

Regular meeting of the Board of Selectmen convened at 6:30 p.m. on Tuesday, January 28, 2020 in Rm 34, Norwood Memorial Municipal Building, with Pledge of Allegiance, moment of prayer and reflection.

Present: Chairman Paul Bishop, Selectmen William Plasko, Allan Howard, Thomas Maloney and David Hajjar.
General Manager Tony Mazucco, Clerk Christina Mulvehill, Assistant Aoife Kelly.

Appointments

6:30 P.M. – Executive Session

The Chairman opened the meeting and stated the Board's intention to go into Executive Session for Purpose 6: To consider the purchase, exchange, lease or value of real property if the Chair declares that an open meeting may have a detrimental effect on the negotiating position of the public body.

Motion made by Selectman Plasko, seconded by Selectman Howard to enter Executive session for the purpose stated, and to reconvene in Open Session. Roll call vote: Those in favor: Selectman Maloney, Selectman Howard, Selectman Plasko, Selectman Hajjar, and Chairman Bishop. Motion passed.

7:00 P.M. – Planning Board

The Boards met to appoint an interim member to the Planning Board to fill a vacancy resulting from the resignation of Deborah Holmwood. Planning Board Chairman Ernie Paciorowski gave a brief overview and said it is the recommendation of the Planning Board to appoint Brian Hachey to the board until the election. This would be an interim appointment. Planning Board members Robert Bamber and Joseph Sheehan were also present. On motion of Selectman Plasko, seconded by Selectman Hajjar, voted to 5-0 to nominate Brian Hachey for the interim position on the Planning Board.

7:15 P.M. – Chief William Brooks, Norwood Police Department:

Chief Brooks updated the Board, starting with the most recent statistics in regard to heroin overdoses, which is an issue the department continues to work on. Deputy Chief Kelly heads up a county wide program called Norfolk County Outreach where all of the police agencies in Norfolk County enter their overdoses into a database that provides for automatic notification to the agency where that person lived, which triggers follow up. Deputy Chief Kelly oversees that project which is funded by Norfolk County DA Mike Morrissey. Officers Shore and Cedrone follow up and do outreach on people identified as being at risk. In service training over the past month has focused on stress during a time when more officers die from suicide than from assailants. The department is particularly interested in the mental health and wellness of all of the employees. The other side of this in service training has been defensive tactics. The chief announced the assignment of Sgt. Tim McDonagh to move into the Bureau of Criminal Investigation to head that division as the department's new detective sergeant. The chief spoke about the incident in Hingham involving a barricaded subject with a hostage that required SWAT, adding that Norwood has a sergeant and three officers assigned to Metro SWAT. The Chief spoke briefly about the fleet vehicle replacement program.

7:30 P.M. – Chief George Morrice, Norwood Fire Department:

Chief Morrice gave a report of department activities. The fire department is prepared and working with Health Department Director Sigalle Reiss sharing information regarding precautions and he spoke briefly about this. There was a gas leak in a home this week which had an explosion hazard, which was handled by fresh air being pumped into the home. FF Richard Flaherty, a 39 year veteran of the department has retired. FF Tim Bailey will fill the communications specialist position. The Chief thanked the board for supporting the field training officer program as it provides professional standardized training with the paramedics. The promotion ceremony for Deputy Chief Hayes and Seamus Murphy was briefly discussed.

New Business

Marcia Motta, Bay State Animal Cooperative:

On motion of Selectman Howard, seconded by Selectman Hajjar, voted to approve request to host this year's Fundraising Dog Wash/Car Wash, rabies clinic and micro-chipping clinic in the parking lot across from the Civic Center on Sunday, June 14 from 9 a.m. to 2 p.m.

