



Office of
SELECTMEN
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BOARD OF SELECTMEN
MEETING TUESDAY, October 10, 2017
MEETING MINUTES
GLADYS L. HURRELL REHOBOTH SENIOR CENTER

Present: Frederick "Skip Vadnais, Chairman; Gerald Schwall, Vice Chairman; Susan Pimental, Clerk; Dave Perry, Member; James Muri, Member

Also present: Helen Dennen

1.0) Executive Session: At 6:30 p.m. S. Pimental made a motion to enter into Executive Session, 2nd by G. Schwall, pursuant to Massachusetts General Law, Chapter 30A, and Section 21; (2) To conduct strategy sessions in preparation for negotiations with nonunion personnel or to conduct collective bargaining sessions or contract negotiations with nonunion 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 of Discussion: Dispatchers Union Contract; Highway Superintendent Contract*

Call to Order at 7:00 p.m.: The Board and the public participated in the Pledge of Allegiance to the Flag.

2.0) Consent Agenda

Warrants for September 25, 2017: S. Vadnais read the weekly Warrants; 18-14A: Withholdings, \$29,420.97; 18-15B, Payroll, \$90,357.69; 18-14 Invoices; \$75,901.29; S. Pimental made a motion to approve the weekly Warrants as read. Second, G. Schwall. Voted 5-0

Minutes: none

Open Forum – Announcements:

- Next Selectmen's Meeting will be on Monday October 16, 2017 at the Senior Center at 7PM in the small conference room and will not be taped live.
- Lorraine Botts: Animal Advocates of Rehoboth need donations to be able to help cats: monetary donations, cat food, litter and many more items needed. Can drop them off Saturday morning between 9-3 at the Senior Center. There is a craft fair on 10/21/17 from 9-3, 2 mediums will be there, treasure table, slot machine prizes, lots to do and a lot of fun.
- Tuesday 10/17/17 Special State Election for Senate Seat vacated by James Timilty-voting at all three precincts.

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Town Administrator's Report:

- 10/18/17 is the Planning Board Public Hearing on the Gas Compressor Station bylaw. It takes place at 7:15PM at the Town Offices. All interested parties are encouraged to attend and provide input for consideration. Upon closing of the Public Hearing for this zoning bylaw amendment and any other zoning bylaw change, the Planning Board is required to prepare a report on their recommendations for presentation at Town Meeting.
- Next ZBA meeting on the Anawan School Project will be 10/26/17 at 6PM at the Senior Center.
- I have followed up with Andrew Barr of Russo Barr Associates. He is awaiting the environmental report and advises he will have report to us by the end of the week.
- Group Benefits Services is sponsoring an employment law seminar latest employment issues that face municipalities. Seminar will be held on 10/17/17 in Boylston. Helen going.

NEW BUSINESS: Action Item #1: 7:15PM Classification Hearing w/ Board of Assessors

On a motion made by J. Muri Second by S. Pimental it was voted to open public hearing.

Roll Call: Pimental – aye; Muri – aye; Vadnais – aye; Schwall – aye; Perry – aye

Gene Campbell, Sue Taylor, Chuck Procopio present. G.C. There are no advantages to raising the commercial or industrial tax rate for the Town. We will lose local small businesses.

On a motion made by J. Muri Second by S. Pimental it was voted to close public hearing.

Roll Call: Pimental – aye; Muri – aye; Vadnais – aye; Schwall – aye; Perry – aye

On a motion made by S. Pimental Second by G. Schwall it was voted to approve and stay with the single tax rate. All Vote 5-0

On a motion made by S. Pimental Second by G. Schwall it was voted to approve the entering of all necessary taxation information on the Gateway LA-5. All Vote 5-0

Action Item #2: 7:30PM Public Hearing: Application from Liberty Utilities for Roadway Utility Installation License

On a motion made by S. Pimental Second by D. Perry it was voted to open public hearing.

Roll Call: Pimental – aye; Muri – aye; Vadnais – aye; Schwall – aye; Perry – aye

Notification has been satisfied, media has been paid for, and all other prerequisites have been satisfied.

R.J. Ritchie, Jim Carey and John Amaral from Liberty Utilities present. Former New England Gas Company.

Powerpoint presentation: Discussed the advantages to natural gas and how many communities they service. Described the project on Spring Street and how the route will run. Safety was discussed. Meet all State and Federal requirements. The company works well with the building department, building inspectors and first responders.

