

BOARD OF SELECTMEN
SELECTMEN MEETING
TUESDAY, MAY 27, 2014 - 7:30 P.M.
SELECTMEN MEETING ROOM

Meeting came to order at 7:30 p.m. with Selectmen Troy E. Garron 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.

AGENDA

The Agenda for Tuesday, May 27th was unanimously approved without revision.

MINUTES

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

Regular Session – February 11, 2014

AFFIRMED COMMITMENTS AND WARRANTS

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

Vendor Warrant	# 94	\$ 166,913.63
Withholding Warrant	# 95	\$ 124,338.82
Ambulance Commitment	# 1C	\$ 16,745.66
Ambulance Commitment	# 5A	\$ 16,936.83

APPROVED COMMITMENTS AND WARRANTS

Moved by Garron and seconded by Schleiff, the Board unanimously approved payment of the following warrant:

Vendor Warrant	# 96	\$ 28,929.28
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Moved by Garron and seconded by Schleiff, the Board unanimously approved payment of the following Selectmen bills:

Peter J. Epstein, Esquire (services/April 2014).....	\$ 3,930.00
Harry B. Harding & son, Inc. (2014 ATM & STM Warrant).....	\$ 2,078.40

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

<u>TURNOVER</u>	<u>AMOUNT</u>
2014-72	\$ 40,000.00

GENERAL MAIL / DISCUSSIONS

Harbor to the Bay Charity Bike Ride

Moved by Schleiff and seconded by Garron, the Board unanimously voted to authorize the Harbor to the Bay Charity Bike Ride the use the Halifax Boat Ramp parking lot located on Route 58 as a pit stop for their ride on Saturday, September 20, 2014.

Road Cut – 157 Plymouth Street

Moved by Schleiff and seconded by Garron, the Board unanimously approved Permit #2014-40 issued to Columbia Gas of Massachusetts for a 2' x 2' ± road cut to remove and replace TB cover at 157 Plymouth Street.

Cemetery Superintendent & Burial Agent Reappointment

Moved by Schleiff and seconded by Garron, the Board unanimously voted to reappoint Robert Badore as Cemetery Superintendent & Burial Agent with a term to expire on May 16, 2015.

Consolidation of Facilities

Garron stated that he has not given it much thought and said that they need to meet with the Building committee to see if the buildings meet the requirements. Seelig asked what information the Board wanted such as do they want to do renovations to the COA. Garron suggested having a general meeting with all departments/department heads and ask them if the opportunity arrives would they want to be relocated. Garron wanted to hold off discussing this until Roy was present.

SCHEDULED APPOINTMENTS

Halifax in Lights Committee

Halifax in Lights member Ed Bryan began by saying that the July 4th celebration day activities will begin at noon and run till 4:00 pm. the day activities will include bouncy house, games, music, food, prizes and face painting. Then at 6:00 activities will be over across the street which will include a DJ and an ice cream truck. At 7:30 pm Stephen Cote (present this evening) member of Wingbusters will do an airplane display till about 9:00 pm.

Mr. Cote explained that there will be five flyers. The planes the will be flying are relatively small and will be flown beyond the fence in the middle of the field and not over the crowd. He wanted the Board aware that they will forward the town's information to their (Wingbusters) insurance carrier for liability purposes.

Garron wanted to say that he appreciates the work that the committee has done and has heard throughout town that people are excited.

Seelig said that the committee would like something on record from the Board for the use of Town grounds.

Moved by Schleiff and seconded by Garron, the Board unanimously granted the following use to the Halifax in Lights Committee for the activities to be held on Saturday, June 28th:

- Use of the Halifax Town Hall parking lot and Town Green for daytime activities as well as access to outside electrical outlets for vendors, music and emcee activities.
- Use of Halifax Elementary School property and Holmes Public Library for fireworks display, vendors, music, parking for vehicles and use of outside electrical outlets for evening activities.

Schleiff said that he would like something in writing from the Fire Chief with his okay and Mr. Bryan said that he will contact the chief and get that for the BOS. Mr. Cote said that the planes are styrofoam, no fuel as they are run electrically. Mr. Bryan asked if it was possible to have some spraying for the mosquitoes and Seelig said he will call on that.

