

**January 11, 2016**  
**Board of Selectmen Regular Minutes**  
**Rehoboth Senior Center**  
**55 Bay State Road**

**Present:** Chairman Costello, Selectman Pimental, Selectman Vadnais, Selectman Perry; Absent Selectman Schwall, Richard Panofsky, Jane Foster, Rob Johnson, Chief Trombetta, Lt. Brady, Sgt. Todd, Ron Whittemore, Lorraine Botts, Nancy Pupolo

The meeting was called to order at 7:00 pm by Chairman Costello opening with the Pledge of Allegiance to the Flag.

**WARRANTS:** 16-27A Withholdings \$22,552.26; 16-28 Invoices \$57,944.84; 16-28B Payroll \$81,377.45; 16-28V Veterans \$10,518.70

**MINUTES:** S. Pimental made a motion to approve the 9/29/14 BOS regular minutes, seconded by Selectman Perry noting that the date was incorrectly listed on the agenda and should be 9/29/2014 not 2015. Vote 4-0

Selectman Perry made a motion to approve the minutes for 10/14/15, second by Selectman Pimental. Vote 4-0

Selectman Vadnais noted that it is difficult to approve minutes which are not current; hard to remember what was discussed.

**Open Forum:**

**Republican Town Committee:** Lorraine Botts read a letter from the Republican Town Committee advising that the Republican Caucus will be held on Wednesday, 2/17/16 with an alternate date of 2/24/16 in case of inclement weather. Previously the Board had provided the Gladys L. Hurrell Senior Center for the caucus. The Board advised that the Senior Center would be available for the caucus.

**Chief Trombetta:** Chief Trombetta gave update on Pine Street break-ins. The Chief stated that a neighbor saw a gray SUV in a residence on Pine Street and called it in. Officers were on the scene in three minutes where suspects were taken into custody. The Chief thanked the resident who called in the incident and reminded the public that if they see something they should call it in and police will respond. Chief Trombetta thanked Officers DeCastro and Ferreira who were first on the scene and the Seekonk Police who assisted at the scene. Chief Trombetta asked the residents to be sure they have their address number identified out at the street. Chief Trombetta stated "Friday was a good day for our department".

**Next BOS meeting:** will be held on 1/19/16 at 7 PM at the Senior Center

**Town Administrator's Report:**

Regional Agreement Amendment Committee requests to give report which has been scheduled for 2/1/15 if meets BOS approval. Regional Agreement Amendment Committee was established late in 2014 tasked with the job of reviewing and modernizing the agreement between the towns of Dighton and Rehoboth establishing the Dighton Rehoboth Regional School District. The committee would like to present its

## 1/11/16 Board of Selectmen Minutes – Page 2 of 6

findings and recommendations at an upcoming selectmen's meeting. The current agreement was last updated in 1987 and as such is lacking information and clarifications related to recent educational reform and finance legislation. They would like members of the Finance Committee to be present and will have PowerPoint presentation taking about 20 minutes followed by a question and answer session. They will provide Board with annotated copy of the updated draft amendments in advance for your review.

BOS scheduled to meet with Dighton BOS on 2/1/16 in Rehoboth.

Algonquin Gas will hold Open Houses in January in order to provide updated information concerning the Access Northeast Project to landowners, public officials and interested stakeholders. The Open Houses are designed to enable people to get their questions answered by Project representatives. No formal speaking program; individuals may arrive at any time during the hours listed. FERC representatives will also be in attendance and will be available to speak with attendees. The Open House in your area will be held on Wednesday, January 20, 2016 5:30PM – 7:30PM at Francis Farm, 27 Francis Farm Road in Rehoboth

Jay Talerman will be meeting with Board on 2/1/16 instead of 1/19/16.

A letter from the BOS for the Fire Department's Annual Ball letter Forty Fifth Annual Firefighters' Ball to be held on March 19, 2016 has been prepared for the Board's signature.

Personnel Policy letter on sexual harassment will be going out next week.

### **Action Item (1): Discussion with Chief Trombetta Regarding Station Wi-Fi System**

Chief Trombetta had submitted invoices from CMIT for labor and materials for cable installation and testing of a Wi-Fi system recently installed at the Police Department to the Town Accountant for payment.

Chief Trombetta is requesting the BOS authorize the Town Accountant to make a journal correction and change the source of funding from the police department computer software maintenance account to the Town's computer account under control of the BOS.

Chief Trombetta, Lt. Brady and Sgt. Todd came before the Board to explain and clarify their request. Chairman Costello stated that the IT Committee should have been notified and also the BOS before incurring expenditure. The BOS stated that there is a BOS policy in place where unbudgeted expenditures over \$1,000 must be approved by the Board prior to incurring the expense.

