



**COMMONWEALTH OF MASSACHUSETTS
TOWN OF NEW MARLBOROUGH
OFFICE OF THE BOARD OF SELECTMEN
807 Mill River Southfield Road, Mill River, MA 01244-0099
Phone: 413-229-8116 Fax: 413-229-6674 E-mail: nmbdselectmen@aol.com**

**Lawrence H. Davis, III, Chair
Nathaniel H. Yohalem
Tara B. White
Board of Selectmen**

Minutes of March 18, 2013

The Meeting was opened at 6:30p.m.

Board Members Present: Lawrence H. Davis, III Chairman
Nathaniel Yohalem
Tara White

Others Present: Michael Skorput, Administrative Assistant
Nicole Reid, Administrative Secretary

Review, discuss, and sign warrants, correspondence and minutes.

The minutes of March 11, 2013 were approved as amended.

Chairman Lawrence H. Davis, III stated that last week the Selectmen conducted interviews for highway / laborer positions. The Board spoke with the highway superintendent regarding the candidates and have agreed to appoint (hire) two of the applicants.

A motion was made, seconded, and so voted to appoint (hire) Christopher Chaffee and Lynn Reineke-Kelsey to the highway department with their 90 day probationary period.

Louise Yohalem appeared before the Board on behalf of the New Marlborough Village Association. She stated "for over 50 years the New Marlborough Village Association has been taking care of the Village Green". Over the last couple years as the Association has expanded its programs it has become challenging for it to maintain all of the properties that it is currently taking care of. She inquired if the Town would be willing to share some of the costs as more than half of it belongs to the Town. The Board is open to the idea and agrees that if anyone in the Town could take this responsibility it would be the Cemetery Commissioners. Michael Skorput will check with Commissioners, Robert and Tami Palmer, and follow up with the Board with their response.

Cultural Council Awards – 2013 Grants

The Cultural Council presented grants to:

Organization	Grant Amount
Sheffield Whinnies 4-H Club	\$100.00
Wilderness Rites of Passage	\$200.00
Friends of the New Marlborough Town Library	\$445.00
Classic Screwball Comedies	\$500.00
Science and Arts Enrichment at NMCS	\$3000.00
SMARt Summer Program Scholarships	\$1000.00
Music & More 2013 Season	\$3000.00
Music in Common	\$500.00
Rev. Samuel Harrison Biography	\$150.00
Cantilena Chamber Choir	\$300.00
April Fools "Playshop"	\$400.00
Berkshire Children's Chorus	\$250.00
Project Bee	\$500.00
Plimoth Plantation Field Trip	\$350.00
Community Access to the Arts	\$141.00
Shakespeare & Company	\$400.00
Town of New Marlborough Board of Selectmen	\$100.00
Sounds of South America	\$200.00
Winter Solstice Wreath Arrangement Workshop	\$100.00
Sculpture Now	\$300.00
Berkshire Playwrights Lab	\$150.00
Bach and his Predecessors	\$250.00
Berkshire Festival of Women Writers	\$250.00
Sandisfield Arts Center	\$300.00
Elihu? The Man behind the Day	\$500.00
IS 183 Art School	\$150.00

Being that there was no further business to be brought before the Board, a motion was made and seconded to adjourn at 6:42 pm.

Respectfully submitted,



Nicole Reid

Administrative Secretary



**COMMONWEALTH OF MASSACHUSETTS
TOWN OF NEW MARLBOROUGH
OFFICE OF THE BOARD OF SELECTMEN
807 Mill River Southfield Road, Mill River, MA 01244-0099
Phone: 413-229-8116 Fax: 413-229-6674 E-mail: nmbdselectmen@aol.com**

**Lawrence H. Davis, III, Chair
Nathaniel H. Yohalem
Tara B. White
Board of Selectmen**

Minutes of March 27, 2013

The Meeting was opened at 5:00pm

Board Members Present: Lawrence H. Davis, III Chairman
Nathaniel Yohalem
Tara White

Others Present: Michael Skorput, Administrative Assistant
Nicole Reid, Administrative Secretary
Scott Farrell, Police Chief

The Board of Selectmen began their meeting at 5:00pm with Police Chief, Scott Farrell to review and discuss software upgrades [Tritech Software System] for the New Marlborough Police Department. The system is used by the majority of Police Departments in Berkshire County and the State of MA. The system is an efficient, organized and integrated software system that will benefit Police, Fire, and Emergency Response. The primary applications are used for information management and daily logging.

