



Office of  
SELECTMEN  
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**BOARD OF SELECTMEN  
MEETING MONDAY, MARCH 2, 2020  
MEETING MINUTES  
GLADYS L. HURRELL REHOBOTH SENIOR CENTER**

**Present:** Selectman Gerry Schwall, Selectman Frederick "Skip" Vadnais, Selectman Dave Perry, Selectman James Muri, Selectman Michael Costello, and Deborah Arruda, Assistant to the Town Administrator.

At **6:30 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 non-union personnel.*

On a motion made by Selectman Perry, seconded by Selectman Vadnais, the Board voted to enter into Executive Session.

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

**Call to Order at 7:08 p.m.:** The Board and the public participated in the Pledge of Allegiance to the Flag.

**1.0) Consent Agenda**

**Warrants for March 2nd, 2020:** G. Schwall read the weekly Warrants; 20-35A Withholdings, \$37,895.65, 20-36B Payroll, \$103,160.44; 20-35 Warrant, \$48,635.93; 20-35R Refund Warrant, \$400.21, 20-35R1 Refund Warrant, \$318.95. J. Muri motioned to approve the weekly Warrants as read. Second by S. Vadnais. Vote 5-0

**Minutes:**

Regular Minutes: May 28, 2019

S. Vadnais motion to approve the Regular Meeting Minutes for May 28, 2019. Second J. Muri. Vote 5-0.

Executive Minutes: April 29, 2019

J. Muri motioned to approve Executive Meeting Minutes for April 29, 2019. Second S. Vadnais. Vote 5-0.

**Open Forum – Announcements:**

Mr. Ron Whittemore of Pond Street representing the Keep Rehoboth Beautiful Committee.

Mr. Whittemore presented trash bags to be used during clean up. The poster contest is only for the Middle School, this is a correction from what was stated at last week's meeting. April 18, 2020 – April 26, 2020 is the town clean up. All the information can be found on the website, KeepRehobothBeautiful.com. Trash bags will be at their locations soon. You can sign up online or print out the form and send it in.

G. Schwall stated that this week we learned that Columbia Gas is no longer allowed to work in Massachusetts. Eversource Energy will be taking over.

G. Schwall stated that it has been brought to our attention that there is a resident that watches every one of our meetings. Welcomed "Gert" to the meeting and thanked her for watching.

The next Selectmen's meeting is scheduled for Monday, March 9<sup>th</sup> at the COA Building, 55 Bay State Road at 7:00PM.

M. Costello stated that the Reynolds Ave substation will have an open house on Tuesday March 10, 2020 at 6PM at the COA.

L. Schwall reminded voters that tomorrow March 3, 2020 is voting day from 7AM – 8PM, all precincts will be open. We had 226 early voters.

### **NEW BUSINESS:**

#### **Action Item #1 Discussion with Fire Chief RE: Extractor Grant**

J. Muri motioned to accept the Washer-Extractor Grant in the amount of \$6,449.94 and authorized the Chair to execute all required documents on behalf of the Town. Second D. Perry. Vote 5-0.

**Discussion:** Chief Barresi spoke to the Board about the need for the extractor washer and it's importance. The town received a grant for \$6,449.94. Station 3 will receive the extractor washer. The grant expires the end of July. He will be working on a grant for a dryer.

G. Schwall stated that the Chief works hard with the Fire Chief Association in Boston. Meets with them a couple times a month to work on issues.

#### **Action Item #2: Vote to Award Overhead Door Replacement Contract to HQI Door Company**

J. Muri motioned to award the contract to replace the overhead doors and related parts in the maximum amount of \$13,300 to HQI Door Company, 54 Commercial Street, Raynham, MA. Second S. Vadnais. Vote 5-0.

**Discussion:** J. Muri explained the expenses of the doors compared to home garage doors.

The Board took at 5 Minute Recess. The Board returned to the meeting at 7:27PM

#### **Action Item #3 Discussion with Mark Gregory of Traffic Logix RE: Speed Camera.**

D. Perry motioned to table action item 3. Second J. Muri. Vote 5-0.

#### **Action Item #4: Discussion with Keep Rehoboth Beautiful Committee Clerk RE: Clean-up Incentives.**

**Discussion:** Ms. Jen Lecomte of 59 River Street, representing the Keep Rehoboth Beautiful Committee joined the Board. Explained that she would like to have a raffle at the Harvest Block Party. Raffle tickets would be \$1.00 a bet to guess "How many nips are in the bucket".

