

HALIFAX BOARD OF SELECTMEN
SELECTMEN MEETING
TUESDAY, JUNE 23, 2015 - 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.

Chair announces that the meeting is being taped.

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, June 23rd, was unanimously approved without revision.

MINUTES

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

Regular Session – April 7, 2015

AFFIRMED COMMITMENTS AND WARRANTS

Moved by Millias and seconded by Garron, the Board unanimously affirmed approval for the payment of the following commitments and warrants with the exception of Thomas Millias abstaining from the Building, Regulatory and Assessor's Payroll in warrant #107:

Payroll Warrant	#107	\$ 400,249.06
Vendor Warrant	#108	\$ 21,539.84
Withholding Warrant	#109	\$ 131,655.18
School Payroll Warrant	#110	\$ 612,339.57
Ambulance Commitment	# 5B	\$ 15,640.56

APPROVED COMMITMENTS AND WARRANTS

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

Vendor Warrant	# 111	\$ 168,179.98
Withholding Warrant	# 112	\$ 189,703.77

Moved by Millias and seconded by Garron, the Board unanimously approved payment of the following Selectmen Bills dated June 23, 2015:

Radiology Associates of Plymouth (deductible due/111F).....	\$ 34.00
Express Newspapers (ad/IT).....	\$ 25.25
Express Newspapers (ad/Treasurer/Collector Secretary).....	\$ 25.25
Pamela McSherry (mileage reimbursement).....	\$ 28.00
W.B. Mason (ink cartridges)	\$ 50.91
Aquatic control Tech. (alum treatment)	\$ 21,810.00
Aquatic control Tech. (sonar treatment)	\$ 26,658.34

The Board acknowledged payment to the Treasurer for the following turnovers:

<u>TURNOVER</u>	<u>AMOUNT</u>
2015-76	\$ 25,000.00
2015-77	\$ 1,000.00
2015-78	\$ 21.34

GENERAL MAIL / DISCUSSIONS

Ambulance Abatement

Moved by Garron and seconded by Millias, the Board unanimously voted to abate the following amount from the Ambulance Account:

May 2015	FOR	\$ 5,133.45
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Appointment of Assistant Town Clerk

Moved by Garron and seconded by Millias, the Board unanimously approved the appointment of Susan M. Lawless as Assistant Town Clerk for a term ending on May 15, 2018.

Finance Committee Vacancy

Derek Bennett has withdrawn his talent bank form to serve on the Finance Committee.

Opioid Crisis MMA Survey

A Survey has been sent to the Board and Seelig said that he would be happy to work with the Chair and the public safety/public health departments to complete it. Chief Broderick said he also received the survey, which he will forward to Seelig.

Water Tower Contract

Moved by Garron and seconded by Millias, the Board unanimously voted to sign the Water Tower Contract.

471 Monponsett Street

Situation has improved over the past two weeks but a large number of pieces of furniture, scrap wood, etc. still remain. Seelig asked the Board if they wanted to send any communication to the Doyle-Gardner/Gardner-Doyle household thanking them for their efforts.

Moved by Garron and seconded by Millias, the Board unanimously agreed to send a letter to the Doyle-Gardner family thanking them for their efforts.

Roy asked not to go overboard in the letter as ones property should be kept up.

Silver Lake Regional School Committee

The board has received an invite for August 13th at 6 p.m. for a potluck dinner and with the meeting starting at 7 p.m. to discuss the FY2017 budget. Millias intends to attend; Roy said it is already on her calendar and Garron said he will make every effort. The Selectmen Assistant will post the meeting as there may be possible quorum of the BOS.

Recycling Abatement

Resident, who purchased property in December 2013, wants a recycling abatement for 2009-2013 because he did not own the property. The Municipal Lien Certificate, issued in November 2013, clearly shows the amounts. Seelig is recommending that the Board table the request (there is no formal abatement request form) and contact the resident indicating that the resident should contact his attorney about the matter and determine where the money used in the closing process went. The BOS was okay in tabling this abatement.

