

## **Norfolk Board of Selectmen's Open Session Meeting Minutes October 1, 2019**

Present: Kevin Kalkut; CiCi Van Tine; Christopher Wider; Blythe Robinson, Town Administrator; Nancy Langlois, Executive Assistant

The meeting was held in Room 124, Town Hall. Chairman Kalkut called the meeting to order at 7:00 p.m. Mr. Kalkut announced this meeting is being both video and audio taped. All present recited the Pledge of Allegiance.

Ms. Robinson read the agenda.

### **Public Comment**

Town Resident David Rosenberg spoke on 3 topics:

Citizens' Engagement – Mr. Rosenberg wants to continue to work on this and requested that the Board keep it on future agendas.

Open Government – Mr. Rosenberg brought to the Board's attention a monthly newsletter which is published by the Division of Open Government. It addresses Open Meeting Law issues. He offered to forward the email address to sign up for a subscription.

Open Government Partnership – This is an international organization with 79 countries and local members. This organization will be holding a webinar on civic engagement and government accountability. He will forward details about the webinar to the Board.

### **Comcast Cable License – Invitation for Public Comment on Renewal**

In February of this year the Town received notice from the State that the Town's 10-year license with Comcast Cable will be expiring in 2022. Two months later the Town received a letter on this topic from Comcast Cable requesting that we begin the process to do so, which typically begins with an "ascertainment process." If the Town is to undertake this process, it must do so within six months of the letter.

Thus, the Norfolk Community Television Board asked that the Select Board schedule this meeting so that they could provide an overview of their work, what has been accomplished in this period, and any challenges that they face. Their goal is to gather feedback about the services and Comcast's license with the Town prior to negotiations commencing to renew the license.

Pamela Russell, President of NCTV Board of Directors, presented an overview and spoke about the ascertainment process. Over the next 30 months, NCTV will work with the Town and Board to discuss the upcoming agreement. A formal public hearing will be forthcoming in the next 24 months. This is to assist in ascertaining additional needs and to be sure the residents of the Town are being adequately served.

Jenn Jacobs, Production Coordinator of NCTV, was present and spoke regarding the benefits of NCTV to the community. She explained that they are public access television and are on the PEG (Public, Education, and Government) model. She discussed the various programs they produce and the benefits of them. NCTV encourages free speech. All content is posted on YouTube.

They try to make the content assessable to the community. She discussed their youth programs as well as media literacy and historical preservation.

Ms. Jacobs also informed the Board that NCTV (in conjunction with local producers) has won three national awards in the past two years.

She continued with information on the future needs. One thing they have had issues with in the past is physical connections which create significant signal problems. They are looking to improve in this area as people are going without access to the channels, sometimes for days, when connections fail. Other areas they would address in the future are: Broadcasting in HD; being included in the electronic program guide; updating the Town Hall set-up to be able to film in a higher and more reliable quality. They will be looking for funding for updates in the community room as well.

Bill Hawkins of Norfolk Lions was present and spoke about the supportive and collaborative relationship the Lions have had with NCTV for many years from basic videos to national award winning videos such as the making of the haunted train ride which sold out in 10 minutes this year and 2069, a video on the opiate problem. This program gave hundreds of recovering addicts encouragement. Other videos included the polar plunge and information on diabetes. The power of this media has been very strong and powerful. The Lions' members wanted Mr. Hawkins to share how important it is to them to be able to view these things from home. He believes NCTV benefits all ages and the Lions would like support and funds from the Comcast budget to go their way.

Michele Palladini from the Norfolk Police Department spoke next. She spoke about how NCTV helps to get the Police Department's message out, particularly in public safety and community programs. They have done programs such as opiate awareness, Alzheimer's and other things on public safety that NCTV gets out to the public. She is thrilled to have NCTV as a partner in public safety.

Linda Balfour, Principal of H. Olive Day School, read a letter of support from School Superintendent Dr. Ingrid Allardi (attached) who was not able to attend the meeting.

Anita Mecklenburg, Assistant Principal of the H. Olive Day School, read a joint letter of support for the NCTV license from Principal Balfour and herself (attached).

Ms. Jacobs mentioned the other letters of support that have been posted on line (attached).

Jill Lawrence, Town resident and Board member of NCTV spoke on one point. She stated that NCTV gives the community access. This gives the public the ability to create shows and be involved in media. Senior citizens and homebound residents are able to participate. The State initiative gives access to each town and their residents to participate in community issues.

