

Regular meeting of the Board of Selectmen convened at 7 p.m. on Tuesday, November 3, 2015 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 Paul Bishop, Selectmen William J. Plasko, Michael J. Lyons and Allan D. Howard. Also present General Manager John J. Carroll, Clerk Frances L. Jessoe and Assistant Christina Mulvehill.

Absent: Selectman Helen Abdallah Donohue

Chairman Bishop announced that Selectman Donohue is recovering from hip replacement surgery at New England Baptist and we all wish her well.

Appointments

7:00 P.M. – Chief William G. Brooks III, NPD:

Chief Brooks gave an update on the department's monthly activities. He started by introducing Officer Scott Miller whose family is originally from Norwood. He served with the Broward County Sheriff's Office. His wife Officer Enid Miller was recently hired by the department. This is not the first time the department has employed a husband and wife at the same time. In addition, this month Sgt. Christopher Flanagan was promoted to Lieutenant and Officer Sarah Lyden was promoted to Sergeant.

There was a street robbery last Tuesday night. A man walking on Central Street at 10 p.m. was approached by a man with a gun who stole cash from him and fled on foot. A search by responding officers did not yield a suspect. Chief Brooks added that this is an unusual crime for this town. When the FBI released crime statistics in October it showed our crimes against persons went up by five units from 2013 to 2014 and there was a drop in crimes of property by fifty seven offenses. Most of that drop was fewer breaks into vehicles and fewer thefts. In comparing the overdoses in calendar year 2014 to this point in time with our overdoses for this year. The total number of overdoses was actually pretty steady. We were doing fairly well and then we had a spike over the course of the last couple months. In 2014 at this time we had had 34 opiate overdoses and as of now, 2015, we have had 36 this year. The troubling part is that last calendar year we only had one fatality. Thus far this year we have had five. We had three within just a few weeks of each other at the end of the year. We have had two over the course of the last few weeks. We could attribute there being more fentanyl in the heroin stream to a spike in overall overdoses. We think the fentanyl in the heroin stream does result in our needing more doses or Narcan to bring people back. Sometimes it is us giving two doses and the fire department giving two doses, but what I see in reading the reports is that people will use drugs in a private place, which is not unusual. In a couple of cases the victim told a family member they were going to take a shower and when the family member thought they were in the bathroom for a period of time and checked, the victim had clearly gone into cardiac arrest, and as a result the Narcan was not effective, nor was CPR. What we see is somebody excusing themselves and going their room, or in a couple of these cases going into the bathroom.'

Chief Brooks was away part of last week attending the Annual Conference of the International Association of Chiefs of Police. Fourteen thousand Police Chiefs from around the country attended. It was particularly noteworthy because he got to meet the President of the United States and got to shake his hand and say hello. He also attended an address by the FBI Director and was able to attend a small meeting with him and the head of the DEA. His old boss Chief Terry Cunningham of the Wellesley Police Department was sworn in as the new president of the IACP.

Chief Brooks introduced Officer Derek Wennerstrand, who has been before the Board because of his lifesaving award, but also he is one of the field training officers.

Selectman Howard asked the Chief to speak about the award he received. Chief Brooks said he received the Civil Rights Award from the IACP while he was in Chicago.

Chief Brooks-(cont'd)

Selectman Howard welcomed Officer Miller. He asked Chief Brooks if our people get reimbursed when they go in for metro training. The Chief said they do not get reimbursed for training. They get reimbursed for certain things such as deployment to Boston. He explained the way Metro works is kind of like an insurance policy. You pay in by training and committing your people, then if there is a crisis like Canton had last night, where Metro tactical officers responded and we had officers over there directing traffic. The victim's father needed a transport to a Boston Hospital and we sent a car in to do that. One of our FBI trained crisis negotiators from that Metro team is one of our officers, Geoffrey Baguma, who was on scene trying to negotiate the man's surrender. Normally a crisis like that would cripple you not only operationally but financially as well, but the assistance came at no cost to the Town of Canton. It is a mutual aid system.

