



Office of
SELECTMEN
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**BOARD OF SELECTMEN
MEETING MONDAY, MAY 11th, 2020
MEETING MINUTES
GLADYS L. HURRELL REHOBOTH SENIOR CENTER**

Present: Selectman Gerry Schwall, Selectman Jim Muri, Selectman Dave Perry, Selectman Frederick "Skip" Vadnais, and Selectman Mike Costello.

Remote: 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)** to review of executive session minutes.

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

Call to Order at 7:05 p.m.: The Board and the public participated in the Pledge of Allegiance to the Flag.

1.0) Consent Agenda

Warrants for May 11th, 2020: G. Schwall read the weekly Warrants; 20-46B Payroll, \$112,465.34; 20-45A Withholdings, \$32,562.64, 20-45 Warrant, \$36,563.23. D. Perry motion to approve the Warrant as read. Second by M. Costello. Vote 5-0.

Minutes: Regular Minutes: 9/23/19; 11/4/19; 11/12/19; 12/2/19

J. Muri motion to approve the Regular Minutes from the 9/23/19 meeting. Second by M. Costello. Vote 5-0

D. Perry motion to approve the Regular Minutes from the 11/4/19 meeting. Second by J. Muri. Vote 4-0. M. Costello abstained.

D. Perry motion to approve the Regular Minutes from the 11/12/19 meeting. Second by M. Costello. Vote 4-0
J. Muri abstained.

J. Muri motion to approve the Regular Minutes from the 12/2/19 meeting. Second by D. Perry. Vote 4-0. M. Costello abstained.

Open Forum – Announcements:

The next regular Board of Selectmen meeting is scheduled for Monday May 18th, 2020 at the COA Building, 55 Bay State Road. Members of the public may observe the Board's deliberations by watching live on Channel 9 or stream from RehobothTV.org.

NEW BUSINESS:

Action Item #1: Coronavirus (COVID-19) Taskforce Update

G. Schwall provided Board and public with COVID-19 updates:

- Current COVID-19 case information and comparison of Rehoboth to other communities in Bristol County and across the Commonwealth
- A reminder related to real estate and excise tax payments. Due dates extended from May 1st till June 1st.
- Early voting ballots are due by June 29, 2020 by noon. Applications are available on Town website. This year voting will likely take place in only one location, with limited hours, because of the anticipated difficulties in fielding enough poll workers while still keeping them safe. We urge you to submit an early voter mail ballot by mail.
- Annual Town Meeting final date will be voted on next week. June 30th will NOT happen.
- Please fill out the 2020 Census, it helps our towns and cities and state. As of today, Rehoboth has 75% responded. Thank you
- Thank you to all the nurses, especially those in Rehoboth, for all you are doing.

S. Vadnais voiced his concern about a food establishment that was not following the face covering protocol and questionable glove usage and how these infractions can and should be enforced, and if they need to be witnessed by the Health Agent.

J. Muri relayed that the COA will begin having free hot meals available for pick up, similar to the schools "Grab and Go" program.

Action Item #2: 7:30 PM Public Hearing National Grid and Verizon New England, Inc. RE: Pole Hearing- Request to install new pole at 570 Winthrop Street

Anyone having an interest in this matter may dial in and voice your opinion to the Board by dialing with either number, 1 (312) 626 -6799 or 1 (646) 558-8656 and entering the webinar ID: 890 7573 7106, password: 148148. All of this information as well as the pole placement information was published with the meeting agenda.

At 7:43 PM, M. Costello motion to open the public hearing. Second by J. Muri.

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

No abutters called in.

Albert Galvin, Design Engineer with National Grid, called in to represent National Grid. He explained that the new pole will be put in between two existing poles near a substation to monitor the real time data. It is part of a state grant, to help with reliability of data, and get better numbers there.

S. Vadnais motion to close the public hearing. Second by M. Costello.

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

D. Perry motion to approve the placement of a new pole at 570 Winthrop Street, pole #173-50. Second by S. Vadnais. Vote 5-0

Action Item #3: Vote to Sign Fire Chief Contract

G. Schwall was pleased to share that we are able to retain our Fire Chief for three more years, stating he has done an outstanding job and the department is in great shape.

M. Costello motion to approve and sign the Employment Agreement for Fire Chief Frank Barresi for the period of July 1st, 2020 to June 30th, 2023. Second by J. Muri. Vote 5-0

Action Item #4: Appointment to Joint Transportation Planning Group (JTPG)

D. Perry motion to appoint Michael Costello as the Rehoboth JTPG Representative effective May 23, 2020 to May 23, 2021. Second by J. Muri. Vote 4-0 M. Costello abstained.

D. Perry motion to appoint James Muri as the JTPG Alternate Representative effective May 23, 2020 to May 23, 2021. Second by M. Costello. Vote 4-0 J. Muri abstained.

Action Item #5: Vote Reserve Fund Transfer for ZBA Advertising Costs

There is a deficit in the ZBA advertising line.

M. Costello motion to approve the Reserve Fund Transfer for \$299.96 and to forward to the Finance Committee for consideration. Second by J. Muri. Vote 5-0

OLD BUSINESS:

None

OTHER BUSINESS:

None

OPEN FORUM-PUBLIC:

None

DEPARTMENT HEAD REPORTS

Selectmen's Reports:

Vadnais: Tranquil Lake Nursery Solar Electricity Project

- For current farm needs and future energy independence of APR farmland
- Town has an interest because of Agricultural Preservation Restriction placed on the 19+ acres
- Would be 38-48 kilowatts, 76 panels
- Spoke with MDAR committee because state holds the APR
- Proposed location will be along Old Farm Road, with little impact on land being used
- Would recommend that we allow them (Tranquil Lake Nursery) to put in solar farm
- Will send letter stating that Board is in support of the project, S. Vadnais to sign

Costello: no report

Schwall: no report

Perry: no report

Muri: no report

ADJOURNMENT: Selectmen J. Muri made a motion to adjourn the Regular Session Meeting at 7:55 PM. Second by Selectmen M. Costello.

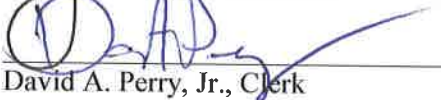
Roll call vote: Perry – aye; Vadnais – aye, Costello – aye, Muri, aye; Schwall - aye. Vote 5-0.



Gerald V. Schwall, Chairman



James Muri, Vice Chairman




David A. Perry, Jr., Clerk

Frederick E. Vadnais, Jr., Member



Michael Costello, Member



Respectfully Submitted,
Cindy McDonough
Assistant to the Town Administrator

Approved 6/29/2020