

BOARD OF SELECTMEN  
SELECTMEN MEETING  
TUESDAY, MARCH 11, 2014 - 7:30 P.M.  
SELECTMEN MEETING ROOM

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

**Open Special Town Meeting Warrant**

Seelig stated that Annual Town Meeting Warrant closed on the March 1<sup>st</sup> but the Board in the past has re-opened the warrant to place an article on it. The Special Town Meeting Warrant has not formally been opened yet and the Board should do it this evening and also pick a deadline date for articles to be placed on the warrant. Garron asked what the deadline would be for the STM warrant and Seelig stated that it could be the date of their next meeting, which is March 25<sup>th</sup>.

Moved by Garron and seconded by Schleiff, the Board unanimously voted to open the Special Town Meeting Warrant to discuss an article that is being presented concerning changing the existing town by- law regarding the annual and Special Town Meeting to utilize a lottery system in choosing each meeting article scheduled for consideration.

Resident Maureen Rogers of 275 Wood Street came in this evening because she would like to place an article on the Special Town Meeting Warrant. The article she would like to present is using a lottery system in choosing the ATM & STM Meeting articles that are scheduled for consideration. She explained that having been an attendee of town meeting for forty odd years she has seen that too often when there is a controversial issue people come to attend the meeting just for that one article and then leave. Garron said that she needs to get one hundred signatures in order for it to be placed on the warrant and asked if she received those yet. Ms. Rogers stated she has not but if the Board gives her a date and time she needs those signatures by she is sure she can have within forty eight hours. With that being said Garron said that their next meeting is in 2 weeks and asked if that would give her enough to get the signatures most definitely. We can reconsider it at that time. Seelig said it would not be a reconsideration where they have opened the warrant but as long as Ms. Rogers gets the one hundred signatures it will be n the warrant. Garron said they could put it on right now and Ms. Rogers said if she does not get the signatures then they can pass over it. Garron then asked Roy and Schleiff what they wanted to do.

Roy understands why she wants to do this but asked if before drawing the articles could the Wage & Personnel articles be done first because those figures affect other articles. Ms. Rogers believes there is a way to do that but does not have all the ins and outs but will continue to research this and pull it all together. Her concern is getting it on the warrant and will get everything together and get it to the BOS prior to their next meeting if not sooner. Again her reasoning is there

have been many occasions when people show up for just the articles they are interested in then leave or don't return the next evening or when we are the middle of a meeting and someone calls for quorum and here isn't and we have to continue the next night. Although the bottom line is that it is the tax payers who decide and it is worth a shot and both Garron and Roy agreed with her. Schleiff said that if she can get one hundred signatures to go for it and Roy agreed stating getting the signatures shows more of a support for it. The BOS thanked her for putting this forward.

Seelig asked the Board if they wanted to declare the deadline be the March 25<sup>th</sup> at a certain time and Garron said to open it tonight and close it at 6:00 pm on March 25<sup>th</sup>. Schleiff suggested closing it at 8:00 pm just in case someone wants to come before the Board. Seelig stated to have the petition in before the Board on the March 25<sup>th</sup> and that the signatures do not have to be certified at that time that it is only to get it on the warrant as it will not be going to press until after that giving them time to get them certified.

**MINUTES**

Moved by Roy and seconded by Garron, the Board voted as follows to approve the February 11, 2014 Executive Session minutes:

- Troy E. Garron - Yes
- Kim R. Roy - Yes
- Michael J. Schleiff - Not present

Moved by Roy and seconded by Garron, the Board unanimously approved the following Selectmen Minutes with the exception of Schleiff abstaining from sections of the Executive Sessions pertaining to Police Department negotiations:

Executive Session – February 25, 2014

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

Executive Session – January 28, 2014  
Regular Session – October 29, 2013

**AFFIRMED WARRANT**

Moved Roy and seconded by Schleiff, the Board unanimously affirmed approval for the payment of the following warrant:

