



Office of
SELECTMEN
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**BOARD OF SELECTMEN
MEETING OF THE BOARD OF SELECTMEN
MONDAY, OCTOBER 5, 2020
MEETING MINUTES
SELECTMEN'S MEETING ROOM, TOWN HALL**

Present: Selectman Frederick "Skip" Vadnais; Selectman Gerry Schwall, Selectman Dave Perry, Selectman James Muri, Selectmen Michael Costello and Deborah Arruda, Interim Town Administrator

At 6:00 PM it was voted to enter into Executive Session pursuant to **MGL CHAPTER 30A, Section 21(a)** (2.) *To conduct strategy sessions in preparation for negotiations with nonunion personnel or to conduct collective bargaining sessions or contract negotiations with nonunion personnel;* (6.) *To consider the purchase, exchange, lease or value of real property if the chair declares that an open meeting may have a detrimental effect on the negotiating position of the public body;* (7.) *To comply with, or act under the authority of, any general or special law or federal grant-in-aid requirements.*

Roll Call Vote: Vadnais, aye; Muri, aye; Perry, aye; Schwall, aye; Costello, aye. Vote 5-0

Call to Order at 8:20 p.m.: The Board and the public participated in the Pledge of Allegiance to the Flag.

1.0) Consent Agenda

Warrants for October 5th, 2020: D. Perry read the weekly Warrants; 21-14B Payroll, \$130,197.61; 21-13A Withholdings, \$31,591.25; 21-14 Warrant, \$20,025.68; 21-14R Refund Warrant, \$410.59. D. Perry motioned to approve the weekly Warrants as read. Second by J. Muri. Vote 5-0

Minutes: Regular Minutes: 8/20/2018 and 8/27/2018
Executive Session Minutes: none

J. Muri motion to approve Regular Meeting Minutes for August 20, 2018. Second by D. Perry. Vote 5-0.

J. Muri motion to approve Regular Meeting Minutes for August 27, 2018. Second by D. Perry. Vote 5-0.

Announcements:

Next Selectmen's meeting will be held on Tuesday, October 13th, at 7:00 PM at the Town Hall in the Selectmen's Meeting Room, 148 Peck Street.

Offices will be closed Monday October 12th in observance of Columbus Day.

Laura Schwall, Town Clerk, regarding the Elections

- Secretary Galvin made the announcement that all cities/towns received their ballots, but Rehoboth only received a portion of the ballots.
- Rehoboth at 12:00PM received a partial shipment, working as quickly as possible, need to get out 3571 ballots.

- You can check the status of your ballot by going to "Track My Ballot MA" and fill out information and it will provide all updated information as your ballot moves through the cycle.
- Shipment was received incorrectly from State

Early In-Person Voting is October 17th through October 30th at Town Hall 148 Peck Street. Weekend Hours are 10:00 AM-2:00 PM, Monday -Thursday hours are 8:00AM -4:00PM, Friday 8:00 AM -12:00 PM.

-Enter using back doors, line up outside per state regulations

November 3rd Election Day will be held at Palmer River Elementary School Gymnasium for all precincts, 7:00 AM- 8:00 PM

Town Administrator's Report:

We will begin the interviewing process for the Assessor's Administrative Aide this week. We received a total of 7 applicants.

As of last week, we went from zero new cases to having 3 new cases for COVID in town. And with the recent outbreak in Attleboro, we at Town Hall feel we need to take serious precautions. Beginning this week and until further notice, we are asking the public to please call the appropriate department that you need to speak to prior to coming to the town offices. If you need to see someone in Town Hall, we are asking that you make an appointment. There are many services available online and we have the mailboxes outside of the building that you can drop off any paperwork. We are here to help you and we feel we can do a better job, if we are prepared for you. We have posted a notice on the Town's website with the department names and phone numbers for your convenience. Thank you.

Today Town Nurse reported currently in the Town of Rehoboth we have 107 COVID cases to date since the beginning of the pandemic., 16 probable, 91 confirmed. Several new cases and many new exposures in the past few weeks. The next pediatric drive thru Flu Clinic will be announced shortly, as she has received new doses from the State.

NEW BUSINESS:

Action Item #1: Vote to Approve the Use of a Mobile Unit

We were approached by a resident regarding the need of a Mobile Home Unit at 139 Homestead Ave. Due to Covid-19 they cannot evict their tenant who has not paid any rent this year. They just sold the house they were living in and wanted to move into the house in which they own that the tenant is occupying. Without the mobile unit they will be out on the streets.

J. Muri motion to table. Second by M. Costello. Vote 5-0.

Discussion:

S. Vadnais spoke to Board of Health, need to hold, permit needed, current system needs fixing. Resident to call Board of Health and work out issues.

Action Item #2: Discussion RE: Social Media Policy

The Cultural Council would like approval to set up a social media page.

Discussion:

J. Muri spoke of how he has had many discussions with others and IT Director. His recommendation to BOS is to allow (grandfather) Boards/Committees/Departments to keep current social media until IT Committee meets to put together a policy. For example, Police and Fire Departments have their own websites.

