

HALIFAX BOARD OF SELECTMEN  
SELECTMEN MEETING  
TUESDAY, MAY 23, 2017 - 7:30 P.M.  
SELECTMEN MEETING ROOM

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Meeting came to order at 7:30 p.m. with Selectmen Thomas Millias, Kim R. Roy and Troy E. Garron present.

The following business was discussed:

**REORGANIZATION OF THE BOARD**

Moved by Garron and seconded by Roy, the Board unanimously voted to nominate Thomas Millias as Chair.

Moved by Garron and seconded by Millias, the Board unanimously voted to nominate Kim Roy as Vice-Chair.

Moved by Roy and seconded by Millias, the Board unanimously voted to nominate Troy Garron as Clerk.

Garron thanked all those who came out to vote and for re-electing him to the Board of Selectmen.

**PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE**

The Board as well as those attending tonight's meeting stood to recite the Pledge of Allegiance.

**AGENDA**

Seelig wanted to add to the Executive Session a discussion of the Town of Halifax vs. Robert Bergstrom.

With the above addition, the agenda for Tuesday, May 23<sup>rd</sup>, was unanimously approved without revision.

**MINUTES**

Moved by Roy and seconded by Garron, the Board unanimously approved the following Selectmen Minutes:

- Regular Session - June 1, 2016
- Regular Session - September 27, 2016
- Regular Session - March 28, 2017
- Regular Session - April 11, 2017
- Regular Session - April 25, 2017
- Regular Session - May 8, 2017
- Executive Session - February 28, 2017
- Executive Session - March 16, 2017
- Executive Session - March 28, 2017
- Executive Session - April 4, 2017
- Executive Session - April 11, 2017
- Executive Session - April 25, 2017

## **AFFIRMED WARRANTS, COMMITMENTS & BILL**

Moved by Garron and seconded by Roy, the Board unanimously affirmed approval for the payment of the following warrants, commitments & bill:

Payroll Warrant	# 96	\$ 340,472.05
School Warrant	# 97	\$ 518,669.93
Withholding Warrant	# 98	\$ 127,517.01
Vendor Warrant	# 99	\$ 39,261.35
Vendor Warrant	# 100	\$ 62,808.76
Payroll Warrant	# 101	\$ 362,181.07
Vendor Warrant	# 102	\$ 7,673.53
Withholding Warrant	# 103	\$ 133,526.70
Ambulance Commitment	# 4C	\$ 46,446.00
Ambulance Commitment	# 5A	\$ 37,739.00
Ambulance Commitment	# 5B	\$ 7,482.00
Mobile Home Park Fee	# 5	\$ 5,160.00
Payable to: Municipal Licensing Corp.		\$ 30.00

## **APPROVED WARRANT**

Moved by Garron and seconded by Roy, the Board unanimously approved payment of the following warrant:

Vendor Warrant	# 104	\$ 235,657.11
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Moved by Garron and seconded by Roy, the Board unanimously approved payment of the following Selectmen bills dated May 23, 2017 with the exception of Roy abstaining from the bill payable to MIIA:

Harry B. Harding & Son, Inc. (2016 town report) .....	\$ 2,514.30
Harry B. Harding & Son, Inc. (2017 STM & ATM warrant).....	\$ 2,854.40
Habeeb & Assoc. Architects (fire suppression system/HES) ....	\$ 24,375.00
CNA Surety Direct Bill (bond/P. Adduci) .....	\$ 2.00
Express Newspapers (ad/E. Monponsett/Alum Treatment).....	\$ 28.75
The Vertex Company (HES project).....	\$ 1,042.50
National Grid (Town Hall).....	\$ 800.39
DI Jacobs Consulting (Classification & Compensation Study)...	\$ 3,000.00
MIIA Property & Casualty Group, Inc. (auto policy).....	\$ 332.00
Charles Seelig (reimbursement/1 day express) .....	\$ 23.75
WB Mason (office supplies).....	\$ 70.72
Deutsch Williams Brooks DeRensis & Holland (legal/ March & April).....	\$ 1,252.23
Attorney Lawrence P. Mayo (legal/April).....	\$ 1,237.50
Michael C. Gilman, Esq. (legal/April).....	\$ 440.00

Matthew Bender & Co., Inc. (law books).....	\$ 124.43
Area 58 (contracted payments).....	\$ 45,813.14
BID Plymouth Occupational Health (physicals/ 2 employees)...	\$ 280.00
Express Newspapers (ads/4 positions) .....	\$ 122.00

**GENERAL MAIL / DISCUSSIONS**

Assessment of Richmond Park and Y camp Wells

The contract is being reviewed by Town Counsel.

