

## **MINUTES OF SELECTMEN'S MEETING OCTOBER 9, 2012**

Chairman Petraitis called the meeting to order in the Senior Center at 7 PM with Mrs. Walter and Mr. Chabot also present. Mr. Petraitis reminded those in attendance that the meeting was being both audio and video taped.

### **I. APPROVAL OF MINUTES OF SEPTEMBER 25, 2012 APPROVAL OF EXECUTIVE SESSION MINUTES OF SEPTEMBER 25, 2012 APPROVAL OF EXECUTIVE SESSION MINUTES OF SEPTEMBER 28, 2012**

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

### **IA. APPROVAL OF GENERAL WARRANT #1019 FOR \$289,643.75 APPROVAL OF SCHOOL WARRANT #1020 FOR \$167,370.70 APPROVAL OF GENERAL WARRANT #1021 FOR \$221,157.22 APPROVAL OF PAYROLL WARRANT #8 FOR \$288,816.70**

Mrs. Walter moved, and Mr. Chabot 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. THERE WILL BE A SPECIAL TOWN MEETING ON FRIDAY, OCTOBER 19<sup>TH</sup> TO VOTE ON TWO SOLAR PROJECTS/ROY BISHOP**

Mr. Petraitis reminded residents that there will be a Special Town Meeting on Friday, October 19<sup>th</sup> for voters to vote on Payment In Lieu of Taxes (PILOT) agreements between the Town and the developers of two solar projects. Evaluation Consultant Roy Bishop was present to explain the PILOT program, and its pros and cons. He noted that both sites are currently classified as agricultural, and the Town receives very little in the way of taxes. At \$12,000.00 per Megawatt, there is the potential for the Town to receive \$60,000.00 per year between the two projects. The Selectmen urged everyone to attend the meeting on October 19<sup>th</sup>.

## **III. NEW BUSINESS**

Mr. Petraitis read a letter from Highway Superintendent Gary Jean (Attachment #1) asking that Jim McKeon be allowed to use the F350 truck during Mr. Jean's anticipated

absence. According to the letter, Mr. McKeon will be coordinating Snow and Ice operations. Mrs. Walter moved, and Mr. Chabot seconded, a motion to allow Mr. McKeon use of the vehicle. So voted.

#### **A. APPOINT RAYMOND BAILLARGEON TO CDAC**

Mr. Petraitis read an e-mail from Raymond Baillargeon (Attachment #2) asking to be appointed to the Community Development Advisory Committee (CDAC). Mrs. Walter moved, and Mr. Chabot seconded, a motion to appoint Mr. Baillargeon. So voted.

#### **B. APPOINT CHRIS DONAIS TO CDAC**

Mr. Petraitis also noted that Planning Board member Chris Donais needs to be appointed to the CDAC. Mrs. Walter so moved, and Mr. Chabot seconded. So voted.

Police Chief Thomasian was present to introduce Charles Reardon of Leicester as a new part-time officer. The Chief said that Mr. Reardon will work primarily on the 3 PM to 11 PM shift. Mr. Reardon noted that he has worked for both the Holland and Brookfield Police Departments. Mrs. Walter moved, and Mr. Chabot seconded, a motion to appoint Mr. Reardon. So voted.

#### **C. APPOINT KATHLEEN CHENETTE AS COLLECTOR CLERK**

Town Collector Donna Gauthier was present to ask the Selectmen to appoint Kathleen Chenette as the Collector Clerk to replace Jean Pariset, who recently retired. Mrs. Walter moved, and Mr. Chabot seconded, a motion to appoint Ms. Chenette. So voted.

#### **D. APPOINT THOMAS WHITESONE AND ELISABETH HYDER TO LCC**

These appointments will be deferred to the October 23<sup>rd</sup> meeting.

#### **E. JOE HOLWAY RE: AMBULANCE CONTRACT**

Joe Holway, Director of the North Brookfield Emergency Squad, Inc. was present to speak with the Selectmen regarding the financial status of the squad, and the contract between the squad and the Town that expires on December 31, 2012. Mr. Holway passed out a draft budget (Attachment #3) showing income and expenses for the last three years. Mr. Holway noted that the squad just purchased a new ambulance at a very reduced price and refinanced its debt, saving approximately \$5,000.00 to \$6,000.00 per year.

Finance Committee Chairman Bob Smith was also present, and he noted that currently only 25% of the Town's residents purchase a subscription for ambulance service. If that percentage could be raised it would be a significant increase in revenue for the squad. He would like to better educate residents on the benefits of having a subscription for services.

Mr. Smith noted that he and Finance Committee member Bob Locatelli have been working with Mr. Holway and NBEMS Director Patrick Kiritsy on developing a budget for the squad, and it has been an education. He noted that this is not a Town agency, it is a private entity that provides a vital service to North Brookfield's residents.