Vendor Warrant # 71 \$ 470,181.25

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

Plymouth Bay Orthopedic Assoc. (portion of deductible/111F-Briggs) .....	\$ 150.71
Radiology Assoc. of Plymouth (portion of deductible/111F-Briggs) .....	\$ 15.39
PMG Physicians Assoc. (portion of deductible/111F-Cuozzo)...	\$ 41.58

**APPROVED COMMITMENTS AND WARRANTS**

Moved by Roy and seconded by Schleiff, the Board unanimously approved payment of the following commitments and warrants with the exception of Schleiff abstaining from the Police Department payroll in warrant #72:

Payroll Warrant	# 72	\$ 314,361.62
Vendor Warrant	# 74	\$ 55,601.36
Withholding Warrant	# 75	\$ 117,942.01
Mobile Home Park Fee	# 03	\$ 5,160.00

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

National Grid (service for Town Hall).....	\$ 1,443.59
Emergency Response Systems (assessment center/fire chief)....	\$ 4,250.00
Land Planning Inc. (inspection/Turkey Swamp/B. Gates) .....	\$ 237.50
Beth Israel Deaconess Plymouth Occupational Health (physical/Coveney).....	\$ 365.00
Attorney Lawrence P. Mayo, P.C. (legal services/February).....	\$ 281.25
Michael C. Gilman, Esq. (legal services/February) .....	\$ 253.00
W.B. Mason (2 ink cartridges/1 tape) .....	\$ 70.64

Moved by Schleiff and seconded by Garron, the Board acknowledged payment of the Selectmen Office Payroll for the period ending March 8, 2014 in the amount of \$6,034.11.

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

<u>TURNOVER</u>	<u>AMOUNT</u>
2014-59	\$ 5.00

**GENERAL MAIL / DISCUSSIONS**

LED Sign

Seelig recommended that the Board award the LED sign contract to Complete Signs located in Dothan, AL. Schleiff asked what does option 2 mean and Seelig explained that he wanted as many possible options how we get information to the sign (\$20,485 and option 2 = \$570). Schleiff asked if there was time frame and Seelig said he would contact them and seeing as it was winter work could not have been done any way.

Moved by Garron and seconded by Schleiff, the Board unanimously voted to award the LED sign to Complete Signs.

Dog Bite – Dibona

Neither the ACO nor the Animal Inspector has submitted any reports regarding the incident listed above. Seelig asked if the Board wanted to schedule a hearing. Garron stated that it was an adult who was bitten and happened in the confines of their house and is a family matter. He also said that there have not been any other occurrences that this animal was involved in therefore at this point in time he feels a hearing is not needed and Schleiff agreed.

Moved by Garron and seconded by Schleiff, the Board voted not to hold a dog hearing.

Earth Removal Permit – Barry Gates/Turkey Swamp – 145 Monponsett St.

Land Planning has visited the site listed above and has little to no evidence of any changes in the topography and most likely changes that were done are is due to the moving material on the property and not off. Garron stated that he would like to close the permit but be able to move material on the property, which legally he would be able to do. Seelig said that Mr. Gates would like the Board to waive the requirements needed to close the permit and grant the necessary variances so that there is no additional work that needs to be done. Garron stated that he wants to be absolved on any more costs related to this. Garron said in order to make this decision we will need Land planning to go out and review the property. Seelig said they just did that. Mr. Gates at this time does not have the money needed to close out his permit. Seelig said that there is money in the sand and gravel revolving account to be used to pay Land Planning. Schleiff wanted to clarify things stating that land Planning has gone out there and not much has changed from the current As Built. Seelig said that is correct. Schleiff asked about waiving some of the conditions Seelig said no because the Board only wanted to know if any material had been removed.