Veronica Brinkley; Bay State Road: You mentioned first responders; What type of emergency would you anticipate? J.C. The smell of gas from a leak. V.B. There is no worry about explosions? J.M. Hopefully not. We keep everything safe and we have a very good track record. All the employees are trained to handle natural gas and keep the community safe.

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Tish Vadnais: Why do we need gas in Rehoboth? J.M. The developer of the project contacted us for our service. T.V. Are you the same group that is trying to put gas in North Rehoboth? J.M. No, they are an interstate pipeline company, we are a local distribution company. T.V. Will the homeowners that you pass to get to Spring Street be able to tie into this gas line. J.M. Any of the abutters along the route could tie in.

Jeff Medeiros; Spring Street: There is no shoulder of the road so where will the line be going? J.A. We will be going right outside the pavement on the grass area. J.M. What kind of pressure will you be using to get the gas all the way up Spring Street? J.A. Max 60lbs per sq. in.

Carolyn Castiligi; Spring Street: I have a big tree in my front yard will it be cut down. S.V. Any tree bigger than 10" in diameter requires a public hearing to be removed. R.R. We take the least invasive route.

Joan Medeiros: How long will this project last? J.A. Approximately 3-4 weeks. We work from 7AM – 3:35PM.

M. Costello: This is their first process of approval. They still need to see me about a road opening permit and there are some criteria they need to meet before receiving that permit. There are some spots on the roadways where you will have to go into the road and off the edge. I also want to mention if you are planning on putting stubs in for the abutters. They may not want to tie in right away, but once the road is paved there is a five-year moratorium.

J. Muri: In the event there is a break, what is your turn around time to get to it? J.C. We are out there normally is 1 hour. We have personnel 24 hours a day. J.M: What is the approximate cost for this phase. J.A. Around \$250,000.00. J.M. How are you bonded in case the project falls through and the roads need to be repaired? J.A. We have performance bonds that are required through MA Law and the DPW and we also have insurance bonds.

S. Pimental: Instead of digging up lawns, why not go along road edge. J.A. We like to keep minimal impact to the roadways.

G. Schwall: Voiced to Company to reconsider using the roads vs. digging up abutters yards. R.R. We are willing to be responsive to your needs and work with you. G.S. Why not go through Swansea the other way. J.A. We would be going through private property. G.S. We should hire someone that can be the Clerk of the works and oversee project.

S.V. What will you do if you disrupt someone's lawn and driveway. J.A. We will talk to home owner and restore it.

D. Perry: Before issuing the Road Opening Permit M. Costello should do a walk through with the company and make sure everything is touched upon and the bond will not be released until everything is done to satisfaction. Will you be putting points at all the abutters in case they do decide to tie on? J.A. We can use a technology that will allow for that, but we usually don't do that unless we have the customer first. We will be sending letters out.

Tish Vadnais: Why not go up through Hornbine Road, it seems closer to project? J.A. There are no gas lines on Hornbine Road.

Anthony; Hornbine Road: Why are doing 6" at development then going to 4"? J.C. The developer called us for our service and there is an economical reason.

M. Costello: I would rather see the company go through the easement than into the street on 118, I don't care about Spring Street, we will be paving that soon.

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Joan Medeiros: Where would the gas be pumped from. J.C. Our supply is in Swansea and Fall River. J.M. How much to tie into the service? Joseph Lopes: If you are within 100 feet there is no charge.

On a motion made by S. Pimental Second by D. Perry it was voted to close public hearing.

Roll Call: Pimental – aye; Muri – aye; Vadnais – aye; Schwall – aye; Perry – aye

G. Schwall: When would the project begin? J.C. Most likely spring of next year.

S.V. We have 30 days to render a decision. J.M. I would like to speak with the Highway Superintendent in regards to surety of this project and who would be the Clerk of the Works.

Liberty Utilities: We cannot give you an answer as to who the Clerk of the Works would be because that is a cost that would be given to the Developer of the project. As soon as we find out what that cost would be and the Developer is willing to contribute to that extra cost, we would be in agreeance with a Clerk of the Works.

G. Schwall: I struggle with the extent of benefit to the Town residents. I believe it benefits one resident. Also, usefulness of said utility to the Town. We have gotten by 374 years without gas lines coming up our roads. I am not sure we need it at this time.

On a motion made by G. Schwall Second by S. Pimental it was voted to take this matter under advisement. All vote 5-0

Action Item #3: Cont. Review 11/6/17 Special Town Meeting

Town Accountant would like \$50,000 for 375th Anniversary Committee budget as an individual Article on the Warrant to facilitate carry over.

