



Office of
SELECTMEN
148 Peck Street
Rehoboth, MA 02769

Tel.: (508) 252-3758
Fax: (508) 252-5342

**BOARD OF SELECTMEN
MEETING MONDAY, AUGUST 31, 2020
MEETING MINUTES
GLADYS L. HURRELL REHOBOTH SENIOR CENTER**

Present: Selectman Frederick "Skip" Vadnais; Selectman James Muri, Selectman Dave Perry, Selectman Michael Costello, and Deborah Arruda, Interim Town Administrator.

Absent: Selectman Gerry Schwall

Call to Order at 7:15 p.m.: The Board and the public participated in the Pledge of Allegiance to the Flag.

1.0) Consent Agenda

Warrants for August 24th, 2020: D. Perry read the weekly Warrants; 21-08B Payroll, \$116,024.29; 21-07A Withholdings, \$33,809.71; 21-08 Warrant, \$467,307.76; 21-08V Veterans Warrant, \$9,088.90. D. Perry motioned to ratify the weekly Warrants as read. Second by J. Muri. Vote 4-0

Warrants for August 31th, 2020: D. Perry read the weekly Warrants; 21-09B Payroll, \$105,303.05; 21-08A Withholdings, \$134,225.60; 21-09 Warrant, \$2,456,234.75; 21-09R Refund Warrant, \$40.56; 21-09R1 Refund Warrant, \$2,211.85. D. Perry motioned to approve the weekly Warrants as read. Second by M. Costello. Vote 4-0

Minutes: Regular Minutes: none.
Executive Session Minutes: none.

Open Forum – Announcements:

Reminder, Tuesday September 1, 2020 is the Primary Election. All Precincts will be voting at the Palmer River Elementary School Gymnasium – 326 Winthrop Street, 7:00 AM to 8:00 PM.

Monday, September 7th Town Offices will be closed for the Labor Day Holiday.

The next Selectmen's Meeting will be held September 8th at 7:00 PM at the Rehoboth Senior Center, 55 Bay State Road.

Town Administrator's Report:

Rehoboth has had a total of 95 confirmed and probable COVID cases at this time, and one resident is being monitored for contact with a positive case at this time.

The Risk of EEE and West Nile Virus remains low at this time in Rehoboth but WNV positive mosquitos have been found in Bristol County. Recommended actions are to wear mosquito repellent with an EPA approved ingredient when outside, to wear long sleeves and pants to reduce exposed skin, remove standing water outside to reduce mosquito populations, and to repair screens in your home.

NEW BUSINESS:

Action Item #1: Vote to Accept \$1500 Arson Watch Grant for Fire Department

Lt. Larrivee works with students to educate them on fire safety. This year a student from Beckwith Middle School came in 2nd place in the entire state for her poster. Thank you for all your hard work and to all who entered the contest.

M. Costello motion to accept the \$1500 Arson Watch Grant for the Fire Department. Second by D. Perry. Vote 4-0.

Discussion:

The Board would like to invite Lt. Larrivee and Katie Martini to attend the next meeting on September 8th and to send a letter of congratulations and appreciation.

Action Item #2: Discussion on "Out of State Travel" Policy

Due to Governor Baker's most recent order about traveling to "high risk" state, we reached out to Town Counsel to provide us with a policy that lays out the expectations for town employees when requesting vacation time.

M. Costello motion to allow Interim Town Administrator to work with Town Counsel to work on policy and pass out to employees. Second by J. Muri. Vote 4-0.

Discussion:

The Board discussed the policy and was in favor of the Interim Town Administrator implementing this policy.

Action Item #3: Vote Appointments, as Submitted

Due to the pandemic, there has been times when a Constable has been needed to deliver documents and understandably the current Constables cannot provide the service to us. We have been fortunate enough that Sandra Phillips is willing to help us out.

D. Perry motion to appoint Sandra Phillips as Constable to the Town effective 8/31/2020 to 6/30/2021. Second by J. Muri. Vote 4-0.

Discussion:

J. Muri – Sandra is well known to the town, Matron to the Police Department, and would be an excellent choice.

In addition, we have been fortunate that residents have been stepping up to volunteer their time for the upcoming elections.

D. Perry motion to appoint the following volunteers as Election Worker:

Name	Position	Party	Precinct	Effective Dates
Marilyn Martel	Inspector	Unenrolled	1	8/31/2020-10/31/2021
Logan Shaker	Inspector	Unenrolled	1,2,3 & CTF	8/31/2020-10/31/2021
Laura Dias Samsel	Inspector	Unenrolled	1	8/31/2020-10/31/2021
Elizabeth Fitzpatrick	Inspector	Unenrolled	2	8/31/2020-10/31/2021

Second by J. Muri. Vote 4-0.

Action Item #4: Ratify Vote for Mobile Unit at 33 Colonial Way

S. Vadnais explained that last week there was an unfortunate fire at 33 Colonial Way and the Building Inspector rendered the home uninhabitable. The Building Inspector asked the Board for their approval to

allow a temporary mobile home to be placed on the site for about a year. If extension is needed, the Building Inspector will revisit the need with the Board. S. Vadnais gave approval, to be ratified by the Board when they next meet.

