

A Regular meeting of the Board of Selectmen was held on Tuesday, October 22, 2013 Beginning at 7PM in the Main Meeting Room of the Town Hall. The following members were present.

Mark Gallivan, Chairman
Michael Berry, Vice Chairman
Nancy Mackenzie, Clerk
Christopher Timson
Clifton Snuffer

Also present:
Michael Boynton, Town Administrator
Cindy Berube, Executive Assistant
Nancy Genesky, Principal Clerk

Mr. Gallivan called the meeting to order at 7pm followed by the Pledge of Allegiance. Mr. Gallivan asked for a moment of silence for the untimely passing of Thomas Quinn.

SPONSORED AGENDA ITEMS

10-16 Easement Agreement, North St. Warren Lane

Mr. Viano is seeking the Boards acceptance of a grant easement off North St. He explained it is an existing easement located in the area shown on plan entitled, Lot 2 Warrant Lane, Utility Easement Plan dated March 1, 2013 by Glossa Engineering. It has not been operational in the past two years. No water was coming out of the outflow. Seeking to relocate the easement from the corner of the lot, down the back line of the lot, install manhole, and drain pipe and headwall, which has been approved by Conservation Committee. It has been reviewed by Town Engineer, Margaret Walker and the documents have been reviewed by T. Counsel. The goal is to abandon the portion of the easement and create a 20 foot easement along the back line. Drain off into wetland area.

Ms. Walker noted the agreements have been looked at by T. Counsel. The original easement page requires the Board's signature and it will be recorded by Mr. Viano. Town Meeting does not need to approve. This is for lot 3.

MOTION moved by Mr. Snuffer to sign the Easement Agreement releasing interest to that portion of a drain easement recorded in Norfolk Registry of Deeds Book 5158, Page 677 dated July 25, 1975 for land off North Street, seconded by Mr. Berry 3-0-0

Mr. Viano wanted it noted that Mrs. Warren past away at the age of 103 this past September. We have all been fortunate to have them in this town. They have donated a lot of property for the benefit of this town.

10-17 Primary Election Warrant

Mr. Fucile thanked the BOS and TA spearheading the refurbishing of the first minute book of the Town. They are repairing the book now. Mr. Snuffer would like to see at some point to adopt this project on behalf of restoration of the town's documents.

The Special primary election December 10 to replace Representative Winslow. Talked about holding the election at the High School, they would prefer we go somewhere else. The library could give me one day. The best way is to go to Blackburn Hall. Believes this will be where the voters must go. We can break it up to two rooms upstairs and down. I will put out a memo to let the voters know. Ask you for direction and concurrence to use Blackburn Hall.

The Board members agreed this would be fine for this election; however, they did not support using it permanently.

Mr. Timson arrived at 7:20 p.m.

MOTION moved by Mr. Berry to sign the December 10, Primary Election Warrant and authorize the use of Blackburn hall, seconded by Mr. Snuffer, VOTED 4-0-0

10-18 Halloween Parade

MOTION moved by Mr. Berry to approve the Halloween Parade for October 26, 2013 beginning at 10a.m., seconded by Mr. Timson, VOTED 4-0-0

10-19 One Day Beer & Wine

MOTION moved by Mr. Berry to grant the one day Beer & Wine for the "Take a Seat for the Arts" seconded by Mr. Timson, VOTED 4-0-0

10-20 Acceptance of Gift

MOTION moved by Mr. Timson to accept the gifts from JWCW and Susan Baur with thanks seconded by Mr. Berry, VOTED 5-0-0

10-21 Acceptance of Gift

MOTION moved by Mr. Timson to accept the gift from Walpole Sportsman's club for the Town Forest Gift Account with thanks, seconded by Mr. Berry, VOTED 5-0-0

10-22 Cultural Council, increase in membership

Board of Selectmen

Minutes of October 22, 2013

Mr. Berry would like them to be reminded of the Open meeting Law. Mr. Boynton noted they only meet a couple times a year, not frequently seen. They are important to a lot of local groups. He would like the opening to be advertised for a couple of weeks before appointing and want the interested party to attend the meeting.

