



Office of  
SELECTMEN  
148 Peck Street  
Rehoboth, MA 02769

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

**BOARD OF SELECTMEN**  
**MEETING MONDAY, January 22, 2018**  
**MEETING MINUTES**  
**GLADYS L. HURRELL REHOBOTH SENIOR CENTER**

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

**Absent:** James Muri, Member

**Also present:** Helen Dennen

**1.0) Executive Session:** At 5:30 p.m. S. Pimental made a motion to enter into Executive Session, 2<sup>nd</sup> 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:** REPAC Litigation; Highway Grievance; Police Chief 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 January 22, 2018:** S. Vadnais read the weekly Warrants; 18-29A: Withholdings, \$26,427.87; 18-30B, Payroll, \$91,671.50; 18-29 Invoices, \$165,457.83; S. Pimental made a motion to approve the weekly Warrants as read. Second, G. Schwall. Voted 4-0

**Minutes:** S. Pimental made a motion to approve Regular Session Meeting Minutes from December 18, 2017. Second G. Schwall, All Vote 4-0; Executive Session Meeting Minutes from January 16, 2018 were approved and held in Executive Session.

**Page Two of Five**  
**Board of Selectmen, Meeting Minutes**  
**January 22, 2018**

**Town Administrator's Report:**

- The 375<sup>th</sup> Ball has sold 182 tickets so far. The Ball is this Saturday 1/28/18 6:30PM – 7:30PM cocktail hour, fireworks at 7PM with dinner and live music to follow. On a motion made by D. Perry Second by S. Pimental it was voted to direct Public Access to film the 375<sup>th</sup> Ball. All Vote 4-0
- We were contacted by Senator Feeney on Thursday asking if we had any capital needs for our community in the area of capital asset management and maintenance. Senator Feeney apologized for the quick turnaround time but explained that the information was only communicated to him that afternoon. Any request from us would need to be submitted by 12 noon today. Since we did not have a selectmen's meeting to discuss, I polled the board for any thoughts they might have. The first that came to mind was funding for the HVAC upgrades at the Senior Center. Today I forwarded an email request to Senator Feeney for \$20,000 for the HVAC upgrades to be added to the general bond to be taken up by the Senate within the next few weeks.
- Insurance Risk Control Meeting scheduled for Thursday, 2/8/18. Mark Cuddy of FB Insure will accompany meeting with Teresa D'Amelio. Teresa wants to meet with you and the DPW Superintendent (your Superintendent of Streets) initially and then when finished would like to proceed to the police chief to meet with him. She should head up to the Police Department sometime after 10AM. This is not your typical property inspection; Teresa is looking to get updates on changes in Town operations (if any) or plan to make. She will discuss the causes of losses of any claims and corrective actions, review free safety resources and find out what you want help with. She's a resource in safe driving by your employees (including police and fire) and even emergency preparedness.  
The visit was prompted by her underwriter (to meet with Town Administrator, DPW Superintendent and Police Chief) so that will be her charge for the day. If she has time and you would like her to meet with the Fire Chief or any other department head, she will do so, but if she unable to do it this trip, she would certainly schedule a meeting in the near future. By the end of our meeting, she should be up to date on any concerns you have in the Town or if there is an area or department you'd like her to assist you with.
- Mass Highway will begin retroreflective sign replacement and upgrades at various locations throughout Town on 2/5/18. Work will take place mainly in the breakdown lane or shoulder of the roadway. It is estimated work will take place during a 5-month period.
- ZBA Meeting Update: Manitoak Estates/Bliss Street Development – was not discussed; applicants did not show. Dumontier was given conditional approval; Jay Talerman present and placed certain conditions on approval. Anawan School ZBA closed public hearing; board will deliberate and issue decision; major issue is the well exclusion zone; applicant will be going before DEP for a variance

**Open Forum – Announcements:**

- Next Selectmen's meeting will be held on Monday, January 29, 2018 at 6:00 PM at DRRHS 2700 Regional Road, N. Dighton MA.

**Page Three of Five**  
**Board of Selectmen, Meeting Minutes**  
**January 22, 2018**

**NEW BUSINESS: Action Item #1: 1/29/18 STM Warrant & Motions**

Town Moderator Bill Cute & Town Clerk Laura Schwall present.

Inclement weather date is 1/30/18. The Boy Scouts will be there to collect non-perishables.

The Moderator went over all Articles with the Board of Selectmen.

Moderator read entire #4 Article-Purchase of Land: to give the public more understanding of the dialogue. Discussion/review continued in regards to the articles on the warrant.

