# HALIFAX BOARD OF SELECTMEN SELECTMEN MEETING TUESDAY, OCTOBER 24, 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:

## PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

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

## **AGENDA**

Moved by Garron and seconded by Roy, the Board unanimously approved the Agenda for Tuesday, October 24<sup>th</sup> with the slight change that Paula Hatch was here this evening to talk about solar panels and not the proposed stabilization fund for special education as posted on the agenda.

## **MINUTES**

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

Regular Session - September 26, 2017

## AFFIRMED WARRANTS AND COMMITMENT

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

Payroll Warrant	# 33	\$	361,145.93
Vendor Warrant	# 34	<b>\$</b> 1	1,417,197.46
Withholding Warrant	# 35	\$	141,341.78
Ambulance Commitment	#10A	\$	56,949.00

## APPROVED WARRANT

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

Vendor Warrant # 36 \$ 181,754.08

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

National Grid (service/concession stand)	\$	35.18
National Grid (service/Town Hall)	<b>\$</b> 1	1,039.76
Express Newspapers (ad/Reference Librarian)	\$	45.00
KP Law, P.C. (legal/August)	\$	746.82

# **SCHEDULED APPOINTMENTS**

# Continuation Fuel Storage Revocation Hearings - Davis Automotive & Country Club of Halifax Davis Automotive

They are caught up on the payment plan for real estate taxes but owes \$13,688.88 in excise taxes. As far as Seelig know there have not been any recent payments to Hobin and Hobin (deputy tax collector). Seelig is recommending that the Board continue this hearing to November 14<sup>th</sup>.

Moved by Garron and seconded by Roy, the Board unanimously voted to continue the fuel revocation hearing to November 14<sup>th</sup>.

## **Country Club of Halifax**

An attorney for Halifax Investments and Joseph Peck wrote to the Board claiming that under the by-law, even though Mr. John Peck is sole owner of both Halifax Investments and Halifax Cranberry Products, the Town cannot compel him to pay the taxes for Halifax Cranberry Products in order to retain the license for Halifax Investments. Seelig disagrees with the way the by-law is written but is happy to bring the matter back to Town Counsel for him to review.

Roy said that she spoke with Joe Peck and explained that this is the first time those properties have come. Seelig said the Treasurer-Collector now has more information on how to go about checking for all the properties so we now have a full list and not a partial list. Roy said so that is why this year is a little different.

Peck understood that but he said according to the State of Massachusetts and the United States Government a corporation exists separately and independently from its shareholders and cannot be held liable of any other entity. He continued to say that Halifax Investments is its own corporation and exists separately from John Peck, Joseph Peck or Robert Peck as well as Halifax Cranberry Products and R & J LLC. so it is not legal to hold one separate entity liable for another separate entity. Seelig said he would agree with that except in this case both entities are 100% owned by John Peck. Peck asked if there is something in the by-law that says all or part of it and Seelig said the by-law says is we have to consider whether they have direct or indirect business interest by the property owner, officers, stock holders or any members of the immediate family.

Peck then stated so the town has the right to violate the corporation laws .... Garron said that his lawyer asked that they do not discuss this and stated that Seelig needs to defer back to Town Counsel. Garron said from his stand point that until we get something from Town Counsel there is no reason to continue this discussion. Millias said in fairness to Peck and the Town lets have Counsel look at it and get a definitive ruling so we then know where to go from there.

Peck asked does the town get a lawyer and he get one too and the BOS said no we are just getting and opinion and Garron we just want clarification from our legal counsel. Roy said that there will be no action taken at this time so that we can get Town Counsel's interpretation of the by-law.

Seelig said he is not asking the Board to take any action but is recommending that the Board continue this hearing until November 14<sup>th</sup>.

Moved by Garron and seconded by Roy, the Board unanimously voted to continue the fuel revocation hearing to November 14<sup>th</sup>.

# **GENERAL MAIL / DISCUSSIONS**

Educational/Residential House - Dover Amendment

The "Dover Amendment" is a portion of Chapter 40A that provides many zoning exemptions for educational institutions. Case law has expanded that to include a number of institutions of all flavors.

