

BOARD OF SELECTMEN  
 SELECTMEN MEETING  
 TUESDAY, JANUARY 10, 2012 - 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:

**AGENDA**

The Agenda for Tuesday, January 10<sup>th</sup>, was unanimously approved without revision.

**PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE**

The Board as well as those attending tonight's meeting stood to recite the Pledge of Allegiance.

**MINUTES**

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

- Regular Session – November 22, 2011
- Executive Session – November 22, 2011
- Executive Session – December 13, 2011 - First
- Executive Session – December 13, 2011 - Second

**AFFIRMED COMMITMENTS AND WARRANTS**

Moved by Garron and seconded by Roy, the Board unanimously affirmed approval for the payment of the following warrants and commitments with the exception of Schleiff abstaining from payroll warrant #50 and #54:

Payroll Warrant	# 50	\$ 322,191.84
Vendor Warrant	# 51	\$ 1,260,209.55
Withholding warrant	# 52	\$ 120,303.20
Vendor Warrant	# 53	\$ 7,437.44
Payroll Warrant	# 54	\$ 319,202.08
Vendor Warrant	# 55	\$ 472,983.93
Ambulance Commitment	# 12A	\$ 16,578.00
Ambulance Commitment	# 12B	\$ 21,793.54

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

- W.B. Mason Co., Inc. (ink - printer, toner - copier, file folders)... \$ 102.13
- Gilman & Associates (legal/Nov.) ..... \$ 462.50

**APPROVED COMMITMENTS AND WARRANTS**

Moved by Garron and seconded by Roy the Board unanimously approved payment of the following warrants and commitments:

Withholding Warrant	# 56	\$ 120,246.89
Vendor Warrant	# 57	\$ 1,372,616.46
Mobile Home Park License Fee	# 01	\$ 5,160.00

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

Radiology Assoc. of Plymouth (service for T. Benner).....	\$ 12.69
ARS Services, Inc. (Police Station – DOL 8/28/11) .....	\$ 3,473.07
Atty. Lawrence Mayo (legal/Dec.) .....	\$ 4,567.88
ImageTrend, Inc. (software for training) .....	\$ 880.00
W.B. Mason Co., Inc. (stapler) .....	\$ 6.67
National Grid (billing 11/16 – 12/16) .....	\$ 770.48

The Board acknowledged payment of the Selectmen Office Payroll for the period ending December 17, 2011 in the amount of \$5,761.70 and for the period ending December 31, 2011 in the amount of \$5,761.70.

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

<u>TURNOVER</u>	<u>AMOUNT</u>
2012-46	\$ 100.00

**GENERAL MAIL / BUSINESS**

Wage and Personnel – Annual Hearing

The annual hearing is scheduled for January 24<sup>th</sup> at 6:30 p.m. in the Great Hall. Amendments are due on January 17<sup>th</sup>.

Board of Health – Monponsett Pond

The BOH is organizing a group to determine the sources of pollution that is causing the poor conditions of the water quality. The group will be working with stakeholders to identify ways to stop the pollution.

Surplus HL-5140 Brother Laser Printer

The Selectmen’s office would like to declare the above mentioned equipment surplus. This printer was formally in the Veterans’ Agent office and is still in working condition. Seelig will offer it to the other departments and then to the general public before the Board declares it surplus.

Monponsett Pond Water Levels

Stephen Brown of 91 Paradise Lane has sent in a complaint in regards to the high water levels on Monponsett Pond which is threatening his boathouse as well as his neighbor’s yard. Seelig has sent a note back to Brown addressing the numerous questions Brown had asked but has not heard back from him. The

water levels were high in December but have gradually been going down. Seelig asked the Board if they wanted him to contact Mr. Brown any further.

Schleiff met with Dick Clark (Halifax Water Superintendent) and Brian Creedon (Water Systems Manager for Brockton) and found that the sluice gate was clogged. The gate was cleaned and now the lakes are at a reasonable level.

Garron asked if a letter had ever been sent asking for a schedule as to when they come and clean the gate. Schleiff said that they come every couple of weeks. Garron requested that the Brockton Water Plant send the office a schedule of when they clean the gates and fish ladder.

Schleiff mentioned that he would like to use the MBTE funds to do additional testing of the algae in the lakes and ask if that could be looked into and brought up at the Board's next meeting.

### **SCHEDULED APPOINTMENTS**

#### **Christen Gurney – Road Race – May 6, 2012**

Christen Gurney and Ann Marie Winchester came in this evening to go over the details regarding their five mile road race that they are having on May 6, 2012 here in Halifax. They went over the course route which begins at the Halifax Elementary School parking lot from there, runners will take a left onto Plymouth Street (Route 106), left onto South Street, left onto Hayward Street, left onto Franklin Street, right onto South Street, right onto Plymouth Street (Route 106), right into school parking lot where the race will end.

