

BOARD OF SELECTMEN  
SELECTMEN MEETING  
TUESDAY, FEBRUARY 28, 2012 - 7:30 P.M.  
SELECTMEN MEETING ROOM

---

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, February 28<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.

**AFFIRMED COMMITMENTS AND WARRANTS**

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

Vendor Warrant	# 69	\$ 259,067.57
Ambulance Commitment	# 2A	\$ 13,640.51

**APPROVED COMMITMENTS AND WARRANTS**

Moved by Garron and seconded by Roy the Board unanimously approved payment of the following warrants with the exception of Schleiff abstaining from the Police Department payroll in warrant #70:

Payroll Warrant	# 70	\$ 322,896.35
Withholding Warrant	# 71	\$ 120,416.39
Vendor Warrant	# 72	\$ 36,505.79

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

National Grid (1/14/12-2/14/12).....	\$ 1,068.69
National Grid (1/18/12-2/15/12).....	\$ 20.43
Gilman & Associates (legal services) .....	\$ 1,433.75
CMTI (2 CPR cards/McSherry & Dubrawski) .....	\$ 20.00

Schleiff mentioned that Pam and Beth attended free CPR training at the Police but needed to pay for the cards.

The Board acknowledged payment of the Selectmen Office Payroll for the period ending February 25, 2012 in the amount of \$5,761.70.

**GENERAL MAIL / BUSINESS**

Halifax in Lights

The tentative date for this year's Fourth of July celebration is Saturday, June 30<sup>th</sup>.

Wellness Program for Logan

Moved by Roy and seconded by Garron, the Board unanimously voted to allow Margret Logan attend a wellness program at Braintree Rehabilitation.

Chief Carrico Seeking Grants

There was a press release from Plymouth County Fire Chiefs in reference to a grant for regional communications and in the article it congratulated Chief Carrico for being diligence in seeking this grant.

Moved by Roy and seconded by Garron, the Board unanimously voted that a letter be sent to the chief congratulating him on his determination in getting grants.

MassEnergyInsight

The State has a database/software tool to help communities become more energy efficient and the data from utility companies is accessible but in order to have access the Board needs to authorize to participate.

Move by Roy and seconded by Garron, the Board unanimously voted to give authorization for Charlie Seelig to access to the energy data for the Town of Halifax.

Moved by Garron and seconded by Roy, the Board unanimously voted to have the Chair, Michael Schleiff, sign the user authorization form allowing Seelig access to the energy data for the Town of Halifax.

Signature Authority Form – Conservation Commission

Moved by Garron and seconded by Roy, the Board unanimously voted to approve that John Peck sign payroll for the Conservation Commission and that Tom Millias to sign in John Peck's absence.

Employee Evaluations

Wage and Personnel is requiring that evaluations be done for all employees before they approve step increases. Roy thinks that this a great tool for employees to know how they are doing and said that this was done some time ago but due to change in departments doing evaluations slipped through the cracks. Garron was concerned that these evaluations were done years back then departments stopped doing them and now going back to it; employees should be notified of this and to that comment it was as stated that it is in the by-laws.

**SCHEDULED APPOINTMENTS****Gary LeBouef**

Veterans' Agent, Gary LeBouef came in this evening to update the Board on his retirement plans. At this time his house is up for sale and once sold he will be moving out of State, therefore stating that his position will be open. He suggested advertising for his position now because he does not know how quickly his house will sell and does not want to leave the town hanging with no Veterans' Agent. He also wanted the Board to know that if they were to hire a new agent that he would be more than willing to help train this person without being compensated.

LeBouef mentioned that the Board *might* want to think about regionalizing. Roy had asked if Bridgewater was interested in doing that and he said if the Board was to ask them, yes then they would be but was unsure if it would cost the town more money to do this. He added that when he took this position he was unaware of the paperwork involved and he thinks the Board did not know either. There have been lots of changes since he has come on and because of all the work involved such as research, investigating, checking into client's bank accounts, outreach, social work and the traveling he is suggesting putting someone on full time. LeBouef went on to say that Carver's Agents position is full time and the salary is \$24,000 with a full time secretary and that most of the full time agents have someone in the office to do the paperwork.

