

Regular meeting of the Board of Selectmen convened at 7 p.m. on Tuesday, April 14, 2015 in Room 34, the Harry B. Butters Chambers, Norwood Memorial Municipal Building, with the Pledge of Allegiance, and a silent moment of prayer and reflection. Meeting is Recorded.

Present: Chairman Paul A. Bishop, Selectmen William J. Plasko, Helen Abdallah Donohue, Michael J. Lyons and Allan D. Howard. Also present General Manager John J. Carroll, Clerk Frances L. Jessoe and Assistant Christina Mulvehill.

Appointments

Military Order of the Purple Heart Committee:

Veterans Agent Ted Mulvehill presented the State Commander, Dept. of Mass. Military Order of the Purple Heart, Leo David Agnew. The Board recently signed a proclamation designating the Town of Norwood as a Purple Heart Community, thus honoring the men and women from our town and our state and our nation for making the ultimate sacrifice and suffered terrible and grievous wounds. Commander Agnew introduced Wayne Henry, Betty Benoit, Tony Payne, and Tom Terrier. On behalf of Military Order of Purple Heart and the Department of Massachusetts Combat Wounded Veterans, presented a certificate to the Town of Norwood Massachusetts, being designated as a town in the Commonwealth of Massachusetts to be known as a Purple Heart Community, honoring all who have made the ultimate sacrifice and those who have shed their blood defending our country and honoring August 7th as Purple Heart Day. Commander Agnew presented the certificate, dated November 18, 2014, to the Selectmen. The members of the Board thanked the Commander and a group photo was taken.

P.H., London Taxi of Norwood, Inc. Ahmed M. Rifai & Farid M. Rifai

To consider whether taxi cab licenses should be revoked or suspended for alleged violation of the Town's Hackney Regulations-allowing a person to operate a hackney vehicle for hire without a hackney license (Section V of the Hackney Regulations). They have 5 taxi cabs licensed.

- a. copies of reports from Safety Officer Paul Murphy, NPD
- b. copy of Hackney Rules & Regulations
- c. copy of minutes from hearing held on June 11, 2013 regarding past violation

Ahmed Rifai identified himself and the clerk read the notice. The issue is whether the taxi license should be revoked or suspended for allowing a person to drive without a hackney license.

Chairman Bishop inquired as to whether or not Mr. Rifai had brought counsel. Mr. Rifai said he would act as his own counsel.

Officer Murphy referenced several incidents involving London Taxi. They all involve drivers who were not properly licensed to drive taxis. Selectman Lyons asked if Mr. Rifai had copies of those reports. Mr. Rifai stated he did not have any of the reports. Officer Murphy continued describing an incident involving Ahmed Hussein. On January 14th of this year Officer Murphy accompanied Westwood Police Sgt. Paul Siccard to the Westwood train station. The Town of Westwood will begin issuing its own taxi and hackney licenses soon, but the cabs at the station now are licensed through the Town of Norwood. Ofc. Murphy assisted him putting flyers on windshields informing the drivers and to check that the drivers actually had hackney licenses. The saw a London Taxi that was unoccupied. A man approached them saying he was the driver of that and his name was Ahmed Hussein. Ofc. Murphy asked him if he had a hackney license. Mr. Hussein said he did not but said he had only been driving for London Taxi for three weeks. Ofc. Murphy said he informed Mr. Hussein that he could not drive without a hackney license. Mr. Hussein admitted to driving for Mr. Rifai. Mr. Hussein applied for and was granted a hackney license.

London Taxi-(cont'd)

Mr. Rifai said his defense was he had loaned the car to Danny Habib who has a hackney license and he needed another driver. Officer Murphy stated his Mr. Hussein's application said he was driving for London Taxi.

Selectman Howard asked Mr. Rifai if he rented cabs out to operators. Mr. Rifai said he charges \$300/week and the operators buy the gas. He added that each person who rents has a hackney license.

Selectman Donohue said she finds it hard for Mr. Rifai if he has not read the charges and the facts. It seems he should have the information to prepare as he did not know he was coming in for other charges. She asked if they should postpone discussion on the charges Mr. Rifai has not seen.

