

December 6, 2017

Present was Scott Bugbee, James Lehan, Jeff Palumbo, Jack Hathaway, Town Administrator, and Marian Harrington, Executive Assistant.

The meeting was held in Room 124, Town Hall. Scott Bugbee opened the meeting at 4:00 p.m. Scott announced that the meeting was audio and video taped. All present recited the Pledge of Allegiance.

TAX CLASSIFICATION HEARING

At 4:00 p.m., Scott Bugbee moved to open the hearing. Jim Lehan seconded, and it was **so voted**. John Curran, Chief Assessor and Todd Lindmark, Director of Finance were present.

John Curran, Chief Assessor spoke on behalf of the Board of Assessors for the Tax Classification Hearing. He said that the Department of Revenue certified our funds on November 7, 2017. He said the purpose of this hearing allows the communities to have different tax rates for different properties. He said this gives the Board of Selectmen the right to determine the tax rate, and whether it should be split by different classes of property. The Board will vote the tax classification, not the amount of the tax rate.

John presented the Board with a handout, which was also a Power Point for the residents in the audience to follow. John said our tax levy is \$31,009,998, and the tax rate is \$18.62.

John suggested we keep it at a single tax rate. He said with the small commercial base we have, it would be a burden to put them all on them.

Jack said that John is new and has done a lot of work to transition, and he commended Todd Lindmark for helping with this as well. Jack said they have done a tremendous job of working on the assessments and doing the catch up was a great job. Average assessment on a single family home last year was \$449 to \$453.

Peter Chipman, Overlea Road asked how many, if any of the existing public safety project dollars are in this tax rate? Jack said only 1.8 of the \$14 million is on. Peter asked are we still hard and fast on the \$14 million. Jim said yes. We have had some change orders, but nothing unexpected. On the police side, we are where we want to be. But with the Fire Dept., we haven't started yet.

Jim Lehan moved to have a single tax rate for all classifications. Jeff Palumbo seconded, and it was **so voted**.

TOWN ADMINISTRATOR REPORT

Report of Warrants

The following warrants have been signed:

11/09/17 - #10P18/10PS18 for \$762,987.01; 11/014/17 - #20V18 for \$2,758,373.08; 11/21/17 - #21VS18 for \$116,143.90; 11/21/17 - #21V18 for \$327,048.83; 11/24/17 - #11P18/11PS18 for \$757,090.41; 11/28/17 - #22V18 for \$101,198.60; and 11/28/17 #22VSA18 for \$2,125.00.

Jim Lehan moved to accept the above warrants as mentioned. Jeff Palumbo seconded, and it was **so voted**.

Action Items

Jeff Palumbo moved to appoint James Wilson, 17 Longmeadow Road to the Conservation Commission, term to expire June 30, 2020. Jim Lehan seconded, and it was **so voted**.

Jim Lehan moved to issue a one-day wine license for the Norfolk Public Library to serve wine at a cookbook discussion group for their meeting on Thursday, December 14, 2017 at 7 p.m. Jeff Palumbo seconded, and it was **so voted**.

Jim Lehan moved to waive the fees for any costs associated with permits for the Public Safety Building project. Jeff Palumbo seconded, and it was **so voted**.

Jeff Palumbo moved to allow liquor license restaurants, specifically Horse N' Carriage Restaurant, Eagle Brook Saloon and Novatos Bar and Grill, to extend their hours on New Years' Eve until 2:00 a.m. Jim Lehan seconded, and it was **so voted**.

License Approvals for 2018:

Jim Lehan moved to approve the Liquor Licenses, to expire December 31, 2018, as follows:

Eagle Brook Saloon	Restaurant, All Alcoholic
Novatos Bar & Grill LLC	Restaurant, All Alcoholic
Horse N' Carriage Restaurant	Restaurant, All Alcoholic
Cilla's Coffeehouse	Restaurant, All Alcoholic
Fore Kicks	On-Premise, Wine & Malt
Norfolk Wine and Spirits, Inc.	Package Store, All Alcoholic
Provo Discount Liquors	Package Store, All Alcoholic
Linda's Variety Store	Package Store, All Alcoholic
Norfolk Food Mart	Package Store, All Alcoholic
Jill's Market & Deli	Package Store, Wine & Malt
Craft Beer Cellar Norfolk	Package Store, Wine & Malt

Jeff Palumbo seconded, and it was **so voted**.

Jim Lehan moved to approve the Entertainment Licenses, to expire December 31, 2018, as follows:

Live Entertainment: Eagle Brook Saloon - 5 Instruments
Novatos - Single Entertainer or DJ
Cilla's - One-Two Live Musicians; Movies

Automatic Amusement Device:

Fore Kicks – 11 Coin Operated Machines
Norfolk Rink Management – 3 Coin Operated Machines

Jeff Palumbo seconded, and it was **so voted**.