Record Retention Disposition

Moved by Roy and seconded by Garron, the Board unanimously approved the request to the Supervisor of Public Records to allow the Town dispose of the following records:

Dog Complaints	1994 - 1999
Annual Town Reports	2005 - 2010
(correspondence and report copy submitted for printing by various departments; perfect bound copy of complete Annual Town Report kept on file permanently)	
Requests for use of Town Hall Great Hall/Town Green	2010 - 2013

School repair Project

The invitation to bid for the roof phase will be published tomorrow. Sub bids are due on June 7<sup>th</sup> and General contractor bids are due on June 14<sup>th</sup>. There will be a site visit for the bidders on May 30<sup>th</sup>.

Amanda Estates – Elm Street

Gordon Andrews Jr. has filed an enforcement request in connection with the building permit issued by the Building Inspector for various buildings at Amanda Estates. He believes that the issuance of the permits is in violation of the Town’s zoning by-laws. No action is needed from the Board.

Use of Town Green – Congregational Church – Picnic

Moved by Garron and seconded by Millias, the Board unanimously granted a request from the Congregational Church the use of the Town Green on Sunday, June 4<sup>th</sup>, from 9:00 a.m. to 1:00 p.m. for the annual church cookout.

**SCHEDULED APPOINTMENTS**

***Craig Curtin & Russ Kleekamp – GHD - West Monponsett presentation***

Russ Kleekamp and Craig Curtin from GHD came in this evening to talk about the Halifax stormwater outfall assessment for the East and West Monpnsett Ponds. The following is a synopsis of what they talked about;

**History of Grants**

- 2013 SWMI - Monponsett Ponds Land Use operations (70k)
- 2015 SWMI - Automated Control Study (70k w/a 20% match)
- Priority Project Program
- EPA WMOST Project
- NEWPCC - Stormwater Mapping (70k w/19k match 6k from Town & other match was inkind from DER)

### **Project Background**

Town of Halifax MS4 Permit

Town of Halifax draft TMDL

50% total phosphorus load reduction from stormwater

Goals of the Project

map the existing drainage system

design systems to reduce the phosphorus loading by 50%

### **Municipal Separate Storm Sewer System Permitting (MS4)**

public education & outreach

illicit discharge detection & elimination program

public involvement & participation in SWMP development

construction site stormwater runoff control

stormwater management in new development & redevelopment

good housekeeping & pollution prevention

program evaluation, record keeping & reporting

### **Approach**

field verification of catch basins & drainage pipes

field verification of manholes

field verification of outfalls

### **Dry Weather Outfall inspections**

outfall mapping

location of outfall (West vs. East Pond)

impervious surface area

ownership of land

cost of implementation

Hanson outfall on Ocean Ave.

Halifax Beach association outfall

combined culvert & drainage system outfall on Monponsett St.

### **Preliminary Design**

created for the three top priority outfalls

Hanson outfall

Halifax Beach

culvert outfall

brought to preliminary (or permit) level of detail & includes:

detailed topographic survey

wetland delineation

invert & elevation information

### **Overall Project Goals**

reduce at least 50% total phosphorous loading to meet TMDL requirements

completion tasks as part of the future MS4 Permit.

improve water quality & reduction in beach closures for the East & West Monponsett Ponds

### **Next Steps**

apply for grant funding for final design & construction of the stormwater systems

initiate MS4 application  
bring non-priority outfalls to the final design levels  
continue to educate the public on stormwater management  
continue to monitor & sample the East & West Monponsett Ponds  
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### ***Colonial Power - Electricity Aggregation***

Mark Cappadona from Colonial Power came in this evening to go over the electricity Aggregation Plan for the residents and small businesses of Halifax. He stated that everyone is included in the program but there is an opt out period thirty days before the program starts but if they don't do anything, they will automatically be enrolled in the program. The program allows anyone to leave and return at any time without a fee or penalty. If somebody was already on a private contract with Constellation or something like that, those customers would not be enrolled but can join at any time.

