

Town of Nahant, MA
Board of Selectmen

Meeting Minutes
Thursday, March 14, 2019 7:00 PM

Chesley R. Taylor Jr., Chairman
Richard J. Lombard, Vice Chairman
Francis J. Barile, Recording Secretary
Antonio Barletta, Town Administrator

Attendance: Chesley R. Taylor, Richard J. Lombard, Francis J. Barile, & Antonio Barletta (TA)

1. Meeting Opening 7:00 pm

Pledge of Allegiance- Led by Chairman, Chesley R. Taylor Jr.

- a. Opening Comments- None
- b. Mr. Lombard made a motion; approve February 28, 2019 Board of Selectmen Meeting Minutes.

Seconded by Mr. Taylor
Unanimous vote in favor

Mr. Taylor shared some words about the loss of Max Carbone. Our thoughts are with Max's family and friends. A moment of silent was conducted in his honor.

2. Citizen's Forum

Alice Court- 7 Valley Road- First point, any information of financials coming from Northeastern, people from town hall trying to get that information about how many scholarships were rewarded. Northeastern gave \$25,000, wants to know if that is annually. Second point, Mrs. Court hands each member of the Selectmen a packet, whether or not new Nahant Wetlands By-laws had any effect on Northeastern's plans. Mr. Lombard was under the impression that it had absolutely no effect on the East Point design. Go back to the December 11th meeting, minute 28, the architect from Piget, Robert Chefner, was developing the overlay to show what effect each law has on the restrictions. The every last overlay he did, what is in yellow is the new Nahant Wetlands By-law restricted area, which puts that land on East Point under the oversight of the conservation commission and because that area is very difficult to see, (see on second page she colored in blue) there is actually a very substantial amount of the East Point park that was not effected before, but only became effected by the

new Nahant Wetlands Buffer-zone By-law, so she claims it is incorrect to say it has no effect and if the law is repealed her understanding is all that area becomes open for Northeastern to do what they will without any oversight of a Nahant Commission at all. The previous laws effected over three hundred and ninety homeowners on Nahant to put in a permit to the Conservation Commission because they were within one hundred feet. The new Nahant By-law added seventy more. She really hopes those seventy people can understand that the inconvenience that they will go through, will really give Nahant citizens protection regarding the East Point sight. All the area in blue (second page in packet) the protection is lost if the By-law is repealed.

Marie Pazinski- 36 Swallow Cave Road- Wants to discuss Selectman Taylor suggestion on creating parking area on Nahant Road along on the stretch parallel to 40 Steps Beach and how he would like to accomplish this before his term ends on April 27th. She wants to express this for several reasons because she thinks it is a bad idea and from a public safety standpoint it is a very dangerous idea. She shares a citizen letter of concern with the board which requests respectfully that the board of selectmen keep this a no parking zone. The letter is signed by one hundred and twenty-six citizens, many of those citizens do not live along that road, but they are overwhelmingly concerned about public safety. She asks if the board consider the sentiments of these Nahant citizens and keep the area along 40 Steps Beach a no parking zone.

Mr. Lombard responded; with himself agreeing that they will not be putting parking up there in that area. He states bases on the Police Chief recommendation that there should be no parking up in that area. Mr. Lombard has agreed with the Police Chief and is not motioning anything up there.

Mr. Taylor responded; with that he has not officially talked with the Police Chief or the Town Administrator or anyone but that it was an idea thrown out, that's it. He claims that Mr. Lombard and Mr. Barile can talk to whomever they'd like in town but Mr. Taylor is talking to the Town Administrator to look into it and he will go by what the Town Administrator says.

Mr. Barile responded; agreeing with Mr. Taylor about not talking to anyone. This topic caught him by surprise in the last meeting, he had no idea that it was going to come up. Mr. Barile emphasizes that the board has not voted on it.

Mr. Taylor states; that if he needs to vote on it he will.

