

## **MINUTES OF SELECTMEN'S MEETING JANUARY 12, 2016**

Vice Chairman Mary Walter called the meeting to order in the Senior Center at 6 PM with Mr. Smith also present. Mr. Hevy was absent.

### **I. APPROVAL OF MINUTES**

- **September 17, 2015**

Approval of these minutes will be deferred, since Mr. Smith was not in attendance at that meeting.

- **December 29, 2015**
- **January 5, 2016**

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

### **II. APPROVAL OF WARRANTS**

- **School Warrant #1031 for \$21,592.82**
- **Debt and Interest Warrant #1032 for \$319,203.16**
- **General Warrant #1033 for \$208,702.76**
- **Payroll Warrant #14 for \$281,027.95**

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

### **III. PUBLIC PARTICIPATION**

- **The public has the opportunity to briefly comment on agenda items through the Chairman**

Mrs. Walter noted that anyone in attendance would have the opportunity to briefly comment on any of this evening's agenda items.

### **IV. FINANCIAL REPORTS**

There were no financial reports.

### **V. OLD BUSINESS**

There was no old business.

### **VI. NEW BUSINESS**

#### **A. Police Department report**

Police Chief Mark Smith was present to give the report on his department's activities during the month of December. (Attachment #1) He reported 27 incidents and 15 arrest/summons for the month. Mr. Smith moved, and Mrs. Walter seconded, a motion to accept the report. So voted.

#### **B. Fire Department report**

The Fire Chief was not present to give his report.

### **C. Ross Hubacz with Smith Hanson Road Forestry Plan**

Ross Hubacz, a forester with Hull Forest Products, was present to give the Selectmen some paperwork to be signed regarding town forest land on Smith Hanson Road. (Available in the Selectmen's office) Mr. Hubacz presented the Forest Cutting Plan, the Timber Sale Agreement, as well as letters to be sent to abutters. Mr. Smith moved, and Mrs. Walter seconded, a motion to approve and sign the documents. So voted.

### **D. Appointment of Chris Tillotson as LPAC videographer**

Jake Anderson, Chairman of the Local Public Access Committee, was present to introduce Christopher Tillotson and ask that he be appointed as a videographer for the committee. He noted that Mr. Tillotson will be providing some technical support as well. Mr. Smith moved, and Mrs. Walter seconded, a motion to appoint Mr. Tillotson. So voted.

Mr. Anderson stated that the current broadcast control system is outdated, and that is the reason for the occasional poor broadcast quality. The committee is in the process of bringing in a new system that will improve the broadcasts.

### **E. Accept donation for Police Department**

Mr. Smith reviewed a letter from Police Chief Smith asking the Selectmen to accept a donation of \$10,000.00 from the estate of Ruth Converse to the Community Policing Gift Account. (Attachment #2) The Chief states that the funds will be used to enhance public safety programs and services for the residents of North Brookfield. Mr. Smith moved, and Mrs. Walter seconded, a motion to accept the donation. So voted.

### **F. Accept donation for Town Forest Park**

Mrs. Walter reviewed a letter from the East Quabbin Land Trusts that was included with a donation of \$150.00 for the Town Forest Park. (Attachment #3) The donation is in appreciation of the work of town staff and volunteers that made the Wendemuth Meadow project possible. Mr. Smith moved, and Mrs. Walter seconded, a motion to accept the donation. So voted.

## **VII. ANNOUNCEMENTS**

### **A. January 26<sup>th</sup> Special Town Meeting reminder**

Mrs. Walter announced that the last day to register to vote at the January 26<sup>th</sup> Special Town Meeting will be this Friday, January 15<sup>th</sup> in the Town Clerk's office from 9 AM to 5 PM.

### **B. May 2<sup>nd</sup> Annual Town Election**

Mrs. Walter reviewed a listing from the Town Clerk of which offices and incumbents are up for reelection at the May 2<sup>nd</sup> Annual Town Election. (Attachment #4) The last day to submit nomination papers is Monday, March 14<sup>th</sup>.

### **C. Tucker Road closing**

Mr. Smith read a memo from Highway Superintendent Gary Jean that the lower portion of Tucker Road has been closed until further notice.

### **D. Harlem Superstars January 14<sup>th</sup>**

Mrs. Walter announced that the Harlem Superstars are returning to North Brookfield this Thursday, January 14<sup>th</sup> at 6:30 PM at the high school gym. Tickets are \$8 at the door, or \$7 in advance.

### **E. North Brookfield Food Pantry**

Mr. Smith noted that the North Brookfield Food Pantry at St. Joseph's Church is open on the 1<sup>st</sup> Thursday of the month from 6 – 7 PM, or the 3<sup>rd</sup> Thursday from noon to 1:30 PM.

### **F. Tyler Wolanin office hours**

Mrs. Walter noted that Tyler Wolanin, aide for Senator Anne Gobi, will be in North Brookfield on Tuesday, January 26<sup>th</sup> from 11 AM to noon in the Senior Center.

### **G. Hearts for Heat Spaghetti Supper**

Mr. Smith announced that the Hearts for Heat organization will be hosting a spaghetti supper and movie night on Saturday, January 30<sup>th</sup>. There will be raffles and music by the Otters.

## **VIII. PENDING/FUTURE AGENDA ITEMS**

- See attached list

## **IX. EXECUTIVE SESSION**

There was no Executive Session scheduled.

## **PENDING/FUTURE SELECTMEN'S ITEMS**

**NBDDP/Aztec**  
**Cable license renewal**  
**Solar RFP**  
**Purchase Orders**  
**Creation of Financial Advisory Committee**  
**Personnel policies**  
**Cemetery Road**  
**Bids on health insurance**  
**98 Shore Road**  
**DOR IT recommendations**  
**Electric aggregation**  
**Community Compact**  
**FY17 Budgets**  
**Audit proposal**  
**Meeting with EB re: Town Beach**

Mr. Smith suggested adding a Cable License update to the next meeting.

Mrs. Walter stated that she has someone who is interested in being on a committee for the Community Compact projects.

Mr. Smith said that he will try to set up a meeting with the East Brookfield Beach Committee for the next meeting.

Mrs. Walter noted that the solar RFP will be published on January 20<sup>th</sup>, with bid opening on February 25<sup>th</sup>.

There being no further business, at 7:40 PM Mr. Smith moved, and Mrs. Walter seconded, a motion to adjourn. So voted.

Respectfully submitted,

Leslie Scott Burton  
Administrative Assistant