

Board of Selectmen's Meeting  
Wednesday, April 5, 2023  
4:30 PM Town Hall

*Present:* Matthew Riiska, Sandy Evans, Paul Madore, Barbara Gomez, Phylis Bernard and Ruth Melville

The meeting was called to order at 4:30 p.m.

- Matt Riiska asked for a motion to add two more individuals to the agenda to be considered for Economic Development Commission appointments.

**MOTION** S. Evans to add two individuals to the agenda for consideration of EDC appointments. Second P. Madore. Carried unanimously.

- Matt Riiska would like to add reimbursements for the fuel spill to the agenda.

**MOTION** S. Evans. Second P. Madore. Carried unanimously.

*Public Comments:* Phylis Bernard asked what the town is going to do about Botelle School.

- M. Riiska noted that the subject was discussed in length at the Board of Finance Meeting on the previous night. Discussion ensued regarding ideas that may be best for the few students that we have and the utilization of the building.

*Minutes: March 1, 2023*

**MOTION** S. Evans to approve the minutes of the March 1, 2023 meeting with the correction noted by P. Madore. Second P. Madore. Carried unanimously.

*Appointments: EDC Commission – Patricia Deans*

- In addition to adding Patricia Deans as an alternate, the EDC would like to add Christal Preszler as an alternate and Brett Robbins to replace Robert Wipple (Yale/Stoeckel Estate) as a regular member. Robert Wipple will become an ex-officio member.

**MOTION** S. Evans to appoint Patricia Deans and Christal Preszler as alternates to the EDC with the terms expiring 12/31/28. Second P. Madore. Carried unanimously.

**MOTION** S. Evans to appoint Brett Robbins to the EDC as a regular member with the term to expire 12/31/26. Second P. Madore. Carried unanimously.

*Budget Discussion*

- M. Riiska reported the following highlights from last night's BOF Budget Meeting:
  - o Town of Norfolk employees will receive a 3% salary increase
  - o The mill rate will be lowered slightly to 27.79
  - o Funding has been added for the following projects: Maple Avenue reconstruction, Botelle School roof and the Mountain Road and River Place bridge expenses.
  - o Regional School #7 budget increased by \$90,000 and Botelle School increased by \$21,757.
  - o The BOF Annual Budget Hearing will be held on 4/25/23 - Botelle School - 7 pm

*Budget Discussion (continued)*

- The Annual Town Meeting will be held on Monday, May 8, 2023 at Botelle School
- P. Madore inquired about the overage in the current budget for road maintenance. M. Riiska reported that materials were over for projects we were working on i.e. chip sealing, tree trimming, paving, patching, dirt road maintenance etc. The process we get from the asphalt millings were applied then chip sealed on Lover's Lane, the end of Westside Road, Elmore Road, Meekertown Road, part of Beckley Road, and the end of Estey Road.
- S. Evans inquired about the condition of the EMS Building parking lot. M. Riiska will look into getting it swept, rolled and lined.

*Selectman's Report*

- M. Riiska distributed a spread sheet itemizing the fuel spill payment of \$168,772.18 from Federated Insurance and explained how it will be disbursed. The total claim amount originally submitted to Federated was \$172,933.52.
- The Town of Norfolk will be submitting another claim next week to include attorney fees and housing costs for relocating residents.
- There will be an outside meeting tomorrow between 97 and 105 Greenwoods Road East with ESI (remediation company), Verdantas, Cardinal Engineering and the State of CT to discuss some of the changes and repairs to the drainage from the catch basin on Route 44. After those repairs, they will begin work on Pettibone Lane.
- Trees are being cut at the landfill in preparation for the solar panels going in.
- The Firehouse Committee and plans for the building are still ongoing. M. Riiska spoke to Rep. Maria Horn today regarding funding. The NVFD will be holding a capital campaign.
- The new oil tank is installed at Botelle School. The tank will be officially switched over once school is out of session.

**MOTION** S. Evans to adjourn at 5:31 p.m. Second P. Madore. Carried unanimously.

Respectfully submitted,



Barbara Gomez, Secretary