

The Board of Selectmen held a meeting on Tuesday, November 18, 2014 beginning at 6:30p.m. in the Main Meeting Room of the Town Hall. The Following members were present.

Mark Gallivan, Chairman  
Christopher Timson, Vice Chairman  
Nancy Mackenzie, Clerk  
Clifton Snuffer  
James Stanton

Also present:  
James Johnson, Interim Town Administrator  
Cindy Berube, Executive Assistant

Mr. Gallivan called the meeting to order followed by the Pledge of Allegiance.

### **ANNOUNCEMENTS AND PROCLAMATIONS**

### **SPONSORED AGENDA ITEMS**

Mr. Snuffer was absent from this appointment

#### **Police Interviews**

Chris Semler candidate for Police Officer grew up in Walpole. Went to Mass Bay Community College and joined Marine Corps. He was recently discharged and doing private security for the Dept. of defense Natick research facility. He would like to give back to the community he lives in and be involved. He feels he would be an asset to the community. His current job he controls entry and access points, secure facility, checking buildings, with everything that is going on in the world. Only the people that need to be there are there. Vehicles are searched. Make sure all buildings are secure. He has been there for two months and made no arrests. They have an agreement with the Natick police if there is an arrest. It would be up to the base Commander to decide whether the person is charged. When he was in the Marines he worked for infantry. He is very adaptable to anything that comes up. We interacted with people. Take a break in the village and interact with the people and they would trust us more.

He does not have any experience with drug and alcohol prevention but is aware there is a serious drug problem, especially heroin. His only experience with working with children is through the Boy Scouts. He would like to get involved with helping the youth.

Matthew Mitchell grew up in Shrewsbury and has been married for 12 years. Last 12 years in the Marine Corp. My wife landed a job in Needham. We settled in Walpole. He likes to greet people loudly and hope to get a smile back. I am upbeat, 100% honesty. You need to be a good role model setting the example. When I got out in July got my referee license and is around a lot of kids. Got into substitute teaching, I had a 6<sup>th</sup> grade teacher, boys sitting in the corner. I set my rules straight. I walked up and explained who I was. I have had to deal with Marines problems. He tries to keep a positive influence. Always makes himself visible to kids. He tries to be a positive role model. The one thing you get from me I bring my leadership. All my experience will be with me. I have done things that

I bet no other candidate has. He has never dealt with unruly parents but had to confront a parent. Looking to the future he would like to be a Sergeant or Lieutenant on the force.

Chief Stillman informed the members we were struck by the maturity of Mathew Mitchell. He comes with a lot of background and leadership. I think he would be a real asset to the Dept. The Board members liked both candidates but felt that Matthew has more experience with children.

MOTION moved by Mr. Timson to appoint Mathew Mitchell to the Walpole Police Department Immediately conditional upon him passing a physical, a Physical Abilities Test (PAT) and psychological test at Step one, seconded by seconded by Mr. Gallivan 3-0-1 (Mrs. Mackenzie abstained as she did not participate in the discussion or decision making process)

### **11-1 PUBLIC HEARING, CLASSIFICATION, Tax Rate**

MOTION moved by Mr. Timson to open the public hearing , seconded by Mr. Snuffer, VOTED 5-0-0

Jack Fisher, this is for Tax classification purposes. The Board determines the Shift. Showed examples on the average home value. Explains what the Residential factor is. Know with a single tax rate. Full and Fair Cash value. It is heavily weighed to Residential property. Talked about the levy limit \$62,174.306. The new Growth is over one million dollars. He showed the effect of the shift on the classes. This comes into play on the residential shift.

Mr. Gallivan talked about the five items that created the biggest new growth. What caused that? Mr. Flis explained they are the biggest taxpayers. There is a difference in Personal property and real estate. With Personal Property and you have a transformer and you replace it, that is considered new growth. They may not increase the overall value. That is mostly done by the state.

Jack Fisher explained page 14 this shows you the tax rate and the bill for the average home. Page 19 shows neighboring towns and has what their average values are. Our recommendation is stay with the current shift.

