

BOARD OF SELECTMEN
SELECTMEN MEETING
TUESDAY, JULY 24, 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

Schleiff wanted to add a discussion on *battling the bins* at the end of the evening.

With the above addition, the Agenda for Tuesday, July 24th, was unanimously approved.

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 Schleiff, the Board approved the following Selectmen Minutes:

Regular Session – June 12, 2012

AFFIRMED COMMITMENTS AND WARRANTS

Moved by Schleiff and seconded by Garron, the Board unanimously affirmed approval for the payment of the following commitments and warrants with the exception of Schleiff abstaining from the Police Department payroll in warrant #4:

FY12 Vendor Warrant	# 116	\$ 406,072.08
FY13 Payroll Warrant	# 4	\$ 195,164.44
FY13 Vendor Warrant	# 5	\$ 104,614.62
FY13 Withholding Warrant	# 6	\$ 22,256.00

Moved by Schleiff and seconded by Garron, the Board unanimously affirmed approval for the payment of the following FY12 Selectmen bills:

Attorney Lawrence P. Mayo (legal services/June)	\$ 1,281.25
Geo. Plumbing & Heating (repairs to concession stand)	\$ 702.00

APPROVED COMMITMENTS AND WARRANTS

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

FY13 Vendor Warrant	# 7	\$ 26,378.75
Ambulance Commitment	# 7A	\$ 24,178.39

Moved by Schleiff and seconded by Garron, the Board unanimously approved payment of the following FY13 Selectmen bills:

W.B. Mason Co. (3 chairs/Selectmen’s meeting room).....	\$	750.00
Pitney Bowes, Inc. (red ink).....	\$	63.74

The Board acknowledged payment of the Selectmen Office Payroll for the period ending July 14, 2012 in the amount of \$5,886.82.

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

<u>TURNOVER</u>	<u>AMOUNT</u>
2013-02	\$ 100.00
2013-03	\$ 5.00
2013-04	\$ 5.00
2013-05	\$ 5.00
2013-06	\$ 15.00
2013-07	\$ 2.00
2013-08	\$ 5.00

GENERAL MAIL / BUSINESS

Sergeant Assessment Center Contract

Roy has spoken with Mr. Unsworth and he stated that payment in full can be made on December 31, 2012.

Moved by Garron and seconded by Roy, the Board voted to sign the contract with Badgequest for the Sergeant Assessment Center. Schleiff abstained from the vote.

Surplus Vehicles

Schleiff pointed out that in February when we accepted bids for surplus vehicles there were four bidders and this time we only had two. He does not think we pursued more for the vehicles and felt that the town could have gotten more for the 2004 & 2003 and the minimum bid for the Magic Tilt Hovercraft and Jet Boat should have been swapped. He talked with the town mechanic, Dave, and he also thought we could have gotten more for the vehicles.

Garron stated that it was advertised and asked Schleiff if the vehicles were re-bidder did he think we would get other bidders. Seelig stated that it was advertised in numerous places and Roy asked if it cost to do it and he said no.

Schleiff asked if could be advertised on the community signs and Seelig said he could do that. Schleiff suggested holding off on accepting the bids for these vehicles and add them in the next batch of vehicles this way here bidders will have more to choose from and we might get more people bidding. Garron pointed out that if they sitting on the vehicles may not be a good idea.

Schleiff is not thrilled with the money we got and would like to wait and stated that the Crown Victoria is worth more that \$1,200 that was offered. Roy asked how many miles did the vehicle have and it was stated it had 126,000.

Roy asked if Kelly Blue Book was done on the vehicles and if we could accept a couple of the bids and hold off on the others. Seelig said we could do that and mentioned that we stated a minimum bid and they were met so how would we say we want more money. In addition she also questioned would it make sense to go by Kelly Blue Book and Seelig said if you did do that to keep in mind the police vehicles have high mileage.

Garron does not think the money we receive for these vehicles is a budget buster and that Dave should have stated exactly what the minimum bid should have been. He pointed out that the vehicles are not allowed to taken off the property therefore why would the bidders pay market value.

Roy asked Schleiff if he wanted to wait until the end of August or accept the bids now and use this as a learning curve and for future bids post on the community signs.