Chairman Bishop read the letter that was sent to Mr. Rifai for allowing someone to driver without a hackney license.

Selectman Lyons said the Board should move forward but gave Mr. Rifai his own reports to read while Officer Murphy refers to those reports.

Chairman Bishop asked Officer Murphy how many complaints about London Taxi he has had over the years. Officer Murphy stated there have been numerous since 2011 and added that he has spoken to Mr. Rifai numerous times for driving without a hackney license. Mr. Rifai said he had tried to get a hackney license but was denied. In regard to the incident involving picking up Peggy on Hill Street, Mr. Rifai claimed was on his way to get his car washed when he got a call from Peggy so he just picked her up.

Officer Murphy stated that on January 22, 2015, he was with Officer Mahoney conducting residence checks and he saw Mr. Rifai driving a London Taxi. Peggy came out of the building and got into the backseat of the taxi. Officer Murphy said he told Mr. Rifai he could not transport without a hackney license, to which Mr. Rifai responded that Peggy is just his friend and they are all his friends, and he was driving her to Dedham Medical. Officer Murphy described a separate incident involving Mr. Rifai at Fox Hill Village in Westwood last summer. A Westwood officer was sent there on a medical call and when he pulled up there was a car parked in front of the building. The officer told the driver, Mr. Rifai, that he would have to move because an ambulance was coming. Mr. Rifai said he would be just a minute, he was waiting for someone. He had taxi plates on the car and there were no other markings on the car identifying it as a taxi and there was no meter in the car. The Officer recognized Mr. Rifai as someone he had seen at the 128 station and who he knew had not had a hackney license. He asked Mr. Rifai if he had gotten a hackney license and Mr. Rifai said he talked to Officer Murphy. The officer asked again and Mr. Rifai admitted that he did not have one. He said he needs to drive, it is his livelihood.

Mr. Rifai said Fox Hill Village is for old people. A gentleman wanted to go to the church, it was Sunday morning. Mr. Rifai said he had just put that taxi car on the road and he was in process of installing... When the gentleman called for a ride to the church Mr. Rifai did not charge him. Mr. Rifai went on the say he has helped Norwood for eleven years and not only for free; sometimes he charged. He also said he cannot always make it as fast as customers would like.

Ofc. Murphy stated that while he was checking the Police Log for January 10th of this year, he saw an entry about an incident at the Hampton Inn. On that day Mr. Rifai had responded to the Hampton Inn to give someone a ride to Foxboro. Upon arrival, Mr. Rifai realized the man was intoxicated and therefore refused to drive him. Ofc. Murphy later spoke with Mr. Rifai, telling him he was not supposed to be driving a taxi. Mr. Rifai said he was driving a livery car on that night. Ofc. Murphy obtained surveillance video from the Hampton Inn showing Mr. Rifai pulling up in a London Taxi marked as such. Mr. Rifai was shown having some brief interaction with the prospective fare and then left.

Selectman Lyons said in this case it was a drunk person who needed a ride, which is what all Liquor License operators should do – call a cab for an intoxicated person. Ofc. Murphy spoke with a manager

London Taxi-(cont'd)

who told him a guest from upstairs called the desk and asked to have someone driven. The manager has a list of three cab companies and she called London Taxi and they came. Mr. Rifai said that Hampton Inn never called him again – he lost the account.

Chairman Bishop asked Mr. Rifai why he deceived Ofc. Murphy by telling him he was driving a livery car. Mr. Rifai said he had thought he was driving a livery car because he has one. He then admitted to driving cab 21 on the night in question.

Selectman Howard asked if all the people from hotels who know Mr. Rifai know him as a taxi driver. Mr. Rifai said no, they know him as a dispatcher. Selectman Howard said he is disturbed because on June 11, 2013 this same thing was going on with the same scenario and at the end of that meeting Mr. Rifai promised he would not drive a cab. Mr. Rifai admitted that he did drive a cab without a license after that, and he apologized. Selectman Howard reminded Mr. Rifai that he cannot drive a cab without a license.