Donna Jones, Town resident, spoke about her connection to the Town of Norfolk which came through NCTV. NCTV gave her the ability to get involved in local government. She stated that she feels it is vital for local people to have this connection.

Resident David Rosenberg spoke on how he strongly endorses NCTV. He asked about the Board's and NCTV's roles and how they relate to the contract with Comcast. Ms. Robinson stated the contract is between the Town and Comcast. Monies from cable franchise fees flow through and to

NCTV to support their initiatives. It is the responsibility of the Town with NCTV support to re-negotiate the contract. If the Town wants to start the process, the first step needed is to have a public meeting, which is why it is on this evening's agenda.

## **Action Items**

### Please consider appointments to the Zoning Board of Appeals

Ms. Robinson stated that two applications have been received for associate member appointments to the ZBA.

The two applicants, Ms. Josephine Cordahi and Dr. Tristin Carpenter were present and individually discussed their interests in the ZBA.

Ms. Van Tine asked the applicants about their experience and what they could bring to the ZBA.

Mr. Wider asked the applicants about their dealings with 40B projects.

The Board members asked the applicants several questions and complimented their credentials.

Mr. Wider expressed concern that the ZBA is currently represented by business people and he feels that what the Board needs at this time is engineering and legal experience. He feels that the Board needs to be balanced with the appropriate members and does not feel either candidate would be able to contribute to round out the Board. He brought up the fact that Dr. Carpenter is a direct abutter to 144 Seekonk Street and would not be able to participate on that project, which is the 2<sup>nd</sup> largest 40B project in Town. He was also concerned that both applicants have expressed displeasure with 40B projects in the past.

The applicants both expressed their thoughts and explained that they are not against all 40Bs.

The Board discussed the various points Mr. Wider brought up.

Ms. Van Tine understands; however, she does not have the same concerns.

Mr. Kalkut feels they both have the ability to serve and contribute; however, he feels Dr. Carpenter's conflict in 144 Seekonk Street is an issue and for that he feels he is not the right choice.

A motion was made by Chair Kalkut to move to appoint Dr. Tristin Carpenter as an Associate Member to the ZBA with a term to expire June 30, 2020. It was seconded by Mr. Wider. Ms. Van Tine was in favor. Chair Kalkut and Mr. Wider opposed. Motion failed.

A motion by Chair Kalkut to move to appoint Ms. Josephine Cordahi as an Associate Member to the ZBA with a term to expire June 30, 2020. It was seconded by Mr. Wider. Ms. Van Tine and Chair Kalkut were in favor. Mr. Wider opposed. Motion passed.

### Please consider accepting SAFER Grant award to hire two new Firefighter/Paramedics

Ms. Robinson explained that earlier this year the Fire Department applied for a Federal Staffing for Adequate Fire & Emergency Response (SAFER) grant to enable the Town to hire two

additional firefighter/paramedics. We were notified on September 13<sup>th</sup> by Senator Warren's Office that the application was successful. If the Town wants to move forward, they need to vote at this meeting. And then within six months of the vote, they will need to hire 2 firefighter medics. The federal government will pay 75% of the cost in the first 2 years of the program and 35% in the last year of the program. She explained future budgeting for the Fire Department which would provide the Town's funding of the positions.

Interim Chief Petruchik and Dr. Mike Valkanas, EMS doctor from Norwood Hospital, were present to answer technical questions.

Peter Petruchik thanked the Select Board and former Fire Chief Bushnell. He stated that retired Chief Bushnell was instrumental in drafting the grant. It was a long standing goal of his to bring the department staffing to 4 per group. The grant was extremely comprehensive and they spent countless hours preparing it. He further explained the staffing benefits of the grant and the advantages of having 4 personnel per shift which this grant allows for. He stated that the report provided to the Board references the technical aspects of the advantages of having 4 personnel per shift. He pointed out that the conclusions of the study are science based not opinion based.

Ms. Van Tine asked if we get the grant money, will the new hiring take place prior to new fire chief starting. Chief Petruchik stated that Erron Kinney, the new fire chief, starts on December 2<sup>nd</sup> and that the new firefighters would need to be on board by March 1st. He and the new chief have been communicating about this and we could be in touch with him on the hiring process. Ms. Robinson suggested we begin the recruiting process in preparation of his arrival.

