the Norwell High School seniors who donated their time and efforts to Norwell Cares Day on 9/21. They were treated to ice cream (underwritten by the Town's police department gift fund).

Citizen Comments - None

Appointment to Beautification Committee – Julie Otero

Ms. Otero has been caring for the traffic island at the edge of Ridge hill and Oak Street for a long time and was invited to join the committee.

Motion; made by Jason Brown, seconded by Pete Smellie, to appoint Julie Otero, to the Beautification Committee for a term expiring 6/30/25. Unanimously voted

Resignation from Board of Appeals (ZBA) - Nicholas Dean

Motion; made by Jason Brown, seconded by Pete Smellie, to accept with regret the resignation of Nicholas Dean from the Board of Appeals. Unanimously voted

The board thanked Mr. Dean for his service to the Town.

Appointment – Alternate Plumbing/Gas Inspector – Paul Dickhaut

Motion; made by Jason Brown, seconded by Pete Smellie, to appoint Paul Dickhaut as Alternate Gas and Plumbing Inspector for a term expiring 6/30/23. Unanimously voted

Vote To update the authorized representative for the ARPA portal

Ms. Sullivan noted that this vote will authorize a change of the second signer on the portal from Peter Morin to Darleen Sullivan.

The following motion was read into the meeting minutes:

The Town may apply to Plymouth County for grants for certain eligible purposes to be funded from a grant received by Plymouth County pursuant to the American Rescue Plan Act. The County will receive applications for such grants through its online portal. The County requires evidence of Town authorization before granting access to the portal. The following votes will authorize one Town official to supply the County with all supporting data for each application and another Town official to approve the application and make the required representations and certifications on behalf of the Town to complete and submit the applications.

Voted: That the Authorized Representative, Darleen Sullivan is authorized to approve, finalize, and submit on behalf of the Town any such ARPA Grant application and to make all representations and certifications required to be made on behalf of the Town to complete each such application, with such approval, representations, and certifications to be evidenced by the signature of the Authorized Representative on such application; and if any such ARPA grant is awarded, the Authorized Representative shall be the recipient of such grant on behalf of the Town. Unanimously voted

Special Town Meeting; proposed Warrant Articles discussion, tentative dates

Mr. Morin reported that the board could open a Warrant for a Special Town Meeting (STM) at the next meeting of the Select Board on 10/12/22, but the proposed STM could not take place earlier than 12/19/22. The primary reason for this meeting is the current negotiation for the Town to purchase the St. Helen's property from the Archdiocese of Boston. Per Mr. Morin, the process is on a positive path and he is hoping that a successful P & S (contingent on approval at STM) will result. The Archdiocese is aware and in agreement to wait until an STM vote takes place. The Warrant might also contain Articles for additional project funding for the highway barn, removal of civil service from the police department hiring process and a potential Town Hall relocation.

Planning Director Ilana Quirk would like to include a zoning article to amend the Village Residential Overlay District (VROD). Amendments to the VROD were adopted in May 2021 and it was explained at the time to Town Meeting that further amendments likely would be necessary.

There is strong interest in the St. Helen's property purchase in precinct 1. This acquisition could prevent a hostile 40B. Even if the Town's plans for the property are vague, the purchase would be a significant milestone for the Town and needs careful contemplation.

Warrant Article details will be provided at the next meeting, as well as a better idea of the date. Scheduling the STM for a January date would not materially change this transaction. The highway barn project bid could be flexible, if only for a matter of weeks. The board consensus was that a January date would be better timing.

Mr. Morin updated the board on the status of the lawsuit filed by the Park View Inn. The decision by the superior court found the case to be arbitrary but it didn't prohibit the Town from not issuing a lodging license in subsequent years. Reminder, the Town didn't have the power to issue a lodging license under the zoning laws. But as there were no

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motels in Norwell, the Town used lodging licenses as a substitute permit. This decision doesn't cause any problems. There is no other news on the lawsuit yet.

Future meetings- October 12, 2022
October 26, 2022

Adjournment

Motion; made by Ellen Allen, seconded by Pete Smellie, to adjourn at 7:32pm.

Unanimously voted



Bruce W. Graham, Chair

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