

BOARD OF SELECTMEN
SELECTMEN MEETING
TUESDAY, AUGUST 27, 2013 - 7:30 P.M.
SELECTMEN MEETING ROOM

Meeting came to order at 7:30 p.m. with Selectmen Kim R. Roy and Michael J. Schleiff present. Selectmen Troy E. Garron not 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, August 27th, was unanimously approved without revision.

MINUTES

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

Regular Session – May 7, 2013
Regular Session – June 25, 2013
Regular Session – July 9, 2013

AFFIRMED WARRANT

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

Vendor Warrant # 15 \$ 228,513.47

APPROVED COMMITMENTS AND WARRANTS

Moved by Roy and seconded by Schleiff, the Board unanimously approved payment of the following commitment and warrants:

Payroll Warrant	# 16	\$ 184,770.98
Vendor Warrant	# 17	\$ 50,122.59
Withholding Warrant	# 18	\$ 56,273.32
Ambulance Commitment	# 8A	\$ 14,889.61

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

National Grid (service for Town Hall).....	\$ 1,293.56
National Grid (service for concession stand).....	\$ 61.58
Metropolitan Area Planning Council (conference/C. Seelig)	\$ 40.00
Lycott Environmental, Inc. (management plan & mussel & dragonfly study tasks).....	\$ 18,200.00
Kopelman & Paige, P.C. (legal services/July)	\$ 475.00

The Board acknowledged payment of the Selectmen Office Payroll for the period ending:

August 24, 2013 FOR \$ 6,122.31

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

<u>TURNOVER</u>	<u>AMOUNT</u>
2014-11	\$ 10.00
2014-12	\$ 5.00

GENERAL MAIL / DISCUSSIONS

Donation from the Rotary Club

The Fire Department has received \$500 from the Rotary Club for its Fire Cadet Program.

Moved by Roy and seconded by Schleiff, the Board unanimously voted to send a thank you letter to the Rotary Club for the donation.

MBTA Advisory Board

The MBTA Advisory Board wants to confirm whether the Board wanted to have Selectman Garron continue to represent the Town. Schleiff said that Garron has done a good job representing the town.

Moved by Roy and seconded by Schleiff the Board unanimously voted to appoint Troy E. Garron to the MBTA Advisory Board.

Beautification Committee/Do Not Litter Signs

The Highway Department has agreed to put the signs up (when they are put up). Locations include the traffic island at the train station, one at each of the “Entering Halifax” signs, one at the Route 36 playground, one at the tennis courts, one at the Route 36 boat ramp/beach, and three at the boat ramps. This would be a total of eleven (or ten if there is just one at the Route 36 boat ramp/beach). Schleiff asked if it has brought up to police and fire and Seelig said he did notify them but can again. Roy asked the Highway Surveyor, who was in the audience, what he thought and he said that the signs were fine with him if the people read and obeyed them. Roy said that she was not keen on them as she knows some people will still litter and thought the money could have been used for something

better as \$500 for signs is kind of expensive but said that if we cannot issue a fine without the signs then we should get them. She added that she would have liked the committee to have come in and explained more about their reasoning for the signs. Schleiff suggested putting up a couple of signs and see how they work out. Seelig suggested that the Board could have them come in on September 10th. Roy said it was fine and Schleiff suggested not spending all the money and Sandy said that the money was encumbered for that exact purpose so it needs to be used for the signs only. Schleiff said that he is not happy about the way it was put forward and would have liked to have known about it first.

Moved by Roy and seconded by Schleiff, the Board unanimously voted to approve the Beautification Committee's do not litter signs.

Use of Town Green – Historical Society

Moved by Roy and seconded by Schleiff, the Board unanimously granted the Historical Society the use of the Town Green on Saturday, September 14, 2013, from 8:00 a.m. to 12:00 p.m. for their annual fall plant sale.

Landfill Monitoring Contract

This three year contract is slightly different in price than the last contract but the funds are in the budget. Schleiff asked what the last amount was and Seelig stated he can get that information. Roy was fine with signing the contract.

Moved by Roy and seconded by Schleiff, the Board unanimously voted to sign the contract between the Town of Halifax and Tighe & Bond for the monitoring of Hemlock Lane landfill.

Fire Department/Designation for Chief

Chief Carrico has received the designation of "Chief Emergency Medical Officer" from the Center for Public Safety Excellence.

Moved by Roy and seconded by Schleiff, the Board unanimously voted to send a letter to the fire chief congratulating him on this accomplishment.