Seelig pointed out that we don't have to buy it from the same source as National Grid but can get it from anywhere. Garron said National Grid is just an umbrella corporation that everything flows through and Cappadona said that is correct, we all have to pay the toll, and they just systematically go out to purchase your energy for residential customers.

Millias asked what the chances of the Town being able to buy power at a competitive rate and he said 100%. He added that right now the Town of Plymouth, Kingston, Pembroke, Mendon and Upton are all thinking about going with Colonial. He also said depending upon how this Board wants them to act, they can certainly do something soon with those towns or Halifax can go out on their own. Millias stated typically going with a group would be better and Cappadona said that was correct.

Seelig said that other towns are doing it on their own clock in the sense of some people have had town meetings early, some people had town meetings late, some people dilly-dallied and well maybe we moved very quickly, relatively speaking. So even though there might be twelve towns in OCPC that said 'yes' everybody's at a different point of 'yes'. DPU (Department of Public Utilities) has said 'yes' to these communities, and now the next step is we could jointly go out to bid with five or six towns or we could each do it individually. Cappadona said they are going to talk to these other communities soon and within the month of June there should be a RFP so that they could get pricing. He added that just because we get you pricing that does not mean you have to go in that direction.

Garron said this is sort of like buying an insurance plan; somebody delivers the same products but with different rates and Cappadona said that is correct and the good news is, there's a bunch of new suppliers because of all the aggregations that have been driving down costs tremendously. He continued to say that you will see that in different pricing for different groups. He said there could be ten cents for one group but then for another group it could be under that because of 'low profile'. Seelig asked what he meant by 'low profile' and Cappadona explained that it means when you use your energy and how you use your energy. So your low profile comes in for every hour of every day and they run an auction for that. Seelig further explained it a little better and said let's say on July 15<sup>th</sup> it's 95° out and everybody's at the beach not using their air conditioning or it could be the opposite where all the offices are open at 3:00 p.m., and the buildings are running the air conditioning, but also we could be looking at our individual accounts, such as the school is not in operation during the summer so that changes the equation for us.

Cappadona said at this time they are looking for a little direction and it is his understanding that Kingston and Plymouth have been working together and if Halifax does not have any interest in doing that he won't bring it up. Garron said Kingston and Plymouth have a more of an urgency because some or part of their towns are being supplied by the Plymouth Nuclear Plant so they

have to make a decision as quick as possible seeing as the plant will be going offline sometime in the near future.

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Seelig said that it sounds as if it would not make sense for the town to be part of a joint bid with Plymouth and Kingston and Cappadona said you want to remember that when you pull them out, they are no longer part of the group.

Cappadona said he can get back to Seelig this Thursday afternoon and let him know what the group has decided. He asked if the Town Administrator has the ability to sign off seeing as he is here every day and Garron said they could authorize Seelig to do that.

Moved by Garron and seconded by Roy, the Board unanimously voted to allow Charles Seelig to sign off on any paperwork regarding the Electricity Aggregation Plan.

Seelig said his impression was when we went out to bid the bid would provide some options such as be a 100% green price or there would be a non-green or percentage green or whatever, and we could look at the prices for a year or two years out; is that true? He wants to be able to give the residents and small businesses several options as he does not want to say here's one price for three years and that's it. Cappadona said you can pick your base product and everyone will be in that and then if there are residents who want to go greener they can and then there may be others who want to stay where they are.

Millias asked what the base will be and Cappadona said you can decide that and Seelig said that the individual resident will have a couple of options and then can make their own decision. Roy stated that she wants to make sure the residents have a choice.

Cappadona said he would get back to the BOS and let them know what the other towns are thinking and will shoot for a June RFP.

## **GENERAL MAIL / DISCUSSIONS (CONTINUED)**

### MHG Steering Committee

Seelig wanted to let the BOS know he is not planning on running for a seat on this committee as he feels he is doing good work as a member of the "loyal opposition".

### Ambulance Rates

The fire Chief is asking the Board to contact its legislators to support Amendment #514 to the Senate version of the State Budget which would allow the local Authority to continue to amend rates as necessary. The alternative would be is the Governor's proposal which would reduce the Town's ambulance revenues.

