

**MINUTES OF BOARD OF SELECTMEN MEETING
MONDAY, APRIL 23, 2018**

Chairman Prisco called the meeting to order at 6:35 p.m. in Room 14 at the Town Hall in the presence of members Mrs. Manupelli, Mr. Schultz, Mr. Mauceri, Mr. O'Leary, and Town Administrator, Michael Gilleberto.

CALL TO ORDER OPEN SESSION

Chairman Prisco called to order the open session at 6:35 p.m.

The Chairman States: "In accordance with the Open Meeting Law, the Board states for the record that this meeting is being recorded by NORCAM and may be recorded by other local media."

The members recited the Pledge of Allegiance.

Mr. Prisco congratulates Mr. Gilleberto on the birth of his son, Luke and gives him a gift from the Board. Mr. Prisco asked for a moment of silence for the victims in Toronto.

MINUTES

Mrs. Manupelli wants to pass over the April 2, 2018 Regular Session Minutes. She wants more detail recorded in the minutes.

MR. CHAIRMAN, I MOVE TO APPROVE THE **APRIL 2, 2018 EXECUTIVE SESSION MINUTES AS WRITTEN.**

MOTION BY: MR. SCHULTZ
SECONDED BY: MR. O'LEARY
VOTED: 5-0 (UNANIMOUS)

PUBLIC COMMENT

Walter Fitzmaurice addressed the Board regarding his letter to the Editor in the April 19th Transcript. John Silvestro read a statement prepared by Mr. Fitzmaurice to apologize to Mr. Prisco, Mr. Schultz and Mrs. Manupelli for his accusations and inappropriate words. Mr. Prisco accepts his apology stating he has a right to speak freely, but stated his issue is with Transcript Editor Maureen Doherty for allowing the letter to be published. Mrs. Manupelli disagrees with what was written, however she accepts his apology and further stated she holds the Transcript accountable. Mr. Schultz stated Mr. Fitzmaurice should be apologizing and further stated the reason people are hesitant to volunteer or run for office is due to criticism. Mr. Mauceri stated Board members always do what is in the best interest of the community. He further stated that the entire Board has been involved in Andover water discussions. Mr. Mauceri accepts Mr. Fitzmaurice's apology. Mr. O'Leary stated that the Board has worked collectively and have all been active participants in the water discussions.

Sean Delaney, 7 Dix Road addressed the Board stating that Mr. Fitzmaurice crossed the line when he made criminal allegations. He defended the accusations made against Mr. Prisco, Mrs. Manupelli and Mr. Schultz, and further stated they are upstanding members of the community.

**MINUTES OF BOARD OF SELECTMEN MEETING
MONDAY, APRIL 23, 2018**

Eric Evans, 3 Sandra Lane and Lisa Eagan of the Reading/North Reading Chamber of Commerce addressed the Board regarding the sidewalk snow removal bylaw. They stated they are working as a committee to come up with a solution that works for the businesses and Town.

Mr. Prisco recommended passing over the snow removal bylaw for the June Town meeting and working on changing the bylaw for the October Town Meeting. Mr. Evans wants to keep the bylaw on the June Town Meeting Warrant.

Pat Lee, 22 Aspen Road addressed the Board thanking them for having an open mind and working with the business community regarding snow removal.

Warren Pearce, 219 Haverhill Street addressed the Board regarding Mr. Fitzmaurice's letter to the Editor. He stated Mr. Fitzmaurice crossed the line and he was glad he apologized. He stated lack of understanding of issues might be the reason for criticism. He suggested educating people more on issues.

Ruth Fierro, 18 Plymouth Street addressed the Board regarding a possible zoning violation regarding 13 Plymouth Street. She provided the Board with copies of a letter to Jim DeCola (see attached). Mr. Prisco stated that action will be taken on the matter. Mr. O'Leary stated Ms. Fierro is owed a better explanation of how everything occurred.

Maureen Doherty, Editor of the North Reading Transcript apologized to Mr. Prisco, Mrs. Manupelli and Mr. Schultz for publishing the aforementioned letter to the Editor. She stated she will print a retraction in next week's Transcript. Mr. Prisco appreciates her apology and hopes lessons will be learned. Mrs. Manupelli appreciates apology and stated there needs to be more responsible journalism. Mr. Schultz stated he appreciates Maureen's graciousness and does not want the transcript to be harmed.

Jillian String, Transcript employee speaking as an individual thanks Board members for their service. She stated that the media cannot be held accountable for letters to the Editor. She stated Mr. Schultz made it more public by posting it on Facebook. Mr. Schultz cautioned Ms. String about continuing the discussion. Mrs. Manupelli stated she is a free speech supporter but would like to move forward.

SIGN MAY TOWN ELECTION WARRANT

Constable John Firiello was in attendance.

MR. CHAIRMAN, I MOVE TO SIGN THE MAY 8, 2018 TOWN ELECTION WARRANT.