G. Schwall stated that the Board would need to check with Town Counsel to see if we can do this.

#### **Action Item #5: Vote to Close May 12, 2020 STM and ATM Warrant**

J. Muri motioned to close the May 12, 2020 Special Town Meeting and Annual Town Meeting Warrant. Second S. Vadnais. Vote 5-0.

#### **Action Item #6 Vote to Approve Reserve Fund Transfer**

J. Muri motioned to approve Reserve Fund Transfer in the amount of \$103,681 and forward to the Finance Committee for consideration and action. Second S. Vadnais. Vote 5-0.

**Discussion:** Mike Deignan of 5 Slater Street as Chairman of the Finance Committee was present. He discussed the reason for the Reserve Fund Transfer and how he came about the figure. He explained the short fall and how it impacts the Town budget for FY2022.

G. Schwall stated that Special Town Meeting is May 12, 2020 and the payment is due on May 15, 2020. So, we need to vote now to be ready. We are being proactive.

D. Perry stated that it is a very hard swallow this decision and it is against DESE's rule not to use funds for a one-time revenue source.

M. Deignan stated that starting next years budget will already be difficult.

S. Vadnais stated what bother him the most is we are unable to follow through with the "will of the people".

#### **Action Item #7 Vote to Approve MEMA Grant and Authorize Chair to Execute Documents**

J. Muri motioned to approve the MEMA Grant in the amount of \$15,000 and to authorize the Chair to execute all required documents on behalf of the Town. Second D. Perry. Vote 5-0.

#### **Action Item #8 Vote to Appoint Election Worker – as Submitted**

D. Perry motioned to appoint Odete Lacourse as an Election Day Worker, Unenrolled – Precinct 2. Second S. Vadnais. Vote 5-0.

#### **Action Item #9 Vote to Appoint Interim Town Administrator**

M. Costello motioned to appoint Deborah Arruda Interim Town Administrator, effective March 2, 2020 – June 30, 2020. Second J. Muri. Vote 5-0

**Discussion:** G. Schwall stated that the Town Administrator retired in January. We were very fortunate to have people in the Board of Selectmen's office. All of them stepped up. The leader of them is Debbie Arruda. She has done a great job.

M. Costello stated that G. Schwall said it all.

D. Perry stated that Debbie has kept everything running smoothly and organized. Congratulations.

S. Vadnais stated thank you.

M. Costello thanked G. Schwall for all his help, support and mentorship.

J. Muri stated that Debbie is right on top of things. He couldn't think of anyone better to fill this position.

G. Schwall thanked Debbie.

#### **OPEN FORUM-PUBLIC:**

Tish Vadnais of Homestead Ave stated that she has issues with roads on the south side of town near the Crestwood Country Club. There are deep holes right at Lake Street. There is also some on Mason Street.

#### **OLD BUSINESS:**

None

#### **DEPARTMENT HEAD REPORTS**

##### **Selectmen's Reports:**

**Vadnais:** There is a nuisance dog complaint. He is working on it with the Animal Control Officer and will report back to the Board.


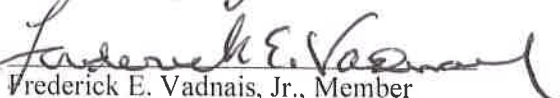
**Schwall:** Asked for help getting information on the Martin Street field, how it runs.

**Perry:** no report

**Muri:** no report

**Costello:** no report

**ADJOURNMENT:** Selectmen M. Costello made a motion to adjourn the Regular Session Meeting at 7:55 PM., Second by Selectmen D. Perry. Vote 5-0

  
Gerald V. Schwall, Chairman  
James Muri, Vice Chairman  
David A. Perry, Jr., Clerk  
Frederick E. Vadnais, Jr., Member  
Michael Costello, Member

Respectfully Submitted,

Deborah Arruda

Assistant to the Town Administrator

**Approved 6/1/2020**