SCHEDULED APPOINTMENTS

William McAvoy – Interview for Finance Committee

William McAvoy began by saying that he moved here in 2010 from Williamsburg. He is a Senior Manager in Johnson & Johnson. He has degree in finance and wants to get back to finances. He received his EMT Certification and now needs to take the test once time allows it. If he is not appointed on the Finance Committee he will volunteer as EMT for Halifax. He has prior experience as he has served on the finance committee in the past so he is not new to this and is familiar with the process. He has a bachelor's degree in finance and masters in finance operations management. His goal is to give back to the community.

Roy

How many years did you serve on the Finance Committee?

Mr. McAvoy

Two years.

Garron

What do you see as some of the issues that may come across? Have you been to a Town Meeting?

Mr. McAvoy

I have not been to Town Meeting in Halifax, but have attended a couple of the Finance Committee meetings. I also would like to be on the Opioid Task Force as I have personal experience in that area.

Garron

What do you think the responsibility of the Finance Committee is?

Mr. McAvoy

Geared to managing the budgets of the Town.

Millias

It is huge time commitment especially during budget season will this fit into your schedule?

Mr. McAvoy

I intend to make time for anything I do. I do have some personal issues as my daughter is dealing with an addiction problem that we are working through and my mom has lymphoma. I do have a lot of business travel but with my current schedule I have Mondays open and that is when the Finance Committee meets.

Roy

We have Capital Planning Committee and this area might be another avenue.

Mr. Bruno

If on Finance Committee you cannot hold another position. If on call as an EMT, do not think you will be able to do both.

Mr. McAvoy

Not a deal-breaker as I do not need to be an EMT I just want to stay sharp; I can volunteer in another town.

Roy

We appreciate your interest.

Millias

I would love to see you on other committees because of your background and your talents.

Mr. McAvoy

I am open to anything.

Roy

Capital Planning is not as intense as Finance Committee during budget season and we are always looking for call firefighters. If on Capital Planning you learn about the departments and their needs and it is not a huge commitment.

Mr. McAvoy

I see that the Selectmen feel that are concerned with my schedule what is driving that.

Millias

For me I see you being very versatile from your background and can potentially fit into a lot of slots.

Roy

If on Finance Committee you cannot be on other committees or volunteer on the Fire Department.

Garron

I see you have a lot going on in your life right now. Joining other Boards or Committees will benefit you and the Town as you are very qualified in many areas.

Mr. McAvoy

So the Selectmen vote whether or not I serve on the Finance Committee?

Roy

Tonight we will vote on candidate for Finance Committee and if you're not the candidate for the Finance Committee but are interested in Capital Planning then we can vote that tonight.

Mr. McAvoy

If voted down, I will join Capital Planning and regardless of where I land I do want to do this Opioid Task Force.

Gordon Andrews

When you (Mr. McAvoy) came to our meeting we had two openings but a member decided to stay on so now we have one.

Roy

We are so lucky to have you who wants to serve in many capacities. I'm not concerned about your time as you seem like somebody who can work it all out.

Millias

Your enthusiasm and energy is pretty obvious that you want to be involved.

Mr. McAvoy thanked the Board.

Mr. Bruno

What do we need for votes?

Seelig

We need one vote from BOS, one vote from the Moderator and one vote from the Finance Committee.

Gordon Andrews

The Finance Committee recommended that the said the Chair make the vote.

Roy

Suggested bring Mr. Conroy up from Capital Planning to Finance Committee.

Mr. Bruno

I have seen Mr. Conroy work and he has paid his dues and has asked many questions at Town Meeting. I like Mr. McAvoy a lot and hope to find a spot for him. I would like Mr. Conroy to be appointed to Finance Committee.

Finance Committee Chair, Gordon Andrews, moved and Moderator, John Bruno, seconded to appoint Melvin Conroy to the Finance Committee, term to expire on June 15, 2018.

Moved by Garron and seconded by Millias, the Board unanimously voted to appoint Mr. McAvoy to Capital Planning Committee, term to expire on June 30, 2018.

Gordon Andrews said he thinks they should to ask Mr. McAvoy for help with a solution for the Senior Center.

