

Regular meeting of the Board of Selectmen convened at 7 p.m. on Tuesday, February 23, 2016 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 William J. Plasko, Helen Abdallah Donohue, and Michael J. Lyons. Also present General Manager John J. Carroll, Clerk Frances L. Jessoe and Assistant Christina Mulvehill.

Absent: Selectman Allan D. Howard

Appointments

7:00 P.M. – Mark Ryan, Supt., DPW/Town Engineer:

Mr. Ryan highlighted his monthly report of department activities. Mr. Carroll is requesting additional funds for snow and ice budget as they were funded \$475,000 and have spent just over \$500,000 to date. Most of that expense is the purchase of salt. Public works has been maintaining Froggy's this year. Sod has been installed at Balch baseball field and winter turf blankets have been put down. Winter Street composting facility is open and will soon be accepting Styrofoam. This is a benefit of a grant from DEP. Weather was frigid over Valentine's weekend with nine frozen water services in town. Currently they are doing a sewer-lining project in the Walnut, Elliot Street area and Mr. Ryan stated he would be doing a presentation on this project next month. The engineering department attended an MPO meeting and pitched for two intersection projects - Upland Road and University Ave. and Route 1.

Chairman Bishop spoke about the fence on East Street rotary. Mr. Ryan said people coming down East St. entering rotary were going too fast and the fence blocks the view of cars to a certain point so drivers will not be as aggressive. Selectman Lyons said the fence on the rotary forces you to come to a stop. Selectman Plasko said there is a geese problem at Coakley and asked if it will be addressed. Mr. Ryan said they have tried coyote statues and there are some other things they are looking into. Selectman Plasko spoke about the Upland/ Prospect intersection and Campanelli is required to make some of that land available. Mr. Ryan said that because Rte. 1A is state highway, the state will do all the taking work.

7:15 P.M. – Supt. James Collins, Norwood Light Department:

Asst. Supt. Daniel Morrissey was present with Supt. Collins to give a presentation on Electric Automatic Meter Reading, and submit a copy of the signed award letter for the purchase of the meters. Supt. Collins said this new system is necessary because of the old infrastructure. One benefit is they will be able to town broadband to bring the information back to the office. This new system will eliminate estimated readings, provide real time information, determine if customer is out of power and there will be a customer portal to check usage. The new system will enable outage detection, where currently with small outages they do not know until a resident calls to notify the department. It is an expandable system with future uses. Personnel wise they will be able to reduce one position, rearrange others, and reduce overtime expense. Mr. Morrissey conducted a PowerPoint presentation. This new system will not impact rates as the cost has already been built into the rates. All meters, approximately 15,000, will be replaced. Contractors will be hired to install residential meters and the Light Department will do the commercial meter replacements. The project should take less than two years, all customers will be notified, and during the replacement process, customers will be without power for less than a minute.

Mr. Morrissey spoke about the problems encountered last year when they had to estimate usage twice because meters were inaccessible due to high snowfall. Mr. Morrissey continued the presentation. The new system would offer quicker outage detection and help allocate the right resources to resolve issues. The department has to maintain a ninety-six percent power capacity and if they do not they are penalized. Demand response or water heater control with the new system will allow a disconnect system inside the meter to control water heaters. Selectman Lyons asked what the purpose of turning someone's water heater off would be. Mr. Morrissey said they offer an elective water heater shut off program for a credit

Supt. James Collins, Norwood Light Department-(cont'd):

of four dollars per month to allow the department to shut off those water heaters for a short period of time, usually very early morning, if they need to make up the ninety-six percent power capacity.

Selectman Plasko asked when the work would be done. Mr. Morrissey said there would be a kick-off meeting on March 22nd, and in the meantime, they will start ordering the meters. Residential meter replacement will start in September. Chairman Bishop clarified that this system cost has been built into the budget; it is not something the town will have to go out and borrow for. Chairman Bishop complimented Supt. Collins and Asst. Supt. Morrissey for their presentation.