Garron said he suggested having Land Planning go out because if damages have been done to the road or to public property then we need to know so that the Town is not responsible for it. Seelig said this would be hard to determine seeing it has been a while since Land Planning had gone out there (previous to their 3/3/14 visit) and earth has not been removed for a year or two and even if the road is damaged it would be hard to prove it was from Mr. Gates operation. Garron said we could allow Mr. Gates to go about his way on his property and alleviate any problems because right now he does not owe us anything unless we change him for Land Planning, which was our suggestion.

Garron just want to be sure that the town is not obligated to any repairs that he may have done over the last three or four years. Seelig stated that if damage was done we would have to show it was done by him.

Garron asked the Board if they wanted Land Planning to go back out. Roy was fine with and Schleiff said he thought Land Planning was going to do this last time they went out there. Seelig will notify Land Planning asking to provide a full report of the property.

**SCHEDULED APPOINTMENTS**

***Building Committee***

Building Committee members John Campbell, Robert Gaynor and Ken Vinton came in this evening to talk about the plan for a new senior center. Mr. Campbell began by saying that at 2012 Town Meeting the townspeople allowed them to hire an architect to see if the existing senior center could be enlarged. The only problem was that the room that was going to be built would have to be built over the exiting septic system therefore the septic would have to be move. Also the roof would have to be built with steel (driving up the price), a sprinkler system installed and new heating system. Because of the size the estimated cost came in at \$1.4 million. Mr. Campbell stated that it is not worth putting all this work and

money into Pope's Tavern not to mention that once it was done there would be no parking. He also said that he does not think that it will fall within the esthetics of the town.

Schleiff questioned that it would cost that much just to redo the current COA building. Garron asked how long the renovations would take and where would the COA go while being done. Mr. Campbell said it would take six months to go out for bid then about 1.5 years to renovate and that they would have to come over to the Town Hall. Garron asked what the alternative would be and Campbell said that another building has become available that the Building Committee and the COA thinks will work, which is The All Season Restaurant. The plans from two years ago can be used as they both are 6,000 sq. ft. and the air conditioning, heating, alarm are all there at this building and walls can be put up or come down if needed.

Garron asked if the Building Committee took a vote stating that it was a absorbent amount of money to spend on doing work to the existing COA building and Campbell said the building would not be historically set for the town putting that big addition on when in five years down the line the COA will be looking for more space. Roy did not think they would need more space because the great room would be 2,200 sq. ft. and the addition would be approximately 3,800 sq. ft. making the senior center 6,000 square feet.

He added that one of the biggest problems they talked about was how the seniors were going to get out onto Rt. 106 at the existing COA building and at the All Seasons there is a stop light on Rt. 106 which eliminates that whole problem. Garron asked how much property was there at the COA if they were to need more room in ten years and Campbell said that he could not answer that.

Roy stated that there are lots to think about one is the loss in commercial revenue but on a positive note she said the All Seasons location is a better place to get in and out of. Garron asked what plan they were going to present at Town Meeting because they have been advertising the plan of renovations to the existing building and know the option to buy the all Seasons has come up. Roy asked if the committee has taken an official vote on one or the other and Campbell said the more or less voted to pursue the All Seasons. She then asked if the Building committee had a unanimous vote to pursue the restaurant and Campbell said they felt that it was too much money to put into Pope's Tavern. He added that within two weeks they should have a figure of how much it will cost to move into the All Seasons.

Garron wanted to bring up two points up for discussion one is that if you renovate the existing building it would destroy a historical site that has been part of the town's history and the other is that it will interrupt the services that the COA provides to the seniors for a long time and is not pleased with that aspect of it. Garron then asked Mr. Campbell if he asked the Assessor what the taxes are on the All Seasons and he said he thinks the assessment is under a million dollars and said if anyone questioned that amount then maybe the property should be appraised. Garron said you have to commit to one or the other and Mr. Campbell said he thinks the committee would rather see the All Season location come before Town Meeting and believes it will come in at a lesser price.

