

HALIFAX BOARD OF SELECTMEN  
SELECTMEN MEETING  
TUESDAY, JULY 14, 2015 - 7:30 P.M.  
SELECTMEN MEETING ROOM

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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.

**AGENDA**

Millias would like to add to the agenda a policy about leaving doors open on Fridays. There seems to be some turmoil in the building and suggested having a meeting with department heads about this. Then the Board of Selectmen can talk and thought coordinate a policy.

Seelig said the first day being opened (July 10<sup>th</sup>) there were no problems.

Millias thought a policy based on the feedback.

The Board would like to be at the meeting with the department heads.

With the above addition, the agenda for Tuesday, July 14<sup>th</sup>, was unanimously approved.

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.

**MINUTES**

Moved by Millias and seconded by Garron, the Board unanimously voted to approve the following Selectmen Minutes with the exception of Thomas Millias abstaining from the Regular Session on April 14, 2015:

Regular Session – April 14, 2015  
Regular Session – June 30, 2015  
Executive Session – May 26, 2015

**AFFIRMED COMMITMENTS AND WARRANTS**

Moved by Millias and seconded by Garron, the Board unanimously voted to affirm approval for the payment of the following warrants and commitment:

FY2015 Vendor Warrant	#117	\$ 127,882.55
FY2016 Vendor Warrant	# 2	\$ 160,581.35
Ambulance Commitment	# 6A	\$ 30,327.00

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

K.E.E.P. (flags).....	\$ 288.00
W.B. Mason (markers, dry erase board & easel).....	\$ 173.03
Matthew Bender & Co. (MA law books) .....	\$ 400.31
Aquatic Control Technology (alum treatment).....	\$ 15,500.00

**APPROVED COMMITMENT AND WARRANTS**

Moved by Millias and seconded by Garron, the Board unanimously voted to affirm approval for the payment of the following commitment and warrants with the exception of Thomas Millias abstaining from the Building, Regulatory and Assessor’s Payroll in warrant #116:

FY2015 Payroll Warrant	#116	\$ 75,667.84
FY2015 School Warrant	#118	\$ 403,977.18
FY2015 Vendor Warrant	#119	\$ 105,526.04
FY2016 Payroll Warrant	# 3	\$ 162,869.35
FY2016 Vendor Warrant	# 4	\$ 1,253,171.50
FY2016 Withholding Warrant	# 5	\$ 77,252.82
Mobile Home Park Fee	# 7	\$ 5,160.00

Moved by Millias and seconded by Garron, the Board unanimously approved payment of the following Selectmen bills with the exception of Roy abstaining from payment to MIIA:

SHI (NETGEAR WNDR4500).....	\$ 109.00
Terminal (computer service).....	\$ 2,880.00
MMA (annual dues) .....	\$ 200.00
Aquatic Control Technology (sonar treatment) .....	\$ 27,283.34
Broadcast Music Inc. (annual licensing fee) .....	\$ 335.00
MMMA (membership dues) .....	\$ 89.49
Boston Mutual Life Ins. (accidental death policy).....	\$ 4,924.47
MIIA Workers’ Comp. Group Inc. (wc policy renewal).....	\$ 80,624.38
Pamela McSherry (to establish petty cash).....	\$ 50.00
Accela Inc. (annual software support) .....	\$ 13,910.92
Accela Inc. (annual support dog tracker software).....	\$ 750.00
Mozy Inc. (annual server service & server storage).....	\$ 415.31
Virtual Town Hall holdings, LLC (website hosting/support).....	\$ 2,850.00
EBS (maintenance agreement/2 copiers).....	\$ 660.00

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

<u>TURNOVER</u>	<u>AMOUNT</u>
2015-79	\$ 250.00
2015-80	\$ 50.00
2015-81	\$ 500.00

**GENERAL MAIL / DISCUSSIONS****Recycling Truck Accident/November 2014**

The Town received a claim for compensation due to a side-swiping collision between the Town's recycling truck and a school bus (damaged the mirror) on Hayward Street back in November 2014. According to Trident, the Town's insurance carrier, the claim had already been denied. Trident sent a second denial letter stating that our driving was traveling on the right side of the road.