7:30 P.M. – The Green Harbor Dispensary, Robert Schnibbe, CEO:

Robert Schnibbe, CEO Green Harbor Dispensary for Medical Marijuana addressed the Board. He thanked the Board for having him in and explained they are interested in having a dispensary or cultivation site in Norwood. He said Norwood is a good location due to its proximity to Route 1. In addition, Mr. Schnibbe said they take information from the Center for Disease Control, superimpose it on eastern Massachusetts and look for concentrations of diseases that are treatable through medical marijuana. He said this portion of Massachusetts has a high portion of cancer and other diseases. Mr. Schnibbe said he is a hospital administrator by trade and he has also worked in education. He added that he thinks medical marijuana is a viable treatment for a number of illnesses. Mr. Schnibbe said his company is looking to work closely in a collaborative manner with town officials. He has looked at some properties in town but has no definite location in mind. Green Harbor Dispensary is a not for profit in good standing and they are looking for three dispensaries and one stand-alone cultivation site. Their dispensary products will be both euphoric and non-euphoric strains that include but will not be limited to flowers, oils, transdermal patches and selected edibles. The dispensaries will each be three to five-thousand square-feet, will operate during normal business hours, and delivery service will be available.

Mr. Schnibbe introduced the management team consisting of himself as CEO, Security Director Ryan Winmill of Winmill Group, Chief Operating Officer Robert Carp, Esquire, Chief Financial Officer Mike Patel, and they expect to have a cultivation staff of approximately forty and a dispensary staff of approximately 36. Chief Cultivation Officer Eric Bergendahl was not present.

Mr. Winmill addressed the Board next. He is president of the Winmill Group, based out of Washington D.C. with an office in Massachusetts at Hanscom and he has been in the security business for eight years. During that time, he has supported three presidential inaugurations, a Democratic Party Convention, intelligence training with the Justice Department, and has worked with Homeland Security. His firm is currently providing security for medical marijuana facilities in Colorado, Nevada, California and Massachusetts. The two sites in Massachusetts are in Plymouth and Quincy. Mr. Winmill said his partner has drug enforcement qualifications; he is a former Special Agent in Charge of the Boston DEA field office and was Boston's first Homeland Security Director. Mr. Winmill attended Boston College and Suffolk Law School and went to work for Homeland Security right after September 11, 2001. Mr. Winmill went on to outline his security plan, which would be state of the art.

Chief Operating Officer Robert Carp is an attorney in Massachusetts who has written a book on medical marijuana. He said one of the reasons he picked Norwood is based on the CDC information mentioned by Mr. Schnibbe. He went on to say that Green Harbor is very patient centered and is not for profit. Attorney Carp explained that his role is to make sure they are in compliance.

Selectman Lyons said he wished he had gotten some of this information earlier than tonight, as it is hard to ask specific questions at this point. He referred to the map Attorney Carp distributed and asked if it indicated that Norwood has the highest concentration of cancer, crones, MS, aids. Selectman Lyons asked whether anyone has asked why this is the case. Is it because there are many medical facilities around here? Attorney Carp suggested the area has multiple medical facilities because they are needed. Selectman Lyons asked if it was not the other way around; that people gravitate toward Norwood because they are sick and need the medical facilities and nursing homes. Mr. Schnibbe said the south shore of

The Green Harbor Dispensary, Robert Schnibbe, CEO:

Massachusetts has one of the highest incidences of type two diabetes, which is hard to explain. Selectman Lyons continued, asking if, because of that cluster that we live in, anyone has given any thought to whether the cause is environmental; something in the water or something in the ground. Attorney Carp said he thinks it is the soil.

Selectman Lyons asked how many dispensaries they think Norwood could support. Attorney Carp said using Colorado as a model with approximately two percent of the population obtaining medical marijuana cards, he believes Norwood could support three or four dispensaries. Selectman Lyons asked about a marijuana legalization question on the ballot. If marijuana becomes legalized, why would people go to a medical marijuana dispensary? Attorney Carp said he believes marijuana will become legalized in Massachusetts because medical marijuana cannot be taxed but recreational can, and at that point, the dispensaries will turn into recreational marijuana facilities. Selectman Lyons asked whether that would change their business model. Attorney Carp said security would have to be the same or even greater. Mr. Schnibbe said that because each strain of medical marijuana treats a different illness, he thinks the need for medical marijuana will continue.

