

Regular meeting of the Board of Selectmen convened at 6:30 p.m. on Tuesday, May 7, 2019 in Rm 34, Norwood Memorial Municipal Building, with Pledge of Allegiance, moment of prayer, reflection.

Present: Chairman Paul Bishop, Selectmen William Plasko, Allan Howard, Thomas Maloney and David Hajjar.  
General Manager Tony Mazzucco, Clerk Christina Mulvehill, Assistant Aoife Kelly.

### Appointments

#### 6:30 P.M. – Executive Session-Purpose 3 To discuss strategy with respect to collective bargaining or litigation if an open meeting may have a detrimental effect on the bargaining or litigating position of the public body Labor Negotiations

Chairman Bishop stated the Board would enter executive session and reconvene in open session at approximately 7 p.m. and entertained motion for executive session. On motion of Selectman Howard, seconded by Selectman Maloney, voted unanimously by roll call vote to enter into executive session for the purpose of discussing collective bargaining in the Fire Department.

#### 7:00 P.M. – Chief William Brooks, Norwood Police Department

Chief Brooks gave the highlights of his monthly report of department activities, noting this has been a busy time for police training, including a Cyber Crime conference. The dispatch center remodel is underway and should be completed in three weeks. The public safety gym was redone with a donation from Ernie Boch. The Chief has been appointed to an advisory board for the FBI that advises the bureau on their criminal justice information systems. Four members of the police department participated in Career Interest Day were the Chief, Deputy Chief Kelly, Officer Melanie Wigmore, and Officer Paul Murphy as well as two members of the Massachusetts State Police. They addressed high school classes with students who are interested in law enforcement careers. The department conducted an entrance exam last month, with 172 applicants. The annual firearms training evolution is this month and every sworn officer will spend an entire day at an outdoor range to fire for qualification purposes. The department is working with the high school to collect prom gowns and suits for those who cannot afford them. Selectman Hajjar asked for minor modifications to the Chief's monthly report. In regard to the School Resource Officer reports, he asked whether there is an increase or decrease in volume of activity. The Chief said that is not necessarily the case and a lot of the information is difficult to quantify. Selectman Maloney referred to the report of Officer Rooney about meeting with an elderly person who had a lot of medications and there is mention of securing medicine in the home. The Chief said twice a year they participate in the Drug Enforcement Agency Drug Take Back Day, which is national movement to get people to turn in their unused prescription drugs. The Norwood station has a kiosk in the lobby where people can come in twenty four hours a day, seven days a week and drop off their medications with no questions asked. There are lockable medicine cabinets for homes with vulnerable people present.

#### 7:15 P.M. – Chief George Morrice, Norwood Fire Department

Chief Morrice gave an overview of his monthly report, reminding people that burning season has ended and people should no longer be burning. The Chief reported a busy few weeks, including responding to two mutual aid fire this week. Last week there was a working fire at 140 Morgan Drive, Home Market Foods when a section of the exhaust ductwork insulation that had become covered with grease ignited. It was a very labor intensive process for the members of Group 2 to put that fire out. A number of issues were addressed with Home Market Foods and they have agreed to institute measures to help in preventing fires. Chief Morrice spoke briefly about the remodel of the dispatch center, and the work that went into relocating the equipment. He thanked Sean Warnock, Assistant IT Director for his assistance moving the computers, as they did not have to hire a third party to do this. He also thanked Dan Morrissey, Jason Haber, and Bobby Griffin from the Light Department for moving the digitizer and the controls for the traffic lights in front of the station. Spring cleaning is underway at the station. They have set up a CPR course for the public for May 18, 2019 in the Public Safety Community Room. The Chief thanked the Brousaides family who won the Saint Catherine's ride a fire truck to school auction. Shane Perry, a fifth grader at the Oldham also won a ride a fire truck to school prize. He said the department is always happy to do community outreach. Selectman Hajjar asked about the section of the report mentioning work on last minute details of design. The chief said this is the very beginning of production, this would be the framework. There were a few issues the New Engine Committee was working on after review of the blueprint design. Selectman Hajjar then referred to the section in the report mentioning electrical, plumbing and HVAC repair and asked if there is any major that needs to be repaired that should be brought to the