GENERAL MAIL / DISCUSSIONS (CONTINUED)

Reappoint Maureen Rogers - Wage and Personnel

Finance Committee member, Gordon Andrews, moved and Moderator, John Bruno, seconded to reappoint Maureen Rogers to the Wage and Personnel Board, term to expire in June 30, 2018.

Pacheco Law

Rick Green of the Massachusetts Fiscal Alliance wrote to the Board about supporting the suspension of the Pacheco Law (allowing for the privatization of state services) in connection with the work done by the MBTA. Seelig asked if the Board has any interest in contacting them.

Garron thinks they should support as it is beneficial for everyone in the long run. Roy has not read it but will support it. Millias would like to come up speed on this before supporting it. Seelig will get information for the next meeting.

Monponsett Pond #1

Meeting with Brockton Water Commission will be on July 13th. A letter has been sent to Mayor Carpenter providing examples of what the Commission (and the City) could do in terms of planning for 2015 and beyond to improve the water quality of Monponsett Pond.

Mosquito Control

Governor Patrick had previously rescinded some money for FY2015. Both Bristol and Plymouth Counties are hoping that money will be available in the FY2016 budget. The Board may wish to contact its legislators about this.

Moved by Garron and seconded by Millias, the Board unanimously voted to send a letter to our legislators regarding money for Mosquito Control.

Line Item Transfers

Moved by Garron and seconded by Millias, the Board unanimously approved the following line item transfers:

FROM	TO	AMOUNT
Highway - Wages #01-420	Highway - Expense #01-421	\$ 500.00
Town Building Custodial #01-196-5120	Town Building Expense #01-197-5210	\$ 2,500.00
Fire Wages #01-220-5115	Vehicle Maintenance #01-225-5243	\$ 1,500.00

Millias has spoken to Fire Chief regarding a part for the ladder truck – he got it at a good price and Highway can fix it.

Trash Complaint - 1066 Monponsett Street

An abutter wrote (June 22nd) to complain about conditions on the property. Just before that, on June 19th, the owner had contacted the Board of Health, in response to a recent visit, to say that the trash would be picked up on June 24th and other issues (stagnant water in a pool) would be dealt with. Seelig recommended that a letter be sent to the abutter including this information and indicating that the Town is monitoring the situation. He will bring this back up at the Board's meeting on July 14th. Board of Health and Building Inspector are aware of the situation.

On another issue Roy said that she has been told that barrel at shack has not been picked up since HOPS 5K and asked if the responsible party could pick it up. Seelig said he will and added that the dumpster is being used by private parties. Ms. Scioscia suggested putting padlock on the dumpster and Seelig said he will check into it.

Recycling Abatement #2

Resident, who purchased the property in January 2012, has asked that the 2010 recycling fee be abated. However, the Municipal Lien Certificate for December 2011 (a month earlier) did include the fee. Seelig is recommending tabling and notifying the resident that he should contact the resident's attorney to determine what happened to the settlement check. The BOS was okay with letter being sent.

Vacation Carry over – Sergeant Sterling

Sergeant Sterling will not be able to use his remaining accrued vacation (29.75 hours). Chief Broderick recommends and Seelig agrees, that the Board grant an exception to this but notifying the Police Department and the Town Accountant, with a note to the union stating that this does not set a precedent in connection with the contract.

Garron asked if he just found out about this situation and Chief Broderick said that it was an emergency medical issue.

Moved by Garron and seconded by Millias, the Board unanimously voted to allow Sgt. Sterling to carryover 29.75 hours of vacation time from FY2015 to FY2016.

Boiler Inspections

The following has been reported from AIG, on behalf of the Town's insurer.

School – safety valve needs to be re-installed.

School has an appointment for someone to come in and do the work this week.

Town Barn – previous wiring problem has been corrected.

Fire Station – air tank needs to be inspected.

Fire Department/Building Maintenance is setting up an appointment to do the work.

SCHEDULED APPOINTMENTS (CONTINUED)

Debra Scioscia - Interview Beautification Committee

Roy

Jessica Raduc and Amy Troup unable to come tonight.

