

MINUTES OF SELECTMEN'S MEETING JULY 30, 2012

Chairman Petraitis called the meeting to order in the Senior Center at 7 PM with Mr. Chabot also present. Mrs. Walter was out of town.

I. APPROVAL OF MINUTES OF JUNE 15, 2012 APPROVAL OF MINUTES OF JULY 16, 2012 APPROVAL OF EXECUTIVE SESSION MINUTES OF JULY 16, 2012 APPROVAL OF MINUTES OF JULY 23, 2012

Mr. Chabot moved, and Mr. Petraitis seconded, a motion to approve the aforementioned minutes. So voted.

IA. APPROVAL OF SEWER WARRANT #1005 FOR \$187,104.13 APPROVAL OF SEWER WARRANT #1006 FOR \$2,763,341.88 APPROVAL OF GENERAL WARRANT #1007 FOR \$301,390.03 APPROVAL OF SCHOOL WARRANT #1008 FOR \$31,787.76 APPROVAL OF PAYROLL WARRANT #2 FOR \$180,770.58

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

IB. PUBLIC COMMENT PERIOD

Mr. Chabot offered the Board's sympathies to Dick Fiske and his family on the passing of his wife Jean. Mr. Chabot noted that Mr. Fiske has done so much for many families through his Heart to Heart foundation.

II. OLD BUSINESS

A. APPOINTMENT OF NEW VETERANS' AGENT

Mr. Petraitis noted that the Selectmen received several applications for the position of Veterans' Agent, and they interviewed three. From those three the Selectmen have chosen Holly Kularski of North Brookfield. Mr. Chabot moved, and Mr. Petraitis seconded, a motion to appoint Mrs. Kularski effective August 1, 2012. So voted.

B. MEETING WITH NBEMS

Joe Holway of the North Brookfield Emergency Squad, Inc. was present to meet with the Selectmen to discuss the squad's financial situation. He presented the Selectmen with copies of the squads June financial report. (Attachment #1) He noted that he and Director Patrick Kiritsy met with two members of the Finance Committee and Mr.

Chabot earlier in the day. Mr. Holway and Mr. Kiritsy were able to give the Finance Committee members a good look at exactly what it takes to run the squad.

Mr. Petraitis stated that the squad does an excellent job, and the Town is lucky to have such dedicated men and women working there.

Mr. Holway noted that the EMS and the Selectmen will continue to meet monthly to discuss the options available in order to secure the business. Mr. Holway hopes that they will come up with a proposed budget to run the business. He noted that there were 100 fewer calls this year as compared to last year.

Mr. Chabot noted that people might not realize that the squad responds to all calls, even if a patient has no insurance.

Mr. Holway said that it costs approximately \$330,000.00 last year to run the business. A representative from the State confirmed that those numbers are in line with the average cost to run a BLS, on-call service.

Mr. Petraitis noted that it will cost considerably more to have another service come to North Brookfield than it will cost to stabilize the NBEMS.

C. WORK AT HOME POLICY

The Selectmen reviewed a draft of a work at home policy, which reads:

Work-at-Home

Employees will not be paid for hours worked at home without the approval of the Department Head and the Board of Selectmen. Work-at-Home is limited to a reasonable accommodation in the event of an absence due to unforeseen or extraordinary circumstances for work that does not require the employee's immediate presence to provide service to or advise the public.

Mr. Petraitis said that he liked this wording, and Mr. Chabot stated that it looked good to him. Mr. Chabot moved, and Mr. Petraitis seconded, a motion to approve this policy. So voted.

III. NEW BUSINESS

A. POLE HEARING FOR MAPLE STREET @ 7:15

Mr. Petraitis reviewed a National Grid petition to locate one new pole on Maple Street. (Attachment #2) There were no abutters present to object. Mr. Chabot moved, and Mr. Petraitis seconded, a motion to approve the petition. So voted.

B. APPOINTMENT OF PADGETT BERTHIAUME TO TOWN PARK COMMITTEE

Mr. Petraitis reviewed an e-mail from Joe Holway asking that Padgett Berthiaume be appointed to the Town Park Committee. Mr. Holway was present to explain that Mr. Berthiaume was out of town and not able to attend this meeting tonight. Mr. Holway stated that Mr. Berthiaume has already attended a meeting of the committee, and is very interested in joining. Because Mr. Berthiaume is an attorney he would be an asset to the committee. Mr. Chabot moved, and Mr. Petraitis seconded, a motion to appoint Mr. Berthiaume. So voted.

C. JUNE POLICE REPORT

Mr. Chabot reviewed the police report for the month of June as submitted by Chief Thomasian. (Attachment #3) The Chief reported 22 incidents and 17 arrest/summons for the month. Mr. Chabot moved, and Mr. Petraitis seconded, a motion to accept the report. So voted.

IV. ANNOUNCEMENTS

A. 200TH ANNIVERSARY CELEBRATION

Mr. Petraitis reminded everyone that there will be a 200th Anniversary parade on Saturday, August 18th beginning at 11 AM from the school down Main Street to Gilbert Street. After the parade there will be many events downtown including live music, historical tours, food and drink, games, and much more.

V. FUTURE AGENDA ITEMS

Mr. Petraitis stated that after the Board resumes its regular weekly schedule in September he would like to schedule a joint meeting of the Selectmen and Finance Committee to discuss the budget and prepare for the fall town meeting.

At 7:25 PM Mr. Chabot moved, and Mr. Petraitis seconded, a motion to enter Executive Session to discuss strategy related to negotiations with non-union personnel, and to conduct contract negotiations with non-union personnel. Roll call: Petraitis, yes; Chabot, yes; Walter, absent. So voted. Mr. Petraitis announced that the Board would exit Executive Session only to adjourn.

At 8:00 PM the Board came out of Executive Session. Mr. Chabot moved, and Mr. Petraitis seconded, a motion to adjourn. So voted.

Respectfully submitted,

Leslie Scott Burton
Administrative Assistant