

HALIFAX BOARD OF SELECTMEN
SELECTMEN MEETING
TUESDAY, JULY 28, 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.

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, July 28th, was unanimously approved without revision.

Roy wanted to mention that recently the fire department received a federal grant for two lucas machines and this past week we had a gentleman who needed the machine as well as one this morning. Officers Briggs and Schleiff were on the scene for the first incident and provided assistance and today Sgt. Sterling and Officer Schleiff were on scene helping out.

The following business was discussed:

MINUTES

Moved by Roy and seconded by Garron, the Board approved the following Selectmen Minutes (Millias not present at the below meetings):

Regular Session – March 31, 2015
Regular Session – April 28, 2015

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

Regular Session – May 26, 2015
Executive Session – June 23, 2015

AFFIRMED COMMITMENT AND WARRANT

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

Vendor Warrant	# 6	\$ 162,419.62
Ambulance Commitment	# 6B	\$ 20,704.78

APPROVED WARRANTS

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

Payroll Warrant	# 7	\$ 194,591.83
Vendor Warrant	# 8	\$ 188,926.14
Withholding Warrant	# 9	\$ 58,244.24

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

AREA 58 (contracted payment).....	\$ 55,474.84
Express Newspapers (ad/Highway/laborer).....	\$ 29.34
Express Newspapers (ad/MSBC/part time custodian)	\$ 32.22
National Grid (Town Hall)	\$ 1,556.08
National Grid (concession stand)	\$ 40.99
CNA Surety Direct Bill (bond/Asst. Tax Collector)	\$ 600.00
MMMA (annual dues)	\$ 959.00

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

<u>TURNOVER</u>	<u>AMOUNT</u>
2016-01	\$ 125.00
2016-02	\$ 200.00
2016-03	\$ 1,500.00

GENERAL MAIL / DISCUSSIONS

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

The Town can submit an application that includes three of the above measures.

Seelig asked if the Board of Selectmen interested in participating. Roy said the areas of interest for her are that Financial Planning and Capital Planning and said she wants to choose areas that are achievable.

Seelig added that can do better cyber security. Garron asked who will administer this and said that he is for anything that is positive. Seelig said that he will have an IT person next month and that there are grants available.

Moved by Millias and seconded by Garron, the Board unanimously voted in favor of Financial Planning, Capital Planning and Cyber Security.

LED Sign

The Town’s electrician (Dan Brown) is in communication with the sign company’s electrician to work out any electrical requirements (bringing power from the fire station, interface between sign and power line). Seelig will stay in touch with the electrician.

FMLA

Barbara Brenton notified the Board that she is starting to take FMLA leave, which the Board approved earlier this year.

Council on Aging

John Folino, who designed the highway barn, wrote about the option of a modular building or renovating the existing COA building. Seelig brought him up to date

about the Town's options and the State grant. He would like the Board to invite the COA and the M&SBC to meet with them at one of their upcoming meetings to talk about the possible options. Roy thought the sooner the better so August 11th would be good and said that this is not a not to commitment but it is to see where they are now and what options they have.

SCHEDULED APPOINTMENTS

Michael Zarrella – Appointment to Capital Planning

Roy

Mr. Zarrella has applied for numerous committees and he would like to be appointed to Capital Planning.

Mr. Zarrella

I moved here seven years ago and am a firefighter in Brockton. I want to give back as I like the town and look forward to serving.

Roy

He has a strong background regarding equipment which is needed for this committee. She asked if he has been to Town Meeting which he said yes.

Garron

You would be an advocate for the whole town and need to be open-minded.

Millias

Have you thought about the time needed to serve?

Mr. Zarrella

Yes, I work a 24-hour shift.

Roy

Said that Capital Planning explained to him that there is not a lot of hours involved and his time would be spent with the department heads that he would be a liaison for.

Millias said that he was thrill that they were getting quality individuals on these Board and Committees.

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

GENERAL MAIL / DISCUSSIONS (CONTINUED)

Class I License Revised - Morgan Power Equipment

Joseph Salters wrote to request that his Class I license be revised to include selling trailers for transportation of utility vehicles. Seelig did not see a problem with doing this but did mention to the BOS that an abutter about some of the floodlights/spotlights shining onto neighboring properties. He is recommending that any revision in the license include a stipulation that the floodlights/spotlights be positioned so as not to shine onto/into the abutting properties.

