



Office of
SELECTMEN
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**BOARD OF SELECTMEN
MEETING OF THE BOARD OF SELECTMEN
MONDAY, APRIL 26, 2021
MEETING MINUTES
SELECTMEN'S MEETING ROOM, TOWN HALL**

Present: Selectman Frederick "Skip" Vadnais, Selectman James Muri, Selectman Dave Perry, Selectman George Solas, Selectmen Michael Deignan and Interim Town Administrator Deborah Arruda

Call to Order at 7:12 p.m.: The Board and the public participated in the Pledge of Allegiance to the Flag.

1.0) Consent Agenda

Warrants for April 26, 2021:

J. Muri motion to approve this week's Warrant: 21-43B Payroll \$114,229.62; 21-42A Withholdings \$35,438.79; 21-43 Warrant \$75,386.35; 21-43V Veterans Warrant \$7,672.72. Second by G. Solas.
Vote 5-0.

Minutes: Executive Minutes: none
Regular Minutes: none

Announcements:

The next Board of Selectmen's meeting will be held Monday, May 3, 2021 at 7 PM at Town Hall.

Town Administrator's Report:

On Monday, May 3rd the Town Clerk and Moderator are invited to meet with the Board to review the Warrant and discuss the upcoming Town Meeting.

UPDATE ON COVID VACCINATION CLINIC:

Gerry Schwall, Coordinator of Special Projects, was present to update the Board on the vaccination center.
-The hold on the Johnson & Johnson vaccine has been lifted.
-The State is still not releasing vaccine to sites other than the mass vaccination sites.
-The Feds will be sending us vaccine.
-As of 4/20/21, 4641 or 37% of the population of Rehoboth has received at least one dose. 87% of ages 75+ have been vaccinated.
-Thank you to Vaccination Center staff, especially Maureen Whittemore and Charlotte Castro.
-Sign up for "news and alerts" on town website to receive information on when vaccine is available.
-Rehoboth is still in the red, and the age group is under 40. We need to be vigilant in order to beat this pandemic.

NEW BUSINESS:

Action Item #1: Vote to Approve Promotion in Police Department

Chief Trombetta and Deputy Chief Rossi were present to respectfully request the promotion of Patrolman Douglas Brown, a twelve-year veteran of the force, to Sergeant.

J. Muri motion to approve the promotion of Douglas Brown to Sergeant in the Rehoboth Police Department, effective April 26th 2021. Second by D. Perry. Vote 5-0.

Action Item #2: Vote to Approve Reserve Fund Transfer-Building Department

Due to the increase in construction/building that is happening in town, the Building Department's budget for inspections was under funded in FY21. There is an article on the Annual Town Meeting Warrant to set up a revolving account so that we will not need to do this going forward.

D. Perry to approve a Reserve Funds Transfer from the Building Department to cover inspection expenses, in the amount of \$17,000. Second by M. Deignan. Vote 5-0.

Action Item #3: Vote to Approve AG&NR Appropriation of Funds- Ormond Farm

A couple of weeks ago we rescinded a vote to use funds from the Agricultural Trust Fund and a Warrant Article in the May Meeting took its place. However, the BOS office was notified that the closing date for the APR would be before the Town Meeting. In discussions with the Chair of the CPC and AG & NR, it was agreed we had to make the decision to use the Trust Fund for the additional \$20,000 needed to complete the paperwork.

J. Muri motion to appropriate \$20,000 from Agricultural Trust Fund for the Ormond Farm APR (Agricultural Preservation Restriction) and to allow the Interim Town Administrator to Notarize all documents necessary. Second by M. Deignan. Vote 5-0.

Action Item #4: Discussion with Green Energy Chairperson- Ongoing Town Project

Carolyn Panofsky, Chair of the Green Energy Committee, was present to discuss upcoming projects with the Board. By September, grant needs to be closed and reporting done. Will need to allocate \$2000 of the remaining fund to complete process, using SRPEDD, to close out report, do quarterly reports of exp/inv. This needs to be an employee or from a group (like SRPEDD). The money allocated to the Annex/COA pushed off to other projects, need state approval for new projects, but waiting for price quotes for idling project and others. Stealth Power is the company that would be adding.

G. Solas motion to approve to allocate \$2,000 from remaining grant funds for SRPEDD to do reporting and to move forward on additional upcoming projects. Second by J. Muri. Vote 5-0.

Action Item #5: Vote to Appoint a SRPEDD Joint Transportation Planning Group (JTPG)

This is a yearly appointment. A Board of Selectmen representative and an alternate are appointed to the JTPG.

D. Perry motion to appoint Jim Muri as a representative for the JTPG and George Solas as the Alternate, effective June 1, 2021 – June 1, 2022. Second by M. Deignan. Vote 5-0.

Action Item #6: Vote to Accept Quote for Plumbing Work at Police Station

The plumbing bids for the new Police Station have come in. The lowest quote provided by the bidders was Jordan's Plumbing & Heating at \$24,000, next lowest was \$25,500, and highest was \$27,465. All were for labor only.

D. Perry motion to accept Jordan's Plumbing and Heating at \$24,000 as the lowest bidder for the plumbing work at the Police Station, quotes are based on labor only. In addition, allow the Accounting Office and Treasurer's Office to submit a deposit of \$6,000 to begin work. Second by J. Muri. Vote 5-0.

