



BOARD OF SELECTMEN MEETING MINUTES

HYBRID MEETING

TUESDAY, DECEMBER 12, 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 and Michael Saad

BOARD ABSENT:

RECORDING SECRETARY: Christine M. Woodward

1. Warrant Signature Update

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

Motion to approve.

Moved by: Amanda Grow

Seconded by: Michael Saad

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

Carried 5-0

2. Meeting Minutes for approval of the Board

Submitting meeting minutes for November 24, 2023 and November 28, 2023.

Motion to approve.

Moved by: Robert Donnelly
Seconded by: William Plasko

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

Carried 5-0

3. Appointments

3.1 Public Hearing: Comcast 6:35 PM

Chairman Lane read the formal hearing notice regarding the Comcast renewal and asked if there were any comments from the public, which there were not. Selectman Plasko, as the Board's appointee to negotiate the cable contracts, commented that Norwood Light and Verizon have already appeared before the Board for their ascertainment hearings and that Comcast was the last of the three for renewal. Mr. Plasko thanked Jack Tolman from Norwood Community Media for answering technical questions and providing addresses that were needed.

Motion to close the hearing.

Moved by: Robert Donnelly
Seconded by: Michael Saad

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

Carried 5-0

'Acting in our capacity as statutory cable television franchise issuing authority pursuant to MGL 166A and finding that the cable franchise renewal proposal for Comcast of Massachusetts, 3 Inc. Comcast reasonably meets the

franchise and cable renewal needs and interests of the public and finding the Comcast financial and technical qualifications and local support for the local programming channels, facilities and services are reasonable to meet the Town's cable franchise needs and based on the recommendation of the Town's renewal negotiation team to approve the proposed Comcast renewal franchise, the Norwood Board of Selectmen hereby approves the Comcast proposed renewal franchise effective February 2nd, 2024.'

Added after the reading of the motion was recognition and thanks to Attorney William August for his assistance with all three cable licenses. Mr. August extended his appreciation to Selectman Plasko as well.

Moved by: William Plasko

Seconded by: Amanda Grow

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

Carried 5-0

3.2 6:50 PM Bertucci's Change of Manager

Application has been made to the Licensing Board of the Town of Norwood for a Change of Manager from Julie Farren to Michael Theroux for Bertucci's Restaurants, LLC, 1405 Boston Providence Turnpike, Norwood, Massachusetts under Section 12 of the Massachusetts General Laws.

Public Hearing on this application will be held on Tuesday, December 12, 2023 at 6:50 PM in the Harry B. Butters Chambers, Room 34, Norwood Town Hall.

The hearing notice was read. Mr. Michael Theroux appeared before the Board as the proposed manager of Bertucci's Restaurants, LLC Norwood location at 1405 Boston Providence Turnpike. Mr. Theroux spoke of his experience in the restaurant business and added that everything would remain business as usual at the Norwood location.

Motion to close the hearing.

Moved by: Robert Donnelly

Seconded by: William Plasko

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

Carried 5-0

Motion to approve change of manager.

Moved by: Michael Saad

Seconded by: Robert Donnelly

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

Carried 5-0

3.3 Timothy J. McDonough, Town Assessor

Timothy J. McDonough, Town Assessor appearing before the
Board to present the FY24 Tax Rate.

The tax hearing notice was read. Town Assessor Timothy J. McDonough and Board of Assessors members, Robert Thornton and James Grover appeared before the Selectmen for their scheduled appointment. Mr. McDonough introduced a Power Point presentation explaining in detail the required information to help in the Board of Selectmen's selection of a shift in the tax rate. Discussion followed.

Motion to close the hearing.

Moved by: William Plasko

Seconded by: Robert Donnelly

Aye Amanda Grow, Matthew Lane, Robert

Donnelly, William Plasko, and Michael Saad

Carried 5-0

Motion to move the shift factor to 72% with the result in the residential tax rate of 10.58 and commercial rate of 23.69.

Moved by: Robert Donnelly

Seconded by: William Plasko

Aye

Nay

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

Denied 0-5

Motion to move the shift factor to 75% with the result in the residential tax rate of 10.45 and a commercial rate of 24.11.

Moved by: Michael Saad

Seconded by: Robert Donnelly

Aye

Matthew Lane and Michael Saad

Nay

Amanda Grow, Robert Donnelly, and William Plasko

Denied 2-3

Motion to move the shift factor to 74% with the result in residential tax rate of 10.49 and the commercial rate of 23.97.

Moved by: Michael Saad

Seconded by: William Plasko

Aye

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

Carried 5-0

- 3.4 Jeff O'Neil, Finance Director
Potential appointment as Town Accountant.

Jeff O'Neil, currently serving as the Finance Officer and

Treasurer in Vernon, Connecticut appeared before the Board as the finalist in the Town's search for a new Finance Director/Town Accountant. Mr. O'Neil gave a brief introduction regarding his experience. The Board members welcomed Mr. O'Neil and asked various questions of interest. Selectman Plasko, who served on the committee had many positive remarks about Mr. O'Neil and the interviewing process.

Motion to appoint Jeff O'Neil to the position of Town Accountant and to authorize and direct the General Manager, Tony Mazzucco to work out the final contract language and agreement.