Moved by Garron and seconded by Millias, the Board unanimously voted that the Class I license be expanded to selling trailers with the stipulation that all lights not shine on neighboring properties.

HEMA/CERT Grant

The Fire Chief announced that the CERT program has received a grant of \$3,699 for a generator, emergency lighting, binoculars, and uniforms.

Moved by Garron and seconded by Millias, the Board unanimously voted that a letter be sent to Chief Viveiros congratulating him on his efforts.

Out-of-District Vocational Transportation

The Town Administrator in Spencer, Adam Gaudette, wrote asking for support of S. 288 which eliminates the requirement that municipalities fund transportation for out-of-district placement if they have their own vocational education program or belong to a district that does. Parents would be required to cover the costs, but if the student was eligible for free/reduced price lunch, then they would be reimbursed by the State. Seelig will make copies for the Board of Selectmen and bring back this back on August 11th. Roy stated that she does not think it will stand a chance.

40 Carver Street – Open Air Sales

The Building Inspector has notified the residents about applying for a special permit from the ZBA for open air sales. The resident has been given to August 24th. Seelig will bring back to Board on September 8th to see if they filed necessary special permit.

320 Monponsett Street - Sign

The sign about the former business re-locating to 40 Carver Street has been removed

Blackledge - Chapter 40B

The ZBA will hold two sessions in August. The first one will be on August 10th where they will go through correspondence and hear a request for an extension and the second one will be August 31st, which will be a session for presentations and questions.

Out-of-District Vocational Education Application

The appeal was denied by the State and they upheld the decision of the District to reject the application due to the failure to submit a timely application.

SCHEDULED APPOINTMENTS***Sylvie Carlson – Dog Hearing***

At 8:00 p.m., in accordance with MGL Chapter 140, Section 157, Roy opened a hearing to address a incident where a dog named “Archie”, owned by Sylvie Carlson bit Elyse Cascadden on her left wrist while trying to break up a dog scuffle. The hearing was held at the request of the Board of Selectmen.

The following individuals were present and sworn in by Notary Public Pamela J. McSherry:

Sylvie Carlson	Dog Owner - 11 Baker Street
Elise Cascadden	5 Jean Street, Pembroke, MA
Scott M. Carlson	11 Baker Street
Noreen Callahan	Animal Control Officer

Noreen

Basically we got a fax from care well urgent care saying that there was a dog bite at 11 Baker Street. We received that fax on the twenty eight of May. The bite occurred day prior and we went to 11 Baker Street. We talked to Scott Carlson who is the father the registered owner is Sylvie and he said basically it was victim family member bite where Archie your father said he was fourteen years old he was actually thirteen he got mad with one of the other dogs that was being walked. Scuffle ensued and you're name is please.

Elise

Elise

Noreen

Elise tried to break it up which is a big mistake. And so she got slightly injured.

Garron

Who did the slightly injuring?

Noreen

Archie did

Roy

So

Noreen

He's a Schnauzer He's a thirteen year old Schnauzer. So I believe he was cranky.

Scott

He's a cranky grumpy old man.

Garron

Well are these dogs new to your home?

Elise

No

Garron

So they've been there before

Elise

Ya

Garron

He didn't like the idea that you were strolling with another dog.

Elise

Right. They've interacted before and usually they're okay but they don't really like each other so.

Scott

We usually keep them separated just cuz our other dog

Garron

Not trying to get personal but sometimes dogs reflect other people's personalities.

Sylvie

That would be my husband's. No actually this is my daughter and we've had Archie for ten of his thirteen years. She got married three years ago so before that Archie grew up she grew up with Archie. So just the fact that Archie getting older and he's just he was cranky and didn't like another dog coming on to the yard. So we wanted to walk them but it didn't turn out so well.

Garron

Were you badly hurt?

Elise

No it just really just one puncture and a couple of scrapes.

Garron

Did Archie feel badly about that?

Elise

I don't know I don't know if he did. He didn't act.

Garron

Usually tail curl up and run to the corner.

Millias

Have there been any other incidents with Archie is this like the first time that you're aware of.

Elise

Ya. He's just a small dog.

Garron

So he's okay with strangers but family members

Scott

Well I think he got jealous she was patting her own dog

Elise

Ya I think he was.

Scott

And I had him.

Garron

Was he invited to the wedding?

Scott

No that's a valid point.