Mr. Bryan stated that they plan on having a free movie night the night before on June 27th and has checked with the police chief and got an okay. No detail officer will be needed. This is a carryover from last year as it was rained out and if they don't take advantage of it they will lose \$700.

Schleiff asked if they were going to use the snack shed and then Seelig asked if they talked with baseball and he said not yet as they wanted to run it by the BOS first. Schleiff then asked that he contact the Board of Health.

Moved by Garron and seconded by Schleiff, the Board unanimously granted the following use to the Halifax in Lights Committee for a movie night to be held on Friday, June 27th:

- Use of Halifax Elementary School property for a free outdoor movie and parking for vehicles.
- Use of the snack shack, contingent on approval from Halifax Baseball and the Board of Health.
- Use of the soccer field behind the elementary school.

Cable Advisory Committee & Carver Public Access

Dick Wright and John Shiavone, members of the Cable Advisory Committee; Mark Russo, Plympton Board of Selectmen and Richard Goulart, Executive Director of Carver Community Access Television came in tonight to update the Board on Halifax and Carver merging cable studios. Wright began by saying that they have signed an agreement with Comcast and as of December 2014 Halifax will be running the studio solo and Carver is willing to come in and help us. He feels that we can have a working relationship with them and the Carver selectmen are in support of this. He continued to say that there is location on the Carver/Plympton line for a studio with the hope that Plympton will join and has also looked into the building where Blockbuster was in Carver and Sedells Plaza.

Mr. Goulart stated that that he put together a 5 year plan hoping to merge with Halifax and Plympton and contacted Seelig stating that he would like to join forces. He came before Halifax BOS last July and worked with the Cable Advisory Committee and they came to where they are now.

Roy came in at 8:00 pm.

Mr. Wright said that everything we have will continue and anything that we want to add can be coordinated with Carver. Garron asked if this merge would take a long time and Mr. Goulart said the set up time would be about two months but could be sooner. They will continue to film during the transition but it will not be perfect but they will get there. Schleiff asked what was Carver's reasoning to do this and Richard said that it was his idea solely but also because Carver wanted to move their studio out of the school as they do not want the public having to go through the school to get to the studio due to safety reasons.

Seelig said that there will some overlapping with the merge and that Carver will not have to leave the school right away and Halifax will not lose the building until December.

Garron asked what they needed from the BOS and Mr. Shiovone said they would like the Carver and Halifax Board of Selectmen to meet as they want them both to be on the page knowing that this not a takeover but a merge. Garron also asked if they had any figures and Richard said that he can try and get them. Mr. Wright said the committee wants to know if the BOS is open to merging with Carver and then later on with Plympton.

Shiovone said we are looking into the current space Halifax is using now and other places and Mr. Goulart stated that they need a location for someone to be able to pick up equipment and Carver is not opposed to having a satellite office in Halifax.

Plympton Board of Selectmen Russo said he is in favor of regionalizing and thinks the other Board members of Plympton are too. Schleiff said he comfortable with regionalizing with Carver and Plympton but wants to know where the location is and what they are going to do with the current building. Richard said the attorneys who represent each town will work out all those details.

Roy wanted to thank the Cable Advisory Committee for all their hard work they have done and Wright said this could open the door for more regionalization in other areas.

Moved by Roy and seconded by Schleiff, the Board unanimously voted to send a letter of support to the Carver Board of Selectmen for the merging of Halifax and Carver cable studios.

GENERAL MAIL / DISCUSSIONS (CONTINUED)

Affirm Approval Warrant

Moved by Roy and seconded by Garron, the Board affirmed approval of the following warrant with the exception of Schleiff abstaining from the Police Department payroll:

Payroll Warrant	# 93	\$ 336,876.67
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Treasurer – Collector Position

Seelig asked the Board if they wanted to revisit this discussion at a later time. Garron thought that at Town Meeting Roy explained Question 2 regarding the position being appointed vs. elected but maybe they should have brought the residents on sooner as he heard at the polls that the BOS was trying to take some authority from the Treasurer-Collector. Seelig does not know if Kathy Shiavone will be running again in May 2015 and with that being said Schleiff mentioned to make sure that there is money available for training for the person coming in if she didn't.

