

Regular meeting of the Board of Selectmen convened at 7 p.m. on Tuesday, August 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 Allan D. Howard, Helen Abdallah Donohue, Paul A. Bishop and Thomas F. Maloney. Also present General Manager John J. Carroll, and Clerk Frances L. Jessoe.

Absent: Selectman William J. Plasko

Appointments

7:00 P.M. – Supt. Mark Ryan, DPW:

Reference was made to monthly report of department activities. Mr. Ryan stated that Highway and Parks prepared the Common for the Fox 25 Zip trip event. They also worked with the Recreation Department on the annual mud wrestling for the campers and DPW hosted a mini touch a truck for the young campers at the Recreation Department. The Water Department has been doing the cleaning and lining on Nichols and Winter Streets and replacing water lines at Highland Cemetery. He said the Sewer Department has been doing cleaning and lining projects and they are 98% complete on the sewer mains. It is a \$2.7 million project that will be completed in October. Cemetery crews conducted 16 internments. Engineering has been overseeing street resurfacing and sidewalk resurfacing. They have been doing survey work at Doherty Field, for a potential hard surface basketball court, Coakley Field with the athletic field lighting and Bird Road extension of the drain line for the drainage problem. He said that they met with Paul Riccardi, Director of Building and Grounds at the School Department to find out about lead and copper testing in the schools and they sampled everything in their 9 buildings. A few bubblers had higher lead levels, so those were replaced and tested out fine and another round of testing will be in September. They are keeping a good eye on this. He said National Grid will be working in South Norwood and the preliminary excavation has started to locate the existing gas main and next week, it will begin in earnest. There will be project meetings in Room 24 at Town Hall on Fridays and the public is welcome and they will be handing out notices- it will be at 9 a.m. You can voice input into the project.

Chairman Howard inquired if the gas line is on the side of the street. Supt. Ryan said they are trying to determine that right now, but it will be to one side. They will be able to have two lanes of traffic at all times on Washington Street.

Selectman Maloney inquired if the new sewer main would go where the old one is. Mr. Ryan said no , it is about 3 feet away from the old one as this has to stay in service until they put the new one in and then they abandon the old one. Mr. Ryan said you do not pull out the old line.

Selectman Donohue inquired about the cemetery pipes and are those streets that will be resurfaced this summer. Mr. Ryan said they will be different. This year there will be asphalt on them and be very drivable. We need to put the pipes in first.

Selectman Bishop referred to Prospect Street between Cottage and Prospect Ave. and it has been replaced with concrete on a section of the sidewalk and he is happy with that. He is glad about Bird Road and it is long overdue. Lastly, just at the top of the parking lot on Washington Street across the street from the rectory, the weeds are long and there needs to be work on the weeds near the steps as well.

Chairman Howard referred to the Basketball Field at Doherty Field. Mr. Ryan referred to the plan. The Manager said they met a month ago with the neighbors and Selectman Plasko. Mr. Ryan went over the layout of the area. The neighbors would like a hard court surface, so they looked at the dimensions of the Callahan which would be similar and there is a few ways they could do it-it would be away from the residents at Brewster Drive. There would be some removal of trees in the area. It would be \$77,000 for this surface-it wouldn't be full court. It works nicely for the neighborhood. It seems like a great idea for an area of town that doesn't have anything like this-we would like to get this on the Capital Outlay for the FY 18 budget. Chairman Howard referred to the location. Discussion continued. The Manager said

Supt. Mark Ryan (cont'd)

they asked the neighbors to get together to pick a location. The neighbors were very satisfied according to Mr. Ryan. Selectman Maloney said you would have to do some filling, but that is a good spot.

Selectman Bishop said one concern was that they wanted it to be seen by police patrol. Mr. Ryan said yes.

Selectman Donohue said even though the project is less than the \$250,000 for the capital outlay, this is a good example of a project to go before the Capital Outlay Committee.

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

Reference was made to monthly report of department activities. Also present was Darryl Hanson of Broadband.

Supt. Collins referred to the 115 KV transmission line project and it is going along very well, both lines are installed and in service. They are in the process of removing the middle line. Discussion ensued as they have to remove the wires across Rt. 95 at the end of September. Chairman Howard said both lines serving Norwood are active now. Supt. Collins said the contractor did an excellent job. The new lines are across Rt. 95 and the middle one will be removed. Supt. Collins said the double pole project will be a never ending project, but they are working on it. Supt. Collins said they will be doing an underground feeder project to bring capacity into the Park Place area as Home Market Foods is really growing. Chairman Howard inquired if our own people will do this job. Supt. Collins said it is contracted out. Supt. Collins stated that they are getting ready for the meter job and the meters will start being delivered next week-bids on August 26th and it will begin at the end of September beginning of October. The contractors will be vetted through the police department and have identification. Chairman Howard inquired if this will go through the winter. If anyone has any questions, please call the Light Department. Supt. Collins said yes, it will go through the winter.