Schleiff thinks that if the town voted on an article for plans then they should at least have the option to see them and the All Seasons could be mentioned. Roy stated that at Town Meeting a couple of years ago when the original one failed the message was to look at different alternatives. She had attended at a couple of the Building Committee's meetings and when they started this process nine months ago before the options of the restaurant came up she sensed the excitement about them building and did not get the vibe that adding to the building was a negative thing. She continued to say that they did not know what the price would be but knew that there was going to be displacement therefore does not think that should be part of the decision. Roy thinks that this is a great opportunity to purchase the All Seasons which may be financially affordable for the town.

Schleiff asked if it would be cheaper to remove instead of renovate and Campbell said the plans he presented are tearing down the old police station and Pope's Tavern and by doing so you will still have the problem with parking and everything else.

Building Committee member, Bert Gaynor said that they looked at Armands and priced it out looked to see if it could be used for what they wanted but in the end it was ruled out and he stated that if they purchased that building there would be a commercial loss also. Then All Seasons became available which was worth looking into. Roy asked if one or both should be brought to Town Meeting and if they would have a price before going to Town Meeting. Campbell said that it would be hard to bring two options to Town Meeting and that the bids are due two weeks from today. Roy then asked if it made sense to have two articles or are they not supporting the renovations plan. Campbell said that they worked hard with the COA on the renovation plans and were satisfied because they were getting a lot more room than what they have now but with this option to buy All Seasons proposal has so many more advantages and probably for less money. Roy said lets say the All Seasons falls through is the plans for renovation a bad idea and Campbell said no it is not a bad idea.

Garron agreed with Schleiff and thinks the town deserves to see to see both scenarios as it could be a selling point one way or the other and gives them the opportunity to compare the pros and cons of each one such as parking, handicapped assessable, traffic light to help with coming and going. The Building Committee can then say that they did what the townspeople asked them to do.

Schleiff said they would need to know if there may be other elements that might not part of the cost that was presented for the renovations such as temporary trailers or the use of other town building during renovation or make the parking lot larger. Campbell said there could be change orders seeing as we would be working on an old building.

Barbara Brenton, Director of the COA, said that the past ten to fifteen years they have looked at numerous sights such as the Thompson Street housing project; down by the water tower and Rt. 58 and 106 so there have been many sights that have been looked at through the last 15 years on top of everything thing they have done the past four to five years.

Campbell suggested waiting two weeks to see what the building will cost along with a cost estimate of what will be needed to do inside. Schleiff stated that they

need to compare apples to apples and everything needs to be listed so that the taxpayer can see the exact cost for both options.

Garron said that whether we buy it or not or someone else did we cannot be certain that person will start a business therefore we lose the revenue. He also brought up the point that anyone in town can close their business and that revenue would be gone. Roy thinks that if you are in business zone chances are you are going to sell it to a business and explained that we do not have a large commercial base therefore the burden falls on the taxpayers. She is not speaking against it but this something that will be brought up at Town Meeting. Roy asked John Shiavone, member of the Board of Assessors, if the assessed value of the property was accurate and he said it was.

Mr. Campbell said he could do a print out and state why they have decided on the project they did. Schleiff then asked how would the article be worded and Campbell said that they would put in an article for one of the buildings or they could put in two articles one for each. Seelig said that the wording is quite simple but whatever it may be would be reviewed by Town Counsel.

Garron stated that the seniors voted for the schools and other buildings throughout the town and have built the foundation for the town making people want to live here and thinks it is time that we do something for them.

Seelig explained that the town will not lose a single dollar from the sale of the All Seasons the only change will be where those dollars are coming from, which would be from the taxpayers. Ms. Brenton asked if Pope's Tavern was considered commercial property and Garron said that it is residential and the zoning law would have to be changed in order for it to be commercial. Campbell said that they would recommend what could be done with Pope's Tavern.

Garron thanked the Building Committee for coming in and Schleiff thanked them for their hard work.