Green Communities

Seelig has provided the Board with some background information about the State's "Green Communities" program and asked them if they had any questions and if they wanted to move forward on it as the application needs to be in by October and put on the Town Meeting warrant. Roy thought we should do it now if we are going to have a STM this fall because if we were to wait the grant money might not be available. Seelig said the grants and the energy efficient measures work and hand and if the Board wants to move ahead we can put it on the fall town meeting warrant or we can get more information and do it at the Annual Town Meeting in May 2014. Seelig has not gotten M&SBC thoughts on this and Schleiff thinks getting input from them would be helpful as they would be the dealing with this. Roy stated that if Schleiff is not comfortable going forward with it at this fall's STM then she is fine waiting until next spring to put on the ATM warrant. Sandy explained that if someone was to build a new home it would have to be energy efficient and would increase the price to build the home for that person. She thinks Schleiff is right in waiting so that the residents know

exactly what it entails. Seelig said that yes you would pay more to build your house but you would get more for your home when you go to sell. Schleiff suggested review it for a later time and not push it for this coming fall's STM and Roy agreed. Schleiff would like copies of this information given to all departments.

Introduction to Town Government

Seelig would like to hold an evening workshop to educate town officials boards and committees about town government and what the process is as this is something that was on the Finance Committee's to do list. Schleiff asked if it would be open to other communities and Seelig said no as they may do things differently.

SCHEDULED APPOINTMENTS

Amanda Monti & Edward Johnson – Highland Estates

Ms. Monti & Mr. Johnson came in this evening to let the Board know that they are the new owners of Highland Estates. Mr. Johnson began by telling the Board that they have redone the front entrance to the development and the cul d sac on Arrowhead has been mowed. He has hired a company to do weekly maintenance and some areas in the development have been mulched. There is some building being done on Rye Meadow, Bayberry and Split Rail right now but when done those streets also will get cleaned up. They have only owned for four weeks but in the end will make it the way the owners want it to be and stated that most of the neighbors are excited. They are not doing any paving at this time because trucks will be driving back and forth.

Schleiff asked how long it will take him to complete the development and Mr. Johnson said about a year and half but thinks it might be sooner. Schleiff asked the Highway Surveyor (in the audience) if the town will continue to plow, sand and salt and he said yes. Roy asked Badore if he had any concerns and he said he took a ride up there and nothing is drastically wrong. Mr. Johnson did say that some of the sidewalks have been ruined but they will get fixed. Badore did want to say that anything that needs patching that it should be done with cold patch and Mr. Johnson he will do that. He continued to say that he has spoken with the Planning Board and told them of their intentions and the Board was pleased. Roy had no further questions and thanked him for taking care of this. Schleiff thanked him for coming in and updating the Board of his plans.

GENERAL MAIL / DISCUSSIONS (CONTINUED)

Silver Lake Regional School District/Assessments

At this point, Silver Lake has not made any decisions whether to issue new assessments based on the minimum levels set by the State. However, the School Committee did ask that the Towns vote to communicate with their legislators about what changes should be made in order that either

- a) we do not want you to do this in the future or
- b) if it does, the communities should be compensated for being over assessed.

Roy felt that the process is flawed because assessments are assessed by minimum contributions and thinks that the timing is poor. This should have been worked out and if it is owed then it is owed and if in the future they come to Halifax and say we need to pay more we will have to and take it as it is although she would not be happy to have to come up with more money.

Below is the vote from the Silver Lake School Committee:

Mr. Creed moved to ask the Committee's legislative delegation, consisting of Senator Kennedy, Senator Murray and Representative Calter, to file legislation guaranteeing that Minimum Contribution and Chapter 70 Aide be finalized on or before March 1st of each year so that accurate regional school district assessments can be computed before the town meetings are asked to vote on them. Also, that the state reimburses any member of a regional school district that has been over assessed for FY2014 due to a change in the Department of Elementary and Secondary Education's required minimum contribution amounts. This motion was seconded by Mrs. Springer.

Moved by Roy and seconded by Schleiff, the Board unanimously voted to write a letter supporting Silver Lake's vote.

