

Selectmen's Meeting
Hybrid Meeting

March 09, 2021
Meeting is Recorded

Under Governor Baker's emergency "Order Suspending Certain Provisions of the Open Meeting Law G.L. C. 30A, Section 20", issued March 12, 2020 and in effect until termination of the State of Emergency: This meeting of the Board of Selectmen will be conducted hybrid model with Board meeting in person in the Community Room at 137 Nahatan Street, and all other participants joining remotely. The Meeting will be called to order by the Chairman at 7:00 P.M. Please see meeting information below:

Tue, Mar 9, 2021 7:00 PM - 10:00 PM (EST)
<https://global.gotomeeting.com/join/213241397>
United States: +1 (571) 317-3112 Access Code: 213-241-397

Present: Chairman Plasko, Selectman Lane, Selectman Hajjar, Selectman Donohue, and General Manager Tony Mazzucco.

The meeting was convened at 7:00pm on March 3rd, 2021, in the Police Community Room at 135 Nahatan Street, with the Pledge of Allegiance and a moment of silent reflection.

Zoning Board of Appeals

Chairman Plasko noted the resignation of Patrick Mulvehill and Jack Perry from the ZBA and thanked them for their service. Chairman Plasko suggested inviting the Town's associate members as well as any members of the public who may be interested in a permanent position on the ZBA to contact the Selectmen's office about the open positions.

Berkshires Film LLC, 60 Tyler Avenue, Medford MA

Will provide their own generator power, did not specify if they will be bringing any other (janitor etc.)

On suggestion of Selectman Hajjar, a fee for use of the commons was discussed and it was decided by Mr. Mazzucco that only the cost of a filming permit (to be determined at a later date) will be applied. On motion of Selectman Donohue, seconded by Selectman Lane, the Board voted unanimously to allow Berkshires Film LLC to use Town Common and Bandstand for filming approximately 1.5 days between April 7, 2021 and April 23, 2021.

Car Washes:

- a. On motion of Chairman Plasko, seconded by Selectman Donohue, the Board voted unanimously to allow the NHS Girl's Hockey Team to hold a car wash on Saturday, July 24, 2021.
- b. On motion of Chairman Plasko, seconded by Selectman Donohue, the Board voted unanimously to allow NHS Cheerleading to hold a car wash on Saturday, August 7, 2021.

Kevin Brindle, 18 Stearns Drive

On motion of Chairman Plasko, seconded by Selectman Donohue, the Board voted unanimously to refer to the manager and await his recommendation for submitting a request to purchase a plot of town owned land at the intersection of Stearns Drive and Cushing Road, to the end of the dead end on Stearns Drive.

Cemetery Deeds

Submitted for signature of the Board:

Theresa C Holland, 64 Oak Road Falmouth for Lot C3-157

Lina Aoude, 605 Norwest Drive, for lot C3-154

Helena O'Toole, 96 Rock Street, for lot C3-156

On motion of Chairman Plasko, seconded by Selectman Donohue, the Board unanimously voted to approve the above signatures.

Mary Lou Folan, Town Clerk:

On motion of Selectman Donohue, seconded by Selectman Lane, the board voted unanimously for signing of the Board Warrant for Mary Lou Folan during the 2020 elections Annual Town Election.

Thomas Tobin, Council on Aging:

Chairman Plasko thanked Thomas Tobin for his service to the community. On suggestion of Selectman Donohue a letter of thanks will be written. On motion of Chairman Plasko, the Board voted unanimously for notification that he will not seek reappointment at the completion of this term.

Tony Mazzucco, Town Manager

- a. On motion of Chairman Plasko, seconded by Selectman Donohue, the Board unanimously voted to approve the recommendation to appoint Alan Howard to the Council on Aging Board of Directors.
- b. On suggestion of Selectman Hajjar, a paragraph will be added to the Board Social Media Policy and Guidelines to include employees and it shall be numbered accordingly. On motion of Chairman Plasko, the Board unanimously voted to approve the Board Social Media Policy and Guidelines with the above amendment.
- c. On motion of Chairman Plasko, the Board unanimously voted to submit a request from the Facilities Department for a Reserve Fund Transfer in the amount of \$21,850.00 to pay for an air compressor for the Fire Station.
- d. On suggestion of Mr. Mazzucco, two employees from the Town of Norwood Animal Control Services would partake in this agreement, the Town of Walpole would be billed for full costs, and amendments can be made should they be needed at the one year renewal. On motion of Chairman Plasko, the Board unanimously voted to submit a proposed Inter-municipal Agreement with the Town of Walpole to share Animal Control Services.

- e. On motion of Mr. Mazzucco, seconded by Selectman Donohue, the Board unanimously voted for signature of the Chairman NSTAR Interconnection Agreement.
- f. CPA Projects:
 - i. Removal of Washington # 7 Fire Bell in Tilton Carillon at Town Hall
On suggestion of Chairman Plasko, the whereabouts of the bell should be made known to the Board at all times so that it is not forgotten. On motion of Chairman Plasko, seconded by Selectman Hajjar, the Board unanimously voted to support removal of the Washington # 7 fire bell from Tilton Carillon at Town Hall to be restored and displayed in a more public place.
 - ii. Placing New Compost Restrooms Throughout the Town
On motion of Chairman Plasko, seconded by Selectman Donohue, the Board voted 4-1 (with Vice Chairman Maloney as the sole opposer) to approve conceptually the replacement of various portable toilets within the town with compost toilets and placing new compost restrooms throughout the town.

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

Chief Morrice submitted a monthly report of department activities.

The increase in activity at the Fire Department on 03/05/21 and 03/06/21 was due to services being held for the late John Bilanti, who had retired after 25 years at the Fire Department.