A motion was made Chair Kalkut that the Board vote to accept the Federal SAFER grant in the amount of \$246,995 to hire two additional firefighter/paramedics. It was seconded by Mr. Wider, and so voted. All were in favor.

Please consider a determination under G.L. c. 268A, §19 of the Town Administrator's position as a member of the MIIA Board of Directors & Property & Casualty Board

Ms. Robinson gave background on the topic. She began serving on the Property and Casualty Board and the Health Insurance Trust in 2014. She has continued to serve on the Property and Casualty Board since then.

She is not paid to attend the meetings; however they do provide lunch and some overnights at hotels which is the extent of benefits to her.

She sees her role as responsible to Norfolk first and the MIIA Boards second. She does not feel there is a conflict and would like the Board's opinion.

MIIA's counsel has reminded Board members that they should file a G.L. c. 268A, §19 form requesting that their appointing authority make a determination that there is no conflict of interest for board members continuing to serve on the Board and their ability to carry out their duties for their communities.

Ms. Robinson stated that she believes that her responsibility to make recommendations and decisions to procure insurance for the Town of Norfolk is her primary role. She stated that she has every intention of making such decisions that are in the best interest of the Town regardless of her position on the Board. She believes that being a member of the Board has

been beneficial to each community she has worked for in that it enables her to be current on trends in the marketplace and knowledgeable about topics that are helpful to her role.

A motion was made by Chair Kalkut that the Board vote to determine that there is no conflict of interest with respect to the Town Administrator serving as a member of the MIIA Board of Directors and Property & Casualty Board. It was seconded by Ms. Van Tine, and so voted. All were in favor.

Please consider approval of a Halloween parade and party and to block Eric Road from Park Street to Erin Road from 3:00 – 6:00 p.m. on October 26<sup>th</sup>. (Rain date October 27<sup>th</sup>)

Ms. Robinson stated that this is the second year the group has requested this. The Police Department has requested a special removable barricade in case there is an emergency.

A motion was made by Chair Kalkut that the Board approves a request for the residents of Eric Road to hold a Halloween Parade and Block Party on October 26<sup>th</sup> from 3:00 – 6:00 PM, and in order to do so is authorized to block Eric Road from Park Street to Erin Road for this purpose. It was seconded by Mr. Wider, and so voted. All were in favor.

Please consider a waiver of first refusal to purchase 7.64 acres of land at 84 Cleveland Street pursuant to Massachusetts G.L. c.61A

Ms. Robinson explained that this item is on the agenda at the request of Attorney David Turchetta. In 2014 the property owner, Mr. Ted O'Harte, approached the Town Administrator expressing his interest to have the Board determine whether or not the Town would be interested in purchasing this property which at that point was in the State Chapter 61A program. That program enables landowners to reduce their taxes on eligible properties which remain undeveloped. The process to convert them back to be eligible for development requires that among other things the Board of Selectmen in a Town have right of first refusal to purchase the property once the landowner has a purchase and sale agreement in hand.

She stated that prior minutes were located and it appears that while a discussion was had, the then Select Board did not receive a purchase and sale agreement, and did not take this matter up on an agenda. In 2017 the property was sold to Lakeland Farms LLC and removed from Chapter land, after which work began to develop the 32 homes approved for the parcel. The taxes have been paid on the land that the Town had forgone to have the parcel held as Chapter land.

Attorney Turchetta who represents the lender who holds the first mortgage on property was present to explain in further detail. He believes this was a paperwork mishap. He presented ways of record to extinguish the right of first refusal. One way is by giving a 120 day notice to the Town before the conversion of property from agricultural use to residential use. That period is long gone. Permits have been issued, the road is in, and a closing is scheduled for this upcoming Thursday. This will not be a benefit. If it done this way this would create a problem for several residents who bought homes here.

He requested that the Board officially waive the right of first refusal at this time.

Mr. Wider stated he thought that Mr. O'Harte removed the property from 61A while he owned it, paid taxes, created a 40B and sold it to another developer. He pointed out that Item 5 of the

Requirements for Notice by Property Owner states there cannot be a zoning change within the 120 days and a zoning change has happened.

Attorney Ed Cannon who represents the buyers (first unit owner) was also present. He stated that the record title at the registry shows the release of the 61A property but no release from the Select Board. He asks Mr. Wider that in terms of zoning in the area did it actually change or did the owner just apply for a development under 40B? Mr. Wider stated that the zoning did not change. Attorney Cannon stated that he does not believe that situation is what Item 5 refers to. The 120 days is for the benefit of the Town and this Board can vote if they are electing to not exercise their right tonight. It will rectify the title at the registry and then the problem at this development.