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

#### **Patrol Officer Retention**

Garron began by saying that people stay in their job because they are appreciated money is part of it but not all of it. Also they stay for a certain satisfaction and if they are not getting that it does not matter what you are paying for benefits or how much you are paying them they are going to leave. In addition they must understand that other town may take in more revenue and are able to a higher rate of pay but Halifax does not.

Roy stated that a study was done a couple of years ago to try and see how to retain staff and after using the ten town comparison it was confirmed that Halifax does under pay the firefighters. She continued to say that she has had conversation with some who have left and they don't always leave because of the money but a host of reasons such as better benefits or seeking more of a challenge or they may want to work with a family member. Roy added that Chief Carrico left because it was more of a challenge for him and wanted to be a part of a bigger scene. Even if we matched the salary Sandwich was offering him he would have wanted to leave to seek that challenge.

Garron does not think it will change but hopes that if they do leave it is not because they feel they are not appreciated or treated fairly but because they wanted more and said when negotiating contracts these are things we look at.

Maureen Rogers asked that when we hire someone is there a legal way we can lock them in for certain amount of years. Garron said there is nothing right now unless you get an individual to agree in their contract to stay for three or five years or whatever and to his knowledge those type of contracts have gone to court and have been kicked out because you cannot stop a person from leaving. He continued to say that there are companies that sponsor employees to go to school or whatever and then they have to work at the company for two or three years. He does not know if that is an answer or if we can do that. Maureen said how about a clause that if you leave within a certain amount of time you cannot go to another fire or police department. Garron said that is interfering with ones ability to make a living. Schleiff said there probably is a host of different ways to go about this but we are not experts at it and have not approached it. Rogers said that this has always been a major discussion with Wage & Personnel.

Garron said he does not have the answer and all they can do is look at it and agreed with Schleiff's suggestion to bring someone from the outside to review the department and see if there is a way to improve on it. Schleiff added that this has been going a long time not just with the new chief but also the old chief and we seem to be in the same pattern. Roy asked Schleiff if he talked with Chief Broderick about bring a consultant in and he said the chief suggested doing something and so Schleiff wanted to bring it up in case it was something they need to bring to Town Meeting. Roy knows that there is some stuff that needs to be addressed but she is not considering taking to Town Meeting at this time. Her reasoning is that we do not have money in the budget and she feels before spending money on a consultant that they should do a study committee similar to the fire study that was done couple of years ago. Also talk with Wage & Personnel about looking at the job descriptions and the pay grades. She added that even if we do not have enough in the budget we have to make sure we are at a fair wage but not necessarily the top wage.

Schleiff stated that we are not having the problem retaining the Town Hall employees that we have here in this department. Garron and Roy agreed but Garron said even if we brought someone in from the outside and they give us a recommendation we still have to see if there is money or provide the skills to carry it through.

Roy has had conversation with a couple of people in the police department who have left and they stated that there is no room to promote from within as well as other hosts of reason why one leaves. But things have changed a bit as we now have sergeants and they are working on some other things. In closing Garron said that he does not think there is one thing they can do to keep an officer here.

#### **SCHEDULED APPOINTMENTS (CONTINUED)**

##### ***Trailer Permit Extension – John & Katherine Swain***

At 8:45 p.m., the Board convened a public hearing to consider a request from John and Katherine Swain to extend the trailer permit for residential use on property located at 17 Buttonwood Road. Ms. Swain had provided the office



proof that abutters within three hundred feet had been notified of the hearing date/time.

Garron asked Ms. Swain why an extension was needed. Ms. Swain's contractor, Mr. Andrews, who was present, said that she is looking for an extension of six months because of the following delays:

- a check was not issued from the insurance company until October
- the septic failed so they needed to do a new one before a permit could be issued
- the foundation needed to be torn down
- had to wait again as the insurance company was not going to pay for a new foundation

Garron asked if it was six months she was looking for and Seelig stated that the Board can extend it as long as they want.