Chief George Morrice, Norwood Fire Department-(cont'd)

attention of the Selectmen. The Chief had nothing major of that nature to report. Selectman Hajjar asked about the employee who is out IOD (injured on duty) and the chief explained that the individual has recently had an independent medical exam and he is waiting to hear back whether or not that individual can return to work or will be retired on disability. Selectman Hajjar commented on Overtime and Substitution issues. Chief Morrice assured him he is monitoring and working on this daily. There was a brief discussion of welding and welding permits. Selectman Maloney inquired about additional money for substitution appropriated at Special Town Meeting. Selectman Plasko asked if the town is taken advantage of because of our geographical location. Chief Morrice gave a brief explanation of the mutual aid process. Additional discussion of substitution ensued.

7:30 P.M. - Sigalle Reiss and Aubrey Ciol

Aubrey Ciol introduced herself as Program Director of Impact Norwood, and told a story about prevention and the role the community plays in that. The Impact Norwood Coalition does outreach with many groups in the community. People are bombarded with seeing substances everywhere. She spoke briefly about the photo voice gallery showing substances as seen through the eyes of youth. Some members of Impact Norwood Youth are currently taking pictures of things in the community that keep them safe. Ms. Ciol mentioned bi-annual TIPS certification courses they offer.

Board of Health Director Sigalle Reiss spoke about how policy can work to change the environment for youth in our community. Use of nicotine products and alcohol can be harmful to the adolescent brain. Ms. Reiss spoke about flavor bans that some towns have placed on mint and menthol vaping and cigarettes, stating the next step is restricting vaping and accessories to adult locations. Another challenge is monitoring the ever-changing marijuana industry, which changes routinely and the environment around both medical and retail adult use changes constantly.

Selectman Howard asked about vaping and cigarette smoking. Ms. Reiss said a lot of youth will start with an e-cigarette and then transition to traditional tobacco. Traditional tobacco use in youth is very low, but there is a large spike in e-cigarettes and nicotine products, and their target is on preventing youth access. Ms. Reiss spoke about the flavor ban restricting flavored products and mint and menthol flavor with the next step being restricting all vaping products and accessories to adult only facilities, of which there would be a cap of two in the town. Selectman Hajjar spoke about middle and high school youth vaping use. Ms. Ciol said in a survey conducted last year, about 34% of high school students admitted to using vaping products. Selectman Maloney spoke about the reference to data stating traditional tobacco use is going down, yet it was just stated that vaping use leads to traditional tobacco use. He asked if that should lead to increase in traditional tobacco use. Ms. Reiss said this was based on reports on high school students, not later in life.

7:45 P.M. – Timothy McDonough and Thomas McQuaid- Override Discussion

Mr. McQuaid referred to an article in the paper that was a letter to the editor and someone stated that because of the override, our taxes would go up 52% over five years, and would go up by 100% over ten years. In reality, over a five year period with the override, the average taxpayer's bill would be up 22% and at the end of a ten year period it would be up 38%. Right now an average tax bill is \$4,900. In year one the increase would be \$389, which is the big bump, and in year two that number would be \$398, so the increase after year one would be 2.5% as usual. Timothy McDonough thanked the Board for having him in and giving him the opportunity to provide this much needed information to the public. He distributed a packet of information to the Board regarding the tax levy and went through a power point presentation of the same.