MOTION BY: MR. SCHULTZ
SECONDED BY: MRS. MANUPELLI
VOTED: 5-0 (UNANIMOUS)

**MINUTES OF BOARD OF SELECTMEN MEETING
MONDAY, APRIL 23, 2018**

RECOGNIZE JAMES DECOLA, BUILDING INSPECTOR

Mr. Gilleberto recognizes Mr. DeCola for his years of service. Mr. Prisco reads a plaque and presents it to Mr. DeCola. A photo was taken with the Board.

INTRODUCE NEW BUILDING INSPECTOR, TOWN ENGINEER AND YOUTH SERVICES DIRECTOR

Mr. Gilleberto introduces and gives the background on new Town employees; Youth Services Director, Jen Ford, Building Inspector, Gerald Noel, and Town Engineer, John Klipfel. Mr. Gilleberto recognized Mike Soraghan, Mark Clark and the Youth Services Committee for their assistance in the hiring processes.

**CAPITAL IMPROVEMENT PLANNING COMMITTEE
REVIEW FISCAL YEAR 2019 FUNDING RECOMMENDATIONS**

Don Kelliher gave a presentation. Mr. Gilleberto stated the presentation is in the FY19 Budget Folder in Dropbox. Mr. Kelliher stated the CIPC would like the debt service to remain at about 1.1 Million Dollars per year. Mr. Prisco would like the Fire Department vehicles labeled. Mr. Kelliher stated he would like to have a plan to start improving the conditions of roads. He further stated there are a lot of very expensive long term projects coming over the next three years. He stated items being recommended for Town Hall would cost up to 2.5 Million Dollars. Mr. Prisco stated he wants the feasibility study done first. Mr. Gilleberto responded an RFP will go out for the feasibility study when a new DPW Director is hired. Mr. Kelliher stated the Park Street Bridge would be a 1.2 Million Dollar project and a grant would bring it down to approximately 700 Thousand. Ms. Rourke gave an update on last year's capital projects. Chief Stats addressed the Board regarding the status of projects at the Fire Station and Mr. Clark spoke of water meter replacements.

MR. CHAIRMAN, I MOVE TO APPROVE THE FY2019 CAPITAL EXPENDITURES AS RECOMMENDED BY THE CAPITAL IMPROVEMENT PLANNING COMMITTEE

MOTION BY: MR. SCHULTZ
SECONDED BY: MR. MAUCERI
VOTED: 5-0 (UNANIMOUS)

8:16 – Mr. Prisco leaves the room.

FY2019 BUDGET HEARING - PUBLIC SAFETY ADMINISTRATION

Mr. Gilleberto gave a presentation. He advised the Board that the affected Department Heads are in attendance and can offer their opinions.

8:18 – Mr. Prisco returns.

Chief Stats and Health Agent Robert Bracey addressed the Board expressing their support of the public safety director position. The Finance Committee voted unanimously to support it. Mr. O'Leary stated he is glad to hear the administration is working, but remains opposed to the idea and concept, he does not see a need for it and other communities our size do not have one, he

**MINUTES OF BOARD OF SELECTMEN MEETING
MONDAY, APRIL 23, 2018**

does not think the salary is sustainable. He further stated the Town Administrator should be the only person responsible for overseeing all department heads and he might amend the motion at Town Meeting to remove the 30 Thousand Dollar stipend for the Public Safety Administrator. Mr. Schultz responded stating he respects his opposition but does not understand it. Mr. Schultz inquired if the Public Safety Administrator would always be the Police Chief; Mr. Gilleberto responded the Town is not locked into it. Mrs. Manupelli stated she would like to see this position a fully funded stand-alone full time position because it is working and she is hopeful it will uncover inefficiencies. Mr. Mauceri stated his opposition to the administration, stating organizationally the Town is creating a problem and are heading down a path we will be sorry for in the future. Mr. Prisco responded that the Town is getting big dividends and benefits from this position. Finance Director Liz Rourke stated progress is being made; almost 100 Thousand Dollars has been saved in efficiencies. Mr. O'Leary responded that a public safety director is not necessary to get efficiencies; additional administrative support could achieve the same thing. Mrs. Manupelli stated that the Board needs to support the Town Administrator by approving the Administration request. Mr. Kelliher stated that the Town Administrator deserves support.

Jeffrey Yull, 427 Park Street addressed the Board inquiring about the financial future if the position is filled for \$140 Thousand Dollars annually.

8:57 - FISCAL YEAR 2019 OPERATING BUDGET INFORMATIONAL HEARING

Mr. Gilleberto reads hearing notice. He stated the School Committee has not yet voted on their budget and requested the Board continue the hearing until May 7th. Acting DPW Director Mark Clark addressed the sanitation disposal issue and the reason for the budget shortfall. There were only 2 respondents to the trash and recycling RFP. Mr. Clark was asked to make a recommendation of how the RFP should be broken out in advance of the May 7th meeting. Mr. Clark stated the trash fee will go up as a result of the collapse of the recycling market. Mr. Schultz recommended increasing the fee each year so it wouldn't be so overwhelming to the residents.

Jeffrey Yull, 427 Park Street inquired if the trash fee could be rolled into the real estate tax bill so it becomes tax deductible. Mrs. Manupelli responded saying that can't be done with fees.

