



## The TOWN OF NORWOOD

Commonwealth of Massachusetts

### BOARD OF SELECTMEN MEETING MINUTES

#### HYBRID MEETING

TUESDAY, JANUARY 23, 2024

6:30 PM

#### HARRY BUTTERS SELECTMEN'S CHAMBERS

NORWOOD TOWN HALL • 566 WASHINGTON STREET • NORWOOD, MASS.

**BOARD PRESENT:** Matthew E. Lane, Robert G. Donnelly, William J. Plasko, Amanda R. Grow and Michael Saad

**BOARD ABSENT:**

**RECORDING SECRETARY:** Christine M. Woodward

#### 1. Warrant Signature Update

Submitting notification of reviewed and approved Warrant Reports, signed by the Board's representative.

Motion to accept.

*Moved by:* William Plasko

*Seconded by:* Robert Donnelly

**Aye** Amanda Grow, Matthew Lane, Robert Donnelly, William Plasko, and Michael Saad

**Carried 5-0**

#### 2. Meeting Minutes for approval of the Board

Submitting meeting minutes for January 9th, 2024.

Motion to approve.

*Moved by:* Amanda Grow

*Seconded by:* Robert Donnelly

**Aye** Amanda Grow, Matthew Lane, Robert Donnelly, William Plasko, and Michael Saad

**Carried 5-0**

### **3. Appointments**

3.1 6:30 PM - William P. O'Donnell - Register of Deeds Norfolk County

Register of Deeds, William O'Donnell appeared before the Board to share information about the Registry of Deeds, located at 649 High Street in Dedham. Mr. O'Donnell highlighted the history of the Registry stating that many of their documents go back to 1793 and mentioned many of the services that are offered at the High Street location.

3.2 6:45 PM - Alan Slater - Middle School Building Committee

Alan Slater, Chairman of the Middle School Building Committee appeared before the Board and introduced a Power Point presentation. Before the presentation, Mr. Slater commented that the project is both on time and on budget. Included in this presentation were September through December progress photos. The topping off ceremony took place on December 20th. The steel beam was signed by students as well as the project team. In the next few slides the project milestones were noted. Board members offered positive comments regarding the project and stated their thanks to all involved. This appointment was for information and discussion only. No motions were made and no votes were taken.

3.3 7:15 PM - Sarah Dixon and Planning Board - MBTA Communities

Director of Planning, Sarah Dixon appeared before the Board of Selectmen with members of the Planning Board - Ernie Paciorkowski, Brian Hachey, Joe Sheehan and Rob Bamber. Ms. Dixon was at the meeting to present information via a Power Point presentation and participate in discussion regarding the MBTA Multifamily Zoning Requirements (Section 3A) proposed articles for the March 21st Special Town Meeting. The new Section 3A Law was an amendment

to the zoning act that was passed by the Massachusetts State Legislature a few years ago. It requires communities like Norwood that have MBTA access in the form of the commuter rail, subway or are adjacent to towns that do have that access, to create a zoning district where multifamily housing could be permitted by right without discretionary approval processes like special permits.

Noted are the following:

- Impacts all 177 MBTA Communities - Rapid Transit, Commuter Rail, Adjacent Community, Adjacent Small town.
- Minimum allowance of 15 units/acre by right.
- Zone must be of reasonable size.
- No age restrictions, must be suitable for families.
- Certain percentage must be within 0.5 miles of transit station if applicable.

Ms. Dixon explained the Task Force process. Public education and community discussion took place in April of 2023 and in Summer of 2023. Zoning districts and requirements were identified in Fall of 2023; Drafting of the by-law amendments took place in Fall of 2023 and state pre-approval of the new by-law was submitted in December of 2023. Norwood is in interim compliance with the state law and has until December 31st, 2024 to come into full compliance.

Lengthy discussion took place. Questions and concerns were raised by the Board and addressed by Ms. Dixon and Mr. Paciorkowski.

This appointment was for information and discussion only. No motions were made and no votes were taken.

## **4. New Business**

### **4.1 Appointment as Constable**

Request to continue the appointment of Julia Farah as Constable with a term expiring in April of 2027.

Motion to approve.

