

Regular meeting of the Board of Selectmen convened at 7 p.m. on Tuesday, November 17, 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 Bishop, Selectmen Michael J. Lyons and Allan D. Howard. Also present General Manager John J. Carroll, Clerk Frances L. Jessoe and Assistant Christina Mulvehill.

Absent: Selectman William J. Plasko and Selectman Helen Abdallah Donohue

Appointments

7:00 P.M. – Gerald Miller, Supt., Recreation Dept.:

Mr. Miller gave report of the department's activities. Events during October included Trunk or Treat and Pumpkin Fest. The Holiday Extravaganza will be held Sunday, November 29th. In December they will hold a holiday cookie and gingerbread decorating event and the floor hockey program will start. Information about Recreation Department programs is available in the department brochure and at the Civic Center. Chairman Bishop commented on the increase in programs and participation and thanked Linda Berger for her work. Ms. Berger will be President of Mass Parks and Recreation next year.

7:15 P.M. – Neponset Valley Chamber of Commerce:

Mr. O'Rourke, representing the Chamber of Commerce and Charlotte Walsh for Charles River Running were in attendance to explain this event, which is to encourage people to shop locally on the day after Thanksgiving. Mr. O'Rourke will be distributing maps of Norwood center to merchants to give out to shoppers. If you shop at three places and get three card punches, you become eligible to win a prize. There will also be a selfie contest. There is a banner hanging in the center of town to advertise the event and information was distributed in light bills. The focus is the Saturday after Thanksgiving but he encourages people to do this year round. Money spent locally stays local. Ms. Walsh said she makes a habit of asking her customers where they are from and how they found out about the store. Lots of them had not been aware of her store because they do not visit the center of town. She hopes Small Business Saturday will bring more people to the center.

Chairman Bishop said he hopes this will be something that happens every weekend and it is our obligation to do as much as possible in the down- town area. He has shopped in Charles River Running and has had excellent treatment there. This is a once yearly event sponsored by American Express. Mr. O'Rourke said the merchants would like permission to put up A frame signs and balloons to show they are participating. On motion of Selectman Howard, seconded by Selectman Lyons, voted to approve the balloons and A-frame signs on sidewalks.

Selectman Howard complimented Mr. O'Rourke on the networking social the Chamber put on and said he enjoyed interacting with the other guests. He thinks the downtown area is on an upswing and believes more stores will come in now that True Value has opened.

Selectman Lyons said this is the second year for Small Business Saturday here and asked about the response last year. Mr. O'Rourke said merchants at the wrap up meeting last year reported increases sales and the response from merchants wanting to participate this year has been strong.

7:30 P.M. – Norwood High School Alumni Weekend/Hall of Fame Induction:

Jack Tolman and Brian McDonough were present to talk about the High School events. Mr. McDonough thanked the committee members who have been working on the Hall of Fame Induction. This year six athletes; John Kenny, Linda Medwar, Mark Kenny, Ted Decareau, Robin Link and Meghan Staffiere Corbett, and three coaches; Don Wheeler, Giles Parker and Joe Johnson are being inducted. The Blue and Gold Award will go to Bobby Haskell, who passed away.

NHS Alumni Weekend/Hall of Fame Induction-(cont'd)

Jack Tolman spoke about Alumni Weekend Events for the weekend after Thanksgiving. Tours of the high school will be available during the weekend for people here for reunions. Mr. Tolman spoke about the NHS Walking Museum, which is a series of cabinets lining the walls of the gym walking track. Different groups donated the cases and filled them with artifacts and trinkets that they personally selected. There are twenty cases in all and Mr. Tolman thanked all the organizations involved.

Selectman Howard complimented them on a job well done. Selectman Lyons thanked them both and stated it is obvious how much they both enjoy this and the effect they have on the community is great; people will remember this all year. Chairman Bishop thanked them and said the passion Jack Tolman has for this project is clear.