Moved by Roy and seconded by Schleiff, the Board unanimously approved extending Building Permit #13-20 for a temporary trailer for six (6) months.

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

#### Lottery Revenues

The MMA is urging cities/towns to contact their legislators about increasing local aid especially use of the lottery funds.

Moved by Roy and seconded by Schleiff, the Board unanimously voted to send a letter to our legislators in regards to increasing local aid.

#### Petition Article – South Coastal Counties Legal Services

Seelig has added the petition article submitted by South Coastal Legal Services to the warrant. The amount is \$3,500, which is the same as last year.

#### Small Business Tax abatements

The Town of Dartmouth is looking for support from municipalities for the following;

- expanding the current tax exemption for 10% to 20% of the tax bill
- to expand the assessed value exemption from \$1 million to \$2 million
- increasing the number of employees a small business can have to qualify for the exemption from 10 employees to 20 employees

Seelig has talked with Principal Assessor and she was in agreement with the above modification and he does not see any reason not to recommend it.

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

#### Ambulance Abatements

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

January 2014	FOR	\$ 15,476.85
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Interim Fire Chief Contract

Moved by Roy and seconded by Schleiff, the Board unanimously voted to sign the contract between the Town of Halifax and Interim Fire Chief Jeffrey Cuzzo.

Support Tourism

The Plymouth County Development Council is asking for municipalities to support Tourism Council in the State Budget for FY2015. Garron stated that this does to help our town only those towns with bigger tourism. Roy said that she does not want it to come from State aid and Garron agreed. It was stated that \$300,000 will go to the Plymouth area. Garron moved to support the initiative but there was not a second.

Resignation – Robin Bellinger – Beautification Committee

Moved by Roy and seconded by Schleiff, the Board unanimously accepted Robin Bellinger resignation from the Beautification Committee effective immediately and send her a letter thanking her for serving on the committee.

New Hire at the Dispatch Center

Marion O'Donnell has been hired as a part-time dispatcher.

COA Letter

A letter from David Hurd has been received stating that he is in favor of other options besides adding on to the Pope's Tavern.

Affordable Housing Count

Annual reports have been submitted to Housing and Community Development and there have been no changes.

Sick Bank Board

The Board is looking for new members as two members have retired and the other member has resigned.

Equal Pay Proclamation

Member of the Massachusetts Federation of Business and Professional Woman are looking for municipalities to issue proclamations declaring April 8<sup>th</sup> as Equal Pay Day. Garron stated that he would like more information and asked to hold it over till their March 25<sup>th</sup> meeting.

Harvard Pilgrim Mini Grant

The Town received a grant in the amount of \$500 from Harvard-Pilgrim. The funds will be used for work at the HOPS playground.

Petition Article – South Shore Woman's Resource Center

The office received a petition article from South Shore Women's Resource Center on March 6<sup>th</sup>. Seelig is recommending that the Board re-open the warrant, add the petition article and then close the warrant.

Moved by Garron and seconded by Roy, the Board unanimously re-opened the 2014 Annual Town Meeting Warrant to place this petition article on the warrant.

Moved by Garron and seconded by Roy, the Board unanimously closed the 2014 Annual Town Meeting Warrant.

#### BMI Music Licensing Fee

BMI has sent another letter requesting \$327 for licensing fees for music to be played at town events. Seelig asked the Board what they would like to do. Roy thinks the town should pay the fee seeing as they followed up with a letter and if owed it should be paid. Schleiff asked what are other towns doing and Seelig said he could ask them. Garron asked Seelig to look into it.

#### HOPS Race Update

Roy wanted to update Garron and Schleiff of the date change for the race, which will be June 8<sup>th</sup>. In addition to the race they would like to make it a family day not like the 4<sup>th</sup> of July event but do a run around the track for the kids and maybe a bouncy house. Also they are planning a meat raffle fundraiser. Garron thought a sign should be placed in front of the HOPS playground asking for volunteers. Roy mentioned the next volunteer meeting is March 13<sup>th</sup> at the Town Hall at 7 pm and said that she will mention to the organizers Garron's suggestion of the sign.