*Moved by:* Michael Saad

*Seconded by:* William Plasko

**Aye** Amanda Grow, Matthew Lane, Robert Donnelly, William Plasko, and Michael Saad

**Carried 5-0**

4.2 FY25 Capital Outlay Plan

Mr. Mazzucco opened with comments regarding this early draft of the FY25 projected capital projects as of January 2024. It is still subject to significant revision; Mr. Mazzucco said that they wanted to get it to the Board early on in case there are any projects in particular that they would want to spend some time looking at. Selectman Donnelly stated that the first capital outlay meeting of the year is scheduled for January 30th.

4.3 Draft Warrant and Yellow Sheet

Mr. Mazzucco stated that the Board does have a draft copy of the warrant and yellow sheet. Any feedback that the Board may have would be appreciated. The Board is tentatively scheduled to sign the warrant at their next meeting on February 13th.

4.4 Artwork Along Germany Brook Trail - Impact Norwood

Submitting request to paint the concrete blocks along the walking trail between Father Mac's and the Willett School. The art work painted on these blocks will be 'wellness' and will promote a positive and healthy community environment. Motion to approve.

*Moved by:* Robert Donnelly

*Seconded by:* Amanda Grow

**Aye** Amanda Grow, Matthew Lane, Robert Donnelly, William Plasko, and Michael Saad

**Carried 5-0**

4.5 Car Wash - Norwood Parents Music Association

Submitting request to hold a car wash on Saturday, May 11th, 2024 from 8:30 AM until 1:00 PM at the municipal parking lot.

Motion to approve.

*Moved by:* Robert Donnelly

*Seconded by:* Amanda Grow

**Aye** Amanda Grow, Matthew Lane, Robert Donnelly, William Plasko, and Michael Saad

**Carried 5-0**

4.6 Car Wash - Norwood High School Girls Varsity Hockey  
Submitting request to hold a car wash on Saturday, May 25th, 2024 from 8:00 AM until 1:00 PM at the municipal parking lot.

Motion to approve.

*Moved by:* Michael Saad

*Seconded by:* Amanda Grow

**Aye** Amanda Grow, Matthew Lane, Robert Donnelly, William Plasko, and Michael Saad

**Carried 5-0**

4.7 Town Common Request - Neponset River House  
Neponset River House submitting a request to use the Town Common for an event to raise awareness with regard to mental health during Mental Health Awareness Month. The event would take place on Thursday, May 16th, 2024 from 2:00 PM until 6:00 PM. This is a repeat of a successful event that was held in May of 2023.

Motion to approve. Noted that the applicant should contact the Board of Health because they will be serving food at this event.

*Moved by:* Robert Donnelly

*Seconded by:* William Plasko

**Aye** Amanda Grow, Matthew Lane, Robert Donnelly, William Plasko, and Michael Saad

**Carried 5-0**

4.8 Town Common Request - Progress Norwood

Progress Norwood submitting request to use the Town Common for the Annual Earth Day Celebration. The event will take place on April 21st, 2024 from 10:00 AM until 2:30 PM with approximately 250 attendees expected.

Motion to approve. Noted that the Town's website should be updated with the most recent Town Common use application.

*Moved by:* Amanda Grow

*Seconded by:* Michael Saad

**Aye** Amanda Grow, Matthew Lane, Robert Donnelly, William Plasko, and Michael Saad

**Carried 5-0**

4.9 Town Common Request - Progress Norwood

Progress Norwood submitting request to use the Town Common for the Annual Pride Picnic. The event will take place on Saturday, June 1st, 2024 from 2:30 PM until 5:30 PM with approximately 100 attendees expected.

Motion to approve.

*Moved by:* Robert Donnelly

*Seconded by:* Amanda Grow

**Aye** Amanda Grow, Matthew Lane, Robert Donnelly, William Plasko, and Michael Saad

**Carried 5-0**

4.10 Town Common Request - Juneteenth

Geoffrey Baguma submitting request to use the Town Common for the Annual Juneteenth Event to take place on

Saturday, June 15th, 2024 from 12:30 PM until 3:30 PM with approximately 400 attendees expected.

Motion to approve.

