

HALIFAX BOARD OF SELECTMEN
SELECTMEN MEETING
TUESDAY, FEBRUARY 23, 2016 - 7:30 P.M.
SELECTMEN MEETING ROOM

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

The Agenda for Tuesday, February 23th, was unanimously approved without revision.

MINUTES

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

- Regular Session – January 12, 2016
- Regular Session – February 9, 2016
- Executive Session – February 9, 2016

AFFIRMED WARRANTS AND COMMITMENT

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

Withholding Warrant	# 72	\$ 123,240.93
Vendor Warrant	# 73	\$ 224,659.67
Ambulance Commitment	# 2A	\$ 1,171.52
Ambulance Commitment	# 2B	\$ 1,813.00
Ambulance Commitment	# 2C	\$ 25,816.00

APPROVED WARRANTS AND COMMITMENT

Moved by Millias and seconded by Garron, the Board unanimously approved payment of the following warrants:

Payroll Warrant	# 74	\$ 338,369.36
Vendor Warrant	# 75	\$ 202,623.30
Withholding Warrant	# 76	\$ 124,176.14
Vendor Warrant	# 77	\$ 12,017.34

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

KFDA (insurance consultant).....	\$ 5,912.50
Merrill Corporation (inspection/Autumn Ln.).....	\$ 1,120.00

GENERAL MAIL / DISCUSSIONS

Kyle Keogh – Eagle Scout Project

Letter and commendation, which will be presented to him at his eagle Scout ceremony on April 3rd, needs to be signed by the Board.

Snow Storm Reimbursement – MEMA

Moved by Garron and second by Millias, the Board unanimously affirmed Kim Roy, signing on behalf of the Board, the snow storm reimbursement.

Hollywood East Classics – Class II License

The Planning Board wants a full site plan review before the Class II license is amended. Seelig will contact Hollywood East Classics

Jordiss Rain Subdivision

A proposal has been brought before the Planning Board for a eight lot sub division off of Palmer Mill road. A hearing has been scheduled for March 17th. Seelig just wanted the BOS aware of this in case they wanted to attend.

Scott Clawson – Fieldstone Farm Horse Shows

Attorney Mayo has received request from Scott Clawson's Attorney asking to meet with the Board regarding increasing his horse dates. Mayo and Seelig feel it is a courtesy to meet with him but at the meeting point out the concert proposed on his property; advertising for horse shows before receiving the necessary permits and the failure to obtain alcohol permits at past horse shows.

Seeing as Mr. Clawson was in the audience (for the concert proposal) the Board at scheduled him to come in on March 8th at 7:45 pm.

Recycling Mattress Grant

Moved by Garron and second by Millias, the Board unanimously voted to have the Cahir, Kim Roy, sign the Recycling Mattress Grant.

Storm Water Grant

Moved by Garron and second by Millias, the Board unanimously voted to have the Cahir, Kim Roy, sign the Storm Water Grant.

Fire Department Lieutenant Promotion

Firefighters Nathan Jones and William Palma will be promoted to rank of lieutenant on March 3rd. Chief Viveiros has asked to have a swearing in ceremony at the Board's meeting on March 22nd.

Monponsett Pond

The Central Plymouth County Water District Commission has issued an order stating that there should be no diversion after May 1st. This is a month earlier than the 1964 legislation states. Seelig is not sure what the legal effect will be on this request.

FY2017 Budget

If the Silver Lake budget is not cut the assessment for Halifax will be an increase of 8.5%. Seelig said that this is not affordable for the town as our health insurance premiums are expected to increase 12% and 20%. He said that we could use up the reserves until there is no reserve \$ left or “pay through the nose”. Roy said that she is grateful that Seelig has looked into this for years. Seelig said depending on what happens we might have to look into other health plans such as GIS but they have Tufts, who do not have a good presence in Massachusetts. But whatever the increase the town employees will have to pay.

SCHEDULED APPOINTMENTS***Robert Bergstrom – Mudfest***

Mr. Bergstrom came in this evening to request a live entertainment permit for his Mudfest event to be held on June 19, 2016. Everything will be the same but he will be adding ATVs. Roy asked if he talked to the fire chief and he said no but has given him the letter which was given to the BOS and police chief. Chief Broderick asked if they would be using the same pits and he said yes. Mr. Bergstrom is asking to extend the hours from 5 pm to 7 pm and the reason being is because they ran out of time at the last event. He will have a better idea that day if the two hours will be needed and will break down the equipment the next day. Roy asked Chief Broderick if there would be a problem with the coverage and he said no they are quick at getting out. Millias is concerned about the neighbors and Seelig said the neighbors have been notified about the extended hours. Mr. Bergstrom thanked the Board for letting him have these events because he loves doing this stuff. Roy asked if the morning hours will be the same and he said yes. Roy and Millias did not have any issues about having the event or the extended hours and Garron said as long as the neighbors know he is fine. Chief Broderick said he does not have a problem with it and that they can work out the details when it gets closer to the date.