Schleiff asked how many hours a week has he been working is it twenty, thirty, forty? Schleiff then asked if he thought that the pay is light for what he has been doing and LeBouef said yes.

LeBouef has contacted a couple of people he knows telling them of his intentions and if any of them were interested he would be willing to show them the ropes if okay with the Board. Roy suggested that they post LeBouef's job and check to see if other towns want to regionalize. Garron suggested that maybe LeBouef could write down some elements needed for the position.

LeBouef wanted the Board to know that he is working on the Memorial Day Parade and intends to finish planning that event. He also wanted it known that everyone here at the Town Hall has helped him out immensely and that this is a great group of people to work with. In closing the Board stated that they were sad to see him leave.

**Lamppost Drive**

There has been no feedback from any of the departments regarding Lamppost Drive. Seelig has talked with Badore and he has no problem with the town accepting this street. The last lot is being held by the Planning Board until such time the road was complete and satisfied by the departments involved as well as the residents who live on the street. A suggestion was made that before releasing the lot to Michael Peterson have him get a bond.

Tina Tonello from the Conservation Commission was present for this discussion and stated that Conservation had no problem with the street.

*Eric Robinson 4 Lamppost Drive*

Mr. Robinson was concerned that the last heavy rain that we got there was water in the street at 7 Lamppost Drive and that at the beginning of the street there is dip in the road where water puddled. He suggested looking at the drain pipes to see if they were okay. He also wanted to say that after one of the rain storms he had 4-5 inches of water in his basement requiring him to put a sub pump in.

Garron asked if anyone had checked to see if there was clay in the area and Charles Frame of 3 Lamppost Drive said that he had some testing for a well and was told that there is blue clay in the area. He wanted to say that standing water is the issue and suggested that the pitch of the pipes need to be looked at or maybe they might be blocked. He said that the retention pit does not fill up sufficiently especially when there has been one or two inches of rain, nothing is draining into it. He does not get water in his home but felt that it is something that should be looked at. Garron asked if the Highway Department has looked at the pipe and Seelig said he did not know and Roy asked if it was the towns or the builder's responsibility and Seelig said that it is the responsibility of the builder seeing as he still owns the road. Seelig suggested that we contact Mr. Peterson and Mr. Badore and ask that they go out take a look at it and get a report from the Badore and ask that that he be specific in the report.

*Fred Lawless 41 Hudson Street*

Mr. Lawless stated that he is still having ongoing water in his home, which he never had before this development was built. He was told that the pipe was not pitched the right way and it was fixed/moved but he still gets water and does not think it was fixed correctly. Schleiff went on to say that they did go out to look at the road when it was raining but did not hear any real solutions of how this could be fixed.

Roy did not feel comfortable going forward at this time and asked to have it looked at again. Seelig explained that the Board is not accepting it tonight and that it would have to go to Town Meeting. He said the next step would be to hold a formal hearing, which could be held a month from this evening, giving us time to get reports from the Highway Surveyor and Mr. Peterson and if the Board is not satisfied then they can oppose the acceptance of the road.

Garron asked how long would it be before we could get someone out there and Schleiff said that rain is coming within the next couple of days. With that being said Garron said that he is willing to postpone his vote until after tomorrow's rain and get someone out there to look at it. Seelig mentioned that the Board can still schedule the formal hearing for March 27<sup>th</sup>. Garron moved to table this discussion until such time we receive further information in reference to solving flooding problem. He is satisfied that we are ninety percent there and that the drainage problem might not be an issue of the road being accepted. This motion was not seconded because Schleiff then asked if we need to schedule a public hearing.

Moved by Garron and seconded by Roy, the Board unanimously voted to hold a public hearing on March 27, 2012 at 7:45 p.m. for the acceptance of Lamppost Drive.

**Kenzies Path**

The wetlands permit that was issued to Rick Springer has run out and he is not interested in filing for another one and the Conservation Commission will not issue a Certificate of Compliance until Springer gets the necessary permits to finish up the outstanding issue in the development.