**Action Item #2: Ann Malley/ National Grid**

Ann Malley Representative from National Grid present to discuss reasons for several power outages in the Town. Ann explained one particular outage in October was due to high winds and it affected thousands of customers in various surrounding areas. Another outage in November was due to a large tree falling on lines. Christmas Day was an outage for 5 minutes and it was related to a transmission tower coming down. Ann discussed other outages similar and why they came about. Ann explained that National Grid has a short-term resolution which is almost complete and also a long-term resolution (new substation in Town) for reducing power outages. Ann also discussed damaged trees in Town that need to be removed.

**Action Item #3: Valerie Souza Re: Farmers Market**

Valerie Souza present. Valerie let the Board of Selectmen know that the Farmers Market has been suspended, due to lack of participation. Valerie stated that she will form a farmer's market if there is an interest with other people to help and join.

On a motion made by D. Perry Second by G. Schwall it was voted to suspend its permission to sponsor Farmer's Markets at any location until a process is in place that meets the regulations of MDAR. All Vote 4-0

Tish Vadnais is interested in becoming a part of the Farmers Market. Valerie let the residents know how to become part of the Farmers Market if interested and when the Agricultural Commission meetings are. The Farmers Market needs at least two consistent farmers.

**Action Item #4: Blanding Library State Aid Payment**

On a motion made by S. Pimental Second by G. Schwall it was voted to approve FY2018 State Aid first installment of \$6,469.99 to Rehoboth Antiquarian Society for use at Blanding Library. All Vote 4-0

**Action Item #5: Blanding Library Grant Payment**

On a motion made by S. Pimental Second by G. Schwall it was voted to approve grant agreement of third payment in the amount of \$57,382.50 to Rehoboth Antiquarian Society. All Vote 4-0

**Action Item #6: 375<sup>th</sup> Committee Appointment**

On a motion made by S. Pimental Second by G. Schwall it was voted to appoint Janet McMurry to the 375<sup>th</sup> Anniversary Committee effective 1/22/18 – 12/31/18. All Vote 4-0

**Page Four of Five**  
**Board of Selectmen, Meeting Minutes**  
**January 22, 2018**

**Action Item #7: Highway Clerk Hire**

On a motion made by D. Perry Second by S. Pimental it was voted to authorize hire of Martina Fiore for the position of temporary part-time highway clerk per recommendation of Highway Superintendent Michael Costello under the following terms; tentative start date the week of 1/29/18 thru 6/1/18; maximum 15 hours per week; rate of pay \$20.00 per hour; hire is under Personnel Policy and successful pre-employment physical & drug screening. All Vote 4-0

**Action Item #8: Physical Conditions Assessment Report**

Selectmen Muri is absent so item tabled until next agenda.

**DEPARTMENT HEAD REPORTS**

**1/22/18 Selectmen's Reports:**

**Vadnais:** Animal Advisory Committee has adopted some policies one being the Feral Cat Policy. 145 cats have been put through the program. We have also asked for an update and action plan for the physical improvements to the animal shelter. The committee has also come up with an active volunteer program.

- The Town has also retained Attorney Eric Brainsky as Special Town Counsel.

**Schwall:** Last week we formed Keep Rehoboth Beautiful Committee and it needed to be organized. I met with the committee last week and it is up and running so if anyone would like to join please fill out a talent bank form at the Board of Selectmen's Office.

- 1/11/18: Laura, Skip & I attended a meeting with Senator Feeney in conjunction with the CARCS Group regarding energy in Massachusetts and keeping the pressure up so that we do not have compressor stations or LNG projects trying to build in Rehoboth.

**Pimental:** Happy to announce the Board of Selectmen has signed another three-year contract with Chief James Trombetta. He has been with the Town 33 years and we are lucky to have him.

**Perry:** COA's new boiler; since 2017 the heating bills dropped 23% and we had no breakdowns or repairs this year.

- J. Muri and I reviewed a wood policy in Town: Forestry will see a tree down and cut it into large pieces; if abutter or neighbor tags it, they own it. If no one claims the wood anyone can come pick it up. After a week or two if no one claims the wood, forestry will go out and pick up the debris. Forestry will also deliver it to you if needed. Seniors get top priority and can go to the COA to sign up for wood delivery.

**Muri:** absent

**Page Five of Five**  
**Board of Selectmen, Meeting Minutes**  
**January 22, 2018**

**ADJOURNMENT:** Selectmen S. Pimental made a motion to adjourn the Regular Session Meeting at 8:13 PM., Second by Selectmen G. Schwall. Vadnais – aye; Perry – aye; Pimental – aye; Schwall – aye

---

Frederick E. Vadnais, Jr., Chairman

---

Gerald V. Schwall, Vice Chairman

---

Susan M. Pimental, Clerk

---

David A. Perry, Jr., Member  
(absent)

---

James Muri, Member

---

Respectfully Submitted,  
Kelly J. Hathaway  
Assistant Town Administrator

**Approved 2/20/18**