Roy

What kind of dog do you have?

Elise

She's a recue so we're not really sure. She's a ...

Garron

All American breed.

Sylvie

She's a ... from what Dr. Hopkins could tell she's a five year old lab boxer type mix. And they play together so.

Millias

Have there been any incidents with the other dog?

Elise

No

Sylvie

No

Garron

And the dog has rabies shots and everything up to date?

Sylvie

Ah hum

Elise

Yup

Garron

And did you pay did Archie pay the medical bill or did you pay

Scott

No, again grumpy old man

Garron

I make light of it we have these hearing because ya know we do have license and leash law in town (inaudible) for anyone to be hurt.

Sylvie

They both were on leashes.

Garron

Whether it be family or not. As long as this is just a onetime incidence (inaudible).

Millias

It funny when I announced I was going to run for selectmen everyone kept asking me how do I like dog hearings. If it ain't barking the selectmen aren't discussing it.

Sylvie

He's usually in the house or the yard. It's a fenced in yard.

Garron

So he licensed it's fenced in you don't expect ...have you made amends with him?

Elise

We're on good terms.

Roy

So it's the policy of the board to hold a dog hearing of any bite even if it's an animal (inaudible) talked with the animal control officer. Ya like you have stated Archie he is getting older in his years and you know he may get a little cranky at times. Ya and I had Schnauzers in my family so I know that they do get cranky around other dogs.

Millias

There's no issue with him with other neighbors or barking at people walking by.

Sylvie

No

Millias

Or there's no reason to believe this is a ongoing kind of thing?

Sylvie

No

Roy

Thank you so much for coming in.

Garron

Happy that everything turned out well.

Sylvie

I do have to say that rescue dogs are their personality is better than pure breed.

Garron

Well they appreciated the fact that they're not locked up in a cage all day.

Sylvie

Yes I think that has a lot to do with it. They're very thankful.

Garron

I know I am. Thank you very much.

Sylvie

Thank you

Roy

Thank you for coming in I'm glad it worked out.

Garron

Have a great summer and tell Archie to behave himself. Just because he's very back to the puppy days doesn't mean he's a puppy.

Sylvie

I'll have a stern talk with him.

Roy

Thank you so much for coming in.

Garron

Have a good night.

GENERAL MAIL / DISCUSSIONS (CONTINUED)

Clean up 5th Avenue Beach

On July 21, the Parks Commission met with a number of residents interested in making improvements to the area around the 5th Avenue Beach (the Parks Commission has jurisdiction for this parcel). One of the items discussed was grills and the Parks Commission agreed with the advice from the Fire Chief that propane tank grills are okay but not charcoal grills (problems with cleaning up and can reignite) and no fire pits. Residents also discussed the possibility of putting in a floating dock, a sandbox, a volleyball court, a horseshoe pit, more trash barrels and picnic tables, regular spraying for poison ivy and the removal of dead trees. The Park Commissioners will be moving ahead on getting rid of the poison ivy and the removal of dead trees. They may have additional money for more trash barrels or tables.

Roy said that it looks great down there and added that she is concerned with the floating dock idea because we do not have life guards.

Garron does not think we should put too many fixed things down there because then the town will have to worry about maintaining it. If people want to bring volleyball net that's a different story.

Millias asked who would pick up the trash and Seelig said it would be Howland.

Public Records Act

The Legislature is discussing various proposals about the public records law. Seelig's understanding is that the discussion will continue into September, but the Board may wish to state its views. He will make copies for the Board and bring back on August 11th.

Chapter 90/Paving Work Reimbursement

Moved by Millias and seconded by Garron, the Board unanimously voted to affirm the Chapter 90 WRAP reimbursement in the amount of \$40,64 for the paving work on Plymouth Street.

Theresa Levinson - Halifax in Lights

Theresa Levinson is interested in being appointed to Halifax in Lights. Seelig recommends that the BOS invite all committee members in on August 18th to discuss the 2015 edition of the event and plans for the 2016 edition. The BOS was okay with them coming in.

State Budget

The following were approved by the Governor:

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

The following item was vetoed:

- \$50,000 for the Central Plymouth County Water District for improvement and management of lakes and ponds.

Seelig is asking that the Board request the Legislature to override the veto on the District and notify the other communities in the District requesting that they do the same.