Jim Lehan moved to approve the Common Victualler Licenses, to expire December 31, 2018, as follows:

Eagle Brook Saloon	Dunkin' Donuts, Main Street
Novatos Bar & Grill LLC	Dunkin' Donuts, Dedham St.
Horse N' Carriage Restaurant	Center Ice, Inc.
Fore Kicks	Aroma Italian Pizza & Roast Beef
Cilla's Coffeeshouse	Subway
Norfolk Town Pizza	Organic Buzz Café & Juice Bar
Bourque's Restaurant	

Jeff Palumbo seconded, and it was **so voted**.

Jeff Palumbo moved to approve the Class I Licenses, to expire January 1, 2019, as follows:

Cliff's Cycles
LVJ Trailers & Equipment LLC
MPG Motorsports, Inc.

Jim Lehan seconded, and it was **so voted**.

Jeff Palumbo moved to approve the Class II Licenses, to expire January 1, 2019, as follows:

Auto Clinic
Artisan Motor Group
Norfolk Auto, Inc.
Mitch's Repair Service d/b/a
Orlando's Garage
Speedmaster Motorcars, LLC

Jim Lehan seconded, and it was **so voted**.

Jeff Palumbo moved to approve the Class III Licenses, to expire January 1, 2019, as follows:

Norfolk Auto Repair

Jim Lehan seconded, and it was **so voted**.

Jeff Palumbo moved to approve the Taxi License, to expire December 31, 2018, to Norfolk Town Taxi Service.

Jim Lehan seconded, and it was **so voted**.

Discussion Items

Town Meeting Recap

The Board reviewed the past Special Town Meeting held last evening, December 5th at the Freeman-Kennedy School. They commented the following: Stretch Code passed, the marijuana restriction passed. The Credit Union driveway was defeated. The volume control on the mikes was an issue that can be resolved. There was a large crowd. We could hold the spring meeting at KP, and possibly hold the fall meeting there. The turnout was large, location good, but many disrespectful comments were made if someone wasn't in favor of certain topics. People should be able to speak their opinion without other people being disrespectful. There was a noticeable difference in this meeting from others. This hasn't happened in a long time in Norfolk. People would be less likely to comment if they feel they are going to be attacked. And that's sad. People have every right to come and speak the way they feel. There is a trend to have a reasonable discussion. Jim said that one woman came up to him after the meeting, and said she was reluctant to get up and speak again at another meeting, and she was one who got up and spoke.

Open Meeting Law Complaint

Jack said that he received an Open Meeting Law Complaint. Scott said that he is acknowledging receipt of this claim. He is instructing the Town Administrator to review the Claim with Town Counsel and prepare a response to the initiator as well as the Attorney General. Scott said this is all we can say tonight.

Peter Chipman said that he was the one who filed the complaint. He said that under the open meeting law requirement, you need to hold a public hearing. Peter said that he thinks it's 14 days. Jack said we would do it within the 14 days. Jack said Town Counsel plans to be here tomorrow to talk with the three Selectmen and form a response.

Changing Committee Titles to Gender-Neutral

Scott said he received a request from a newspaper reporter asking if we had considered a change. Scott said he is all for changing the title. We are open to

anyone being on the Board. Jim said he thinks it's a great idea and is all for it. Jim said he has found it awkward at times with a woman on the Board, yet we referred to the Board of Selectmen. He would like it for self-identification. Scott asked how we do it? Jack said that you could vote to informally call yourselves whatever you want, but you need to change all the bylaws and charters, etc. Jim said could we address ourselves that way, and do a formality when we know how to define all the boards. The Board agreed they liked Select Board. Jack said we need to look at zoning and all bylaws. Jack will talk to Town Counsel for advice on how to make the change, and we can vote accordingly at a future meeting.

LIAISON UPDATES

Jeff has schools and cable. He said that Matt is doing a great job.

Jim said the KP teacher negotiations will start December 14th.

ACCEPTANCE OF MINUTES

The Board will defer accepting the minutes of April 10, 2017.

EXECUTIVE SESSION

The Board will not hold the Executive Session at this time. Run and Gun Ranch.

Jeff said that people think the Board can manage any type of event that would take place there. The Board is using the license to proactively allow something that would be held otherwise.

This is NOT what the Board is doing.

At 5:19 p.m., being no further business, Jim Lehan moved to adjourn the meeting. Jeff Palumbo seconded, and it was **so voted**.

This is a true and accurate report of the Selectmen's Meeting of December 6, 2017.



Jeffrey T. Palumbo, Clerk