Selectman Plasko asked if they are looking for dispensary or cultivation. Mr. Schnibbe replied they would like to have both if they could get them. Selectman Plasko asked why they think it will work in Norwood. Attorney Karp said their research has shown that there will be enough need here to make it viable. Selectman Plasko inquired about cultivator's ability to also sell. Mr. Schnibbe said in Massachusetts you have to grow seventy percent of the marijuana you dispense and you can buy the other thirty percent. Their plan is to have three dispensaries and one cultivation site; they would meet all the dispensary needs and if there were a surplus of marijuana, they would sell it to other dispensaries. Selectman Plasko spoke about the Town of Norwood's general by law regarding medical marijuana that requires a formal application process with this Board.

On motion of Selectman Plasko, seconded by Selectman Lyons, voted to appoint a designee from the Board to continue discussions and set up meetings with the Police and Fire Chiefs and come back as soon as possible with a recommendation to the Board. Selectman Plasko will be the Board's designee.

New Business

Greg Franks, Sr. Manager, Comcast:

On motion of Selectman Lyons, seconded by Selectman Plasko, voted to file information regarding change in installation charges.

Cemetery Deeds:

On motion of Selectman Lyons, seconded by Selectman Plasko, voted to approve:
Felicie Pinto, 138 Wilson Street to C-1857
Paula Doherty, 29 Monroe Street to G6-89

Albert Cotaj, Pizza Palace, 711 Washington Street:

On motion of Selectman Donohue, seconded by Selectman Lyons, vote to approve request to change the name on his license to Cotaj Food, Inc., dba Pizza Palace as he has changed his business from sole proprietor to corporation.

Personnel Board:

- a. Updated Alcohol and Drug Policy.
 - b. 3 year hourly rate chart covering period between January 2015 and December 2017.
- On motion of Selectman Plasko, seconded by Selectman Lyons, voted to file both items.

New Business-(cont'd):

William J. Buckley, Jr. Senior Legislative Aide, Representative John H. Rogers:

On motion of Selectman Lyons, seconded by Selectman Plasko, voted to file informational invitation for the Selectmen to attend roundtable discussion "Education Pathways to Success" with keynote speaker Jay Ash, Mass. Secretary of Housing & Economic Development on Wednesday, February 24, 2016 7:30 a.m. to 9:30 a.m. RSVP.

Town Counsel John P. Flynn:

- a. On motion of Selectman Plasko, seconded by Selectman Donohue, voted to sign Order of Taking of two small parcels of land owned by S-BNK Norwood Nahatan, LLC, which is part of the DPW facility site.
- b. On motion of Selectman Plasko, seconded by Selectman Donohue, voted to sign Order of Taking of parcel of land owned off Central Street, which is a portion of the land owned by Norwood Crossing, LLC. This is part of the DPW facility.

Verizon:

On motion of Selectman Plasko, seconded by Selectman Lyons, voted to accept per license requirements check for 4th Quarter, 2015 PEG access fee in the amount of \$65,262.08, and forward to NPATV for said purposes.

Richard A. Parry, dba A Fine Feathered Nest:

On motion of Selectman Donohue, seconded by Selectman Plasko, voted to revoke Junk Dealer License as they will be terminating their lease with the Norwood Commerce Center as of February 29 and moving their business to Mansfield.

James Hayden, Supt. of Schools:

On motion of Selectman Plasko, seconded by Selectman Lyons, voted to hold request for approval to submit a Statement of Interest for the replacement of the HVAC system at the Coakley Middle School and ask to School Committee to come before this board. The MSBA requires that the SOI be "refreshed" which is to be updated to reflect any change in the application, etc. Selectman Plasko said this is the fourth time this request has been before the Board and the cost of the project continually goes up, maybe there is a point in time that the community does this own their own.

Memoranda

Selectmen's Meeting:

On motion of Selectman Plasko, seconded by Selectman Lyons, voted to approve Board minutes of February 9, 2016.

