



The TOWN OF NORWOOD

Commonwealth of Massachusetts

BOARD OF SELECTMEN MEETING MINUTES

HYBRID MEETING

TUESDAY, AUGUST 22, 2023

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, Michael Saad and Assistant General Manager Michael Rosen

BOARD ABSENT:

RECORDING SECRETARY: Jess Jozwik

1. Executive Session

1.1 6:30 - Purpose 3

3. To discuss strategy with respect to collective bargaining or litigation if an open meeting may have a detrimental effect on the bargaining or litigating position of the public body and the chair so declares

Motion to enter into executive session

Moved by: Robert Donnelly

Seconded by: William Plasko

Aye

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

Carried 5-0

2. Warrant Signature Update

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

Motion to approve

Moved by: Robert Donnelly

Seconded by: Amanda Grow

Carried

3. Meeting Minutes for approval of the Board

Submitting meeting minutes for July 25, 2023.

Motion to approve

Moved by: Amanda Grow

Seconded by: Michael Saad

Carried

4. Appointments

4.1 6:45 Shared Housing Services Organization

To discuss Norwood's participation in the Shared Housing Services Organization and request authorization to execute the Inter-Municipal Agreement (IMA)

Motion to authorize the Town Manager to sign the Inter-municipal agreement.

Moved by: William Plasko

Seconded by: Robert Donnelly

Carried

The Board was joined by Planning Director Sarah Dixon who explained that this was a group of towns who are joining together to share costs for Housing Services, and presented the Inter-Municipal Agreement to the Board for their approval.

4.2 7:00 Cedar Market Show Cause Continuance

Hearing under Chapter 138 of the Massachusetts General Laws, to consider whether the license to sell All Alcoholic Beverages should be suspended, limited or revoked, for

failure to provide the public with the services contemplated by the license. (Continued from February 28, 2023)

Motion to continue the hearing until January 9, 2024.

Moved by: Robert Donnelly

Seconded by: Amanda Grow

The owner, Elias Haber came before the Board and said that the license was under agreement to be transferred to another company and the transfer paperwork has been submitted to the Board, and will be heard on October 10, 2023.

4.3 7:15 Wine and Market Show Cause Continuance

Hearing under Chapter 138 of the Massachusetts General Laws, to consider whether the license to sell All Alcoholic Beverages should be suspended, limited or revoked, for failure to provide the public with the services contemplated by the license. (Continued from February 28, 2023)

Motion to continue the hearing until November 14, 2023.

Moved by: William Plasko

Seconded by: Robert Donnelly

Carried

License holder Dan Newcomb came before the Board and explained that the Board has approved the transfer and was just waiting for ABCC approval.

4.4 7:20 Town Meeting Size Study Committee

Presentation from the Town Meeting Size Study Committee regarding their findings and recommendations.

Motion to instruct the Town Manager to draft an article for fall Town Meeting to change the by-law to the recommendation of the committee as presented.

Moved by: Robert Donnelly

Seconded by: William Plasko

Carried

The Board was joined by the Town Meeting Size Study Committee, Amy Sobchuk, Jean Taylor, Brianna Whelan, David Hern Jr., Gerri Slater and Marylou Folan.

Amy Sobchuk gave the history of the committee and reviewed the process of how they came to the conclusion of what the most effective number of Town Meeting Members would be. They recommended that the Town Meeting be changed to 1.25% of the total registered voters of the town and rounding up to the nearest number divisible by nine. Jean Taylor also suggested that the by-laws regarding Town Meeting could use review and modernization.

4.5 **7:35 Stormwater Committee**

To receive an update from the Stormwater Utility Committee regarding the committee's work on recommendations for financing stormwater infrastructure projects and establishing a stormwater utility.

Carried

The Board was joined by Jerry Hopcroft on behalf of the Stormwater Committee, as well as Holly Jones, Alan Slater, and Michael Rosen. Selectman Donnelly is also a committee member. Mr. Hopcroft shared about the work of the committee, outlining areas of town that were affected by flooding from storm water. Their focus was to consider funding options.

The Board will consider next steps.

Motion to authorize Selectman Grow to extend her lobbying effort in communication with Congressman Lynch's office regarding the Town's stormwater infrastructure improvement plan.

Moved by: Robert Donnelly

Seconded by: Michael Saad

Carried

5. New Business

5.1 Cemetery Deeds

For signature of the Board:

Susan C Desisto, of 3 Alpine Road, for Lot U-56

Marjorie E Kennedy of 11 Albany Road, Walpole, for Lot G6-113

Margaret Armour of 73 Waverly Road, Middleboro, for Lot C3-233

Meredith Garrity of 28 Pontiac Road Walpole for Lot C3-246

Lifeworks Inc 789 Clapboardtree Street Westwood, for lot U-57

Stephanie Bonica of 125 Cotton Street for Lot G6-112

George R Hayes of 4 Ivy Circle, for lot SGB-30

Motion to Sign

Moved by: Robert Donnelly

Seconded by: Amanda Grow

Carried

5.2 One Day Liquor Permit: Baby Shower

Submitting request from Alexandra Blenis-Gittens for a one day liquor permit for a baby shower at 61 Endicott Street, suite 25, on Saturday, October 14, 2023 from 11:00am until 2:00pm with 50 people expected.

