

Regular meeting of the Board of Selectman convened at 7 p.m. on Tuesday, December 17, 2019 in Room 34, the Harry B. Butters Chambers, Norwood Memorial Municipal Building, with the Pledge of Allegiance, and silent moment of prayer/reflection.

Present: Chairman Paul A. Bishop, Selectmen William J. Plasko, Allan D. Howard, Thomas F. Maloney, and David E. Hajjar. Also present General Manager Tony Mazzucco and Assistant Aoife Kelly.

Appointments

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

Chief Brooks spoke about a case that has been on social media and the local news` that affected a resident of Norwood who received a call at her home from a male purporting to be an attorney representing her grandson who is currently under arrest in another state and it was going to cost her \$9,000 to get him out of jail. He told her to put together a packet of cash from the bank, wrap it up and to ship it. She told him shipping it would be a difficulty for her so he said he would send someone to the house. Someone went to her house and she gave him the package. The following day she got a call from the same man stating it would cost another \$ 10,000 to get her grandson out of jail. Unfortunately she prepared a second package containing \$10,000 which was also picked up by someone at her home and that is when we found out about what was going on, when she was brought in by one of her family members. The detectives began to investigate it. These cases are difficult to work with as recent technologies allow for spoofing telephone numbers. The woman then said they needed a third payment of \$16,000. The detectives put together a dummy package and placed the home under surveillance. They saw a car drive by the house and park a few houses away. The passenger got out of the car, met the woman, and took the package from her and returned to the car. The detectives began to follow them and the car pulled to the side of the road and looked like they were examining the package. The detectives rolled in and made the arrests. These two men were from Staten Island in New York City and they have been charged with conspiracy to commit a larceny by a false pretense and attempted larceny of the money and so forth. It appears the two men arrested were not the curriers who had been involved the previous couple of days. The Chief advised if anyone receives a call like this to ask for a number where you can reach the caller and then call the person they are speaking about. The other iteration of this is when a person calls claiming to be with the IRS saying back taxes are owed and if they are not paid, the person will be arrested. People should understand the IRS never calls you by telephone. Another variation is a caller claiming to be from the Social Security Administration. People should understand that if they receive a call asking for them to send money, they should be very suspicious of that. Chief Brooks spoke about Officer Greg Shore who does a lot of work and training related to mental illness. Officer Shore has now been assigned to devote an entire shift per week doing mental health and substance abuse follow ups with people who have an earlier history with the department. The department is currently involved in safe driving enforcement campaign under a grant. The Chief concluded by giving an update on current training.

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

Chief Morrice gave an update of department activities, beginning with introducing the new Deputy Chief Lt. Dave Hayes and giving an overview of the process used to make this appointment. Deputy Chief Hayes spoke about his experience here in Norwood. Selectman Plasko congratulated Deputy Chief Hayes. Chief Morrice explained that with this promotion to deputy chief he will now promote someone to Lieutenant and at this point number one on the Civil Service List is Seamus Murphy. Paramedics recently completed Advance Life Support training courses. The Chief referenced a recent electrical issue at a nursing home and explained they have an evacuation plan in place and he has been working with Assistant Manager Bernie Cooper on this. Selectman Howard inquired about the provider of the paramedic training. The training is done in house by Alexander Rose who is an excellent teacher.

New Business

Mark Good, Treasurer & Collector:

On motion of Selectman Plasko, seconded by Selectman Hajjar, voted to authorize borrowing for net cost of 1.866 % with the note to mature December 17, 2020.

Clerk/Board of Selectmen:

On motion of Selectman Plasko, seconded by Selectman Hajjar, voted to approve attestation that each Liquor Licensee has renewed for 2020. All establishments have been inspected by Fire and Bldg. Depts. Signed certificates have been forwarded to this office. Liquor Liability and Workers Comp Ins. on file.

Sonia Ramos, General Manager, Jake n JOES, 475 Boston Providence Turnpike:

On motion of Selectman Howard, seconded by Selectman Maloney, voted to approve request for extension of hours until 2 a.m. Sunday, January 19, 2020 to show a Las Vegas UFC event that starts on Saturday, January 18, 2020 but could continue past regular closing time due to the time difference. The back gate will remain closed, they will have a police detail, and if the match is cancelled or the event is over during normal business hours, the late closing will be rescinded.

Lisa Drummey, Meals on Wheels Program Director:

On motion of Selectman Howard, seconded by Selectman Maloney, voted to approve request to place insert in January, 2020 Electric Bills.

Val Feeney, Norwood Irish Music Club:

On motion of Selectman Maloney, seconded by Selectman Howard, voted to approve request for Special One Day AAB License for an event being held Saturday, December 21, 2019 from 6 p.m. to 11 p.m. at the Knights of Columbus Hall.

Memoranda

John W. Parsons, Esq., Executive Director, PERAC:

On motion of Selectman Plasko, seconded by Selectman Howard, voted to file as information notification that the Town of Norwood's Required Appropriation for the retirement system for Fiscal Year 2021, which commences July 1, 2020 is \$ 5,471,210.

Manager's Update

Student Council Talent Show held last night was a great show.

Norwood Retired Men's Club speaking engagement last week; thank you to them for the invitation.

Planning & Recreation Departments

Received a \$5,000 grant from State for ADA swing set for a town park – exact location to be determined.

Access Road Property

Received the Certificate of Occupancy for the new Light Department headquarters. Staff will make the transition over the long weekend and furniture is set to arrive next week. Formal open house will happen in March once the weather improves.

Selectmen's Updates

Selectman Hajjar

Attended the Christmas Holiday Event at Norwood Theatre. Congratulations to Judith Howard and a great job by all involved, basically sold out.

Tony Awards judge

Beacon Highlights

Attended a film last night at the Library on F.G Allen.

Wish everyone a Merry Christmas, Happy New Year, be safe and Happy Hanukkah.

Selectman Plasko

Congrats to Selectman Hajjar for surviving the Tony Awards job, lots of hard work to make it happen. Congrats to the Tony Winners.
Merry Christmas, Happy Hanukkah, Happy New Year, wish everyone the best.

Selectman Howard

Merry Christmas and Happy Hanukkah to all my friends. Join us on the 22nd for the candle lighting on the Common, last year had well over 100 people

Selectman Maloney

Norwood 7th & 8th grade competed in Florida and finished 5th overall. Congrats to cheer Coach Stacey Clarke and her team.
Happy Christmas, Happy Hanukkah.

Chairman Bishop

Happy Hanukkah, everyone should come out this weekend, 5 p.m. this coming Sunday for the lighting of the Menorah.

Chairman Bishop announced he will not be running for re-election next year.

This Board meets next on January 7th 2020. Merry Christmas, Happy Hanukkah and Happy Kwanzaa.

Adjournment

No other business being presented for consideration, on motion of Selectman Howard, seconded by Selectman Hajjar, voted to adjourn and the meeting was adjourned accordingly at 7:50 p.m.

A True Record.

ATTEST: _____
Clerk