SCHEDULED APPOINTMENTS (CONTINUED)

Elementary School Fire Alarm Discussion

It has been determined that the fire alarm system at the Elementary School (and the Library is part of that system) is unreliable enough that repairs must be made. Until the first phase of the repairs are done (plan is for them to be complete by mid-late September), a "fire watch" must be established when programs are being run at the school, which includes the before-school and after-school programs along with any evening activities and any hours that the library is open. At least one firefighter must be present in the building when the building is running programs and are paid at the detail rate which, for municipal/school details, is time-and-a-half (regular overtime rate). With that being said the Fire Chief is requesting that the Fire Department's payroll line item be supplemented to cover the additional costs due to the Fire Watch at the School. Both the Library and Youth and Recreation are working to make changes in their schedules for the next few weeks and Seelig expects that the school committee will move its September 3rd meeting to Town Hall to avoid needing a "fire watch" that evening. He has also checked Library's calendar and the Great Hall could be made available for the program item on Monday, September 9th and a room would be made available for the Trustees' meeting on Tuesday, September 10th.

With this being said the following is the synopsis of the discussion that transpired.

Fire Chief Carrico began by saying that the fire alarm system has been a constant problem for quite a few years and there was an Article in 2009 to replace the fire alarm system but was passed over because there was not money available and the town was in the down tail financially so there was a couple of other things that rose to the surface. Roy stated that at that time the alarm was working correctly and that it would have been nice to replace the system but not a need and the chief confirmed that it was working at that time. He said basically it is like an old car you keep it alive and keep going and we now are at the point that the system needs to be fixed. Tomorrow is the biggest life safety hazard in the town as there

are 700 kids going into the school and we have to protect them. The fire alarm system is not operational to a standard that is acceptable to the chief and with discussion that he has had with Flight Alarm they cannot guarantee that the alarm will activate if the building is full of smoke or that the alarm will call out will activate. So under the authority of the fire chief he has ordered that a fire watch be in place any time the school is occupied by a civilian. Schleiff how many people will be monitoring the building and where will they be stationed and chief said one person from 8:30 in the morning until the school is completely emptied and he will be walking around monitoring the library and the elementary school. Schleiff asked if this was capital planning item and Roy said that it was discussed with the Capital Planning Committee but stated that the system was working but now we are at the point where it is acting up and getting parts for it is not an option as it is twenty years old therefore has to be replaced. Schleiff understood it was working and we were rigging it to get by but now it is not working and asked how we got from one place to here. Again the chief said that the fire alarm system is required to get tested annually and in the end of June it was reading some type of panel trouble so Flight Alarm came in and he discovered that the circuit boards were not working properly so he contacted a couple of suppliers and did acquire some circuit boards that have been taken out of other schools to put into our system. The problem is that the system has been obsolete eight years ago and parts for it are no longer being made hence we now have hit the wall where we have to fix it. The options are to get a fire watch which will cost money or order that the school be closed because it is unsafe.

Schleiff wants to proactive and not just on this but for all the town buildings so that you would find out if something is going to happen in advance not last minute. He continued to say that this is a pretty expensive ticket item some where in the tune of \$80,000 and Roy said that it could be more as it is \$45,000 just to replace the panel. The chief added that it could be up to \$100,000 and said that it comes down to having an aggressive maintenance program and be proactive because if you just fix what is broken then that is all you are doing.

Schleiff said that this is first he has heard of this and asked how should we be looking at this in the future and should there be a fire plan in all the buildings and pointed out that if we were not having this Special Town Meeting we really would be in a bad spot. The chief said all the fire alarm systems in the town buildings are monitored by flight alarm and that it is not his responsibility as we hire a contractor to monitor the systems and take his advice when he says a fire alarm system is not going to work any more.

Roy explained that a couple of years ago Seelig added an article for the fire alarm to the warrant because it hadn't been talked about in a while. There was and there was discussion with the school and at that time and even though the fire alarm system was working the school stated that if there is any extra money could it be used for the fire alarm system. What we are running into now is that not only is not working but we cannot get the parts to just fix it. Roy said that we have been nursing it and it would have been great to have funded in 2009 if we had the money but there is always something else and it is about prioritizing. She continued to say that there has been communication with the school and the alarm had been working and it really just started to act up and unfortunately we are under the gun as school starts tomorrow. The fire watch is the best option

because if school was to be delayed for two weeks this would be a nightmare for the parents, teachers and the union. The intention is to get the system in within two weeks so that it can lessen the cost of the fire watch.

Schleiff said that school cannot be postponed and if a fire watch is needed then you have to do it. He is concerned as the town just got hit with the boiler replacement and now the fire alarm and this is huge money. He then asked if the system in the town hall and police station is antiquated and if so would there be time that those buildings would have to be closed. The chief said that Flight Alarm is hired to monitor our fire alarm systems. Schleiff asked if we could ask them if the system is okay or should something be done or get it on the capital plan if that where it should be.

