

Regular meeting of the Board of Selectmen convened at 7 p.m. on Tuesday, February 16, 2016 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, Helen Abdallah Donohue, and Michael J. Lyons. Also present General Manager John J. Carroll, Clerk Frances L. Jessoe and Assistant Christina Mulvehill.

Absent: Selectman Allan D. Howard

Appointments

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

Submitting monthly report of department's activities.-Meeting cancelled

7:00 P.M. – James Collins Supt., Light Dept. /Broadband:

Mr. Collins gave the monthly report of department's activities. The 115 kv line replacement project is well underway. All the trees have been cleared on the new line and the poles have been delivered and will be set starting this week. . The double pole issue is being handled very well; General Foreman Bob Curran has been keeping in touch with Verizon. The Upland Woods project is well underway. Benchmark Senior Living on Clapboardtree Street is moving along and we are working to get them a power supply from across the railroad tracks. Mr. Collins said he had the advanced metering infrastructure on the schedule and planned to give a presentation next week on that.

Selectman Plasko inquired about the metering program and the bids, which had been received on January 20th, asking if those bids were in the estimated range budgeting wise. Mr. Collins said they were slightly lower than what he had anticipated. Selectman Plasko asked why then are we waiting; Mr. Collins mentioned a presentation. Selectman Plasko said that the Board has had a presentation and we know about this project. Chairman Bishop said this has been hanging out there for a little more than two years and we all have the basic concept that this program will turn the electric meters into a situation like the water meters where there will be communication between the actual meter and the light department. It will not require someone to go door to door, as in a case like last year when we had so much snow the meters could not be reached to be read and for two months in a row, the bills were estimated. Mr. Carroll said he, Supt. Collins, and Dan Morrissey have been working hard over the past couple of weeks to try to get a presentation to the Board, and for the people at home who do not really understand this. Selectman Plasko said he does not personally see a need for a presentation; basically, the water meters will be automatic, there will not be estimates. There are many new features as was explained previously and if we wanted to do an updated presentation in the future that is fine but there is no reason to hold up going ahead with the contract and getting it signed waiting for a presentation. Chairman Bishop said it would be better to authorize the signing of the contract and then when this project is up and running we can come back and explain to people how exactly this is going to work. Selectman Donohue asked if it would be more appropriate to wait until next week when we have a full board. Chairman Bishop said Selectman Howard would not be at the meeting next week. Selectman Donohue suggested waiting for Selectman Howard but Selectman Plasko said he sees no reason to wait. Mr. Carroll stated again that he really would like to do the presentation and it would not take long. Selectman Plasko stated the Board is not talking against the presentation, they are saying why wait, let's get the project moving. Selectman Donohue said she agrees with Mr. Carroll and made a motion to wait until next week and have the presentation. Selectman Plasko clarified that the discussion is about a separate contract that was bid, and opened on January 20, 2016. Mr. Carroll said he will sign the contract with no problem and he is not worried about the delay, but he would like to make the presentation next week. Supt. Collins said the installation contract is not going to be an impediment to getting the meters installed because the equipment has to be ordered and there is a delivery lead-time on that equipment. The installation contract is not out to bid yet; they are soliciting interest at this time. Chairman Bishop asked Supt. Collins what it is that he needs authorization for Mr. Carroll to sign right now. Supt. Collins said that would be the contract for the meters which is the main bid.

James Collins Supt., Light Dept. /Broadband-(cont'd):

Mr. Carroll told the Chairman he does not need the Board's authorization and he will sign the contract at the appropriate time. Chairman Bishop offered to meet the Manager halfway and allow him to come in and give the presentation next week, if he could assure the Board that the contract would be signed between now and this time next week. Mr. Carroll said there would be no problem, he is the purchasing agent and there is no problem in holding up this contract. He could sign it tomorrow or next week and it makes no difference. He said there is a big lead-time here, and he has to get an installation contract before we can even move. Selectman Plasko said usually when we bid we say hold the price for thirty days and this was January 20th and we are coming towards thirty days. Supt. Collins said Mr. Morrissey is checking on how long those prices will be good.

Chairman Bishop said he would allow the Manager to make a presentation next week if he would assure the Board the contract would be signed between now and this time next week and asked for a motion to that effect. Selectman Plasko stated the Manager will move along and sign the contract

Norwood Light Broadband

Darryl Hansen said Broadband is on top for number of subscribers for the second year in a row. He went on to mention some of the current promotions, which include a \$39.99 internet package that comes with a free antennae, and TV Everywhere, which is online and accessible from the Light Department website.