Moved by Garron and seconded by Millias, the Board unanimously voted to approve a live entertainment permit for the Mudfest event to take place on June 19, 2016.

Robert Bergstrom & Brian Reardon - Mustard Seed Music - Fieldstone Farm

Mr. Reardon began by saying that he founded Zeus Marine One fourteen years ago and what they do is go out and search and rescue homeless veterans. They have sixteen offices between here and Chicago. At this time he gathering information for veteran’s housing because he would like to open a facility in Lakeville and/or Carver called “1 Marine Way”. On the weekends he has upwards of eighty volunteers from here to New Bedford where they go out and find homeless veterans. He intends to do a flow through reintegration process for five hundred veterans over an eighteen month period where he will register them; help them with re-education; finishing a degree; or finding family members for them. But the problem is he has nowhere to put them so in order to do this he is starting off with the music festival to raise money for his facility. Thirty-three thousand dollars from the first year’s event will be used for a down payment to purchase ten acres of land. Once they get the process flowing and have a constant control of the veteran population the land will be split and five acres will provide constant housing for veterans and the other five will be for civilians. At that time he will bring the State and Federal government in to fund it.

He understands that the Board may be thrown off by having 12,000 potential people in Halifax over two days but said to think about what the community is getting out of it. He said he will give the town total control over all finances inside this and we will have complete visibility on every ticket purchased and all the money will flow into a merchant account. The BOS can see where every penny is going towards this event and how he spends it. Then next year the town can have control over the event and receive all the profits. He continued to say that they are supporting the growth of Mudfest because it is reintegration to the community. He wants people to have something to look forward to every single year.

He has line up two hundred bands to choose from for the Halifax Music Festival. He has been researching this for two years and have had professionals to go out and listen to bands to see what their crowd atmosphere is; do they provide their own security; are they professional; what kind of crowd do they draw etc. He is doing all the research to pull this off properly. They have a choice of having it Fieldstone Farms or the Marshfield Fair Grounds and he is choosing Halifax because there is not is not much area. You have small blue grass festivals but this is a two day event that will draw in about 6,000 people each day. He said he can close off the tickets sales to 6,000 for the two days. He is bringing the community together for these two days. The bands are all set and the head liners (one per day) are still being chosen and the Lt. Dan Band will be playing. He said that he has a ten million dollar liability policy in place; forty BBQ vendors and two hundred local vendors on site selling beads, t-shirts etc. He understands the logistics behind this to get it going and had to find the ins and outs of an all vet music event. The security team that he is "vetting" will be turned over to an anti-task team. Of this team the heads of it are Marines he served with are also heads of the anti-task force. They are going to be vetted to see if they can scan crowds to detect any problems. There will be drones in the area with facial recognition; unmarked trained people in the crowds, who are trained above and beyond what local enforcement can do (he is not knocking our police department in any way). The safety of everyone is the main thing to pulling this off.

Roy asked if he has ever done this and if so how many attended and he said yes in Pennsylvania and 4,900 attended the first day and the second day it turned in to a church BBQ which might have been 2,000.

Garron first thanked him for serving and said his biggest concern is traffic and security and asked about the parking. Mr. Bergstrom said that they will be using the back part of the property. Roy asked if Mr. Clawson was used to having 6,000 people and he said that his August event takes in 4,000 people and has had events with 5,000 to 6,000. Mr. Bergstrom said that the tickets will be purchased in advance.

Millias thought that 6,000 was a conservative number and brought up the point that if you have angry people who cannot attend the concert they could come in from other angles of the property. Mr. Bergstrom said they could lock off all exits and he is familiar with the area and Mr. Reardon added that he can put unmarked people (w/no weapons) in the woods. He will give everything to the police chief, who will be involved throughout the whole process. Mr. Reardon understands Garron's concern about security and said that all cars will be checked before coming onto the property.