Mr. Rifai then asked why Ofc. Murphy had rejected his application. Ofc. Murphy stated that Mr. Rifai did not meet the requirements of the Norwood Hackney Rules and Regulations. He has had excessive violations over the past five years. His suitability was questionable as there were a couple of incidents involving females that were of concern. Selectman Howard pointed out that a report from 2013 considered Mr. Rifai an immediate threat.

Selectman Donohue said this hearing is too far along for Mr. Rifai not to have counsel and in order to protect the Town of Norwood, the Board should give him copies of all charges and postpone action until he can get counsel if he so chooses. Mr. Rifai should be given some time to review the complaints and address them.

Chairman Bishop addressed Mr. Rifai to confirm that he was told at the beginning of this hearing that he was entitled to counsel. Mr. Rifai agreed that he understood that.

Selectman Lyons pointed out that the fact of the matter is he handed Mr. Rifai all of the documents twenty minutes ago and he has not looked at them once during this hearing. He has not opened the page, he has not been following along with Ofc. Murphy's narrative. Selectman Lyons stated that he had a conversation with Mr. Rifai days ago and he was well aware of the extent of the charges, and that it was not just one incident.

Chairman Bishop stated that Mr. Rifai knows that he was entitled to counsel and has been given written copies of all complaints against him. He has been here several times and by now he knows what is going on.

Selectman Plasko said the basic complaint has been that Mr. Rifai is operating without a hackney license and that he is not supposed to. In addition, Mr. Rifai has more than once made it clear that from time to time that has been true. We had a hearing similar to this a couple of years back. And we gave you a chance to be able to stay in business. You wouldn't be able to drive a cab but you could stay in business, have drivers, and still operate that business appropriately and earn a living but you have chosen to repeatedly ignore the rules and regulations of having a hackney license. Because you say you don't understand why you have not been able to get a hackney license you continue to drive. You give your cabs to other people, who have driven without a hackney. It doesn't matter what you think is the nice thing to do, you are in a state that requires a license to drive a taxi. Licenses are required for specific purposes so that the public is protected in certain operations. This is one of them and you continue to ignore when it is convenient to you, these rules and regulations. I don't think you are a suitable person to be licensed in the town of Norwood to operate a cab business in the town of Norwood.

Chairman Bishop stated his complaint is, always has been and will continue to be – reports from elderly people that they have called London Cab from Guild Medical Building or some other location in town

London Taxi-(cont'd)

and they have to wait up to two hours. You say you don't have enough vehicles – how many do you have. Mr. Rifai said he never makes someone wait two hours. If he can't do it he tells them how long it is going to be. Chairman Bishop stated he received a call from an elderly woman who had been waiting over an hour at the Guild building for London taxi and another woman in same room had already been waiting two hours for London Cab. Mr. Rifai said no one called him from the Guild Building.

Peggy Sullivan, in attendance with Mr. Rifai as a witness explained that she does not have a car at this stage in her life and uses all taxi services, buses, trains, etc. She finds the taxi services in and around Norwood is very good. London has been very helpful in being more available. If they take an hour to get her she does not hold it against them and would never contact the Board of Selectmen. She spoke about a neighbor who was discharged from hospital at 3 a.m., called London Taxi and they got someone there. In addition, with senior citizens, a lot of taxis don't want to take them on shorter trips.

Chairman told Mr. Rifai he understands he does good things but there are certain things he does not do that are required by the board of Selectmen to protect the citizenry in Norwood. You are required to have a hackney license. On many occasions you have told the officer you are just not going to get one. Mr. Rifai said he would love to get one. Chairman Bishop pointed out that Mr. Rifai does not meet the criteria for a hackney. Mr. Rifai said everyone makes mistakes and he learned from his and likes to fix them. Chairman Bishop agreed people learn from their mistakes and so does this Board. And we have to correct our mistakes also. Chairman Bishop told Mr. Rifai the Board has given him multiple opportunities to do the right thing and he has not done it. Mr. Rifai asked that the Board forgive him this time and he will never drive taxi again. Selectman Plasko pointed out that Mr. Rifai told the board the same thing two years ago. Mr. Rifai tried to explain why he sometimes drives, such as when it is a one hundred dollar job. He said he got a call at 5 a.m. because a driver had not shown up to bring a party to the airport. He got up and took his car and picked them up.

