

Office of
SELECTMEN
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Rehoboth, MA 02769



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***BOARD OF SELECTMEN MEETING
MONDAY, APRIL 24, 2023
MEETING MINUTES
FRANCIS FARM- FRANCIS HALL
27 FRANCIS FARM ROAD***

Present: Selectman Frederick "Skip" Vadnais, Jr., Selectman Leonard Mills, Jr., Selectman George Solas, Sr. Selectmen Michael P. Deignan, Selectman Robert Johnson II and Town Administrator Deborah Arruda.

Call to Order at 7:18 PM: The Board and the public participated in the Pledge of Allegiance to the Flag.

1.0) Consent Agenda

Warrant for April 24, 2023:

G. Solas- motion to approve the Warrant for the week of April 24, 2023: 23-43B Payroll \$132,716.02; 23-42A Withholdings \$152,305.31; 23-42 Warrant \$64,514.14; 23-42V Veterans Warrant \$5,984.03. Second by R. Johnson. Vote 5-0.

Minutes: Executive Meeting Minutes for 3/27/23, 1/4/21, 1/19/21, 1/25/21, 2/3/21, 3/15/21, 3/29/21, 4/12/21 (6:30 PM), 4/12/21 (8 PM), 8/9/21, 10/4/21, 10/18/21, 10/25/21, 11/29/21 and 12/13/21 were Approved and Held in Executive Session.

Announcements:

The next BOS meeting will be held on **Monday, May 1, 2023**, 7:00 PM at Francis Farm in the Francis Hall Building.

TOWN ADMINISTRATOR'S REPORT

We will have a Public Hearing at our next meeting at 7:30 PM, for Upcycle Edibles d/b/a Rehoboth Baking Co.

Town hall is now open to the public. Please stop in to visit us.

NEW BUSINESS:

Action Item (1) RE: Finalization of Land Swap Between TOR and Rehoboth Housing Authority

Present: Paul Jacques, Housing Authority Chairman

Skip reviewed the steps that were taken to swap the properties between TOR/RHA. All paperwork has been signed and filed.

Per P. Jacques, senior housing is the plan for the old school. This will need to work with the state to get the project reviewed/researched. Will take some time. Playground/shed/soil that belongs to other groups, we can work with them to get it relocated.

The BOS Chair advised Paul Jacques to work with Lenny Mills - the Town will continue to have police present in the area.

Action Item (2): Discussion RE: Walk Massachusetts Challenge on May 3, 2023 at the Senior Center

Present: Linna Sherman and Ralph Arguin

Linna Sherman, COA Director and Ralph Arguin, Recreation Committee were present to give an overview of the Walk Massachusetts Challenge, May 3rd, 2023 and what it entails. It is a personal challenge and not Town vs Town. The Rehoboth Senior Center is one of the three chosen to host this event. A State representative will be present to kick it off. There will be door prizes.

Action Item (3): Discussion RE: Municipal Representative in Regional School District Collective Bargaining, with possible action

The Board of Selectmen's office received a request from School Superintendent Bill Runey requesting a representative from the Rehoboth Board of Selectmen at a Regional School District Collective Bargaining Meeting to vote on behalf of the Chairman.

S. Vadnais said he spoke to the Superintendent and may be attending the meeting, although unclear as to the purpose of this meeting. In the past Rehoboth was not allowed to speak or vote at the table.

Both G. Solas and D. Arruda explained that they spoke to different representatives and were told that a Dighton representative will be allowed at the Executive Session to bargain the Union contracts, but both Towns would not be present in Executive Session, only Regular Session.

M. Deignan-motion to nominated George Solas as the representative. Second by R. Johnson.

The Board needs better understanding before nominating a representative - why nominate someone if Dighton is going to only be in the negotiations process.

S. Vadnais- it should be a representative from both Towns. Need a better understanding before anyone is nominated.

M. Deignan- revoke the motion and request an explanation, in writing, of the expectations of the nominee and, their role.

Action Item (4): Vote to Approve the Reserve Fund Transfer of \$5000 for the Treasurer's Office for Unemployment Bills

Treasurer's office has had unforeseen expenditures, in the Unemployment line. There have been fraudulent charges that will be reimbursed, after an investigation, but the Town has to pay upfront. The Treasurer is asking for an RFT of \$5,000.00 to cover current and future charges. Current deficit of \$2,333.16.

G. Solas- motion to approve the reserve fund transfer of \$5000 into the Unemployment Line 019133-57000 to cover unforeseen charges. Second by L. Mills. Vote 5-0.

Action Item (5): Vote to Approve and Sign the PILOT Agreement between the TOR and Rehoboth Renewables, LLC for 90 Pond Street

This pilot agreement has been in the works since 2020. It is on the Spring Town Meeting Warrant, but the agreement needs to be signed and submitted to the Clerk's office prior to the mailing of the Warrant. Due to the agreement being put off from past Warrants, it was never finalized with signatures. The Assessor's office is in agreement and provided the wording for the article. Estimated annual revenue will be \$34,340.00, for the first year and then escalating by 1.5% per year, thereafter.

