

In Attendance: Chairman William Plasko, Vice Chairman Helen Abdallah-Donohue, Selectman Amanda Grow, Selectman Matt Lane, Selectman Robert Donnelly, General Manager Tony Mazzucco, Executive Assistant Jess Jozwik

The Chairman called the meeting to order at 6:30pm and began with the Pledge of Allegiance and a moment of silent prayer or reflection.

Selectman Donnelly submitted notification of reviewed and approved Warrant Reports that he signed. On motion of Selectman Donohue, seconded by Selectman Grow, the Board voted unanimously to file this information.

Chairman Plasko announced the first appointment for the evening – Middle School Project Update. Alan Slater could not attend but Selectmen Lane and Donnelly provided the update as follows: the project is on time and on budget, construction will begin in June of 2023 and will continue through fall of 2025. In the spring and summer of 2026 – the old school will come down. The process for the upcoming construction was reviewed. A February 1st timeline was approved during the MSBC meeting in November for an initial bid package. These bids include civil, structural and ground improvements which are necessary for the initial phase to be completed. There will be a public forum on Thursday, January 26th at 7 PM at the high school.

The second appointment of the evening was an MBTA Zoning Committee Update. Acting Town Planner, Sarah Bouchard and Chairman of the Planning Board, Ernie Paciorkowski were present. Mr. Paciorkowski explained that they were there before the Board to go over the 'next step' in the 3A process which is being referred to as the Action Plan for MBTA Communities. Mr. Paciorkowski does not consider it to be an action plan per se but more of a fact finding sheet. Ms. Bouchard then explained further that the action plan was reviewed and they put together their draft and what it would look like. One of the things that it does is to lay the table with some tasks that it considers essential for the process. The first step is setting a timeline for those tasks. Beginning with community engagement and then fast forwarding to the goal of bringing zoning to Town Meeting in March of 2024. The deadline to come into compliance is December 31st, 2024. The first approach that the Task Force agreed upon was education – helping people to understand the assignment then moving on to community involvement and then eventually public hearings and further Town Meeting information sessions. Selectman Lane, who is also a member of the committee voiced that he felt Ms. Bouchard and Mr. Paciorkowski did a great job summarizing the most recent meeting. Discussion ensued and Chairman Plasko spoke regarding his thoughts on the matter. He strongly disagrees with the consequences of this law.

On motion of Selectman Donohue, seconded by Selectman Grow, the Board voted unanimously to approve a request from Progress Norwood to hold a Nomination Paper signing event on January 28th, 2023, with a rain date of January 29th, 2023 from Noon until 1 PM.

On motion of Selectman Donnelly, seconded by Selectman Lane, the Board voted unanimously to approve the Common Victualler license for China Rama located at 884F Washington Street.

On motion of Selectman Donnelly, seconded by Selectman Lane, the Board voted to approve the 2023 licenses for package stores, AAB and WMB Restaurants, Innholders and Clubs – with the added motion that the Show Cause hearing process will begin with regard to Cedar Market as well as Wine & Market. Selectman Donohue abstained from the vote with regard to Package Store licensing but voted in the affirmative regarding the other licenses.

On motion of Selectman Donohue, seconded by Selectman Grow, the Board voted unanimously to approve the reappointment of Kristin Capezio and Chris Paddock to the Norwood Cultural Council.

On motion of Selectman Donohue, seconded by Selectman Lane, the Board voted unanimously to have Chairman Plasko speak to Middlesex Integrative Medicine regarding their agreement with the Town. The current license will be held until those discussions take place.

On motion of Selectman Donohue, seconded by Selectman Grow, the Board voted unanimously to approve the following cemetery deeds:

- Gloria A. Branco, of 111 Cedar Street for Lot C3-207
- Nellrose Maresco, of 27 Westover Parkway for Lot C3-198
- Joseph J. Sleeman, of 36 Kathleen Lane for Lot C3-203
- Jasmine Nketiah, of 9101 Walker Street, Sypress, CA for Lot SGW-18
- Paul F. Ward of 46 Bullard Street, for Lot C3-210
- Sheila A. O'Neil-Dixon of 9 Avon Road for Lot C3-208
- Peter Sakalis of 201 Prospect Street for Lot C3-206

On motion of Selectman Donohue, seconded by Selectman Grow, the Board voted unanimously to approve the recommendations of the Traffic Safety Advisory Board as follows:

1. To replace signage on Rock Court and Andrews Street
2. To install new signage near 825 University Avenue

On motion of Selectman Donnelly, seconded by Selectman Donohue, the Board voted unanimously to approve the Senior Tax Work Off Program which (this year) will now include an additional two slots bringing the number from 33 to 35. Also - an increase of \$2000 in income limits.

Town Manager, Tony Mazzucco provided an update on the budget preparation for 2024.

On motion of Selectman Lane, seconded by Selectman Donnelly, the Board voted unanimously to approve the Common Victualler license for Prieto Empanadas II located at 111 Lenox Street with the stipulation that the proprietor appear before the Board at the meeting of January 10th with an updated floor plan, clarification regarding business hours and a CV renewal.

On motion of Selectman Lane, seconded by Selectman Grow, the Board voted unanimously to approve the Norwood Light – Water/Sewer Liens for FY 2023.

On motion of Selectman Donnelly, seconded by Selectman Lane, the Board voted unanimously to file the following memoranda:

1. Verizon Notifications
Submitting programming updates.
2. Norwood Light Broadband PEG Notification
Submitting PEG Grant payment information.
3. Norwood Police Department Monthly Report
Submitting monthly report of November.
4. Norwood Building Department Monthly Report
Submitting monthly report for November.

Manager's Update

Work is progressing quickly on the Stearns and Elliot Park – ribbon cutting will take place sometime in the spring. The Morse House subcommittee has been meeting regularly and will be submitting recommendations to the Board sometime in January or February for review and approval. The Recreation Department will be helping out with the Extended Day program during February vacation week.

Selectmen's Addenda

Mrs. Donohue reminded everyone about the Menorah lighting ceremony in memory of Aron Greenfield coming up on December 18th. Mrs. Donohue also mentioned the Circle of Hope illumination night at which they had over 2000 illuminaries placed around the Town Common. Selectman Donohue also wished everyone a Merry Christmas and a Happy Chanukah.

Selectman Lane wished all a happy and safe holiday season.

Selectman Donnelly gave kudos to the Norwood Light Department for their work with the lights on the Town Common. He mentioned how beautiful everything looked. Mr. Donohue also extended his best wishes for the holiday season.

Selectman Grow gave an update from the anti-scam task force and made note of educating residents in order to protect them from fraud. Ms. Grow also mentioned how many holiday events that are happening around town. She also reminded residents to 'volunteer in the New Year.'

Chairman Plasko echoed the sentiments of his colleagues in wishing all a Happy Chanukah, Merry Christmas and a Happy Kwanzaa and whatever fills your soul and your heart at this time of year. Mr. Plasko wished everyone a Happy and Healthy New Year.

On motion of Selectman Lane, seconded by Selectman Donohue, the Board voted unanimously to adjourn.

A true record.

ATTEST: _____
Administrative Assistant