**GASB 45/OPEB Study**

The Town must have its OPEB (Other Post-Employment Benefits – mostly health insurance for retirees) liability reviewed every three years. The liability went up slightly within the past three years but that actually is good news as many communities are seeing larger percentage increases. Garron asked if they could call Tom O'Brien to see what other towns are using OPEB and Seelig said they could but our staff decided to go with another vendor.

**SCHEDULED APPOINTMENT*****Joseph Salters - Class I License – Morgan Power Equipment***

Mr. Salters explained that the vendor Mahindra is requiring him to get a Class I license if they want to sell their utility vehicles. He explained that they are utility trucks for work and he probably sells five or six a year to people who may have farms, golf courses and some municipalities use them.

Seelig said they are new vehicles and Mr. Salters said that you get a title, so he thinks they will be on the road at some point – they are pushing this.

Seelig said the regulations for Class I license are that you need to have maintenance available and Mr. Salters said they do.

Seelig added that they keep a clean yard and there have been no issues.

Roy entertained a motion to issue a Class I license to Morgan Power Equipment, Inc.

Moved by Garron and seconded by Millias, the Board unanimously voted to issue a Class I license to Morgan Power Equipment, Inc.

**GENERAL MAIL / DISCUSSIONS (CONTINUED)****Building Inspector - Appointed as Special Building Inspector**

Moved by Garron and seconded by Roy, the Board unanimously voted to appoint Tom Millias as the Special Building Inspector for the period of Saturday, July 18<sup>th</sup> to Sunday, July 26<sup>th</sup>.

**Recycling Host Agreement**

Moved by Garron and seconded by Millias, the Board unanimously voted to have the Chair, Kim R. Roy, sign the Municipal Assistance Host Agreement between the Town of Halifax and Janine Delaney.

Letter from Senator Kennedy - Mosquito Control

The office has received a letter from the late Senator Kennedy (sent before his passing), supporting funding for mosquito control in Bristol and Plymouth counties.

Community Compact

The State is providing funding for communities to work toward “best practices” in a variety of issue areas. Listed below are a few possibilities for Halifax

- Energy efficiency/renewable opportunities
- Budget document
- Capital planning
- Job creation/retention Cyber security
- Business continuity - formal disaster recovery/backup plan

Seelig said the Town can send in an application for three measures. There is no deadline and it is rolling admission but there is only a certain amount of funds. The BOS will review.

Dog Bite

Incident on May 28<sup>th</sup> in which a dog, “Archie”, owned by Sylvie Carlson of 11 Baker Street, bit Mrs. Carlson’s daughter, Elyse Cascadden of Pembroke. Seelig is recommending hearing be held on July 28<sup>th</sup> at 8:00. The Board was in agreement to schedule a hearing.

Decrease in Prices for Recyclables

There was an analysis from the Washington Post about the challenges facing recycling in the U.S. including weakened demand, falling prices for recyclables and no sorting by consumers. The recycling coordinator is aware of the falling prices for recyclables

Recycling Abatement Requests

At this point no information has received from the two applicants who had requested abatements. Seelig suggested tabling them and bring them back up if the residents bring in the information, then the Board can reconsider them.

Twin Lakes v. KSG Halifax Trust (and Town of Halifax)

The Association is suing KSG for failure to pay fees. Because the Town has placed the property into tax title, the Town now has an ownership interest but is not required to pay the fees. Attorney Mayo has been notified and stated not take action in obtaining the property because the Town would have to pay the fee and then part of the Association.

Monponsett/Brockton Dam

GHD has completed the study to determine the feasibility of placing automated controls at the dam on Stump Brook. Seelig plans on having a presentation of the report at one of the future Monponsett Pond Working Group sessions either in August or September. The project is workable, but is estimated to cost between \$700,000 and \$1,100,000 and will require numerous permits. Brockton is looking for “buy in” from other entities, but because the report just came out has not indicated that it is willing to participate. A copy of the report is on the Town’s website and both the Watershed and Working Group have been e-mailed the report or given the link.