Ms. Scioscia

I was told that Jessica did not vote for me to come on to the Committee but there was not meeting.

Roy

Jessica stated that Mr. Kessinger does not want to be re-appointed to Beautification Committee. I met with the Beautification Committee but Mr. Kessinger and Ms. Raduc were not there. I did say that we need low maintenance garden. Right now the current budget is \$460 and the Town approved \$500 for FY2016 but in order to encumber \$460 need a bill needs to be submitted by June 30th. I know that Tomassi was going to help, but they are busy and don't think they can pull something together by June 30th.

Ms. Scioscia

I was thinking about maybe an Alberta Spruce – thinks the garden is too big; asked Amy to check out Joey Tonello's plantings.

Roy

You want to come on to the Beautification Committee and have worked at two garden centers.

Ms. Scioscia

Yes – I love to get dirty. Maybe a path with a cement bench.

Moved by Garron and seconded by Millias, the Board unanimously voted to appoint Debra Scioscia to the Beautification Committee, term to expire June 30, 2016.

Ms. Scioscia

I talked with Mr. Tonello and he said he will take over the island (Rt. 58 & 106) but only if he can bring his well water to the place.

The Board said this was not possible

Ms. Scioscia

Suggest mulching the islands then maybe a whiskey barrel with geraniums, some Vinca (also known as Periwinkle). What is the first project that the Board of Selectmen want done?

The Board said that garden here at the Town hall.

Millias

Would like to see the plan for it.

Ms. Scioscia

We will not use the Town wood chips but will do mulch. Anything in particular?

Roy

Like a mix and colors.

Garron

Seasonal garden.

Moved by Garron and seconded by Millias, the Board unanimously voted to re-appoint Amy Troup and Jessica Raduc to the Beautification Committee, with terms to expiring on June 30, 2016.

Ms. Scioscia

Are you guys in favor of tall grasses?

The Board said yes.

Garron

Suggested using a bucket for the tall grasses so the roots stay contained.

Ms. Scioscia

Hydrangeas for color.

Garron

Need to have plants that are low maintenance.

Board of Selectmen Thank you her for coming n and serving the town.

Debra Trotta – Lyonville Tavern – Weekday Public Entertainment License

Ms. Trotta began by saying that she tried the *public entertainment* at the Grille but it did not fit with the crowd that comes in there. At the Tavern we would have the entertainment for Christmas party or a party that someone might have there. No Karaoke or rock as she does not want either. It is quiet when the dining room empties and is looking to have some mood music.

Chief Broderick stated that there have been no issue at all and Ms Trotta said they are following the same footprint as the Grille.

Moved by Millias and seconded by Garron, the Board unanimously voted to approve the Live Entertainment permit for Lyonville Tavern.

GENERAL MAIL / DISCUSSIONS (CONTINUED)Brockton Casino

There was a MEPA Scoping session in Brockton on June 15th (notice received on June 11th). Seelig sent a letter to MEPA on June 10th stating the Town's concerns about the water supply. Further comments will be accepted until June 30th.

Solar Farm Capped Landfill

Representative Calter has been in communication with the Solar Farm Committee and one of the challenges is that there is a cap, which has been met, for fields in the National Grid portions of the State. Seelig recommends that the Board contact its legislators indicating support for H. 2852 which would increase the net metering cap to 1600 MAW and expands the exemption to 1 MW (such as our project).

Moved by Garron and seconded by Millias, the Board unanimously voted to send a letter to its legislators indicating support for H. 2852.

Evaluations

Roy previously had given Garron and Millias copies of the evaluations she did and asked if they had any feedback. Both have no problem with the evaluations.

Union Contracts

Moved by Garron and seconded by Millias, the Board voted to sign the pending Wage & Salary Schedule contracts for the IBPO Local 309 (Police Sergeants), the Halifax Association of Police Patrolmen and AFSCME, Local 1700 (Highway); effective July 1, 2015 through June 30, 2016.

Building Inspector Appointment

Millias recused himself for this discussion.