From the chief's perspective he stated that he kind of inherited this matter and that when they respond to it and it was off and we should take this as learning curve and ask what other problems are we going to foresee in the community and reinvigorate the capital plan for these building. Roy pointed out that the problem is we have been trying to do this and that during budget season there is only so much money in tax revenue and the tax payers have spoken saying that they do not want higher tax bills. Roy brought up the fact that Bob Badore had to wait a long time for his loader.

Schleiff stated that if we don't know about things it cannot be discussed and felt that Flight Alarm should have said that getting parts for this systems is not going to happen because the system is obsolete and said the same thing with the roofs we know we need a new roof and then it is crunch time and ask can we get another year out of it. Roy said we did know that this was an old system and were having some trouble but had not acted on it. Seelig said yes you can put in for it but at town meeting someone will ask if it can wait another year and the answer is yes therefore it is tabled. Or you replace things even though it is not broken and then you get the question if it is not broken why it is getting replaced. Roy said that in perfect world that is how it should be done but that is not what happens we seem to push it till the end and said that it was working and we now have run out of time and it is a safety issue so we need to replace it like we need to replace the heating system. Schlieff said that he is trying to be proactive and asked for input from the M&SBC members, Building Inspector and Highway Surveyor as they were in the room.

Building Inspector, Tom Millias, wanted to be clear and said the reality is that we dealing with crisis management and we do and have identified a lot of different issues and the problem is what do you do first as you always try and squeak it out a little longer. Yes we knew we had a leak in the roof at the elementary school which we dealt with it this summer but there also are seams on the rubber roof that need to be done but after we do that we know that the roof is going to have to be replaced in a couple of years. So it comes down to knowing that things need to be replaced but prioritize. He continued to say that is has been discussed with school administration and Mr. Tuffy about concerns around the building with a need assessment over the summer but then again it comes down to who has the money for what. Roy stated that the Finance Committee tries to save the taxpayers money by leaving \$250,000 on the table so we are not taxing people and by doing so it saves the taxpayer about \$30 a year. This is a constant struggle and a tough decision because there are things that can be done with that money

and asked if this is the right decision. Schlieff knows this has to be taken care of and it is unfortunate the way it happened but it just so happens that a Special Town Meeting is in the works but in the same token how are the other alarms in the buildings and asked who should be the one to be telling the town that the systems are getting old. The chief said that they are the responsibility of the building owners for example if the fire alarm system is bad at the highway department the surveyor would call on it and stated that he would not know if there was a problem unless someone called him saying the alarm was sounding down there he then would go down there find that the alarm was in trouble and tell Badore to have his alarm tech come check it out. Schlieff stated that the chief would know more about the alarm than the highway surveyor and he said that he is not a licensed fire alarm tech.

Millias said typically fire alarm people will tell you that there is a problem or if something has become a problem. Town Accountant, Sandy Nolan, said that the systems are tested on a regular basis because she is paying the bills and her feeling is that if we had a failure in the system we would be informed about it and action would be taken. She continued to say that this is the reason Gerry took extra maintenance money this year so that if something like this came up but it was limited as to how much we could put in an article although a reserve funds transfer can be done if needed. She also wanted to say that her and Gerry sat down to help with the capital plan and looked at all the interior and exterior of each building and referenced the alarms as to how much life is left in the one at the school. This is talked about every year and every year we are told it is working. Schlieff asked who has stated it is working. The chief said per fire code fire alarm systems are to be tested annually which has to be done by a certified technician who then gives an inspection report to the building owner. He continued to say that fire alarm companies are only required to notify the fire department that an inspection has been completed but not what the problem is. Schlieff asked who would have seen the report for the school and Roy said it would be the Principal, Claudia Motta.

Schlieff asked what do they need to do next and Seelig said because they want to move as soon as possible to get the work done to meet the standards and eliminate the fire watch the Board of Selectmen would need to declare an emergency and then request permission from the Director of the Bureau of Accounts to allow money to be paid to the vendors and because of when town meeting is scheduled we are probably going to appropriate the money before we are billed by Flight Alarm for the work then pay it after town meeting. Because normally the town does not allow money to be spent without having funds to back in up this needs to be declared an emergency so that the Building Committee do so. Even though we do this with snow and ice and do declaration of emergencies before snow storms so that we can spend money on the shelter without specific appropriation in this situation the BOS needs to allow expenditures to be incurred. Schlieff asked if a fire alarm system is a better than having fire watch and the chief said a fire alarm system is the most efficient manner of protecting the elementary school. Seelig brought up the point that there is someone in the school during the day but at night there is no one monitoring the building. Nolan added having a fire watch for approximately five days a week for four weeks can run into \$10,000 in wages.

