

Office of  
SELECTMEN  
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**BOARD OF SELECTMEN  
MEETING MONDAY, APRIL 27, 2015  
MEETING MINUTES  
GLADYS L. HURRELL REHOBOTH SENIOR CENTER**

**Present:** Michael Costello, Chairman; Fredrick “Skip” Vadnais, Vice Chairman; Susan Pimental, Clerk; David Perry and Gerald Schwall

**Also Present:** Jeff Ritter, Town Administrator

**1.0) Executive Session:** At 6:00p.m. S. Pimental made a motion to enter into Executive Session, pursuant to Massachusetts General Law, Chapter 30A, and Section 21; (2) to conduct strategy sessions in preparation for negotiations with nonunion personnel or to conduct collective bargaining session or contract negotiations with nonunion personnel and (3) discuss strategy with respect to collective bargaining or litigation if an open meeting may have a detrimental effect on the bargaining or litigation position of the public body and the chair so declares.

Second, S. Vadnais. Roll Call Vote – Pimental – Aye; Perry – Aye; Vadnais – Aye; Schwall – Aye; Costello – Aye. Voted 5-0

**Topics of Discussion:** Contract Negotiations: Dispatchers Union; Clerical Union; Contract Negotiations with Non-Union Candidate for Building Inspector Position

**1.1) Call to Order at 7:14p.m.:** The Board and the public participated in the Pledge of Allegiance to the Flag.

**2.0) Consent Agenda**

**Warrants:** M. Costello read the weekly Warrants: 15-42A, Withholdings, \$109,721.47; Payroll: 15-43B, \$86,089.27; Invoices: 15-43, \$25,323.12. S. Pimental made a motion to approve the weekly Warrants as read. Second, G. Schwall. Voted 5-0

**Minutes:** S. Pimental made a motion to approve and release the Meeting Minutes from April 21, 2015. Second, D. Perry. Discussion: D. Perry noted that on the third page fifth paragraph, first word should read “consultant” and not D. Perry. Voted as amended 5-0

**3.0) Open Forum – Announcements:** M. Costello announced that Town Meeting will start on May 11, 2015 at the Dighton Rehoboth Regional High School auditorium starting at 7:00p.m.

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M. Costello said the Board of Selectmen will host a pre-town meeting discussion on Thursday, April 30, 2015 starting at 7:00p.m. at the Blanding Library.

The next regular meeting of the Board of Selectmen will be on Monday, May 4, 2015 at the Rehoboth Senior Center.

**Town Administrator's Report:** J. Ritter reported that the reappointment process will begin shortly. Last year went very smoothly when letters were sent the Chairmen of those boards or committee with members who had terms expiring. Unless there is an objection we will follow the same process this year. There was no objection.

The Board of Assessors Office will be closed for training on Thursday, April 30<sup>th</sup> from 9:00a.m. until noon.

J. Ritter said he was planning on inviting the Treasurer/Collector to meet with the Board next week to review some of the parcels of land that could be sold at auction. S. Pimental asked that she provide a list of outstanding taxes as well.

He received an E-Mail from a person who is interested in helping to clean up the Adolph Rotondo Wildlife Sanctuary. Anyone interested in helping out should contact the Selectmen's Office.

Next week, in addition to the Treasurer/Collector the Board will be meeting with the Dighton Board of Selectmen. Also, the Board will be meeting with the Town Clerk and the Town Moderator to review the Special and Annual Town Meeting Warrants.

**4.0) NEW BUSINESS: Action Item #1: Review & Approval of Request from Greenlock Therapeutic Riding Center to Hold 5K Race on October 25, 2015:** Carol Hill, Director of Development at the Greenlock Therapeutic Riding Center was present. She explained her request to use Town roadways on Sunday, October 25, 2015 starting at 10:00a.m. for a 5K road race. Further, she described the specific route the estimated 200 runners would take.

Fire Chief Barresi has reviewed and approved the request. Acting Chief Trombetta has also approved the request with the stipulation that they pay for two police details along the route.

M. Costello welcomed them to Rehoboth and wished them good luck with the event. G. Schwall volunteered to have a water station at the end of Lorimar Lane. S. Vadnais reminded C. Hill about the Board's policy on signs.

C. Hill said she understood the policy and the event should be over by 1:00p.m.

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S. Pimental made a motion to approve and grant permission to Greenlock Therapeutic Riding Center to hold a 5K event on Sunday, October 25, 2015 and for them to place temporary signs at various locations in Town. Second, S. Vadnais. Voted 5-0

**Action Item #2: Reappointment of Linda Sherman as Council on Aging Director:** S. Pimental made a motion to approve the hiring of Linda Sherman upon the completion of her six month probationary period which ended on April 13, 2015. Her term is through June 30, 2015. Second, D. Perry. Discussion: D. Perry noted he had met with L. Sherman several times and that she is very outgoing and has a strong vision for the future of the Senior Center and the services provided to the elderly and others in Rehoboth. Voted 5-0

**Action Item #3: Reappointment of John P. Taylor as Veterans Service Officer/Graves Officer:** S. Pimental made a motion to approve the hiring of John "Jack" P. Taylor upon the completion of his six month probationary period which ended on April 20, 2015 as the Veterans Service Officer/Graves Officer. His term is through June 30, 2015. Second, G. Schwall. Discussion: D. Perry reported he has met with Jack many times during his tenure with the Town and he is doing a great job on behalf of the Veterans. He also recently won an appeal on behalf of a local Veteran. Voted 5-0