#### Recycling Abatement – Fiscal Year 2010

Moved by Garron and seconded by Roy, the Board unanimously voted to abate \$55 from Bill #2104 on the basis of a system error as it was not included in the Municipal Lien Certificates.

#### Pothole Claim – Tierney Spear

A claim has been submitted to the Town's insurance company from a resident as their vehicle sustained damage from a pothole on Plymouth Street. The claim has been denied seeing as we had not been informed of the pothole beforehand but she may come before the Board to ask that the Town pay the bill out of pocket.

#### EDSAT Agreement

Moved by Roy and seconded by Schleiff, the Board unanimously voted to have the Chair, Troy E. Garron, sign the Economic Development Self-Assessment Tool agreement.

#### Fire Department – Call Lieutenant

At this time the call department currently has a vacant and open Lieutenant position under Duty Company 2 and Acting Fire Chief Cuzzo is recommending that Firefighter Richard Hayward be appointed as an "Acting Lieutenant".

Moved by Roy and seconded by Schleiff, the Board unanimously voted to appoint Richard Hayward as an "Acting Lieutenant" in Duty Company 2 until a permanent Call Lieutenant is appointed.

Fire Department - Dry Suits / Burn Building

Interim Fire Chief Cuozzo is requesting to replace Article A15 proposed by the former Fire Chief Carrico which was to purchase two dry suits for \$3,000 and replace it with \$3,000 in upgrades for the departments live fire building where fire training is done. Garron asked what the up keep of the building would be and Seelig read that he will be installing fabricating metal support ceilings windows and steel doors roof covers and other improvements to ensure a safe training environment for all personnel working in the structure. Garron questioned if \$3,000 would be enough. Roy explained that Cuozzo went with FinCom to go over the fire budget and his explanation was both are great things to have/do but the improvements at the burn building will have a larger impact on training. He mentioned that one section of building has some buckling. Roy stated that Capital Planning is prioritizing for capital items as they do not have a lot of money to work with.

Another article Chief Carrico requested was for a radio system within the fire department as it is not working properly. Roy and the town accountant are going to talk with Chief Cuozzo to see where it falls with the priority list. Chief Cuozzo He also is getting more information about the training facility, which he feels is more important then the dry suits at this time.

Going suggested not making a decision until the Board's meeting on March 25<sup>th</sup> where there will be more information provided.

Return to Work Programs

Information has been received form MIIA regarding theses programs. Seelig will be going to a MIIA workshop on March 26<sup>th</sup>.

Boy Scouts 100 years Celebration

Boy Scout Troop 39 would like to use the Town Green on August 16<sup>th</sup> (raindate August 17<sup>th</sup>) for a celebration of 100 years of scouting in Halifax. Seeing as this just came in and the office is waiting for comments from public safety and public health it will be presented at the Boards next meeting on March 25<sup>th</sup>.

Illegal Kennel

Previously the Board was made aware that the property located Clyde O Bosworth was fined for having an illegal kennel on the property. The fine of \$300 has been paid.

**EXECUTIVE SESSION**

Seelig recommended that Board go into executive session to discuss contract negotiations.

Garron announced that the Board will go into executive session to discuss contract negotiations for Sergeants, Patrol Officers, Firefighters, Highway and Dispatch and would not reconvene in open session.

The Board voted as follows to enter into Executive Session at 9:30 p.m.

Troy E. Garron - Yes  
Kim R. Roy - Yes  
Michael J. Schleiff - Yes

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Moved by Garron and seconded by Roy, the Board voted as follows to come out of Executive Session at 9:55 p.m.

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

**MEETING ADJOURNED**

There being no further business, moved by Garron and seconded by Roy the Board unanimously voted to adjourn the meeting at 9:55 p.m.

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Troy E. Garron  
Clerk

/pjm