Seelig stated that if approved it will be for \$50,000 which will allow us to get the work done and cover expenses necessary for us to get the amount of work done that needs to be done to eliminate the need for the fire watch but in the May town meeting there will be an intent to appropriate additional money to make other improvements and repairs to the fire alarm system. Nolan said that is correct because the chief has said that once you touch the fire alarm system it has to be brought up to code and the work being done now is making it operational but more work will need to be done so in May more money will be asked for at Town Meeting. Roy thought the intent was to declare an emergency deficit spend for the panel but at the Special Town Meeting we would appropriate money for the entire system. Nolan said the problem with that is if we ask Flight Alarm to estimate what is going to cost to do the entire system they are going to have to stop what they are doing and do the estimate postponing getting it finished for another couple of weeks. Roy stated that it took them four days for the price of the panel so what would be the delay on this. Gerry said that we are in the process of getting the system put in so you will be taking his labor away from doing the work he is doing to count devices that do not need to be covered. He continued to say that it is his understanding that the Finance Committee stated that they should do the entire project. Roy stated that it is their idea but the Board's decision and again he said it is going to take time to put the devices together and in the mean time we are waiting for the system to be put in. Schleiff stated that cost difference is not going to be any different between spending part of it to get it running and finishing it by May. Roy's concern is that Flight Alarm was adamant about once the panel was opened and he starts touching stuff everything would need to be replaced. This was also to satisfy the fire chief wishes that it would be that when the panel is open it would be ideal to put the whole system in. She knows that the initial amount was \$45,000 for the panel but is asking if it made sense to put in an extra \$50,000 and explain to the townspeople why we want the money appropriated which is in case we can get the whole thing done all at once and if not wait.

Gerry said he spoke with the supplier and the devices will be 100% compatible with this system but just not up to code and the second phase would be being brought up to code. Roy said as long as the chief feels comfortable with this plan then she is fine with it. The chief said his plan is that he wants to get the emergency repairs made get the fire watch out of there and get the system back up and running and then make the adjustments that have to be done to fix some of the problems. What Gerry was saying is that the strobes are not synchronized so a child with a seizure disorder could potentially have a seizure because of the way the strobes are acting. Roy asked if they would be fixing that now and the chief said that would be the second part of the fix and right now is looking at doing the emergency repairs and how much can be spent to fix it but if the town elects to fix the whole system at one time then that is better for everyone.

Nolan was not opposed to asking for \$100,000 instead of \$50,000 but the job might all be done for the 100,000 because we do not have an accurate estimate. Roy asked if it was worth the gamble and suggested that he could do the work in stages. Schleiff brought up the point that if you have an estimate and then come May you need more money it is not going to sit well with the taxpayers. Roy felt that if it was explained then they would understand but stated if no one felt comfortable with it then she was fine with going with the lesser amount. The

chief said the technician stated that we could go in and take out the panel and start work but he does not know what he will encounter. The chief said that the fire department cannot absorb the wages for the fire watch and Roy said that at last night's Finance Committee meeting she thinks the motion from them the was to set aside the funding for the fire watch now knowing that the fire chief would be short on wages at the end of the year. Nolan stated that she wrote the article and was asking for \$50,000 for the repair and replacement of a portion of the fire alarm system at the Halifax Elementary School and \$10,000 to cover the fire watch. Schleiff suggested that the article say phase 1 as this is a two phase project and She has no problem putting in the \$100,000 explaining that it is to cover phase 1 and 2 but you do not know if is going to be enough.

Cassandra Hanson, member of the school committee, asked if there was any time frame as to when Flight Alarm had to bring to bring the system up to code and the chief said under his jurisdiction he can allow it to be done in stages and he okay with that. He continued to say that the perfect scenario would be once school is over to get in there and fix the rest of the system and added that if the \$10,000 is not all used for the fire watch it will go back into the stabilization account.

The chief announced to the public that the students are 100% safe and not in any danger and the firefighters that are on the watch are proactive and will be patrolling the school.

Moved by Roy and seconded by Schleiff, the Board unanimously voted to declare and emergency for the Town of Halifax because of the fire alarm at the elementary school under General Laws Chapter 44 Section 31.