Garron asked when does he thinks this will happen and Mr. Reardon said he could get all the information to the BOS this Monday. Millias then said that we have issues on dates for this site and asked if this coincided with this and Seelig said no.

Mr. Reardon said they are proposing to have beer and there will be no hard liquor on site. They will have an area designated for VIPs. Mustard Seed will set up everything and he would like to name the event *Halifax Veterans Music Festival*.

Millias pointed out that the food vendors will be a huge undertaking for our health agent as she is only one person. Mr. Reardon said that he has hired someone who will do the food vendors and Millias said they would have to contact the Board of Health, which he said he knows he has to work with the BOH.

Building Inspector, Rob Piccirilli, asked about sanitary facilities and if they would be handicapped accessible and he said has two sani facilities lined up, will have on site cleaners and pumping trucks and yes they will be handicapped accessible.

Roy stated the Board's concerns are crowd, traffic and security and said they need to see if the fire and police chiefs are comfortable with this because they know our town. She added that the Building Department, BOH, Water Department and Highway Department all will need to be in the loop of this and we'll need to get their input.

Chief Broderick said that he needs the plans on paper and then he can tackle each piece of it. He said that if the BOS thinks it is the right thing for the town then they'll make it work.

Rob Piccirilli was concerned about the outside seating and that he would have to provide an engineer. Regarding BBQ Rob would need to know if they would be cooking with an open fire, propane or canister.

Roy asked when did he need a decision by and he said thinking St. Patrick's Day. Rob Piccirilli asked about the amusements outline in Bergstrom's letter and he said he has not heard back from them. Rob thought it would be an extra thing for this event and suggested nixing it. Millias said he was not comfortable with a carnival and thought it would be a little over the top and Bergstrom said that it is a husband and wife team, who run a clean event and do all the paperwork and schedule all the State inspections. Roy suggested that they just try to achieve the concept of what is being presented tonight.

Seelig said that he is concerned that there is only one exit in and out to the property and asked if there have been issues in the past with the horse shows. Chief Broderick said that he has not had an issue with the horse shows and pointed out that we have had fireworks throughout the years and never had a problem moving the cars. Seelig also said that Plympton needs to be in the loop seeing as they are the next town over. Millias said that Kingston should be notified also because many people will be heading towards Rt. 3 so there may be more traffic than usual.

Chief Broderick said let's see what he has prepared and look into this. Roy asked Mr. Clawson when he has his shows is there a lot of traffic and he said it fluctuates and said seventy-five percent come in the morning then leave in the afternoon. She then asked if there were any abutters present and none were. The BOS schedule Mr. Reardon and Mr. Bergstrom to come back on March 8th at 8:15 pm.

In closing Millias said that this is a worthy event and if we get the logistics laid out he is for it but the safety of the town is his main concern.

Stephanie Davis - Class II – License Revision Request

Ms. Davis was in this evening to request an increase of allowed cars at her place of business, Davis Automotive. At this time seventy-five cars are allowed and she is requesting an additional twenty-five. She explained to the Board that they are changing the way they work and want to sell more cars and get away from the heavy car work and any heavy work they have been getting they are subbing out. She has temporary custody of her grandchildren therefore looking to work less and work smarter. In addition they would like to do towing, auto detailing and are thinking about towing.

Garron asked Seelig if he has been out there and he said they were over by nine cars. Garron then asked how many today and she said eighty-one.

Roy asked and increase of how many and she said increase of twenty-five bring the total to one hundred. She does not think there will ever be one hundred cars there and any cars not for sale will be behind the fence. They plan on sealcoating the parking lot.

Millias asked how many cars did she get rid of and she said either twenty-seven or thirty-seven, she would have to look at her paperwork. Roy said that they do not want her coming back next year asking for another increase and she understood that. Millias asked how big the property is and Ms. Davis said 2.5 acres.

Ms. Davis mentioned taking out trees and abutter, Karen Ferro asked where that would be and she said there are three trees that are dead and look like they are going to fall. She said they will make sure it is well within the property line and before taking them down she will show Ms. Ferro. Ms. Davis said that that the Ferros will not be able to see them and vice versa. Ms. Ferro asked if they would be selling used cars and Seelig said that they already hold a Class II license but what they are asking is to change from seventy-five to one hundred. Ms. Ferro had no other questions.

