

## **MINUTES OF SELECTMEN'S MEETING NOVEMBER 5, 2012**

Mrs. Walter called the meeting to order at 7:05 PM in the Senior Center with Mr. Chabot also present. Mr. Petraitis was not in attendance.

### **I. APPROVAL OF MINUTES OF OCTOBER 23, 2012 APPROVAL OF EXECUTIVE SESSION MINUTES OF OCTOBER 23, 2012 APPROVAL OF MINUTES OF OCTOBER 31, 2012**

Mrs. Walter asked that approval of the minutes be deferred until the next meeting.

### **IA. APPROVAL OF SCHOOL WARRANT #1025 FOR \$1,716.84 APPROVAL OF GENERAL WARRANT #1026 FOR \$273,292.28 APPROVAL OF PAYROLL WARRANT #10 FOR \$300,302.89**

Mr. Chabot moved, and Mrs. Walter seconded, a motion to approve the aforementioned warrants. So voted.

### **IB. PUBLIC COMMENT PERIOD**

There was no one present for the Public Comment Period.

## **II. OLD BUSINESS**

### **A. LETTER FROM NBEMA**

Mr. Chabot read a letter from NBEMA Deputy Director Anne Adams noting that Chris Blood and Brad Tuttle are members of the group. (Attachment #1) Their names were inadvertently left off of the list of appointments that were done in June. Mr. Chabot moved, and Mrs. Walter seconded, a motion to appoint the two men. So voted.

### **B. REVIEW ARTICLES FOR NOVEMBER 30<sup>TH</sup> SPECIAL TOWN MEETING**

The Selectmen reviewed a draft of the warrant for the November 30<sup>th</sup> Special Town Meeting. (Available in the Selectmen's office) Several articles were eliminated, and twelve were remaining. Mr. Chabot suggested a bonus for Town employees, Mrs. Walter said that the Selectmen need to investigate how much it would cost and make sure that we can afford it. Mr. Chabot moved, and Mrs. Walter seconded, a motion to consider the bonus scenario at next week's meeting. So voted. Mr. Chabot moved, and Mrs. Walter seconded, a motion to include all twelve articles from tonight's meeting on the warrant for November 30<sup>th</sup>. So voted.

### **III. NEW BUSINESS**

#### **A. MEDICARE RENEWALS**

Mr. Chabot read a letter from Treasurer Anne Jannette asking the Selectmen to accept two renewal proposals for retiree Health Insurance in 2013 as recommended by the Insurance Advisory Committee. (Attachment #2) According to the letter, the Fallon Senior Plan will be increased by 4%, and the BCBS Medex II plan will have a 6.3% decrease. Mrs. Walter moved, and Mr. Chabot seconded, a motion to accept the recommendations. So voted.

#### **B. TAX CLASSIFICATION HEARING @ 7:15 PM**

Mrs. Walter reviewed a newspaper announcement from the Board of Assessors that the Tax Classification Hearing would be held this evening at 7:15 PM. (Attachment #3) Sheila Buzzell, Chairman of the Board of Assessors, noted that because the tax rate cannot be set until after the November 16<sup>th</sup> Special Town Meeting, she recommended that the Selectmen adjourn the hearing until November 16<sup>th</sup> at 7:15 PM at the Elementary School Auditorium, which will be immediately after the Special Town Meeting. Mrs. Walter so moved, and Mr. Chabot seconded. So voted.

#### **C. SIGN CONTRACT FOR CULTURAL COUNCIL FUNDS**

Mrs. Walter read a letter from Michael Nagle, Fiscal Officer for the Massachusetts Cultural Council that was included with the Town's contract for \$3,870.00 in Local Cultural Council funds. (Attachment #4) Mr. Chabot moved, and Mrs. Walter seconded, a motion to approve and sign the contract. So voted.

