



Office of
SELECTMEN
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**BOARD OF SELECTMEN
MEETING OF THE BOARD OF SELECTMEN
TUESDAY, JUNE 21, 2022
MEETING MINUTES
FRANCIS HALL BUILDING, FRANCIS FARM
27 FRANCIS FARM ROAD**

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

At 5:45 PM the Board 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 or to conduct collective bargaining sessions or contract negotiations with non-union personnel. (3) To discuss strategy with respect to collective bargaining or litigation if an open meeting may have a detrimental effect on the bargaining or litigating position of the public body and the chair so declares.

Topics: Director of IT & Media Employment Contract and On-going Litigations

Call to Order at 7:30 p.m.: The Board and the public participated in the Pledge of Allegiance to the Flag.

1.0) Consent Agenda

Warrant for June 21, 2022:

G. Solas motion to approve the Warrant for the week of June 21, 2022: 22-52B Payroll \$166,706.91; 22-51A Withholdings \$43,873.81; 22-51 Warrant \$59,916.16. Second by M. Deignan. Vote 5-0.

Announcements:

Next BOS meeting will be held on Monday, June 27, 2022 at 7pm at Francis Farm-Francis Hall Building.

TOWN ADMINISTRATOR'S REPORT

Last week the nurse's office notified me that the Covid positive cases were dropping in Rehoboth! Recently we were at 11.08% and per last week's report it was at 8.25%, good news!

I met with a resident last week, Mr. Patterson of Perryville Road. His concern is with the speed in which cars and commercial vehicles are driving on that road; especially with the developments at Bliss Street and Rehoboth Country Club. He is concerned with school being out, there are many children on that street that walk and ride their bikes. He is requesting a speed limit sign be placed that is lower than the 40+ mph that many are driving now on the road. Presently, there is no speed limit sign so it is "understood" that the limit is 40mph. The commercial vehicles that are approaching the stop sign are using their J-brakes as well. He is concerned with the number of new homes going into these developments, Perryville Road will become a very busy road with traffic. He is trying to avoid an accident from happening.

L. Mills spoke to Mr. Patterson, John Ferreira, and will speak to private developers. The Police Department has been notified and are being more attentive to the road. S. Vadnais asked L. Mills to review with the police department on reducing the speed limit.

REMINDERS:

The K-8 Withdrawal Study Committee will be holding 2 informational sessions here at Francis Hall. The first session will be this week on Thursday, June 23 at 7PM and then again on July 21, 2022. They have a web page on the Town Website under Boards & Committees where you can submit your question to the committee members. They will research the answers to the questions and review them during the informational sessions.

Senator Feeney will be visiting Rehoboth on Friday, June 24 at Francis Farm in the Arcade Building from 12:30pm to 1:30pm. Our residents/employees can stop in and ask questions or just say "Hello." Senator Feeney is hoping to meet with many of you and listening to your concerns and/or ideas.

Town office buildings will be closed on Monday, June 20th in observance of Juneteenth Day (which is actually observed on Sunday, June 19th).

OPEN PUBLIC FORUM:

David LeCompte and Kevin Foley, on behalf of the Town Events Committee, announced the Committee is looking to put on the first annual summer time Clam Bake on August 13th or the 20th from 4pm-7pm. Tickets would be pre-sold. Lawn games and a band will attend the event. More information will be provided in the following weeks.

NEW BUSINESS:

Action Item (1): Vote to Approve Reserve Fund Transfer for the Building Dept-\$8700.00

The Building Commissioner has had conversations with our Accountant, Roberta and Selectman Deignan regarding the need of a RFT to cover inspectors' expenses through FY22 year end. Bill is requesting approval for \$8700.00.

M. Deignan motion to approve a Reserve Fund Transfer for the Building Dept for a total of \$8700 for inspectors' expenses, transferred into account 01243-53000. Second by G. Solas. Vote 5-0.

Action Item (2): Vote To Approve Debt Exclusion Ballot Question for the November 8, 2022 Election for Bristol-Plymouth Vocational Tech High School

The Town Clerk is requesting the Board's review and approval on the Ballot Question for the November election. This is for the Debt Exclusion for the BP building project.