Moved by: William Plasko

Seconded by: Robert Donnelly

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

Carried 5-0

4. New Business

- 4.1 Appointment of the Clerk of the Board
Appointment of the Clerk of the Board of Selectmen.

The Board wished Ms. Jozwik luck in her new position at the Town Hall and appointed Christine Woodward as Clerk of the Board.

Motion to accept Ms. Jozwik's resignation with regret and accept the appointment of Christine Woodward as the Clerk of the Board.

Moved by: William Plasko

Seconded by: Michael Saad

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

Carried 5-0

- 4.2 Setting the date for March Special Town Meeting
March Special Town Meeting (primarily Land Use)
Tues, Dec. 12 - Board of Selectmen schedules March Special
Town Meeting.

Motion to accept the revised dates for March Special Town
Meeting. Special Town Meeting will begin on Thursday, March
21, 2024.

Moved by: William Plasko

Seconded by: Robert Donnelly

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

Carried 5-0

- 4.3 One Day Liquor Permit Request: Hometown Arcade
Application was withdrawn.

- 4.4 One Day Liquor Permit Request: Cove Boutique
Submitting request for one day liquor permit for the Cove
Boutique for the following event at their 935 Washington
Street location: Sip and Shop Sweater Party on December 20,
2023 from 5:30 PM - 8:00 PM with 30 guests expected.

Motion to approve.

Moved by: Robert Donnelly

Seconded by: Michael Saad

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

Carried 5-0

4.5 One Day Music Permit Request: TILL, Inc.

Submitting request for one day music permit for TILL, Inc. for a Holiday Event to be held at the Chateau Restaurant located at 404 Boston Providence Highway on Wednesday, December 20, 2023.

Motion to approve.

Moved by: Amanda Grow

Seconded by: William Plasko

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

Carried 5-0

4.6 Road Closure Request: St. Catherine of Siena School

Submitting request from St. Catherine of Siena School for a 5K Road Race on Saturday, June 1, 2024 beginning approximately at 9 AM. The race will begin on Railroad Avenue and include the following streets in the route: Prospect, Vernon, Hickory and Spruce and returning to Railroad for the finish of the 5K.

Motion to approve.

Moved by: Robert Donnelly

Seconded by: Michael Saad

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

Carried 5-0

4.7 Cemetery Deeds

For signature of the Board.

David Goonan, 323 Prospect St., for Lot No. C3-239

Jemar Adam, 117 Olde Derby Rd. Apt B., for Lot NO. SGW-25

Richard Upton, 114 Albemarle Rd., for Lot No. C3-241

Elizabeth Price, 841 SW Spring Ave., Portland, OR for Lot No. SGW-23

Marie Martin, 149 Pleasant St., for Lot No. SGW-22

Theodore N. Leotsakos, 49 Woodbine Rd., for Lot No. C3-238

Luigi Pitaro, 284 Lenox St., for Lot No. C3-242

Marcia K. Cox, 151 Wilson St., for Lot No. C3-240

Jennifer DeBiase, 34 Hillshire Lane, for Lot No. G6-137

Motion to sign.

Moved by: Amanda Grow

Seconded by: William Plasko

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

Carried 5-0

5. Memoranda

5.1 Citizen Correspondence
For information.

5.2 Citizen Correspondence
For information.

5.3 Building Report
Building Department submitting report for November 2023.

5.4 Norwood Police Department
Submitting liquor report with no incident.

5.5 Norwood Police Department

For information. Chief William G. Brooks III submitting.

5.6 Massachusetts Association of Conservation Commissions
For information.

5.7 LATE AGENDA ITEM: Wreaths Across America
For information. Mark Ryan, Director of DPW submitting.

Motion to file items 5.1 - 5.7.

Moved by: William Plasko

Seconded by: Amanda Grow

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

Carried 5-0

6. Manager's Update

Mr. Mazzucco announced that Economic Development Director Joe Collins and his wife had twins a few days ago. He also wished everyone a Merry Christmas.

7. Selectmen's Addenda

Selectman Grow offered her thanks to Ms. Jozwik for the work that she's done for the Board. Ms. Grow also mentioned that if people are looking to make a good new year's resolution they might want to consider volunteering in the community. She also wished everyone a great holiday and happy new year.

Selectman Plasko wished everyone a Happy Hanukkah, Happy Kwanzaa, Merry Christmas and a happy and healthy new year.

Mr. Donnelly offered his thanks to Ms. Jozwik. Mr. Donnelly also mentioned the Morse Hill Veteran's Park public meeting that took place the previous

week. They received a lot of great feedback and that will be shared with the Community Preservation Committee. The Master Plan Steering Committee will be having its orientation meeting on December 13th. Mr. Donnelly also wished everyone a happy and healthy new year and happy holidays.

Chairman Lane once again thanked Selectman Plasko for his work on the cable renewal and thanked Jack Tolman as well. Mr. Lane made note of the menorah lighting earlier in the evening and wished everyone a happy holiday season.

Motion to adjourn.

Moved by: Robert Donnelly

Seconded by: Michael Saad

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

Carried 5-0