Donnell Murphy- large residential and commercial taxpayer. He does not know how many businesses have come to you. The burden being shifted to businesses. A lot of the increases are passed on to the lease. If our tax rate is higher, they take that into consideration as to where they are going to locate. When you do these shifts it does impact business. I want you to be aware of it.

MOTION moved by Mr. Timson to close the public hearing, seconded by Mr. Snuffer, VOTED 5-0-0

MOTION moved by Mr. Timson that the Board adopts a Shift of 1.275 with a Residential Factor of 95.66662 for Fiscal year 2015, seconded by Mr. Snuffer, VOTED 5-0-0

Chris and Nancy left to attend the meeting in Foxboro regarding the MBTA proposal. Mr. Gallivan announced they are coming to us on December 2, 2014 at 7pm at JMS. We have not heard from them. Hope to get a lot of information from them. We are trying to get more information.

James Johnson has stepped out of the meeting during this discussion. We started the process of hiring a new Town Administrator. The first step is to create a profile. They did draft up and we provided feedback. They will not move forward until we vote this.

### **11-2 TA Screening committee Charge**

We did select a committee of five members. Once this accepted Cindy contact the Colin's center and have them meet with screening committee in December. Mr. Snuffer read the charge into the record.

MOTION moved by Mr. Gallivan to approve the Charge as written for the Town Administrator Screening Committee, seconded by Mr. Snuffer, VOTED 3-0-0

### **11-3 TA Profile**

Mr. Snuffer noted these documents can be made available to the general public.

MOTION moved by Mr. Gallivan to approve the Town Administrator Profile dated November 18, 2014 seconded by Mr. Snuffer, VOTED 3-0-0

### **11-4 Chessia Consulting Services**

Mr. Johnson explained they will be helping the town with Barberry. This \$3,800, Barberry has agreed to fund this. There is not formal bid as it falls under \$10,000. They provided us the funding and Maggie worked with Ilana to hire them.

MOTION moved by Mr. Stanton to approve and sign the Chessia consulting Services contract, seconded by Mr. Snuffer, VOTED 3-0-0

### **11-5 Special Employee Designation**

Mr. Snuffer has questions relative to this matter. He is unhappy with the request. Mr. Stanton had some questions also. Invite in to a meeting.

## Town Forest Committee, Update

Steve Cyr Town Forest Committee- President of the Committee. Also present, Gary Riggott, John Bickford and Bob Leblanc. Wanted to update the Board on the town forest. We are looking to have a celebration. Working towards that goal. In 2010 we were tasked to update the T. Forest Management Plan with a grant. That is a document that identifies the goals and objectives and inventories the forest and recommendations for management. I do have a copy; it is a ten year plan. Break the forest into different parcels. Does not change land use. Last year we did carry out a timber harvest. Eastern portion on Washington Street. Harvested 85 cords of firewood. We put it out to bid, looking to get paid for the logs with the forester doing the work. We seek bids from loggers. Last years bid was a little over \$8,000 used the rest to carry out general maintenance. Hosted a fishing derby in the fall. A lot of this is done with volunteers. Danny Barrett helped us with the chimney. They installed new railings on white bridge. Clean up storm damage. This winter we will continue the plan and we held a public walk show people what we want to do. Get the timber marked. Early December, we will put it out to bid again. To see what timber is being removed. It is a very similar harvest this year. Move a little red pine. Salvage cut to try to remove the trees before they become a problem. By the end of next year want to come back. Asking for a capital expenditure. We have not identified, something relative to the celebration 2016.

Mr. Snuffer asked if he had a sense of what you are looking for. Mr. Cyr stated maybe some gravel for fire roads, maybe some trees and seedlings. We have not identified yet. As of August 18, the balance in the trust is about \$14,000. Mr. Snuffer asked if they do any fundraising? The object is to keep what you do is through fundraising. Mr. Cyr explained they have not done any active fundraising. We have been working with the Dept. of Conservation and Recreation.

