

**Selectmen's Meeting**  
**Hybrid Meeting**

**May 25, 2021**  
**Meeting is Recorded**

*Under Governor Baker's emergency "Order Suspending Certain Provisions of the Open Meeting Law G.L. C. 30A, Section 20", issued March 12, 2020 and in effect until termination of the State of Emergency: This meeting of the Board of Selectmen will be conducted by hybrid model with the Board meeting in person in the Community Room at 137 Nahatan Street, and all other participants joining remotely. The Meeting will be called to order by the Chairman at 6:45 P.M. Please see meeting information below:*

Board of Selectmen  
Tue, May 25, 2021 6:45 PM - 10:30 PM (EDT)  
<https://global.gotomeeting.com/join/491692437>  
United States: +1 (669) 224-3412  
Access Code: 491-692-437

**Present: Chairman Maloney, Vice Chairman Plasko, Selectman Donohue, Selectman Hajjar, Selectman Lane, General Manager Tony Mazzucco and Jess Jozwik. Appearing virtually – the Planning Board - Town Planner Paul Halkiotis, Joseph F. Sheehan, Ernie Paciorkowski, Debbie Holmwood, Robert Bamber, Brian Hachey and Derek Mason.**

**Executive Session**

6:45 p.m. Executive Session

Chairman Maloney called the meeting to order at 6:45 PM on motion to enter Executive Session for Purpose 6 - To consider the purchase, exchange, lease or value of real property if the chair declares that an open meeting may have a detrimental effect on the negotiating position of the public body. Motion made by Selectman Donohue, seconded by Selectman Hajjar. The Board voted 5-0 to enter Executive Session.

*Upon completion of discussion, on motion of Selectman Hajjar, seconded by Selectman Lane the Board voted to move to open session. The meeting was called to order at 7:00 PM on May 25<sup>th</sup>, 2021 in the Police Community Room at 135 Nahatan Street with Pledge of Allegiance and a moment of silent reflection.*

**Appointments**

7:00 P.M. Sigalle Reiss, Superintendent/Director, Norwood Health Department:

Discussed the changing COVID-19 Restrictions. Effective May 29<sup>th</sup>, 2021 all industries will be allowed to open and all restrictions will be lifted. The face covering order will be rescinded as well on May 29<sup>th</sup>, it will be replaced by an advisory – all of those who are unvaccinated should continue to wear face coverings indoors when they cannot practice social distancing. Masks will still be required in schools as well as private and public transportation regardless of vaccination status. The same applies to child care programs as well as health care facilities. The State of Emergency will be lifted on June 15<sup>th</sup>, 2021.

7:15 P.M. Joint Session with the Norwood Planning Board:

Discussion of proposed Zoning By-law amendments for Special Town Meeting. Town Meeting members voted to send a few of the articles back to the Planning Board for further study and consideration. During the Special Town Meeting in February, traffic was identified as one of the concerns predominantly in connection with the proposed Mixed Use Overlay Districts. The Planning Board directed Mr. Halkiotis, (Town Planner) to retain a traffic engineer to conduct analysis of how much traffic could be generated at a build-out capacity of the MUOD's in the future and what level of service would be at some of those intersections and roadways. The Planning Board contracted with VHB, specialists in traffic engineering. Traffic Engineer, Elsa Tan performed an analysis. The results of the study are posted on the Town's website under Boards and Committees/Planning Board.

## New Business

### Yellow Sheets for Special Town Meeting Warrants For Review of the Board

#### ARTICLE 1:

- (a) Human Resources salary – added a position that was approved for the FY22 Budget.
- (b) Building Department salaries: Combination of how busy the office has been – COVID restrictions and long term illness for someone who was out for a period of time and had to bring in a substitute inspector.
- (c) Outside Counsel: Needs to be adjusted to a more realistic number because what is budgeted is not adequate.
- (e) Norfolk County Agricultural School: Small adjustment of \$4,000.00. Changes based on the number of students.
- (f) Norwood Police Department Transfers: \$89,000.00 from remaining funds in the salary account to additional incidental costs. Norwood Fire Department: \$40,000.00 – outfitting new hires, maintenance of vehicles, radios and equipment.
- (g) DPW: Snow and ice overtime – this is just to get a correction in the budget – there is plenty of snow and ice money left – more was spent on snow and ice salary than the operation account. We used fewer contractors this season and it's just moving money within the budget.
- (h) Sewer Salaries and regular salaries: Adjustment in where we are booking them – trying to book water/sewer costs separately from operation costs.