Tina Tonello said that all the members of the Conservation Commission were in agreement that if Springer could show them a certified plan indicating the change in the pipe then they would be satisfied and he would be in compliance. She stated that the Commission has contacted Springer numerous this throughout the year and has never heard back from him. Springer is looking for the plans but cannot remember the firm who issued them and does not have a copy for himself and thinks the only difference between the “proposed plans” and “As Built” is the size of the pipe. He said that the sand has silt in it, which blocked the drain thus, a new pipe 20 feet long and 8 inches in diameter was installed. He wanted to add that when we had heavy rains a couple years ago the water drained perfectly with this new pipe.

Garron had asked Springer if he could get in touch with the engineer to ask them to verify the change. Springer said that he could do that. It was mentioned that the Planning Board had signed off on this in April 2007 and Garron suggested that the Selectmen’s Office request those minutes from the Planning Board. Tonello asked Seelig if he could request the minutes from Planning Board pertaining to Kenzie’s Path. She also added that the new Conservation Agent is going to take a look at the street.

Seelig recommended to the Board that they hold a formal hearing for Kenzie’s Path on March 27<sup>th</sup> at 8:15 p.m.

Moved by Roy and seconded by Garron, the Board unanimously voted to hold a public hearing on March 27, 2012 at 8:15 p.m. for the acceptance of Kenzie’s Path.

**Animal Control Officers**

Schleiff began the discussion by saying that we have two Animal Control Officers here in town who were hired about a year ago. They have had training regarding their job and their responsibilities and now there seems to be a conflict on what their job entails and who is responsible for what. He wants to look at the mechanics of the job and said that things have changed since the last ACO was here and seeing as the town did not have an ACO for a while and now we have two the question is how do we look at it going forward? Schleiff pointed out that the Dispatchers are involved a little bit as well as the Board of Health and it appears that certain calls are not being forwarded to the BOH and there is some confusion for the Dispatchers when calls come in as to what calls they do or don’t handle. The Health Agent also needs to be contacted at times and there needs to be clarification on who needs to be called when an animal call comes in and what the procedure is after the call is taken.

Garron said the bottom line is that the ACOs report to the Police Chief, correct? and procedures and direction are given by the Police Chief or whoever is in charge. This is the question that Schleiff has because in the job description of the ACO for the Town of Halifax it states the following:

- Supervision Received: The Animal Control Officer reports directly to and is appointed by the Board of Selectmen, however the Selectmen may, from time to time, designate the Police Chief to act as supervisor for the Animal Control Officer.

Schleiff just wants to up to get up to speed on this and Garron mentioned that past practice was that the dog officer reported to the Police Chief because ninety nine percent of the time a police officer would need to enforce a dog being removed. The Board of Selectmen had voted to allow the Police Chief to supervise the individuals because at that time the chief was in charge of the dog pound. Therefore it has been that the ACO reports to Police Chief not to the Board and the chief reports to the BOS. Schleiff understands that but wants to know what direction do we want to go with captured dogs and the new regulations? Schleiff has a lot of questions seeing as this is new to him. Garron said that it comes down to is does the Board want to take the responsibility of supervising or take a vote to reinforce that the Police Chief is in charge of these individuals. Schleiff did not think that it came down to that but said that there is a conflict with the ACO, with dispatch not knowing who to call, with the police saying do this call don't do that call lots of confusion between all and he himself is confused. He has looked at the ACOs responsibilities and some responsibilities they are told are not theirs or the police department hasn't had them do it in the past, he just wants to clarify/define who (meaning ACO, Clerk's Office, dispatch, Police, Board of Health) is responsibility for what because there have been issues and its not a matter of the BOS taking over to supervise. Schleiff does not want to micro manage and does not think the Police Chief wants to micro manage because he has other things he needs to do.

Garron asked when did the problems come up because when the ACOs were hired he believes that they were told that they would report to the Police Chief and what their responsibilities were. He asked if they not doing what they are suppose to be doing or are they doing more then they should? Or not doing the things that the ACOs feel they should be doing?