Roy asked if there were any other abutters in the audience (no others came forward). Seelig explained that a new stipulation was put on all 2016 licenses renewals which stated that vehicles must either be for sale or not on the property for more than twelve months, as determined by an annual inspection of the premises and Ms. Davis said that she is going to have a list going. Seelig then asked the Board if they wanted to consider the amount of cars allowed outside the fence. Roy asked how many does she have now and she said twenty-six and she asked if it is crowded and she said no. Ms. Davis asked for thirty vehicles out front. Seelig mentioned that the area needs to be free of litter and said that there seems to be vehicles parked in the dirt area across the street and Ms. Davis said that she had permission to do so but won't continue to do it.

Roy said the meaning of this meeting is that she needs to stick with the number and not veer away from it and Ms. Davis understood that. The following stipulations were put on the license.

- No more than 100 unregistered, unplatd, or uninspected motor vehicles on property at one time
- No more than 30 unregistered vehicles outside the fence
- No junk motor vehicles left on the property for more than three (3) days

- Property must be kept in good condition and free of debris at all times
- Vehicles must either be for sale or not on the property for more than twelve months, as determined by an annual inspection of the premises
- No parking of employee or customer vehicles at other locations

Moved by Garron and seconded by Millias, the Board unanimously voted to grant

Davis Automotive their Class II license with the above stipulations.

Road Acceptance - Danson Lane and Bourne Drive - Two River Farm

On behalf of Brims Distributing LLC Brian Grady from GAF Engineering came in this evening regarding the acceptance of the above mentioned roads. He stated that they received the stipulations from the Planning Board and Merrill Lynch (Town's engineer) and said in regards to the wall that needs to be spread behind the berm on one side of the road; this work will take place sometime early spring. Another issue was that on four of the catch basins the gas trap hoods were not installed due to the height of the pipe inside the catch basin there is not enough clearance from the top of the pipe to the bottom of the top of the catch basin to be able to get that in there. He continued to say that they can work with the Planning Board to see if there are other alternatives they want to explore or are they okay with that situation. He said that there are hooded inserts in half the catch basins and explained that everything goes to a water quality treatment system at the end of the flow before it gets discharged into the retention basin so we can leave it as is.

Garron asked if highway had any issues and Seelig said Bob is okay with the two roads as long as it meets the stipulations of the Planning Board. Seelig said we still will have a formal hearing between now and Town Meeting. Roy asked Mr. Andrews, present from the Planning Board, if he had any comments. He said the development looks pretty good but would like to have a discussion of other options for the catch basin. Although he did mention there is water quality taken care of further down.

Seelig asked if there was a maintenance plan for the water quality that can be given to the Highway Surveyor because where the Town will be taking this over they will need to know how to properly maintain it. Mr. Grady said they can provide that.

Millias said he would like the issues resolved with the Planning Board and as long as they are happy about it he is okay with it. Garron said as long as it meets all the standards required he has no objections. Mr. Grady suggested that prior to the formal hearing he would like to schedule an informal meeting with the Planning Board to see if there is an alternative or if the status quo is accepted.

Seelig asked if there were any abutters in the audience who had questions. One abutter was there and said his question about the loam behind the berm was answered.

Seelig said The BOS tonight would vote to continue the process and schedule a formal public hearing. Regarding timing he said that this would need to be done before we go to press in April. This does mean that all the work has to be done by the time we go to press but would need to be by May 9th and if not done the BOS has the right to bring that up at Town Meeting and the town has the right not to accept the streets. This has been done before with other subdivisions.

Moved by Garron and seconded by Millias the Board unanimously voted to continue the process and schedule a formal public hearing for the road acceptance of Danson Lane and Bourne Drive.

GENERAL MAIL / DISCUSSIONS (CONTINUED)

Regional Dispatch Update

Roy began by saying that Chief Viveiros, Chief Broderick, Matt Tucker and herself visited the regional dispatch center in Duxbury and talked with Chief Nord about his proposal to take over our dispatch. She continued by saying that Plympton, who has contracted with Duxbury, paid \$90,000 of which 911 will pay a portion of this amount. In their meeting with Chief Nord he did quote a price and said we could get some money from the State but there are no guarantees. Roy said that she attended a workshop recently it was said that grant money could go away if towns do not go regional. She is not one hundred percent sure that this can happen but there is that possibility. Her question is if Halifax is part of a three town dispatch center would the State come in and say you now have to part of the seven in order to get this grant. Financially we absolutely could save money therefore we should continue with the next step.