A motion was made by Chair Kalkut that the Board vote to waive the Town's right to notice of sale and to waive the Town's right of first refusal to purchase 7.64 acres of land at 84 Cleveland Street pursuant to Massachusetts G.L. c.61A. It was seconded by Mr. Wider and so voted. All were in favor.

#### Please discuss submission of the Town's Green Communities Grant Application

Ms. Robinson informed the Board that the Town has been working for a number of years for this and hopes to submit the completed application to become a "Green Community" to the State by the end of this month. Through the program the Town pledges to work to reduce its energy consumption by 20% over a five year period.

The goal this evening overall is to answer questions and bring back on October 1<sup>st</sup> or 15<sup>th</sup>.

Andy Bakinowski, Energy Committee Chair, was present and explained that what they have before them is basically a road map. It lays out the next 5 years of projects that can, should or have to be done. This also ties in to capital improvement that is on the agenda this evening.

He states this plan identifies energy conserving projects such as at heating, lighting, pumps at the well houses, etc. What is not addressed is street lighting mostly because the owners of the lights are Eversource (and some Verizon or developers). Even without those streetlights, we can meet the 20% goal. There is a lot of work in tracking after the designation.

He stated that Facilities Director Matt Haffner has done a phenomenal job in identifying projects to reach the 20%; however, some items (equipment) may be failing and may need to move up on the project list.

Ms. Robinson stated that there are competitive grants that can be applied for in the future. These grants if won can provide relief to the Town.

Mr. Bakinowski stated there are high savings projects that can be funded through utility companies. He mentioned chapter 25A State regulation on energy project funding. He feels we need to become familiar with this and it would minimize impact to the Town. There are also rebates available.

Ms. Van Tine asked if it is possible that costs of improvements to the Town would exceed the monies from the grant. And if so, would the taxpayers be responsible for those costs. Mr. Bakinowski stated yes; however, the overall savings on energy would kick in. Ms. Robinson

states that we would stay within the \$140,000 the first year and be more aggressive in future years.

Mr. Bakinowski answered several questions from the Board on where and how the Town could save energy.

Resident, David Rosenberg, asked if the committee is entering into a solar contract (as a community) and if residents could opt out if they want.

Mr. Bakinowski stated that the previous Board discussed something similar. He stated that owning the solar system is the best way to go. Mr. Rosenberg feels it reduces the costs. Mr. Bakinowski stated that is only if you own the field.

Please discuss Draft Capital Improvement Program

Ms. Robinson explained that upon arrival in her position, she noted that the Town does not have a capital improvement program currently. In order to plan for needed investments in the community in the areas of infrastructure, schools, equipment, roads, public safety and technology, we have begun the process of developing a plan for the current fiscal year and the following five years. The goal of this work is that the community and its leaders have a better understanding of the capital costs to maintain and repair its current infrastructure and assets, and the costs of major construction projects such as expansion of the Freeman Kennedy School. That understanding will hopefully spur conversations about when projects are needed and should be funded, set priorities for projects, and manage the overall budget of the Town by planning ahead for these expenditures.

Ms. Robinson has had meetings with several departments regarding their capital needs forecasts. The totals are over \$50,000,000; however, this is a first draft. She would like to use that to discuss and plan with the Board what the priorities are for the Town. She does not intend to suggest that the Town will spend all this. She is trying to prevent surprises and wants the residents to be confident that the Town's capital assets are being managed appropriately.

We need to start to look at how to fund, strategy, debt or to say no to some things. She feels it would be helpful for larger departments to start coming to the meetings and discuss these things with the Board

Mr. Kalkut states he understands that this is a starting point and understands it will be whittled down to a more accurate list.

Mr. Wider stated he believes it is a great first start. Ms. Van Tine agreed.

Ms. Van Tine asked what the \$3,900,000 for the Recreation Department in 2025 is for. Blythe stated additional fields at the Pond Street Recreation Complex.

The Board discussed the benefits to the residents of this information being posted on the Town's website.

Chair Kalkut thanked Ms. Robinson.

Please discuss List of Potential Special Town Meeting Articles

Ms. Robinson stated there are 24 articles as of now and that the warrant closed at 6:00 PM last Thursday.