Moved by Roy and second by Garron, the Board unanimously voted to send a letter of support to our legislators to support Amendment #514.

### Highway Surveyor Vacation Carryover

Former Highway surveyor, Robert Badore, will be paid for accrued but unused vacation time that existed when he became highway Surveyor and the current highway surveyor, Steve Hayward, will be paid the same. This has been discussed with Attorney Gilman and the Town Accountant.

### Use of Town Green – Generations - Dog Show

Moved by Roy and seconded by Garron, the Board unanimously granted Generations the use of the Town Green on Saturday, June 17<sup>th</sup>, from 12:00 p.m. to 3:00 p.m. for *Show off Your Dog Day* with the stipulation that all dog owner's pick-up any droppings from their dogs.

Line Item Transfers

Moved by Garron and seconded by Roy, the Board unanimously voted to approve the following Line Item Transfers:

FROM	TO	AMOUNT
Fire Wages #01-220-5115	Fire Station Maintenance #01-225-5243	\$ 3,240.00
Highway Wages #01-420-5115	Highway Clerical #01-420-5113	\$ 3,710.00
Trash Collection Disposal #66-435	Center Expenses #66-433	\$ 6,000.00
Police Wages #01-210-5115	Police Station Maintenance #01-214-5210	\$ 4,000.00

Monponsett Pond

As part of the Section 319 Grant program the Town will receive sufficient money to have a 17 g dose in West Monponsett Pond the week of June 5<sup>th</sup>. Then in the future the Town will construct a pump system so that the aluminum sulfate can be added on a as need basis. The total amount of the treatment will be \$233,190 so with the Town using the Section 319 funding and its own money there will be enough money to do this. The City of Brockton has made a commitment to put money into the project by putting automated controls at the dam at Stump Brook.

Plymouth County Advisory Board

Moved by Roy and seconded by Millias, the Board unanimously voted to reappoint the following Troy Garron as Halifax’s Representative and Thomas Millias as Alternate to the Plymouth County Advisory Board for the Fiscal Year July 1, 2017 to June 30, 2018:

Spraying for Ticks on the Playing Fields

Seelig was notified by Dick Steele, Pete Barone and Nicole Donnelly that Burgess Pest control has offered to spray the fields for tick and mosquitos at no cost.

School Roof Project – Waiving Permit Fees

Moved by Roy and seconded by Garron, the Board unanimously approved to waive the building and wiring permit fees for the school roof project at the Halifax Elementary School.

Monponsett Pond Administrative Consent Order

DEP states that it sees the ACO as a response to non-compliance by the City with Chapter 91 Waterways License granted by the State in connection with the dam.

Patrol Officer Robert Briggs – 111F

Moved by Roy and seconded by Garron, the Board unanimously voted to place Patrol Officer Robert Briggs on 111F status for May 3, 2017.

HOPS Playground

The Office has received a letter from the Friends of HOPS Committee stating that they have donated \$63,507 to the Town of Halifax.

No Littering Signs

Resident, Dawn Corby, has asked that the town put up anti-littering signs. Seelig is okay with putting them up but does not know how effective they will be and if there is money for them. Roy said that she has meet with her recently and she is very passionate about this and she suggested putting a message on the LED sign. Garron asked if Highway has any money and Seelig said he can ask. The Board agrees with what Ms. Corby is trying to do.

Landfill Monitoring Contract – Hemlock Lane

Moved by Garron and seconded by Roy, the Board unanimously approved the Landfill Monitoring contract between the town of Halifax and Tighe & Bond.

Library Parking Lot

Moved by Garron and seconded by Roy, the Board unanimously approved the installation of speed blocks and signage for designated parking for the Holmes Library.

Surplus Property – Library

Moved by Roy and seconded by Garron, the Board unanimously declared one (1) 4' x 6' bulletin board surplus.

Use of Town Green – Boy Scout Bottle Drive

The Board of Selectmen unanimously granted the Boy Scout's request to use the Town Hall Green and driveway on Saturday, July 8<sup>th</sup>, for the Boy Scout Troop 39 bottle drive.

