

Office of  
SELECTMEN  
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**BOARD OF SELECTMEN**  
**MEETING TUESDAY, September 6, 2016**  
**MEETING MINUTES**  
**GLADYS L. HURRELL REHOBOTH SENIOR CENTER**

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

**Also Present:** Helen Dennen, Interim Town Administrator

**1.0) Executive Session:** At 6:31 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; (6) To consider the purchase, exchange, lease or value of real property if the chair declares that an open meeting may have a detrimental effect on the negotiating position of the public body \*

**Topics of Discussion:** Krasnianski vs. TOR; Police Contract Negotiations; Highway Contract Negotiations; PILOT Agreement; Conservation Restriction\*

**Call to Order at 7:25p.m.:** The Board and the public participated in the Pledge of Allegiance to the Flag.

**2.0) Consent Agenda**

**Warrants:** S. Vadnais read the weekly Warrants; Withholdings 17-09A, \$30,601.92; Payroll 17-10B, \$89,001.04; Invoices 17-09: \$50,936.92; Refunds 17-09R; \$4,945.57 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 the Regular Meeting Minutes from August 1, 2016. Second, G. Schwall All Vote 4-0

**Open Forum – Announcements:**

- Next Selectmen’s Meeting will be on Monday September 12, 2016 at the Senior Center at 7PM with Dighton Board of Selectmen

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- Steve Howitt: Wheeler Street Bridge: I am really impressed with what they have been able to get done. Project 75% complete on schedule to be complete by 4/2017. Rte. 44: MassDot took longer to get there due to weather. We are on the Capital Investment Plan for 2019. They will mill parts of road for now at night. They will begin paving September 19 -22 in Rehoboth. The intersection of Rte. 44 and 118 is not on the Capital Investment Plan for 2017 – 2021. No funding has been identified. I will try to advance this as a future project with SRPEDD. We will not hear about the money for the COA boiler until this month or October. The Governor still can do a 9 cut. I hope that the Governor will listen to my request. The Board of Selectmen thanked Steve Howitt for helping the Town with all he does. Steve Howitt discussed what he has also done for other surrounding towns.
- G. Schwall read: The Municipal Complex Committee will hold Informational Workshops to answer questions hear comments and address concerns regarding the proposed new Municipal Complex on Wednesday September 14 and October 12, 2016 from 5 – 7PM. In addition the existing Town Offices building and the Public Safety Building will be open to the public to view conditions on Wednesday September 21 and October 19, 2016 from 5 – 7PM. The representatives of the Municipal Complex Committee will be on site at each of these locations to provide information and answer questions.
- D. Perry read: The Board of Selectmen will hold a Public Informational Meeting on Monday, September 26, 2016 starting at 7:00 PM at the Rehoboth Senior Center, 55 Bay State Road, Rehoboth. The purpose of this Public Meeting is to address questions and concerns regarding the Access Northeast Project and proposed compressor station to be located in the Town of Rehoboth. Representatives from Algonquin Gas/Spectra will be present to respond to questions addressed by a panel of municipal representatives consisting of officials from the Town of Seekonk, City of Attleboro and Town of Rehoboth.

**Town Administrator's Report:**

- There was a broken water line at COA. All issues have been resolved by the Highway Department
- The roof a building department was leaking. John Souza will replace shingles and John Santos will get estimates for replacement of the roof.
- The Forestry vehicle was hit on Tremont Street. The vehicle was off the road with the lights on and the worker was out of the vehicle. Our insurance has contacted the driver's insurance company and all proper reports have been made. I was told that the vehicle might be totaled.
- I spoke with Seekonk today and some officials will be attending the Spectra meeting. I have not received a definite answer from Attleboro.

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- A reminder; Next week September 13, 14, 15 I will be attending the Public Contracting Overview Seminar in Boston.

**3.0) NEW BUSINESS: Action Item #1: Hire of Part-time Dispatcher**

Chief Trombetta: I also want to thank Representative Steve Howitt for his efforts in getting Route 44 repaired. We answer a lot of calls for accidents caused by bent rims and flat tires.

- We currently only have two part-time dispatchers and four full- time dispatchers. I have here Michael McDonald; he has gone through all the training (State and in House). He has a stamp of approval from Supervisor Bree Hoskins.
- McDonald: I work at Stonehill College as a Police Dispatcher part-time now. I resigned from my position as a police officer in Seekonk because they thought I had a Bachelor's degree. It was a miscommunication.

