

**MINUTES OF TOWN OF BERKLEY SELECTMEN'S MEETING OF 5/2/2018**

SELECTMEN IN ATTENDANCE: George F. Miller, Chairman Wendy F. Cochrane, Clerk Gil Pontes, Member

TOPIC		ACTION
<p>Public Hearing for bylaw changes</p>	<p>Meeting Convened at 6:05 pm at Town Hall Hearing Room, 1 North Main St.</p> <p>- Pursuant to Article I, Section 2, of the General Bylaws of the Town of Berkley, the Board of Selectmen will hold a public hearing on Wednesday, May 2, 2018, at 6:00 p.m. in the Meeting Room at the Town Office Building, One North Main Street, Berkley, Massachusetts, regarding proposed amendments to the aforesaid General Bylaws, as follows: (i) amendment to change the position of Highway Surveyor from an elected position to a position appointed by the Board of Selectmen for a term not to exceed three years, subject to acceptance by the voters at the annual Town elections, provided that the incumbent serving at the time of any such acceptance by the voters shall continue to hold the office and to perform the duties thereof until the expiration of the term for which he or she was elected or until he or she otherwise vacates the office, the foregoing in accordance with Massachusetts General Laws, Chapter 41, Sections 1 and 1B; and to amend ByLaw Article 2, Section 2, by deleting the reference to "Highway Surveyor" as an elected position of the Town, should the aforesaid vote pass. (ii) to change the position of Tree Warden from an elected position to a position appointed by the Board of Selectmen for a term not to exceed three years, subject to acceptance by the voters at the annual Town elections, provided that the incumbent serving at the time of any such acceptance by the voters shall continue to hold the office and to perform the duties thereof until the expiration of the term for which he or she was elected or until he or she otherwise vacates the office, the foregoing in accordance with Massachusetts General Laws, Chapter 41, Sections 1 and 1B; and to amend ByLaw Article 2, Section 2, by deleting the reference to "Tree Warden" as an elected position of the Town, should the aforesaid vote pass (iii) to amend Article 27 Section 3 of the General ByLaws of the Town of Berkley, entitled "Capital Improvement Planning Committee" as follows: add no report is required if the committee does not have a quorum to conduct business. Said public hearing is to provide an opportunity for public comment on the amendments. A complete copy of the amendments as proposed is on file with the Town Clerk and is available for public inspection during the Town Offices' regular business hours. Board of Selectmen George F. Miller Wendy F. Cochrane Gil Pontes</p> <p>Miller asked if there was anyone in attendance that would like to comment on the proposed ByLaw changes. No one replied. He reminded that they are asking that they be made appointed rather than elected and that they were jobs and not political positions and that it requires a good amount of skill and knowledge.</p> <p>Mr. Coutinho explained that the Capital Planning Committee change eliminates any confusion in the future and that it gives Town meeting the final authority.</p>	<p>Public Hearing for bylaw changes opened by Cochrane, Pontes sec. - Voted</p> <p>Motion to close the Public hearing on the Highway Surveyor, Tree Warden, and Capital Improvement Planning Committee made by Cochrane, Pontes sec. - Voted</p>



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<p>Minutes</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Minutes approved for March 7, 2018 – Regular Session</li> </ul>	<p>Motion to approve made by Pontes, Cochrane sec. – Voted</p>
<p>Meeting Mail</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Board reviewed a letter to Town Administrator from City of Taunton Office of Economic and Community Development regarding agreement governing and Greater Attleboro/ Taunton HOME Consortium (GATHC). Mr. Coutinho felt that we should try to be more proactive in this. Miller asked if there was anything that locked us into this, Mr. Coutinho stated no there is not. 1.4 million in funds that may be available to our residents. Miller asked if Mr. Coutinho could find out how many Berkley residents have participated in this in the past as there seems to be opportunity for rehabilitation.</li> </ul>	<p>Motion to file made by Cochrane, Pontes sec. – Voted</p>
<p>New Business</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- The Selectmen reviewed the oil bids for Town buildings and schools.</li>   <li>- The Board reviewed the Fire Chief's contract. Miller stated that they were just going to extend the contract until November with no changes.</li>   <li>- The Board reviewed the Town Administrator contract. Miller stated that they had an Executive Session last meeting and they have agreed on a contract. Miller stated that there has been significant improvement since he had been here and he didn't think that they could ask for much more. HEs updates all personnel policies, and helped with the insurance, initiated the IAC, etc. Mr. Coutinho wanted to state that everything accomplished is really a team effort and not just him. Miller thanked him for being able to pull everyone together to accomplish what was needed. And for saving the Town so much money, the alcohol licenses and so on, Miller said he could go on and on but he won't drag the meeting out.</li> </ul>	<p>Motion to approve the bid from Peterson Oil made by Cochrane, Pontes sec. – Voted</p> <p>Motion to extend the Fire Chief's contract until December 31, 2018 made by Pontes, Cochrane sec. – Voted</p> <p>Motion to extend the Town Administrators contract as written for a term to expire on June 30, 2021</p>







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Personnel  
Board Cont.

out of their control it would be nice if we had someone come in and cover temporarily. There needs to be a body that can perform the basic duties and also access to the tools they need to perform the basic duties. Mr. Coutinho felt that the other duties clause is important in a small town. Miller stated that it's a goal for the future. Cochrane noted that for the past six weeks one of the Town's employees has been trying to run the department all alone and struggling. Mr. Coutinho stated that we are almost to the point where we should consider having someone that is trained to do some floating work to cover vacations and such.

- The Board reviewed a letter from the Board of Appeals regarding increase in paygrade. Jeanne Russo was there to represent the Zoning Board of Appeals. Miller asked if the funding came from the fees coming in, Jeanne stated yes and that there is plenty of money to cover it. Miller asked how many hours she worked. They approximated 5 to 10 hours a week. Cochrane suggested that the Personnel Board review the grades and steps that have not been touched upon in years.

Meeting Adjourn

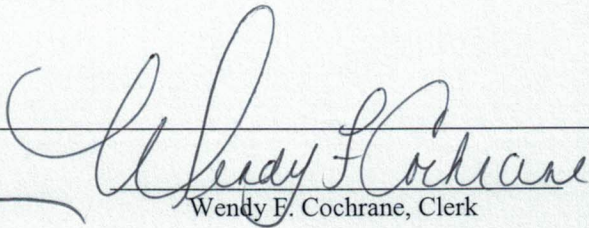
Next Regular Meeting May 16, 2018

Informational – No  
action taken

Motion made by  
Cochrane to  
approve, Pontes sec.  
– Voted

Motion to adjourn  
made by Pontes,  
Cochrane sec. -  
Voted

  
George F. Miller, Chairman

  
Wendy F. Cochrane, Clerk

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Gil Pontes, Member

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Alan G. Coutinho, Town Administrator