The various articles were discussed and Ms. Robinson answered several questions from the Board.

Mr. Wider asked if the warrant authors would be coming in to discuss with the Board. Ms. Van Tine stated she felt this would be helpful to the Board as well as voters coming to the Town Meeting. Chair Kalkut asked if that is what is done at the Advisory Board.

Ms. Robinson will be going to the Advisory Board meeting next week and will ask about their process, but ultimately it is the Select Board's role to support or not support articles. She stated we could schedule the warrant authors to come in to the October 15<sup>th</sup> and October 29<sup>th</sup> meetings. Ms. Robinson will provide a draft warrant at the next meeting and we can look at the order of articles at that time.

Resident Anne Marie Battistone asked about what became of the meeting on the Safety Building. Chair Kalkut stated we are waiting for word on the direction to take from Town Counsel. Town Counsel was at Executive Session on September 17<sup>th</sup> to be updated on facts.

Please consider approval of the following warrants:

A motion was made by Mr. Wider to approve the following warrants: 09/13/2019 05P20 and 05PS20 \$812,211.48 and 09/17/2019 12V20 \$288,003.25. It was seconded by Ms. Van Tine, and so voted. All in were in favor.

A motion was made by Ms. Van Tine to approve the following warrants: 09/24/2019 13V20 \$229,059.93 and 09/24/2019 13VS20 \$63,441.84. It was seconded by Mr. Wider, and so voted. All were in favor.

Please consider approval of the minutes

A motion was made by Ms. Van Tine that the Board approves the minutes of the August 13, 2019, and September 17, 2019 meetings. It was seconded by Mr. Wider and so voted. All were in favor.

Mr. Rosenberg asked if there were any objections to him sending information about the open meeting law newsletter and partnership he discussed in the Public Comment Session to the three Board members and Ms. Robinson. There were no objections.

### **Executive Session**

A motion was made by Chair Kalkut that the Board vote to enter into Executive Session under Massachusetts G.L. c.30A, §21(a)(6) to consider the purchase of real estate, insofar as an open meeting may have a detrimental effect on the negotiating position of the public body, and further to invite Town Administrator Blythe Robinson, and Executive Assistant Nancy Langlois. The Board will only reconvene into open session for the purpose of adjourning the meeting.

Chair Kalkut stated that an open meeting may have a detrimental effect on the litigation position of the public body.

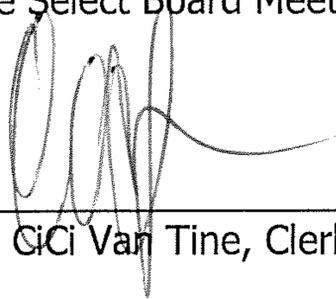
Roll Call vote: Chair Kalkut – aye; Mr. Wider – ay; Ms. Van Tine - aye.

At 9:30 p.m. the Board exited Open Session at 9:30 to enter Executive Session.

At 9:53 p.m. the Board returned to Open Session to adjourn.

A motion was made by Chair Kalkut to adjourn Open Session. It was seconded by Ms. Van Tine, and so voted. All were in favor.

The next meeting will be held in Room 124, Town Hall, on Tuesday, October 15, 2019 at 7:00 p.m.  
This is a true and accurate report of the Select Board Meeting of October 1, 2019.



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Cici Van Tine, Clerk

# Norfolk Public Schools: NORFOLK, MASSACHUSETTS

www.norfolk.k12.ma.us

Ingrid N. Allardi, Ph.D.  
Superintendent of Schools  
508-528-1225  
[iallardi@norfolk.k12.ma.us](mailto:iallardi@norfolk.k12.ma.us)

September 30, 2019

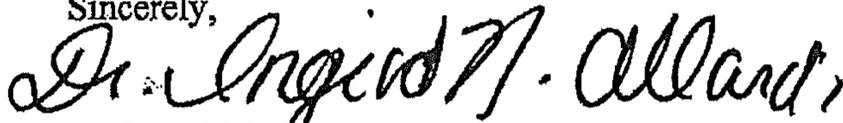
To Whom It May Concern:

It is my pleasure to write this letter of support on behalf of Norfolk Community Television. NCTV has been a long-standing partner of the Norfolk Public Schools in sharing information with the public regarding our educational programs and services. Each month, NCTV films and broadcasts our School Committee meetings. This allows the public to remain informed on important matters such as school budget, district policies, curriculum matters and overall achievement and accountability. NCTV posts meetings on their UTube Channel, allowing citizens to view them at their convenience. This service is critical to supporting openness and transparency in school governance. For many parents and community members, it is challenging to coordinate childcare and other work commitments in order to attend School Committee meetings. Based on the viewing data, it is clear that many community members view meetings at home and remain informed and involved through NCTV's broadcasts.