Selectman Hajjar spoke about increasing the commercial tax base with new growth, therefore keeping residential taxes lower. He thanked both Mr. McQuaid and Mr. McDonough for their clarification and for dispelling the bad numbers that are out there. Selectman Plasko agreed it is important that they came in and the information they provided and the numbers would enable people to understand exactly what the impact will be. All three major boards made a pledge to operate in a certain way for at least the next five years and if we are able to get new growth and new sources of revenue that was not anticipated in the five year projection, taxes won't have to be raised as high. The Manager pointed out that year one the average taxpayer bill goes up by \$389 based on the statistical average home price of \$ 452,000. Year five as a result of the override, the tax bill is \$ 430 higher. Mr. McDonough said this increase will be reflected in the first quarter bill, for the period that ends September 30, 2019. Mr. McQuaid complimented the Planning Department and Town Meeting for taking the recent action on Article 5 to change the downtown zoning as it should add considerable new growth.

Timothy McDonough and Thomas McQuaid- Override Discussion

Selectman Maloney thanked them for the presentation and spoke in favor of Proposition 2.5 as one of the things it does is force towns to compete for new growth, which is good for the residential taxpayers. Development of the town is the way to go. Chairman Bishop spoke about his upcoming meeting with Mr. McDonough at the Senior Center. Selectman Plasko spoke about the tax break for widows and widowers and looking into that for fall town meeting. Mr. Mazzucco spoke about asking town meeting to adopt locally the option for seniors to have someone work in their place in the senior work off program.

New Business

Mary Lou Folan, Town Clerk:

On motion of Selectman Plasko, seconded by Selectman Maloney, voted to sign June 3, 2019 Special Town Election Warrant.

Selectman David Hajjar:

Discussion of committee to review Open Lot Storage and discussion of Route 1 zoning.

After speaking with Paul Halkiotis, Ernie Paciorkowski, and Tony Mazzucco it was decided to put together a working group to establish a process. The proposal is a six member group consisting of a Selectman, a Planning Board member, the Manager, a ZBA member, the Building Inspector and the Planning Director. The group would come back to the Board of Selectmen with an update. Selectman Plasko asked, for clarification purposes, if this group would be looking at process and how the whole thing is going to move forward. The Manager agreed, this is to look at what the process would be, as the open lot storage is tied into the rezoning of Route 1. There will have to be stakeholder engagement, public visioning sessions on the potential benefits for Route 1. They will also look at how quickly a corridor study could be done and is there funding available to do that. Selectman Plasko asked whether they were discussing open lot storage or rezoning of Route 1. Selectman Hajjar said both would be addressed in one working group at first, then the working group would decide how each issue should be dealt with. Selectman Plasko said he views the open lot storage differently as it has to wait for what happens on Route 1. We started to look into how to set it up locally and what fees we might charge by looking to Foxboro, Brookline and Cambridge for information. We stopped because Mr. Halkiotis was planning to take an article to town meeting to broaden the areas in town that could lease space for parking cars, but that ended up taking a back seat. The Manager said to start the process, the working group would look at both issues, and this will prevent setting up regulations related to open lot storage that may then change with the rezoning.

On motion of Selectman Plasko, seconded by Selectman Howard, voted to endorse the concept of a working group to try to get the ball rolling on the Route 1 zoning matter that was recently at town meeting and to appoint Mr. Hajjar to represent this Board. Selectman Maloney asked if this is specifically related to open lot storage. Selectman Plasko said this group would look at both open lot storage and Route 1 zoning. The zoning will be done by Planning Board but this working group will determine what the process would be, how to get public input, and input from the principals on Route etc.

Car Wash:

On motion of Selectman Howard, seconded by Selectman Hajjar, voted to approve NHS Field Hockey Team, Saturday, July 13, 2019 from 8 a.m. to 3 p.m.

Patricia Monahan, 24 Railroad Avenue:

On motion of Selectman Plasko, seconded by Selectman Maloney, voted to table letter of interest in being appointed to the Taxation Aid Committee.