Lt. Brady explained the original equipment purchase came out of a grant. This particular grant money could only be used to purchase non-weapon technology equipment, but cannot be used for installation. After discussion with the IT Committee we decided to get a quote for a WIFI system; received quote for \$5,476.60. Lt. Brady explained that at one time the Police Department had a \$10,000 computer hardware budget line, but that the computer lines for all departments were combined into one under the control of the BOS. The BOS stated they did this to have better oversight working with the IT Committee on a computer improvement plan. Chairman Costello questioned whether the IT Committee could have done the installation work. Chief Trombetta stated that Derek and Mark have been very helpful to the Police Department, but are volunteers and they did not want to impose upon them. The Board inquired if there

## **1/11/16 Board of Selectmen Minutes – Page 3 of 6**

would be a reoccurring monitoring fee to which they advised \$400 per month for which they had money in their budget to pay.

Selectman Pimental stated going forward we need guidelines and as a board need a plan.

On a motion made by Selectman Pimental, seconded by Selectman Perry, it was approved to request the Town Accountant make a journal entry to change the source of funding from the Police Department Computer Software Maintenance Account to the Town Computer Account under control of the Board of Selectmen for the invoices submitted by Chief Trombetta. Vote 4-0

### **Action Item (2): Animal Advisory Committee Discussion on Feral Cat Policy**

Richard Panofsky and Nancy came before the Board to discuss and review the draft Feral Cat Policy prepared by the Animal Advisory Committee. Selectman Vadnais stated the document speaks for itself. It was noted that Jane Foster, ACO, presented the Board with her concerns about the Feral Cat Program being presented. Richard Panofsky stated he does not see any of Jane's questions going unanswered and is grateful for input. The program when developed will have a lot more detail. Chairman Costello commented that they had put together an excellent document. Panofsky stated they consulted professional advice from several sources for the information. Selectman Pimental questioned why the cats just can't hang out in Rehoboth. It was stated that the number of cats get out of control and raises problems in neighborhoods where you will find a large number of diseased unvaccinated cats. If properly managed, over a four to five year period the population is controlled. Panofsky noted that the program is better managed by a non-profit organization that has the time and trained people to take on this project.

Chairman Costello asked that the Animal Advisory Committee get together with Jane and incorporate some of her concerns.

ACO Foster stated she is concerned about the safety of the people handling the cats as well as the safety of the public. She stated a concern over the Town's insurance being at risk; Chairman Costello advised that it is the Town's responsibility to insure people are protected.

Animal Advisory Committee to continue their work on the policy and submit final draft for review at a future meeting.

### **Action Item (3): Dog Kennel Permit for More than Four Dogs**

At the 5/11/15 annual town meeting, the Town voted to approve a General Bylaw amendment for maintaining a "personal dog kennel" for more than five dogs. A copy of the bylaw is attached. I have received a request for a

The Board on a motion made by Selectman Vadnais, seconded by Selectman Pimental voted to approve the guidelines and permit application for a "Personal Dog Kennel Permit (License)" to be used by anyone requesting permission to own more than four dogs as a personal kennel as prepared by Helen Dennen. Vote: 4-0

It was noted that the documents were forwarded to Richard Panofsky for his review; Panofsky's recommendations were incorporated into the document.

**1/11/16 Board of Selectmen Minutes – Page 4 of 6**

H. Dennen asked if the Board wanted as requirements that a Public Hearing be advertised and abutters be notified, to which the Board responded yes. The Board requested the approval of the Building Inspector be changed to the Zoning Officer on the form.

**Action Item (4): Library Payment**

On a motion made by Selectman Pimental, seconded by Selectman Vadnais, the Board voted to authorize payment to the Rehoboth Antiquarian Society in the amount of \$53,757.50 in payment of the FY16 third installment for the operation of the Blanding Public Library. Vote: 4-0

**Action Item (5): One Day Liquor License Applications**

On a motion made by Selectman Pimental, seconded by Selectman Perry, the Board voted to approve the following one day license. Vote 4-0

All Alcohol License for:

Name of Licensee: Dean Botelho, Holy Ghost Brotherhood of Charity  
Address of Licensed Premises: 43 Broad Street  
Effective Date(S) of License: 1/30/16 for Sale of Alcohol  
Transportation of Alcohol: 1/29/16 & 1/31/16  
Authorized Hours of Sale: 6:00 PM to 12:00 AM

On a motion made by Selectman Pimental, seconded by Selectman Perry, the Board voted to approve the following one day license per their verbal approval on 1/5/16. Vote 4-0

Wine & Malt License for:

Name of Licensee: Robert E. Johnson II; Rehoboth Call Firefighters Assoc.  
Address of Licensed Premises: South Seekonk Gun Club, 61 Reed Street  
Effective date (s) of license: January 9, 2016  
Transportation of alcohol dates: 1/8/16 thru 1/10/16  
Authorized Hours of Sale: 6:00 PM to 12:00 Midnight