Motion to endorse made by Selectman Lane, seconded by Selectman Hajjar. The motion was approved unanimously.

**ARTICLE 2:** The Fire Department is requesting \$5,000.00 to replace a commercial wooden door with locking mechanism. The third floor door was damaged due to vandalism. Motion to support made by Selectman Plasko, seconded by Selectman Donohue. The motion was approved unanimously.

**ARTICLE 3:** Funding for the elevator located at the Public Safety Building. It was originally on the warrant for last month but wanted to wait until we had bids in hand. There will be bids in hand for the next Town Meeting. Motion to support made by Selectman Donohue, seconded by Selectman Hajjar. The motion was approved unanimously.

**ARTICLE 4:** Would transfer \$700,000.00 from Free Cash to the Stabilization Fund. This would bring the Stabilization Fund to around – at July 1<sup>st</sup> – a total close to \$8,000,000.00. Motion to endorse made by Selectman Hajjar, seconded by Selectman Lane. The motion was approved unanimously.

**ARTICLE 5:** Would consolidate the rental revolving funds for the school department. Effectively, what it would do is allow them to take rental income and spend it at any building where it is needed and not just in the building where it's generated. It would also allow the funds to be carried over from year to year. Motion to approve made by Selectman Donohue, seconded by Selectman Hajjar. The motion was approved unanimously.

**ARTICLE 6:** To exempt the job classification of Apprentice Lineman from civil service, Chapter 31 of the General Laws. As part of the most recent agreement that the Light department reached with Local 1415A of AFSCME, Council 93, the Union has agreed to support this Civil Service exclusion petition for the Apprentice Lineman Position. This is the final Light Department position to be excluded from civil

service and will allow the Light Department to interview more candidates in order to select the most qualified people to become linemen. Motion to endorse made by Selectman Lane, seconded by Selectman Hajjar, The motion was approved unanimously.

**ARTICLE 7:** Boch Family at 8 Suffolk Drive in Norwood submitted this article as a private petition. The family has constructed a mausoleum to be used for home burials on their property. The Board of Health has voted to approve their application to construct the mausoleum and dispose of bodies in the mausoleum. After it is approved by the Board of Health, under State Law, Town Meeting must approve the residential burial on a piece of property. Motion to endorse made by Selectman Donohue, seconded by Selectman Hajjar. The motion was approved unanimously.

**ARTICLE 8:** Unpaid bills. There is one unpaid bill from a prior fiscal year totaling \$25,000.00. Motion to endorse made by Selectman Donohue, seconded by Selectman Lane. The motion was approved unanimously.

#### **Land Use Warrant:**

**ARTICLE 1:** The general creation of the Boston-Providence Highway District. Motion to endorse made by Selectman Hajjar, seconded by Selectman Lane. The motion was approved unanimously.

**ARTICLE 2:** The creation of the Mixed Use Overlay District in what is referred to as the Northern Gateway of the Town along Route One in the vicinity of Everett Avenue, Everett Street and University Avenue. Motion to endorse made by Selectman Plasko, seconded by Selectman Lane. The vote was 4-1 in favor. Selectman Donohue, opposed.

**ARTICLE 3:** Deals with another Mixed Use Overlay District – on Nahatan Street adjacent to the rotary on Route One. Motion to oppose made by Selectman Hajjar, seconded by Selectman Lane. All in favor of opposition – unanimous – 5-0.

**ARTICLE 4:** MUOD in the Vanderbilt and River Ridge Business Park. Motion to endorse made by Selectman Hajjar, seconded by Selectman Lane. 4-1 in favor of support. Selectman Donohue, opposed.

**ARTICLE 5:** Moves the Open Lot Storage from manufacturing districts within the Town to just the Route One area. Motion to endorse made by Selectman Hajjar, seconded by Selectman Lane. The motion was approved unanimously.

**ARTICLE 6:** Eliminate an existing provision about the green strip 10 to 20 feet. Motion to endorse made by Selectman Hajjar, seconded by Selectman Lane. The motion was approved unanimously.