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The Building Inspector was asked by an attorney for one of these (transitional house for those with mental/emotional challenges) for a determination as to whether the Dover Amendment covered this particular situation with a substandard lot of 30,000 square feet (instead of the 40,000 square feet) of lot size. The lot is the house just north of where there was a mulch business at the corner of Plymouth and Monponsett Street. The Building Inspector determined that the Dover Amendment did apply and notified the attorney. However, the attorney never asked about site plan review, which both the Building Inspector and Seelig feel will apply if this project ever goes forward. There is no action needed from Board just a FYI for them.

## Land Use Counsel

Seelig has notified the land use boards and the Building Inspector that the Selectmen are considering changing firms for land use issues and that the Board is inviting comments on the matter by November 13<sup>th</sup> so that the BOs can be made aware of them at their meeting on November 14<sup>th</sup>.

## <u>Use of Town Green – Boy Scout Yard Sale</u>

Moved by Roy and seconded by Garron, Board approved the request from the Halifax Boy Scouts Troop 39 for use of the Town Green on Saturday, November 18th, for their bottle and food drive.

## Pope's Tavern Project

The Building Committee met with Winslow Architects on Wednesday and the architect has asked for revisions in the contract for the architectural work. The Committee decided to have John Campbell discuss this with the architect. The Committee and Winslow Architects were told that the Board of Selectmen would have to sign off on any revisions to the contract.

## Dog Bite

A resident on Annawon Drive may have been bit by her own dog or a neighborhood dog on September 21th while trying to break up a scuffle between the dogs. The Board was asked if they wanted to hold a hearing but as stated the resident is not sure which dog did the biting therefore the BOS would not know who to bring in for the hearing. The BOS agreed not to hold a hearing.

## **SCHEDULED APPOINTMENTS (CONTINUED)**

## Paula Hatch – Silver Lake/solar panels

Hatch (Silver Lake School Committee member) began by saying that for a while now Silver Lake has been looking for ways to generate additional revenue for the school and the school committee has been looking at ways to do this and one opportunity that has come up is idea solar panels on school property. A solar energy company (Solex) came out in September and looked at the property and thinks there is the potential to do a 2 megawatt project. The land will be leased to the company and Silver Lake will receive revenue from leasing the land. With that being said they found out from Counsel that a regional school district cannot lease land for non-educational purposes so they will need to put forth special legislation to allow them to lease land for this type of project. Hatch informed the BOS that the school committee is going to be public meeting on November 9<sup>th</sup> to discuss this and address any concerns people may have about the legislation. She continued to say that the Board will be invited to attend this meeting and had a draft of the special legislation language that she gave to the Board.

At this time they do not have specific areas in mind but that will be figured out as the project moves forward. There needs to be further research done as they are in the infancy part of this. Selectmen Meeting – October 24, 2017 Page 4

Hatch said it would be disingenuous to have the solar company spend time on a proposal knowing that Silver Lake has a legislation issue that needs to be resolved and added that it will take four or five months to put to gather a proposal together with a project plan.

Garron asked where were they looking to have the panels and Joy Blackwood (School Superintendent) said over the parking lots and Hatch added maybe over the stands at the ball field but this area maybe expensive; they are looking at all the possibilities. Parking lots is where we started and Roy said she did not know this was available and both Blackwood and Hatch said there are a couple of schools that have them it is like having a canopy over the parking areas. Blackwood said our parking lot has islands in it so it might not be as easy to put in but there are areas where it can be done. They have Tom Calter looking at the legislation that was written up by school legal counsel and have contacted the Department of Education.

Roy has never heard of an elevated solar panel and questioned plowing and maintenance (ie: paving) and Millias wanted to mention the removal of snow. Hatch said there are lots of questions and it may not pan out for them but having special legislation pass may pave the way as there are other regional schools that our legal counsel is working with who are looking into the same opportunity. Garron asked if they looked at the roof tops and Blackwood said they are not viable and Millias said yes you think of roof but there is the issue of snow removal.

Roy understands they want to get this legislation done but asked if it leaves it open for any project of leasing and they said no it specifically says for alternative energy. Hatch said hopefully something will come from this as there will be some revenue opportunity but if not at least they tried. Roy thought this was great that they are looking at different alternatives for income and that they came in tonight to give them the heads up. Hatch said this is exciting and she wanted them to hear about this in a smaller group setting.