Discussion on how they interact with others. Mr. Riggott stated when there is a project in the t. Forest. Approximately two weeks ago Dick Adams and I cleaned up the area that was near the poles field. It was asked if they deal with New England forestry. Mr. Cyr replied that their foresters are a member. It was suggested they interface with the work that is done at Adams Farm. You may find New England forestry a resource. Trying to expand our partnerships with other town boards. Mr. Gallivan thinks we have really good assets. I am glad to see people that are really invested in this. The more we can draw people in the better. Mr. Riggott thinks the Kiosk will help. Trying to get more people on the trails for years.

### **11-6 Walpole Discount Beer & Wine**

MOTION moved by Mr. Gallivan to approve the Change of Sunday hours to open at 10am, seconded by Mr. Snuffer, VOTED 4-0-0

### **11-7 One Day All Alcoholic Liquor License, December 6 & 13**

MOTION moved by Mr. Stanton to grant the one day All Alcoholic License to the Knights of Columbus for December 6 and 13, seconded by Mr. Gallivan, VOTED 3-0-0

8:05 OPEN FORUM- No one present

### **11-8 Mass DOT, Chapter 90**

The Board was presented with a request for \$675,335.79 closing out the jobs. We have been waiting on the bills from the vendors. The extra pothole money is in this. Soon we will have an option where people can click it and fix it. We will bring it to you and do a presentation.

MOTION moved by Mr. Stanton to sign the Chapter 90 Reimbursement totaling \$675,335.79, seconded by Mr. Snuffer, VOTED 3-0-0

### **11-9 A-Frame, Lacrosse**

MOTION moved by Mr. Stanton to grant permission to place an A-Frame on the common for Lacrosse from 11/19-12/3 seconded by Mr. Snuffer, VOTED 3-0-0

### **11-10 5K Road Race, October 31, 2015**

MOTION moved by Mr. Stanton to approve the 5K Road Race for October 31, 2015, seconded by Mr. Snuffer, VOTED 3-0-0

### **11-11 to 11-14 Gift Acceptances**

MOTION moved by Mr. Stanton to accept the Gifts from Twins Donut Co, seconded by Mr. Snuffer, VOTED 3-0-0

MOTION moved by Mr. Stanton to accept the gifts from NRM, seconded by Mr. Snuffer, VOTED 3-0-0

MOTION moved by Mr. Stanton to accept the gifts from Rockland Fed Credit Union and Walpole Wine and Spirits, seconded by Mr. Snuffer, VOTED 3-0-0

MOTION moved by Mr. Stanton to accept the gift from Arthur and Lori Celentano smiling eyes account, seconded by Mr. Snuffer, VOTED 3-0-0

### **11-15 Bid Award, 2015-12, Crack Sealing**

Mr. Johnson requests the Board award these bids. We do this on a unit price basis. We did receive multiple bids on this. We have worked with them before

MOTION moved by Mr. Stanton to award bid 2015-12 to Superior Sealcoat Inc. for an estimated total of \$36,000, seconded by Mr. Snuffer, VOTED 3-0-0

### **11-16 Bid Award, 2015-13, Pavement Markings**

MOTION moved by Mr. Stanton to award bid 2015-13 to Hi Way Safety Systems for three years, seconded by Mr. Snuffer VOTED 3-0-0

### **11-17 Sewer and Water Vacancy**

Mr. David Sullivan has resigned his elected seat on the Commission. To fill the vacancy the Selectmen and Sewer and Water Commission hold a joint meeting and vote a resident to fill the vacancy until the next annual election.

The Board received a recommendation from S&W for Bill Abbott. They do have a spot on their Agenda on Monday to have a joint meeting. Board agreed to meet at the Delaney Treatment Plant.

### **TA Report**

The Sewer and Water will discuss the possibility of a committee for the Sharon Country Day. They did ask for a few RFP's. I will be there around 7:30p.m. Monday night.

Thanksgiving, in the past we have allowed people to take the day after off. I would like to follow that. The day before we close at 1pm with no lunch. The Board is good with that.

### **NEW BUSINESS**

Mr. Snuffer thanked for the Town Administrator passing on the action 2235 Boston Providence Highway property.

### **OLD BUSINESS**

Talked about the police interviews and the Board did vote Matthew Mitchell be hired as a police officer.

MOTION moved by Mr. Snuffer to adjourn at 8:25pm, seconded by Mr. Stanton VOTED 3-0-0