

MINUTES OF SELECTMEN'S MEETING NOVEMBER 5, 2013

Chairman Walter called the meeting to order in the Senior Center at 7:05 PM with Mr. Smith also present. Mr. Chabot joined the meeting at 7:10 PM. Mrs. Walter reminded those in attendance that the meeting would be both audio and video taped.

Mrs. Walter offered the Board's kudos to the Highway Department for their work on East Brookfield Road, Summer Street, Bigelow Street, and Bell Road.

- I. APPROVAL OF MINUTES OF OCTOBER 10, 2013**
APPROVAL OF MINUTES OF OCTOBER 22, 2013
APPROVAL OF EXECUTIVE SESSION MINUTES OF OCTOBER 24, 2013
APPROVAL OF MINUTES OF OCTOBER 25, 2013
APPROVAL OF MINUTES #1 OF OCTOBER 30, 2013
APPROVAL OF MINUTES #2 OF OCTOBER 30, 2013

Mr. Smith moved, and Mrs. Walter seconded, a motion to approve the five regular session minutes as written. So voted. Mr. Smith moved, and Mrs. Walter seconded, a motion to approve the October 24th Executive Session minutes as written. So voted.

- IA. APPROVAL OF SCHOOL WARRANT #1022 for \$87,422.45**
APPROVAL OF GENERAL WARRANT #1023 for \$265,961.09
APPROVAL OF PAYROLL WARRANT #10 FOR \$298,665.46

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

II. OLD BUSINESS

A. TOWN HOUSE UPDATE WITH JEFF SAMUELSON

Jeff Samuelson, the contractor working on the Town House noted that things are progressing very well on the Bell Tower restoration project. He is in the process of making the base of the tower weather tight and ready to accept the tower itself in the spring. Mr. Samuelson noted that the bell is currently at the Water Department, and he would like permission to remove the frame and have it sandblasted and powder coated. He will not be doing anything to the bell itself. He noted that when he turned in the scrap metal from the old tower last year the Town received \$1,017.00. He would like to use these funds to pay for a new bell wheel and refurbished frame.

Mr. Samuelson demonstrated how he is applying copper tiles to the building, and noted that it is a "painstakingly slow" process.

Mr. Samuelson also noted that Tyler Nickerson's video about the Bell Tower restoration has almost 800 "hits" on YouTube.

Mrs. Walter noted that as far as she is concerned Mr. Samuelson has permission to restore the bell frame and wheel. Mr. Smith and Mr. Chabot agreed.

Mr. Samuelson stated that he is honored to work on this project for his hometown.

B. MARILYN BORST RE: TOWN HOUSE MEMORIES PROJECT

Marilyn Borst came to inform everyone that the Town House Memories book will be available within the next two weeks for a price of \$10. This project began almost two years ago in the hope that people who remember their times in the Town House would be more likely to support its restoration. Ms. Borst has collected written information from or interviewed many present and former residents about their recollections of the Town House over the years. The North Brookfield Cultural Council gave a grant that helped pay for the printing of the book.

C. JOB DESCRIPTIONS MEETING

The Selectmen agreed to host an informational meeting for department heads on November 20th on the job description implementation process. Mrs. Walter suggested that there could be two sessions that day if necessary. Leslie will e-mail the department heads about what time would be best for them.

D. FY15 BUDGET PROCESS

Mrs. Walter presented a calendar of the Town's annual budget process, taken from the Department of Revenue's suggested timeline. (Attachment #1) It was agreed to include this timeline with the FY15 budget worksheets that are being sent out to the departments this week.

III. NEW BUSINESS

A. MARTY GREEN RE: MADIX PROPERTY

Real estate broker Marty Green was present to ask the Board of Selectmen for their support for a marijuana cultivation facility at the former Madix property at 60 Prospect Street. He noted that he represents a company called Nature's Prose, and distributed a two page statement. (Attachment #2) According to Mr. Green, Nature's Prose is applying for three dispensaries around the state, and the marijuana needed for these three dispensaries would be grown in North Brookfield. The North Brookfield operation would not be a dispensary.

Mr. Green reviewed the process the developers must go through to get approval from the Massachusetts Department of Public Health, and noted that the application must be into DPH by November 22nd, along with a \$30,000.00 application fee. He is looking for a letter of support from the Town to be sent in with the DPH application.

Mr. Green noted that the Madix building is too large for the cultivation operation, but the operators hope to use the extra space for medical marijuana research.

Mrs. Walter read the statement aloud, which states that there will be approximately 50 jobs created, and that Nature's Prose hopes to become a "major corporate booster" that contributes new tax revenues plus additional contributions to local programs.

Mr. Chabot asked about security for the facility, and Mr. Green noted that a comprehensive security plan must be sent to DPH as part of the application process.

Mr. Smith moved, and Mr. Chabot seconded, a motion to support the project. So voted. Mr. Green will e-mail some suggested wording for a letter of support.