9:28 – 5 minute recess

9:32 – Reconvene

ANDOVER/MWRA WATER/WASTEWATER DISCUSSION/APPROVE NEXT STEPS

Mr. Rob Williamson of Wright Pearce gave a presentation and concluded that all findings look good for North Reading to purchase additional water from Andover. Mr. Schultz is concerned about not having a "seat at the table" with Andover. Mr. Yull inquired about having a BoS liaison to the Andover water commission. He was informed it will be discussed before the agreement is finalized. Mr. O'Leary is looking for authorization from the Board to continue discussions with Andover for a long term agreement.

**MINUTES OF BOARD OF SELECTMEN MEETING
MONDAY, APRIL 23, 2018**

MR. CHAIRMAN, I MOVE TO AUTHORIZE THE NEGOTIATING TEAM TO CONTINUE NEGOTIATIONS FOR A LONG TERM PERMANENT AGREEMENT WITH ANDOVER. SUCH AGREEMENT WILL BE FORWARDED TO OUR BOARD FOR CONSIDERATION NO LATER THAN MAY 31, 2018.

MOTION BY: MR. O'LEARY
SECONDED BY: MR. MAUCERI
VOTED: 5-0 (UNANIMOUS)

TOWN ADMINISTRATORS REPORT

Mr. Gilleberto offered a verbal report. He informed the Board that fire department overtime is being closely monitored. Chief Stats addressed the Board regarding unforeseen and unplanned fire department expenses due to retirements, promotions and contract settlement. Mr. Prisco inquired about using ambulance money to cover these expenses. Ms. Rourke responded that money is set aside in the salary pool for these reasons. Mr. Gilleberto stated he is not looking for action from the Board, he just wants to keep them informed. He further stated that curbside collection of brush will take place the 2nd week of May, brush is accepted at the DPW yard through Saturday, the Attorney General's office approved the Drone by-law, and the CPC is looking for a group to guide updating the master plan.

APPROVE FY2019 HEALTH INSURANCE PLANS

Mr. Gilleberto gave an update on the health insurance plan rate and having been able to negotiate the increase from 14.8% to 6.2%.

MR. CHAIRMAN, I MOVE TO APPROVE THE FY2019 ACTIVE EMPLOYEE HEALTH INSURANCE PLAN "OPTION 1A" AS OUTLINED IN THE ATTACHED DOCUMENT

MOTION BY: MR. SCHULTZ
SECONDED BY: MR. O'LEARY
VOTED: 5-0 (UNANIMOUS)

REVIEW JUNE TOWN MEETING WARRANT

Mr. Gilleberto stated that one additional article needed to be added to the warrant, submitted in the fall by the Northeast Metropolitan Vocational School. The warrant will be discussed in detail at the May 7th BoS meeting.

**ARTHUR KENNEY FIELD RESTROOM/CONCESSION PROJECT
VOTE TO APPROVE PAYMENT REQUISITION**

Mr. Gilleberto stated this is a progress payment and the project is close to being complete.

MR. CHAIRMAN, I MOVE TO APPROVE PAYMENT REQUISITION NUMBER 7 IN THE AMOUNT OF \$87,514 TO CONSTRUCTION DYNAMICS, INC.

MOTION BY: MR. SCHULTZ
SECONDED BY: MR. O'LEARY
VOTED: 5-0 (UNANIMOUS)

**MINUTES OF BOARD OF SELECTMEN MEETING
MONDAY, APRIL 23, 2018**

LICENSE RENEWAL – SPORTS, SPIRITS & STEAKS – POOL TABLE

MR. CHAIRMAN, I MOVE TO RENEW THE POOL TABLE LICENSE FOR SPORTS, SPIRITS AND STEAKS AT 178 MAIN STREET TO EXPIRE MAY 1, 2019.

MOTION BY: MR. SCHULTZ
SECONDED BY: MR. O'LEARY
VOTED: 5-0 (UNANIMOUS)

OLD/NEW BUSINESS

Mrs. Manupelli – No comment.

Mr. Schultz – No comment.

Mr. Mauceri – No comment.

Mr. O'Leary

- Inquired about the Snow and Ice budget;
- Heard positive feedback regarding brush removal service after the storms;
- Hopes people vote in the local elections;
- Requested more money in the TA budget for court sessions and depositions pertaining to the SSBC litigation.

Mr. Prisco

- Wants to recognize School Committee members, Julie Koepke, and Gerry Venezia with a certificate of appreciation to be presented at Town Meeting.

MR. CHAIRMAN, I MR. SCHULTZ MOVE TO ADJOURN.

SECONDED:	MRS. MANUPELLI	
VOTED:	MR. O'LEARY	AYE
	MRS. MANUPELLI	AYE
	MR. SCHULTZ	AYE
	MR. MAUCERI	AYE
	MR. PRISCO	AYE

VOTE: 5-0 (UNANAMOUS)

ADJOURN: 11:34 a.m.

DATE

ANDREW SCHULTZ, CLERK