New Business

Edward J. Kelliher, 117 East Cross Street:

On motion of Selectman Lyons, seconded by Selectman Howard, voted to approve request to be reappointed to Norwood Cable Communications Commission for 3-year term, which expires on Dec. 6, 2015.

Clerk, Board of Selectmen:

On motion of Selectman Lyons, seconded by Selectman Howard, voted to approve and submit to Town Clerk and Accountant proposed FY2017 budget.

Thomas F. Concannon, Irish Heaven, dba Concannon's Village, 60 Lenox Street:

On motion of Selectman Lyons, seconded by Selectman Howard, voted to approve request for permission to not carry worker's comp or liquor liability as the business is closed and he is in process of trying to sell. Chairman Bishop thanked Mr. Concannon for all his years of service in the town.

Lindsey R. Duke, CarMax, 1320 Boston Providence Tnpk:

On motion of Selectman Lyons, seconded by Selectman Howard, voted to respond and file notice of grand opening on Thursday, December 10, 2015 at 11:30 a.m. and asking the Board to attend, RSVP by November 25th.

Comcast:

On motion of Selectman Lyons, seconded by Selectman Howard, voted to file notice that Comcast will continue to provide high-speed internet to the Town of Norwood Schools and the library free of charge.

Reverend John W. O'Brien, Administrator, St. Timothy Parish:

On motion of Selectman Lyons, seconded by Selectman Howard, voted to approve, conditional on safety officer, request to hold winter road race Saturday, December 5, 2015 at 9:00 a.m. to raise funds to replace the defibrillator in the Parish Center.

Timothy J. McDonough, Chairman, Board of Assessors:

On motion of Selectman Lyons, seconded by Selectman Howard, voted to hold a public hearing on Tues., Dec. 8th to determine the percentages of FY2016 tax levy.

Paul Halkiotis, Director of Planning & Economic Development:

On motion of Selectman Lyons, seconded by Selectman Howard, voted to file notice of Special Permit/Open Lot Storage, 65 Kerry Place, for outdoor storage of 345 new automobiles for Boch, Inc.-pre-application meeting has been schedule for Thursday, Nov. 19, 2015 at 9 a.m. in Room 12, Norwood Town Hall.

Memoranda

PERAC:

On motion of Selectman Lyons, seconded by Selectman Howard, voted to file copy of notice sent to the Norwood Retirement Board that the amount of \$4,551,397 to be appropriated for the retirement system for Fiscal Year 20176 which commences July 1, 2016.

Selectmen's Addenda

Selectman Howard

Water Bills

Inquiring about excess water usage by tenants. Is there a flagging system to notify people that water usage is over a certain amount. Selectman Lyons said he has received a phone call when his water usage was high. The Manager added that Norwood bills monthly for water but most towns do not but he will have it looked into.

Quorum

If a member cannot attend meeting, could communicating by skype be used to make a quorum. Selectman Lyons said that is more of a legal question and the Chairman recommended discussing this with a full Board. Selectman Lyons added that he would curious about that but not necessarily in favor.

Chairman Bishop

Recently this Board has been accused of not having agendas and not caring enough to bring questions forward to the Manager. That is not the case. If there is an issue that comes up on a Wednesday morning, for instance, rather than wait for the following Tuesday evening to bring it up, we get these situations addressed with the Manager or whoever heads the department at issue. We do things throughout the week, not just on the night of the meeting. Many of us are involved all week long dealing with situations as they arise, we don't necessarily wait to bring it to the full Board on a Tuesday. Chairman Bishop mentioned there only being three Board members present tonight. Mr. Plasko's father in law passed away and Mrs. Donohue is recovering from hip replacement surgery.

Adjournment

No other business being presented for consideration, on motion of Selectman Howard, seconded by Selectman Lyons, voted to adjourn and the meeting was adjourned accordingly at 7:45 p.m.

A True Record.

Attest: _____
Assistant