Paul Halkiotis, Director of Community Planning & Economic Development:

On motion of Selectman Lyons, seconded by Selectman Plasko, voted to file memo to Planning Board regarding Sign Bylaw-US Supreme Court Decision, which will affect local sign bylaws.

Selectmen's Addenda

Selectman Donohue

Overdue bill

An elderly woman who is trying to stay in her own home has been very ill. She had to be transported by ambulance and is paying off the bill little by little. She got a notice in a pink envelope because she was behind on the ambulance bill, but that color draws attention to the fact that she has an overdue account. Requesting the manager talk to the billing company and ask them to be a bit more discreet in their procedures and stop using pink envelopes to indicate overdue balance.

Selectman Donohue-(cont'd)

Norwood Scholarship Foundation

Patricia Griffin is the new president of the Norwood Scholarship Foundation. She is holding a trivia event at the VFW on March 5, 2016.

Selectman Plasko

Happy Birthdays

Belated Happy Birthday to the General Manager.

Happy 144th Birthday to the Town of Norwood.

Election Signs

There are two signs on the Town Common and one on the rotary on Prospect Street and Upland Road that are on public property. Please contact campaign and tell them about the sign by law. Ms. Jessoe has notified the Building Inspector and he will get involved.

Skating Club of Boston

Even though we would be thrilled if the Skating Club of Boston were to come to Norwood because of the prestige, etc., at this time they will not be coming to Norwood. Their board of directors' vote was four in favor ten against.

CORI/Fingerprint Policy

I have finished my personal review and spoke with the Police Chief. I found one typographical error, that was referencing a by-law that is not the correct by-law and Mr. Hajjar has already fixed that. The policy looks pretty good and sound, we can leave it in place for a year or a year and a half, and if there are any issues, we amend it. On motion of Selectman Plasko, seconded by Selectman Donohue, voted to approve the policy and it will become effective on approval of DCJIS and further review of this Board of DCJIS feedback or suggestions if any are made.

Appointments-Reappointments

April is the time for reappointments to various boards. Encourage people to apply and get involved in the community. We know that there will be at least one opening on the Personnel Board – if you are interested to serve on airport, zoning, personnel please contact this office.

Manager's Agenda

FYI Letter of thanks from resident

A resident was out of power and one of the Light Department men checked on them periodically

For the Board's signature Gardner Road parking restriction

Board has signed this.

Letter to Finance Commission regarding Snow and Ice Appropriation

The Manager said the Town will exceed the budgeted \$475,000 and he has a letter to the Finance Commission referencing Chapter 44, section 31D informing them he will exceed the Snow & Ice budget.

GIC Budget (Revised)

Mr. Carroll said this was discussed last night at the budget-balancing meeting. There will be a surplus in health insurance appropriation of about \$ 500,000 should also be able to reduce the town side FY '17 request for appropriation by \$400,000 and will work to try use the \$500, 000 to divide up between the schools and the town. Selectman Plasko said some would go toward a study of the school facilities building uses and so forth (\$150,000), \$50,000 would go toward OPEB, and \$300,000 would go to the school budget. Chairman Bishop asked out of that \$500,000 how much general government would get. Selectman Plasko said they would get nothing. Mr. Carroll said general government would be able to

Manager's Agenda- GIC Budget - (cont'd):

reduce their budget by \$400,000 because they received a credit of \$198,000 from GIC for the Federal Medicare Part B drug subsidy program. In addition, the total number of enrolled employees has run below our projections for various reasons. He said he is working with a small committee and will bring a revised budget back to the board. He said they will shift some of the items that were suggested be borrowed for back into the budget, but have not figured it out.

Gift of Warmth Fund

Mr. Carroll explained this fund has been in place for twenty-five years, to assist people with hardships in paying bills, particularly heat bills. Last week a plumber in town came across a senior couple who had no oil because they were waiting for Social Security checks. The temperature in their house was 48°. The Gift of Warmth was used to buy them oil. He encourages people with problems like this to approach the Manager's Office for assistance.

Adjournment

No other business being presented for consideration, on motion of Selectman Lyons, seconded by Selectman Donohue, voted to adjourn and the meeting was adjourned accordingly at 8:55p.m.

A True Record.

ATTEST: _____
Assistant