#### **D. ESTIMATE FOR INSTALLATION OF OIL TANK**

Mr. Chabot reviewed an estimate from Crowley Fuel for the installation of a temporary oil tank at the Town Hall. (Attachment #5) The estimate is for \$866.63, which includes all parts and labor. Mr. Chabot moved, and Mrs. Walter seconded, a motion to approve the work. So voted.

#### **E. NOTICE OF RETIREMENT FOR ROBERT BARNES**

Mrs. Walter read a letter from Robert Barnes stating his intention to retire from the Highway Department on April 26, 2013. (Attachment #6) Mr. Chabot moved, and Mrs. Walter seconded, a motion to accept the letter and to send Mr. Barnes a letter of confirmation. So voted.

#### **F. SEPTEMBER POLICE REPORT**

Police Chief Aram Thomasian, Jr. reviewed his departmental report for the month of September. (Available in the Selectmen's office) The Chief reported 29 incidents and

15 arrest/summons for the month. Mr. Chabot moved, and Mrs. Walter seconded, a motion to accept the report. So voted.

#### **G. REQUEST TO APPOINT TWO NEW OFFICERS**

Chief Thomasian was present to ask the Selectmen to appoint two new part-time officers, Francis Lapato and Ryan Downing. Mr. Lapato was present, and told the Selectmen that he is a North Brookfield resident. Mrs. Walter moved, and Mr. Chabot seconded, a motion to appoint both men. So voted.

#### **H. LETTER FROM CMRPC RE: E-PERMITTING**

The Selectmen reviewed an e-mail from Vera Kolas of Central Massachusetts Regional Planning Commission asking if the Town would be interested in sharing electronic permitting software. (Attachment #7) According to Ms. Kolas, the cost would be between \$8,000.00 and \$15,000.00 for each town. Mr. Chabot and Mrs. Walter discussed the proposal, and agreed that it doesn't cost North Brookfield that amount of money right now to do its permitting. Mr. Chabot moved, and Mrs. Walter seconded, a motion to inform CMRPC that the Town is not interested in participating at this time. So voted.

#### **I. FY14 BUDGET GUIDELINES**

The Selectmen reviewed the prior year's Budget Guidelines and Budget Policies. (Available in the Selectmen's office) The Board made some revisions to reflect FY14 dates, and Mrs. Walter noted that she will "tweak" the final paragraph on the budget guidelines. Mr. Chabot moved, and Mrs. Walter seconded, a motion to approve the changes. So voted.

### **IV. ANNOUNCEMENTS**

#### **A. DON'T FORGET TO VOTE TOMORROW FROM 7 AM TO 8 PM AT THE SENIOR CENTER**

Mrs. Walter reminded residents to exercise their right to vote tomorrow.

#### **B. COMMUNITY SPIRIT AWARD FOR FRIENDS OF THE TOWN HOUSE**

Mr. Chabot read a letter from Preservation Massachusetts announcing that the Friends of the North Brookfield Town House have been selected to receive a "Community Spirit Award" for 2012. (Attachment #8) The group will be honored at the fall Preservation Event on Thursday, November 8<sup>th</sup> at Tuckerman Hall in Worcester. The Selectmen thanked the Friends on their hard work, and congratulated them on this award.

**C. THERE WILL BE A SPECIAL TOWN MEETING NOVEMBER 16<sup>TH</sup> AT 7 PM  
AT THE ELEMENTARY SCHOOL**

Mrs. Walter made the preceding announcement.

**V. FUTURE AGENDA ITEMS**

Mrs. Walter asked that project updates be placed on an upcoming agenda.

At 8 PM Mr. Chabot moved, and Mrs. Walter seconded, a motion to enter Executive Session to consider strategy related to negotiations with non-union personnel. Roll call: Petraitis, absent; Walter, yes; Chabot, yes. So voted. Mrs. Walter announced that the Board would exit Executive Session only to adjourn.

At 8:10 PM the Board came out of Executive Session. Mr. Chabot moved, and Mrs. Walter seconded, a motion to adjourn. So voted.

Respectfully submitted,

Leslie Scott Burton  
Administrative Assistant