Moved by Garron and seconded by Roy the following vote was take to accept the bids as stated below with the exception not to accept the bid from Grace Quality Used Cars for the 1987 Magic Tilt Hovercraft as the minimum bid was not met.

Troy E. Garron - Yes
 Kim R. Roy - Yes
 Michael J. Schleiff - No

	#1 - 2004 Ford Crown Victoria	#2 - 2003 Ford E350 Supreme Senator 14-seater	#3 - 1996 Jet Boat w/trailer	#4 - 1987 Magic Tilt Hovercraft	#5 -1994 Westward Industries GO-4 Utility Vehicle
Minimum Bid Required	\$ 1,000.00	\$ 1,500.00	\$ 250.00	\$ 500.00	\$ 100.00
Corkery	\$ 1,187.00	\$ 1,731.00	\$ 280.00		
Grace Quality Used Cars	\$ 1,158.00	\$ 2,226.00	\$ 352.00	\$ 150.00	\$ 111.00
				minimum bid not met	

Ambulance Abatements

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

June 2012 FOR \$ 15,544.93

Use of Town Green – Girl Scouts

Moved by Garron and seconded by Schleiff, the Board approved a request from the Halifax Girl Scouts for the use of the Town Green on Saturday, September 22nd, from 9:00 a.m. to 3:00 p.m. for Girl Scout Registration Day and flea Market.

Beautification Committee

The committee is not planning on any activities this summer, perhaps in the fall depending on the availability of the committee members. Seelig will send out a press release asking for volunteers for the committee.

Historical Committee Member Update

Sue Basile has sent an email with an update of the members on the Commission. She stated Nicholas Basile will not be asked to be reappointed as he has missed too many meetings last year and stated that Shirley Schindler and Mason Cook will be reappointed. There is a gentleman who has shown an interest in joining the commission and they will be meeting with him at their meeting in August. If that pans out they will be one member short.

Kilroy Was Here

Susan Basile wrote to say that she will be seeking sources of funding for “Kilroy Was Here” other than water bills. The Board discussed other logos that could be painted on the tower such as “the heart of the county”, which Halifax is known to be.

Monponsett Pond / Stump Brook

Brockton does not plan on opening the gates on the dam to try and “flush out” Stump Brook due to the water levels being so low on the pond.

Website Reappointments – Debora Kane and Keith McElman

Seelig has met with Keith McElman and both him and Deb Kane are interested in staying on the committee. Noelle Walden will not be able to and he is waiting to hear from Deb DeJonker-Berry.

Moved by Schleiff and seconded by Garron, the Board unanimously voted to reappoint Debora Kane and Keith McElman to the Website Committee, terms to expire June 30, 2013.

Ambulance Donation

The Fire Chief is no longer pursuing the ambulance donation because it is not worth it.

Invitation to COA Cookout

The Board has been invited to attend the COA cookout on August 8th.

522 Plymouth Street

The Historical Commission has been notified that the owner, Eleanor Lucier, might be interested in selling the property (located between the Museum and the Brockton Store) to the Town. This may take couple of years as there are tenants now that are living there but just wanted to open the idea to the town. Garron suggest that maybe it could be used for office space.

Adult Literacy Program

Elaine Wissel is scheduled to meet with the Board on August 14th at 7:45pm in regards to finding space for the administration of the program. At this time the library no longer has space for administration but literacy sessions will continue to be held there.

The program was sharing space in the Library Director's office for 20 hours per week but given the change in the library's programs and the search for the director, Jean Gallant felt that the library could no longer provide the space.

Donelson Scholarship

There are a couple of options that can be reviewed as to what the Board can do with the account. (a) leave account as is; (b) see if anyone wants to make donations to the scholarship; (c) draw account down slowly; or (d) give out something more substantial. Seelig can bring this back up to Board in the fall so that something can be in place for the Class of 2013.