Bill Mahoney- 171 Willow Road- Brings up the meeting December 11th, regarding the presentations from Northeastern. He hasn't heard much from the Board of Selectmen about the negotiations and what is going on between the Board and Northeastern. Concerned

because the chairmen said they were going to be open to this topic but he would like to know more about what is going on. Citizens were allowed to make comments either that the December 11th meeting or online but he has not heard the feedback on it and would like to.

Mr. Barile responds; going back to Alice Courts mentioning of the Northeastern Scholarships and the \$25,000 funding. He states that Northeastern gives four scholarships away and \$25,000 a year since the override, yes no vote, they have funded the art and music which has been at least ten years.

Mr. Barletta responds; that he does not think it has been ten years he thinks it has been at least six or seven but he would have to double check.

Resident in the audience responds; that he believes it started in 2014

Mr. Barile responded to Mr. Mahoney; that he doesn't believe that scholarships are payments. He states that he is in agreeance and he thinks that scholarships are just a "throw away" answer.

Alice Court- 7 Valley Road- responds; that the hardest part is the board being unclear whether it is two half scholarships or four half scholarships and how it keeps changing.

Mr. Barile responds; that he doesn't care about it.

Mr. Lombard responds; he wants to make it clear that there is only two half scholarships not four, it has only been two and there is \$25,000 to the Johnson Elementary School and that is all they have given the town in the last few years,

Mr. Barile responds; by making it clear that he is not negotiating with anyone, but he has been accused of it.

Mr. Taylors clarifies that people who want to talk can get up and talk into the microphone.

Mr. Barletta responds; clarifying about the scholarships offers, two half scholarships for full-time students who are Nahant residents and it is based on credits. He states that he does not know that for the every year Northeastern has been offering two student have actually received it. He makes it clear that two students may not have received scholarships every year although that is what Northeastern has offered the town.

Mr. Lombard responds; that he does not know the two students receiving the scholarship, either one of them or both of them have already graduated. So he is unsure if the new scholarship has been presented from their list of Nahant residents.

Mr. Barletta responds; saying that the town does not hold onto that specific information, but Northeastern does. Mr. Barletta does agree he has heard some complaints about the process on how to apply and how to get the information about the scholarships. He also agrees with having a conversation with Northeastern about it regardless of what happens in Nahant and the expansion. He believes the process should be clearer the potential students of Nahant should know how to apply for it and know what the criteria is in order to get the scholarship.

Michelle Capano- 29 Ocean Street- She would like to put a clarification about Northeastern in terms of their contribution to the town... Under Pilots she brings up two points, cash \$25,000 and community benefits. The community benefits are the two half scholarships for students who educationally qualify. She claims that Mr. Barletta had a good point about the process and notification to Nahant student residents needs to be improved. What Michelle Capano would like to know is what other community benefits are given because from what she understands in 2017 the Nahant Education Foundation paid for three educational classes at the Johnson Elementary School and she does not deem that as a community benefit.

Mr. Lombard responded; with one of the sessions, Northeastern was charging \$500 for that program to be presented at the Johnson Elementary School.

Michelle Capano- 29 Ocean Street- responds that she understands but from reading the annual report she found out that the Nahant Educational Foundation paid for it.

Mr. Lombard; responds by explaining to Michelle Capano when the town found out about it Mr. Lombard told Northeastern that the town was not going to pay and they were going to present that program to the students. He also explains it is the same years he asked for the scholarships. He admits that he didn't follow up too well because he thought it was two full scholarships not two half scholarships and he clarified that the \$25,000 was for the music and art programs and Northeastern has been still paying it. Mr. Lombard states that Northeastern has "not been a good neighbor to us." Mr. Lombard responds again to go back to Bill Mahoney's- 171 Willow Road- point about negotiations and continues to say that the town has not made any with Northeastern.

Bill Mahoney-171 Willow Road- responds; with the last he has heard of the financial portion from Northeastern was around a month and a half ago.

Mr. Barletta responds; by agreeing with Bill Mahoney-171 Willow Road, he explains that Northeastern did say they intended on sending the town a completed document of community benefits that they would be offering but the town has not received it.