#### **2. Jack Madden Ford, 825 Providence Highway**

Submitting Open Lot Storage Requests. Selectman Hajjar has been working with Mr. Madden through four different phone calls. Mr. Madden is the first one to submit this application. He has met with Lt. Quealy and Paul Halkiotis regarding how they want to proceed. The site is controlled by three individuals so there are actually two different applications. Each one is for 200 parking spaces. The individuals have chosen to submit their own parking plan. (640R and 656 Pleasant St.) The Town requires that an actual plan be submitted and signed off on. Mr. Madden inquired as to how to move forward. Selectman Hajjar informed him that it was up to the Chief – if it's acceptable to the Chief and Mr. Halkiotis then that is how to submit it. They came up with a formula based on fire lanes, access and how many cars they could park. The result of that formulating is 200 spaces per application. Both Selectman Plasko and Selectman Donohue commented strongly that according to law – there *has* to be a plan and suggested that these plans may have to go through the Building Department as well. Selectman Plasko interjected that the compromise being discussed at this time is that the Chief needs to be aware that there are those regulations that Selectman Donohue was referring to and he should take those

into consideration when he makes his determination. Motion to approve (on both applications) made by Selectman Plasko, seconded by Selectman Hajjar. The motion was approved unanimously.

3. Remote Meetings

For Discussion: Permitting Norwood Town Bodies to continue to meet remotely after the end of the State of Emergency. Motion to approve made by Selectman Plasko, seconded by Selectman Lane. Motion was approved unanimously.

4. HoneyDew Operations, Inc, 285 Morse Street Extension

Submitted Application for CV License. Motion to approve made by Selectman Hajjar, seconded by Selectman Plasko. The motion was approved unanimously.

5. Richard Santarelli, 41 Sumner Street

Submitted traffic concern for Sumner Street. Motion to refer the matter to the Traffic Safety Advisory Committee made by Selectman Hajjar, seconded by Selectman Donohue. The motion was approved unanimously.

6. Paul Mazzola, 17 Folan Ave

Submitted traffic concern at the intersection of Folan Avenue and Washington Street. Motion to refer the matter to the Traffic Safety Advisory Committee made by Selectman Donohue, seconded by Selectman Hajjar. The motion was approved unanimously.

7. Megan Davey, Norwood Field Hockey

Submitted request for Car Wash Saturday, June 26, 2021. Motion to approve made by Selectman Hajjar, seconded by Selectman Lane. The motion was approved unanimously.

8. Betsy Narciso, Norwood Youth Hockey

Submitted request for a Car Wash Saturday, September 11, 2021. Motion to approve made by Selectman Plasko, seconded by Selectman Hajjar. The motion was approved unanimously.

9. Ann Attaway, 20 Wood Drive

Submitted request to use the Disabled American Veterans Memorial Park at the corner of Berwick and Chapel Street for a party to honor her husband, a postal worker, in his retirement. The event would be June 5<sup>th</sup>, 2021, with a rain date of June 6<sup>th</sup>, from 1:00 p.m. until 4:00 p.m. Motion to approve made by Selectman Hajjar, seconded by Selectman Lane. The motion was approved unanimously.

10. LaToya Stevens, 1266 Washington Street #J

Submitted request to use Father Mac's Field on July 10<sup>th</sup>, 2021, from 2pm to 7pm for a celebration of 50 people. Motion to approve made by Selectman Hajjar, seconded by Selectman Lane. The motion was approved unanimously. Noted by Chairman Maloney to reinforce the understanding regarding insurance coverage in whatever communication is sent to them. (Applied to both #9 and #10). Selectman Plasko mentioned that when we have something like this and approve it, we should make it a practice to notify the NPD.

11. Jose Peter Gonzalez, Location Manager for About Fate, Inc

Submitting request for use of Town Common and other areas for filming. Motion to approve made by Selectman Hajjar under condition that public safety issues are taken care of between the Town Manager and Chief Brooks. Seconded by Selectman Donohue. The motion was approved unanimously.

12. Cemetery Deeds

For signature of the Board:

Gordon Smith, 14 Florence Ave, for Lot C-656A. Motion to sign by Selectman Donohue, seconded by Selectman Hajjar. The motion was approved unanimously.

**LATE AGENDA ITEM**

13. Women's Community Committee, 1 Lenox Street

Submitted request to hold a sidewalk sale on Saturday, June 5, 2021, with a rain date of June 12, from 9:30am until 12:30 pm at the side of their building on Oolah Avenue. Motion made by Selectman Donohue, seconded by Selectman Hajjar. The motion was approved unanimously.