Appointment - Cemetery Superintendent

The Board has received six applications for the above position. Seelig is recommending that the BOS appoint Steven Hayward (one of the applicants & Highway Surveyor) to this position as choosing another candidate could cause difficulties with the functioning of both departments.

Moved by Garron and seconded by Roy, the Board unanimously voted to accept Seelig's recommendation to appoint Steven Hayward as Cemetery Superintendent and Burial Agent.

Highway Vacation Carryover

Moved by Roy, seconded by Garron, the Board unanimously voted to allow three employees of the Highway Department to carryover 40 hours vacation leave each from FY2017 to FY2018 as per their union contract.

Fire Department Patch

The Fire Chief has asked for approval from the Board to change the patch/decal for the Town of Halifax.

Moved by Roy, seconded by Garron, the Board unanimously voted to accept the new patch/decal that was submitted from the Fire Chief.

Use of Town Green – Generations – Yard Sale

Moved by Roy and seconded by Garron, the Board unanimously granted Generations the use of the Town Green on Saturday, August 26<sup>th</sup>, from 9:00 a.m. to 2:00 p.m. for a yard sale.



Inventory Forms

There are two departments who have been notified several times about submitting their annual inventory forms and have yet to do so. Seelig is asking the Board to send a letter under their signatures requesting that the form be submitted by June 13<sup>th</sup>.

Moved by Roy and seconded by Garron, the Board unanimously voted to send a letter from them requesting the forms.

Care Package Box for the Veterans

Moved by Garron and seconded by Roy, the Board of Selectmen unanimously approved a request from resident, Sarah Nobles, to place a *care package box* for the Veterans at the Town Hall.

Conservation Commission Members

Members John Peck and April Letourneau have been notified about their lack of attending meetings over the last year. Mr. Peck has spoken with Seelig and said that he plans on attending future meeting as his health issues no longer will prevent him from attending meetings. Seelig has not heard from Ms. Letourneau.

Recycling Abatement Request – Bill # 957

A resident had purchased a home in October 2015 and paid the first recycling bill she received in 2016 for FY2017 but unbeknownst to the resident prior bills for FY2014, 2015 & 2016 were outstanding. A municipal lien certificate was requested by the closing attorney's office but they never listed the outstanding recycling bills on the settlement sheet. The Attorneys office is not acknowledging the error as the buyer and seller agreed to settle any outstanding bills among themselves should any occur after the closing.

Roy stated that she does not think the Town should take the hit for someone else's mistake. Garron felt bad about the situation but understood what Roy was saying.

Moved by Roy and seconded by Millias, the Board unanimously voted not to abate Recycling Bill #957 for FY2014, FY2015 & FY2016.

Road Cut – 14 Lake Street

Moved by Roy and seconded by Garron, the Board unanimously approved Permit #2017-38 issued to Columbia Gas of Massachusetts to perform gas line maintenance/raising test station at 14 Lake Street.

Trucks on Pine & Walnut Street

Garron said that he has been approached by several people about the trucks on Walnut and Pine Street. Seelig said that you can do a truck exclusion on Pine Street but not on Walnut as this street turns into East Bridgewater. Garron then said maybe have Chief Broderick contact East Bridgewater police chief and coordinate something with our police and theirs. Seelig asked the BOS if they wanted him to start the process of the truck exclusion on Pine Street and contact Chief Broderick about Walnut; the Board was in agreement with in doing so.

**EXECUTIVE SESSION**

Moved by Roy and seconded by Garron, the Board voted as follows to enter into Executive Session at 9:44 p.m. to discuss contract negotiations for Highway/Cemetery and litigation with the Town of Halifax vs. Robert Bergstrom.

Thomas Millias - Yes  
Kim R. Roy - Yes  
Troy E. Garron - Yes

Millias announced that no statement would be made at the end of the Executive Session and the Board would not reconvene in open session.

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Moved by Garron and seconded by Roy, the Board voted as follows to come out of Executive Session at 10:08 p.m.:

Thomas Millias - Yes  
Kim R. Roy - Yes  
Troy E. Garron - Yes

**MEETING ADJOURNED**

There being no further business, moved by Garron and seconded by Roy, the Board unanimously voted to adjourn the meeting at 10:08 p.m.

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Troy E. Garron  
Clerk

/pjm











