



Office of
SELECTMEN
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**BOARD OF SELECTMEN
MEETING MONDAY, SEPTEMBER 23, 2019
MEETING MINUTES
GLADYS L. HURRELL REHOBOTH SENIOR CENTER**

Present: Selectman Frederick "Skip" Vadnais; Selectman Gerry Schwall, Selectman Dave Perry, Selectman James Muri, Selectman Michael Costello, and Deborah Arruda, Assistant to the Town Administrator.

At 5:30 PM it was voted to enter into Executive Session pursuant to **MGL CHAPTER 30A, Section 21(a) (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;*

On a motion made by Selectman Perry, seconded by Selectman Muri, the Board voted to enter into Executive Session.

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

Call to Order at 7:10 p.m.: The Board and the public participated in the Pledge of Allegiance to the Flag.

1.0) Consent Agenda

Warrants for September 16th, 2019: G. Schwall read the weekly Warrants; 20-11A Withholdings, \$29,459.20, 20-12B Payroll, \$117,604.55; 20-11 Warrant, \$30,448.50. S. Vadnais motioned to ratify the Warrant listing for September 16th as read. Second by D. Perry. Vote 5-0

Warrants for September 23rd, 2019: G. Schwall read the weekly Warrants; 20-12A Withholdings, \$127,952.18, 20-13B Payroll, \$112,676.73; 20-12 Warrant, \$36,417.05. S. Vadnais motioned to approve the Warrants as read. Second by D. Perry. Vote 5-0.

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

Open Forum – Announcements:

Ron Whittemore, 21 Pond Street, Keep Rehoboth Beautiful

- sponsoring a town-wide Fall Clean-Up on 10/5 & 6.
- Highway will help with dump trucks at Highway Garage and South Fire Station for people to drop off bags after clean-up, or keep at front of house for pick up.
- Some t-shirts and bags still available for volunteers, 9/28 at Highway Garage, 10/1&3 5-7:00pm at library to sign up.
- more information on website <http://KeepRehobothBeautiful.com>

The next regular Selectmen Meeting is scheduled for Monday, September 30th at the COA Building, 55 Bay State Road at 7:00PM.

Town Administration Updates from Deborah Arruda:

-Last week Bill Pray, our Facility Maintenance Supervisor and an energy auditing group began auditing the town buildings. It was a two-day process to walk through all the buildings and take count of all the lighting fixtures, heating & AC units, copper piping that need to be insulated and a few other areas. This project pertains to the energy grant that was discussed at our September 9th meeting.

Thank you to Bill and Carolyn Panofsky for getting that done.

-I have also begun the process for the Class I, II, & III 2020 Auto renewals and the General Licenses. I will try to have them in the mail by the end of this week. I'm awaiting some initial information from the other departments before mailing everything out. In October I will work on the liquor licenses. The ABCC will email me the Renewal Licenses in mid-October.

-I will be attending my 4th set of classes on Friday. Everything is going well and I'm learning a lot. Thank you for giving me this opportunity and for use of the town vehicle.

NEW BUSINESS:

Action Item #1 Board to Review STM Warrant Articles Submitted by Town Departments

The Warrant for Special Town Meeting is being drafted. Here is a review of the articles to be included, with the exception of **Article 1 and 2** which we will discuss next week.

Article 3: Request from two departments for supplemental appropriation.

-in the Selectmen's office, under wages, to bring in a temporary part-time person in support of the administration needs in the continued absence of the Town Administrator.

-Request from the Tree Warden to increase forestry expenses by \$15,000.00 for additional removal of tree stumps and dead trees along the roadway.

Article 4: Place holder to fund the Stabilization account, to see if we are able to put additional funds into that. The Finance Committee will come up with a recommendation of the dollar amount.

Article 5: Would be another deposit into the OPED, or Other Post Employment Benefit trust fund, which has a deficit that need to be offset, per the State, by 2029.

Article 6: Procedural item to change wording. Town needs to authorize our Treasurer to allow to invest the money on behalf of the Town.

Article 7: \$3,500.00 to help repair the Hornbine School to repair electrical and upgrade heating system.

Article 8: UBER money. The Commonwealth charges a "Network Transportation Reserve" fee on all ride sharing sources. That money needs to be appropriated at Town meeting. \$368.60 in Reserve Fund will go to Highway Department road program for purpose of road improvements.

Article 9: Historical Commission has requested to establish a revolving account to have money set aside to invest in the properties later on.

Article 10: Would be to set yearly max on what could be spent from that account.

Article 11: Standard housekeeping for Board of Health Transfer Station to offset receipts, to revise numbers to the correct number

Action Item #2: Schedule Date for the STM Public Information Session

The Finance Committee is meeting on October 4th to review and vote. The Warrant will go to the printers on October 8 and will be in homes on or before October 15 (most likely Saturday October 12). It is suggested the Board schedule the public information session on Wednesday, October 16th at 7:00 PM.

S. Vadnais motion to schedule the STM Public Information Session for Wednesday, October 16th at 7:00 PM at the COA. Second by J. Muri. Vote 5-0.

Action Item #3 Update on Town IT Projects

Tabled until next week.

Action Item #4: Discussion with Carolyn Panofsky RE: Fuel Efficient Vehicle Policy

C. Panofsky, Chair of Green Energy Committee, explained the next step toward becoming certified as a Green Community is to adopt a Fuel-Efficient Vehicle Policy, and asked that the Board endorse the policy as submitted by the Green Energy Committee.