Supt. Travis Farley, Recreation Department:

On motion of Selectman Hajjar, seconded by Selectman Maloney, voted to approve request to close Washington Street (Guild to Nahatan), East Cottage Street (Washington to Central) and Day Street (Washington to Central) on Saturday, September 7, 2019 from 7:00 a.m. to 5:00 p.m. for Norwood Day.

On motion of Selectman Plasko, seconded by Selectman Maloney, voted to table notification that Mike Lodge (President of Girls Youth Lacrosse) was able to secure a \$50,000 donation from Dell Brooks JKS and Turner Brothers Concrete for the installation of a "Bang Wall". He is requesting the Board accept this donation and approve the location of the "Bang Wall". Manager will clarify with counsel that no additional steps need to be taken

Cemetery Deeds:

On motion of Selectman Howard, seconded by Selectman Maloney, voted to sign:

Alice F Hilton, 202 Azalea Drive, to Lot C3-103

Frank K Nado, P.O. Box 22, East Walpole, to Lot C3-91

Patrick Moore, Comcast:

On motion of Selectman Howard, seconded by Selectman Maloney voted to file notice of Quarterly Franchise Fee Payment for January – March 2019 in the amount of \$46,697.63. (Has been sent to Norwood Community Media)

Manager's Update

New England Locations:

They have submitted a request for permission to shoot a commercial this coming Friday, weather permitting, both in the center of town and elsewhere. The applicant is working with Susan Lewis at the theater and they are seeking permission to use sidewalks on both sides of Central Street in front of and across from the theatre from Cottage Street to Nahatan Street, to closed Central Street as needed and that area, to restrict parking on this section of Central Street and on the Town Common sides for equipment and trucks, and permission to park vehicles in the Talbot and theatre lots. They are required to have police details and the public works if necessary and they must work with the abutters. The town will receive a \$1,500 permit fee. On motion of Selectman Howard, seconded by Selectman Maloney, voted to approve the requests as submitted.

Override Information Sessions

Budget Balancing Committee is hosting sessions this Thursday at 7 p.m. in the high school and this Saturday at 9 a.m. at the high school.

Selectmen's Addenda

Selectman Hajjar

Mothers' Day

Happy Mother's Day to every mother in Norwood, and the mothers who reside out of town. He offered an anonymous poem to them from many years ago:

I said a Mother's Day prayer for you to thank the Lord above

For blessing me with a lifetime of your tenderhearted love

I thank God for the caring you have shown me through the years

For the closeness we have enjoyed in time of laughter and of tears

And so I thank you from the heart for all you have done for me

And I bless the Lord for giving me the best mother there could be.

Plastic Bag Ban

State is going to support a ban on single use plastic bags. Ban on single use plastic bags

FMLA Policy

It's worth taking a look at as it reads differently now.

Shared Services

Read a very interesting article about shared services amongst towns.

Household Hazardous Waste Day

Saturday, May 11, 2019

Selectman Plasko

Dean Street Culvert

There is a detour there and the work won't get done until the fall. There are barriers there now, but is there something better we could do. The Manager will look into that.

Selectman Howard

Happy Mother's Day

To the mother of my three sons and to all mothers this weekend.

DPW

Kudos to the staff at the recycling center every Saturday. They are very helpful to all the residents. They are great.

Additional Landfill Hours

Asking the Manager to look into being open additional hours during the week. The Manager will look into that and get a cost analysis.

Senior Citizen Prom

To be held May 18, 2019 from 1 p.m. to 3 p.m. at the Senior Center.

Selectman Maloney

Annual Town Meeting

Beginning Monday, May 13, 2019.

Carillon Tours

To be held May 8 and 9, 2019.

Earth Day

Thank you John Aprea and Katie Neal Rizzo

Happy Mother's Day

Adjournment

No other business being presented for consideration, on motion of Selectman Hajjar, seconded by Selectman Maloney, voted to adjourn and the meeting was adjourned accordingly at 8:50 p.m.

A True Record.

ATTEST: \_\_\_\_\_  
Clerk