Action Item #7: Vote to Approve Warrant for May 11, 2021 Annual Town Meeting

M. Deignan motion to approve and sign the Warrant for the May 11, 2021 Annual Town Meeting. Second by J. Muri. Vote 5-0.

Discussion:

M. Deignan addressed the need to streamline the warrant, eliminating articles that pertained to bylaws on which we could not get complete information, and a couple revolving account articles. We had almost 30 articles, and there was concern that we might not be able to get it all discussed in one night. We debated starting earlier, or carrying over to another night which would make it difficult to retain the required quorum to finish business. We still end up with 13 items and 1 consent agenda (which includes 7).

S. Vadnais suggests they hold a question-and-answer session before the annual town meeting to help limit questions on the floor.

G. Schwall, in his capacity as Special Projects Coordinator, stressed the need to have the motions be carefully crafted by Town Counsel.

Action Item #8: Vote to Approve Appointments, as submitted

J. Muri motion to appoint Katy Rourke Wilson to the Personnel Board, effective April 26, 2021 – June 30, 2024. Second by D. Perry. Vote 5-0.

Action Item #9: Discussion Re: Town Hall COVID-19 Policy

Chairman Vadnais discussed the current policy with the Board and how we are to move forward.

J. Muri motion to allow elected officials unrestricted access into building; Board/Committee Chairpersons access with appointment by Interim Town Administrator to be allowed into the building. Second by D. Perry. Vote 5-0.

Action Item #10: Vote to Accept and Sign P&S for Kane Building

M. Deignan motion to accept and sign the P&S between the Town of Rehoboth and Kane & Sons, LLC, contingent upon Town Meeting Approval. Also, allow Town Accountant and Treasurer to provide a check for \$1000 to hold the deal until Town Meeting. Second by J. Muri. Vote 5-0.

Action Item #11: Vote to Accept and Sign P&S for Francis Farm

M. Deignan motion to table for next meeting, as it is not yet ready for signature per Town Counsel. Second by J. Muri. Vote 5-0.

Action Item #12: Discussion on the Roundabout - Possible Action Taken

J. Muri presented the suggestions that came from the Roundabout Committee to be presented to Mass DOT. They are mostly to improve safety and a few to improve aesthetics, and include a signs warning of an upcoming rotary, lettering on the roadway to warn drivers, increase the vertical height of rotary with plantings, so people don't see a clear roadway ahead of them. The planting plan is to be put into the hands of the Tree Warden. Members of Roundabout Committee include Selectmen Muri, Tree Warden Rob Johnson, Highway Superintendent Michael Costello, an engineer (who designs roundabouts) Fred Thayler, and engineer Kevin Braz,

D. Perry motion to approve these recommendations and pass along to Highway Department to be passed along to Mass DOT for review. Second by G. Solas. Vote 5-0.

Selectmen's Reports:

Deignan:

- Encouraged residents to submit talent bank forms for the Finance Committee opening to be filled after Town Meeting.
- Went over the logistics for the Q & A night before for ATM

Solas:

- Has spoken to many about the COA moving to Francis Farm and they are happy about it.

-Anawan School/Women's Development Group – reached out and Mr. Harrison is no longer there, left message with the new person.

Perry: Regarding the complaint about the stone wall that was removed on Perryville Road; it is not back up yet because the builder has had an injury and did not work. He will rebuild by this Sunday, May 2nd.

Muri:

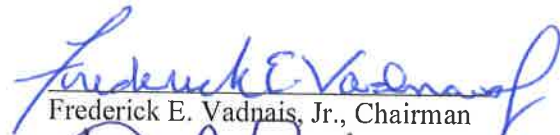
- Attended the former Plumbing Inspector's wake tonight. Thank you to Jim Sine for all his work. Our thoughts are with his family.

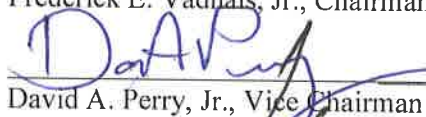
-Thank you to all who helped with Keep Rehoboth Beautiful this weekend, especially Jennifer LeComte.

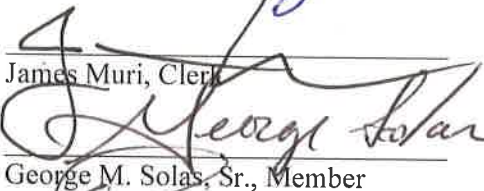
Vadnais: Thank you to Mike Deignan for taking the time from his day to help with the warrant for the past two days. It is a very important warrant.

ADJOURNMENT: Selectmen D. Perry made a motion to adjourn the executive session at 8:50 PM. Second by M. Deignan.

Roll call vote. Vadnais – aye, Muri – aye, Perry – aye, Solas – aye, Deignan – aye.



Frederick E. Vadnais, Jr., Chairman


David A. Perry, Jr., Vice Chairman


James Muri, Clerk


George M. Solas, Sr., Member


Michael P. Deignan, Member


Respectfully Submitted,
Cindy McDonough
Assistant to the Town Administrator

Approved: 10/4/2021