Deborah Vanderslice- 368 Nahant Road- Wanted some clarification about the town not meeting with Northeastern. If the board means they haven't spoken with them on the phone or met in person or haven't talked to them at all.

The Board of Selectmen responded; No

Mr. Taylor responded; the main objective that they are trying to work with is though the T.A. and the lawyer.

Deborah Vanderslice- 368 Nahant Road- responded and wanted to clarify with Mr. Barletta about a meeting she was watching a few meetings back, confirming that the town has had eighteen discussions with Northeastern.

Mr. Barletta responded; by explaining the meetings with Northeastern before the public meeting on December 11th, was to make sure that Northeastern had their presentation ready and was addressing concerns and comments that were raised by the community and to make sure their presentation was as clear as possible. Also explains there was a follow up meeting with Northeastern and agrees with Mr. Lombard with not having a meeting with them in quiet some time because they are so focused on the budget.

Deborah Vanderslice- 368 Nahant Road- Brings up the three options Northeastern gave the town and she wants to know what the next step is in terms of what they've arrived at given the feedback from the survey. Wants to know if there will be another meeting.

Mr. Barletta responds; explaining that there is nothing planned right now but maybe if Northeastern applies for a building permit, they could have a discussion but as of now there is nothing planned.

Mr. Taylor responds; disagreeing for her answer, because if Northeastern applies on a Thursday or Friday the town has to wait a week before letting the people know about a meeting. He believe that they are going to apply. He has heard some great feedback from the Keep Nahant Wild who thought the same thing. "Whatever happens, happens. We will let the town know right away."

Mr. Barile responds; explains he still hasn't talked to Northeastern.

And he tells Deborah Vanderslice- 368 Nahant Road- to meet with Jeff (24 minutes in video)

Deborah Vanderslice- 368 Nahant Road- Tells the board that she met with Jeff before Christmas, she explains that when she met with him she talked about his solutions and she states that she has shared her opinions to him about her disagreeing with building on the hill, but how she does agree with sciences and enhancing what they have.

Mr. Barile; asked her what his solutions are?

Deborah Vanderslice- 368 Nahant Road- responded; with how she does not know his solutions but her and Jeff has agreed to disagree.

Mr. Barile responds; he thinks they made a decent presentation and he does not agree with the building the hill.

Deborah Vanderslice- 368 Nahant Road- agrees with Mr. Barile about Northeastern making a decent presentation and she thinks they really tried but she thinks for many reasons citizens of Nahant do not want to see the hill above the bunker tampered with, so she explains to the board that she left the conversation with Jeff saying ‘‘Maybe you could think out of the box, kind of blue sky it’’ She admits there was no animosity. She claims she brings all this up because she was curious what the next step is in the process because citizens do not know what is going on in town like they used to.

Alice Court- 7 Valley Road- Follow up about a meeting a couple of meetings ago was Josh Antrim brought up a suggestion that the town should look into a legality from the earlier by-law from about twenty years ago that created the natural resource area and thigh legally the town should have an answer to that before Northeastern submits any plans. Alice Court- 7 Valley Road- wants to know if there is any follow up regarding all of the legal basis.

Mr. Barletta responds- by agreeing and explaining to the residents that they had an executive session at a Board of Selectmen meeting and brought the towns attorney in and talked about it as a group. The T.A and the Board of Selectmen are looking into and preparing for that.

Roger Pazinski- 36 Swallow Cave Road- Wants more detail about the status on the survey, how many people filled out, is it still open, is the town waiting for more people, has it been sent out to have the data collected, and what would be the timeline for the residents to get feedback about the survey.

Mr. Barletta responds; telling him the survey is still open and explained the intent of the survey was to provide the TA and the Board of Selectmen with information about how residents felt about the presentation Northeastern gave. It was there to give the residents and

opportunity to understand more and to give the T.A and the Board of Selectmen some feedback of what the residents heard from Northeastern that night.