M. Costello motion to ratify the use of a Temporary Mobile Unit at 33 Colonial Way for one year. If extension is needed the Building Inspector will meet with the Board to discuss. Second by J. Muri. Vote 4-0.

Action Item #5: Vote to Approve Purchase of Generator for Fire Dept & Procedure Discussion

J. Muri had requested the Board's approval to allow the Fire Department to purchase a generator to replace the one that is there now. Funds have been allocated for the purchase.

M. Costello motion to allow Chief Barresi to order the appropriate generator needed for the Fire Department. Second by J. Muri. Vote 4-0.

Discussion:

M. Costello spoke to Chief today, will order both generators, for Fire Department and Police Department. J. Muri – Under normal load a full tank, should last a week, so no concern with running out in the middle of the night

M. Costello – New systems will have an alarm to notify when fuel is low. Better system altogether.

Action Item #6: Discussion on PSB Modular Units Update

S. Vadnais asked M. Costello to update everyone on the status of the units and the move.

Discussion:

M. Costello brought the public and the Board up to date with visit to Dartmouth with Vanguard on 8/26.

- 8/31 our electrician pulled the power.

- 9/1 Vanguard will begin to work on units.

- Biggest challenge will be the IT wiring

- No fire alarms in units, will need alarms to be addressed.

- Need to create area outside for panels and switchbox for generator

- Issues with National Grid getting transformer in place, spoke to our liaison.

- Septic 40% done, begin working on that next week

- Met with Building Inspector, Health Agent, Chief Trombetta and Deputy Chief

- Parking lot asphalt will be a large expense

- Waiting on quote for transformer

- Ted Rowse was also at meeting, he said it would be about \$30,000-40,000 for the electric coming in

Action Item #7: Discussion Regarding: Redway Plain Events

D. Perry motion to ratify S. Vadnais's decision in allowing Dave Perry to work with Jake Kramer on Park/Commission Concerts. Second by M. Costello. Vote 4-0.

Discussion:

S. Vadnais spoke to D. Perry in J. Muri's absence to handle situation to make sure all (governor rules were followed.) I took it upon myself to allow D. Perry to work with Parks Commission, is the Board okay with that?

Board responded yes.

D. Perry brought Board up to date on actions /steps taken for the last 2 events. D. Perry felt that Board of Health and Park Commission followed Governor's order. Spoke with Police Chief and he felt that it was safe as well.

S. Vadnais – I felt having Dave work with Jake was the best option. Board knows COVID is still here and are concerned, but with precautions and following Governor's rules think they did a good job.

Selectmen's Reports:

Costello: On August 13th, Interim Town Administrator and I spoke to MassDOT on Barney Ave & Route 6 intersection and danger on that route. Gave concerns to MassDOT – Mass DOT has done road studies and at his time cannot put light. After marijuana shop opens, they will do another study, and that might trigger the criteria for putting a light in. Will use signage for now. Solar signage possible.

Muri:

Eagle Scouts projects ongoing at COA.

- One to improve some of the walking trails out back

- installing Benches/checkerboards.

- Highway Department thank you for helping out and cleaning the grounds and AC unit.

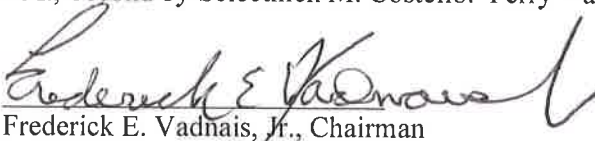
Zoom meeting with SRPEDD, National Grid, Carolyn Panofsky, Green Energy Committee. \$138K grant, hoping to get money for the Police Department (new lighting, etc.)

Perry: Barney Ave.- Previous history shows state looked at intersection. Thank you to a citizen who never gave up and keeping their issue on the Board. MassDOT is trying to help.

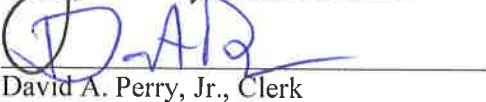
Vadnais: Previously hold on posting the position at the Assessor's, should we continue hold? Board said No. Move forward with Full Time position replacement. Interim Town Administrator to work with Dave Scanlon & Gene Campbell to fill position.

Schwall: absent

ADJOURNMENT: Selectmen J. Muri made a motion to adjourn the Regular Session Meeting at 7:50 PM., Second by Selectmen M. Costello. Perry – aye; Costello – aye; Muri – aye, Vadnais – aye.

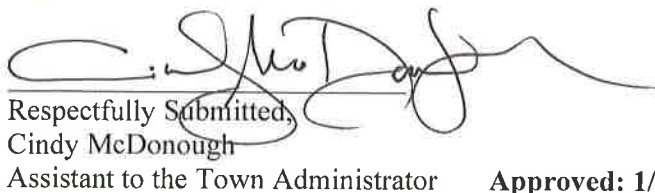

Frederick E. Vadnais, Jr., Chairman


James Muri, Vice Chairman


David A. Perry, Jr., Clerk

absent
Gerald V. Schwall, Member


Michael Costello, Member


Respectfully Submitted,
Cindy McDonough
Assistant to the Town Administrator

Approved: 1/11/2021