



Office of
SELECTMEN
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**BOARD OF SELECTMEN
MEETING OF THE BOARD OF SELECTMEN
MONDAY, NOVEMBER 1, 2021
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

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 November 1, 2021:

J. Muri motion to approve the Warrant for the week of November 1, 2021: 22-19B Payroll \$112,730.07; 22-18A Withholdings \$38,540.55; 22-18 Warrant \$351,496.10. Second by D. Perry. Vote 5-0.

Minutes: Executive Minutes: none
Regular Minutes: none

Announcements:

The Next Selectmen's Meeting will be held on Monday, November 8th at 7 PM at Town Hall.

TOWN ADMINISTRATOR'S REPORT

Reminder: The Personnel Board and the IT Committee are looking for volunteers for their committees. If someone is interested in helping them, please forward your talent bank form to the Selectmen's office.

OPEN PUBLIC FORUM:

J. Muri gave an update from the Public Nurse: The month of 10/1/21-11/1/21 there were 94 cases. The last two weeks there were 25 cases. The number of cases is going down. J. Muri announced vaccines and boosters are still available at Anawan Pharmacy. The town nurse has reached out to homebound residents.

D. Perry addressed an article in the Sun Chronical that stated the new Town Hall would open on October 31st 2021 – that is not correct. Read a statement that cleared up the matter.

J. Muri thanked the Fire Dept, Police Dept, Highway Dept, Forestry Dept, and National Grid for their hard work in getting the Town back up and running in under 24 hours after the nor easter.

Tish Vadnais asked the Board when residents will be able to go for their COVID booster shot. J. Muri replied that'll be 6 months after your second shot for 65+ and immune compromised. G. Solas confirmed that the CDC set a 6 month wait period, and clarified that J+J is only a 2 month wait period.

Tish Vadnais asked about the Town's internet choices. Stated that Verizon has been in the area wiring polls, so why are residents only given the choice of Comcast? The Board discussed reasons why it is not possible at this time to have more choices.

NEW BUSINESS:

Action Item (1): Vote to Accept Police Chief's Recommendation for New Hire-PT Dispatcher-Angela Michalski

Chief Trombetta is asking for the Board's acceptance/approval on a new hire for the PT Dispatcher's position, Angela Michalski. Per the Chief she has completed the required in-house and State 911 training and has passed the pre-employment physical.

J. Muri motion to Accept Angela Michalski as the part-time dispatcher for the Police Dept effective 11/1/2021. Second by D. Perry. Vote 5-0.

Action Item (2): Discussion with Town Clerk and Vote of the Board of Selectmen to Designate Francis Farm as the Centralized Polling Location for the Town of Rehoboth

Town Clerk, Laura Schwall will be present to discuss this. (Timestamp 33:40).

L. Schwall stated the Town's re-precincting has been approved and is being worked on. The Francis Farm polling location would guarantee that voters and students are not together, the School Committee wouldn't have to approve the elections, and Francis Farm is slightly larger than a school gym.

M. Deignan motion to designate Francis Farm 27 Francis Farm Road as the Centralized Polling Location for the Town of Rehoboth. Second by J. Muri. Vote 5-0.

Action Item (2A): Town Clerk Update on Potential District-Wide Ballot Vote and Possible Action Taken

The Town Clerk will be present to discuss this with the Board. This pertains to the Project Funding Agreement for Bristol-Plymouth Regional Tech School. The ballot vote date, if passed will be Saturday, December 11, 2021.

L. Schwall went through the process of what needs to be done in order to keep this date of a 12/11/21 election. Jay Talerma sent a letter to the Superintendent to postpone until January 2022. The timing is too tight. L. Schwall requested someone from the Board attend the meeting with her on 11/3/21 at 6pm - G. Solas will accompany L. Schwall.

M. Deignan asked why Jim Clark has not been to the meetings to update the Board on this matter. There will need to be a Debt Exclusion note at Town Meeting.