Selectman Lyons thanked Chief Brooks for his report and welcomed Officer Miller to Norwood, asking him if he had gotten tired of the nice weather and the sunshine.

Selectman Plasko welcomed Officer Miller and told him he was in good hands; the Chief has assigned him well.

Chairman Bishop welcomed Officer Miller, saying this is a great town with a great police department and a great tradition. He added that Officer Miller is being trained by a very good man. The Chairman asked the Chief for clarification on the crime statistics; specifically for a definition of what crimes against the person is. Chief Brooks said FBI tracks eight part one offenses. Murder, rape, armed robbery, and aggravated assault are the four crimes against persons and the four crimes against property are burglary, auto theft, larceny, and arson. He said most of Norwood's crimes against the person are robberies and aggravated assaults. Aggravated assault is an assault with aggravating factors, such as an assault on a senior citizen, or assault by means of a weapon. That is the most common crime in Norwood and at least half of the aggravated assaults are domestic situations.

7:15 p.m. PH Claddagh House, LLC dba Shamrock Pub, 175 Railroad Ave, Michelle Kuietauskas, Mgr:
Application for transfer of a restaurant All Alcoholic Beverages license, application for Common Victualler license and entertainment license, from Dublin, Inc., dba Shamrock Pub, 175 Railroad Avenue, Mary Gunning, Manager.

Application has been made to the Licensing Board of the Town of Norwood for transfer of the AAB License from Dublin, Inc., dba Shamrock Pub, 175 Railroad Avenue to Claddagh House, LLC, 175 Railroad Avenue, Michelle Kuietauskas, Manager, of the licenses under Section 12, Chapter 138 and Chapter 140 of the Massachusetts General Laws, as amended, for the sale of All Alcoholic Beverages to be drunk on the premises of 175 Railroad Avenue, Norwood, Massachusetts. Description of premises is as follows: Dining room, bar room, kitchen, storeroom on street floor, two story frame building, one rear exit and two front entrances. RESTRICTION: All doors closed at all times; no drinking or liquor outside of the building. Occupancy 99 per Ch. 304 (MGL C 148-S26-G ½, 2004 c 304). Application has also been made for music, dancing by patrons, Karaoke, pool table, automatic amusements, Jukebox.

Attorney Lewis Cacavara was present on behalf of Michelle Kuietauskas for Claddagh House. Attorney Cacavara told the Board this is an interfamily transaction and Ms. Kuietauskas has worked there for years. Her mother, Mary Gunning has been the owner for years and they have entered into an agreement to sell the real estate and the business. They are requesting CV and entertainment licenses, and the transfer of the liquor license. The next hearing will be on the transfer of the lodging license. Attorney Cacavara assured the Board the application is complete, all required documentation has been provided, and the staff is certified. They have made the requested improvements to the fire system and the like and supplied copies of documentation from fire and building departments showing compliance with town and state law.

Selectman Lyons asked about the \$10,000 they listed as cost associated with license transaction. Attorney Cacavara said some of that has already taken place, it is more like painting, etc.

7:15 P.M. -PH Claddagh House, LLC dba Shamrock Pub-(cont'd):

Selectman Plasko requested that they keep the same corned beef and cabbage on St. Patrick's Day.

Attorney Cacavara stated improvements made to the fire alarm system include smoke and carbon monoxide detectors with improvements in the cooking area also.

Selectman Lyons inquired if they had made changes in cooking staff. He has heard really good things about the cooking there.

With no one from the public wishing to speak on the matter, on motion of Selectman Plasko, seconded by Selectman Howard, voted to close the hearing. On motion of Selectman Plasko, seconded by Selectman Lyons, voted to approve the transfer of the AAB license, the CV and Entertainment licenses.

7:25 P.M. – P.H.-Claddagh House LLC, 175 Railroad Avenue:

Application for Lodging House License at 175 Railroad Avenue. If approved Board should revoke license issued to Mary Gunning, 175 Railroad Avenue.