Schleiff said there is more to it then what we thought as to what they can and can't do and seeing as the town did not have a ACO for a while different instances are coming up and to say that they knew what to do when they were hired is not correct. There is more to the job and the description then what is stated in the town job description. Schleiff has read the Mass General Law Chapter 140 and there is more to it then what he thought. When the ACOs went to training they were told that they are to this and that and then they are told by their supervisor oh no you can't do that or we don't do that etc... nothing to do with how its been handled it has to do with the clarification of .. there are more responsibilities that the ACOs can do that have not been done in the past. Schleiff is not sure if it was because of the budget or now there is new technology or the size of the town.

Roy did not think that the question is who the ACOs report to but thinks it is because the question has come up as to how our ACOs handle wildlife. Schleiff said that is partly why we are here and did not think that we needed to get into the nitty gritty of it.

Garron thought that you could not settle this without getting into it. In the past the ACO and the Animal Inspector both have dealt with wild animals and then Fisheries and Wildlife might have had to come down to take a wild animal or might have needed to be removed because the law says that you can't go out and catch a wild animal. Animal Control Officer, Annie Brown, said that has changed, if wild animal is threatening a human then she, as an ACO, has the right to destroy that animal. Garron stated that is new to him and was told differently and that the State did that. Brown added that if a human is involved and is being threatened by a wild animal then an ACO or police officer can destroy it but one thing they can't do is take care of a nuisance because that requires a PAC License. Garron asked how many times has a situation like that come up and Brown said that Hammond has had to deal with a couple of them especially since rabies is on the rise as well as distemper and this is something that the ACOs will have to deal with.

Garron then asked what seems to be the problem; has she not been allowed to do that and Brown said it not that but she wants to explain to the Board that the class that she and the other ACO, Mr. Hammond, attended states that the responsibilities of ACO are different then a Dog Officer. They are ACOs not Dog Officers and that there is a big difference. She said previously the town had a Dog Catcher now you have ACOs and there are some distinct differences and the responsibilities of the ACO are different from that of a Dog Catcher thus some things need to be clarified. She was sent to school to be trained as an Animal Control Officer and the different duties have not come to the attention of the BOS or have not had to be dealt with before.

Sergeant Broderick stated that in the Mass General Laws Chapter 140 and Mass Wildlife and Fisheries there is no mention of an *Animal Control Officer* however, there is some mention in Mass Wildlife of an *Animal Control Official*. The town's by-law does not say anything about Animal Control Officer but refers to them as a Dog Officer. He said it does not matter what we call them what matters is what their duties are and that they perform them and it is the Board who needs to make the decision as to what they want the ACO to do and up to the Police Chief to supervise them. There are very strict limits as to what anyone can do with wild animals and that includes those with Pac Licenses. Even with a Pac License you can't kill wildlife unless it's under certain conditions. At this point if the BOS decides they want ACOs to do other duties let the sergeant or chief know and they will be happy to make change.

Garron had asked if any of this has been an issue for them to do their job and Broderick said no they are handling the calls and there may be some communication issues but they are new to the position and it is a learning curve for everyone (meaning the ACO's, police department, Dispatchers, Board of Health) and its just a matter of everyone being on the same page, some fine tuning and making it work.

Garron also asked if the Board of Health have been the ones contacting the ACO instead of the Chief and Broderick said no it comes from the police department. He said that whether the call involves domestic pets or wild animals and bit or a scratch occurs the BOH would like to know so they can stay on top of any rabies issues. Garron said that in the past if there were wildlife issues then Fisheries and Wildlife were called and they came down. Broderick said that if there is issues with rabies the BOH is contacted and they determine whether the animal needs to be tested or not and if there is wild animal in your backyard there are certain standard that have to be followed to deal with that. No matter what when the department gets the initial call the police will go out and investigate to see if there is a threat to anyone then they determine who can take care of it whether its Environmental Police or the homeowner takes care of it through a Pac Officer.

Roy asked what does the Police Department recommend when it comes to wild animal calls. Unless the chief has a different idea Broderick thinks that the rules that are written down are pretty clear to him already as to how to deal with them. As he said above the police respond to the initial call, have homeowner take care of it or call Environmental Police and if there are any other issues such as if the animal looks sick then they contact the BOH and they make a determination on how to deal with it.

Schleiff asked if we had step by step procedures for this ..... Broderick said that under the *rabies plan* under cities and towns there is there is an outline in Chapter 140 but initially we have our own procedures. Schleiff asked Brown what she was looking at that was handled differently that to what is expected.

