

Regular meeting of the Board of Selectman convened at 6:15 p.m. on Tuesday, December 03, 2019 in Room 34, the Harry B. Butters Chambers, Norwood Memorial Municipal Building, with the Pledge of Allegiance, and silent moment of prayer/reflection.

Present: Chairman Paul A. Bishop, Selectmen William J. Plasko, Allan D. Howard, Thomas F. Maloney, and David E. Hajjar. Also present General Manager Tony Mazzucco, Clerk Christina Mulvehill, and Assistant Aoife Kelly.

Appointments

6:15 P.M. – Executive Session Purpose 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.

Chairman Bishop stated the Board would enter executive session and reconvene in open session at approximately 7 p.m. and entertained motion for executive session. On motion of Selectman Howard, seconded by Selectman Hajjar, voted unanimously by roll call vote to enter into executive session for the purpose of discussing collective bargaining in the Police Department.

7:00 P.M. – P.H. Tax Rate for FY 2020

Mr. McDonough gave overview of the process. He explained that values have been certified and there is a tremendous amount of new growth, mostly as a result of the valuation done over the past year. To have the exact numbers for the Board of Selectmen to make a decision, the Board of Assessors would request a hearing continuance for one week so they can give the Selectmen the final picture, which would include the new growth. Over the past year, during the Measure and List process, Norwood had approximately fifty percent participation. This process was done to make sure the Town records agree with what is actually there. This is a process that only occurs every ten years and discussion ensued about property values. On motion of Selectman Plasko, seconded by Selectman Hajjar, voted to continue the public hearing to December 10th at 7 p.m.

Chairman Bishop asked Mr. McDonough to speak about the Circle of Hope Luminary Night. Mr. McDonough gave an update on the event which is this coming Saturday evening. This is the eighteenth year of Luminary Night. The Circle of Hope was started over twenty years ago for a beautiful young lady named Michelle Kennedy. Her mother Lee Kennedy started the foundation with the promise of helping other people by raising money for people who have catastrophic illness with nowhere else to turn. As of last week's meeting of the Foundation, they have given out \$ 870,000 in assistance with things like parking at Dana Farber, and paying a mortgage or a utility bill. The luminary night is very special because it is the kick off to the holiday season.

8:00 P.M. – P.H. Aws Aws, 18 Plimpton Avenue #2:

Mr. Aws is applying for a Class II Dealer License to operate out of his residence.

On motion of Selectman Plasko, seconded by Selectman Howard, voted to close the hearing. On motion of Selectman Hajjar, seconded by Selectman Howard, voted 4-1 to delay the hearing findings for one week to allow Selectman Hajjar can work with Aws Aws on his application. Selectman Plasko opposed.

New Business

New Year's Eve:

On motion of Selectman Howard, seconded by Selectman Plasko, voted to approve the extension of hours on New Year's Eve, Tuesday, December 31, 2019 to 2 a.m. Wednesday, January 1, 2020. If approved staff will notify all on premises licensees.

James Malia, Constable:

On motion of Selectman Plasko, seconded by Selectman Hajjar, voted to file letter of resignation effective November 30, 2019.

Manager's Update

Traffic Safety Advisory

The Manager will have recommendations for the Board next week.

First Winter Storm

The Town weathered the storm very well, with just one small power outage. The Public Works Department does a great job. The Town is currently looking for contractors as some of the contractors have left for a commercial contract at Gillette Stadium.

Energy Manager Position

Inter-municipal agreement between Norwood and Sharon for signature of the Board.

Holiday concert

Thursday at Norwood Theatre at 7:30 p.m.

Menorah Lighting

Sunday December 22 at 5 p.m.

School Building Committee

Will be doing their first site visit to a Natick school.

Alex Berenson - January 9, 2020

Mr. Berenson will be doing a presentation at the high school sponsored by Impact Norwood.

Trash Pick Up

Delayed by one day this week.

Short Term Rentals- Airbnb and VRBO

The state passed a law adding hotel tax to these rentals so the Town will automatically collect that through the state. There is an option for an additional 2%-3% surcharge on short term rentals should the Town want to accept that. Short term rentals are not actually allowed under the Town's bylaws.

Public Safety

Deputy Fire Chief position interviews were held – Lt. D. Hayes has been promoted to next Deputy Chief. Police Department promotion - Officer Kevin Joseph to Sergeant.

Selectman Hajjar

Questions about the state law governing the short term lodging tax. Brief discussion of Senior Center closing for bad weather based on the School Department closings.

Selectman Maloney

Thanksgiving football game

NCM showed this live on NCM. Congratulations to Norwood High School and NCM.

Parkway Concert Orchestra

Sunday, December 15th at the First Congregational Church at 4 p.m.

Selectman Howard

Day House has several presentations this year which can be found on the historical society web site.

Election

Selectman Howard announced he will not be running for office next year.

Adjournment

No other business being presented for consideration, on motion of Selectman Plasko, seconded by Selectman Howard, voted to adjourn and the meeting was adjourned accordingly at 8:25 p.m.

A True Record.

ATTEST: _____
Clerk