She did get a copy of Plympton's agreement which is a light. There is a stipulation that either party could give a ninety day notice to get out of the agreement. This is not that complicated for Plympton because they could go back to the State but it would not be that easy for Halifax. Our agreement would be totally different than Plympton's and would need to be ironclad. Matt is going to look into Halifax's call volume because Chief Nord made estimates of what he felt our call volume would be but we really want to know because the price we were quoted was high. Millias asked how that is guesstimated and Roy explained that four years ago a study was done and in it was our call volumes. She thinks we a close to that if not a little higher. She said the next step would be to sit down with 911 and Duxbury to see the best they can do for us. She appreciates the fact that Chief Nord wants to offer to Halifax first but this not something we are going to jump into without analyzing it. Roy pointed out that Halifax being part of a regional school district has a great agreement that a lot people worked hard on to make sure that it was iron clad and that is what she would want for Halifax in this agreement. She thinks the savings for the town is enough to continue to look at it. She also said that some of our employees already work there part time and would probably have jobs so she does not think would have a lot of layoffs but if so that would have to be factored in. She also said that we need to keep in mind that lets say health insurance was to go up that would be a higher expense for us and we must understands that our agreement would be tied to accrual costs so the price of the service my go up. They will continue to look into this. After we sit down with 911 to see what type of incentives they would give us; verify the call volume; and the Chief Broderick thinks about the building going dark we then will revisit it with Matt the fire and police chiefs and talk about it. She will keep Garron and Millias updated. She stressed that we need to protect our town and if in time we were to move forward with this we will need a backup plan in case this does not pan out.

Garron asked who would do the hiring, firing, scheduling and the dealing of payroll. He is not saying it's a good or bad thing but these are issues that need to be addressed.

Millias said we have a good thing going right now and feels uncomfortable about going *dark*. We owe the residents the opportunity to save some money as long as the quality is there. Roy understands the concern of the building being *dark* but there is technology to help with this, which she has asked the chief to look into the cost.

Garron asked what happens to our equipment and Chief Broderick said we would have to maintain it because it will still be used. He suggested that they keep part of their dispatch center maintained because you never know if or when we will need to use it again. He is on the fence about going regional but said that Duxbury does have a great set up. He will need a plan for his building and wants to see how the public feels about it because we service the community and they need to be happy about it. Garron then asked what happens to management at the Communications Center and Broderick said we would have no communication employees here for the Town of Halifax as we would be contracting a service with Duxbury and they would manage everything. Roy added that Duxbury would take care of all the IT issues.

Roy feels comfortable with the dispatch center Duxbury has. They have qualified people there as she mentioned some of our dispatchers work there part-time so she has no doubt about getting a good product from Duxbury and said that we are happy with the performance of our dispatch center but from a financial point it is a savings to the town and something to think about.

Garron is concerned with the fact of someone coming into the building and no one being there for them and Broderick agreed and said these are the issues he has to work out and present to the BOS and the community.

In closing Millias said he is concerned with the pronunciation of the streets here in town as the person taking the calls may not be familiar with our town.

Monponsett Ponds

Roy said that there was a conference call this past Friday with DEP, Representative Tom Calter, Seelig, Paul Collis and herself. Legislation was introduced to Brockton to go with MWRA and Calter is asking the Plymouth County Water Commission to send a letter supporting the legislation. Roy said she would like to send a letter also and asked Garron and Millias their thoughts. Garron thought that maybe this would get Brockton moving. Roy stated that Senator Brady may not be one hundred percent for this.

Moved by Roy and seconded by Garron, the Board unanimously voted to send a letter supporting the legislation.

Open Special Town Meeting Warrant - May 2016

Moved by Garron and seconded by Millias, the Board unanimously voted to open the warrant for the Special Town Meeting to be held on May 9, 2016, with the deadline for articles of March 21, 2016.

COA Project

A notice for a *Request for Qualifications* for an architect will appear in the Central Register on March 2nd and in the newspaper on February 26th. There will be walk-through on March 19th with a submission deadline of April 7th.

EXECUTIVE SESSION

Moved by Roy and seconded by Garron, the Board voted as follows to enter into Executive Session at 9:22 p.m. to discuss contract negotiations for Sergeants, Patrol Officers, Firefighters, Highway and Dispatch and the court hearing, *Wissel v. Halifax*:

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

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

Moved by Garron and seconded by Millias, the Board voted as follows to come out of Executive Session at 9:39 p.m.

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

MEETING ADJOURNED

There being no further business, moved by Garron and seconded by Millias, the Board unanimously voted to adjourn the meeting at 9:39 p.m.

Thomas Millias
Clerk

/pjm