

2/27/2018

Present was: Scott Bugbee, Jeffrey Palumbo, James Lehan, Jack Hathaway, Town Administrator, Susan Jacobson and Bob Bullock, Building Commissioner.

The meeting was held in Room 124, Town Hall. Scott Bugbee opened the meeting at 7:00 p.m. Scott announced that the meeting was audio and video taped. All present recited the Pledge of Allegiance.

Jack read the Discussion/Action Items for discussion/approvals/voting.

Reports of Warrants:

- The following warrants have been signed:
- 2/13/18 #33V18 for \$693,317.80
- 2/16/18 #17P18 for \$761,400.62
- 2/20/18 # 34VSA18 for \$4,427.14; # 34v18 for \$231,228.68; 34VS18 for \$121,132.06

BUILDING DEPARTMENT FEES:

Present was Bob Bullock, Building Commissioner

Bob provided an analysis that compared Norfolk, Wrentham, Plainville and Walpole permitting fees. This was based on the number of inspections done on the property. He is trying to make it so that permits fees are not supplemented by the Town. Bob used solar panel permitting as an example it is very time consuming and often times the roofs are not capable of bearing the weight of the system.

Bob reviewed some of the comparisons in each town to give the BOS a better idea of why he is suggesting an increase in fees. Jeff said the \$500 minimum stood out and asked Bob to explain that. Bob said that in a commercial job there is more paperwork involved, often they do not realize that they need an architect or engineer on the project. Bob said other towns are significantly higher than ours. That is specific to commercial buildings. Jack said that it would take a \$40,000 job to get to a \$500 fee and he would assume that most commercial jobs are \$40,000.00. Bob said most are over the \$500 permit fee to begin with.

Bob said in gathering some this data it was very difficult. Generally speaking each town will have these categories. Jim asked about the tent inspections and the fee. Bob explained what is involved with a tent inspection. Bob said this takes less than an hour. Jim said he does not want to be un-competitive with our neighbors.

Jeff suggested that we split the difference while moving in the right direction to cover our costs. Scott asked where we stood in balancing the permit fees. Jack asked what the income was last year for permit fees, Bob said was around \$400,000. Jack said we have seven inspectors and he is sure that we are not breaking even. Jim said that he would keep the solar, new construction and windows fees the way Bob has shown it on the sheet, but split the difference on the other fees \$75.00.

Jim explained to the audience that the permitting fees shown were done comparing a 3,000 square foot home and we are competitive with three of the four towns.

Jim Lehan moved to approve to increase the permitting fees from \$50 to \$75. Jeff Palumbo seconded, and it was **so voted**.

Discussion Items

Lawrence Street Bridge

Jack said that Rich McCarthy is at the Library attending a 40 B training Program so he will not be joining us tonight. Jack said the engineers are going to update the plans by March 14, 2018. The cost estimates will be in within the 14 days. They met with utility companies for cost estimates and design plans to put the utilities under- ground. Jack expects Mr. Scully to attend the next meeting with cost estimates.

The Police and Fire Chiefs will be invited in to discuss public safety issues.

Margaret Kahaly Cranberry Meadow Road:

She wondered if telephone poles will be coming down and if so how many. She would like to know what will happen with the street lights if they will they be replaced. The lights she is talking about are located at Cranberry Meadow, the end of Park Street and there is one at the bridge. She would like the answer at the next meeting. Jim said we may not have that information by the next meeting. Jim said there is a cost associated with bringing the utility wires under-ground.

She also asked about the turn off onto the pre-existing paper road and re-opening that during construction. She believes this will be a safety concern. Jim said that Mr. McGhee has brought that up and it will be discussed at the next meeting. Jack asked if her concern was that she felt it was more of a traffic hazard. She is concerned that this will cause an accident.

She wondered when we might see a final plan in its entirety. Jack said within the next month we expect to have the full design. It is a bit slower than we anticipated but that is because we wanted the utilities placed underground it slowed the process down a bit.

Mike Guidice Eagle Drive:

He wanted to know when a cost estimate and the plans would be available. Jack said as soon as they are available we will share them. They would like them before the next meeting so they can prepare some questions.

Dorothy Lawrence Street:

She is concerned about trash and with a walkway it will be a great place to hang out. Dorothy asked if the town has plans to clean up the pond and the trash. Scott said that it is private property Jack suggested talking to the ZBA about it.

Peg Bedard/ Lawrence Street

She said according to what she has read on 40 b that it has to be accessible to anyone in town. She wanted to know about the Pond Open Space. Jim said he is not aware of the pond being included in the open space. Jim said he does not know which parcels are specific to this property. Jim said if the town owns it they maintain it. Jim continued to try and explain the open space concept to Ms. Bedard. Ms. Bedard said "we have not read what she has read". Scott said it falls under the ZBA.

Mike Guidice/Cranberry Meadow:

He wanted to know what would be included in the open space.

Jeff said there is still question of whether is it private property or will it be deeded to the town. Jim said the Board of Selectmen's only role would be to accept the open space. Jack said that the land that will be dedicated to the well would come under this Board.

Jim said whatever they bring forward has to be brought to a public forum and voted on by the Board of Selectmen. The Board can request they rework it if necessary.