Selectman Lyons told Mr. Rifai that what he has to do is give that person on the other end of the phone the number of a taxi company that has licensed drivers. That is what you do. You do not break the law because you think you are doing a good thing at that particular moment in time. Every time you tell us the story it is about how good a guy you are. If someone is calling you to get into a cab and pick them up, they are telling you to break the law and you know that. What you say is- here are phone numbers for other licensed drivers. I am not allowed to drive.

Ofc. Murphy added that at the moment he has a list of thirteen licensed cab drivers for London Taxi. He has five vehicles. That should be adequate.

This is a public hearing and Chairman Bishop asked if there were any comments to be made. Mr. Rifai told the board that if he loses these licenses there are drivers who will lose their jobs. They have families, etc. Chairman Bishop said he understands that but if those people lose jobs it will be Mr. Rifai's fault, not the fault of this Board.

Mr. Rifai said he works hard and does his best for his customers and this town. He has lived here for eighteen years and is part of the community. Selectman Plasko pointed out that those were the same reasons Mr. Rifai gave the Board a couple of years ago and they went along with him.

Chairman Bishop asked if anyone from the public had anything to add, seeing none, on motion of Selectman Lyons, seconded by Selectman Plasko, voted to close the hearing.

On motion of Selectman Lyons, seconded by Selectman Howard, voted 4-1 to suspend Mr. Rifai's license to operate business in Norwood for six months. Selectman Donohue opposed.

Chairman Bishop clarified for Mr. Rifai's benefit that the suspension includes all licenses. He cannot operate or drive anything involving cabs in the Town of Norwood. He then asked Mr. Rifai if he

London Taxi-(cont'd)

understood and Mr. Rifai said he did. Chairman Bishop informed Mr. Rifai that if he violates the suspension he will be back to this Board talking about revocation.

Selectman Howard explained why he supported this six month suspension because there were several instances where you were not truthful to the officer and others. Six months is a fair solution to make you understand you cannot drive without a hackney license.

Ofc. Murphy stated this is not anything personal. He goes by the Town of Norwood Hackney Rules and Regulations. An applicant is either qualified or he is not.

The Chairman told Mr. Rifai that he would be notified in writing by the Board of Selectmen and also that there is no appeal process.

7:30 P.M. –Norwood Skating Rink Committee:

Town Manager gave an outline of the committee's progress, beginning in 2012 when it was appointed by this Board. Through the work of the committee it was determined that the best site was near Hawes Pool. In 2013 the Board appointed a Rink Committee which has been to Town Meeting more than once, always with a favorable outcome. The rink is in the capital spending plan of the Department of Conservation and Recreation. Now working toward getting an environmental bond into the spending plan of DCR because of the fact that the rink is not going to cost \$5.6 million; it will cost \$7.4 million. The town cannot go out to bid until they have all the money in hand.

Manager introduced Owner's Project Manager, Rick Southgate; Dan DiLullo and John Lloyd of DiLullo Associates, Asst. Town Engineer Andy Murphy, Buildings and Grounds Director Paul Riccardi, Selectman Plasko, Chris Sharkey and Bill Naumann, who make up the skating rink committee. They are looking for the Board's approval to go forward and have public meetings and then file with the Planning Board and with Conservation Commission for their approval as needed to go through the process and get the rest of the money needed to fund the project.

Dan DiLullo introduced himself and began his presentation. He was hired by the committee to come up with construction documents for the building working off a program initially set up by the committee for the function of the rink and the preselected site of the rink. They have discussed different ways to make the parking, the site and the building work. The building sits against the back parking lot. They have lowered the elevation to provide ninety additional parking spaces, added to the existing thirty three at the pool for a total of one hundred twenty three. And there are ninety-seven spaces in the upper lot. The lots are connected by a stairway. There will be landscaping on the front and side of building. Selectman Donohue inquired about the elevations of the building and lots. She asked Mr. DiLullo to include a plan showing the property line for Town Meeting. There was discussion about the fishing pond and walkways.