### Memoranda

1. Mark Ryan, Department of Public Works  
Submitted Monthly Report for May, 2021. Motion to file made by Selectman Donohue, seconded by Selectman Hajjar. The motion was approved unanimously. Selectman Hajjar mentioned the pocket park at Washington and E. Hoyle St. He has seen people outside - reading and having their lunch and is glad to see that it is working out so well. It is getting the use that was intended. He is looking forward to the one at Bond and Winter Streets as well. Selectman Hajjar also commented that they are trying to come up with a time to work with the folks on Elliot Street regarding a proposed pocket park in that area. Selectman Plasko inquired as to whether Elliot Street could be discussed..Mr. Plasko noted that he has had some back and forth discussions with Town Treasurer and Collector, Mark Good and Mr. Good is of the opinion that the Town is selling that and he has even been sitting down with a neighbor who has expressed an interest in buying it. Mr. Plasko told Mr. Good that as far as he could recall, the Board has not officially voted to do anything with that property and that they were discussing different matters. The information that was relayed to Mr. Good was that the Board has not taken a formal position one way or another on it. Selectman Hajjar then commented that what the Board approved was Mr. Mazzucco's staff coming up with a drawing of some sort that could be presented to the neighbors to see if they would support a pocket park and then the Board would take action pursuant to that meeting. Mr. Hajjar, in closing, commented that they would have to remind Mr. Good that we are not selling it at this time. The only vote that has been taken is to have a meeting with the neighborhood on a proposed pocket park and get their input and decide as a Board going forward.
2. Greg Franks, Sr. Manager, XFinity  
Submitted programming change notification. Motion to file made by Selectman Plasko, seconded by Selectman Hajjar. The motion was approved unanimously.
3. Viola Baboola, Verizon  
Submitted PEG Grant Report, First Quarter 2021. Motion to file made by Selectman Hajjar, seconded by Selectman Donohue. The motion was approved unanimously.
4. Avalon Bay  
Submitted LIP (Local Initiative Program) information. Motion to sign the order of support made by Selectman Plasko, seconded by Selectman Donohue. The motion was approved unanimously.

Manager's Update: Mr. Mazzucco announced that there will be a 4<sup>th</sup> of July parade which will be held on Saturday, July 3<sup>rd</sup> at 10:00 AM. The Summer Concert Series as well as the Wednesday Night Concert Series will be returning.

Selectman Lane: At the School Committee Meeting (5/26/21), they'll be taking a vote to settle the grade configurations for the proposed middle school project – either grades 5 through 8 or 6 through 8. There have been polls and forums but it's not too late to email the school committee with any questions or concerns or your support for a particular configuration.

Selectman Donohue: Commented that the 150<sup>th</sup> Anniversary Committee is doing fine with Mr. Maloney as Chair. They are moving along beautifully. Mrs. Donohue requests that groups or individuals around town should contact the committee if they would like to have events – there is an open calendar. The committee would like residents to come

forward with your events and if anyone would like to ask the committee for funds to help out with the events, there is money available. The applications should be in around June 16<sup>th</sup> or 17<sup>th</sup>. Selectman Donohue also noted that she had spoken to someone with knowledge regarding Norwood Hospital. This person stated that Norwood Hospital has a plan. There are all kinds of rumors around town about it. There is no definite statement yet but it is thought that Steward plans to demolish all of the existing buildings and replace them with one brand new building with the completion by 2023.

Selectman Hajjar: Hopes that Norwood Hospital will come out with a public statement soon as they are really the only ones who can give some good news. Mr. Hajjar mentioned the draft Code of Conduct. The MMA held a webinar a few months ago and there was so much feedback regarding it, that they had a follow up and went through a specific code of conduct so instead of 'reinventing the wheel' – what Mr. Hajjar has is a modified version. He is hoping to receive feedback within the next few weeks then possibly he will have a document that can be voted on at the next meeting.

Chairman Maloney: After the April 27<sup>th</sup> meeting, when the Board voted to expand the Airport Commission, Chairman Maloney conferred with Attorney DeLuca and inquired as to whether he should have ruled the vote out of order because it was not on the agenda. It's a substantive matter that came up suddenly and Mr. DeLuca replied in the affirmative that yes, the Chairman should've ruled the vote out of order. Mr. Maloney would like to forward the letter from Mr. DeLuca and put it on the agenda for the second Tuesday in June and it will be corrected. Chairman Maloney does not think it is an urgent matter but it does need to be taken care of. He then wished everyone a Happy Memorial Day.

Motion to adjourn made by Selectman Plasko, seconded by Selectman Hajjar. The motion was approved unanimously.

**A true record.**

ATTEST: \_\_\_\_\_  
Administrative Assistant