Supt. Collins said they are waiting for the bottom line regarding rates. Selectman Donohue said it would be good to reduce them. Mr. Collins said we couldn't reduce, but we might not have to increase. Chairman Howard inquired about solar. The Light Department knows what is coming and going and we give them appropriate credit. Commercial customers concern him more as they want to sell us the power-this can't be done. We don't want to subsidize big companies. Discussion continued. They are working on this all the time.

Selectman Bishop inquired if the homeowner has to be home when the new meters go in. Supt. Collins said no-98% is on the outside of the house. They will remove the meter-short outage-1 minute or so and then the new meter will be installed and most people will not notice just the clocks might blink. They plan on having door hangers to let people know. Inside meters will be done by Norwood light personnel.

Darryl Hanson said they completed the analogue transition. The biggest problem is people auto tuning the digital tuner and they went to help some people. They ended up putting in a lot of set top boxes, about 300, so there were a lot of old televisions. He said in light of the problem getting people to re-tune their tv's we would like people to auto tune their tvs once a month so they get to see any new channels. He said that in about 3 months from now they will have to auto tune their tvs again. Chairman Howard inquired if it improves the system. Mr. Hanson said it just finds new channels. Mr. Hanson said at the end of October they will go from the old system to the new in the early morning hours. They will give notification. Mr. Hanson said they had a great month in June-they are having a good year. They are doing well.

Selectman Bishop referred to more and more people are streaming with Apple tv devices, etc. but we still stay profitable. Mr. Hanson said some people are taking higher internet speeds as well

Supt. James Collins (cont'd).

Chairman Howard inquired if our internet is competitive with the other companies. Mr. Hanson said yes and they are also doing another upgrade this year which will make it even better.

The Manager said at the next meeting probably in Executive Session there will be an indication as to where we stand versus the other competitors. Our net income is considerably higher than last year. We are doing very well.

Selectman Maloney inquired as to where the opportunity of growth would be for Broadband. Darryl Hanson said we are way ahead in the business area. They are getting a lot of business as there is a lot of growth there. Last year we built out to offer transport services to the area. Discussion continued. We are looking at regional internet-for customers who have one office in Norwood and one in another town. We are doing this now. Selectman Maloney inquired what is the limit of servicing other people. Darryl Hanson said we can do it with telephone; cable we cannot go outside the town. Our profitability comes through the internet. Phone and internet we can go anywhere. Selectman Maloney stated that Cable is the most limited of the three.

Selectman Donohue said the people who helped with the programming from Broadband are very patient and did a great job. Chairman Howard said with all the streaming do people want to sit in front of a computer screen then in front of a full size television? Darryl Hanson said they connect to the television so you can watch. Selectman Bishop said the streaming service is built in the new televisions. Darryl Hanson said we can allow our customers to use our service without a cable box.

7:45 P.M.- (P.H.) – Public Ascertainment Hearing – Verizon:

Public hearing must be kept open for 14 days to receive additional testimony. Regulations require ad be published twice -ad appeared in Norwood Record August 4, and August 11, 2016.

The Board of Selectmen, as statutory Issuing Authority for the Town of Norwood, will conduct a public ascertainment hearing on Tuesday, August 23, 2016 at 7:45 p.m. in the Harry B. Butters Chambers, Norwood Town Hall, 566 Washington Street, Norwood, MA. The purpose of the hearing will be to review the performance of one of the cable television operators in Norwood, Verizon, during its current license term and to discuss how local live broadcasts are transmitted and to hear testimony on future cable-related needs and interests of the Norwood community. Interested parties are encouraged to attend and offer testimony on any cable-related matters. Any applications and reports to be considered at the hearing are available for public inspection at the Selectmen's Office, Norwood Town Hall during regular business hours and for reproduction at a reasonable fee. For more information on the public ascertainment hearing, interested parties can call the Board of Selectmen's Office at (781)762-1240.