Mr. DiLullo stated the building plan has been altered to make it less visible from the road. He showed a plan of the interior of the building including lobby, skate shop, concession stand. The concession stand and meeting room can be used independently of the ice rink. There are two locker rooms with shared toilets and two larger locker rooms with shared toilets. There will be solar panels on the roof.

Chairman Bishop asked Mr. DiLullo how many rinks he has built. Mr. DiLullo has built eleven, with the most recent one being Falmouth. Selectman Donohue asked if there was any discussion about the feasibility of making a portion of the facility usable for the pool in the summer. Selectman Plasko said there was initial discussion about that but it turns out it is not practical. The users of the pool need the facilities close by and having to cross the parking lot and traffic just to use the restrooms was a safety concern.

Skating Rink-(cont'd)

Selectman Howard inquired about the usage schedule of the rink. The rink would be open from September through March, and during the summer the parking lot and possibly the concession stand would be open too. The concession window is accessible to the outside and the sidewalk there is fifteen feet wide, which would provide room for benches and tables.

Mr. DiLullo stated they are 95% done with the plan and with the look of the building. Last week they did test pits on the site. Drainage will be easier to handle as all the roof water and site water is being put into infiltration under the paved areas and from there it will leach into the ground. The building is two hundred feet away from the brook and complies with conservation inland water ways regulations. A notice of intent will be filed with the Conservation Commission by Friday. Mr. DiLullo spoke about the integrity of the roof of the building. The committee decided to add ten pounds per square foot extra capacity for the roof to support. In addition to that there will be solar so they will carry fifteen pounds per square foot above the building code. The seating capacity will be five hundred thirty eight.

On motion of Selectman Lyons, seconded by Selectman Howard, voted to approve the Manager's plan to file with Conservation and Planning and hold public meetings.

New Business

Barb Marshall, 18 Wessell Ave., Mansfield:

Submitting application for a Junk Dealer's License to operate Teddy n Me, 61 Endicott Street.

On motion of Selectman Lyons, seconded by Selectman Plasko, voted to set up a hearing.

Robert J. Marsh, Treasurer & Collector:

On motion of Selectman Howard, seconded by Selectman Lyons, voted to sign loan and related documents regarding refinancing of outstanding bonds. This is a savings of \$1,288,560.19 greater than originally planned by \$115,271.35. This savings will come back to the Town on an annual basis by reducing debt and interest payments over the remaining ten year life of the bonds.

Selectmen's Meetings and Summer Schedule:

On motion of Selectman Howard, seconded by Selectman Donohue, voted the Board would meet on May 26th and then on June 9th and every other Tuesday thereafter and also cancel meeting September 1st and resume regular schedule September 8th. On motion of Selectman Howard, seconded by Selectman Donohue, voted to excuse Department Heads. The vote was 2-3 and the motion failed. Department Heads will come in during the summer.

GZA, GeoEnvironmental, Inc. 249 Vanderbilt Ave.:

On motion of Selectman Donohue seconded by Selectman Howard, voted to file notice of submission-release notification form Building 52 Fire, Norwood Commerce Center.

Jack Tolman, Norwood Public Access:

On motion of Selectman Lyons, seconded by selectman Howard, voted to file article from the local Benshein, Germany newspaper, translated from Phil Buhler, NHS Foreign Language teacher regarding the proclamation that was sent to them from the Town of Norwood.

Russ Maguire, Norwood Airport Manager:

On motion of Selectman Lyons, seconded by Selectman Plasko, voted to file notice of charity event sponsored by Above the Clouds charity taking place by invitation only at the Norwood Airport and being catered by a registered catering firm who will handle the alcohol.

Robert J. Marsh, Treasurer & Collector:

Submitting request to either place an article on the Special Town Meeting or to use the Municipal Relief Fund for unforeseen expenses due to the retirement of two long term employees in the Treasurer's Dept. On motion of Selectman Howard, seconded by Selectman Lyons, voted to place Article on STM Warrant.