G. Solas- motion to approve and sign the PILOT agreement between the TOR and Rehoboth Renewables, LLC and forward a copy of the agreement to the Town Clerk's office. Second by M. Deignan. Vote 5-0.

Mark Haskell, of Pond Street -why are we moving forward with this if there are still open issues with this project?

S. Vadnais- this is worked through with the Assessors and has nothing to do with the permitting of the project. If the project moves forward, this will be ready to go.

Action Item (6): Vote to Appoint Rita Teresa Tamasco to the Personnel Board

At the 4/19th meeting, the Personnel Board approved the addition of Ms. Tamasco to the Board. Mr. Richard Panofsky, Personnel Board Chair is requesting the Board's approval, as well.

R. Johnson- motion to appoint Rita Teresa "Terry" Tamasco to the Personnel Board, effective 4/24/2023 to 6/30/2026. Second by G. Solas. Vote 5-0.

Action Item (7): Vote to Appoint a Member of the BOS to the SRPEDD Joint Transportation Planning Group (JTPG)

R. Johnson- motion to appoint Lenny Mills as a member to the SRPEDD Joint Transportation Planning Group (JTPG), effective 6/1/2023 to 6/1/2024.

R. Johnson- motion to appoint George Solas as alternate SRPEDD from 6/1/23-6/1/24. Seconded by M. Deignan. Vote 5-0.

S. Vadnais asked for volunteers- Selectman L. Mills & G. Solas volunteered.

Action Item (9): Vote to Approve and Sign the "Sworn Statement in Proof of Loss" Final Insurance Proceeds of \$71,349.84

The BOS received the final notice from the insurance provider regarding the final proceeds from the Replacement Costs for equipment/product that we replaced due to the 2020 fire at the COA. Those proceeds are \$71,349.84. Once the document is signed and sent in, the final check will be sent to the Town. There is an Article on the Warrant for the May Town Meeting to appropriate this amount, plus the additional funds that we received a couple of months ago, to be used for future renovations at Francis Farm.

G. Solas- motion to approve and authorize the Chair to sign the "Sworn Statement in Proof of Loss" document. M. Deignan. Vote 5-0.

Selectman Deignan read the total dollar amount that was received from the proceeds in response to Mr. Stephen Silva's question.

Action Item (8): Vote to Approve Sign Placements for the Crafters Marketplace Hosted by the Carpenter Museum

Carpenter Museum requesting the BOS' approval to place signs for their event in Town. Event to be held on October 14th, 2023. Signs will be placed at the following locations:

- Intersection of RT 118 & 44
- Intersection of Pine St & Broad St
- Island in front of the Rehoboth Congregational Church
- Intersection of Tremont St (RT 118) and Fairview Ave, at Bliss Field
- Intersection of RT 118 & County St.

G. Solas- motion to approve the sign placements, as listed, on the letter from the Carpenter Museum for the October 14th Crafters' Marketplace. Second by M. Deignan. Vote 5-0.

Signs will have to be removed within 3 days after the event; No signs can be placed on the State Road of RT 44.

OLD BUSINESS:

Selectmen's Reports:

Vadnais: The Town has regulations that needs to be followed regarding storm water basins.

Deignan: None.

Solas: The un-masquerade ball sponsored by Taunton at the Senior Center, Tuesday, June 13th at 4 PM - Fun day out with food, music, games, photo booth.

Johnson: Read a letter from Jennifer LeComte, Keep Rehoboth Beautiful about the cleanup in Town - thanked everyone for coming out and helping. They picked up a large amount of trash this year.

Mills: Spoke of the Highway Dept. and their value to the Town. The department has qualified employees with CDL and hoisting licenses. The Town saves money by having qualified individuals to do various work. Building Dept. / Grounds Keeper-are very busy as well. Spring is here so all of the Town grounds need to be mowed, cleaned, trimmed. There are constant work orders, coming in from various departments, that need their services. One superintendent and 2 full time employees make up that department. There was various junk that has been cleaned up or put on auction sites from various Town properties.

Various projects will be completed soon, building signs are coming, Town Hall landscape and paving will be done soon. Ambulance Building is up and running, as well.

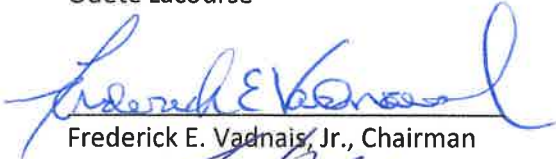
Rob Johnson added that Forestry also helps with the roadside cleaning and, works together with Highway.

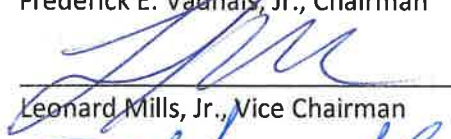
ADJOURNMENT:


Selectman R. Johnson- motion to adjourn the Regular Session at 7:42 PM. Second by Selectman M. Deignan. Vote 5-0.

Respectfully Submitted,



Odete Lacourse

Frederick E. Vadnais, Jr., Chairman

Leonard Mills, Jr., Vice Chairman

George M. Solas, Sr., Clerk

Michael P. Deignan, Member

Robert Johnson II, Member

BOARD OF SELECTMEN

Approved: 5/8/2023