Brown said that they *sworn a warrant* that hadn't been done before. The warrant states that they can act on behalf of the town to collect loose dogs and uphold the by- laws of the town. It is a swearing in stating that they are going to act like ACO. Schleiff asked if she saw anything else and she thinks that the town needs to update in the ACO by-laws. She said that Chapter 140 has been updated by the State which gives ACOs more duties through the State. The ACOs have been taught things to the way the State wants them done because the State overrules town stuff but here in town we are told that town stuff overrules State stuff. She said that at times it is difficult to know what direction to go in.

Seelig asked if there was a list of conflicts as to what the State is asking and what the town is asking and Brown said no. Then Seelig asked if we can get one so we can see what the conflicts are between the town and the State and then resolve them. Brown said that she would get them.

Garron said as long as the town does not violate any of the rules the State applies then the town has the right to supervise the ACOs the way they want to. He mentioned that back about eight years ago the ACO was called a Dog Officer and we had two officers in town; one who took care of the dogs and the other took care of chickens goats of that nature and he also goes by the rule that at the bottom of the job description it states that you will also do other work that is requested by your boss. He asked Brown if she was being told to do things that are not within her job and if so then it needs to be discussed and Brown stated that is not the case. Garron said he is not saying that but is saying that he has not heard that the ACOs are not doing their job and this is a question of authority, the



State is telling you to one thing and the town is telling you another. Brown said that she is only stating what the law says (State).

Chief Manoogian said that the State has three or four agencies, has one definition on animals and then look at what towns define what Animal Control does. Now the town has a different definition on all animals. The town sends the ACOs to class and they are told a domestic animal would be a cat and dog so every other animal from ferrets to bats would be considered wild. What he suggested is look at that both sets of definitions and blend them. The academy that we send the ACOs to teaches them how to deal with dogs and cats and when they complete the class they get a certificate stating that they are a ACO. This does not mean that the town has hired them as a ACO because there is no real definition of a ACO and it is no different from having the title as a Dog Catcher.

Seelig said that we have a job description that has been in existence for about ten years so if the job description for the ACOs needs to be revised it can be. The other ACO, Thomas Hammond, had asked if he was just dealing with dogs or doing all the other activities that are listed in the job description.

Manoogian said that only thing that is in the job description is the dealing with some type of wild animal that we have interpreted to be on town property. They are town employees and entitled to protect town property if an animal is creating a problem and it's their job to go out and do that. So the added duties are that they might be asked to go teach the elementary students. That is one thing in the job description I have chose not to implement because the job is per diem. We do not have the time or the money for the ACO to go do that. That is still in the job description just in case we want to send one of the ACO over to the school making the point that we do not need everyone doing every bit of their job description. We have cut back because of equipment, finances, training but if we get call from the school and they would like them to go talk with one of the classes about *animal control* Manoogian can send them because its in their job description. He thinks the town should be able to pick and choose what aspect of the job they want acted on at any point and time.

Roy asked if Manoogian if he was suggesting leave wildlife verbiage in the job description and not remove it totally. Manoogian said you could fine tune it because you may not have the full detail. Roy said that you would want it to be specific to municipal property and Manoogian said yes and he is just suggesting this. He stated that if there are terminology issues to come in and discuss it with him and he can decide what they are capable of doing and if they have qualifications for such changes then they can look at it.

Schleiff asked if they were looking at this with the new State regulations and if so then they would need to take a look at how they might want to set up procedures. He is not advocating either way but would like it clarified as to where we are and where we want to be. Manoogian said you are still going to have a problem because the State is changing whatever they are doing and instead of working with the people at the town level and they may be telling other departments on how to handle things but they are not telling the towns. The State is slowly sending things over to the towns and it is costing the towns money and then the town ends up discussing this stuff when the state has a staff that can be doing it.