They were asked what charitable organizations benefit from the proceeds of the race and they went on to say that South Shore Race management has three charities that they support; Boys and Girls Club of Plymouth, Friends of South Shore Hospital and the Kathy Frank Scholarship Fund. Runners have the option to give to one of those three organizations or one of their own. If a runner is interested in signing up for the race all they need to do is go under Race Management's website to sign up and also they can choose the charity they want to support.

Ann Marie started with the Boys and Girls Club about five years ago. Last year there was seventeen hundred runners registered and after expenses thirty five thousand dollars was raised.

Christen is working with the Halifax Police Department regarding any detailed officers that may be needed.

Moved by Garron and seconded by Roy, the Board unanimously voted that South Shore Race Management could hold a five mile road race on May 6, 2012 at 9:00 a.m. starting at the Halifax Elementary School parking lot and continuing with the course that is outlined above.

**GENERAL MAIL / BUSINESS (CONTINUED)****Water Department Complaint - Gilpatricks**

Scott and Robin Gilpatrick of Dwight Street have sent a complaint to the Water Department and cc'ed the Selectmen's Office, regarding the taste of their water and the discoloration. In October some work was done to fix some of the problem but the Gilpatricks have said that they have not seen any changes. The Water Superintendent has been checking every couple of days and said that the Gilpatricks the only ones who are complaining about the water. To replace the water line would cost \$150,000.

Schleiff asked if the line was in disrepair and Seelig said that it is a two inch line causing build up in the line and sensed that with a dead end street this problem occurs. Schleiff had asked if Seelig could find out how many houses are on Dwight Street and also asked if the Water Commission is aware of this problem (Seelig did not know). Roy stated that there is nothing the Board could do seeing as the Water Commissioners are elected positions. Garron suggested that the Board take this issue under advisement and see what happens since it is being looked into by the Water Superintendent.

**SCHEDULED APPOINTMENTS (CONTINUED)****Tom Millias - Shared Town Vehicle**

Having a share town vehicle was brought up a couple of years ago but nothing panned out. Doing so would save the town money in the long run. Millias stated that with what an employee gets for mileage for using their own vehicle and the wear and tear on it's really not worth using one's own vehicle. Also if an employee was to get in an accident with their own vehicle they would have to meet their deductible.

The departments/officials that would benefit from it would be the Assessor's Office (revaluations), Building Inspector (inspections), Conservation and Health Agents (inspections). The car could have a town seal placed on the doors and blue license plates making the vehicle more receptive when used on inspections.

Millias has volunteered is to be the person in charge of scheduling as to who will use the car and when. In addition Garron would like to see a schedule on the maintenance of the vehicle, which Millias is willing to take over that budget although Garron thought that maybe the budget should be under the Selectmen's office seeing as the Board will be signing off on it. Roy stated that we need an estimate on the maintenance such as tires, oil changes, gas etc. It was also mentioned that this vehicle would not be taken home by anyone and remain in the Town Hall parking lot.

Millias will work with Seelig on this and Schleiff will ask the town mechanic which vehicle he thinks will be the most reliable one to use. Millias also will work on a layout of this with the Health Agent and the Assessor's Office. This issue will be revisited at the Board's next meeting to see what progress has been made.

**GENERAL MAIL / BUSINESS (CONTINUED)****Joseph v. Halifax**

Another hearing has been scheduled for February 10<sup>th</sup>. Ms. Joseph is appealing the clerk magistrate's decision supporting the BOS order to banish "Odie" from the town.

**Massachusetts Memories Road Show**

The memories road show travels to a number of communities and meets with residents to share their stories and times from their own collections of their family and/or town history. There will be a meeting on January 26<sup>th</sup> at 10:00 a.m. to go over the concept and look at possible sites. Debra Dejonker-Berry, Rev. Wadsworth and Sue Basile all plan on attending this meeting and hopefully other will also. Members of the Board were also invited to attend.

**MMA Meeting**

Roy needs to be designated as the town's representative when she attends this meeting.

Moved by Garron and seconded by Schleiff, the Board unanimously voted that Kim Roy represent the Board of Selectmen at the annual MMA meeting that is being held on January 20<sup>th</sup> & 21<sup>st</sup>.

**Fire Department FEMA Grant**

The town will need to provide \$6,822 in matching funds to receive this grant. No action is needed at this time as an appropriation can be made at the Annual Town Meeting in May.