Garron asked about the panels in the parking lot and Blackwood said they go up on very high posts where even a fire truck can fit under and she said they also provide lighting underneath them. They do not have to plow as much because the solar panels protect the lot underneath them. Garron said he looks forward to seeing the plans. Millias did mentioned that there will some infrastructure work that needs to be done and Hatch said there is a lot of things that will need to be thought out but this is the one idea for potential revenue potential that they gravitated to. The Board thanked them for coming in.

# Friends of HOPS – brick bench fundraiser/date for 5K/playground update

Jonathan Selig along with three other Friend of HOPS members; Sue Lawless, Sarah Nobles and Adam Campbell came in tonight to give the Board an update on where things stood with the playground. They have a date for the 5<sup>th</sup> annual 5K which is going to be Sunday May 20<sup>th</sup> and the reason that they are having it on a Sunday is because lots of families are doing soccer on Saturdays. Lawless said that they will contact the Church about the date. Seelig said it was not so much it was at the same time as services but more of challenge for people getting to church. Roy suggested segregating a certain area for parking and Lawless said that she thinks they were also having an event that day. J. Selig said that they are not going to do the 1K as they want to get more bang for their buck and the numbers were not there and they are finding that a larger group of kids are running the 5K.

Moved by Roy and seconded by Garron, the Board unanimously granted permission to the Friends of HOPS to hold their 5<sup>th</sup> Annual Hops for HOPS 5K Race/Walk on Sunday, May 20, 2018 at 9:00 a.m.

The next thing he wanted mention was that they are launching their last fundraising campaign which is brick benches through a company called Bricks R Us. Purchase will be made online and the company does all the work. The benches will have bricks on them with people's names.

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They are thinking six benches that will be eight to ten feet apart and will be facing towards the playground. Prices will be as follows: \$100 for a 4x8; \$200 for an 8x8 and \$250 for a corporate name. Nobles is hoping they get a good response for the bricks because that will put them over the top and the funds from the 5K race (will have yearly) will help with the maintenance of the playground.

J. Selig lastly wanted to say that they have not heard from the State about the grant but are hoping for \$ 50,000. Roy stated that there is going to be a STM on November 20<sup>th</sup> and the Article for HOPS will be on it. She also wanted to say they the Board cannot thank them enough for all their efforts throughout this whole endeavor.

Moved by Roy and seconded by Garron, the Board unanimously voted to approve *Friends of HOPS* fundraising idea of brick benches for the HOPS playground, contingent on the Historic District Commission signing off on it.

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

Recycling Abatements – FY2018

Two requests (#1432 & 483) were found in the lock box on October 11<sup>th</sup>. They may have been dropped off on October 10<sup>th</sup> (Seelig recommending abating both).

Moved by Roy and seconded by Garron, the Board unanimously voted to abate Bill #1432 & 483 based on the fact that the office has received confirmation from their private haulers that they provide recycling service to the residents.

Several requests were definitely received after the deadline. Eight filed the application (two indicated medical problems). Two more were received with just the letter from the contractor, but no application.

For those residents that have come in to file an abatement after the deadline Seelig has told them the office will accept them a but mentioned to them that he cannot promise they will be abated as the BOS has indicated that the deadline was October 10<sup>th</sup>.

Roy said this is the first year we had a real deadline and Seelig said last year we put a deadline for previous year abatements and we also put a deadline on FY2017 bill with a deadline sometime in January 2017. Roy agreed with the October deadline because we need to know what the revenues are going to be for next year's budget. She continued to say that she and Seelig had a conversation of printing the deadline date on the abatement bill and Seelig said that will be done next year. Roy said when do we stop if they keep going over the deadline date. Garron said no everyone watches our meetings and does not know if it was posted in the newspaper. He agrees that the best plan is the deadline date being printed on the bill so we know that everyone will receive it. Roy asked if he was stating to do abatements for the year and Garron said his first instinct is stick to the deadline but there is no way of knowing that we had notified everyone in town of the deadline and suggested that end it today. Millias said if we keep moving the mark and accept them today and then someone comes in tomorrow then on Friday. Roy understood that and said the only other option is to make another deadline which then would be December 31st then on January 1st someone comes in. Seelig said he did as much publicity as he could and Roy agreed that he did his best to get the word out. Millias said there is some gray area there and suggested establishing another deadline and Seelig said not another deadline but do this batch tonight and that is it.