**Action Item #4: Vote to Approve Budget Amendment for Highway \$300:** S. Pimental made a motion to approve the following budget amendment. To decrease budget line item 014203-53010 Highway Medical Physical in the amount of \$300 and to increase budget line item 014203-51910 Highway Uniform Allowance in the amount of \$300. Second, S. Vadnais. Voted 5-0

**Action Item #5: Vote to Approve Applications for One Day Liquor Licenses for Seekonk Police Honor Guard & Fusion Catering, LLC:** S. Pimental made a motion to approve and grant a One Day Wine & Malt Liquor License to Shaun Kelley, Seekonk Police Honor Guard, for an event to be held at South Seekonk Gun Club, 61 Reed Street on May 7, 2015 from 6:00p.m. until 10:00p.m. Second, G. Schwall. Voted 5-0

S. Pimental made a motion to approve and grant a One Day Wine & Malt Liquor License to David Dualon, Fusion Catering, LLC, 211 Pinecrest Drive, Pawtucket, R.I. for an event to be held at Five Bridge Inn, 152 Pine Street on May 17, 2015 from 5:30p.m. until 10:30p.m. Second, G. Schwall. Voted 5-0

**Action Item #6: Review Draft Motions for Special town Meeting & Annual Town Meeting:** The Board reviewed the motions for Special and Annual Town Meeting. G. Schwall asked if the motions had been provided to the Town Clerk and the moderator. J. Ritter responded that Town Counsel has reviewed and approved both sets of motions. The Town Clerk was provided a copy. He is meeting with the Town Clerk and the Town Moderator this Wednesday to review the Warrant and will provide a copy of the motions before that meeting.

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**Action Item #7: Article Assignments for Special and Annual Town Meeting:** The Board reviewed the article assignments for the Special Town Meeting as was prepared by J. Ritter. There were no changes to the assignments.

Regarding the Annual Town Meeting the following adjustments to the article assignments were noted. Article 7.) 280 Summer street PILOT Solar Project, Drop Sue and insert Mike. Article 18.) Petition to Authorize the Selectmen to Sell Parcel off Rocky Hill Road, drop Mike insert Dave. Article 21.) Re-Authorize Revolving Account Palmer River, drop Mike insert Dave. Article 23.) Acceptance of Board of Health Transfer Station Financial Report, drop Dave insert Gerry. Article 25.) Dighton Rehoboth Regional School District Committee Capital Projects Task force, drop Sue insert School Committee. Article 27 Acceptance of Report of Blanding Library drop Sue insert Library Trustees.

**Action Item #8: Discussion Re: Pre-Town Meeting Schedule:** M. Costello stated he was working under the impression that the Thursday Pre-Town Meeting would be more of a question and answer discussion of each articles within both Warrants. Town Counsel Jay Talerman will also be present.

S. Pimental stated that this is a good opportunity for the public to ask hard questions and they should come to Town Meeting prepared and knowledgeable about how the finances of the Town work. The Pre-Town Meeting is intended to allow the public to gather information so they can make informed decisions

D. Perry said the Pre-Town Meeting should be an opportunity to ask questions and get answers about specific articles in the Special and Annual Town Meeting Warrants. It should not be a debate on the merits of any particular article.

G. Schwall noted that the Pre-Town Meeting will allow the public to better understand and educate themselves as to what “free cash” and stabilization mean and how these revenues can be used. The Selectmen can present each article and the Finance Committee can explain the funding sources. Perhaps the financial articles can be presented first followed by the nonfinancial articles.

The Board agreed to post the Finance Committee presentation to the Town’s web site after the Thursday Pre-Town Meeting and to allow G. Schwall to lead the discussion.

J. Ritter will provide extra copies of the Warrants.

**5.0) OLD BUSINESS:** None

**6.0) OTHER BUSINESS: (Building Commissioner Appointment):** S. Vadnais made a motion to appoint John Santos (currently the Local Building Inspector) to fill the full-time

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position of Building Commissioner/Zoning Enforcement Officer effective today with a start date of May 18<sup>th</sup> or sooner if necessary. Further, to internally post the Local Building Inspector opening. Second, S. Pimental. Voted 5-0

**7.0) OPEN PUBLIC FORUM:** None

**8.0) BOARD OF SELECTMEN REPORTS:** S. Pimental reported that she attended the open day of the Rehoboth Little League last Saturday. The Dighton Rehoboth Marching Band was present and did an outstanding job. There were approximately 200 to 400 people present.

G. Schwall said he and his wife were also present at the opening day event and it was a very moving ceremony. He noted it was a very uplifting to see so many giving people in Rehoboth.

Tomorrow the School Committee is meeting and he has expressed his interest in being appointed to the Collective Bargaining sub-committee as the Dighton Rehoboth Municipal Representative. There are three (3) contracts expiring and he is ready to get to work.

**9.0) EXECUTIVE SESSION:** None

**10.0) ADJOURNMENT:** S. Pimental made a motion to adjourn the meeting at 7:56p.m. Second, G. Schwall. Voted 5-0

Respectfully submitted,

J. Jeffrey Ritter  
Town Administrator

Approved 5/4/15