7:30 P.M. – Fred Laskey, MWRA Executive Director:

Mr. Laskey gave the history of the MWRA, which was created thirty years ago as a quasi-independent authority and a subdivision of the Commonwealth of Massachusetts, whose role was to clean up Boston Harbor and take over the water supply.

Mr. Laskey showed a PowerPoint presentation showing the MWRA facilities and spoke about important issues including redundancy, and pipeline repair and replacement. Their pipeline assistance program has been used to replace or repair miles of pipe. They have a system that indicates when something has gone wrong in the drinking water and allows them to see immediately if there is a change in the condition of the water. Selectman Donohue inquired about the presentation slide concerning using a lot of chlorine to disinfect water. Mr. Hornbrook spoke briefly about this.

Mr. Laskey spoke about safe yield, which has been a great success story. He spoke about the treatment facilities and showed graphs of before and after conditions. It is a remarkable story that the harbor has regenerated itself. He spoke about the miles of storm drain that have been installed and gave an outline of the strategies at some of the beaches to keep them open to the public. Mr. Laskey explained that redundancy and storage are the most important things to a water system. In Norwood currently there is only a single line, but the MWRA is in the process of constructing a redundant system. Selectman Donohue asked if this expense was built into the budget and Mr. Laskey said it has been in the budget for ten years.

Chairman Bishop asked about lead pipes. Mr. Carroll spoke about the town of Norwood's lead service replacement program. All lead pipes in the street have been replaced but some homeowners have chosen not to have the service form the street to their homes replaced.

Selectman Lyons stated he is moving into an area that does not have MWRA and it is costing him a lot of money to install filtration systems. Mr. Laskey said it is a great advantage to be part of the MWRA.

8:00 P.M. – Veterans' Agent Ted Mulvehill & Charles DuQuette, Employment and Training Resources Veterans Services Representative.

Mr. Mulvehill and Mr. DuQuette were present to discuss employment and training opportunities for veterans and the working relationship between the Department of Veterans' services and the Office of Employment and Training.

Veterans' Agent Ted Mulvehill & Charles Duquette-(cont'd):

Mr. Mulvehill introduced himself and Mr. Duquette and gave an overview of the program. After the end of the Civil War, a law was passed by the General Court to care for he who has borne the battle, for his widow, and for his orphan. This law is unique to Massachusetts as no other state has this program for state benefits. Mr. Mulvehill said in addition to administering this program, he helps file federal claims for the VA. He went on to say that his office underwent a major change after 9/11 when his office went from peacetime to wartime status and he has kept pace.

Mr. Mulvehill introduced Charles Duquette of the Department of Employment and Training and explained the relationship between the two offices. Mr. Duquette explained that he is a veterans outreach specialist and when it comes to employment and training, he has resources at the one stop career center. They have veterans who come from other towns because they know they will get high quality services in Norwood. Mr. Duquette said he was working Norwood Day, asking people if they knew whom the Veterans' Services Officer is; they knew of Ted but not about the Career Center. Mr. Duquette said his goal is to partner with the town more. He announced a Veterans Job Fair April 7, 2016 from 10 a.m. to 3 p.m. at Gillette Stadium.

Chairman Bishop inquired about the Veterans' Services budget. Mr. Mulvehill stated seventy five percent of his budget goes to assistance, which can be unpredictable, and for several years has meant he has been underfunded. This expenditure is reimbursed to the town for seventy-five cents on the dollar. Mr. Mulvehill spoke about outreach and getting the word out about the earned benefits these soldiers have earned and deserve.

New Business

Dept. Of Revenue, Div. of Local Services:

On motion of Selectman Donohue, seconded by Selectman Lyons, voted to file e-mail re Excess and Deficiency-Blue Hills. (Has been sent to Town Clerk & Accountant Thomas J. McQuaid).

Darryl Hanson, Broadband Division Manager:

On motion of Selectman Donohue, seconded by Selectman Lyons, voted to file 2015 Annual Complain Form-Form 500 in accordance with Mass. Cable Regulations.

Deborah K. Farmer, Gannett Publishing Company, 565 University Ave.:

On motion of Selectman Donohue, seconded by Selectman Lyons, voted to file notification that the timetable for closing the operation has changed and will be completed by April 8, 2016 or sometime during a 14-day period thereafter.

Chelsea Noyes & Daniel Lynch, 17 Coleman Street, Abington:

On motion of Selectman Lyons, seconded by Selectman Donohue, voted to approve request to have a wedding ceremony and pictures on the Walter J. Dempsey Bandstand on Saturday, March 26, 2016 from 4 p.m. to 6 p.m. No electric power or sound system is needed.

