

Regular meeting of the Board of Selectmen convened at 7 p.m. on Tuesday, September 6, 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 Allan D. Howard, Selectmen William J. Plasko, Helen Abdallah Donohue, Paul A. Bishop and Thomas F. Maloney. Also present General Manager John J. Carroll, Clerk Frances L. Jessoe and Assistant Christina Mulvehill.

Appointments

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

Reference was made to monthly report of department's activities. Chief Brooks announced the retirements of Officer Anthony Copponi and Detective David Eysie. Both served approximately thirty years. Officer Copponi was a Motorcycle Officer for twenty years and before that, he participated in the Mountain bike Officers program. Detective Eysie had been successful in the drug enforcement effort and was very effective. They are working to replace him. Patrol Officers who are interested in the Detective position submit resumes and have interviews and then the top three candidates are assigned for eight weeks in detective squad cases. At the end of that period a promotion to Detective is made. Chief Brooks stated that he expects to promote an officer around late fall. Children are back to school today - drive slowly around this time of year-school busses are on the road. Friday night will be Norwood Day Fireworks and there will be officers at the scene and in South Norwood to move the traffic after the fireworks. Norwood Day is Saturday and Police Officers will be in attendance. Sunday is the annual Fire/Police Department softball game. There is a Red and Blue barbeque following the game. Chief Brooks stated that Accreditation of the Department would officially happen next Wednesday. Recently extra officers were on road (participating with State Police) to enforce drunk driving during the holiday weekend. This is publicized by the state and they made no drunken driving arrests during the holiday weekend. The second youth academy went very well and Chief has heard from many parents thanking the officers for the successful academy. Chief Brooks discussed the fact that there are frauds going on – IRS fraud where people get phone call saying they owe money. He said that the IRS does not make phone calls. Another fraud is a phone call saying a relative has been in an accident or has been arrested or we are holding them and need money to release them. Calls from people claiming to be from Eversource – also scams as are calls from Apple or Microsoft. Chief wants people to be aware of these frauds. There has been no success recovering money because it can't be traced as it is placed in Western Union, etc.

Selectman Bishop said if another town brings a drug overdose to Norwood Hospital and someone decides to transfer them to district court, does that happen. Chief said that does not typically happen. If there were a warrant that another department would come to Norwood and take care of it if they are notified by the other department. Chief Brooks reminded people if you call 911 for someone overdosing you are criminally immune. He said they do a number of transports on section 12 and section 35 – writs to commit a person issued by the court and then they do get those transports. Selectman Bishop said that is what he was getting to with his questions. Chief Brooks said that this is a civil commitment.

Selectman Bishop mentioned item five regarding parking on Bond Street. The Manager has tried to get hold of this woman by telephone and email and has not been able to. The Manager said that Mr. Ryan and he want to meet with her. They want to talk to her and would appreciate her giving him a call. Item 13 refers to speeding on Ellis Avenue. He asked the Chief to run enforcement on the speeding issue from time to time. Chairman Howard said the residents are complaining about test drives from dealerships. Chief will enforce speeding and tell dealers no test-drives.

Selectman Maloney referred to a letter the Chief sent to the Boston Globe with distaste for some cartoons they printed. The Chief said the letter was not printed, but he got a letter in return and spoke with someone in person. Selectman Maloney asked how the town benefits from accreditation. Chief said the

Chief Brooks (cont'd)

The Mass. Police Commission on Accreditation controls it. They have 70-80 written policies as a result of the exercise. The process is a full review of all policies and procedures.

Selectman Donohue asked the Chief to talk about when a vehicle is running and the operator has the radio on so loud and property around the car vibrates. Chief said there is a fine for some types of noise and the radio would be disturbing the peace and police respond to those complaints.

7:15 P.M. – Chief Anthony J. Greeley, NFD:

Chief Greeley reported on the Department's activity for August, saying it was a typical month for them. The EMS was busy due to extreme heat. There was a stovetop grease fire at 616 Norwest Drive and that kitchen was destroyed. Chairman Howard inquired about water on grease fire. Chief Greeley said no water on grease. Chief Greeley mentioned a possible rise in receipts of EMS due to the recent rate hike. It usually takes about ninety days for that to show up. Some of the runs they send in are backlogged. They are doing a lot of training and recertification of EMT's and Medics. This September 24 they will sponsor a free CPR course for residents, which is run out of the community room at the Police/Fire Station. Information is on Facebook and the course is free of charge. Chief Greeley notified the Town that the grant for mechanized ambulance loading system did not go through. Chief has a plan – he has a new ambulance on his capital outlay list. When you get a new ambulance now it is a new federal regulation to have that system on the ambulance. Chief will try to find money in the budget at the end of the year to install one in the second ambulance. It is for the safety of the patient to protect them if they were in an accident. It also helps fend off back injuries of heavier patients. Chief said they send more crew on calls in order to carry patients. They will start with Fin Com in the fall.