Richard Shay, Chairman of the Cable Commission thanked the Board for opening this hearing again and would like to have all requests on record. Mr. Shay said Norwood Public Access Board members will speak briefly. This is about Verizon and they are in compliance and their contract and the committee appreciates the work they have done with Comcast and Norwood to make the signal better and NPA has more flexibility. They worked quite hard and cooperated with Comcast to make that happen. Mr. Shay said they expect the new contract to be substantially the same for all companies. Chairman Howard inquired if that would mean no quarterly payments. Mr. Shay said the quarterly payments will remain the same. The members present are Joan Jacobs, Ed Kelleher. Mr. Strano is not here and they also have an empty seat on the Commission. Please contact the Selectmen's Office if you are interested. Mr. Shay would like to add to the contract that they want to have one high definition channel for public access television. NPA TV produces almost all in high definition and Norwood Light is working to provide this capability and they would like Verizon and Comcast to do that as well. This is one of the biggest things and also the work changing the links over for live feeds will be in the contract. The responsibility is clear, but the details should be in the contract and they intend to do that. He said there have been improvements in technology and if you go to Verizon or any providers all the major networks have

Ascertainment Hearing (cont'd)

detailed program listing, but on public access they don't have a way to display that on the television, They would like them to do that. Those are the pieces of the contract they would like to see changed and they will put this in RFP which will be written up by their counsel Peter Epstein and they will pass this by the town's people and the Selectmen and send this to Verizon for the negotiation process. Joan Jacobs said they are going after the HD channel is because currently they are using analogue and they take the same signal and having to "dumb" it down to analogue for tv. She said if we do one HD channel there is no need to dumb down these other channels, the picture would be much better.

Scott Murphy, president of NPA said that the Board now is himself Gerry Slater and, Roger Cummings since Marcia Nutting retired. Two new members are Mark Hoover and Brianne Killion, principal of the Prescott School. He said that the Executive Director is Jack Tolman. Mr. Murphy said they would like a 10 year license and public access support fees that are in the license and they budget that in for the day to day operations. Mr. Murphy said that what used to happen is that at the beginning of every license they would get a payment of \$150,000 split up into 3 payments for the first 3 years. He said the last time Norwood Light came up they asked to spread it over the entire 10 year license and they have done this with them and with Comcast. It is still \$150,000 and it was ok for them. They like it and it has worked out well. The technology is changing and they don't know how much longer this model will be in existence.

Chairman Howard said since this is a ten year contract, he hoped there is something built into the contract to let the town make changes if something comes up. Scott Murphy said that is not true because no one would agree to the high definition channels. Basically they have been negotiating with Norwood Light and they have been very cooperative and Comcast has not done anything. Mr. Murphy said that once Norwood Light does it, Comcast and Verizon will do it so it doesn't hurt their business. Chairman Howard referred to wires in the Selectmen's Office that will just put in this week. Norwood Light is on board, but not Comcast or Verizon. Mr. Murphy said everything they do now is in high definition, so if they had HD channels we wouldn't have a problem. Mr. Murphy said they should contact their companies; Verizon and Comcast and ask them to get on Board.

Jack Tolman, Executive Director of NPA stated that the purpose of the hearing is to let Verizon know what is coming when they have negotiations with Verizon with the 10 year license. They expect the funding to continue. Discussion continued. They will be having high definition channels on Norwood Light Broadband on all 3 channels. They have been very cooperative-Norwood Light subscribers will see the best signal. Mr. Tolman said when they see NPA out of focus, it is the transmission. They work hard to produce their programs. He said in December they picked up their new broadcast truck for outside shooting such as NPA on the Road, etc. They will be going to the Senior Center this Fall to do a show. Mr. Tolman said that Norwood Public Access in 2015 had 600 programs and 200 were government meetings; they have found that government meetings help the residents find out what is happening. Their own programming was 200 produced by the staff and 100 produced by public access producers and the final 100 by the School Department-this is a good balance. He is very proud of the posting on their site-300 on the bulletin board and this gets the word out what is happening in town. He said that they offer public access and they are proud of Meghan Corbett and she has started a video club and they had 108 students for 5 weeks who could be young video access producers. They modeled it with Erin Crowley, who is a student in Emerson, she came and Erica was the point person for NPA and Erin reported to her and she managed high school students and volunteers who taught the 6,7 and 8th graders. This was great experience and a big hit. This is a snapshot of what we are doing. We will be asking for HD channels and the new technology when you scroll through the program guide to input their schedule. Statewide they are asking for this. One final thing, he would like to read a letter from Principal Jonathan Bourn, NHS. He said that Principal Bourn, wrote a letter in support of the partnership at Norwood High. Mr. Tolman read the letter into the record: "For the past two summers, I have had the opportunity to congratulate two different Norwood High School students for their hard work and dedication to NPA TV Programs. Through their work with NPA programming such as Table Talk with Tom Cummings, NHS students have a real life opportunity to practice communication and collaboration skills with adults and members of the community, and to employ