#### **F. SIGN WARRANT FOR NOVEMBER 6<sup>TH</sup> PRESIDENTIAL ELECTION**

The Selectmen reviewed the warrant for the November 6<sup>th</sup> Presidential Election. (Available in the Town Clerk's office) Mrs. Walter moved, and Mr. Chabot seconded, a motion to sign and post the warrant. So voted

#### **G. REVIEW 11/02 STM ARTICLES**

Mr. Petraitis asked that this discussion be postponed to later in the meeting.

#### **H. TRICK OR TREAT WILL TAKE PLACE ON OCTOBER 31<sup>ST</sup> FROM 5:30 TO 6:30 PM. PARADE IS FROM 4:30 TO 5:30**

Mr. Petraitis made the preceding announcement. Police Chief Thomasian stated that he believes that the parade will run from the school to the Fire Station as it usually does.

#### **I. PROJECT UPDATES**

Mrs. Walter asked that this item be deferred until the October 23<sup>rd</sup> meeting.

#### **J. NOV 6<sup>TH</sup> PRESIDENTIAL ELECTION IS ON A TUESDAY/CAN'T USE SENIOR CENTER**

The Selectmen discussed the fact that the Senior Center will not be available on November 6<sup>th</sup> because of the Presidential Election. After some discussion, it was agreed to change the meeting to Monday, November 5<sup>th</sup> at 7 PM in the Senior Center.

### **IV. ANNOUNCEMENTS**

#### **A. NORTH BROOKFIELD TOWN HOUSE HAS BEEN NAMED TO PRESERVATION MASSACHUSETTS' 2012 MOST ENDANGERED LIST**

Mrs. Walter read an announcement from Preservation Massachusetts (Attachment #4) that the North Brookfield Town House has been named one of Massachusetts' "Most Endangered Historic Resources." The press release notes that "without a restoration of the Town House, North Brookfield will certainly stand to lose a valuable asset and local treasure." Mrs. Walter offered the Board's congratulations to the Friends of the Town House for achieving this recognition for the building.

## **B. ADULT EDUCATION FEASIBILITY STUDY**

Mr. Chabot reviewed a request for information from School Committee member Michael Kiszka. (Attachment #5) According to Mr. Kiszka, the School Committee has formed a sub-committee to study the possibility of offering adult education classes in North Brookfield. Any suggestions or input should be sent to Mr. Kiszka by calling 867.3065 or via e-mail.

## **C. TWO ZBA HEARING NOTICES**

Mr. Petraitis reviewed two hearing notices from the Zoning Board of Appeals. On Wednesday, October 24<sup>th</sup> at 7 PM in the Haston Library there will be a hearing for Verizon for relief of rear set-back requirements at 120 South Main Street, and the same day at 7:45 PM there will be a hearing for Guaranteed Builders for relief of frontage and minimum square footage requirements at 40 Brooks Pond Road.

## **D. CULTURAL COUNCIL FUNDING PROPOSALS DUE 10/15**

Mrs. Walter announced that proposals for community oriented cultural events and projects for 2013 should be submitted to the North Brookfield Cultural Council by Monday, October 15<sup>th</sup>. The Cultural Council has \$3,870.00 in funds to distribute.

## **E. WHO WAS OLIVER WARD?**

The North Brookfield Historical Society will present a program on "Oliver Ward, the Pioneer of North Brookfield's Shoe Industry" on Saturday, October 27<sup>th</sup> at 10 AM in the Elementary School Auditorium.

## **V. FUTURE AGENDA ITEMS**

Mrs. Walter will give an update on various projects and on the regional meeting on October 23<sup>rd</sup>.

At 7:55 PM Mr. Petraitis moved, and Mr. Chabot seconded, a motion to take a brief recess. So voted. At 8 PM Mr. Petraitis called the meeting back to order.

The Selectmen reviewed the list of articles submitted for consideration at the November 2<sup>nd</sup> Special Town Meeting. (Available in the Selectmen's office) The Selectmen agreed to include some of the articles seeking the transfer of funds, and discussed postponing action on those articles where the funding source is currently unknown. The Board agreed to meet again next Tuesday at 7 PM to finalize the articles.

At 8:45 PM Mrs. Walter moved, and Mr. Chabot seconded, a motion to enter Executive Session to conduct contract negotiations with non-union personnel. Roll call: Petraitis,

yes; Walter, yes; Chabot, yes. So voted. Mr. Petraitis announced that the Board would exit Executive Session only to adjourn.

At 9:30 PM the Board came out of Executive Session. Mrs. Walter moved, and Mr. Chabot seconded, a motion to adjourn. So voted.

Respectfully submitted,

Leslie Scott Burton  
Administrative Assistant