Discussion of Land Use:

On motion of Selectman Plasko, seconded by Selectman Hajjar, voted to table until other business is completed.

a. Low value Town owned properties

There are several town owned properties that could be offered to abutters for purchase. This would clean up the real estate holdings. The Manager will have staff make a list of recommended properties and then identified the parcels that will likely sell. On motion of Selectman Maloney, seconded by Selectman Hajjar, voted to authorize and direct the manager to begin the process and undertake the project.

b. Possible pocket park locations

The Manager gave a presentation on pocket parks and proposed five possible locations for these in Norwood. As a part of the process, public hearings would be held on proposed locations and abutters within 500 feet would be notified. On motion of Selectman, seconded by Selectman Maloney voted to support the Manager in pursuing four pocket park locations. The Stearns and Elliot parcel would not be proposed.

Toni Eosco, Historical Commission & Community Preservation Member:

On motion of Selectman Plasko, seconded by Selectman Howard, voted to set up a hearing per the Historical Commission request to come before the Board or meet with a representative from the Board to discuss Morse House uses with respect to a Community Preservation application.

Mary Lou Folan, Norwood Town Clerk:

On motion of Selectman Plasko, seconded by Selectman Hajjar, voted to file as information notification that the Legislature approved a one week Early Voting period for the upcoming March 3, 2020 Presidential Primary Election. The Early Voting will begin Monday, February 24, 2020 and will end on Friday, February 28, 2020. Further details are posted on the Town Clerk's website.

Unfinished Business

Discussion of Board Title: Board of Selectmen or Select Board

On motion of Selectman Howard, seconded by Selectman Maloney, voted unanimously to go to ballot with a non-binding referendum question changing the name of the Norwood Board of Selectmen to the Norwood Select Board.

Morse House Applications, 1285 Washington Street:

- a. Patty Bailey, 34 St. John Avenue, Sunday, March 29, 2020 from 12 p.m. to 5 p.m. for a private event.
- b. Matt McKee, Neponset Valley Sunrise Rotary, Saturday, October 31, 2020 from 1 p.m. to 4 p.m. to hold "no scare" haunted house attraction. Set up will be October 29 & 30 with clean up October 31 after event.

On motion of Selectman Plasko, seconded by Selectman Hajjar, voted to discuss rates before voting on these applications. Discussion ensued. Selectman Maloney recommended keeping the structure as simple as possible.

Chairman Bishop made a motion to adopt Selectman Hajjar's fee schedule to be effective as of April 1, 2020. Selectman Hajjar amended the motion to March 1, 2020 and Selectman Maloney seconded the amended motion. The Board voted unanimously in favor of adopting the proposed fee schedule effective March 1, 2020. The Board will review the fee schedule every six months for eighteen months.

On motion of Selectman Plasko, seconded by Selectman Maloney, voted to approve both applications.

Ibrahim Eloiseau, Supreme Auto Plug, 145 Broadway:

On motion of Selectman Hajjar, seconded by Selectman Maloney, voted to reinstate Class II Used Auto Sales License upon approval of counsel, otherwise if necessary will schedule the hearing. Submitting application Mr. Eloiseau did not renew for 2020 as he thought he would be relocating, and the license was revoked on January 14, 2020. Mr. Eloiseau has since decided to stay in his current location.

Financial Policies:

On motion of Selectman Maloney, seconded by Selectman Hajjar, voted to approve the following correction to Debt Management Policy. The prior wording said the town will have max debt limit equal to five percent of the non-utility operating budget and this will be replaced with “the town will maintain and annual general fund debt service level at a target range of approximately 5% of current non-utility revenues except for debt excluded tax revenues. Debt service level shall include annual debt service requirements and annual short term financing costs.

Memoranda

Selectmen's Minutes:

On motion of Selectman Maloney, seconded by Selectman Plasko, voted to file as submitted Meeting minutes from November 5, 2019.

Manager's Update

Shout out to unsung hero Gary Schorer and thank you for 43 years of service to the town.

Adjournment

No other business being presented for consideration, on motion of Selectman Maloney, seconded by Selectman Hajjar, voted to adjourn and the meeting was adjourned accordingly at 9:00 p.m.

A True Record.

ATTEST: _____
Clerk

The Chair reserves the right to call items on the agenda out of order. The matters listed are those which the Chair reasonably anticipates, 48 hours prior to the meeting, being discussed at the meeting. Not all items listed may in fact be discussed and other items not listed may also be brought up for discussion to the extent permitted by the law.