A member in audience asked what about the residents that have come in and have been told the deadline has passed and Roy said that is a good point and thinks they need to say no and Millias agreed that they need to say no.

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Moved by Roy and seconded by Garron, the Board unanimously voted to deny abatements for Bill# 1442, 1441, 346, 1477, 546, 2063, 2208, 661, 1320 and 2613 based on the fact that they were received after the deadline date.

> Requesting abatements for FY2017 and FY2016 due to hardship.

Moved by Roy and seconded by Garron, the Board unanimously voted to deny abatements for Bill# 1432 for Fiscal 2016 & 2017 based on the fact that the deadline to apply for previous year's bills has passed.

# Webelos Meeting with Selectmen

Cory Russell had sent an email asking if one of the Selectmen could come to one of their future den meetings (date of the meeting were given to the BOS) to talk about their role in the community. Millias said that he could attend the meeting on December 14<sup>th</sup>.

# SCHEDULED APPOINTMENTS (CONTINUED)

# Combined Building Maintenance Department Head for Town & School

With the current Director of Building Maintenance for the Town retiring, there was interest in having a conversation with representatives from the Elementary School about having one person direct building maintenance operations for the Town and the School.

The following people were present for this discussion:

Summer Schmaling Halifax School Committee

Joy Blackwood	Superintendent of Schools	
John Campbell	Municipal & School Building Committee	
Bob Hodge	Municipal & School Building Committee	
Burt Gaynor	Municipal & School Building Committee	
Tom Schindler	employee of Building Maintenance	

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Gerry Elliot Director of Building Maintenance

Roy began the discussion by saying that a few years ago the Building Committee proposed to the School Committee about having one department head covers both departments to the school committee. She continued to say with the retirement of the Municipal & School Building Director we wanted to have a conversation to see if it makes sense to look at this idea again because if there is interest we need to work on this now before the position is posted and Millias added that they a looking out for the best interest of the Town.

Seelig clarified that they exploring the possibility of having a department head oversee the maintenance function in both the school and municipal buildings and that there is no intention at this time of merging the two departments but to have one department head cover both departments.

Roy said that Town does not pay a lot of money and it has been a challenge to find custodial help that she is not sure that they are going to find another Gerry but before going any further she wanted to say that the Town has been blessed to have Gerry as he takes a lot of pride in all our buildings. She is not sure if people realize how much it takes to keep our building in great condition as he knows when things need to be done and does it with the budgets he has to work with. He cares about our building and does it in a fashion that we are used to.

Campbell said at that particular time when this was proposed a couple of year ago we were noticing that the school committee and the region were not in tuned with the building and the Building committee were noticing that the building was going down so they proposed that Gerry come in and help supervise the employees over at the school to get some things done as they really did not have a supervisor so to say.

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His is not something they really wanted to do but felt work needed to get done. The School Committee finally hired another custodian to be the boss and that is what they needed. He continued to say that the general purpose of the Municipal & School Building Committee was to get someone over there while we still had a building (school). Campbell said that if the position was merged then you would have to consider that there are union employees at the school but not here at Town Hall and if changed to union the town would then have to pay union wages. He felt there will be a lot of problems and did not think it was a great idea. When they proposed it worked because the School Committee finally decided we have to do something with the building.

Roy did not think that was the only reason why they did it as she thought they had a great plan. Campbell said right now it is overwhelming as they take care of fourteen buildings and do maintenance from top to bottom so to ask someone to take on all the buildings and the school is a lot.

Millias said that custodial and maintenance is two distinct things. We have lacked considerably at the elementary school on the maintenance end as we have not have maintenance people per say and we have had custodians say that is not in their job description resulting in why some things are not getting done. Millias thinks this prompted the conversation because there was no one capable and he is concerned not having someone on board to perform maintenance issues.

