

Regular meeting of the Board of Selectmen convened at 7 p.m. on Tuesday, May 23, 2017 in Room 34, the Harry B. Butters Chambers, Norwood Memorial Municipal Building, with the Pledge of Allegiance, and a silent moment of prayer and reflection. Meeting is Recorded.

Present: Chairman William J. Plasko, Helen Abdallah Donohue, Paul A. Bishop, Allan D. Howard and Thomas F. Maloney. Also present General Manager John J. Carroll and Clerk Frances L. Jessoe.

Appointments

7:00 P.M. – Gerald Miller, Supt., Recreation Dept.:

Reference was made to monthly report of department's activities.

Also present was Travis Farley. Mr. Miller discussed the spring events. He said that the Fishing Derby was just completed and it was a great day. Selectman Donohue and her family were there helping out. Mr. Miller said they just had the dance recital and there were 250 dancers and it was a great night. It was the last one he will be doing as the Recreation Director, but he will still be there being the MC.

Selectman Donohue referred to Mr. Miller's wife Paula Pellaggi and they are very dear to everyone and this will be Mr. Miller's last report.

Mr. Miller said the bath house is coming along beautifully. The painters finally came in and the floor is being done as it has to be done and certified. They will sod the exterior. It is very impressive. The lights are up at the Coakley-they are working on the walking path to bring it back to how it looked prior to this work.

Travis Farley thanked Mr. Miller for showing him the ropes and giving him advice and he has big shoes to fill. He said that T ball started last Saturday and there are over 80 participants. It is a great program and the kids really enjoy it. They have a theater program going on now as well. He discussed all the programs going forward. Summer registration is on-going now and there are many activities.

Selectman Howard was not able to make the retirement party, but he wished Mr. Miller only the best of health and happiness. He inquired when the pools open. Mr. Miller said on Saturday-June 24th. Selectman Howard asked how they can get wrist bands. Mr. Farley said you can get day passes or season passes at the Civic. The first weekend at the pools but the rest of the time at the Civic.

Selectman Bishop thanked Mr. Millerr his years of service and wished him a very happy and healthy retirement.

Selectman Donohue inquired if there will be an opening ceremony for the Bath House. Mr. Miller felt that they would. Selectman Donohue said the South Norwood Committee will be helping out. Selectman Donohue asked if Mr. Miller would still be available on Norwood Day. Mr. Miller said he would and it will be September 9th. Selectman Donohue wished them well.

Selectman Maloney said the retirement party was wonderful and the joy of the town comes from the Recreation Department and it was clear that the attributes from other town show how well respected Mr. Miller is and it is remarkable to have this in Norwood. Best of luck in your retirement.

Chairman Plasko thanked him very much and he had a wonderful retirement party and it was his privilege to represent the residents of Norwood and the Board. Best of luck in all your endeavors.

7:15 P.M. (P.H) – Robert Compagnone, The Compagnone Group, Inc., dba Rama Wine & Spirits
Application for transfer of AAB Package Store from Rama Wine & Spirits, Inc., 898 Washington Street, Ronald Compagnone, Manager. Selectman Donohue abstained.

Notice was read and public hearing was declared open on application which has been made to the Licensing Board of the Town of Norwood for the transfer of the All Alcoholic Retail Package Goods Store license from Rama Wine & Spirits, Inc., 898 Washington Street, Ronald Compagnone, Manager to The Compagnone Group, Inc., dba Rama Wine & Spirits, Robert P. Compagnone, Manager of the license under Section 15, Chapter 138 of the Massachusetts General Laws, as amended, for the sale of All Alcoholic Beverages not to be drunk on the premises located at 898 Washington Street, Norwood, Massachusetts. Description of the premises is as follows: single floor store with 7 rooms, 4400 sq. ft., with 2 entrances and 3 exits.

Atty. Thomas Brady represented Ronald Compagnone and his wife Heidi. They have the business the Compagnone Group. He introduced Pat Compagnone and Domenic Compagnone. He said that Pat has owned this business for 7 years and now Robert and his wife want to take it over. The application has been presented to the Board.

Selectman Bishop said the Compagnone family has run a good business down there and this is a transfer relative to relative.

Selectman Howard said they have a good record and I ask that we continue in that vein as this is our biggest worry. Selectman Maloney said if you run it the same way, you will do well.

Chairman Plasko inquired if anyone would like to speak in favor or against the applicant. No one wishing to speak on motion of Selectman Howard, seconded by Selectman Bishop, voted to close the public hearing.

On motion of Selectman Bishop, seconded by Selectman Howard, voted to approve the transfer. The vote was 4-0. Selectman Donohue abstained.