M. Deignan stated he's not sure why this is back on the agenda if we have already voted on this topic. Voters have already said "no."

G. Solas said he sees no issue on this because many voters were confused and were not sure how to vote.

R. Johnson agreed with G. Solas that many voters were confused.

L. Mills asked M. Deignan to explain one more time how the vote "yes" and "no" affect the Town.

M. Deignan went into explanation of the votes

G. Solas motion to approve Ballot Question for the November 8, 2022 Election regarding the Debt Exclusion for the Bristol-Plymouth Regional Tech School Building Project and request that the Town Clerk move forward with printing of the ballots. Second by R. Johnson. Vote 5-0.

Action Item (3): Discussion with CPC Chair RE: Francis Farm Surveying Service Invoice, with possible action

Carol Williams along with Artie Pierce will be present to discuss with the Board the invoice received by E. Otis Dyer for the surveying service for Francis Farm Conservation Restriction and who the responsible party is for paying the invoice.

R. Johnson gave an update of reason why the discussion was on the agenda. (Timestamp 16:02).

Carol was surprised to find out that she was being asked to sign a release of funds from the CPC account. She understood that BOS was covering the cost. Wildlife Trust is not covering (holding) the Conservation Restriction because of the recreational events going on at Francis Farm. They only will hold Conservation Restriction for walking trails and other similar activities. We need to find another holder and do not know what costs will be.

S. Vadnais asked who normally pays for these CR surveys i.e., Grear Farm? Carol said the CPC does. Artie further clarifies the Grear Farm is not the same as Francis Farm. The survey at Francis Farm is not all for CPC.

R. Johnson motion for CPC to pay the \$1,052.40, and BOS pay the remainder of \$2,898.00. Second by G. Solas. Vote 5-0.

Carol Williams agrees to pay the \$1052.40.

Action Item (4): Discussion with Historical Chair RE: Tree Cutting in Town on Historical Roads without Notification

Artie Pierce will like to discuss with the Board the need of communication between National Grid and other town depts and the Historical Society when it comes to cutting down trees on the Scenic Roads in town (recent situation).

Artie discussed the removal of trees on historical roads without the Committee being notified. R. Johnson will speak to Artie and would work on replacing the trees, perhaps elm trees at the square could be used.

M. Deignan mentioned elms can be ordered through Liberty Tree Project, but the order takes a long time.

Action Item (5): Vote to Appoint a BOS Member to the S.E. Mass Metropolitan Planning Organization (SMMPO) for SRPEDD

Every 2 years the BOS appoints a 2-members to represent the Town BOS in the SMMPO for SRPEDD. This organization is responsible for development and review of transportation policies, priorities, and projects for the 27 communities in the SRPEDD region.

This was due to SRPEDD last week, but I was asked to hold off until we had a full board.

G. Solas motion to appoint Lenny Mills to represent the Board of Selectmen on the Southeastern Mass Metropolitan Planning Organization from August 1, 2022 to July 31, 2024. Second by M. Deignan. Vote 5-0.

Action Item (6): Vote to Appoint Two BOS Members to the FY23 SRPEDD Commission

Annually SRPEDD requests that the BOS appoint a member to their Commission to represent the Town. Our representative would be the voice of the Board to work with SRPEDD for any needs that may arise and also to be a contact person for SRPEDD to work with. The Planning Board also appoints a member as well.

This was due to SRPEDD May 13th, but I was asked to hold off until we had a full board.

M. Deignan motion to appoint Lenny Mills to represent the Board of Selectmen on the SRPEDD Commission from June 21, 2022 to May 24, 2023. Second by R. Johnson. Vote 5-0.

Action Item (7): Vote to Approve FY23 Preventative Maintenance Renewal Agreement for Plymovent Source Capture Energy Vehicle Exhaust Fume Removal System

Chief Barresi is requesting the Board's approval on the yearly maintenance renewal agreement for the vehicle exhaust fume removal system. The cost of the agreement for FY23 is \$2248.00.