Appointments to Wage & Personnel Board and Finance Committee

The Board will meet with the above Board and Committee on June 10th to do reappointments.

Earth Removal / Barry Gates / Turkey Swamp

Land Planning does not recommend that the Board waive the necessary stipulations listed below to close the expired permit.

- Allowing slopes to be steeper than 3 feet horizontal to 1 foot vertical.
- Allowing the area where the earth was removed not to be covered in topsoil.
- Allowing the permit to be closed without an “as-built” showing the current conditions as Mr. Gate indicated that he hopes to apply for a new permit in the future and the “as-built” for the present conditions would serve as the plan for the current conditions when he applies for a new permit
- Allowing the site not to meet the conditions originally granted in that there has been more soil removed from some areas since the last “existing conditions” plan of October 18, 2011 shows.

Seelig stated that if the BOS does not waive them then Mr. Gates will be fined but he does not have the money so it is an unfortunate situation. Garron asked if he had the equipment to bring it into compliance and Seelig said he probably does but not the money to do it. Schleiff suggested that he come in and they can ask him what he can complete and how long it will take. Roy would like to go with Land Planning's recommendation. She does not want to punish him seeing as he previously came before the Board asking to waive the stipulations but if someone comes in with the same circumstances they we would have to do the same. Garron would like Mr. Gates to come in on June 24th as it may give him time to get things accomplished.

Fire Chief Recruitment

Ten applications have come in and the screening committee has recommended three candidates for the Assessment Center. These three candidates have been given the necessary packets and will be attending the Assessment Center on June 14th. Schleiff brought up the point that they could again end up with one candidate out of the three.

Moved by Roy and seconded by Schleiff, the Board unanimously voted to continue with the Assessment Center.

Co-Wallis / 597 Monponsett Street

Mr. Co-Wallis has written to the Board on a number of issues. Seelig has contacted the various department heads regarding the allegations that pertain to their department and has gotten responses back from them. Seelig asked the Board if they wanted him to write back to Mr. Co-Wallis.

Moved by Roy and seconded by Schleiff, the Board unanimously voted to have Seelig send a letter to Mr. Co-Wallis stating that the issues have been investigated and in the letter give a detailed explanation of the departments responses.

Talent Bank Form / Caroline Harrington

Ms. Harrington has expressed an interest on serving on the Halifax in Lights and ADA Committee. Halifax in Lights has been notified and as far as the ADA Committee Seelig stated they have not met for several years. The Board was asked if they wanted to meet with the current ADA members along with any others who have expressed an interest to see if they want to get the committee up and running. The Board was in agreement to do that. Seelig will invite them in on June 10th.

Reappointment of Matrons

The Police Chief is recommending several individuals to be reappointed as Matrons. These individuals will be included in the list of proposed appointments at the Board's meeting on June 10th.

Board of Health / Liability Insurance for Contractors

The Board of Health is trying to get a consensus as to whether or not they should have liability insurance for soil evaluators doing work in Halifax. Many contractors have to obtain liability insurance however many permit holders do not. The BOH is asking the BOS what their take is on it. Garron asked what happened to make this come about and Seelig thinks they are trying to be proactive. He continued to say that the Town could pass a by-law specific to soil evaluators or the homeowner could acknowledge through a form that they are aware that the soil evaluator does or does not have liability insurance. Seelig is going to bring this back to the Board on June 10th.

Monponsett Watershed Association Quarterly Report

The MWA has submitted their quarterly report from February thru April 2014.

Talent Bank Form / Diane Ruxton

Ms. Ruxton is interested in serving on the Wage & Personnel Board. The BOS was in agreement that she'll come to their next meeting on June 10th for an interview.

Resignation – John Grace / Wage & Personnel Board

Moved by Garron and seconded by Roy, the Board unanimously accepted, with regret, John Grace's resignation from the Wage & Personnel board, effective June 30, 2014 and to send him a letter thanking him for his service to the Town.

