



Office of  
**SELECTMEN**  
340 Anawan Street  
Rehoboth, MA 02769

Tel.: (508) 252-3758  
Fax: (508) 252-5342

**BOARD OF SELECTMEN**  
**MEETING OF THE BOARD OF SELECTMEN**  
**MONDAY, FEBRUARY 14, 2022**  
**MEETING MINUTES**  
**SELECTMEN'S MEETING ROOM, TOWN HALL**  
**148 PECK STREET**

**Present:** Selectman Frederick "Skip" Vadnais, Selectman David Perry, Selectman James Muri, Selectman George Solas, Selectmen Michael Deignan and Interim Town Administrator Deborah Arruda

At 6:05 PM the Board voted to enter into Executive Session pursuant to MGL CHAPTER 30A, Section 21 (a) (4) To discuss the deployment of or strategy regarding security personnel or devices, e.g., a sting operation. (6) To consider the purchase, exchange, lease or value of real estate, if the chair declares that an open meeting may have a detrimental effect on the negotiating position of the public body.

**Topics: Discussion Re: Security and Anawan School**

**Call to Order at 7:00 p.m.:** The Board and the public participated in the Pledge of Allegiance to the Flag.

**1.0) Consent Agenda**

**Warrant for February 14, 2022:**

J. Muri motion to approve the Warrant for the week of February 14, 2022: 22-34B Payroll \$115,418.29; 22-33A Withholdings \$31,025.29; 22-33 Warrant \$5,109,096.20; 22-33R Refund Warrant \$8,849.29; 22-33R1 Refund Warrant \$1,648.54. Second by M. Deignan. Vote 5-0.

**Minutes:** Executive Minutes: none

Regular Minutes: 7/12/21, 7/19/21, and 8/30/21

J. Muri motion to approve Regular Meeting Minutes for July 12, 2021. Second by D. Perry.  
Vote 5-0.

J. Muri motion to approve Regular Meeting Minutes for July 19, 2021. Second by D. Perry.  
Vote 5-0.

J. Muri motion to approve Regular Meeting Minutes for August 30, 2021. Second by D. Perry.  
Vote 5-0.

**Announcements:**

Next BOS meeting will be Tuesday, February 22, 2022 at 7 PM at 148 Peck Street. Town offices will be closed on Monday, February 21st in observance of President's Day.

**TOWN ADMINISTRATOR'S REPORT**

On Tuesday, February 22 at 7:30pm we will have a Public Hearing for Class II Auto Dealership for Armando Pacheco, AP Auto Sales. Location will be 29 Fall River Avenue.

**OPEN PUBLIC FORUM:**

Chief Barresi spoke about the fire at 7 Park Street and spoke to the rumors that were going around. Chief Barresi thanked the mutual aid that helped the fire department. Investigation is still ongoing with the fire marshal.

J. Muri announced that Russ Latham passed over the weekend. He was an active community member and held many positions. J. Muri gave condolences to Russ Latham's family and friends.

S. Vadnais received a Valentine from Gert Messier, and thanked her.

**NEW BUSINESS:**

**Action Item (1): Vote to Appoint Geraldine Hamel as Public Health Nurse**

At last week's meeting Geraldine Hamel was present as she accepted the position of the Public Health Nurse.

J. Muri motion to appoint Geraldine (Geri) Hamel as the Public Health Nurse, effective 2/28/22-6/30/22. Second by M. Deignan. Vote 5-0.

**Action Item (2): Discussion Re: Recommendation from the Community Health Services Board of Overseers for a Part-Time Public Health Nurse, with possible action taken**

Dr. Robert Lambe and Dr. Bruce Thayer were present with their recommendation of a PT Public Health Nurse. (Time stamp 16:12)

J. Muri motion to Accept Stephanie Reis as the PT Public Health Nurse, for a term of 3 years. Second by M. Deignan.

J. Muri asked S. Reis if she's worked in a Town setting before.

S. Reis replied stating she works at Sturdy Memorial Hospital, worked in a college setting, and has worked with elderly for many years.

D. Perry asked if S. Reis had an issue with the hours (16-20 hours). S. Reis replied "no."

M. Deignan motion for an amendment to keep dates the same, 2/28/22-6/30/22. Second by D. Perry. Vote 5-0

**Action Item (3): Discussion Re: Open Communication**

Aaron Morse from the School Committee was present. (Time stamp: 24:12)

S. Vadnais spoke to Aaron Morse re: why he was invited to the meeting. Recent information was published by A. Morse's administration to the media. S. Vadnais asked who does the BOS rely on for information that comes from your administration? Chairman Vadnais stated it should come from a Chair to a Chair unless someone else is assigned. With a new Superintendent starting it is important that the line of communication is open. The BOS need to know who is in charge and allowed to speak on the School Committee's behalf, if not the Chair. A. Morse was asked to review with the School Committee Board and let the BOS know how to move forward.