Garron is satisfied at this point in time in making a decision. They have two candidates who are qualified for the position. Robert Piccirilli is aware of the rules and regulations of the Town and seeing as he has been working for the Town for sixteen years the transition will be easy. Garron had questioned why Mr. White wanted to leave the same job in Bridgewater to come here why he wanted to leave.

Roy would recommend Robert Piccirilli as he has been loyal to the Town; knows the by-laws and serves on the Planning Board.

Moved by Garron and seconded by Roy, the Board unanimously voted to hire Robert Piccirilli as the Building Inspector, term to expire on June 30, 2018.

Roy mentioned that Tom Millias has served the Town for eighteen years as Building Inspector and Zoning Enforcement Officer and thanked him for his service.

Millias thanked the Town for their support. He said the zoning side is not the easiest. The residents have been great and holding this position made it possible for him to be there for his children, He will continue to stay on Board of Assessors until his term is up.

Bond Release

Moved by Garron and seconded by Millias, the Board voted to release the \$5,000 bond that was issued by Environmental Compliance Services, Inc. with Permit #2014-44 for work done at the traffic island at Rt. 58 & Rt. 106.

OPEB Trust

Seelig has directed the Treasurer-Collector to start investing the OPEB Trust monies according to the Investment Policy. He is checking with Gordon Andrews as he trying to will I will try to set up a meeting for the Trustees with the Trust Advisor for sometime in July.

Cotton Mill Dam/East Bridgewater

Work continues on its removal as they are at the preliminary engineering design and permitting stage. Removal of the dam will be a significant step towards bringing herring back to Monponsett Pond.

Reappointments - Conservation Commission & Zoning By-law Committee

Roy Mr. Peck has had some issue with Conservation but he is willing to serve and has assured Roy that he will recuse himself anything with DEP. He said that if the Town would like him to step down, he will.

Millias said that he has been involved on the commission and is comfortable with him serving as long as he is okay with it.

At this time the Board is going to hold off reappointing members to the Zoning By-Law Committee.

Moved by Millias and seconded by Garron, the Board unanimously voted to reappoint Gerald Fitzgerald and John Peck to the Conservation Commission, terms to expire on June 30, 2018.

Live Entertainment - Halifax in Lights

Moved by Garron and seconded by Millias, the Board unanimously granted the Halifax in Lights Committee a live entertainment permit for a DJ to perform at the HOPS Playground on June 27, 2015 from 6 p.m. to 10 p.m.

Friday Opening at Town Hall

Seelig has previously brought this up with the Board to have the Town Hall open from 8 a.m. to 4 p.m. on Fridays even if some or many of the offices are not open. He will place a poster board at the entrance indicating what offices are open and, for those that are closed, what methods visitors can use to interact with those departments. Millias thought that it was as good idea and as a whole the Board is okay with Seelig's suggestion.

Moved by Garron and seconded by Millias, the Board moved to open the Town Hall from 8 a.m. to 4 p.m. on Fridays.

No fee for Live Entertainment Permits (Non-Commercial)

Seelig brought this up several months ago and would like the Board to re-visit the idea of not charging the \$5 fee for live entertainment permits for events such as weddings, graduations and birthday parties as the time and effort is not worth the aggravation. Millias agrees.

Moved by Garron and seconded by Millias, the Board unanimously voted to waive the \$5 fee for live entertainment permits for non-commercial events.

Road Cut - 25B Eleventh Avenue

Moved by Millias and seconded by Garron, the Board unanimously approved Permit #2015-52 issued to Columbia Gas of Massachusetts for a 2' x 2' ± road cut 3'± deep at the intersection of Monponsett Street @ Lingan Street to replace test box cover.

EXECUTIVE SESSION

Moved by Roy and seconded by Garron, the Board voted as follows to enter into Executive Session at 9:10 p.m. to discuss security matters of the Town with the Police Chief:

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

No statement would be made at the end of the Executive Session and the Board would not reconvene in open session.

MEETING ADJOURNED

There being no further business, moved by Garron and seconded by Millias, the Board unanimously voted to adjourn the meeting at 9:20 PM.

Thomas Millias
Clerk

/pjm