Article below remaining open;

ARTICLE 6: INSTALLATION OF FIBER

Submitted by: DR Regional School District – The Board of Selectmen would like to amend Article at the Special Town Meeting. Will contact Jay Talerman to inquire.

On a motion made by G. Schwall Second by J. Muri it was voted to open the Special Town Meeting Warrant. Roll Call: Pimental – aye; Muri – aye; Vadnais – aye; Schwall – aye; Perry – aye

On a motion made by J. Muri Second by G. Schwall it was voted to amend Article 2 adding item 4 Public Safety Telephone System Upgrade in the amount of \$3,240.00. All Vote 5-0

On a motion made by G. Schwall Second by J. Muri it was voted to close the Special Town Meeting Warrant. Roll Call: Pimental – aye; Muri – aye; Vadnais – aye; Schwall – aye; Perry – aye

On a motion made by S. Pimental it was voted to add a comment to School Article stating the portion of which Rehoboth contributes to the schools vs. Dighton, Second by G. Schwall for discussion, can we have the Finance Committee write a statement. Helen will reach out to school department if the article wording is not clear. S. Pimental with draws motion.

Action Item #4: Approve & Sign Updated Heavy Equipment Operator Job Description

On a motion made by D. Perry Second by J. Muri it was voted to approve and sign updated Heavy Equipment Operator Job Description. All Vote 5-0

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Action Item #5: Approve & Sign Updated Truck Driver/Laborer Job Description

On a motion made by D. Perry Second by S. Pimental it was voted to approve and sign updated Truck Driver/Laborer Job Description. All Vote 5-0

Action Item #6: Appoint Member to the 375th Anniversary Committee

On a motion made by S. Pimental Second by G. Schwall it was voted to appoint Deborah Breckenridge to the 375th Anniversary Committee effective 10/10/17 – 12/31/18. All Vote 5-0

Action Item #7: Appoint Alternate Inspector of Buildings

On a motion made by S. Pimental Second by J. Muri it was voted to appoint Mark Arruda as the Alternate Inspector of Buildings effective 10/10/17 – 6/30/18. All Vote 5-0

Action Item #8: Appoint Stephen Morawiec as a Member of Rehoboth Emergency Management Agency

On a motion made by S. Pimental Second by G. Schwall it was voted to grant the variance of the Town Bylaws to appoint Stephen Morawiec as a member of the Rehoboth Emergency Management Agency, per Bill Maiorano's recommendation effective 10/10/17 – 6/30/18. All Vote 5-0

Action Item #9: Reappoint Helen Dennen SMGH Rep – Alternate

On a motion made by S. Pimental Second by D. Perry it was voted to reappoint Helen Dennen as the SMGH Rep – Alternate effective 7/1/17 – 6/30/18

Action Item #10: Reappoint Chairman Vadnais to the Bristol County Advisory Board

On a motion made by S. Pimental Second by D. Perry it was voted to reappoint Chairman Vadnais to the Bristol County Advisory Board effective 7/1/17 – 6/30/18. All Vote 4-0(Vadnais abstained)

Action Item #11: Building Commissioner/Zoning Officer Job Description

The Board is having Acting Building Inspector Bill McDonough look at the necessary knowledge and abilities needed in the current job description. Will put item back on future agenda.

OPEN FORUM:

Sue McBride, Mike McBride, George Solas; the Statutory Method Amount, Alternative Method I Amount, Alternative Method II Amount, Amount if we lost K-8 transportation and Amount if K-8 divided. Sue gave Board of Selectmen packets to review. S. McBride stated the fairest for both Towns would be Alternative Method II. Discussion ensued.

DEPARTMENT HEAD REPORTS
10/10/17 Selectmen's Reports:

Vadnais: none

Schwall: none

Pimental: none

Perry: none

Muri: none

ADJOURNMENT: Selectmen S. Pimental made a motion to adjourn the Regular Session Meeting at 9:55 PM., Second by Selectmen G. Schwall. Vadnais – aye; Perry – aye; Pimental – aye; Schwall – aye; Muri - aye

Frederick E. Vadnais, Jr., Chairman

Gerald V. Schwall, Vice Chairman

Susan M. Pimental, Clerk

David A. Perry, Jr., Member

James Muri, Member

Respectfully Submitted,
Kelly J. Hathaway
Assistant Town Administrator

Approved 11/6/17