Summer asked if Millias thought the same with the current staff at the school and Roy and Millias both said no this was in the past and are fortunate now that things are getting handled. Summer said her biggest concern is that she does not want the school to suffer as a result of losing the custodian the school has now should they have a department head oversee the maintenance of the school and municipal buildings. Millias said they wanted to see what everyone feelings were such as should we be looking in a different direction or stay on the current course.

Blackwood thought Campbell's point about union was valid. Roy said there doesn't seem to be a lot of interest in doing this but wanted to talk about it before Gerry's position got posted because they recognize there is going to be huge gap for us. Campbell said it is always hard when a good employee leaves and the fear is you are to going to find someone to replace that person. Roy said that it has been hard trying to find a replacement for Brenda leaving and thought this could be an opportunity to combine the position. Campbell said that is because our pay scale is a little low and if it was advertised at a higher class then somebody who was not quite as qualified making less money may not have applied and suggested that maybe the position needs to be re-advertised.

Millias said that Elliott talked with Wage & Personnel and they did what they could to help that situation. He continued to say that they have done a market analysis study for wages that is not finished and it is market driven.

Again Roy said it appears no one is interested in concept and Millias added that they just wanted to take it off the table before getting too far down the road. Summer said that she is not opposed to it as it is not a terrible idea but she did not know the full scope of what the job would entail and appreciated Campbell's input on it.

Garron saw problems of who supervises who and where the money is coming from. Millias thinks it is going to be a challenge for the School Committee and the Town as we want to maintain our building down the road. Summer agrees and said they are very lucky right now and hopes they can hang on it for a little while. She wanted to add that there have been changes in the staff which has been a benefit to the school and the Town.

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# **Proposed Stabilization Fund for Special Education**

Sumner began by saying that recently at a School Committee meeting Blackwood presented some information for a proposed stabilization fund to aid in some of the special education cost. Therefore before the School Committee has an in depth conversation about it Summer wanted to get the Board of Selectmen and Finance Committee thoughts on it.

Roy said that we are very unique community and about fifteen years ago when special education costs were rising the School Committee had to make some tough decisions one being was getting rid of programs in order to pay these rising costs. She further explained that in years past if there was a surplus in the special education line item the funds would be spent instead of returning the surplus to the Town. Roy (FinCom member at the time) & Fitzgerald (Selectmen at the time) approached the School Committee and stated they did not agree with this so an agreement was made that the town would cover any special education additional costs so that it does not hurt the regular day program but at the same token if there is a surplus you can't be spending it and it needs to be returned to the Town. This has worked for fifteen years and she understands why some communities are looking at this idea of a stabilization fund but they do not have this agreement/relationship. We have been and are committed in covering the special education costs so to come up with additional money to fund a stabilization account would hurt the town finances. She also mentioned that Halifax has just passed a couple of large debt exclusions that are within the levy so we have to be mindful of that and put money aside to make those debt

payments so to have to come up with an additional amount to be put into a stabilizations account does not work for our community, hence she is not for it and cannot support it.

Summer wanted to clarify that they are not coming up with extra money and Roy said they are because you need to put money into the stabilization account. Blackwood said that she is here tonight to present the information and does not have a vote and explained that the money has already been voted as a line item in the school's budget, so if in May it looks like there is funding left the School Committee could contact the town and ask if they need the money returned or is the town comfortable with them putting it in the special education stabilization account. The School Committee then would vote to move from the account that has money (had already been voted at Town Meeting) left to the special education account. Millias questioned who does that to the budget because that would be money the town does not have to spend.

Roy stated that Halifax's capital budget is funded by two sources; free cash and overlay. Free cash is the money that was not spent in the previous year's budget so when that money gets certified that's what we use for our capital budget and over the years because we have to cut budgets so closely we have not had a large amount of free cash to work on capital budgets. This year was a special year as we had money that came back from Silver Lake and that is why we had enough money. Roy does not want the school to have a choice to keep it or spend it but for the Town to have it back because that has been the agreement and that is how we buy capital items. She added that they never not funded the school.