Notice is hereby given that the Board of Selectmen of the Town of Norwood will conduct a public hearing on Tuesday, November 3, 2015 at 7:25 p.m., in Room 34, Selectmen's Chambers, Norwood Town Hall, on application of Michelle Kuietauskas, for a Lodging House License to operate Claddagh House, LLC, 175 Railroad Avenue, Norwood.

Clerk read notice. Attorney Cacavara introduced himself and explained the real estate will transfer and they are requesting transfer of the lodging house license, which is currently held in name of Mary Gunning. Selectman Plasko asked how many rooms were in the lodging house. Attorney Cacavara said there are four rooms and the recommendation of the fire dept. has been put in place.

On motion of Selectman Plasko, seconded by Selectman Lyons, voted to close the hearing. On motion of Selectman Plasko, seconded by Selectman Lyons, voted to approve the lodging house license transfer to Claddagh House LLC.

On motion of Selectman Plasko, seconded by Selectman Lyons voted to revoke Shamrock lodging house license upon notification of the real estate deal consummation.

New Business

Julio Rotondi, 71 Robinwood Road:

The Manager will look into complaint regarding the service of Veteran's Taxi and report back. Some customers are now using an UBER type of service but cannot use the "transfare tickets".

Selectmen Lyons asked where they operate out of, the letter states they moved to Foxboro. It used to be Norwood Town Taxi then Veterans Taxi bought it. He clarified that operating out of town does not conflict with the Norwood license. The Manager will look into this.

Denis Drummey, Sr., 98 Croydon Road:

On motion of Selectman Howard, seconded by Selectman Lyons, voted to approve application for the display of the Christmas Crèche on the Town Common on Washington St, side facing the new Baptist Church, from Dec. 5th to January 2, 2016.

ViJay Sharma, 20 BlueJay Drive, North Attleboro, MA-AR Jump, LLC:

On motion of Selectman Howard, seconded by Selectman Lyons, voted to set up public hearing application for a CV License and Automatic Amusement License to operate Launch Trampoline Park. (P.H.)

Robert C. Weiss, Controller, Boch New To You Superstore:

On motion of Selectman Plasko, seconded by Selectman Howard, voted to approve request to correct the name of the dealership from DCD New to You, Inc., dba Boch New To You Superstore to DCD NTY Inc., dba Boch New To You Superstore.

Paul Chen, Bamboo Café, 663 Washington Street:

On motion of Selectman Plasko, seconded by Selectman Lyons, voted to have them in for an informational hearing on their request for an entertainment license for Monday through Saturday for music and Karaoke. They would like the Board's approval to notify the state that Keno is allowed in their establishment.

Norwood Personnel Board:

On motion of Selectman Plasko, seconded by Selectman Lyons, voted to file Organizational Chart Updates.

Aleisa Gittens-Carle, Cohasset METCO Program:

On motion of Selectman Howard, seconded by Selectman Plasko, voted to approve request to place letter from Board in booklet for their conference at Four Points Friday, Dec. 4, 2015.

National Grid:

- a. On motion of Selectman Plasko, seconded by Selectman Howard voted to file copies of letters to residents and business owners regarding replacement of natural gas main and natural gas service piping connecting main to customer meters at 31-93 Alandale Parkway from November 3, 2015 through December 3, 2015. Chairman Bishop explained that water is getting into gas main pipes, which is dangerous.
- b. On motion of Selectman Plasko, seconded by Selectman Howard, voted to file copies of letters to residents and business owners regarding replacement of main and service piping connecting to customer meters at 6 – 18 Ridge Road from November 5, 2015 through November 13, 2015.

Kevin Pentowski, 35 Plimpton Avenue:

On motion of Selectman Plasko, seconded by Selectman Lyons, voted to make available a copy of AvalonBay Communities, Inc. application to Massachusetts Housing Partnership for issuance of a 40B Project Eligibility Letter, provided Mr. Pentowski pay the fees. Selectman Plasko explained that Mr. Pentowski had been in to the office last week to look at the application but decided the application was too much information to look at in the office and said he would send an email requesting the entire book, which will cost time and expense. Mr. Carroll stated that the Board had asked him to set up meetings with department heads on this matter and that has been done. He said Mr. Ryan and Mr. Halkiotis met and it went well as far as he knows.