G. Solas motion to approve the Preventative Maintenance Renewal Agreement for the Plymovent Source Capture Energy Vehicle Exhaust Fume Removal System for FY23 at a cost of \$2248.00. Second by M. Deignan. Vote 5-0.

Action Item (8): Vote Chapter 61A-Right of First Refusal for Smith St and 220 Providence St

We have received 2 requests for Chapter 61A's in our office. One for 44 Smith Street Map 70, Lot 7A containing approximately 2.53 acres -single lot and for 220 Providence Street, Map 13, Lot 54 approximately 1.40 acres-single lot. Our office has worked with the appropriate Board's and we received the votes from the PB and Concom that they are not exercising their right of first refusal on either lot. I have spoken to the Chairperson from the other boards and they too are voting in the same manner at their next meetings.

G. Solas motion to "not exercise our right of first refusal" on 44 Smith Street Map 70, Lot 7A. Second by L. Mills. Vote 5-0.

G. Solas motion to "not exercise our right of first refusal" on 220 Providence Street Map 13, Lot 54. Second by L. Mills. Vote 4-0. R. Johnson abstained from voting.

Action Item (9): Vote to Approve Appointment for the COA Board-Brittany Bixenman

The COA Board is requesting the vote of the board to appoint Brittany Bixenman as a member, effective July 1, 2022-June 30, 2023.

G. Solas reinstated the vote with the corrected date.

G. Solas motion to appoint Brittany Bixenman to the Council on Aging Board effective 7/1/2022 to 6/30/2025. Second by M. Deignan. Vote 5-0.

Action Item (10): Vote to Approve Director of IT & Media Employment Contract for 2022-2025

Tabled until 6/27/22

Selectmen's Reports:

Vadnais: Gave the Interim Town Administrator the list of Liaison updates to be updated.

Deignan:

1. On going work for budget amendments to close out FY22.
2. Upset about "Meet & Greet" for the new Superintendent for DRRHS being held at Francis Farm without the chance to vote. S. Vadnais stepped in and feels it is important because it pertains to school children and he made the decisions. M. Deignan voiced his concerns and clarified that alcohol cannot be served on Town property.

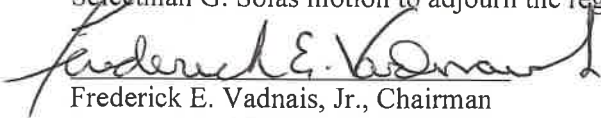
Solas: Updated the public on K-8 Study Committee's upcoming meeting.

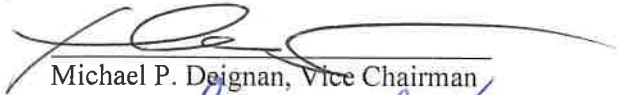
Johnson: Began to reach out to the departments and reviewing their concerns or ideas moving forward.

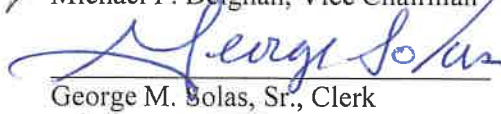
Mills: Has been visiting Town buildings and updating the Board on projects. The prior week I worked with the Town Hall building. Also, I worked with the Highway Department interviewing candidates for two positions.

ADJOURNMENT:

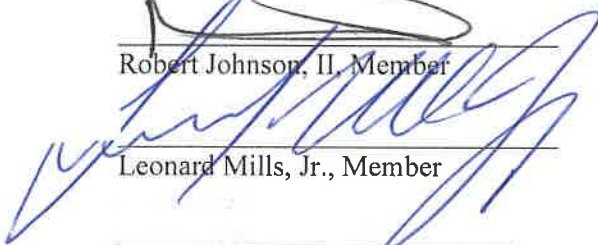
Selectman G. Solas motion to adjourn the regular session. At 9:10PM. Second by M. Deignan. Vote 5-0.


Frederick E. Vadnais, Jr., Chairman


Michael P. Deignan, Vice Chairman


George M. Solas, Sr., Clerk


Robert Johnson, II, Member


Leonard Mills, Jr., Member

Respectfully Submitted,
Logan Shaker

Approved: 8/29/2022