Plymouth County Advisory Board

Moved by Roy and seconded by Schleiff, the Board unanimously voted to reappoint Troy E. Garron as Halifax's representative to the Plymouth County Advisory Board.

Halifax Country Club

The office has received an anonymous letter stating that the liquor license for the country club had expired on December 31, 2013 and that the establishment has a rat problem. The Board of Health visited the premises and did not find any signs of rats. Seelig also visited restaurant and the 2014 license was posted.

Recycling Abatements

Moved by Roy and seconded by Schleiff, the Board voted not to abate the following recycling bills for the reason that a Municipal Lien Certificate was provided and that information would have been used as part of the closing statement in the sale of the property:

- 2009 Bill #555 – \$50.00
- 2010 Bill #563 – \$50.00
- 2011 Bill #564 – \$40.00
- 2012 Bill #564 – \$40.00

Return to Work / Light Duty

Seelig attended a workshop last week and had given the Board handouts from the workshop. He did not want to get into a big discussion about it this evening but thought it was a starting point.

Request for Surplus Vehicles

Chief Cuozzo is asking if the Fire Department can obtain police vehicle #506 to use as a support vehicle to replace the 1986 Chevy Blazer. The Blazer has some maintenance problems, is unreliable and inadequate. Chief Broderick has confirmed the cruiser #506 is one of the vehicles that will be taken off the road but stated that it will not pass inspection and recommended that the town mechanic look at it to see what would need to be done. Garron suggested having it looked at sooner than later and Schleiff added that he does not want the Chevy Blazer to get any worse.

Regional Emergency Appointment

The Board has received a request to nominate one or two individuals for the Regional Emergency Planning Zone Group. Seelig has notified the Fire and Police Chief and Chief Broderick would like to attend a few more meeting before committing.

Water Restrictions

Water restrictions are in effect at this time and the schedule remains the same as last year.

Halifax Congregational Church / Lobster Roll

The church would like to sell lobster rolls during the Halifax in Lights event. Seelig is checking with them to see if they intend to sell them on the Church grounds or by the other vendors on the Town Hall lawn. He has also asked for comments from the HIL and is waiting to hear back from them.

Use of Town Green – Congregational Church

Moved by Garron and seconded by Roy, the Board unanimously granted a request from the Congregational Church the use of the Town Green on Saturday, September 13th, from 10:00 a.m. to 3:00 p.m. for a chicken BBQ and harvest fair.

Sign on Town Green – Boy Scouts

Moved by Garron and seconded by Roy, the Board unanimously approved a request from the Halifax Boy Scouts to place a 48 x 28 plywood sign in front of the Town Hall announcing Halifax Boy Scout Troop 39 yard sale and to be displayed two weeks before the event.

Workers Compensation

Seelig had requested quotes from MEGA and MIIA for workers' compensation for FY15 policy. MEGA quoted \$74,677 and MIIA \$74,370 (with 4% early payment credit). Seelig recommended that the Town sign on with MIIA again for FY15 due to the slightly lower premium and a better overall program.

Moved by Garron and seconded by Schleiff, the Board voted as follows to sign on with MIIA for the Town's workers' compensation policy for FY15:

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

Reorganization of the Board

Moved by Garron and seconded by Roy, Board unanimously appointed Michael J. Schleiff as Chairman of the Board.

Moved by Garron and seconded by Schleiff, Board unanimously appointed Kim R. Roy as Vice Chairman of the Board.

Moved by Roy and seconded by Schleiff, Board unanimously appointed Troy E. Garron as Clerk of the Board.

EXECUTIVE SESSION

Moved by Garron and seconded by Schleiff, the Board voted as follows to enter into Executive Session at 9:20 p.m. to discuss contract negotiations for Sergeants, Patrol Officers, Firefighters, Highway and Dispatch:

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

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

Moved by Garron and seconded by Schleiff, the Board voted as follows to come out of Executive Session at 9:35 p.m.:

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

MEETING ADJOURNED

There being no further business, moved by Garron and seconded by Schleiff, the Board unanimously voted to adjourn the meeting at 9:35 p.m.

Troy E. Garron
Clerk

/pjm