Job Descriptions

Wage and Personnel Board is looking for up-to-date job descriptions for all positions. Seelig will work on them during the next month.

ZBA/Building Inspector/Permitting Issues

The ZBA wrote to the new Building Inspector about the illegal sign at 320 Monponsett Street and advertising moved to 40 Carver Street. BI is preparing to contact the property owners. No action for the Board to take just an “FYI”.

Change of Status Form - Matthew Tucker

Moved by Garron and seconded by Millias, the Board unanimously voted for the Chair, Kim R. Roy, to sign the change of status form for Matthew Tucker.

Evaluation Form for Fire Chief Viveiros

The Chair, Kim Roy, has completed Chief Viveiros’ evaluation. No action is needed from the Board; Seelig just wanted it on the record that it has been filed.

Alcohol License - Cumberland Farms

The number of alcohol licenses that any one license holder can have will increase from five to seven on January 1, 2016. Cumberland Farms has asked whether the Town has any off-premise licenses available. The Town has three (out of a maximum of five) beer/wine licenses but no all alcohol (both taken). Seelig said a number of years ago Cumberland requested a beer and wine license but they were denied and Garron said that at that time we had enough places selling alcohol. Seelig wanted the Board of Selectmen to be aware of this.

MASSDOT/Nondiscrimination Assurance Requirement

Moved by Garron and seconded by Millias, the Board unanimously voted to allow the Chair, Kim R. Roy, to sign the Title VI/Nondiscrimination Assurance Agreement.

Dispatchers Contract

Moved by Millias and seconded by Garron, the Board unanimously voted to sign the agreement between the Town of Halifax and AFSCME, Local 1700 (Dispatchers) Contract.

Special Election

Due to the passing of Tom Kennedy, there is a seat in the State Senate, hence special election to fill his seat in the State Senate will be held on November 3<sup>rd</sup> with the primary on Tuesday, October 5<sup>th</sup>.

Water Tower - Amendment to the Contract

The Water Department has requested that the Board approve an amendment to the contract with Tata & Howard for engineering work in connection with the water tower. Moved by Garron and seconded by Millias, the Board unanimously voted to sign Amendment No. 1 of the contract between the Halifax Board of Water Commissioners and Tata & Howard, Inc.

Communications Center - Training and EMD Grant Application

Moved by Millias and seconded by Garron, the Board unanimously voted to have the Chair, Kim R. Roy, sign the FY 2016 Training & EMD/Regulatory Compliance Grant.

Ambulance Abatement

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

June 2015                      FOR        \$ \$7,445.21

Ken Vinton – Reappointment - Municipal and School Building Committee

Moved by Garron and seconded by Millias, the Board unanimously voted to reappoint Kenneth Vinton to the Municipal and School Building Committee, term to expire June 30, 2018.

Carryovers

Moved by Millias and seconded by Garron, the Board unanimously voted to carrying over the following accounts and amounts from FY2015 to FY2016:

ACCOUNT #	ACCOUNT NAME	BALANCE
01-124-5810	Aldana Road Land Purchase	\$1,165.00
01-124-5840	Alewife Restoration	\$5,000.00
01-694-5780	Cable TV Non-Profit Incorporation	\$ 4,917.22
01-597-5534	Elderly Housing	\$450.00
01-124-5389	Fire Chief Recruitment	\$103.89
01-544-5504	Flag Holders for Vets	\$750.00
01-192-5853	LED Sign	\$15,002.00
01-124-5253	Monponsett Algae	\$29,859.85
01-124-5252	Monponsett Pond Weeds Monitoring & Remediation	\$30,333.32
01-124-5251	Monponsett Pond Weed Study	\$2,325.00
01-920-5743	Retiree Medical	\$8,983.10
01-249-5783	Secure Unsafe Property	\$226.02
01-124-5292	Street Acceptances	\$2,000.00
01-124-5241	Tree Replacement	\$1,907.00
01-199	Office Machines Article 29 ATM 5/12/14 (3 copy machines)	\$1,800.00