There was also discussion regarding the possibility of the Kolburne space, for the New Marlborough Police Department. Chief Farrell stated "If we can do something for a prolonged period of time there, it would be a good spot." It would be \$500.00 per month for the office and the garage. The Town would need to invest in security items. The principal concern is a secured area.

Review, discuss, and sign warrants, correspondence and minutes.

The Minutes of March 18th were approved as presented.

There was brief discussion regarding the purchase of a new trash compactor. Administrative assistant, Michael Skorput will look into the warranty details and additional costs.

The Board briefly discussed the MassWorks grant project. The State has significantly delayed its end of the signing process and the Board is concerned about losing the allocated

funds for the month of March. Administrative secretary, Nicole Reid will follow up with a phone and email to the MassWorks project manager.

The next items of correspondence were questions for review and discussion from State Representative, Smitty Pignatelli.

What is your opinion of the proposal to lower the sales tax? *“Fine”*

What is your opinion of the proposal to raise the income tax (both while increasing personal exemptions and not)? *“Without personal exemptions the Board is against it. With personal exemptions it would depend on the amount and type of exemptions.”*

How do you feel about the bulk of this revenue money being spent on transportation reforms?

“It is okay as long as it is fairly delegated and our town gets its appropriate share.”

What do you consider the three biggest transportation priorities in your town? *“Bridges and roads are the Towns foremost transportation priorities.”*

Review and discuss budget items for Town Warrant

Selectmen Yohalem inquired about the increase in medical expenses. Administrative assistant, Michael Skorput stated there are two new highway employees and both will need health insurance. The two previous highway employees did not utilize the Towns medical benefits, therefore the Towns’ medical expenses were lower in FY 2013

A motion was made and seconded to approve the following budget items. All were in favor with the exception of Selectman White who abstained from voting on the constable salary

Department Expense	FY 2013	FY 2014
Town Council	\$8,500.00	\$8,500.00
Town Officers Expense	\$1,000.00	\$1,000.00
Cemetery’s Officers Salary	\$400.00	\$400.00
SBRSD Operating	\$2,312,716.00	\$2,316,701.00
SBRSD Capitol	\$87,828.00	\$85,824.00
Library Salaries	\$50,066.00	\$51,305.00
Library Trustees	\$320.00	\$320.00
Police Department Rental	12,000.00	\$12,000.00
Police Salaries	\$74,576.00	\$82,376.00
Constable Salary	\$475.00	\$475.00
Transfer Station Expenses	\$62,500.00	\$61,000.00
Stabilization	\$50,000.00	\$50,000.00
Stabilization(FC)–Special Article	\$40,000.00	\$50,000.00

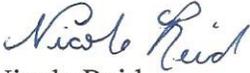
Selectmen Yohalem highlighted his concerns in regard to the increase in Police Officer Salaries. Police Chief, Scott Farrell was brought before the board to address this concern. It was determined the increase in salaries is for additional coverage.

The Board reviewed and discussed additional items including bridges/roads and a new fire truck. Both items will be listed as special article items on the Town Warrant.

Selectman Yohalem asked for updates on Town Hall renovations. Administrative assistant, Michael Skorput stated there were complications in regard to design for the elevator and restrooms. He will move forward with a plan this fall.

Being that there was no further business to be brought before the Board, a motion was made and seconded to adjourn at 7:05p.m.

Respectfully submitted,



Nicole Reid
Administrative Secretary