J. Muri motion to approve the BOS to send a letter to Bristol-Plymouth on 11/2/21. Second by M. Deignan. Vote 5-0.

G. Solas will hand deliver the letter

Action Item (3): Vote to Appoint Ingrid Gustafson as an Election Worker and Vaccine Clinic Worker/Volunteer

Our office received a Talent Bank Form from Ms. Ingrid Gustafson. She is asking to help as an Election Worker and also at the Vaccine Clinic/Contract Tracing with the Public Health Nurse.

J. Muri motion to appoint Ingrid Gustafson as an Election Worker-Inspector-Unenrolled, Precinct II. Effective 11/1/2021 - 8/15/2022. Second by M. Deignan. Vote 5-0.

J. Muri motion to appoint Ingrid Gustafson as Working/Volunteering in the Vaccination Center. Effective 11/1/2021 – 12/31/2021. Second by M. Deignan. Vote 5-0.

Action Item (4): Vote to Approve Janice Makarchuk as a Volunteer for the COA

Janice Makarchuk has sent in a Talent Bank Form to help the COA with delivering of Meals on Wheels. CORI check has been cleared.

J. Muri motion to approve Janice Makarchuk as a volunteer to help with Meals on Wheels for the COA. Second by M. Deignan. Vote 5-0.

Action Item (5): Vote to Accept the Resignation of Jann McMurry-Historical Commission

On October 25, 2021 the Town Clerk's office received the signed resignation letter from Jann McMurry from the Historical Commission. Jann has been part of the commission since 2016. Her and her husband moved out of Town in August.

The Board thanked Jane for her service to the Town.

J. Muri motion to accept the resignation from Jann McMurry from the Historical Commission, effective 10/25/21. Second by M. Deignan. Vote 5-0.

Action Item (6): Vote to Approve One Day Entertainment License for Faxon Farm -Lincoln School Athletic Facility

Our office received a request from the Lincoln School for a One Day Entertainment License. The event will be held on their fields at Faxon Farm on Danforth St and it is for a school dance. They will have a DJ and amplifiers at the event. They were working with the building dept to pull any necessary tent permits that were required.

J. Muri motion to Approve a One Day Entertainment License for Faxon Farm-Lincoln School Athletic Facility for November 13, 2021 beginning at 7:30 PM to 10:30 PM. Second by D. Perry. Vote 5-0.

J. Muri amended the motion to add, contingent upon review and approval from safety personnel and proper needs. Second by D. Perry

Action Item (7): Vote to Approve 2 New Hires for the Board of Health-Transfer Station-William Hanrahan-Transfer Station Manager and Michael Watson Part-time/Per Diem Transfer Station Monitor

The Board of Health conducted interviews on October 26, 2021 for the 2 positions that are opened at the Transfer Station. They are asking for the Board of Selectmen's approval for both individuals. Hire date will be contingent upon a successful pre-employment physical.

J. Muri motion to Approve the hiring of William Hanrahan as Part-time Transfer Station Manager. Start date is contingent upon a successful pre-employment physical. Second by D. Perry. Vote 5-0.

J. Muri motion to Approve the hiring of Michael Watson as part-time/per diem Transfer Station Monitor. Start date is contingent upon a successful pre-employment physical. Second by D. Perry. Vote 5-0.

Action Item (8): Vote to Ratify Chairman's Approval for Signature for Fire Dept's Repeaters Equipment

Chairman Vadnais approved Selectman George Solas to sign the order/agreement for the Fire Dept's Repeaters Equipment. Last week the department began having issues with them and they needed to be replaced.

J. Muri motion to Ratify the Chairman of the Board's approval, allowing Selectman Solas to sign the agreement/order for the Repeaters for the Fire Dept. Second by D. Perry. Vote 5-0.