Re-Appointments - Election Workers

Moved by Garron and seconded by Millias, Board unanimously re-appointed the following individuals as Election Workers for the Town of Halifax, all terms to expire July 27, 2016:

**DEMOCRATIC ELECTION WORKERS**

Joan Burke	8 Rosewood Avenue
Andrea D. Delaney	145 Cranberry Drive
Paul Delaney	145 Cranberry Drive
Carol Keene	57 Thompson Street
Cathleen Miller	123 Palmer Mill Road
Lee Mulready	25 Lawrence Road
Gerald Schwartz	100 Cedar Lane
Judith Wall	27 Cherry Street

**REPUBLICAN ELECTION WORKERS**

Marion Heath	7 Christmas Tree Lane
Barbara Merrick	87 Elm Street
Gayle Peck	82 Circuit Street
Richard Roche	503 South Street
Amy Troup	193 Holmes Street

**UNENROLLED ELECTION WORKERS**

Robert M. Doherty	39 Stoney Weir Road
Amelia A. Mosley	651 Twin Lakes drive
Kathryn Roche	503 South Street

Line Item Transfers

Moved by Garron and seconded by Millias, the Board unanimously voted to approve the following line item transfers:

FROM	TO	AMOUNT
Law #01-151	Data Processing #01-155	\$ 414.95
Special Needs Transportation #01-312-5325	Special Needs Tuition #01-311-5324	\$ 55,227.73
Vocational School Education #01-321-5326	Special Needs Tuition #01-311-5324	\$ 57,185.99
Water - Vehicle Equipment Maint. #65-453-5240	Water-Retirement #65-454-5638	\$ 188.16
Council on Aging - Expense #01-541-5231	Pope's Tavern Electricity #01-529-5210	\$ 11.14
Treasurer Expense #01-146-5300	Banking/Payroll Expenses #01-145	\$ 224.57

The State Budget

If the Governor signs the budget the following grants will be available:

- 200,000 for Plymouth and Bristol Mosquito Control beyond their normal funding
- \$50,000 for the Central Plymouth County Water District for improvement and management of lakes and ponds
- \$20,000 for the Monponsett Watershed Association for testing and reporting of Monponsett Pond from July 1<sup>st</sup> to September 30, 2015
- \$50,000 for the Town of Halifax for the design of a new Council on Aging (this would include the possibility of rehabbing an existing building).

Council on Aging Elderbus & Sign

With the new sign in front of the Council on Aging repainted, the Board could request that the vans now be parked in the back parking lot rather than by the front laws.

Roy said the Historical Society reached out to her so she spoke with Barbara and she said a lot of people do not know where the Council on Aging building is added that during the winter the vans are parked there because of the incline in the back. If Millias and Garron do not have a problem, then Roy is okay with the vans remaining out front.

Garron does not see a problem with them being parked out front and Millias said he can see where the Historical Commission is coming from but either way he can live with it. Garron then said he has not got all the information and would like to talk with the people involved. Millias would like to talk with them also. Roy suggested tabling it.

**SCHEDULED APPOINTMENTS (CONTINUED)*****Cathy Buccheri – Non Residential Tuition Denial***

Cathleen Buccheri will be meeting with the Board tonight to advocate on behalf of her son, Jared C. Buccheri, who wants to go to South Shore Vocational. She sent a letter to Board and the Halifax Elementary School and states in it that Silver Lake High School failed to inform her family that an application needed to be submitted by April 1. Therefore, she is appealing, to the State, the decision by Superintendent Tuffy to deny the request.

Before Ms. Buccheri began Roy wanted to say that the BOS has no jurisdiction over this and that there is no decision the Board of Selectmen could make to make the Superintendent change his decision.