Moved by Roy and seconded by Schleiff, the Board unanimously voted to authorize the Municipal and School Building Committee to spend without appropriation up to \$50,000 for repairs and replacement of the fire alarm system at the elementary school.

GENERAL MAIL / DISCUSSIONS (CONTINUED)

COA Parking Area Contract

Seelig has talked with John Campbell regarding parking lot and he said that all the bids came in over the amount that was appropriated at Town Meeting (\$18,000 appropriation; \$30K-\$60K for bids) so they did as much as they could which did not include the back parking spaces. John will try and obtain estimates for the remainder. Gerry has talked talk with Bob Badore about leveling out the area and this will be only temporary before the additional work can be done. Gerry said that they will have bids before town meeting for the prices of the asphalt.

Moved by Roy and seconded by Schleiff, the Board unanimously voted to sign the contract between the Town of Halifax and Driveways by Heap, Inc. for the paving of the driveway and parking areas between the COA building and the Water Department /Municipal & School Building Committee building.

Special Town Meeting Warrant

Listed below are the proposed articles for the STM. Following the articles are brief discussions.

ARTICLE 1 To see if the Town will vote to transfer from Stabilization 1 Account \$120,000.00 to repair and replace a boiler at the Halifax Elementary School including but not limited to engineering costs and associated work on the School's heating and hot water systems. Any monies not used or received as rebates are to be returned to the Stabilization 1 Account without needing another vote from Town Meeting, or take any action thereon.

Proposed by the Municipal and School Building Committee
Finance Committee Recommendation at Town Meeting

This figure includes the engineering costs. Rebate costs are not known at this time.

ARTICLE 2 To see if the Town will vote to transfer from Line 113 of Article 4 of the May 13, 2013 Annual Town Meeting (Trash Collection/Disposal) \$12,000.00 for repairing, surfacing and repaving the outside areas at the Recycling Center and to install a gate on the west side of the building or take any action thereon.

Proposed by the Highway Surveyor
Finance Committee Recommendation at Town Meeting

The metal walls need to be replaced and a new vehicle will be needed. Schleiff asked if this could wait and Bob Badore said a couple of weeks ago someone had tripped down at the Recycling Center and does not know if was because of the pavement. Town Accountant, Sandy Nolan said that there is flooding also. Schleiff asked that if we were not having a special town meeting would this have been brought up or we hopping on this because we are having one? Seelig stated that Susan wanted to put this article on the May 2013 Warrant but did not have an estimate. Roy said that it makes sense to do it now. Schleiff said that he is not picking on this article but just wanted clarification.

ARTICLE 3 To see if the Town will vote to transfer \$40,000.00 from Overlay Surplus and \$6,000.00 from the Stabilization 1 Account, to repair and replace a portion of the Police Station roof or take any action thereon.

Proposed by the Municipal and School Building Committee
Finance Committee Recommendation at Town Meeting

This happened in March 2013 but an article could not be submitted for the ATM in May 2013 as the warrant was already in print. Gerry patched the leak but does not think it will last throughout the winter. Sandy said that there is money left over from the carpeting that was installed at the Library and intends to use those funds in addition to asking for the remaining money.

ARTICLE 4 To see if the Town will vote to transfer from Line 99 of Article 4 of the May 13, 2013 Annual Town Meeting (Water-Supply) \$7,000.00 to be added to the \$74,161 appropriated in Line 96 (Water – Superintendent Salary) of Article 4 of the Annual Town Meeting of May 13, 2013 or take any action thereon.

Proposed by the Board of Water Commissioners

Finance Committee Recommendation at Town Meeting

Nolan stated that she calculated an estimated of \$7,000 this figure for the purpose of tonight but is unsure of what the Water Commissioners are going to ask for she expects that they will come back in a week or two with a firm figure. This is being requested so that they can use the money for 1 month overlap for the training of the new Water Superintendent and to pay Dick for vacation time earned when he retires this December.

ARTICLE 5 To see if the Town will vote to transfer from the Wetlands Fund \$6,000.00 for additional hours for the Conservation Secretary to assist applicants in processing wetland applications, as well as contract with wetlands specialists for work including but not limited to the review of permit applications and wetland delineations, or take any action thereon.

Proposed by the Conservation Commission

Finance Committee Recommendation at Town Meeting

The secretary is doing more of the clerical work because the Agent is not present and the office is open longer.