Mr. Barletta explains to Roger Pazinski- 36 Swallow Cave Road- that they can release the survey data on the Nahant website.

Mr. Barile responds; agreeing with Roger Pazinski- 36 Swallow Cave Road-, saying to post the survey data, and the results of the eminent domain assessment.

Mr. Barletta responds; disagreeing about the release the eminent domain assessment. He does not believe it is a good idea, and explains that the attorney doesn't think it is a good idea either even if the public wants it.

Mr. Barile responds; saying that he has no problem giving the public the results of the eminent domain assessment because they want it.

Roger Pazinski- 36 Swallow Cave Road-responds by adding that there is a lot of public interest in the results and he praises Mr. Barletta for being so open but claims there is very little information coming out so he states that releasing the survey in full detail would be something the public would like to see.

Michelle Capano- 29 Ocean Street- Does not know why Mr. Barile keeps advocating to release the Realestate assessment even though the T.A, Mr. Barletta and the town council both do not want to release it because he does not think it would be the smartest idea. She asked if the board would think thoughtfully about the tools the town has and the funding tools with the outside sources which the town hasn't addressed regarding what the actions might be.

Mr. Barile- makes it a point that it is the Keep Nahant Wild who wants the assessment.

Michelle Capano- 29 Ocean Street- Brings up and clarifies last year private funds through residents donated over \$70,000 to pay for the real estate assessment and gift that money to the town for that purpose. The purpose is an instrument for the town to use at some point, for maybe a legal advantage even if there is difference of opinions.

Mr. Barile- Explains he hears from many different people looking for the assessment and the public wants it.

Michelle Capano- 29 Ocean Street- Wants to know who owns the work product. The Town of Nahant or the Preservation Trust? Claims she hasn't seen legal agreements saying the Town of Nahant owns the work product so she does not know what the legal agreements are.

Mr. Barile- responded; explains that he was approached by Keep Nahant Wild to have a meeting. The agreements he made to have this meeting was that there would be two selectmen there and many Keep Nahant Wild members there but also it would need to be public. The Keep Nahant Wild club said in writing via email, absolutely no to Mr. Barile because they wanted to keep it private.

Mr. Taylor responds; by explaining he has had eight meetings with Northeastern and the lawyer but stopped because he was being accused of having ‘secret’ meetings. He explains the results of those meetings and the T.A and the lawyer was the December 11th meeting. No transparency issues and including the meeting date was said in December 11th since there has been no communication between the town and Northeastern. The town got stuck with budget and other things. Brings out the minutes from December 11th and points out that people from Keep Nahant Wild agreed with him about the East Point zoned NR. The maps that Alice Court- 7 Valley Road- made, Mr. Taylor hopes is done at the planning board meeting.

3. New Business

- a. Mr. Taylor: Appointment of Town Treasurer Collector.

TA: Posted the position twice the first time there was little response. Then put it back up, got more applications some qualified and some not. Narrowed it down to three, then two, the treasure Mr. Barletta is recommending for appointment is Brendan Carritte, pending a background check and Mr. Barletta states that his start date would be April 1st. Mr. Taylor made a motion; Board of Selectmen vote to approve the Town Administrator appointment of Brendan Carritte to fill the vacated position of Treasurer Collector pending a full background check.

Seconded by Mr. Lombard

Unanimous vote in favor

- b. Mr. Taylor: Annual meeting for Town Cover photos

Mr. Lombard: States that this topic is top secret.

TA: The idea is a surprise, not a transparency thing which is why they are voting on it as presented to Mr. Taylor.

Mr. Lombard: asks Mr. Chairman if he could move the Board of Selectmen voter approved the 2018 annual town report covers as presented by the T.A

Seconded by Mr. Taylor

Unanimous vote in favor

- c. Mr. Taylor: Unanimous Vote Approve YMCA of Metro North 5k Road Race for May 18th start time 8:30 a.m.