Brian Hardiman, 40 Westdale Road, Westwood:

- a. Submitting correspondence requesting reimbursement for cost directly associated with the DDS Group Home case (\$3500) and suggesting the Board utilize Attorney Dan Hill. Selectman Plasko said this item directly relates to a position the Board might take on item b, and that item is being worked on by Town Counsel. On motion of Selectman Plasko, seconded by Selectman Howard, voted to table for one week until more information is available for the Board to make a decision.
- b. Submitting copy of correspondence from Atty. Daniel C. Hill to Brian Hardiman re. Hardiman v. Mass. Dept. of Developmental Services, et. al. and stating that Atty. Hill has e-mailed Town Counsel Karis North regarding presenting oral arguments on Nov. 19th.

Selectmen's Budget:

Step increase for Administrative Assistant/Clerk. Chairman Bishop explained that Clerk, currently at step 6/7, with approval of the Board, would go to step 8 in January. On motion of Chairman Bishop, seconded by Selectman Lyons, voted to approve salary step 8 in January, 2016.

Karis North, Esquire, Murphy, Hesse, Toomey & Lehane, LLP:

On motion of Selectman Plasko, seconded by selectman Lyons, voted to file public records request-further response to Denis M. Drummey.

Selectman Allan D. Howard

Selectman Howard spoke about Traffic Calming. He is looking to have a committee to look over the distressing traffic situation in Norwood. He added it is not his intent to install speedbumps. He is looking for possible suggestions to improve the situation.

Selectman Lyons inquired if this was specifically speaking to the issues at Everett Street. Selectman Howard said he is speaking to problems throughout the whole town. Selectman Lyons said the Everett Street area has been dramatically worse for the last couple of months.

The Manager recommended referring this to the Pedestrian Safety Committee and said he and Mr. Ryan already met with representatives from Westwood on two issues. One is improvements to the intersection of Clapboardtree Street and Upland Road and dealing with the new Benchmark development. They discussed traffic problems in the Town of Norwood especially going Northbound. University Station made commitments to the state for safety at the intersection of University Ave and Rout 1, one of which gives increased time to pedestrians. He said he will continue to meet on this. There has been talk about widening of Route 1. There are traffic problems on Nahatan Street now with traffic backing up from Westwood Route 109 into Norwood. The manager referred to correspondence from residents of Bird Road, off Lower Washington, asking to prohibit making left turn onto Bird Road in the morning. Officer Murphy was there yesterday and counted sixty cars in thirty minutes.

Chairman Bishop acknowledged there are traffic problems on Route 1 in the morning but it might not be due entirely to University Station. Gas prices are coming down, MBTA has increased rates and more people are taking their own vehicles. We are not unique in the traffic problem. He suggested having traffic safety members sit in on meetings the Manager and Mr. Ryan have with the transportation people.

Selectman Lyons talked about lower Washington Street and Upland Road to Everett Street. That area is always bad when Xaverian opens up and now with improvements to the Route 1 intersection it really seemed there was some sort of critical mass thing happening that was horrible. Norwood residents who know the area were taking shortcuts through Cameron and Ellis area. This Board responded to the neighborhood complaints and put all those cars back on Washington Street. The problem on Washington Street gets worse as we relieve the problem in the neighborhoods and now we are doing the same thing on Bird Road. It is going to still put the traffic further back on Washington Street. Lately they have been going down my street, which I can't figure out the advantage to at all. Every time we close a road, we are increasing the traffic problem on the main road. I don't know what the answer is but we are compounding the problem by helping out the neighborhoods. Selectman Plasko said the pedestrian safety committee is just another arm of this Board. The Manager said the members of that committee are Mr. Ryan, Safety Officer Murphy, Asst. Town Engineer Andy Murphy. Selectman Plasko recommends sending this to them and have them make reports back to us. On motion of Selectman Plasko, seconded by Selectman Howard, voted to forward matter to pedestrian safety committee and ask if they are willing to take on the task and have them sit in on the transportation meetings Mr. Carroll and Mr. Ryan are having.