In addition to filming meetings, NCTV regularly films special student performances and events including our sixth grade graduation, Memorial Day and Veteran's Day assemblies, band and chorus concerts, as well as our Kindergarten Memory Show and our Second Grade drama production. Parents cherish having these special moments in their children's lives captured and available to share with family members who live far away or are unable to attend the events in person. Some events are not open to the public, as we are unable to accommodate the volume of visitors they might bring. In these cases, NCTV's filming allows parents to watch the events at a later time and enjoy them with families at home.

NCTV is a critical partner in helping the Norfolk Public Schools build solid partnerships with our families. We know from research and from experience that having a strong home-school connection is important to enhancing student's learning and growth. NCTV has been more than flexible and accommodating in filming events on short notice and in responding to the needs of our district and the community. It is my sincere hope that their contract will be renewed, as the services they provide to the Town of Norfolk and to the public schools are invaluable and irreplaceable.

Sincerely,



Dr. Ingrid N. Allardi  
Superintendent, Norfolk Public Schools

**Norfolk Public Schools District Offices, 70 Boardman Street, Norfolk, MA 02056**

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# Norfolk Public Schools:

www.norfolk.k12.ma.us

Linda A. Balfour, Principal  
 Anita Mecklenburg, Assistant Principal  
 H. Olive Day School  
 232 Main Street  
 Norfolk, Massachusetts 02056

September 30, 2019

To Whom It May Concern:

It is a pleasure to write this letter to express our strong support of Norfolk Community Television. NCTV has been a valuable partner and resource for all of us at the H. Olive Day School for the past 26 years. Throughout each school year, we have many special events at HOD ranging from classroom author celebrations and portfolio days to grade level concerts and the Kindergarten Memory Show to whole school events such as our Thanksgiving Assembly and 100<sup>th</sup> Day of School Celebration. We can always depend on the staff of NCTV to come to HOD to film these special celebrations and share them with the community.

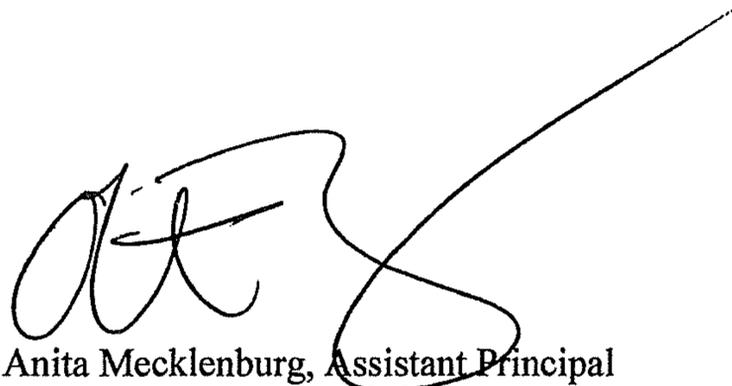
NCTV provides a wonderful venue for us to share school events with parents, grandparents and other members of our extended school family as well as the community. We have heard from many parents about how much their families enjoy watching our gatherings and performances, especially when they live a distance away and would not be able to attend. There are times when we can't invite parents to attend school wide gatherings due to space and parking limitations. Viewing the events through NCTV allows them to see the events that their children participate in and attend. When parents do attend a performance and are told that it has been filmed for NCTV, they can be fully present rather than trying to film it themselves. Even though our students participate in the performances and assemblies, they also enjoy watching them later with their families. It provides them the opportunity to tell their families more about the presenters and/or what took place. The sharing of these videos strengthens our home/school connection as well as family connections.

We thank Katy Jefferson, Andrew Barker and Jen Jacobs for their willingness to come to HOD to film our special "HOD happenings", even on short notice. They are truly members of our HOD school family, and we acknowledge them as such at our school family gatherings. We look forward to continuing our collaboration and work with them in the years to come. Therefore, we strongly support the renewal of the NCTV license.