**Mr. Turner – Wright Property**

Mr. Turner has the opportunity to purchase the Wright property, which will consist of the existing house and five other lots. He is aware that the town has first right of refusal but wants to get this deal moving forward therefore has offered to donate twenty four acres of open space to the town if the town relinquishes its rights in the matter.

The Board previously had asked Conservation Commission for money from the Conservatory Fund to purchase the 24 areas and they were in favor of it but since Turner is now willing to donate the land at no cost, conservation has stated (in a memo dated January 4, 2012) that the donation would be in the best interest of the town rather than purchasing it.

Schleiff had asked if there were funds from somewhere else that could be used to purchase the land and Garron said even if there was it would take about six months to pull it all together. Seelig answered Shleiff's question and said he has contacted a few agencies last month stating that the BOS is seeking partners to help purchase this property. Schleiff's concern is that this property can be broken up to five single family homes which will impact the schools as well as other costs the town will sustain in the future.

Moved by Garron and seconded by Roy, the Board voted to send the covenant submitted from Mr. Turner to town council to be reviewed and have Mr. Turner come back in on January 24<sup>th</sup> at 8:00 p.m.

**GENERAL MAIL / BUSINESS (CONTINUED)**

Talent Bank Form – Priscilla Murphy – Library Board of Trustees

The library is having problems with the trustees attending meeting therefore not being able to make quorum. Seelig has asked the Board if they would like to meet with the Library Trustees on January 24<sup>th</sup> to interview Ms. Murphy and then decide whether to select her to fill the vacancy. Roy stated that she is concerned that the Planning Board is also having the same issue.

Moved by Garron and seconded by Roy, the Board unanimously voted to have the Board of Trustees for the library come in and vote on an appointment for the vacancy on their Board.

Quote for Town Meeting Warrant & 2011 Town Report

Harry B. Harding & Son has submitted a quote for the above mentioned material. The cost of the town report is \$13.90 per page and for the warrant book is \$34.40 per page. This a slight increase from last year but within budget.

Moved by Roy and seconded by Garron, the Board unanimously voted to award the printing contract to Harry B. Harding & Son for the printing of the Town of Halifax 2011 Annual Report, the 2012 May Annual Town Meeting Warrant and 2012 May Special Town Meeting Warrant.

Harvard-Pilgrim Mini Grant

A grant from Harvard Pilgrim has been awarded to the Town of Halifax in the amount of \$600. Halifax resident, Jennifer Johndrow has suggested that the money be used to improve the playground on Route 36. The Youth and Recreation Commission will be notified about the grant and ask them to send a thank you letter.

Moved by Roy and seconded by Garron, the Board unanimously voted to send a letter to Jennifer Johndrow and Harvard Pilgrim thanking them for the mini grant.

Resignation – Linda Redding / Halifax Cultural Council

The Board unanimously accepted, with regret, Linda Redding's resignation from the Halifax Cultural Council, effective January 27, 2012 and asked that a letter be sent to her thanking her for her time served on the council.

Ambulance Abatements

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

December 2011                      FOR              \$ 10,824.73

Police Officer Transfer – Christopher Moore

The Board voted as follows to grant Patrol Officer Christopher Moore transfer request from the Halifax Police Department to the Pembroke Police Department and have the Vice - Chair, Kim Roy sign the transfer request form:

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

Ethics Assignments

There are about a dozen of employees and officials who still have not completed their ethics assignments. Seelig had asked the Board what they would like to do. Garron felt that a letter should be sent to those individuals. Seelig stated that he has sent reminders to the various departments but will do so again.

Truck Exclusion

There will be a Traffic safety Meeting tomorrow (Jan. 11<sup>th</sup>) with the hope that this will be talked about.

Audit

Seelig asked the Board if they wanted to go out to bid for the next three year audit contract. Currently the town has a contract with Malloy, Lynch, Bienvenue, LLP and he does not see a large increase in fees from them. Garron did not see the need to go out to bid.

Moved by Garron and seconded by Roy, the Board unanimously voted not to bid out the audit contract and continue with Malloy, Lynch, Bienvenue, LLP.

Selectmen Office FY2013 Budgets

Seelig has submitted the Selectmen’s Office budget to the Finance Committee.

CapeNet

The cost to hook up to the fiber optic line that CapeNet is running down Route 106 is approximately \$1,000 plus installation costs. At this time the town has Comcast as their internet provider which costs about \$70 to \$80 a month. Comcast internet speed is slower but not by much therefore it does not make sense to hook into CapeNet fiber optic line.

There being no further business, moved by Garron and seconded by Roy, the Board unanimously voted to adjourn the meeting at 9:00 p.m.

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 Kim R. Roy  
 Vice Chair

/pjm