Mr. Barile: Moves the Board of Selectmen vote to approve the annual YMCA 5k tried on May 18th, 2019 from 8:30 to 11:00 a.m. at the Life Saving Station in Nahant

Mr. Taylor: Seconds the motion for discussion

Mr. Lombard: Wants to make sure that since the date is coming out of the Coast Guard Station, the town gets Police Officer Details for it.

Mr. Barletta: Confirms the Police Chief signed off

Mr. Taylor: States it is before beach time

Mr. Lombard: Thinks it is a very difficult area because of the traffic coming in and out
Unanimous vote in favor

d. Mr. Barile: Declare 1981 Mac Firetruck as surplus equipment

Mr. Lombard: Moves the Board of Selectmen voted to clear the surplus for the following number one in 1981 Mac Firetruck the VIN number for discussion

Seconded by Mr. Taylor for the discussion

Mr. Barile: Thinks someone wants to buy it from the town

Mr. Barletta: Responds with telling the Board that the fire department has a ceremony dedicating the new or bringing the new engine on board and the fire fighters talked about the old engine and how it came from New York in 2004, also it was covered in New York Yankees stickers when it arrived.

Unanimous vote in favor

e. Mr. Taylor: Unanimous Requests buy back of Cemetery Plot, William Mardon

Mr. Barile: Moves the Board of Selectmen vote to approve the buyback of cemetery plot from William Mardon discussion

Mr. Barile: Thinks it is a good deal, agrees the cemetery could always use the space.

Unanimous vote in favor.

f. Mr. Taylor: Approve one day Liquor License for Nahant Veterans Association multiple dates

Mr. Lombard: Moves the Board of Selectmen voter approved the one-day liquor license for the Nahant Veterans Association in the following dates, March 16th, May 4th, May 29th, June 14th, June 21st, and November 11th.

Seconded by Mr. Barile

Mr. Lombard: Wants to make sure the Legions having St. Patrick 's Day on March 16th, states that tickets will be \$20.00 and it would be a nice event.

TA: Wants to thank the Veterans Association and Peter the President. Also TA states that the town has approved these liquor licenses in the past one at a time throughout the year

because it is a lot of paperwork and it is very timely administratively and working together in the winter to put it together as a collective one time request.

Unanimous vote in favor

4. Town Administrator Report

TA- (2) Town Meeting Warrant and Budget Development Strategy- bring postponed until the next Board of Selectmen's meeting, because the town has been working with Fin Comm regular over the last few weeks and there need to be some final touches. Mr. Barletta is trying to attend as many events as possible around town to inform the residents or our financial situation and the purpose of the override. Mr. Barletta also wants to have one to two public meetings at the Town Hall during the week or on the weekend in April. It's to help and give people an additional opportunity to understand the book they've received in the mail and the importance of their vote. Mr. Barletta thinks that all residents should understand the importance of the financial situation because of it's an important decision that they will be making at the Town Meeting.

5. Ongoing Business

6. Closing Announcements

- a. Mr. Barile mentioned that Marty wanted him to tell the public that he has been picking up litter around town in his own car. Mr. Barletta adds to say Nahant is a clean community because of people like Marty and the DPW.
- b. Mr. Taylor mentioned the DPW on the day of the storm, they did a very great job.
- c. Mr. Lombard mentioned that we need to look at and have the potholes looked at around town and the DPW does a nice fine job at fixing those up.
- d. Mr. Barile mentioned on Tuesday March 19th, the wetlands regulations by-law meeting is at 7:00 p.m. and the planning board meeting is also on the 19th.
- e. Mr. Barletta adds that the Finance Committee is also meeting on Tuesday March 19th

7. Adjourn:

Mr. Taylor made a motion to adjourn

Seconded by Mr. Lombard

Unanimous vote in favor

Meeting adjourn 7:58pm

Meeting Minutes prepared by Bobbie-Jo Blair, Administrative Assistant & Maisie Vasquez

Minutes approved by the Board of Selectmen on the _____ day of _____ 2019.

Board of Selectmen