New Business

Supt. James Collins, Norwood Light Department:

On motion of Selectman Bishop, seconded by Selectman Howard, voted to file (a) and deposit b in the General Fund.

- a. notice that in accordance with the Cable Television Renewal License they have paid the 5% Quarterly Franchise Fee for the 1st quarter for \$43,374.
- b. \$1,955 for Administration Fee which should be deposited in the General Fund.

License Revocation:

The following April licenses (Junk Dealers) have not renewed and should be revoked:

Lilly & Beau, 61 Endicott Street

Woodstuff, 674 Washington Street

On motion of Selectman Bishop, seconded by Selectman Howard, voted to revoke as listed above.

Marcia Motta, Bay State Animal Cooperative:

On motion of Selectman Donohue, seconded by Selectman Howard, voted to approve request to have the 6th Fundraising Dog Wash/Car Wash, low cost vaccine and micro-chipping clinic in the lot across from the civic on Sunday, June 25 from 10 a.m. to 3 p.m.

Corinna Gallo, Columbine Road:

On motion of Selectman Donohue, seconded by Selectman Howard, voted to approve request to have a block party on June 24 from 2 p.m. to 10 p.m. and to block off Columbine Road.

Verizon:

On motion of Selectman Donohue, seconded by Selectman Howard, voted to file channel changes-notice will be given to their customers.

Michelle Pizzi, Human Resources Director:

On motion of Selectman Donohue, seconded by Selectman Howard, voted to file (a) and to table (b) for one week.

- a. correspondence regarding vacancy on the Personnel Board.
- b. recommendations for nonunion employee benefits.

Thomas J. McQuaid, Town Clerk and Accountant:

Submitting copy of the Article 1 Motion regarding the Charter change for the positions of Town Clerk & Accountant that was passed at the Special Town Meeting on May 8, 2017. Board voted to send to Rep. Rogers and Senator Walsh. Chairman Plasko thanked all. He said he made the motion on this 37 years ago and is glad it has finally gone through.

Santec Consulting Service, Inc., Quincy:

On motion of Selectman Howard, seconded by Selectman Bishop, voted to file notice of amendment of activity and use limitation, East Hoyle Street. Notice has been sent to Health, ZBA and Planning and Economic Development.

Unfinished Business

Colleen Padden, Chair, Republican Town Committee:

By voice mail to the Town Clerk & Accountant-the following names were submitted for the Board of Registrar position; David Tuttle, Patricia Sterritt and Patricia Barrett to fill the vacancy caused by the resignation of Marion Boch. On motion of Selectman Donohue, seconded by Selectman Bishop, voted to appoint Patricia Sterritt.

Selectmen's Addenda

Selectman Maloney

Town Meeting

It was 5 nights-midnight last night and it was a marvelous town meeting and there is knowledge in the new members. We have some talented people, asking questions and digging into the information. David Hern did a marvelous job as moderator. On the capital side we will get to work at the Town Hall on space renovations and enhance the safety of the building, school technology is good and the Chapel as well. Town Meeting is alive and well in this town.

Selectman Donohue

Dolly Parker/Senior Center and Ted Mulvehill

Thank you for the display of military history in the town of Norwood. In England in the school system the veterans would go out and teach the elementary children of the people who served. This is a step in the right direction. Thank you for helping out in the education process.

Norwood Masons

Ceremony – rededication of the cornerstone, Norwood Masons.

100 years ago a cornerstone was placed and now 100 years later the information was read. Selectman Donohue discussed the ceremony. Thank you Norwood Masons.

Town Meeting

Thank you for all those who voted for the St. Gabriel's chapel as the people listened and stayed and we are so happy that this project will be done. We will right a wrong. This is our way of doing what we should do. Mr. DiMaria's speech was wonderful and Mr. Ryan's presentation was wonderful.

Selectman Howard

Senior Center

Display of Veterans pictures, articles, letters-it was amazing.

Dolly Parker and Ms. McCarthy did a wonderful tribute to our veterans.

Selectman Bishop

191 Pleasant Street

Lawn damage from snow plow-please look at the front area-6 or 8' long.

Function at the Olde Colonial Cafe

Selectman Bishop stated that there was a function for certain department heads who were invited to a breakfast at the Olde Colonial Cafe and the Board wasn't invited and didn't have any knowledge. He is offended by that. The Manager said we don't invite Selectmen to department heads meetings.

Selectman Donohue inquired who paid for that. Selectman Bishop felt that it was a little bit more than that, it was a function (breakfast) held at the end of Town Meeting and it would be nice if the Board of Selectmen had knowledge of this function.