Chairman Howard said more than the expense we want to protect our firefighters. The Chief said the department is very healthy right now and EMS supports Fire Suppression and vice versa. Chief Greeley referred to Selectman Plasko's question about mutual aid. The town of Walpole had the Norwood department in town twelve out of the nineteen times that Norwood supplied mutual aid in July. Selectman Plasko had asked why this was the case and the Chief said Walpole had a very busy July and simultaneous alarms within a department contribute to the need for mutual aid. Selectman Plasko asked the Chief if he knows the staffing of surrounding towns as far as ambulances. Norwood staffs two. The Chief said Walpole staffs one ambulance and will staff a second one by using ladder men if they get a second call. Chief Greeley went on to report that three-year-old Ladder One has been out for service for two weeks. There was a warranty on the exterior so work on the exterior paintwork is being done. The Chief talked about the fire at Norwest Woods. The residents displaced were a mom and a teenage son and daughter and they were given vouchers for two nights stay in a local hotel. These vouchers are donated by Residence Inn, Courtyard, and Hampton Inn. He thanked these hotels. The Fire Department will be in South Norwood Friday night for the fireworks and at Norwood Day on Saturday. The Chief said he would not be able to attend because his oldest daughter is getting married.

Selectman Maloney asked about the cost of the Stryker System for the ambulance. The Chief said they are \$42,000 apiece. Selectman Maloney asked about the substitution account and the Chief said he and Mr. Carroll have many conversations about this. He briefly explained what the substitution budget is and that it covers all time off. He brings people in to keep staffing at safe levels when people are out of work. It is a seasonally affected budget and is higher in the summer.

Selectman Donohue asked if the vehicle being painted was bought new. It was and it cost \$1.3 million. Chief said this is a ladder truck gets close to buildings that are burning hot. It is exposed to the elements. The work is being done for free. The life expectancy of a ladder truck is twenty years. Mr. Carroll said the Police and Fire Chiefs come in together at their own request. They work together extremely well during this time.

Selectman Plasko asked Chief Greeley to add a column to his ambulance revenue report showing last year's data.

7:30 P.M. – Cont'd Cable Ascertainment Public Hearing-Verizon:

August 23, 2016 public hearing should be closed. No additional testimony has been received. Board should vote to direct Cable Commission to continue negotiations with Verizon for renewal of its current television license. Selectman Plasko asked if there had been any additional information received and the Clerk said there had not. Selectman Plasko made a motion to close the hearing, as there has been no additional testimony. Chairman Howard said he would speak on this. He said several people talked to him about complaints and he told them the proper procedure would be to send a letter or email to the Board. They declined but asked him to convey their feelings that there is a problem with the volume on the Public Access Programs that Verizon has. On motion of Selectman Plasko, seconded by Selectman Bishop, voted to close the hearing and on motion of Selectman Plasko, seconded by Selectman Bishop, voted to forward comments to the Chairman of the Cable Commission. On motion of Selectman Bishop, seconded by Selectman Maloney, voted to direct Cable Commission to negotiate with Verizon.

New Business

2017 License Fees:

On motion of Selectman Maloney, seconded by Selectman Bishop, voted 4-0 to keep fees the same. Selectman Donohue abstained.

Personnel Board:

On motion of Selectman Plasko, seconded by Selectman Bishop, voted to file policy update.

Kathy Keady, President Norwood Community Tennis Association:

Add requesting repairs to tennis courts at Coakley to fall Special Town Meeting. Selectman Plasko said he thought they had put this in the budget and asked when it had been taken out. His recollection was that money would be put back into the recreation budget. Mr. Carroll stated he could not remember and Selectman Plasko asked him to check the current budget. On motion of Selectman Plasko, seconded by Selectman Bishop, voted to refer this item to the Manager.

Carol MacLeay, President, Norwood League of Women Voters:

On motion of Selectman Donohue, seconded by Selectman Bishop, voted to approve Candidates Night in Memorial Hall Monday, Oct. 24, 2016 at 7:30 p.m. and waive custodial fee.

Judith Connelly, 90 Bond Street:

E-mail regarding parked cars and traffic in that area. (Was referred to the Manager)

Thomas J. McQuaid, Town Clerk & Accountant:

Submitting information regarding request from taxpayer about actual impact of the high school debt exclusion-original projects was \$150 per year, actual was an average of \$107. Submitting corrected information regarding tax impact on the high school debt exclusion. Chairman Howard explained that a taxpayer had made an inquiry of Mr. McQuaid and he and his people started looking into this and realized that the average impact was not \$150 per year but instead was \$107 increase in real estate taxes. Actual dollar amounts depend on the value of the home.

Cemetery Deeds:

On motion of Selectman Bishop, seconded by Selectman Donohue, voted to sign:
Patricia A. David to Lot G6-93
Sergey Grigoryan to Lot C-1892
Frances Raynes to Lot C-1894

Norwood Knights of Columbus, 572 Nichols Street:

On motion of Selectman Bishop, seconded by Selectman Plasko, voted to approve One-Day Liquor Licenses-(2): September 17 and September 24, 2016.

Friends of the Morrill Memorial Library:

On motion of Selectman Donohue, seconded by Selectman Bishop, voted to approve insertion of membership drive flyer in December or November light bills.