Motion to approve

Moved by: Amanda Grow

Seconded by: Michael Saad

Carried

5.3 One Day Liquor Permit: Castle Island, Norwood Day

Submitting request from Castle Island Brewing for a one day liquor permit for a beer garden on Norwood Day, in the town common, on Saturday, September 9, 2023 from 11:30am until 3:30pm, with no more than 50-100 people in the beer garden area at any given time.

Motion to approve

Moved by: Robert Donnelly

Seconded by: Michael Saad

Carried

5.4 **Road Closure Request: Victoria Circle Block Party**

Submitting request to close the area around Victoria Circle for a neighborhood block party on Saturday, September 16, 2023, from 3:00pm until 8:00pm.

Motion to approve

Moved by: Robert Donnelly

Seconded by: Michael Saad

5.5 **Road Closure Request: Pine Street Block Party**

Submitting request to close Pine Street for a neighborhood block party on Saturday, September 2, 2023, from 12:00pm until 9:00pm.

Motion to approve

Moved by: William Plasko

Seconded by: Amanda Grow

Carried

5.6 **Road Closure Request: Norwood Rotary Event**

Submitting request to close Astor Avenue from the intersection of Carnegie Row to the intersection of Morgan Drive for a Motorcycle and Classic Car ride in support of Veteran Suicide Prevention, from 7:30am until 11:30am on Saturday, September 16, 2023.

Motion to approve with neighborhood notifications and

clearance

Moved by: William Plasko

Seconded by: Robert Donnelly

Carried

5.7 **Road Closure Request: Norwood Day**

Submitting request for Norwood Day to close the streets around the Town Common (Washington Street from Conrad to Nahatan Street; East Cottage Street from Washington Street to Central Street, and Day Street from Washington Street to Central Street on Saturday, September 9, 2023 from 6:00am until 5:00pm for the Norwood Day Festivities.

Motion to approve

Moved by: William Plasko

Seconded by: Robert Donnelly

Carried

5.8 **Town Common Request: National Night Out 2024**

Submitting request for the Norwood Police Department to use the Town Common for their annual National Night Out event on Tuesday, August, 6, 2024, with setup starting at 3:00pm and the event running from 5:00pm until 8:00pm, with over 500 people expected.

Motion to approve

Moved by: Amanda Grow

Seconded by: Michael Saad

Carried

5.9 **LATE AGENDA ITEM: Town Common Request: Recreation Department Spin Class**

Submitting request from the Norwood Recreation Department to use the Town Common/Central Street to offer a free spin class on Wednesday, September 13, from 6:00pm until 7:00pm with 8 attendees expected.

Motion to approve

Moved by: Robert Donnelly
Seconded by: Amanda Grow

Carried

5.10 **Park Use Request: Hawes Pool Parking**

Submitting request from the Neponset Valley Humane Society to use the Hawes Pool parking lot for vendor parking for their nonprofit craft faire fundraiser at the Norwood Space Center on Saturday, September 16, 2023 from 10:00am until 3:00pm. Motion to deny and advise they may use it as any members of the public

Moved by: William Plasko
Seconded by: Michael Saad

Carried

5.11 **Norwood Police Department: Recycle Request**

Submitting request from the Norwood Police Department to surplus items.
Motion to approve

Moved by: William Plasko
Seconded by: Amanda Grow

Carried

5.12 **Common Victualler Request: Simple Sweets**

Submitting request for a common victualler license for WXZ, Inc, dba Simple Sweets, of 694 Washington Street, a bubble tea and Asian snacks establishment.

Motion to approve the CV license.

Moved by: Michael Saad
Seconded by: Amanda Grow

Carried

Angela Zou came representing Simply Sweets, a small bubble tea and Asian grocery store.

5.13 **Common Victualler Request: Between the Bunz**

Submitting request for a common victualler license for Hyde Park 4 Life LLC dba Between the Bunz at 637 Washington Street, new ownership of the Common Cafe location.

Motion to approve the CV license

Moved by: Michael Saad

Seconded by: Amanda Grow

Carried

John Rampino, Billy DeFresne, both with some restaurant experience. They are excited to create a more youthful atmosphere for their burger takeout.

5.14 **Cable Commission Reappointment**

Submitting request to reappoint Joan Jacobs to the Cable Commission for a three year term ending April 30, 2026.