Manoogian stated that it tough finding the time to do all this stuff and feels it's the State's obligation to tell us what they are changing and give us the new by-laws. Having the ACOs work per diem, where they are called only when needed could be why they might not have enough time to communicate with the police department. The last ACO had to be here twenty hours and he asked did the town have twenty hours of work for that person ... no... so you run into the economics of it where we don't want to pay someone who is not needed every day so we proposed that when a call comes in we pay. He said that there is a downside to both ends of it and that people need to work together and interact. If we want to change the way we handle the Dog Officer, or go back to the full twenty hours, or if the Board wants to go back to one or keep the two ACO it's the BOS decision. He feels having two ACOs seems to be working. Brown and Hammond are doing a fine job doing what they are doing its just there have been a couple of unusual circumstances and if they need clarification when they are on a call all they have to do is phone the station and the Chief can make the call then the responsibility falls on him. Schleiff stated that he is not advocating for any changes just trying to clarify the job and Manoogian said the job cannot be clarified when you have four or five different State agencies making changes.

Brown said the new law is mandating that you have a certified Animal Control Officer, which we are ahead of the game on that but there are some thing that the town needs to look, which Manoogian said that they can work on it. Manoogian said that if the BOS is satisfied that the ACOs are reporting animal bites to them in a timely manner and they are controlling dogs that are loose then he is okay with the way things have been going.

Garron said that State is cutting back and they are pushing more and more on the towns. The ACO are different in the city then they are in the towns and said that the State is probably writing their regulations gearing to the cities and towns up north as opposed to down here. He agrees with the Manoogian when he said we all need to work together and thought that this was not the forum for this to have been discussed and the two ACOs could have sat down with the Police Chief and discussed this among themselves.

Schleiff asked if they should clarify the procedures seeing as they have been around for at least ten years for the future or does the town want more or less things done for either of the departments.

Manoogian said he would not mind sitting down with one of the Board members to go over the job description and the Board member could pick and chose what you may or may not want as part of the ACOs job. He stated that the current job description has been pulled from many towns big, little, small and most came from the *ten towns comparision* and was has drawn up between Manoogian and Seelig with a lot of input and what we thought we could do in a smaller community. Roy stated that if Manoogian wanted the Board to look at it they would.

Schleiff said that it is better to have the job description than not to have it. Manoogian suggested tweaking the wildlife verbiage; the sergeant can take care of the everyday duties and if problems come up go to the Police Chief. Schleiff asked if the ACOs needed direction everyday and Manoogian did not think so and unless someone told him other wise he felt that they were following the laws that are on the town books.

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

#### Bank Reconciliation

The first draft of the reconciliation that was sent to the auditors had some discrepancies and was rejected. Given that, the Town Accountant and the Treasurer-Collector have worked on this and have eliminated a number of the problems. They are still showing discrepancies but they are down from six figures to four figures. The report will be resubmitted to the auditors.

#### MBTA Fare Increases

The office has received a response from Representative Daniel Webster agreeing with the Board the concern of the MBTA service reduction and fare increases.

#### Storm Drain – Harvard Street and Brandeis Circle

A resident has notified the Selectmen's Office that a storm drain cover is missing in the area of Harvard Street and Brandeis circle. The Highway Surveyor was contacted about this and has replaced the cover. It appears that this spot is used for skateboarding and Seelig had suggested to prevent this from happening to maybe place some large boulders on to of it or to fence it in but that would be a cost to the town and an added thing to maintain.

#### NSTAR - Power Lines – Vegetation

NSTAR has sent a letter informing the town that NSTAR Electric and Gas is going to selectively apply herbicides along the power lines right-of-way that pass through the town. Seelig informed the Board that none of the town's wells are near the power lines on NSTAR'S map but added that private and irrigation wells are not on the map. Seelig has been given an up to date listing of these wells from the Board of Health and is going to forward them to NSTAR so that they can be added into their database.

#### Petition Article for Legal Services

This article has been submitted to the Town Clerks' office. Signatures just need to be certified.

#### Wright Property

Seelig has notified the Planning Board and the Building Inspector that there is no need for Mr. Turner to get a special permit for the 24 acres of backland because the Town will be attaining the land and in the transfer there will be the stipulation that the land is to be used for conservation purposes only.

