

Minutes of the Meeting of the Norwich Board of Listers 20 November 2017, 3:30 pm, Tracy Hall

Present: Cheryl A. Lindberg (Chair), Kris Clement, Dennis Kaufman (Listers); Bill Krajeski, Matt Krajeski (NEMC, Contract Assessors); Jonathan Bynum (Clerk & Scribe)

Public Present: Liz Blum, Linda Cook

Lindberg opened the meeting at 3:30 pm.

1. Review and Approval of Agenda

Clement **moved** (2nd Kaufman) to postpone all agenda items except for item 4 until later in the meeting, as time permits. Motion **passed 3-0**.

4. Meet with Contract Assessor

The Listers stated that they feel it is in the best interest of the Town for the current contract to continue with the dual reporting structure. They feel that this arrangement is consistent with the contract as written and is workable until 30 June 2018. The Listers do not think it is feasible to put out an RFP and hire a replacement Assessor/assessing company in time for the 2018 Grand List. They want NEMC to fulfill its contractual obligations through 30 June 2018, will not ask for passwords to the Patriot software, and are prepared to commit to establishing a closer working relationship with NEMC. Clement said that the Listers are asking for “more education rather than more demands.”

Bill Krajeski stated that he believes that there is a breach of contract on the part of the Town, and that he wants to be let out of the rest of the contract. He does not want to continue in the role of Norwich’s Contract Assessor, and does not believe that NEMC and the current Board of Listers can work together productively. The Krajeskis spoke to past incidents which they believe demonstrate the Listers’ lack of trust in NEMC. Bill Krajeski said that since there is no agreement between NEMC and the Listers over the status of the contract, the Selectboard would have to decide how to proceed.

The Listers asked about the status of inspections completed on the second year of the contract. Bill Krajeski replied that no inspections had been made to date, and that he had intended to do these in the spring of 2018.

During this discussion, Kaufman left the meeting at 3:45 pm and returned at 4:02 pm.

It was agreed to take a break at 4:50 pm. Bill and Matt Krajeski left the meeting at this point.

The Listers agreed to tell the Selectboard that they would prefer that NEMC stay at least until 30 June 2018 or someone else is hired, whichever comes later. The Listers will be reviewing a draft RFP for assessment services to be issued in 2018.

5. Calculation of Current Use Withdrawal Penalty

Since NEMC had left, this could not be discussed.

6. Lister Report and Data Page for FY17 Town Report

It was agreed that the Listers would draft the Report and the Clerk would draft the data page.

2. Public Comments/Correspondence

Kaufman **moved** (2nd Clement) to accept an email from Lynn McCormick. Motion **passed 3-0**.

3. Approval of Minutes of Lister Meetings of 20 October 2017, 6 November 2017 and 8 November 2017

Due to the lateness of the hour, it was agreed to postpone consideration of the minutes until the next meeting.

The next meeting was set for Friday, 1 December 2017 at 10 am.

11. Adjournment

Clement **moved** (2nd Kaufman) to adjourn at 5:30 pm. Motion **passed 3-0**.

Approved by the Board of Listers on 1 December 2017.

Cheryl A. Lindberg
Chair, Norwich Board of Listers