David Matros/Lawrence Street:

He wants clarification that the Fire/Police Chiefs will be at the next meeting to discuss public safety. Jack said the Chiefs will be invited and attend the next meeting.

WARRANTS:

Jim Lehan moved to approve the following Warrants; Jeff Palumbo seconded, and it was **so voted**.

- 2/13/18 #33V18 for \$693,317.80
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ACTION ITEMS

Jim Lehan moved to approve a Beer/Wine One Day License change to the Norfolk Lions for the St. Patrick's Square Dance. Jeff Palumbo seconded, and it was so voted.

Jim Lehan moved to approve to deficit spend the Snow & Ice Budget. Jeff Palumbo seconded, and it was **so voted**.

Jim Lehan moved to approve the Norfolk Little League's request to hold opening day festivities and parade on April 21, 2018. Jeff Palumbo seconded, and it was **so voted**.

Jim Lehan moved to approve the Garden Club's request to hold a perennial plant and bake sale on Town Hill, May 19, 2018. Jeff Palumbo seconded, and it was **so voted**.

Jim Lehan moved to approve the Norfolk's Clean and Green Event sponsored by the Norfolk Grange on April 28, 2108. The board thanked the participants for their efforts. Jeff Palumbo seconded, and it was **so voted**.

150TH CELEBRATION

Jack brought the 150th birthday celebration photo album for the Board to take a look through.

The Historical Committee is asking to work with the BOS for the upcoming 2/23/2020 birthday. They want to host a birthday party for Norfolk and they would like them to dress accordingly. Jack said we created a Committee for the upcoming 150th celebration and they are looking for guidance and help. Jack wondered how large a celebration we want to have. In the past they celebrated with a parade and fireworks.

Scott said that this expensive and Jack said he has not heard a lot of enthusiasm about this. Scott said it would be difficult to pull volunteers together but he thinks it's a great idea. Jeff asked if anyone had seen the Walpole October Fest the summer is always difficult with vacation. Jim said he felt like you could do May/June. Jeff said we could do something family oriented with the kids during the day and then in the evening get a Beer and Wine License and have some fun. Jim thought would to combine it with Community Day and have a band from the summer concert. Jim and Jeff both volunteered to attend some of the meetings.

Jack reported that we have received \$261,728.98 for prison mitigation funds.

BUDGET UPDATE:

Jack said that we are full steam ahead. We are in the red at this point we are waiting to see where the King Philip budget comes in. Jack said that Todd and he have started meeting with Department Heads to see where they can find some savings. Jack suggested that the BOS should meet with Bob McGhee and the Public Safety Chiefs. Jim asked what the additional requests are under the general government side of the house. Jack said that he thought it was within the Facilities Department. Matt is looking to add a custodian because we are taking on the Police Station.

Jim said this is going to be a difficult year for Norfolk and the King Philip Budget. Jim said Larry Azar gave a very thorough explanation of the King Philip Budget. Jim said it was the best financial presentation he has ever seen from KP. Jim said they wanted KP to try and present a budget at 3% of our increase, not the total budget. Jim believes that Wrentham is at a number they would support. But their 3% is 7.84% percent for Norfolk.

37 King Street

Jack said that that the resident of 37 King Street would like to take down trees and to allow him to have access to his property to drive trailers and recreation vehicles. Jack said he thought that initially we should have him go through the procurement process but after speaking with Rich and Bob he thought we should abandon the paper road. He suggested 50% of the road going to each of the property owners. Jim asked why the road was there. Jack said he did not know. Jack said that one of the Selectmen could go and view the property. It may be best to see if they can work out an agreement short term. Scott does not want to hold him up but asked if this is something that should go before the residents at Town Meeting. Jeff asked if the property owner was looking for one time access or does he want regular access. Jack said he is going to travel on and off the property. The intention at some point was to make a connection. There are homes on all of lots at this point. The only way this connection/road could be used would require you to go through the back yards of all of the property owners.

Jack said he was hesitant to allow someone to use town owned property for personal use. But if they are consider abandoning it then he is less hesitant. The BOS have the ability to let him temporarily to do that and they could move forward with an article and bring it to Town Meeting for a vote. Scott agreed with Jack's idea to have Town Counsel draft something to protect us and then bring it forward to Town Meeting. Jeff asked who should bear the expense of drafting the document. Jack suggested having the resident make a donation to the DARE Fund.

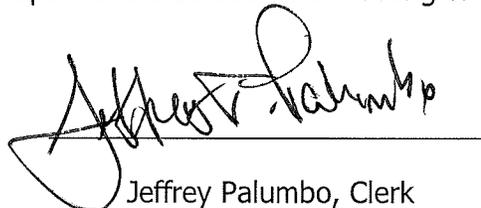
Jack will have Dave DeLuca draft up the document.

Jeff Palumbo moved to accept the minutes of January 19, 2018, January 23, 2018 and February 6, 2018 regular session. Jim Lehan seconded, and it was **so voted**.

Jack said that the March 27, 2018 meeting is going to be rescheduled to March 26, 2018. Jim is unable to make the 27th. Jeff has a conflict with April 10, 2018 meeting it will be changed to April 12, 2018.

At 9:30 p.m., 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 February 27, 2018.



Jeffrey Palumbo, Clerk