Appreciation to Mr. Robert Griffin:

On motion of Selectman Bishop, seconded by Selectman Donohue, voted to send a letter of appreciation to Mr. Griffin upon his retirement as principal from the Callahan School. He had 48 years of service to the Town and the children of Norwood.

Chairman Plasko

Proclamation

40th Annual art in the park-June 10, 2017. Chairman Plasko read the proclamation.

Memorial Day

This Monday-Town does celebrate with a parade-Chairman Plasko went over the route. It is important that everyone supports our Veterans agent.

School Committee Meeting

Chairman Plasko said that people have called him regarding their concerns about the schools going from the Bay State League to another league. He said that this is a school committee matter and these people should attend the School Committee meeting tomorrow night and let them know how they feel.

Tennis Courts

Chairman Plasko said that we thought we would have some announcement regarding the rink, the last meeting was cancelled and we have word that the state is interested but the details are unclear. In any event even if a rink went forward, it wouldn't happen for a couple of years. We have to decide how far we are going to go with the repairs of the tennis courts. If we have the courts stay open, we need to make them safe and passable, but hold the lights right now. I don't see any reason to adjust the lights right now.

On motion of Selectman Donohue, seconded by Selectman Maloney, voted to approve the suggestion of the Chairman and move forward to repair the courts minus the lights.

Senior Bus:

Chairman Plasko gave the Manager a letter regarding concerns about the Senior Bus.

Manager's Agenda

Cemetery Fees

The Manager stated that this is a recommendation from the Mark Ryan, Supt. of Public Works and he has produced a comparative report. He is recommending the cost to purchase a single grave to increase by \$100, double grave by \$200, 4 grave by \$400 and cremation by \$100. He points out that we have tried to operate the cemetery on a self-sustaining basis.

The Manager referred to the letter and report from Mark Ryan. He is trying to increase our cost of operation to a point where we achieve 100% cost recovery.

On motion of Selectman Howard, seconded by Selectman Maloney, voted to support these increases. The vote was 3 to 2. Selectman Donohue and Selectman Bishop opposed. The motion carried.

Selectman Donohue asked to speak on this motion. She stated that it is her belief that these fees should not be raised because the people who will be buying them will be older and we are in the middle what other towns are charging. She stated that Norwood does charge for opening up the graves and we are selling the concrete liners for the grave. These people have paid taxes here all of their lives and electric bills and water bills and very often people have medical bills as they get older. She said we are a wonderful town and we have other way to raise money. She said we changed the way the cemetery looked with public works facilities around the cemetery, there are storage facility, wood chips, etc. and there are structures. We have increased the amount of development. She would like to keep the rates the same and find the \$8,000 in another budget.

Selectman Howard said he hears what Selectman Donohue is saying and this is an enterprise for the town and the employees up there get a salary increase and this is a way to pay the bills. This is not a huge increase it just keeps pace with the times.

Selectman Bishop agreed with Selectman Donohue because he is tired of increasing rates-he doesn't think we are at the point that we have to do it. He would like to give something to the people.

Selectman Maloney said one of the questions at Town Meeting is other income streams to enhance revenues and in this case, the goal is to cover 100% of the cost-for that reason we should follow through on the recommendation of Mr. Ryan.

Chairman Plasko said he supports the rate increase and it is an obligation to keep in line with the town's financial policy. He said we have to review fees on a regular basis. The cemetery should be self-sustaining and we are not doing that. Regarding the concrete liner that is an added service that we are giving people. We are saving the users of the cemetery money and he would support the motion.

Proposed Cable TV rate increase.

The Manager stated that Mr. Collins and Mr. Hanson suggested that since we are expecting program fees increases of 17% in 2017, we have to raise our rates. This is a suggested schedule June 1 to notify the issuing authority, there are various letters to be sent out if we decide to do this increase. This is an enterprise operation. The Manager went over the net income and we have more customers then our competition. He recommended that the Board adopt the schedule as Light Commissioners. On motion of Selectman Donohue, seconded by Selectman Howard, voted to table until May 30th.

Municipal Relief for DPW:

On motion of Selectman Donohue, seconded by Selectman Howard, voted to approve. Chairman Plasko stated that he is not in favor of the administrative salaries and should have been brought forward and the others have a degree of last minute and he will vote against. Selectman Bishop said these are internally

Municipal Relief for DPW (cont'd)

funded and no money is being fed into the account. Chairman Plasko said that the Finance Commission also has to approve. The vote was 4-1. Chairman Plasko opposed.

Selectman Maloney said he is irritated that we didn't know about this earlier, but if we don't do it, it will create problems as this is the reason for the municipal relief act.

Adjournment

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

A True Record.

ATTEST: _____
Clerk