Brandon Moss, Town Counsel:

On motion of Selectman Lyons, seconded by Selectman Donohue, voted to file e-mails regarding Tuckamore Aviation Commercial Application.

Greg Franks, Senior Manager, Government & Regulatory Affairs, Comcast:

On motion of Selectman Plasko, seconded by Selectman Lyons, voted to accept under Chapter 44 s 53A Submitting check in amount of \$44,798.87 based on the period of October 1, 2015 through December 30, 2015 in accordance with the Norwood Cable Television Renewal License, dated February 2, 2014. This payment is provided pursuant to License Section 6.4 (a)-(d)-Annual Support for PEG access.

New Business-(cont'd):

Outback Steakhouse of Florida, LLC, dba Outback Steakhouse, 1210 Boston Providence Turnpike.:

On motion of Selectman Lyons, seconded by Selectman Plasko, voted to approve change of manager from Ryan P. Todd to Jonathan Murgo.

Thomas J. McQuaid, Town Clerk & Accountant:

On motion of Selectman Plasko, seconded by Selectman Lyons, voted to file notice to all department heads regarding implementation of financial policies effective March 1, 2016 with thanks to Town Treasurer Robert Marsh and the Board of Selectmen.

Thomas J. McQuaid, Clerk to the Finance Commission:

On motion of Selectman Lyons, seconded by Selectman Donohue, voted to approve correspondence on behalf of the Finance Commission that they have approved a \$600 Reserve Fund Transfer for the Fire Department for an educational incentive and ask concurrence of the Board of Selectmen. The Finance Commission acted prior to the Board as they will not be meeting subsequent to the next Selectmen's Meeting.

Norwood Knights of Columbus, Council No. 252, John Paras:

On motion of Selectman Donohue, seconded by Selectman Lyons, voted to approve request for one day AAB and dancing for Saturday, February 20, 2016 from 7 p.m. to 11 p.m.

Unfinished Business

Kathleen Colleary, Chief Bureau of Municipal Finance Law, Mass. Dept. of Revenue:

On motion of Selectman Donohue, seconded by Selectman Plasko, voted to file acknowledgement of appointment of Robert M. Thornton, to complete the term of Paul F. Wanecek for a term to expire on April 1, 2018 and James F. Grover to complete the term of Joseph T. Turner whose term will expire on April 1, 2016.

Representative John H. Rogers, House of Representatives, Commonwealth of Mass.

- a. Submitting correspondence regarding the Board's letter to him in favor of "An Act exempting public school stadiums from certain state regulations" (plumbing code), showing a letter of support from Rep. Rogers of H. 182 to the Joint Committee on Consumer Protection and note that Committee Chairwomen Rep. Jennifer Benson has informed him that the Committee is scheduled to report the bill out favorably. Rep. Rogers will keep the Board apprised.
- b. Submitting correspondence regarding the Board's letter to him in favor of "An Act to Modernize Municipal Finance and Government", showing the status of the progress of these bills.

On motion of Selectman Plasko, seconded by Selectman Lyons, voted to file both items and thank Representative Rogers for his assistance.

Memoranda

Selectmen's Meeting:

On motion of Selectman Plasko, seconded by Selectman Lyons, voted to approve the Board minutes of January 26 and February 2, 2016.

Selectmen's Addenda

Selectman Plasko

Finger Print Policy

He is still holding the finger print policy to do some follow up and meet with Chief Brooks.

Chairman Bishop

Motion Activated Light

Request to the Manager to install a motion activated light over the Handicapped entrance.

Selectman Donohue

Valentine's Day

The Veterans' appreciation event at the Morse House on Valentine's was a huge success.

Manager's Agenda

Recommending the Board approve Sunday parking ban on Gardener Road.

The Manager explained this is the result of a meeting with residents of the neighborhood with complaints about parking during services. On motion of Selectman Lyons, seconded by Selectman Plasko, voted to approve proposed parking ban on Sundays on Gardner Road.

Meeting info with Fred Laskey of the MWRA

This item was handled during Mr. Laskey's appointment earlier in the meeting.

Executive Session

On motion of Selectman Lyons, seconded by Selectman Plasko, voted to file Claim and Demand Norwood Police Department.

Adjournment

No other business being presented for consideration, on motion of Selectman Plasko, seconded by Selectman Donohue, voted to adjourn and the meeting was adjourned accordingly at 8:37 p.m.

A True Record.

ATTEST: _____

Assistant