Robert H. Ivatts, Adjutant, V.F.W. Post 2452, 193 Dean Street:

On motion of Selectman Donohue, seconded by Selectman Howard, voted to approve request to conduct the Buddy Poppy Drive on May 13, 14, 15, 16.

Kevin T. Gammons, Chief Legal Officer, Hobbs Brook Management, Neponset River LLC dba Sheraton Four Points Norwood, 1151 Boston Providence Turnpike:

On motion of Selectman Donohue, seconded by Selectman Howard, voted to schedule a public hearing on application for alteration of premises for installation of a pavilion on an existing outdoor garden area adjacent to the ballroom and patio area.

Carol O'Reilly, Summit Place:

Submitting e-mail requesting help with the noise from flight schools from Norwood Airport that fly directly over the center of Summit Place townhomes. Selectman Lyons explained there is a concern in that area about noise. On motion of Selectman Lyons, seconded by Selectman Howard, voted to contact Airport Manager Russ Maguire to get information and find out what is going on.

Articles Meeting

On motion of Selectman Donohue, seconded by Selectman Howard, voted to file notice that– has been changed from Thursday to Friday morning at 10 a.m. in the Selectmen's Chambers.

Chairman John Badger, Norwood School Committee:

Submitting request to place attached articles on the warrant for the Special Town Meeting; one for math materials and one for snow removal. The math article may be withdrawn if the Schools can find \$190,000 from the Fy15 budget. Selectman Lyons moved approval of the request, seconded by Selectman Howard. Selectman Plasko stated that the snow removal article would be redundant because there is one article that covers all general government, schools, and airport. There is no need for a separate article. On motion of Selectman Lyons, seconded by Selectman Howard, voted to place the match article on the warrant. .

Judith Howard, et al, 200 Nichols Street.:

Submitting request to place the following two articles on the Special Town Meeting warrant. This would be up to the Board as they do not have the 100 signatures required.

1. To see if the Town will vote to reject the location of the Eastern Massachusetts Regional Ice Skating and Recreation Center at the tennis courts on Washington Street in South Norwood near Hawes Pool Park, or take any other action in the matter. Chairman read the proposed article.
2. To see if the Town will vote to reverse the creation of the 40R Guild Street Smart Growth Overlay District at the site of the Regal Press building on Lenox Street at Plimpton Avenue, or take any other action in the matter. Chairman read article.

Chairman Bishop explained that both of these issues have been to Town Meeting and were approved by two-thirds vote.

Selectman Plasko stated he did not think these articles should be put forth because they did not have one hundred votes. In addition, the wording of the second article is inappropriate and he cannot support them the way they are proposed. Chairman Bishop agreed. On motion of Selectman Plasko, seconded by Selectman Lyons, voted to deny the request and not insert either article on the warrant.

Memoranda

Selectmen's Meeting:

On motion of Selectman Lyons, seconded by Selectman Howard, voted approval of the Board minutes of March 31, 2015.

Mark Chubet, Building Inspector:

On motion of Selectman Howard, seconded by Selectman Donohue, voted to file March Building Report.

Daniel C. Hill, Hill Law, 43 Thorndike Street, Cambridge:

On motion of Selectman Donohue, seconded by Selectman Plasko, voted to file correspondence to Asst. Atty. General Alvarez re Hardiman v. Mass. Dept. of Developmental Services and send to Karis North, Town Counsel.

Selectmen's Addenda

Selectman Donohue

Fishing Derby

The annual South Norwood Fishing Derby will be held Saturday, April 25, 2015.

Lou Santorro

Congratulations to Lou, who was named Massachusetts Sportsman Hall of Fame Member.

Chapel of St. Gabriel Concerts:

There will be a concert Sunday with seven string zephyr. The last concert of the season is May 17th.

Flower show

Morse House went well.

John Howard:

John's 100th birthday was celebrated today at the Senior Center.

Selectman Howard

Nonprofit groups

Texas Road House had a program to let people know what they offer for non-profits. They give groups free peanuts to sell for their own profit.