Ms. Buccheri said that it is at the State level now and has asked to speak with Mr. Tuffy but he no longer is in office. Roy suggested she could contact Joy Blackwell and she could get in touch with Mr. Tuffy. Ms. Buccheri asked if she could submit an application to Joy and Roy said no because the deadline was in April.

Mr. Grace asked if they would have the Board of Selectmen's support for the funds and Garron said they cannot and do not get involved with the School Committee. If approved by the State the Superintendent will get a letter then she will have to come before the Halifax School Committee to request the money.

Ms. Buccheri said that Mr. Tuffy would not approve it and Roy said that is his decision and next part of the process is to appeal to the State and that is where you are now.

Mr. Grace said that they came here to get a better understanding on this.

Garron asked any the reason why it was denied and Mrs. Buccheri said it just said that the deadline had passed. He then asked how long until the State can get back to you and Mrs. Buccheri said she has been calling every other day. She did say that the State has contacted the vocational school and told them they have to secure her son a spot even if funding has not been obtained.

Mr. Grace asked if they could get a letter of support to the State from the Board of Selectmen and Roy did not think that is a role that the Board of Selectmen can do

and Garron thinks she has done her due diligence. He then asked if denied do they have any recourse and Roy said not with the Board of Selectmen.

### Solar Projects

The Solar Committee is discouraged because of the cap on solar projects (there is legislation to increase the cap). However, projects under 10K in size (the landfill would be 800K) can still be done. The committee is thinking that some buildings such as the recycling center, town hall, school, etc., might be candidates. No real proposals yet, but they will be discussing the topic this Thursday.

### Monponsett Ponds & Brockton

Members of the Monponsett Pond Working Group met with the Brockton Water Commissioners yesterday and thought there was a sliver of hope, but there was not. The Commissioners do not have a plan in place to improve water quality in Monponsett Pond. Brockton is claiming that the hurdle is the City Council. Seelig would like a copy of their budget that was sent to the City Council to see what was in it to improve the water quality and is willing to knock on every door he can. He added that Brockton has not done anything in the last 50 years.

Seelig is recommending the following:

- 1) Getting a copy of the proposed Water Department budget from the Commissioners with the Commissioners indicating the specific line item or line items that would fund programs to improve the water quality of Monponsett Pond.
- 2) Request a list of programs that would be implemented through the budget
- 3) Confirm whether it was the Mayor, the Commissioners, or both that presented this budget to the City Council
- 4) Make an appointment to meet with the City Council to discuss funding water quality programs for Monponsett Pond.

Roy said Brockton has done nothing to help support the water quality here and said if they could just talk about doing something or put it on their agenda as a topic for one of their meetings we could see that they are trying. Garron said that we need to get a louder voice to advocate for the Town. Roy commended Charlie for doing a wonderful job presenting.

Garron said with the Board of Selectmen's permission, I am going to contact (he did not finish).

Millias asked Seelig keep me posted seeing as he is not in the building all the time as he is getting passionate about this issue.

### Road Cut - 15 Richview Avenue

Moved by Garron and seconded by Millias, the Board unanimously approved Permit #2016-02 issued to Columbia Gas of Massachusetts for a 3' x 5' road cut to abandon old service and install new service at 15 Richview Avenue.

### Road Cut - 215 Holmes Street

Moved by Garron and seconded by Millias, the Board unanimously approved Permit #2016-03 issued to Columbia Gas of Massachusetts for a 3' x 5'± road cut 3'± deep for gas maintenance repair at 215 Holmes Street.

Road Cut - 300 Plymouth Street

Moved by Garron and seconded by Millias, the Board unanimously approved Permit #2016-01 issued to Columbia Gas of Massachusetts for a 3' x 5' road cut to renew & relocate gas service at the main at 300 Plymouth Street.

**MEETING ADJOURNED**

There being no further business, moved by Millias and seconded by Garron, the Board unanimously voted to adjourn the meeting at 9:15 PM.

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Thomas Millias  
Clerk

/pjm