Board discussed issues with having Town Employees/volunteers sharing any discussion online that are not facts.

J. Muri motioned to allow current Boards/Committees/Departments to keep current account until policy is adopted by BOS and IT Committee, only until we adopt a policy. Second by M. Costello. Vote 5-0.

Motion amended to include sunset clause for current Boards/Committees.

Action Item #3: Discussion RE: Street Naming Policy

Selectman Muri is suggesting the Historical Society create a list of 100 street names, of significance to the Town, historic or otherwise, to send to the BOS for Approval, then Planning Board to have for use when accepting street names. As names are being used, get more added. Names would be vetted so that they meet all the requirements with public safety, etc.

J. Muri motioned that the Historical Society will come up with 100 or so street names to send to the BOS for Approval, then Planning Board to have for use when accepting street names. As names are being used, get more added. Second by D. Perry. Vote 4-0. M. Costello abstained.

Discussion:

G. Schwall, asked if it still comes before the Board for approval.

D. Perry asked if developers can reach out to Board if they would like to use a different name.

Board agreed there may be special circumstances but want to stay with one procedure.

Action Item #4: Discussion and Vote on COA Advisory Committee

Selectman Costello discussed the selection for the COA Building Advisory Committee.

Himself, Dave Perry, Bill McDonough, Building Commissioner, Ryan DuVally, as a citizen/developer, and Ron Whittemore, as a Senior Advisor. Other professionals (electricians, fire chief, Board of Health) will be invited to meetings as needed. All information will come back to BOS for discussion and approval. First order of business will be to get an architect.

M. Costello motioned to form an ad hoc committee with the following individuals for the purpose of advising the building of the new Council on Aging Center. Second by D. Perry. Vote 5-0.

Action Item #5: Vote to Approve Payment to Rehoboth Antiquarian Society-Blanding Library

BOS office received a request from the Antiquarian Society for the 2nd disbursement of \$63,004.75 for the Blanding Library. This is per our agreement with them and it represents 25% of the total due \$252,019.00.

D. Perry motioned to approve payment of \$63,004.75 to the Rehoboth Antiquarian Society for the Blanding Library according to our agreement. Second by J. Muri. Vote 5-0.

Action Item #6: Vote to Accept Contract with Energy Source-Green Community Project

We have been working with Carolyn Panofsky of the Green Energy Committee and the State on a grant to upgrade certain town buildings with better energy saving equipment and processes. EnergySource will be doing the work and the total for the upgrades with labor is \$76,007.10. They are looking for 25% down which is \$19,001.78. However, we have received from the state, \$37,095.00 as part of the grant, which we can use to pay the 25% down payment.

J. Muri updated the Board with additional information based on a conference call he held on Friday, October 2nd. Work will need to be done by February 2021.

J. Muri motioned to enter into a contract with EnergySource and agree to pay \$19,001.78 which is 25% of the total due of \$76,007.10. Second by M. Costello. Vote 5-0.

Discussion:

J. Muri reviewed with Board current discussion with State. EnergySource will need to be scheduled to come to Town and begin the process.

Action Item #7: Appointments, as submitted

We have received another volunteer to help with the elections.

D. Perry motioned to appoint Sheila Bouchard, Election Worker, Inspector, Unenrolled, Precinct 1. Effective: 10/5/2020 – 10/30/2020. Second by G. Schwall. Vote 5-0.

Selectmen's Reports:

Perry: none

Costello: none

Schwall: There has been a lot of activity on Chapter 61. Town Counsel was asked to weigh in to make sure we as a Town are following the proper rules. Would like Town Counsel to come to a Board meeting to discuss, as an agenda item. Assessors should also be reaching out to Town Counsel.

-J. Muri reply that he thinks the Assessors should be involved in that meeting, like a workshop.

-S. Vadnais agrees that Assessors should be involved, as they deal with it.

-M. Costello-We need to do things correctly and the right way for the Town.

-G. Schwall has questions to ask of Counsel, regarding conveyance fees, assigning our right to another party to keep in Chapter, etc.

-S. Vadnais -Continue to move the process along unless a Board/Committee has interest.

-Ask Town Counsel when they are available to attend a meeting with Assessors, after Election.

Muri: Shout out to Vets for helping with painting at the new COA location, soon to open by next week.

-G. Schwall We were be able to repurpose the refrigerator from the Dorrance Building for the COA

Vadnais: none

ADJOURNMENT: Selectmen M Costello made a motion to adjourn the Regular Session Meeting at 9:05PM., Second by Selectmen G. Schwall. Perry – aye; Costello – aye; Muri – aye, and Schwall – aye, Vadnais – aye.

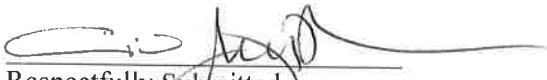
Frederick E. Vadnais, Jr., Chairman

James Muri, Vice Chairman

David A. Perry, Jr., Clerk

Gerald V. Schwall, Member

Michael Costello, Member



Respectfully Submitted,

Cindy McDonough

Assistant to the Town Administrator

Approved :2/22/2021