### Capital Plan Article

Listed below are capital items that are being presented at Town Meeting from the Capital Planning Committee:

- Library - carpeting \$11,500
- Library - ceiling \$8,000
- Police Station - water alarms \$2,800
- Signs –virtual signs \$2,900
- Great Hall - painting the hall, ceiling, walls & trim \$11,500
- Old Schoolhouse – roof \$8,000
- Council on Aging – no amount
- Fire Station - floor \$8,000

Schleiff suggested maybe holding off on the work for the Great Hall. He realizes that it needs to be done and stated maybe there is another way to clean it up at a cheaper cost.

### Truck Exclusion

Seelig is waiting to hear back from Bridgewater and East Bridgewater. The consensus is that the East Bridgewater Board of Selectmen should be voting on the exclusion on February 27<sup>th</sup>. As for Bridgewater their Town Manager has sent Seelig's note to their Traffic Study Committee to evaluate the matter and make a recommendation. This could take up to thirty days.

### State Budget FY2013

Moved by Roy and seconded by Garron, the Board unanimously voted to send a letter to our legislators in support of adding sixty-five million dollars to the local aid base.

### Software for Ambulance Billing

The fire department has an existing contract with Tritech that they use for their ambulance billing. The chief and his administrative assistant are both recommending that they continue with this vendor and commit to another three year contract. The fee for Tritech is about four hundred and sixty dollars a month as opposed fifteen hundred dollars for a competing vendor.

Moved by Roy and seconded by Garron, the Board unanimously voted to accept Tritech's bid and to have the Chair, Michael Schleiff, sign the agreement.

### Surplus Vehicles

Moved by Roy and seconded by Garron, the Board unanimously awarded the attached list of surplus vehicles to the designated individuals and companies which represented the highest qualified bidder (attached hereto and made an official part of these Minutes).

Seelig would like to start the bid process on the next group of surplus vehicles.

Moved by Roy and seconded by Garron, the Board unanimously authorized Seelig to start the bid process for the next group surplus vehicles.

Cameras at MBTA Station

Seelig would like to send a letter to the MBTA requesting that cameras be installed at the Halifax T Station.

Special Town Meeting Warrant

Moved by Garron and seconded by Roy, the Board unanimously voted to open the Special Town Meeting with the deadline being March 19, 2012.

Trash and Litter Complaint – 94 Lingan Street

The office has received a phone call complaining about trash from 94 Lingan Street blowing onto other properties in the neighborhood as well as the property being in disarray. Seelig went out to visit the property and in fact it is as stated. He asked if the Board wanted him to send a letter to the property owners or delay in sending one out and have the BOS, Building Inspector and Board of Health check it out. Garron thought that a letter should be sent and if not improved then other departments will be notified. Schleiff then brought up the property on the corner of White Island Road (471 Monponsett St.) stating that it does not meet the town standings.

Moved by Roy and seconded by Garron, the Board voted to have Seelig send letters to the property owners of 471 Monponsett Street and 94 Lingan Street regarding the condition of their properties.

New GIS Health Insurance Plan

Seelig had asked the Board if they wanted to add the new GIC look a like health plans to the existing plans that the town offers. It was stated that as long as it not costing the town money it should be offered to provide town employees every opportunity for health insurance.

Moved by Roy and seconded by Garron, the Board unanimously voted to offer the GIC look alike health plans to the town employees.

Cover for Annual Town Report

The Selectmen Assistant had asked the Board if they had any ideas of what they would like on the cover of the town report. A couple weeks back the Board had asked the viewing audience if the had any ideas for the cover to submit/call the Selectmen's Office as well as blurb put in the Halifax/Plympton Reporter but no suggestions have come in. A suggestion to put a picture of the Halifax Girls Softball Team (New England Regional Champions) was mentioned.

Moved by Roy and seconded by Garron, the Board unanimously voted to use the Halifax Girl Softball picture for the cover of the 2011 Annual Town Report.

**EXECUTIVE SESSION**

Moved by Garron and seconded by Roy, the Board voted as follows to enter into Executive Session at 9:55 p.m. to discuss Fire Chief, Police Chief, Dispatchers, Firefighters, Highway, Patrol Officers and Sergeants contracts:

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 Roy, the Board voted as follows to come out of Executive Session at 10:10 p.m.

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

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

-----

Troy E. Garron  
Clerk

/pjm