Ascertainment Hearing (cont'd)

highly technical skills to run the TV studio that set them apart from their peers, all by the age of 18. Having this opportunity for students is incredibly valuable, and is, it does not replicate, it actually is real life experience. This is a unique opportunity that Norwood students enjoy, and one that many neighboring schools envy. The partnership among NHS students and the NPA program are what make these opportunities possible. In addition to giving employment for promising NHS students, NPA has provided a state of the art television studio that provides our students with marketable skills upon graduation. Furthermore, our TV production classes are tremendously popular among students, and continue to win national accolades and recognition year after year. In short, the NPA partnership with Norwood High School has allowed for a robust academic offering that competes and wins on a national level, all while teaching student's life-long skills and knowledge that make the employable immediately upon graduation from high school."

Mr. Shay inquired if there is a difference in the sound between analogue and digital. Mr. Tolman stated there is a difference. Mr. Shay said Norwood is a very music oriented town and this would certainly make a difference in HD. Selectman Donohue referred Mr. Bourne's letter and referred to Erin Crowley and she went to California. Mr. Tolman said she has been with us since the 6th grade and now she has done everything.

Mr. Tolman stated that NPA was awarded national station of the year by the Alliance of Community Media. They are doing their job very well and they are trying to do new things. He said that they submitted a half hour reel of their work and in their budget range they were number one in the county. Scott Murphy said the year before they were number one in the Northeast and Mr. Tolman submitted nationally. It is on the website. Selectman Maloney said congratulations to everyone.

Selectman Bishop said that Jonathan Bourne's letter was great. They have given them a lot of skills to our students. We talk about PEG Access and he asked Mr. Tolman what PEG means. Mr. Tolman said it stands for Public Educational and Government .

New Business

ABCC:

- On motion of Selectman Bishop, seconded by Selectman Maloney, voted to file the following:
- a. Notice that liquor licensees may sell alcohol on Monday following Christmas when Christmas is Sunday.
 - b. Notice that Norwood has been chosen as a pilot town for e-licensing.

Rebecca Collins, The Soggie Doggie, 1159 Washington Street:

On motion of Selectman Donohue, seconded by Selectman Maloney, voted to approve request to host 4th walk for Breast Cancer on Sunday, Oct. 30, with the same route as last year and to notify the Norwood Police Department.

Norwood Downtown Steering Committee:

On motion of Selectman Donohue, seconded by Selectman Bishop, voted to file notice that they do not want to install parking meters in the downtown area. Selectman Maloney thanked Officer Flanagan for the report he did regarding this. Selectman Maloney said we should endorse their position to not advocate the installation of parking meters.

Verizon:

On motion of Selectman Donohue, seconded by Selectman Bishop, voted to accept check and forward to NPATV \$65,297.82 for PEG Grant Report 2nd Quarter 2016.

Sara J. Clark, Dept. Secretary, Comm. Of Mass, Dept. of Telecommunications:

On motion of Selectman Bishop, seconded by Selectman Donohue, voted to file Notification of Verizon contract expiration 8/20/2017. (forwarded to Cable Commission Chair)

Sameh Wahba, Saint Paul Livery, Inc., 32 Oolah Ave. #2:

On motion of Selectman Bishop, seconded by Selectman Maloney, voted to approve request to run service within and through the town. If the Board approves, we need a copy of their registration. A copy of this approval will be sent to Norwood Police Department. Selectman Bishop said we do not approve the livery service in Norwood-they can only run through the Town. We will write to Mass. Port and they can go from one point to another.

Comcast:

On motion of selectman Donohue, seconded by Selectman Bishop, voted to accept check and forward to NPATV \$46,599.21 for PEG access for period April 1 – June 30, 2016.

Erjon Barolhyli, 1 Aspen Way, Holbrook, MA:

On motion of Selectman Donohue, seconded by Selectman Maloney, voted to schedule a public hearing re CV license application to operate Buffalo's Pizza & Subs, Inc., 884 G Washington Street .