Robin Hanlon, Vintage Thymes:

On motion of Selectman Plasko, seconded by Selectman Bishop, voted to approve 1 Day Liquor License for Thursday, September 8, 2016 from 5p.m. to 10 p.m.

Paul Halkiotis, Director of Community Planning & Economic Development:

On motion of Selectman Plasko, seconded by Selectman Bishop, voted to approve and sign Discharge of Housing Rehab Program Statutory Mortgage.

Donna Metcalf, Norwood Parents Music Association:

On motion of Selectman Bishop, seconded by Selectman Donohue, voted to approve posting signs to advertise 4th Annual Mattress Sale at Norwood High School on Sept. 24, 2016

Diane Buckley, Ellis Ave.:

Submitting e-mail regarding traffic concerns; report of Officer Stephen Begley, NPD regarding meeting with Ms. Buckley. Pedestrian Safety Committee decided to use more signage on the street and stripe the middle of the road. Also submitting copy of Ellis Ave. traffic study results.

Memoranda

Selectmen's Meeting:

On motion of Selectman Bishop, seconded by Selectman Donohue, voted approval of the Board, minutes of August 9, 2016.

Personnel Board:

On motion of Selectman Bishop, seconded by Selectman Plasko, voted to file correspondence to Town Clerk & Accountant regarding reclassification.

Joseph M. Welch, 10 Barberry Lane:

On motion of Selectman Plasko, seconded by Selectman Bishop, voted to accept the gift under Chapter 44 §53A. Selectman Bishop said as of late this afternoon, Mr. Welch had not received this letter so he read it to him.

Mark Chubet, Building Inspector:

On motion of Selectman Donohue, seconded by Selectman Bishop, voted to file report of the department's activities for the month of August 2016.

Selectmen's Addenda

Selectman Bishop

State Primary

Primary Election Thursday, September 8, 2016. Polls are open 7 a.m. to 8 p.m.

Brad Cole

Brad has left the employ of the Transcript. He was good reporter and was objective and fair and I wish him all the best of luck in the future.

Selectman Plasko

Anniversary

Happy Anniversary to Mrs. Donohue

Selectman Plasko-(cont'd):

Special Town Meeting

Usually a Special Town Meeting is held in November. Due to the Moderna TIF arrangement, we are considering holding STM earlier. He suggested October 24, 2016 or go into November, but that would have to be November 14, 2016. On motion of Selectman Plasko, seconded by Selectman Donohue, voted to hold Special Town Meeting Monday, October 24, 2016. Proposed articles must be submitted by September 27th and the Board will sign the Warrant October 4th.

Position of Town Clerk and Accountant

Although Massachusetts State Law allows the positions to be combined, Norwood is the only town in the commonwealth that uses this system. When Bob Thornton retired, there was talk of separating these positions. Having the positions combined might hamper getting quality candidates for the Accountant position. There is merit to exploring it and with current talks about renovations in Town Hall, things might be affected by this. We can make the charter change and not use it until the incumbent leaves but I do not think we should wait any longer. Form a committee with representatives from Selectmen, Finance Commission, HR, and maybe two Town Meeting members. We could have input from the Manager.

Selectman Maloney

New School Year

Wish all students and faculty well this year.

Norwood Parents Music Association

Mattress fundraiser Saturday, September 24, 2016 at the High School.

Norwood Day

Norwood Town Day is considered a model by other towns.

Selectman Donohue

Town Clerk & Accountant

Studying possibly separating the two positions is a good idea and the Chairman of the Board of Selectmen should make appointments.

Town Hall Renovations

Architect Joe Rizza was in Town Hall studying areas of proposed renovations. She, Tom Maloney, and Paul Bishop walked the building with Mr. Rizza and reviewed some of the issues. The information was good to learn in a factual way what are they concerns and proposals. They appear reasonable. We want to maintain this beautiful structure.

Norwood Day

There will be fireworks Friday night and the main event on Saturday. There will be a shuttle running from the center of town to the Morse House.

Chairman Howard

State Primary

Thursday, September 8th and polls will be open from 7 a.m. to 8 p.m.

Manager's Agenda

Letter to Joseph Welch regarding cemetery bench

Selectman Bishop said Mr. Welch will be meeting with Mr. Ranalli and Mr. Ryan and he will join them.

Re-appointment of Lee Leach to Conservation Commission.

On motion of Selectman Plasko, seconded by Selectman Donohue, voted to approve reappointment.

Manager's Agenda-(cont'd):

Guild Street Bridge update.

On motion of Selectman Plasko, seconded by Selectman Bishop, voted to file.

National Grid/South Norwood update.

Mr. Carroll said they are meeting regularly with National Grid on the Washington Street project and it is going very well. There will be cross trenches that will interfere with traffic but they have done a great job allowing traffic through.

Manager's Executive Session

Settlement

On motion of Selectmen Donohue, seconded by Selectman Plasko, voted to file. The Board did not go into Executive Session.

Adjournment

No other business being presented for consideration, on motion of Selectman Donohue, seconded by Selectman Plasko, voted to adjourn and the meeting was adjourned accordingly at 8:06 p.m.

A True Record.

ATTEST: _____
Assistant