A. Morse agreed that he would like to have an open line of communication. A. Morse stated that open communication is important and is the best option to move forward. There will be a discussion with his Board on a future agenda.

**Action Item (4): Discussion Re: K-8 De-Regionalization and Special Town Meeting, with possible action taken**

Mike Deignan spoke to the Board. Town Counsel has advised that this vote should be during a Special Town Meeting and the only Article discussed. (Time stamp 36:00)

G. Solas spoke to the difference between de-regionalization and withdrawing.

M. Deignan spoke about the Contract with the regional schools and how many years ago K-8 was not part of regional agreement. Residents petitioned the town before COVID to withdraw K-8. Town Counsel reviewed what was needed for the Town to take over. K-8 will be part of the budget process in the Town Warrant where the residents would have a chance to vote the budget.

D. Perry asked if Rehoboth takes control of K-8, does Dighton do the same?

M. Deignan does not know the answer, but Rehoboth would only be responsible for its students that are from the Town. M. Deignan recommends the Board that we should have K-8 withdrawal at Special Town Meeting with only this Article to be able to review. M. Deignan will review with the Town Clerk on the best time to hold the meeting – possibly August.

Jay Crandall and Mike McBride were present as members of K-8 withdrawal.

M. Deignan motion to schedule a separate Special Town Meeting to deal with K-8 withdrawal. Date to be determined after discussion with the Town Clerk. Second by D. Perry. Vote 5-0.

J. Muri motion to ask the members of the K-8 Study Committee to agree with a new date for when it gets scheduled. Second by M. Deignan. Vote 5-0.

**Action Item (5): Vote to Approve Town Planner/Conservation Agent Daniel Roach Employment Contract Renewal 2022-2025**

J. Muir motion to approve a 3-year renewal contract for Daniel Roach as Planner/Conservation Agent, expiring June 30, 2025. Second by M. Deignan. Vote 4-0. S. Vадnais was out of the room at the time of the vote

J. Muri confirmed all dates have been sync to the 3 Year Employment Contract. Salary also at 3%.

**Action Item (6): Discussion Re: Donation of Parcels of Land to the Town-Munwhague Swamp Approximately 10.75 acres Assessors Map 17 Lots M99, M56E and M107, with possible action taken**

The BOS office was notified by Middlebrook Investments, LLC with an offer to donate 3 parcels of land to the town. The lots are in or near the Munwhague Swamp.

J. Muri motion to accept the donations from Middlebrook Investments, LLC of approximately 10.75 acres of land in or near Munwhague Swamp. Assessor's Map 17 Lots M99, M56E and M107. Second by G. Solas. Vote 4-0. S. Vадnais was out of the room at the time of the vote.

D. Perry asked how this will impact the Town with taxes.

M. Deignan replied, about \$600.

Selectmen's Reports:

Vadnais: no report

Deignan: no report

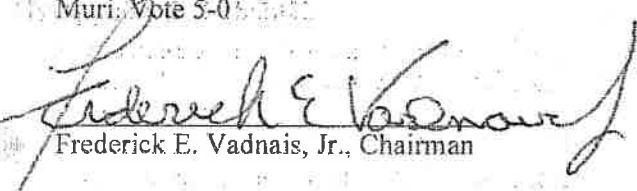
Perry:

1. Re: Snow storm on 2/13/22 – Social media comments on the Highway Departments job cleaning the roads. Stated that with only 3 employees, we did a good job.
2. Pot Hole at Beckwith / Palmer River – Highway Department does not maintain school property, but has been doing it out of courtesy. S. Vadnais spoke to Aaron Morse to work with Dr. Azar to make sure the school maintenance takes care of this issue.

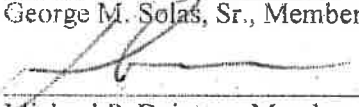
Muri: Will speak to Blanding Library request on scavenger hunt.

Solas: no report

**ADJOURNMENT:** Selectman D. Perry motion to adjourn the regular session. At 9:25 PM. Second by J. Muri. Vote 5-0

  
Frederick E. Vadnais, Jr., Chairman

\_\_\_\_\_  
George M. Solas, Sr., Member

  
\_\_\_\_\_  
Michael P. Deignan, Member

\_\_\_\_\_  
Respectfully Submitted,  
Logan Shaker

**Approved: 3/28/2022**