Moved by Garron and seconded by Millias, the Board unanimously voted to send a letter to the Legislature requesting that they override the veto on the District for and notify the other communities in the district requesting that they do the same.

Fire Department Surplus Vehicle

Moved by Millias and seconded by Garron, the Board unanimously voted to declare the 1986 Blazer as Surplus, move the vehicle to the Town Barn and start the sale process.

Burrage Pond - Elm Street Property

Jason Zimmer of Fisheries and Wildlife wrote to say that the state is working on a formal survey plan for the proposed parking lot (12 cars with the possibility of expanding it to 16). Seelig hopes to hear from them within the next few months with a plan.

Halifax Trails Extension

Because variances are connected with time limits for them to be implemented and because little work has been done on the Halifax Trails multi-family project between Halifax Meadows and Parsons Lane, the developer needs to go back to ZBA to get an extension. No action is needed from the Board just a fyi about the status of the project.

MA Fair Share

The Massachusetts Fair Share is requesting a letter of support for more funding from the State for pre-K education of children. However, the text does not cite a bill number, an amount, etc., and probably would have been more appropriate when the state budget was being discussed.

The Board of Selectmen could send a letter to the Governor regarding the veto of the funding for kindergarten programs (full day). Garron would like to address the issue but it is the Board's decision. Millias' reaction is that we need to start somewhere to balance the budget. Roy added that this grant was to start full-day kindergarten.

Monponsett/Brockton Dam

Seelig sent letters to Brockton Water Commission, Mayor Carpenter, and the Brockton City Council. If he does not receive any replies by August 11th, he plans on trying to set up a presentation about the Brockton Dam at the Brockton Public Library. He also will also check with OCPC and possibly the MetroSouth Chamber of Commerce about available meeting spaces. Roy wanted to say that Seelig did a tremendous job on the letters and is grateful that he is spear-heading this and she appreciate all that he has done.

Millias said that every day there is turmoil in Brockton and feels that Halifax is low on their list. Roy understood what Millias is saying but said we need to continue to "chirp".

Thank You from Michelle LaBelle

Michelle LaBelle wrote a note thanking the Council on Aging for its efforts in helping to find transportation for a family member.

Moved by Garron and seconded by Millias, the Board unanimously voted to send a letter to the Council on Aging with a copy of Ms. LaBelle's letter.

Council on Aging Vans – Parking

The vans are now being parked out back. Garron wanted to add that he got mixed views from residents, some okay being parked out front and some wanted parking out back.

Recycling Fee for FY2016

The Board was given material on the solid waste fund cash flow and the solid waste enterprise fund retained earnings analysis, to review. The Board will need to consider increasing the fee some in order to set aside money for the new truck along with any capital planning projects for the center. Seelig will bring back on August 11th.

Problem Properties

44 Hemlock Road

There is more than one junk vehicle. Seelig will write a non certified letter to the owners requesting that they bring the property into compliance by August 11th and note that he'll report to the BOS on that date.

43 Hemlock Road

Will do the same as above

0 Hickory Road

It looks as if someone is taking advantage of a non resident who has undeveloped land. There are piles of cut wood, storage sheds, junk canisters and gasoline canisters. With the Board's permission Seelig will notify the landowner and put notices up that all materials must be moved to at least 10 feet off the pavement and off the town's right of way.

Millias asked if it appeared that a wood-cutting business was taking place and Seelig said no.

15 Buttonwood Road

Owner has various pieces of junk and debris including a boat, snowmobile and trailer(s) along the side of the road. With the Board’s permission Seelig will request that the owner move all materials at least 10 feet off the pavement and off the Town’s right of way.

Solar Lights for Flagpoles

Seelig stated that Gerry was interested in installing solar-powered lights to light up the flagpoles. Roy thought it was a great idea. Seelig will give Gerry the go ahead.

In closing Roy wanted to say that she has reached out to the Beautification Committee and they are taking care of the garden here at the Town Hall.

EXECUTIVE SESSION

Moved by Garron and seconded by Millias, the Board voted as follows to enter into Executive Session at 8:45 P.M. with Police Chief to discuss Security of the Town:

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

Seelig announced that no statement would be made at the end of the Executive Session and 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 9:05 P.M.:

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

MEETING ADJOURNED

There being no further business, moved by Garron and seconded by Millias, the Board unanimously voted to adjourn the meeting at 9:05 P.M.

Thomas Millias
Clerk

/pjm