J. Muri motion to accept the Fuel-Efficient Vehicle Policy as submitted by the Green Energy Committee. Second by S. Vadnais. Vote 5-0.

Discussion:

- Policy has to be passed by the Board of Selectmen
- Reviewed list of town vehicles and most are following the guidelines
- Policy asks that when replacing old vehicles, follow criteria that we are being asked.
- When moving vehicles from one department to another, those vehicles should also follow criteria.

J. Muri asked if policy changes in a few years and vehicles in program that now pass, but later will not, are they grandfathered in?

C. Panofsky will ask the state.

Thank you to Carolyn for all her work on this project.

Action Item #5: Dispatcher Upgrade – Radio Purchase

This purchase will complete the dispatcher upgrade project. The radios are both analog and digital capable and are the same units being purchased by the State Police. The purchase is being made through the State Bid List and is the same price as paid by the State Police. The price represents a 31% discount from the list price.

J. Muri motion to approve the purchase of Motorola Solutions radios as specified in the quotation for the total amount of \$58,986.00, which includes a three-year warranty. Second by S. Vadnais. Vote 5-0.

Discussion:

S. Vadnais remarked that this is a life line for safety personnel to communicate and thanked them for all their hard work.

Action Item #6: Approval of Appointments, as submitted

J. Muri motion to appoint Christopher Hoskins to the Cultural Council effective 9/23/2019-6/30/2020. Second by D. Perry. Vote 5-0.

S. Vadnais motion to appoint Elizabeth Alcock to the Cultural Council effective 9/23/2019-6/30/2020. Second by J. Muri. Vote 5-0.

S. Vadnais motion to appoint Elizabeth Alcock as a Precinct 1 – Unenrolled Election Inspector effective 9/23/2019-10/31/2020. Vote 5-0.

S. Vadnais motion to amend the date of the previous motion. Second by J. Muri. Vote 5-0.

Action Item #7: Approval of COA Volunteers

J. Muri motion to approve Ms. Joanne Bennett and Ms. Louise Morrish as volunteers at the Council on Aging. Second by D. Perry. Vote 5-0

Action Item #8: Discuss Request to Issue RFP for Installation of a Telecommunication Site on Town Owned Land

A request has been received from Richard Pasciuto of Centerline Communications to see if the Town has an interest in offering 64 Gorham Street through the RFP process for the installation of a telecommunications site. The site information is attached for the Board's review.

J. Muri replied that we are not within district to implement tower in town, doesn't lie within the telecommunication overlay district, so the answer would be no.

Action Item #9: Request to Approve Special One Day Liquor License

D. Perry motion to approve a Special One Day "All Alcoholic Beverages" Liquor License to the Bristol County Fire Chief's Association for September 29, 2019 at the South Seekonk Gun Club, 61 Reed Street, Rehoboth, MA during the hours of 5:00PM – 10:00PM. Dates of transportation are September 28 and September 30. The gun range will be closed during the hours of the event. Second by M. Costello. Vote 5-0.

Action Item #10: Review of Proposed Solar Plan

A solar project is proposed at 90 Pond Street. The Planning Board distributed the attached plans and is requesting the Board of Selectmen to determine if a Gravel Committee meeting is required.

D. Perry states there will be very little gravel to be removed.

J. Muri remarked that it is not exempt – would need to look closer; need Gravel Committee meeting.

Meeting will be scheduled before Board of Selectmen Meeting.

OPEN FORUM-PUBLIC:

OTHER BUSINESS:

A letter was received from a political action group entitled, Save Our Schools. G. Schwall read the letter, "Now is the time for your board to come forward to make progress towards a more coherent, transparent, and fiscally sound regional district agreement."

DISCUSSION:

G. Schwall- We want the same outcome.

J. Muri- We are equally concerned with the issues that confront the school system and we are actively working towards a solution.

D. Perry-It is just for us to come up with the best proposal and give the people all the information and let them come up with their own opinion.

S. Vadnais- Town Meeting is the definitive authority. We always listen to Town Meeting and wish other groups would too.

OLD BUSINESS:

None

DEPARTMENT HEAD REPORTS

Selectmen's Reports:

Vadnais: No report.

Schwall:

- Thank you to Beverly Baker of the Antiquarian Society, and Jake Kramer, the Veterans Agent, for the tribute to Alexander Williams, telling the untold story of a Civil War Navy Veteran, lived in Rehoboth, buried at Hicks Cemetery.
- Intersection Issues- Line of sight at Route 118 and Bay State Road
 - M. Costello said state requirements were followed.
 - Rep was visiting site today and no cones have been knocked down.
 - Cannon will go back with flag pole and other bushes within island.
 - BOS voted for public safety


Perry: No report.

Muri:

- Attended the ground breaking ceremony at Bristol County Agricultural School on Friday 9/20 with many state officials
- ground breaking on Saturday for new development for Heritage Realty, Anawan Brewing

Costello: No report.

ADJOURNMENT: Selectmen D. Perry made a motion to adjourn the Regular Session Meeting at 8:09 PM., Second by Selectmen S. Vadnais. Perry – aye; Costello – aye; Muri – aye, and Schwall – aye, Vadnais – aye.



Gerald V. Schwall, Chairman



James Muri, Vice Chairman



David A. Perry, Jr., Clerk



Frederick E. Vadnais, Jr., Member



Michael Costello, Member



Respectfully Submitted,

Deborah Arruda

Assistant to the Town Administrator

Approved 5/11/2020