On 03/08/21 there was a garbage truck fire in the parking lot of St. Timothy's: thanks were given to Mark Ryan for providing equipment to help extinguish the fire.

A new Ambulance is now in service and is designated as a NA-3.

The kitchen remodel demo began on March 22nd.

The Fire Department is focusing on training their officer core.

Lieutenant Christopher Campiglio has been promoted to the rank of Captain.

Patrick McDonough has been promoted from Fire Fighter to the role of Lieutenant.

7:45 P.M. Chief William G. Brooks, III, Norwood Police Department:

Chief Brooks was submitting a monthly report of department activities.

There was a breaking and entering at Shurfine Market a few weeks ago. The investigation was led by detective Paul Ryan and two suspects were charged.

A drug raid on Rock Street was conducted by Lieutenant Flannigan, Detective Lopes and Detective Green. They were able to seize fentanyl and prescription medications.

The Norwood Police Department assisted the City of Boston with an investigation for unlawful possession of fire-arms.

Detective Green charged two employees of a Food Preparation Company for a bomb threat.

Extra reinforcement of cellphone and pedestrian laws will be reinstated in the center of Norwood, areas with a high incidence of accidents, and on heavily traveled roads.

8:00 P.M. Patrick W. McDermott, Norfolk County Sheriff

Norfolk County Sheriff McDermott introduced himself to the Board and to the community. Sheriff McDermott is a resident of Quincy and served on Quincy City Council. Sheriff McDermott has been an attorney for 20 years as well as a register of probate for the last 18 years. Sheriff McDermott's goal is to make sure the Norfolk County Sheriff's Office serves as a public resource

for the Town of Norwood and Norfolk County. Sheriff McDermott wants to improve the conditions that make residents feel safe while also reducing the conditions that cause crime rates to be high. He plans to do this through expanded programming and community outreach. Plans to expand the “Are You Okay” program are in action.

- g. On motion of Selectman Donohue, seconded by Selectman Hajjar, the Board unanimously voted to accept on behalf of the Town, the donation of funds left by the previous anniversary committee, to be used for the planning and operations of anniversaries of the Town of Norwood with the stated conditions.
- h. Mr. Mazzucco stated that the funding received from the operational override for the snow and ice account should be sufficient to protect the town through the remainder of the winter, as long as the weather remains mild.

Timothy McDonough, Chairman, Board of Assessors:

On motion of Selectman Donohue, seconded by Selectman Hajjar, the Board unanimously voted to reappoint member Robert M. Thornton.

Kevin Shaughnessy, Superintendent, Municipal Light Department:

On motion of Selectman Donohue, seconded by Selectman Hajjar, the Board unanimously voted to approve the request to enter into informal negotiations, while “reserving their rights” under the formal review process, for renewal of the Cable Television License, set to expire April 22, 2022.

Pocket Parks

- a. Potential Pocket Park Plot on Grant Avenue
After speaking with the residents of the area, Selectman Hajjar suggested that the lot on Grant Avenue (just over 51,000 square feet) is not the right location for a pocket park. Selectman Hajjar recommended the plot be made surplus and sold. On motion of Selectman Hajjar, seconded by Selectman Lane, the Board voted 4-1 (with Chairman Plasko as the sole opposer) to recommend the plot on Grant Avenue as surplus to Town Meeting so it may be prepared to be sold. Chairman Plasko suggested the Board attempt to find another use for the property before deciding to sell it.
- b. Potential Pocket Park Plot on the corner of Elliot and Stearns Drive
Selectman Lane suggested moving forward with the plans to create a Pocket Park in this location, starting by creating different designs for the future Pocket Park and then obtaining the approval of the residents of this neighborhood. On motion of Selectman Hajjar, seconded by Selectman Lane, the Board voted 4-1 (with Vice Chairman Maloney as the only opposer) to move forward with the plans to create a Pocket Park on the corner of Elliot and Stearns Drive.

Building Inspector Matthew Walsh:

On motion of Chairman Plasko, the Board unanimously voted in favor of the Building Report for February, 2021.

Judith Howard, Norwood Historical Commission

Judith Howard submitted information about the Morse House. Selectman Hajjar will represent the Board's opinion and meet with all of the parties to see how the project will proceed. Selectman Lane will continue dialogue with the CPC about Town property and projects. On the motion of Chairman Plasko, seconded by selectman Hajjar, the Board unanimously voted to move forward with these plans.

Excise Tax Payments:

Mr. Mazzucco noted that excise tax payments would be going out toward the end of the month (later than usual) due to a new software being installed. There will still be a 30 day period in which excise tax should be paid.

Chairman Plasko inquired about whether or not the issues with the water and light bills had been resolved. Mr. Mazzucco explained this was due to a back up with the postal service and recommended calling the light department if you encounter this issue. Selectman Hajjar recommended paying these bills online if you are able to.

Norwood Record March 4th 2021 Opinion Column

Chairman Plasko made a response to a March 4th 2021 opinion column in the Norwood Record in which the paper called upon the town's officials to make statements which would violate the law (regarding a personnel matter). Chairman Plasko stated that the Town's Obligation is to protect its employees' confidentiality and will not comment on personnel matters.

Selectmen's Agendas:

Vice Chairman Maloney inquired about the decision to send letters of gratitude to Mr. Mulvehill and Mr. Perry for their work on the ZBA. Chairman Plasko informed them that it had not yet been completed and that it will be done in the near future.

On motion of Chairman Plasko, seconded by Selectman Hajjar, the Board voted unanimously to adjourn.

A True Record: _____ **ATTEST:** _____

Assistant