Karis North, Town Counsel:

On motion of Selectman Plasko, seconded by Selectman Lyons, voted to file e-mail to David Hajjar requesting e-mails and other documents that he reported to her and Ms. Cassidy that he was collecting in February and March of this year concerning the 1.5% Task Force in response to

Karis North, Town Counsel-(cont'd):

Ms. Cassidy's public records request. This information is needed to complete the response to Ms. Cassidy under the Mass. Public Records Law. Town Counsel has asked David Hajjar to submit all documents and emails to her to review and forward to Ms. Cassidy.

Selectman Lyons asked if we have any correspondence from Mr. Hajjar as to why these documents have not been provided. Mr. Carroll said he spoke with Mr. Hajjar today and he is working on this as hard as he can.

Paul Halkiotis, Director, Community Planning & Economic Development:

On motion of Selectman Plasko, seconded by Selectman Howard, voted to file copy of letter to Mary Cassidy regarding her public records request and the information that he has available. Selectman Plasko explained that Town Counsel was having a problem getting information from Mr. Hajjar so Paul Halkiotis did what he could. There are other matters in that request that are now in Mr. Hajjar's hands.

Selectmen's Addenda

Selectman Plasko

Selectman Donohue

Wishing Mrs. Donohue a speedy recovery. He spoke with her today and she was happy with how the surgery went.

Selectman Howard

Wishing Mrs. Donohue well in her recovery.

Elks Trivia fundraiser

There will be a trivia fundraiser at the Elks Friday November 6th to provide financial support for veterans and service members including Christmas care packages and a luncheon for hospitalized veterans.

Marching band

At NESBA competition, the high school band won platinum award and had best music and color guard.

Dean Street across Route 1

Could we put signage on the street that goes in to the bedding store and the coffee shop saying traffic in both directions because there have been some close calls. The Manager will look into this.

Chairman Bishop

All night parking

The Chairman read the by-law and stressed that you have to be parked for more than two consecutive hours between midnight and 6 a.m. to be in violation. If you have extenuating circumstances you can apply to the Police to get an overnight parking permit.

The Manager expressed thanks to all for their participation in the DPW Open House on November 1st. He especially thanked Asst. General Manager Bernie Cooper who does all this work but runs under the radar.

Steel Art

Chairman Bishop announced that Steel Art had done the letter on the DPW building. On motion of Selectman Howard, seconded by Selectman Plasko, voted to send a thank you letter to Steel Art.

Traffic

On motion of Selectman Howard, seconded by Selectman Plasko, voted to put temporary signage on south side of Bird Road, no left turn between hours of 6:30a.m.– 9a.m.

Manager's Agenda

Check from National Grid for Monroe Street paving.

On motion of Selectman Plasko, seconded by Selectman Howard, to accept as Chapter 44 section 53 A donation of \$34,296 for paving of Monroe Street.

Alandale Pkwy. Gas main

This issue was dealt with earlier in meeting.

Appointment of Sara Winthrop to DPW Business Manager

The manager has appointed Sara Winthrop as the Business Manager of the DPW effective November 9, 2015. She has worked for us for 28 years and has a bachelor science degree in civil engineering.

Selectman Plasko asked if the position was posted. Mr. Carroll said it was posted and advertised.

Intersection of Dean and Pleasant

We received a payment of \$50,000 a long time ago to add another lane at the intersection of Pleasant and Dean on the northbound side of Pleasant. In addition, turning right onto Pleasant from Dean heading south will be wider. The residents' property will not be touched.

Executive Session:

The following item was submitted in Executive Session, but was handled in open session:

Boston Executive Helicopters, LLC

On motion of Selectman Lyons, seconded by Selectman Plasko, voted to file Notice of Removal

Adjournment

No other business being presented for discussion, on motion of Selectman Plasko, seconded by Selectman Lyons, voted to adjourn and the meeting was adjourned accordingly at 8:08 p.m.

A True Record.

ATTEST: _____
Assistant