Sincerely,



Linda A. Balfour, Principal  
 H. Olive Day School



Anita Mecklenburg, Assistant Principal

H. Olive Day School 232 Main Street Norfolk, MA 02056

Norfolk Public Schools does not discriminate on the basis of race, color, sex, gender identity, religion, national origin, sexual orientation or homelessness.

September 24, 2019

I have been involved as a volunteer with NCTV since May 2000 and I have watched as the original has become three channels. Most recently I have been involved with producing 97 episodes of "A Walk in the Garden with Liz Davey" filmed by NCTV at my home and focused on home gardening and the use in the kitchen of the things grown. I have greatly enjoyed working with NCTV in this capacity and have had the opportunity to see many of the other good things that NCTV provides for the Norfolk Community.

Local cable provides a way for Norfolk residents to share their talents and provides also gives training and opportunities for volunteer service. In addition, NCTV produces programs of interest to the area on a wide variety of topics.

Norfolk does not have dependable newspaper coverage which creates a void in the local government news area. NCTV's government channel provides valuable coverage of town committee meetings as well as town meetings. This is very useful not only those who are unable to leave their homes, but to others who cannot attend the meetings, but are interested in town government. Interviews with candidates for public office are also a valuable service. Many of the filmed programs are then available on YouTube for convenient watching.

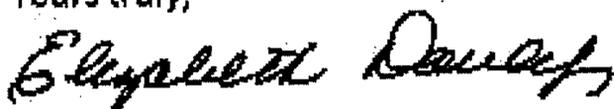
Coverage of Norfolk's school programs gives working parents and grandparents a chance to keep up with their children or grand-children's activities.

Education is an indispensable part of NCTV. Individual and hands-on learning, through individual training or workshops, and the use of equipment is a wonderful NCTV service and because this educational service is without charge it can level the playing field for children and adults who do not have as much access to technical equipment and education. In classes, workshops and school vacation camp programs, children can learn about many facets of video animation and movie production. The NCTV personnel work with Norfolk's non-profits to ensure they use social media safely and effectively. Senior Citizens can become frightened and frustrated with new technology, but NCTV is there to help them overcome their concerns and use their computers and cell phones and video cameras confidently in ways that enrich their lives.

Public meeting space in Norfolk is in very short supply. The Green Room which is currently under construction will provide valuable resources for community non-profit groups and individuals

In conclusion, I support NCTV and believe that it is worthy of financial support.

Yours truly,



Elizabeth Davey

7 Meadowbrook Way

Norfolk MA 02056

Liz.davey@comcast.net

To the Norfolk Select Board,

I am writing on behalf of Norfolk Community Television as a representative of the Kathy Ryan Dance Studio, which has been a staple in the town of Norfolk for the past 34 years. I, having been part of this business for the past 20 years, have participated in many local town events such as Norfolk Community Day, the Santa parade, different town common events, etc. Per every event we attend, we always see familiar faces, and one of our favorites is NCTV. In the small town of Norfolk, we believe it is extremely important to keep that family friendly atmosphere comradery alive. The town can only advertise & cover events to a point. NCTV has done a REMARKABLE job covering all events the town holds. From school concerts, to select board meetings, they are there providing digital record for all to access, and nowadays that is very important. Imagine you were not able to make the town meeting last night, but wanted to hear about all that went on. No worries, NCTV was there to cover it & it will be available to watch soon on air & YouTube. Imagine you were you stuck at a work meeting & couldn't make it to your kids second grade concert at HOD? No worries, NCTV filmed all of it & it will be available soon! In addition to those bigger events, the stations segments are some of my personal favorites. "Our Town" with host Jill Hindley Lawrence is an awesome segment that is both educational & fun to watch! Bringing together a town resident with another member of the community to discuss something in regards to the town is important for viewers. It provides an educational background & you might just learn something new! I have been able to work closely with the station on a special project recently, and I will say Katy, Jenn, & Andrew have such a passion for what they do. All the little things that go into running a local TV station they have down to an exact science, and that is what makes a successful team. As mentioned above, Digital record is key, and it makes community members lives easier to find information out about the town, but most importantly it highlights all the good that is going on as well, and that to me is what matters the most in making the town "Our Town". I would be saddened if NCTV was no longer at each local event covering it all and from a personal standpoint, you create such bond with businesses over year, and not matter if you're a "non-profit" or "profit" company, you grow each year! I would personally love to see their continued growth & see what is next for them.

Yours truly,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Greg Kanelos". The signature is fluid and cursive, with a long horizontal stroke at the end.

Greg Kanelos