Veterans' Agent Office / Resignation of Edward Fowler

Mr. Fowler has verbally given his resignation on July 23rd. Seelig believes that he felt that the position did not pay enough for the hours needed to do the job and the environmental issues in the office such as no heat, air conditioning, and no screens in the window were a factor in his decision. With this being said Seelig has asked MS&BC about getting screens for the windows and suggested putting an air conditioner in the window or have a portable one vented out. He believes that the old vault is under the floor and that is why a heating duct cannot be run under the floor. In addition he stated that they may have to ask for a reserve funds transfer to cover any work that may need to be as well having funds if there was an increase in hours. Not knowing these issue existed MS&BC did not request funds at the May Town Meeting.

Roy suggested that if the third applicant that was interviewed back in April was still interested in the job to offer it to her.

Moved by Roy and seconded by Garron, the Board unanimously voted to have Seelig contact Carin Smith and offer her the position and inform her that the Board is aware that the heat/cooling needs to be look at as well as maybe increasing the hours for the position.

Class III (Junk) License - Steve's Auto Recycling

Steve Powers, owner of Steve's Auto Recycling, is requesting that the Board accept the change from Steve's Auto Recycling to Steve's Auto Recycling Inc. on his Class III license. All the proper paperwork has been filed with the State.

Moved by Garron and seconded by Schleiff, the Board unanimously voted to accept the Class III license change from Steve's Auto Recycling to Steve's Auto Recycling Inc.

Live Entertainment – Cruise Night at Walmart

Moved by Garron and seconded by Schleiff, the Board unanimously approved Permit #2013-10 issued to Linda DiSola for live entertainment at Walmart for Friday night Cruise Nights from the 1st Monday in May through 1st Friday in October and collect a fee in the amount of five dollars (\$5) for the year.

Health Insurance

The Board will need to start thinking about whether they wish to make any changes in the Town's health insurance offerings for FY2014. Seelig said that if the Board wants to join GIC that it needs to be done by this fall. Garron stated that at the last Plymouth County Advisory Boards meeting it was said that the Mayflower Plan is a great plan. Seelig will bring this back up at the board's meeting on August 28th. Roy added that the towns that have gone to GIC are unhappy and Schleiff thinks that they should leave it as is.

Cable T.V.

License is up for renewal in September and Seelig has talked with Attorney Epstein regarding this. A proposed license has been sent to Comcast and will not be signed until the town knows whether it will be 5%, 6% or 7%. It was stated that the studio will be gone in 2014 and that Comcast is not concerned what Halifax does.

EMS Service for Plympton

The Town of Plympton has reached out to Halifax asking if we would interested in providing EMS service to them and are asking Halifax, if interested, to submit a proposal to provide the service. Chief Carrico and Roy are concerned that it may affect the service to the residents of Halifax and they would like to look at Plympton's ambulance runs. Roy asked Garron and Schleiff if they wanted to do some research without committing to Plympton. Schleiff was fine with that suggestion as long as it didn't cost to do it.

Moved by Garron and seconded by Schleiff, the Board unanimously voted to continue to do the research on the ambulance runs that Plympton responds to.

Earlier Tax Bills

Norman Lincoln called to suggest that the Town lobby to have the State laws changed so that due dates for tax bills be July 1 and January 1 each fiscal year instead of the current November 1 and May 1 dates. He stated that the Town is losing a tremendous amount of interest because of the current timing of the bills.

Currently, the Town assesses about \$6.5 million in taxes every six months. Assuming that all of the first half tax bills are paid on November 1st and under Mr. Lincoln's system all bills would be paid on July 1, if the Town received 0.3% (the current rate offered by Rockland Trust on large checking accounts used as an example), receiving \$6.5 million four months earlier would generate about \$6,500 in interest and if multiplied it by two (for the other set of tax bills) the Town would gain \$13,000.

Under current state law, the Town does have the option of sending bills out on a quarterly basis. That would generate about \$5,000 in additional interest but mean a fair amount of work for the Treasurer-Collector and the Assessors as the first two bills (August 1st and November 1st) would be estimated tax bills and then all the adjustments would have to be made for the February 1st and May 1st bills. Any paperwork would double let the alone the question asked such as why is my bill for February different than the one for November? This was just a thought for the Board.

Monponsett Pond

Edward Stewart called to advocate the following:

- That the Town do testing of the sediment to determine what chemicals are in the sediment (data might result in a push to change use of the Pond).
- Additional signage (copies of newspaper articles) at the boat ramp in order to warn recreational users about dangers of algae.
- Close boat ramp to prevent harm to users, especially children.