MOTION moved by Mr. Berry moved to increase the membership of the Cultural Council to 9, seconded by Mr. Timson VOTED 5-0-0

Town Administrator's update

Mass DOT billboard advertising hearing- changing to electronic sign, the town had amended our bylaws. It is regulated by the state statute.

T. Mtg Recap-Turners dam project approved, moving forward with design, keep you posted as to where we are going. We have a few positions which were authorized. Funding does not occur until after Jan 1. The remaining elements, bylaws must be approved by the Attorney General. He will ask the Board to sign the PILOT agreement for the solar facility on Industrial Road at their next meeting.

Mr. Berry found it interesting, that there seems to be a deficit of an understanding of the roles and responsibilities of the elected officials in Town by RTM. At some point should become type of consensus or clarification, where the roles and responsibilities are of the elected boards. Where do our powers begin and end as Road Commissioners.

Mr. Timson stated that being an RTM he is proud being a member and what we do. The process works, the right result came and was achieved. The Charter controls all those things and T. Counsel was there. He understands the level of frustration, but that is our governmental process at work

Mr. Snuffer noted the RTM is the legislative body of the town, the role of the Clerk, moderator, BOS, TA is very much in evidence, whenever you have an election, it is incumbent upon the Moderator, how t. meeting runs. He understands that new young energetic town meeting members questions the system.

We knew the streets, but we did not those streets under option A. It would have been helpful if we had the information in front of us and if someone from the Dept gave a brief explanation of it. I know we have a workshop to discuss. We have usually held classes for new people coming in. The system worked. It was vigorous debate. I think the process is still the best form of local government.

Mr. Boynton stated that he has had the pleasure of serving variety of communities. Coming to RTM there are pros and cons. He does not get to offer a decision. The Charter provides that the Town Administrator shall have a voice but no vote. The Town Administrator is the Ex officio member but no vote. He will not back down

from what he thinks is the right thing to do. Mr. Snuffer did suggest that the print should be larger.

Mrs. Mackenzie arrived at 7:45 p.m.

Mr. Berry explained what puzzled him was the supplemental budget request they should not have been there in the first place. Some argue this should not be before us. This Board puts effort into things, but that does not mean the items we recommend is the best way. He feels it is in our purview to make suggestions. Mr. Gallivan felt there was some lack of education on people who were saying things like that. We were not proposing something new. Need to get the education piece going again for Town Meeting Members.

Norfolk County Retirement Workshop-The news was not the best looking at an increase of about 10%. Gave you the report and there were some eye-openers. County employees were moved to the State but the retirees are still under Norfolk so they are responsible for the OPEB. The reason for the increase is to fully fund the Retirement system. All the communities across the state that 36 million dollar number needs to be added to the Town' balance sheet. We do not have the ability to extra fund our pension costs to Norfolk County. Mr. Snuffer noted Walpole is the 6th largest contributor out of 41

Electricity-meeting with Baystate, procurement We do consortium bids. Try to time the market. Keep you posted. The town is paying nine cents per kilowatt hour.

Downtown workshop-Scheduled for October 29th at 7 in Room 112.

Fire Truck-issues with delivery time and meeting specifications and cost. The Chief recommended the bids be rejected.

Executive Session

Chairman's declaration:

I hereby declare that:

- Under G.L. c.30A, §21(a)(3) the purpose of the executive session will be

To discuss strategy with respect to collective bargaining as discussion in an open meeting may have a detrimental effect on the bargaining position of the Board

That the Board of Selectmen shall return to open session only for the purposes of adjourning.

MOTION moved by Mr. Gallivan that the Board go into executive session, under G.L. c. 30A, Section 21 (a)(3) for the purposes and reasons declared by the Board's Chairman, with the Board returning to open session at the conclusion of the executive session for the purposes of adjourning seconded by Mrs. Mackenzie, ROLL CALL VOTE: Mr. Snuffer-Aye, Mr. Timson-Aye, Mr. Berry-Aye, Mrs. Mackenzie-Aye and Mr. Gallivan-Aye

MOTION moved by Mr. Timson to adjourn at 9:15, seconded by Mr. Berry, VOTED 5-0-0