ARTICLE 6 To see if the Town will vote to transfer from overlay surplus the sum of \$100 to be added to the \$140,650 appropriated Line 155 (Gas & Oil – All Department) of Article 4 of the Annual Town Meeting of May 13, 2013 to cover the gasoline coats for the Elementary School or take any action thereon.

Proposed by the _____

Finance Committee Recommendation at Town Meeting

It was stated that the Highway Department should not have to bill the school department for gasoline for the snow blower as they do not bill any other department. Badore was okay with giving ten or fifteen gallons of gasoline to put in the snow blower as it can be run a long time with that amount. Nolan stated that they are trying to cut down on paperwork. Badore is all for letting it go and Seelig said that is fine as long as he does not see bills going to the school department. This article was taken off the warrant.

ARTICLE 7 To see if the Town will vote to transfer \$1,799.44 from Article 23 of the May 8, 2006 Annual Town Meeting (Monponsett Pond Weed Study) and \$500.56 from Article 9 of the May 11, 2009 Special Town Meeting (Algae Remediation), totaling \$2,300.00 for a public presentation of the Sustainable Water Management

Initiative report for Monponsett Pond and related water bodies or take any action thereon.

Proposed by the Board of Health

Finance Committee Recommendation at Town Meeting

This money would come from previous money for Monponsett Pond. Roy the thought it the MWSA has done great strides regarding the ponds and this presentation would benefit the organization as well as the people within the town and the ones who live on the ponds.

ARTICLE 8 To see if the Town will vote to transfer from available funds the sum of \$0 to meet the Town's share and to appropriate the sum of \$271,734.00 from available funds under Chapter 18 of the Acts of 2013 as the State's share of the cost of work under Chapter 90, Section 34(2)(a) of the General Laws, for the purposes as set forth in the memorandum of agreement with the Massachusetts Highway Department including maintaining, repairing, improving, and constructing town and county ways and bridges, sidewalks adjacent to said ways and bridges, bike ways and other projects eligible for funding as a "transportation enhancement project" as described in the Intermodal Surface Transportation Efficiency Act of 1991, P.L. 102-240, salt storage sheds, public use off-street parking facilities related to mass transportation, for engineering services and expenses related to highway transportation enhancement and mass transportation purposes, for care, repair, storage, purchase, and long-term leasing of road building machinery, equipment and tools, and for the erection and maintenance of direction signs and warning signs or take any action thereon.

Proposed by the Highway Surveyor

Finance Committee Recommends

No discussion

ARTICLE 9 To see if the Town will vote to transfer from the Stabilization 1 Account \$60,000.00 for the repair and replacement of a portion of the fire alarm equipment and devices including any associated costs of the fire alarm system at the Halifax Elementary School. \$55,000.00 for the repairs and \$10,000.00 to pay for the Fire Watch detail required until the system is operational. Any monies not used to be returned to the Stabilization 1 Account without needing another vote from Town Meeting or take any action thereon.

Proposed by the Municipal and School Building Committee

Finance Committee Recommendation at Town Meeting

Discussion earlier

ARTICLE 10 To see if the Town will vote to amend Article 19 of the May 14, 2012 Annual Town Meeting to read:

To temporarily suspend, for the duration of the payments of the bond for the Water Tower approved by Article 18 of the Annual Town Meeting of May 14, 2012, that portion of Article 37 of the Annual Town Meeting of May 12, 1997 specifying that any revenues derived from the leases by the Board of Water Commissioners of a portion of the property on or around the Water Tower at 499 Plymouth Street for wireless communications be shared equally between the Water Revenue Account and the General Revenue Account and that beginning when bond payments begin that any revenues derived from leases by the Board of Water Commissioners of a portion of the property on or around the Water Tower at 499 Plymouth Street for wireless communications be deposited in the Water Revenue Account.

Proposed by the Finance Committee

Finance Committee Recommendation at Town Meeting

Bids for the water tower project came back high and Seelig believes they are coming back in May for a new appropriation. In the meantime no bonds have been issued because no revenue have come in and the Finance Committee has discussed about getting the money that was going to be used for the payment of the bond back in the general fund. Schleiff understood about getting the money back in the general fund but if we are looking for more money that would be spent on the water tank wouldn't it go towards it. Seelig said yes but the idea was to pay back the bond with the revenue stream but there is no bond to pay. Roy wanted Seelig to contact Dick (Seelig received no reply from him) and have a conversation that the idea was we were going to give all the money to the Water Department while the bond was coming in. She asked Seelig where the money they have been receiving gone as this has been the second year they got the money and Seelig said all the money for FY13 went to them and if nothing changes all the money for FY14 will also go to them. Roy stated that with the other expenses coming such as the fire alarm and other capital items she would like the money back to help fund items that are needed now. She continued to say that this agreement was bond driven and we were hesitant about giving that up as there was a discussion of who owns the land and specific to who received the money. Seelig explained that when we were appropriating money for the water tower we were going to get so much for one source that some from another source and then bond the remaining amount needed and the idea being that the Water Department revenues from the cell towers would fund the bond except there has been no bond. Roy said that if Dick could say that he is using that money only towards the bond and nothing else then... Seelig said that is what it will be for once we get the bond and the \$32,000 that went into FY13 will go into their retained earnings and