Alcohol License - Halifax Country Club

The Secretary of State's Office has re-instated the Halifax Country Club, LLC. Seelig is still waiting to receive copy of lease agreement between Halifax Country Club, LLC and Halifax Investments.

Speed Limit Signs – Summit Street

Mr. Waterman of Old Summit Street contacted Selectman Garron about placing speed limit signs on Summit Street. Since Summit Street is considered to be “thickly settled” (houses less than 200 feet apart for a least a quarter-mile), signs similar to the ones on Walnut Street can be placed at either end of Summit. Seelig has sent a letter to the Traffic Safety Committee to get their take on this. Schleiff said that signs have been put up. Seelig was not aware of this and will go out to take a look.

Fuel Storage Permits

Halifax Farms Realty has indicated, by phone, that they do not want to renew the permit for a vacant property next to Wal-Mart and Halifax Country Club has failed to renew despite a letter and telephone conversations. Seelig plans on having the Board hold revocation hearings on both on August 24th. If the Board wants, he also can schedule a hearing for Kozhaya Nessralla for failure to turn in a workers' compensation certificate for his license.

Seelig has put a note in the ATM May 2013 to officially set the fee at \$50 (which it is now), but also a \$50 per month (whole or part) late fee. This will be reviewed with the Board later this year.

Moved by Garron and seconded by Schleiff, the Board unanimously voted to hold a revocation hearing on August 24th for Halifax Farm Reality and Halifax Country Club pertaining to Fuel Storage Permits.

Veterans' Agent

The town's current VSO, Edward Fowler, stated that he will stay and train the new VSO.

Vehicle Use Policy

Highway Surveyor, Bob Badore, was scheduled to come in this evening to talk about the Vehicle use policy but has rescheduled to meet with the board on August 14th.

Harbor to the Bay Charity Bike Ride

Moved by Schleiff and seconded by Garron, the Board unanimously voted to authorize the Harbor to the Bay Charity Bike Ride the use the Halifax Boat Ramp parking lot located on Route 58 as a pit stop for their ride on Saturday September 15th.

Road Cut – 93 Plymouth Street

Moved by Garron and seconded by Schleiff, the Board unanimously approved Permit #2013-08 issued to Columbia Gas of Massachusetts for a 3' x 25'± road cut to install new service at 93 Plymouth Street.

Use of Town Green & Live Entertainment – COA Annual Cookout

Moved by Garron seconded by Schleiff, the Board granted a request from the Council on Aging to use the Town Green from 12:00 p.m. to 3:00 p.m. on Wednesday August 8th, for the annual senior cook-out and approved Permit #2013-02 issued to Barbara Benton for live entertainment at the Senior Annual Cookout on August 8, 2012 from 12:00 p.m. to 3:00 p.m.

Live Entertainment – John Crawford

Moved by Schleiff and seconded by Garron, the Board unanimously voted to grant a live entertainment permit to John Crawford of 4 Delia Way for Saturday, August 4th from 3:00 p.m. to 9:00 p.m.

Language on Vehicle Use Policy

Schleiff would like to work with the departments on the written language pertaining to the vehicle use policy. Spelling out whether or not the vehicles will be used to take home for lunch or at night or used to attend training. Doing this will satisfy everyone if it written out. He also would like to contact FinCom to get their input.

Battling the Bins

Schleiff has come across an article in the newspaper about towns that are trying to halt the proliferation of clothing donation bins that are crowding parking lots and street corners. He has asked Seelig if he could gather some information for the Board to review on this issue.

EXECUTIVE SESSION

Moved by Garron and seconded by Schleiff, the Board voted as follows to enter into Executive Session at 9:15 p.m. to discuss Patrol Officers negotiations:

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

Roy 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 Roy and seconded by Garron, the Board voted as follows to come out of Executive Session at 9:20 p.m.

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

There being no further business, moved by Roy and seconded by Garron, the Board unanimously voted to adjourn the meeting at 9:20 p.m.

Michael J. Schleiff
Clerk

/pjm