B. LETTER FROM JIM'S PIZZA RE: EDIP PROGRAM

Mr. Smith reviewed a letter from Diamanto Kapoukranidis, owner of Jim's Pizza, asking the Selectmen to consider allowing them to apply for a tax incentive program through the Economic Development Incentive Program (EDIP). (Attachment #3) Mrs. Walter noted that under this program the Selectmen would agree to allow the application to go forward. Ms. Kapoukranidis would fill out an application, and forward it to Rosemary Scrivens of the Massachusetts Office of Business Development for review and recommendations to the Board of Assessors. Mr. Chabot moved, and Mr. Smith seconded, a motion to allow Jim's Pizza to move forward in the application process with the support of the Board. So voted.

C. POLICE DEPARTMENT MUTUAL AID AGREEMENT

It was agreed to hold this item for the next meeting, pending confirmation from the Town Clerk that the Town has adopted MGL Ch. 40, Sec 8G regarding mutual aid agreements.

D. CALL FOR SPECIAL TOWN MEETING 11/22

Mr. Chabot explained that the Town has a judgment against it regarding a lawsuit by former School Superintendent Robert O'Neill about his health insurance benefits. The Town owes Mr. O'Neill approximately \$55,000.00. Mr. Chabot noted that no one on the current School Committee or Board of Selectmen was involved in this contract, but because it is a court judgment it must be paid. The money must come from the Stabilization Account because there is no other place to take it from. Mr. Smith noted that interest is accumulating on this amount daily. Mr. Chabot moved, and Mr. Smith

seconded, a motion to set November 22nd at 7 PM as the time and date for a Special Town Meeting to appropriate money to pay this settlement. So voted.

E. SIGN CONTRACT FOR LCC FUNDS

Mr. Chabot moved, and Mr. Smith seconded, a motion to sign a contract with the state for \$4,250.00 in Local Cultural Council Funds for FY14. So voted and signed.

F. REGIONAL STORMWATER CIC GRANT APPLICATION

Mrs. Walter reviewed information on a Community Innovation Challenge (CIC) grant application for stormwater management involving 30 towns. North Brookfield already participates in the program, and Mrs. Walter stated that it would be beneficial to continue to participate as long as we don't have to pay. Mr. Smith moved, and Mr. Chabot seconded, a motion to participate in the 2014 Regional Stormwater Management Grant Application. So voted.

G. ALS CHASE VEHICLE CIC GRANT APPLICATION

Mr. Chabot reviewed an e-mail from CMRPC asking the Town to participate in a CIC Grant application to purchase a "chase car" for Advance Life Support (ALS) service. (Attachment #4) Mr. Smith stated that he would like to speak with the North Brookfield Emergency Squad for their input before agreeing to participate in this grant. The Board will look at this one again at the next meeting.

H. REGIONAL EMS/ALS MOBILE TRAINING CENTERS CIC GRANT APPLICATION

Mr. Chabot read another e-mail from CMRPC asking for the Town to participate in another CIC Grant application for mobile ALS training centers. (Attachment #5) Mr. Chabot moved, and Mr. Smith seconded, a motion to approve and sign this application. So voted.

I. SPENCER CIC GRANT APPLICATION

Mrs. Walter reviewed an e-mail from Gary Suter, Director of the Spencer Rescue Squad, asking for representatives of the North Brookfield and East Brookfield emergency squads to attend a meeting on November 8th to discuss a joint ALS venture. (Attachment #6) It was agreed that Mr. Smith will speak with North Brookfield EMS Director Patrick Kiritsy after this meeting.

J. THANK YOU TO TOWN OFFICIALS RE: VALLEY VIEW FIRE

Mr. Chabot noted that the Selectmen already thanked all town officials last Friday night at town meeting, but the Board would like to thank everyone again. He thanked the North Brookfield Fire Department, Police Department, Emergency Management

Agency, the North Brookfield Emergency Squad, and many other town officials. Mr. Chabot praised their actions, stating that everyone was very professional, and no serious injuries occurred.

IV. ANNOUNCEMENTS

A. TIGER CUBS SUPPLY DRIVE

Mrs. Walter announced that the North Brookfield Tiger Scouts have partnered with Hannaford to hold a supply drive for the North Brookfield Emergency Management Agency on November 30th. The scouts will be collecting items for comfort kits, such as travel size shampoo, toothbrushes and toothpaste, and brushes and combs. Also, people will be able to purchase cases of water, granola bars, tuna, peanut butter, or other non-perishable items for NBEMA.

B. Mrs. Walter noted that effective at the next meeting, the Selectmen's meetings will begin at 6 PM instead of 7 PM.

C. Mr. Smith announced that applications are now available for the Police Department's annual Toys for Joy program at the Police Station or the Town Offices.

V. FUTURE AGENDA ITEMS

CIC grants

Police Mutual Aid Agreement

There being no further business, at 8:35 PM Mr. Smith moved, and Mr. Chabot seconded, a motion to adjourn. So voted.

Respectfully submitted,

Leslie Scott Burton
Administrative Assistant