Motion to approve reappointment

Moved by: Robert Donnelly

Seconded by: Michael Saad

Carried

5.15 **Conservation Commission Appointment**

Submitting request to appoint Joseph Pitti to the Conservation Commission for a three year appointment ending September, 2026.

Motion to appoint Joseph Pitti to the Conservation Commission for a three year appointment ending September, 2026.

Moved by: Robert Donnelly

Seconded by: Amanda Grow

Carried

5.16 **Lincoln and Cyprus Street Memorial**

Submitting request to place plantings and two memorial benches at the parklette at the intersection of Lincoln and Cyprus Streets.

Motion to approve permission to install, accepting the donation under chapter 44 -53 A and work to be coordinated with the Department of Public Works.

Moved by: William Plasko

Seconded by: Michael Saad

5.17 **Donation Acceptance: Fitzgerald Bench Donation**

Submitting donation for acceptance of the Board for a memorial bench to honor Francine M. Fitzgerald.

44 53 A funds expended for said purpose

Moved by: William Plasko

Seconded by: Robert Donnelly

5.18 **FY24 Capital Improvement Plan and Financials**

Submitting information regarding Capital Improvement Plan and Financials.

Selectman Donnelly noted the plan, and presented it to the Board.

5.19 **Adopting the Schedule for Town Meeting Schedule**

Submitting information regarding Town Meeting Schedule for approval of the Board.

The Board accepted this information for planning purposes.

5.20 **Norwood Light Closeout**

For Discussion.

Motion to close the year for the light department , approving all three transfers in the Board's capacity as light commissioners.

Moved by: William Plasko

Seconded by: Robert Donnelly

Carried

5.21 **Proposed By-Law for Permanent Building Projects**

For Discussion.

Motion to approve the draft

Moved by: Robert Donnelly

Seconded by: Michael Saad

Selectman Plasko spoke about the PBCC and the future of it, presenting a draft warrant article to the Board.

6. Memoranda

Motion to file 6.1-6.11

Moved by: Robert Donnelly

Seconded by: Amanda Grow

Carried

Mr. Donnelly highlighted the letter from the Finance Commission.

6.1 **NLB: PEG Quarterly Franchise Fee**

Submitting information.

6.2 **Comcast: PEG Quarterly Franchise Fee**

Submitting information.

6.3 **Verizon: PEG Quarterly Franchise Fee**

Submitting information.

6.4 **Alcoholic Beverages Control Commission: Minerva Compliance Check Hearing**

Submitting information.

6.5 **Norfolk Assessors Letter**

Submitting information.

6.6 **Flood Insurance Rate Map Appeal Period**

Submitting information.

6.7 **MIM Check**

Submitting regular payment.

6.8 **Finance Commission Letter**

Submitting information.

6.9 **Letter regarding Mr. Franks**

Submitting information.

6.10 **Building Report**

Submitting monthly report for July.

6.11 **Norwood Police Department**

Monthly report and information.

7. Manager's Update

Mr. Mazzucco had no items.

Mr. Rosen spoke about Norwood Day which will be September 9, 2023. He thanked the summer interns for their work. He spoke about the end of the summer concerts and recreation items.

8. Selectmen's Addenda

Selectman Saad thanked Sarah Dixon for her work with Rose Court condominiums and the development across the street where TumbleBus is located. The residents found Ms. Dixon to be both helpful and professional. Mr. Saad also spoke about some issues involving flooding and South Norwood.

Selectman Grow spoke about Town Meeting recruitment. Ms. Grow noted

that Dedham's model for recruiting seems to be working well. She will continue to do some legwork on this issue. Selectman Donnelly noted that he has a contact in Dedham who may be helpful and will reach out to that person.

Selectman Plasko spoke about the South Norwood Committee referencing Mr. Saad's comments. Mr. Plasko stated that the committee has no authority nor anything to do with the operations of the Town. They can look at things and make suggestions but applying for any type of federal grants has to proceed strictly through the Board.

Selectman Donnelly will not be at either of the September meetings. He spoke about the Morse Hill Veteran's Park. He also spoke about opportunities to decrease the amount of trash, via curbside pickup for composting. He thanked the concert volunteers for all of their hard work over the summer.

Selectman Lane mentioned Anthony Grasso who recently passed away. Mr. Grasso was a WW II veteran and would've celebrated his 100th birthday in October. Mr. Lane wishes all teachers, administrative staff and of course, students a happy and healthy school year.

Motion to authorize Selectman Donnelly to pursue the matter of improvements through CPC funding at the Morse Hill Veteran's Memorial Park.

Moved by: William Plasko

Seconded by: Michael Saad

Carried

Motion to Adjourn

Moved by: Robert Donnelly

Seconded by: William Plasko

Carried