Blackwood just wanted the Board to know the reason why they are bringing this forward because in May they had to go to Town Meeting and ask for additional money. She cannot predict who may be coming into town or if students have placement issues and have to be moved, which could potentially cost a lot more money. All she was trying to do was to avoid having to do a prop 2  $\frac{1}{2}$  override if the town did not have the free cash. She recalls a couple years back that Kington did have to do a proposition 2  $\frac{1}{2}$  override as they did not have the money that year in free cash. Roy said to Blackwood's point there is not going to be a lot in the stabilization account so if a student came in so you would be at a proposition 2  $\frac{1}{2}$  anyway and suggested staying away from the proposition 2  $\frac{1}{2}$  as it scares people off.

Blackwood understands that they have a great relationship with the Town and her intention was not to jeopardize it but her goal is to provide the information to them.

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Millias said personally he has no interest in doing this as he thinks what they have doing now works for them and it gives the town the control. Blackwood totally understands what he is saying and again she just wanted to share the information with Halifax. She also is going to present to Kingston and Plympton and said Kingston has shown some interest as for Plympton they are in the early stages.

Millias said a couple of years there was talk about potentially taking on the special educational needs in district and asked if anything along those lines have happened and Blackwood said last year they in-housed students at the Kingston Intermediate School and some have gone up to the middle school otherwise they would have been out of district placements. She said even though we house it in Kingston and is in a Kingston revolving account it is a Silver Lake program. There are Halifax students in it and is based on student's needs and all three towns can send students to the programs but to make it financially viable you need a minimum of three students.

Blackwood said that she wanted to share information equally to all three towns regarding the stabilization proposal. Roy said she appreciates her doing so and that they have a commitment to the school and the students recognize that the regular day program should not be penalized. The Board thanked them for coming in.

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

## Burrage Pond - Elm Street Access

Jason Zimmer is waiting for final specifications from the engineer and then will post the project.

# East Bridgewater - Carver Cotton Gin Dam

There was an article in The Enterprise this past week about beginning the process for removing the dam.

# Site Plan Dunkin' Donuts

The office has received final approval of the site plan for the store at 355 Plymouth Street. Seelig has sent a reminder to the developer that he would need to get common victualler's license (if there is seating) and food permit from the Board of Health.

# Hudson Street Speed Limits Signs

A resident from Hudson Street has asked that the Town put up speed limit signs (25 mph or 30 mph) in this thickly settled area. Seelig has notified the Traffic Safety Committee about this and the school/Hemlock Lane crosswalk. Seelig will set up an informal public hearing on November 14<sup>th</sup>.

# Special Town Meeting

The Board will need to vote to hold a Special Town Meeting on November 20<sup>th</sup> at 7:30 p.m. at the elementary school. Below are possible Articles that Seelig would like to include in the warrant.

# HOPS

To see if the Town will vote to raise and appropriate or transfer from available funds the sum of \$256,000 including \$75,757 previously appropriated through Article 11 of the Special Town Meeting of May 8, 2017, for the renovation and re-construction of the HOPS Playground and that the Halifax Board of Selectmen is authorized to accept any gifts and donations, to file and accept grants, including any grants from the Executive Office of Energy and Environmental Affairs, including but not limited to the Parkland Acquisitions and Renovations for Communities (PARC) Grant and that the Board of Selectmen is authorized to take such other actions as are

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necessary to carry out the terms, purposes, and conditions of any grant, and that any grant shall be administered by the Board of Selectmen or its designee and that Halifax Assessors' Map 72 Parcel 8, 34 acres and 33,310 square feet in size, located at 480 Plymouth Street, upon which the HOPS Playground is located, shall be dedicated for a playground under Massachusetts General Laws, Chapter 45, Section 3 or take any other action thereon.

Moved by Garron and seconded by Roy, the Board unanimously voted to open the Warrant for the November 20<sup>th</sup> Special Town meeting for 7:30 p.m. at the elementary school and placed the above Article on it.

# Early Pouring Hours

Need to have the Town officially accept Chapter 38, Section 33B allowing for the serving of alcohol on the premises on Sunday starting at 10 a.m.

Moved by Roy and seconded by Garron, the Board unanimously voted to place an Article in the Warrant to accept Chapter 38, Section 33B.

# **Revolving Funds**

Town Counsel is recommending that the source of funding for the CoA Van be changed to "Transportation, fees, or other receipts" to ensure that donations can be included.