On a motion made by S. Pimental Second by G. Schwall it was voted to appoint Michael McDonald as a part-time Dispatcher for the Rehoboth Police Department effective today, subject to a physical examination. All Vote 4-0

**Action Item #2: Rehoboth Town Events**

On a motion made by S. Pimental Second by D. Perry it was voted to waive Town fees for permits for the 17<sup>th</sup> Annual Larry Procopio Harvest Block Party on Saturday September 17, 2016. All Vote 4-0

**Action Item #3: 21 First Street**

D. Perry: Usually I say buyer beware, but under the circumstances we should return the money.

On a motion made by D. Perry Second by G. Schwall it was voted to approve request to return the deposit to Mr. DeRosa with discussion;

G. Schwall: I believe we also need to pay the auctioneer for his time. If the auctioneer is willing to waive his fees, then we should return the full deposit. If he still wants his fee then we return the deposit minus auctioneer's fee.

On a motion made by D. Perry Second by G. Schwall it was voted to amend vote and consult with auctioneer regarding his fees and if he will waive them. If so the Board of Selectmen will return the entire deposit to Mr. DeRosa of \$4,800; if not the Board will return deposit minus the auctioneer's fee of 10%. All Vote 4-0

- The Board discussed looking into the other bids on property.
- To be brought up at a future meeting

**Action Item #4: Mike Tyler Appointment**

Mike Tyler's appointment expires 9/7/16.

On a motion made by D. Perry Second by S. Pimental it was voted to extend Mike Tyler's appointment for Acting Highway Superintendent effective 9/7/16 until position is filled. All Vote 4-0

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**Action Item #5: Animal Control Officer Description**

Richard Panofsky present.

The Board of Selectmen reviewed the job description given by the Animal Advisory Committee to present to the Personnel Board. They noted some changes and corrections needed on page 5. The Board also recommended speaking with the present ACO to get a broader idea of what the job details. Richard Panofsky will also present job descriptions for the Animal Inspector and Field Driver at a later time. R. Panofsky will meet with Personnel Board and go over ACO job description.

**Action Item #6: Workshop Discussion: Police Department**

Discussion regarding Town Bylaws relating to the Police Department including responsibilities of the Board of Selectmen and of the Police Chief.

G. Schwall: I believe the Chief can make changes and submit them to the Board for review and if we don't respond within 30 days then it will automatically become a part of the procedures and policies manual. S. Pimental: I don't see a Strong Chief Bylaw. G. Schwall: There is none for the Chief of Police only Fire Chief. What was accepted was a 97A that recognizes a Chiefs authority to operate a department on a day to day basis. It gives him authority to appoint within the ranks, but it does not give authority to hiring, firing, and promoting. If the position comes with a pay raise the Board needs to be involved. S.P.: If the Chief can work within the budget then he should be able to add detectives if he needs to. S.V. I don't agree. I think he should get approval from the Board. S.P.: I would be nervous to have a Board having control over the Chief going forward. G.S.: I believe it is up to the Board to have proper oversight over all of the departments. I think our Chief is doing a great job. S.V.: We need to look and work at our Bylaws. They have not been touched since 1968. S.P.: Read the Bylaws. S.V.: Let's conclude here and revisit this at a later time when we get more information.

**DEPARTMENT HEAD REPORTS**

**9/6/16 Selectmen's Reports:**

**Vadnais:** none

**Schwall:** We talked about vehicles and if REMA is in need of a tow vehicle. I would like to see if we can designate a Highway Department vehicle for them and give a key to Bill, in the event of an emergency and he needs to move a trailer. Or keep a key someplace maybe Fire Department. D. Perry will talk to Bill.

**Pimental:** none

**Perry:** The Forestry vehicle was totaled in an accident. The Tree Warden would like to get another utility vehicle next year. The John Deer tractor is also down and needs to be replaced. Rob will be using his own truck for now and putting in for mileage. The Board suggested putting in for Special Town Meeting in October. I will talk to Rob. That is a vital piece of equipment.

- We got water in the fuel at the gas pumps. We caught it fast, was only in two vehicles and all the vehicles were treated. We treated the gas in the pumps and in the future we were told to get premium gas one time to run through the vehicles. The water in the tank hopefully will be a one time thing.

**5.0) ADJOURNMENT:** Selectmen S. Pimental made a motion to adjourn the Regular Session Meeting at 9:05 PM., Second by Selectmen G. Schwall. Schwall – aye; Vadnais – aye; Pimental – aye; Perry - aye

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Frederick E. Vadnais, Jr., Chairman

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Gerald V. Schwall, Vice Chairman

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Susan M. Pimental, Clerk

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David A. Perry, Jr., Member

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Respectfully Submitted,  
Kelly J. Hathaway  
Interim Assistant Town Administrator

Approved 10/3/16