

Regular and budget meeting of the Board of Selectmen convened at 5 p.m. on Tuesday, January 24, 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 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-Budget Hearings

#### 5:00 P.M. – Thomas J. McQuaid, Town Clerk & Accountant

Mr. McQuaid represented the Finance Commission and gave a budget overview. The amount requested for the retirement has increased. That number is governed by PERAC and part of the increase is because it was short funded in FY 2014. The plan is to increase the contribution to OPEB once the shortfall has been recovered. He spoke about the Reserve Fund and Stabilization, noting that the Town borrowed \$3million from this to fund DPW and must pay it back. He suggested lowering the DPW payback to \$375,420 from \$405,864. Blue Hills has applied for a MSBA loan for renovations and Norwood's payment for this would be \$88,000 per year. Selectman Plasko asked if that number is based on current enrollment and if the amount would increase. Mr. McQuaid had no definitive answer for that. He explained the placeholder amount of \$850,000 for General Government wage increases.

#### 5:15 P.M. – General Manager John J. Carroll

The Manager gave an overview of the budget. He said he met with the Capital Outlay last night and discussed many things. He handed out spread sheet of proposed FY 18 budget requests. Cathy Carney spoke about municipal maintenance repairs. She is looking for \$140,000 to modernize the elevator to reduce future repair costs. This would be in addition to the \$800,000 needed for Town Hall renovation. Veterans' Services Direct Relief has increased. The Town gets seventy five percent of that money back from the State. The planner is looking for an Assistant Planner position. Selectman Maloney inquired about Workers Compensation. Mr. Cooper said it is difficult to predict and is supposed to be managed as a fund. They have removed Personnel Board request for money for general government compensation review. Computer Department director Mark Redlich is asking for an Assistant Computer Director at M15 Step 3. They have held off on wiring the ground floor for VOIP because most of the renovations will be on that floor. In regard to PB requests for iPads, Selectman Plasko pointed out the Selectmen have been waiting for years for the ones promised them.

#### 5:30 P.M. – Mark Redlich, Computer Department –Meeting cancelled.

#### 5:40 P.M. – Supt. Gerald Miller, Recreation Department

Mr. Miller gave an overview of his budget requests. He spoke about taking over the former DPW space and he will need renovations there. He is also looking for new weight room equipment and renovations to shower men's shower room. Chairman Howard asked Mr. Miller to prioritize the maintenance items. Mr. Miller spoke about improvements to Coakley exercise complex including adding a playground and he wants two basketball courts at Doherty Field. He had several other budget and Capital Outlay requests.

Selectman Plasko said this is a very aggressive program he is presenting and these are tight budget times. Some of the requests will not be supported so the Chairman requested prioritization. Selectman Plasko noted they are still talking about renovating Town Hall and part of that would be renovating former DPW space but it is possible the Board will not support Recreation going into that space. There would have to be proof that a multi-purpose room would be more useful than any other options for that space. Selectman Bishop asked about usage at Father Mac's and Hawes. Mr. Miller said the usage is about 65% Hawes and 35% Father Mac's.

6:00 P.M. – Supt. Mark Ryan, DPW, Town Engineer

Mark Ryan and Sara Winthrop gave a budget overview. Mr. Ryan spoke about various expenses including insect and pest extermination on different town commons, fertilization, taking down dying trees, etc. He is requesting \$75,000 for a flooding issue at 53 Dean Street where he will replace a 24 inch drain with a 36 inch pipe. Selectman Plasko questioned whether that should be a borrowing item.

Selectman Bishop asked about the leaf pile at the landfill and the odor control problem it causes. Mr. Ryan said the Town makes compost and there is an odor control system which is turned off in the winter because there is concern about things freezing. There is a new policy of no more turning leaves in the winter. Mr. Ryan continued discussing various budget requests including vehicle replacement costs and \$600,000 for roadway resurfacing. He spoke briefly about the St. Gabriel's Chapel and snow and ice removal before he completed his presentation.

6:30 P.M. – Supt. James Collins, Light Department & Broadband

Mr. Collins made his presentation. He spoke about the added cost of heating the extra building they have at the current time. That will go down when that building is not extra. Selectman Maloney asked about increase in power. Mr. Collins said it is the cost of the commodity itself.

Darryl Hansen presented his budget requests. Programming costs have gone up but the link they put into Boston last year allows them to buy directly and connect to Netflix.

6:45 P.M. – Chief William G. Brooks, III, Norwood Police Department

Chief Brooks said his is a fairly standard budget. He requested one officer to the department based on population to have two officers per thousand residents and added one crossing guard for Washington and Nahatan Streets, which was previously covered by a police officer. Selectman Plasko asked which he would choose if he had to and he said he would choose the Police Officer position. There are four radio cars due for replacement and he wants to replace one third of the tasers each year, then take a year or two off and start again.

7: 00 P.M. – Chief Anthony J. Greeley, Norwood Fire Department

Chief Greeley presented the highlights of his FY 18 budget. He went over the level funded lines. There was brief discussion concerning the ambulances with Selectman Plasko stating that sometimes the ambulance responds and gives service but does not transport the patient and therefore no fee is collected. There is an increase in substitution with paramedics getting more salary and vacation time and an increase in incentive pay because two more firefighters obtained degrees. At Mr. Maloney's request the Chief explained the Injured on Duty insurance policy. Selectman Plasko pointed out that in regard to Capital Outlay, department heads are going to it without even asking this Board. He would like more time to consider capital requests.

New Business

Chief William G. Brooks, III, NPD:

On motion of Selectman Bishop, seconded by Selectman Donohue, voted to hold public hearing on Liquor Incident Reports regarding incidents which occurred at Limey, 659 Washington Street.

Thomas J. McQuaid, Town Clerk & Accountant:

Submitting notice of resignation of Joseph Greeley from the Finance Commission effective Friday, March 31, 2017. If the Board wishes to place this one year Finance Commission position on the ballot, the Board must inform the Town Clerk by Friday, January 27, 2017.

Thomas McQuaid, Town Clerk and Accountant:

Submitting notice that he received a letter from Finance Commissioner John Hayes in which he resigns from the Finance Commission effective Monday, April 3, 2017. If the Board wishes to place this one-year Finance Commission position on the April ballot, they must inform the Town Clerk's Office by Friday, January 27, 2017.

On motion of Selectman Plasko, seconded by Selectman Bishop, voted to put two vacancies on the ballot and notify the Clerk's Office.

Selectmen's Addenda

Selectman Maloney

Capital Outlay

Thank you to Selectman Donohue and the Department Heads and Citizens.

Selectman Donohue

Library trustee vacancy

Patricia Hynes will not be running again and there will be a vacancy on the Board.

MMA

This conference gives opportunity to learn from other members of government.

Selectman Plasko

John Hayes, Joseph Greeley and Patricia Hynes

It is important that we notify public that the Annual Town Election is coming up and this is a good time to contact the Clerk's Office to find out what openings are available.

Capital Outlay

This is just the General Government proposal but the Schools will also have a proposal. Selectman Maloney will supply the five-year projection document to the Board.

Manager's Agenda

Requesting approval for the sale of the vacant lot at the corner of Elliot Street and Sterns Drive.

On motion of Selectman Plasko, seconded by Selectman Donohue, voted to pass on this sale for tonight and the near future.

Adjournment

No other business being presented for consideration, on motion of Selectman Plasko, seconded by Selectman Bishop, voted to adjourn and the meeting was adjourned accordingly at 7:50 p.m.

A True Record.

ATTEST: \_\_\_\_\_  
Assistant