Norwood Airport

There are issues at the airport with Mr. Donovan who is threatening to sue the town. On motion of Selectman Howard, seconded by Selectman Donohue, voted to consult counsel to get a recommendation on whether or not it would be appropriate for this Board to get involved in mediating between the airport manager and commission and Mr. Donovan. Manager will handle.

Circle of hope

Tomorrow at 7 p.m. at the OCC they will show a story of how the Circle got started-it is a free event.

Tom Brannelly:

Would like to hang a banner in the center of town discouraging people from driving distracted. He has spoken with the Safety Officer. On motion of Selectman Howard, seconded by Selectman Donohue, voted to support the banner if it meets approval of Traffic Safety Committee.

Chairman Bishop:

Food Pantry:

Rick McGowan will be holding a fundraiser Saturday night to raise money for the Food Pantry. The event starts at 7, with a band at 8:30. The donation is \$20 per person plus canned goods.

Manager's Agenda

Short history of the major milestones of the Skating Rink

This was discussed previously in the meeting.

Skating Rink Committee and its consultants will present final renderings and bring the Board up to date on the progress of the rink.

This was also discussed previously in the meeting.

A list of proposed articles for Special Town Meeting on May 11.

The Manager briefly reviewed the articles, stating that Mr. Cooper has been working very hard on them. The marijuana articles will be handled by the Planning Board and are mainly housekeeping. The Retirement Board has two articles. Articles 6 and 7 involve transfer of two parcels of land to Conservation Commission. Snow and Ice is up over \$2 million. We will have additional Chapter 90 funds this year. Veterans' relief we ran out of money. Finance Commission and Budget Balancing Committee have worked to resolve the School Dept. issues. Several upcoming retirements require money for sick leave and vacation payouts. A projected remaining balance in Group Insurance will take care of the Medicare article. Fire Dept. needs \$10,000. The Finance Commission wants to supplement the Reserve Fund. Public Safety and Fire Dept. are due retroactive payments for new, MWRA loan is for continuation of the cleaning and lining project. At this time there are no unpaid bills.

1.5% Issue:

Selectman Plasko stated there has been a request from the 1.5% Task Force to add two articles to the warrant. They may or may not be acted on by the committee but to address them before September they have to be on the warrant.

The first article would be a Norwood Affordable Housing Corporation by-law which was brought up and rejected by the last town meeting. It would be done to create some local controls over affordable housing. It has been drafted and was in the original report of this committee. It may or may not be recommended by the committee or this Board at Town Meeting.

The other is to create a deed restriction or buy down program, which would be an appropriation of funds for the Town for that purpose. At this point it would be suggested that it be handled by the Board of Selectmen and details would be handled by town planner as far as technical work have a deed restriction and affordable housing marketing plan that would be acceptable to DHCD and would be responsible for monitoring the whole program. Currently there are some properties owned by Housing Authority or affordable housing cooperative that might be allowable in the 1.5% calculation. It would help to add property to the subsidized housing list because there are some small properties on that list that will expire in a couple of years as they are not in perpetuity. In short, the request is to add an article to develop a deed restriction program and one to develop an Affordable Housing Corporation by-law. It would basically be the Town giving money to a property owner in exchange for the owner putting a deed restriction on the property. Town Meeting would vote on where the money would come from. There was discussion about holding hearings for the public before Town Meeting. Selectman Donohue mentioned the Town of Norwood Housing Committee. Selectman Plasko said that committee does not meet anymore and it was just an arm of the board of Selectmen.

On motion of Selectman Lyons, seconded by Selectman Howard, voted to put two articles on Special Town Meeting warrant; one to create a deed restriction program and appropriate funds and the other to adopt a Norwood Affordable Housing Trust by-law.

Manager's Executive Session

On motion of Selectman Donohue, seconded by Selectman Plasko and on a roll call vote of Chairman Bishop and Selectman Howard, voted to enter into Executive Session to discuss the possible purchase of property. The vote was 4-1. Selectman Lyons opposed.

Adjournment

Returning to open session and no other business being presented for consideration, on motion of Selectman Plasko, seconded by Selectman Lyons, voted to adjourn and the meeting was adjourned accordingly at 9 p.m.

A True Record.

ATTEST: _____
Assistant