Scott and Judy Larkee, 391 Sumner Street:

Requesting the Town construct a basketball court at Doherty Field. (Neighbors Petition attached) See DPW appointment. On motion of Selectman Donohue, seconded by Selectman Bishop, voted to file as this was discussed during Mr. Ryan's appointment. Selectman Maloney commended Scott and July Larkee for putting this petition together and the court will be great for that part of town.

Anna Morrison, 23A Walnut Avenue:

On motion of Selectman Bishop, seconded by Selectman Donohue, voted to approve request to use the Town Common and Bandstand on October 16, 2016 from 5 p.m. to 7 p.m. for a wedding rehearsal.

Gregory Davis, Market of Hope Board Member, St. Timothy's Church:

On motion of Selectman Donohue, seconded by Selectman Maloney, voted to approve request to hang banner from September 26 to October 3, 2016 on Washington Street to advertise Market of Hope to be held at St. Timothy's on October 15th. (Regulations attached)

Unfinished Business

Chairman Allan D. Howard:

Chairman Howard stated that he will refer to the Manager on the Dog Park.

Memoranda

Paul Brodmerkle, P.E., Site Design Professionals, LLC:

On motion of Selectman Bishop, seconded by Selectman Donohue, voted to file Copy of Request for Determination of Applicability/Lenox Village for Conservation Commission.

Selectmen's Meetings

On motion of Selectman Donohue, seconded by Selectman Maloney, voted to approve as presented Board minutes of July 26, 2016.

Selectmen's Addenda

Selectman Maloney

Happy Labor Day

Chairman Howard

38th Annual Tootsie Drive-they don't need our approval. On motion of Selectman Donohue, seconded by Selectman Maloney, voted to endorse.

Cable Commission

Open Seat-the Board appoints, if you have any interest, please send a note to the Board.

Recreational Marijuana-ballot in November

Chairman Howard inquired if the Board would like to make a statement on that issue. The Board declined.

Manager's Agenda

FYI A Letter to the Boston Globe from Chief Brooks

On motion of Selectman Donohue, seconded by Selectman Maloney, voted to file.

FYI. Memo from Mark Ryan regarding resurfacing Prospect Avenue

The Manager said they have to replace iron services and will not pave until they replace. Selectman Bishop said that road will be paved.

A meeting was held with the Chair of the Conservation Commission and other regarding a possible location for the Dog Park at Endean Park. It is recommended that Endean Conservation land be crossed off the list.

The Manager said that Al Goetz, Chery Rogers, he and Mr. Ryan met and it is quite clear from talking to the chair of the Conservation Commission that they would not view that area affirmatively. His recommendation is that we do not consider Endean Park.

Selectman Bishop said he is disappointed. Chairman Howard said that he was at the meeting and the Chair of the Conservation Commission and Mr. Goetz were very informative and he does not feel the upper field would be a good site and the Conservation Commission would not vote for it. He said that the track down below is not big enough and the school department is not in favor of it. Chairman Howard said there are no other sites. He has talked with Mark Rano, Chairman of the Dog Park Committee and they are in agreement that there are no other sites for a Dog Park, if one is brought forward, we could consider it.

The Manager said we have to cross this one off as well as Coakley and Ellis. This would eliminate all 3.

On motion of Selectman Maloney, seconded by Selectman Bishop would cease discussion on Endean for a Dog Park. Selectman Bishop said he has a lot of respect for the Conservation Commission and they know what they are talking about.

FYI. Letter from the Building Department denying a "Hot Top Plant" at 973 University Avenue.

On motion of Selectman Donohue, seconded by Selectman Maloney, voted to file.

Executive Session

DPW - Litigation

On individual poll of the Board, on motion of Selectman Donohue, seconded by Selectman Maloney, voted to go into Executive Session regarding DPW Litigation and the Board will be making a statement after Executive Session.

Returning to open session, Chairman Howard read the following statement:

“An employment claim was submitted by a former employee to the Town of Norwood, mediation of that claim resulted in a settlement agreement of \$50,000 less ordinary deductions to that former employee and there was also an agreement to make a \$5,000 payment to the prior employee's attorney as part of the settlement. This is a confidential agreement with both parties signing it and he can't divulge anything further about this other than what he has said. Selectman Donohue said that the Board voted unanimously to expend the funds.”

Adjournment

On motion of Selectmen Donohue, seconded by Selectman Bishop, voted to adjourn and the meeting was adjourned accordingly at 8:50 p.m.

A True Record.

ATTEST: _____

Clerk