can then be use to help pay the bond. Nolan said the revenue from FY13 cannot be touched. Roy asked if we can have them promise that it will go towards the bond and Nolan said it will go towards their retained earning and when they get the new quote they may have to use more of their retained earnings towards the project.

This article was taken off the warrant.

Moved by Roy and seconded by Schleiff, the Board unanimously voted to hold a Special Town Meeting on Monday, September 16, 2013 it then was amended to Monday, September 23, 2013 at the Halifax Elementary School at 7:30 p.m.

Moved by Roy and seconded by Schleiff, the Board unanimously voted the following:

- to open the warrant this evening for the Special Town Meeting;
- to have the 8 Articles as discussed on the Warrant;
- to close the warrant on for the Special Town Meeting.

William Caprio – 111F

Schleiff asked how long would Sgt. Caprio be out and Seelig stated a few weeks.

Moved by Roy and seconded by Schleiff, the Board unanimously voted to place Sergeant William Caprio on 111F status beginning August 23, 2013 until such time he is cleared to return to work.

Note: Schleiff participated in this vote due to Garron not present.

Resignation – Beth Dubrawski

Beth Dubrawski has resigned as Secretary in the Selectmen’s Office effective Friday, September 13th. Seelig will start the recruiting process today with an expected deadline of September 13th. Seelig is happy to do what ever that Board wishes him to do in the hiring process and if they want to be involved with the hiring process to please let him know.

Ambulance Abatements

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

July 2013	FOR	\$ 7,408.54
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Plymouth County Retirement Assessment

Seelig has drafted a letter for the Board to sign regarding the proposed 26% increase in the assessment for FY2015. Board signed the letter.

Board of Health Inspection at the Elementary School

Health Agent, Cathy Drinan, visited the school today and noted a number of issues and work that needs to occur. No action needed by the Board, but Seelig wanted them to know about them.

Zoning By-Law Committee

Moved by Roy and seconded by Schleiff, the Board unanimously voted to appoint the following individuals to the Zoning By-Law Committee terms to expire June 30, 2015:

Gordon Andrews	Planning Board Member
Thomas Millias	Building Inspector
Robert Picciirilli	Planning Board Member
Deborah Tinkham	ZBA Member

Monponsett Pond Invasive Weed Survey

The Town Accountant has agreed that the Board could authorize use of the current Monponsett Pond Studies article from 2005 to fund the \$1,400 invasive weeds survey without going to Town Meeting as this is an authorized use of the money within the bounds set by the Town Meeting in 2005. Seelig is recommending that the Board approve this so Lycott can perform the work in September.

Moved by Roy and seconded by Schleiff the Board unanimously voted to support the Monponsett Pond Invasive Weed Study.

Road Cut – 444 South Street

Moved by Roy and seconded by Schleiff, the Board unanimously approved Permit #2014-17 issued to Columbia Gas of Massachusetts for a 3' x 5' road cut to install new service at 444 South Street with the stipulation noted on the permit "not to proceed if South Street needs to be cut".

Road Cut – 278 River Street

Moved by Roy and seconded by Schleiff, the Board unanimously approved Permit #2014-16 issued to Columbia Gas of Massachusetts for a 2' x 30' road cut to install new service at 278 River Street.

Live Entertainment – Halifax Congregational Church

Moved by Roy and seconded by Schleiff, the Board unanimously approved Permit #2014-15 issued to Susan Mahan for live entertainment at chicken BBQ and harvest fair on September 14, 2013 from 1:00 a.m. to 3:00 p.m. The request for the use of the electrical outlets at the back of the Town Hall for the band's instruments had also been granted by the Board.

MEETING ADJOURNED

There being no further business, moved by Roy and seconded by Schleiff, the Board unanimously voted to adjourn the meeting at 10:00 p.m.

Kim R. Roy
Clerk

/pjm