OLD BUSINESS:

Action Item (1): Continuance of Public Hearing-Class II Application for Barry Bixby Automotive, LLC dba European Motor Cars

This is a continuation of last week's Public Hearing. Mr. Bixby will be supplying the Board with a parking lot plan to show where customers, employees, and vehicles for sale will be located. Any other questions that the Board may need answered will be dealt with as well. (Timestamp 1:12:10).

J. Muri motion to Continue the Public Hearing for Barry Bixby Automotive, LLC dba European Motor Cars.

Roll call vote. Vadnais – aye, Perry – aye, Muri-aye, Solas – aye, Deignan – aye. (5-0)

D. Perry states he is very familiar with the site or area and has no questions.

S. Vadnais states that Public Safety and Highway will have to review the layout of ingress/egress for Public Safety. Per the Board's last meeting and allegations (Re: vehicles and VIN #'s)—the Board had to look into the matter.

Chief Trombetta/Sargent Ramos were present to read a report of an investigation that was done: Sargent Ramos worked with Mr. Bixby and Mr. Oliveira regarding allegations about the Volvo vehicle at the station. Sgt. Ramos went through the process and steps that were taken. – an invoice has Barry Bixby name dba Auto Show, but Mr. Bixby would not return calls from Mr. Oliveira Auto Sales. Mr. Bixby was hired to sell cars at Auto Show using Mr. Oliveira's License.

D. Perry asked if this issue was ever brought up to the police since it happened in 2017 – the issue was not brought up to police at that time.

Mr. Oliveira was present to speak to the events of the Volvo/Porsche. Mr. Oliveira states these vehicles were never on the property.

Mr. Bixby's attorney Joe Carnavelli was present for the public hearing. Mr. Carnavelli thanked the Board and the Police Department for their time. He continues to let the Board know that Mr. Bixby has provided the layout of the parking lot as was requested. He felt that his client has complied with everything that the Board has asked and is requesting approval of the Class II be given to his client.

J. Muri motion to Close the Public Hearing for Barry Bixby Automotive, LLC dba European Motor Cars. Second by M. Deignan.

Roll call vote. Vadnais – aye, Perry – aye, Muri-aye, Solas – aye, Deignan – aye. (5-0)

Some of the Board members felt there were too many issues with the paperwork that was provided to them showing false information from past sales with Mr. Bixby. There were still unanswered questions and too many "gray" areas.

M. Deignan motion to Deny the Class II License for Barry Bixby Automotive, LLC dba European Motor Cars on 74 Fall River Avenue, Rehoboth for the following listed reasons. Second by G. Solas. Vote 4-0. Selectman David Perry abstained from the vote.

Reasons:

1. Before us there were several questions on past paperwork
2. Paperwork is unclear/sketchy and Chief Trombetta agrees
3. Vehicles sold previously were not on the record log at Auto Show location that Mr. Bixby sold to clients. This was confirmed by Chief Trombetta and the owner of Auto Show.

Selectmen's Reports:

Vadnais: no report

Deignan: Read an article on Rehoboth Talk – about the Demo at the school, and is on hold – this is not true. We are waiting on quotes and timing before moving forward.

Perry: Had a discussion at a meeting with the Recreation Committee and Francis Farm. The meeting went well and D. Perry took a tour of the facility. The next meeting will organize and begin preparing a plan to use the property. S. Vadnais discussed trail walks – the committee will bring plans to the BOS for approval/discussion, and may establish offices for Historical/Recreational Committees at the Francis Farm Arcade building.


Muri: no report


Solas: Ted Ballard's wake was on 10/31/21. Ten Lions Club members (including G. Solas) were present. Many nice words were said.

ADJOURNMENT: Selectman M. Deignan motion to adjourn the regular session. At 9:52PM. Second by J. Muri. Vote 5-0.


Frederick E. Vadnais, Jr., Chairman


George M. Solas, Sr., Clerk


Michael P. Deignan, Vice Chair


Robert Johnson II, Member

Leonard Mills, Jr., Member

Respectfully Submitted,
Logan Shaker

Approved: 6/13/2022