*Moved by:* Michael Saad

*Seconded by:* Amanda Grow

**Aye** Amanda Grow, Matthew Lane, Robert Donnelly, William Plasko, and Michael Saad

**Carried 5-0**

4.11 One Day Liquor Permit - Hometown Arcade

Hometown Arcade located at 61 Endicott Street, Building 26A, submitting request for a one day liquor permit for a Cottage Street School Adult Night Out event on Saturday, January 27th, 2024 from 7:00 PM until 11:00 PM with approximately 60 guests expected.

Motion to approve.

*Moved by:* William Plasko

*Seconded by:* Amanda Grow

**Aye** Amanda Grow, Matthew Lane, Robert Donnelly, William Plasko, and Michael Saad

**Carried 5-0**

4.12 One Day Liquor Permit - Hometown Arcade

Hometown Arcade located at 61 Endicott Street, Building 26A, submitting request for a one day liquor permit for a Dedham Country Day School Staff Day event on Monday, January 29th, 2024 from 2:00 PM until 4:30 PM with approximately 70 guests expected.

Motion to approve.

*Moved by:* Michael Saad

*Seconded by:* Robert Donnelly

**Aye** Amanda Grow, Matthew Lane, Robert  
Donnelly, William Plasko, and Michael Saad

**Carried 5-0**

## **5. Memoranda**

- 5.1 Building Department  
Submitting monthly report for December 2023.
- 5.2 Verizon  
For information. Submitting programming changes.
- 5.3 Norwood Light Department  
For information. Submitting the quarterly franchise fee  
payment. Calendar Year 2023, Q4.
- 5.4 Monthly Police Report - Norwood Police Department  
For information.
- 5.5 Manager's Report - Norwood Airport  
For information.
- 5.6 ABCC Approval - Northeast Sky Investments DBA Norwood  
Sunoco  
For information. Submitting notification of approval of  
Transfer of License.
- 5.7 ABCC Decision - Minerva Indian Cuisine  
For information. Submitting the ABCC's decision regarding  
MBR Group, Inc. DBA Minerva Indian Cuisine.  
Motion to file items 5.1 - 5.7.

*Moved by:* William Plasko

*Seconded by:* Michael Saad

**Aye** Amanda Grow, Matthew Lane, Robert  
Donnelly, William Plasko, and Michael Saad



**6. Manager's Update**

Mr. Mazzucco opened with comments regarding the Morrill Library and its recent use as a warming center. The library extended its hours due to frigid temperatures this past weekend. Mr. Mazzucco offered kudos to Clayton Cheever and his staff. There were approximately 250 visitors to the library during the extended library hours.

Also, Mr. Mazzucco mentioned the three year anniversary of the passing of former Assistant Town Manager - Bernie Cooper.

**7. Selectmen's Addenda**

Selectman Saad commented that some residents in South Norwood did not have their trash picked up due to some confusion regarding the Monday holiday. Mr. Mazzucco explained that there is a calendar available online that was also mailed to every household that shows when a trash pick up will be delayed by one day. Mr. Saad also mentioned the problems with trucks idling near Home Market Foods. Mr. Mazzucco stated that these problems have been ongoing and they are being addressed.

Selectman Grow reminded residents of the Meet and Greet sponsored by Impact Norwood that will be taking place on Thursday, January 25th at the Civic Center.

Selectman Plasko raised a few questions regarding Norwood Hospital - whether or not they have a fire detail and if the lights at the site are on all the time. He also requested that someone find out if their accounts are current with the Town.

Selectman Donnelly had a few reminders to speak about. January 27th is the candidate nomination event for anyone seeking signatures to get on the ballot for Town Election. January 29th, is the second meeting for the Master Plan Steering Committee. The first concert of the Winter Concert Series is Sunday, January 28th starting at 2:00 PM. The Community Preservation Committee will be meeting on Wednesday, January 24th.

Chairman Lane spoke of the Norwood Historical Society in conjunction

with Norwood High School and their photography students. They held an exhibit at the Day House last weekend. Mr. Lane was very impressed with the talent of the beginner photographers and said that it was a great event.

Motion to adjourn.

*Moved by:* William Plasko

*Seconded by:* Amanda Grow

**Aye** Amanda Grow, Matthew Lane, Robert Donnelly, William Plasko, and Michael Saad

**Carried 5-0**