**Action Item (6) Reserve Fund Transfer**

The Board voted on a motion made by Selectman Pimental, seconded by Selectman Perry to approve a Request for Transfer from the Reserve Fund from the Police Department for \$2,400 to be transferred into line 012103-57140 Expense Registrations. Vote: 4-0

**Action Item (7): Budget Amendments**

The Board voted on a motion made by Selectman Pimental, seconded by Selectman Vadnais to approve following Budget Amendments;

Line #	Department	Increase by:	Decrease by:
012103-57140	Police Exp. Regs	\$164.00	
012103-53030	Police Advertise		\$164.00
012103-57310	Police Exp Dues	\$544.00	
012103-52421	Police Radio Rep		\$544.00

## **1/11/16 Board of Selectmen Minutes – Page 5 of 6**

### **Action Item (8) 2016 License Renewal**

The Board on a motion made by Selectman Pimental, seconded by Selectman Vadnais voted to approve the 2016 license renewal application from Priscilla Mahler for LEA Limousine Service for a Livery License for one vehicle to be used at 66 Fall River Avenue – effective date of license 1/1/16 thru 12/31/16. Vote: 4-0

### **Action Item (9) 2015 ABCC Annual Report**

The Board voted on a motion made by Selectman Pimental, seconded by Selectman Vadnais to approve and sign Calendar Year 2015 Annual Report to the ABCC for the Town of Rehoboth as presented. Vote: 4-0

### **Action Item (10) Release Chapter 61A Parcels**

The Town received a request to release a portion of the parcel at 182 Moulton Street Map 22 Lot 30 owned by Frank & Muriel Valvano under Chapter 61B.

The Board voted on a motion made by Selectman Pimental, seconded by Selectman Vadnais voted not to exercise the Town's option to purchase and release from Chapter 61B and to sign release. Vote: 4-0

### **Action Item (11) 29 Fall River Avenue**

The Selectmen's Office received a report from the Building Inspector/Zoning Officer stating there seems to have been a lot of sub dividing of the interior of the building without any permitting over the years and asked if the BOS would like the him and the Fire Chief to perform an inspection of the premises. The Board wanted to be sure that the licensee which held a Class II Auto License at this premises was notified that they do not have a valid license and all activity at the site needs to cease. The Board voted on a motion made by Selectman Vadnais, seconded by Selectman Perry to so advise the holder of the expired Class II Auto License and formally inform all. Vote: 4-0

On the second issue, The Board voted on a motion made by Selectman Vadnais, seconded by Selectman Perry to direct Fire Chief, Board of Health and Building/Zoning Officer to perform an inspection of the premises and forward a report to the Board. Vote: 4-0

Johny Elnemer and Sabah Elnemer came before the Board stating they have been selling cars under her name and would like to get a license in their name for the premises at 29 Fall River Avenue. Chairman Costello instructed them to go to the Selectmen's Office for the paperwork and information on scheduling a Public Hearing to apply for a license.

### **Action Item (10) FY2017 Budget**

The Board reviewed the FY2017 budget guidelines letter to be sent to all departments and made the following comments:

- Selectman Pimental stated the BOS department liaison assignments were not correct.
- Chairman Costello stated he would review them and make corrections.

Selectman Pimental asked that the dates on the timetable be changed:

- Date each department is to submit budget to 2/3/16
- Date BOS will decide which department to meet with to 2/29/16

**1/11/16 Board of Selectmen Minutes – Page 6 of 6**

Letter will be revised and sent out to all departments, boards, etc. It was noted Cathy Doane will be sending out budget sheets by mid-January.

**Open Forum:** Jane Foster asked everyone to say a prayer for Allyson Chemelowski.

**BOS Reports:**

Costello: Chairman Costello reported that he would like to see the Town move forward with the sale of town owned property taken by tax title. If not sold by May we will lose our opportunity to sell the properties.

On a motion made by Selectman Vadnais, seconded by Selectman Pimental it it was voted to moved forward with sale of these properties and to further contact the same auctioneer used by the Town in the past to talk to him about the fee and find out the best way to handle. Vote: 4-0

Vadnais: None

Pimental: None

Perry: None

**Adjournment:** On a motion made by Selectman Pimental, seconded Perry, it was voted to adjourn the meeting at 8:15 PM. Vote: 4-0

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Michael R. Costello, Chairman

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Frederick E. Vadnais, Jr., Vice Chairman

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Susan M. Pimental, Clerk

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David A. Perry, Jr., Member

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ABSENT

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Gerald V. Schwall, Member

Respectfully submitted,

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Helen Dennen

Approved by Board of Selectmen on 1/19/16