Moved by Garron and seconded by Roy, the Board unanimously voted to place an Article in the Warrant changing the funding source for the COA van.

# **Revocation of Licenses**

Town Counsel is recommending that the language in the by-law include a stipulation that the Collector-Treasurer provide a list of license holders who are in arrears on an annual basis (we can also ask for it at any time).

Moved by Garron and seconded by Roy, the Board unanimously voted to place an Article in the Warrant to change the language in the by-law to include the above stipulation.

## **Foreclosed Properties**

Amend fines so that there is a specific penalty of \$300 per day every day and to delete "trustee" from the definition of owner and include trustee in the general language.

Moved by Garron and seconded by Roy, the Board unanimously voted to place an Article in the Warrant to amend fines and change the language for foreclosed properties.

Moved by Roy and seconded by Garron, the Board unanimously voted to close the Warrant for the November 20<sup>th</sup> Special Town Meeting.

Monponsett Pond

Both ponds are open.

Eagle Scout Project/Benches in Memorial Area

Nate Coombe is now in discussions with the Park Commission regarding his Eagle Scout project.

# SCHEDULED APPOINTMENTS (CONTINUED)

## Michelle McRae – Interview for Full-Time Patrol Officer

Chief Broderick began by saying that there is an opening in the department so he petitioned Civil Service for a list for a permanent full-time officer. He continued to say that Ms. McRae came to him two year ago to self-sponsor for the academy and went through the process and was very proactive about doing it but unfortunately those people are the last ones on the list to get a seat in the academy. But in the meantime she took the test and came back as number one on our list and number one for their recommendation after the background checks and interviews.

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He is happy to say that they have an outstanding candidate and fully gives his recommendation for her to fill the full-time slot.

Garron's only question was why she wants to be a Police Officer and Ms. McRae said that this is something she has wanted to do since she was a kid and about two years ago she decided she was going to go for it. She continued to say that it is important to her to be a part of a community and help people on a day to day basis instead of at a job behind a computer.

Roy said that she is very impressed with her application and is aware that she loves to work with animals. She mentioned that it was noted how helpful Ms. McRae has been to other organizations because of her knowledge and this show a lot about her character and how she is willing to go above and beyond to help something or someone. Roy said that they appreciate that and she is confident that she will love working for Halifax.

Millias did not have any particular questions as he has always deferred to the chief for these appointments as he is the person most qualified to do the interviews and make recommendations. He is happy to have a great candidate come before them.

Moved by Roy and seconded by Garron, the Board unanimously appointed Michelle McRae as a permanent full-time police officer for the Town of Halifax contingent upon her passing a physical, PAT test, drug test and successful completion from the Police Academy.

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

## <u>Civil Service – Call Up list</u>

Moved by Garron and seconded by Roy the Board of Selectmen authorized Chief Broderick to call for a list from Civil Service for Permanent Intermittent Police Officers.

## Road Cut – 32 Hillside Avenue

Moved by Garron and seconded by Millias, the Board unanimously approved Permit #2018-17 issued to Columbia Gas of Massachusetts for a 4' x 6' road cut tie in & 4' x 35' road cut trench to install new service at 32 Hillside Avenue.

## Lily Café II d/b/a Happy Dragon Restaurant – Pledge of License

The bank that is financing Lily Café II, Inc. d/b/a Happy Dragon Restaurant is asking Ms. Mai to pledge her license for collateral.

Moved by Roy and seconded by Garron, the Board unanimously voted to sign the Local Licensing Authority Review Record form (LLA) for the amendment application to pledge the license for collateral for Lily Café II, Inc. d/b/a Happy Dragon Restaurant.

## **EXECUTIVE SESSION**

Moved by Roy and seconded by Garron, the Board voted as follows to enter into Executive Session at 9:15 p.m. to discuss Patrol Officer's contract:

Thomas Millias - Yes

Kim R. Roy - Yes

Troy E. Garron - Yes

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

Selectmen Meeting – October 24, 2017

Moved by Garron and seconded by Roy, the Board voted as follows to come out of Executive Session at 9:35 p.m.

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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 9:35 p.m.

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Troy E. Garron Clerk

/pjm