

BOARD OF SELECTMEN
SELECTMEN MEETING
TUESDAY, SEPTEMBER 25, 2012 - 7:30 P.M.
SELECTMEN MEETING ROOM

Meeting came to order at 7:30 p.m. with Selectmen Troy E. Garron and Michael J. Schleiff present. Roy will be arriving later in the evening.

The following business was discussed:

AGENDA

The Agenda for Tuesday, September 25th, 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 Schleiff and seconded by Garron, the Board unanimously affirmed approval for the payment of the following commitments and warrants:

Withholding Warrant	# 22	\$ 117,514.89
Vendor Warrant	# 23	\$ 182,028.91
Ambulance Commitment	# 8B	\$ 19,680.39
Ambulance Commitment	# 9A	\$ 15,997.39

APPROVED WARRANTS

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

Vendor Warrant	# 25	\$ 240,111.40
Withholding Warrant	# 26	\$ 121,208.84

APPROVED BILLS

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

National Grid (service for concession stand).....	\$ 31.27
National Grid (service for Town Hall).....	\$ 942.80
Paul Turner (refund/overpayment for legal notice)	\$ 41.25
Brockton Hospital (deductable/111F/P.Donnelly).....	\$ 250.00

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

<u>TURNOVER</u>	<u>AMOUNT</u>
2013-21	\$ 20.00
2013-22	\$ 5.00
2013-23	\$ 41.25

The Board acknowledged payment of the Selectmen Office Payroll for the period ending September 22, 2012 in the amount of \$5,988.02.

GENERAL MAIL / BUSINESSMonponsett MBTE Testing Account

The Town Accountant is asking the Board to close out the above mentioned account and transfer the balance into the General fund. Testing was done on Monponsett Pond years back due to gas from boats that leaked into the lake as well as run off gas from the road that also ran into the lake. There has not been any testing in five years and as Seelig stated there is no reason to do so therefore the funds are no longer needed for that specific allocation.

Moved by Schleiff and seconded by Garron, the Board unanimously voted to close the Monponsett MBTE Testing Account and deposit the remaining balance of \$1,575.00 to the General Fund.

OPM-Phase 1 Senior Center Article

Again as stated above, the Town Accountant is asking the Board to close out the above mentioned account and transfer the balance into the General Fund. This money was designated for an OPM for Phase 1 of the Senior Center. At this time the project is not moving forward.

Moved by Garron and seconded by Schleiff, the Board unanimously voted to close the OPM-Phase 1 Senior Center Article and deposit the remaining balance of \$5,465.91 to the General Fund.

Ambulance Abatements

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

August 2012	FOR	\$ 14,188.46
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Comcast Service for 30 Spring Street

Comcast would like to bring service to 30 Spring Street from Pembroke for the reason that this would save the resident and Comcast an expensive installation fee if he was to hook up from Halifax. The channel line-ups are the same with the exception of local public, educational and government access which would mean that the resident would be receiving Pembroke's broadcast of these programs and not Halifax. Garron was concerned how the resident felt not getting the Halifax channels. Seelig did not know but hopes that he was notified of this from Comcast.

Move by Garron and seconded by Schleiff, the Board approved to allow Comcast bring service to 30 Spring Street from Pembroke with the condition that the Selectmen's office contact the resident asking him if he is okay with getting Pembroke's news.

Seelig will contact the resident regarding this.

715 Plymouth Street

At this time the owners on record are no longer living at the above address for what ever reason may be. There seems to be some junk, abandoned cars, and a large hornets nest by the front door, which the Building Inspector, Board of Health and Fire Chief are aware of. Seelig has written a letter to the owners and Wells Fargo, the mortgage holder, indicating that these problems need to be corrected. No action is needed from the Board; Seelig just wanted them aware of the problem.

Silver Lake Regional School District Surplus Vehicles

There are two non-working vehicles that the District is asking if anyone is interested in. Fire Chief Carrico has indicated that he would like to use them for demonstration purposes and Seelig has forwarded the Administration Office the chief's email of his interest. Garron stated that if the chief can use them then he has no problem with it but asked where they would be stored. Seelig stated he will ask the chief where he intends to store the vehicles.

Reconciliation

The auditors have sent email to the Treasurer/Collector, Kathy Shiovone, checking on the status of the cash reconciliation. Seelig has spoken with her and she stated that she is continuing to work on reconciling the books.

Amanda Estates off Elm Street

The Planning Board has accepted a request from Corrie Merritt of "The Party Trust" to withdraw the definitive subdivision application for Amanda Estates. No action is needed from the Board.

Country Club Lease

Attorney Mayo has reviewed the lease that was submitted from the Country Club. If the Board was to accept the lease "as is" there is no liability but stated that the lease could be improved in a couple of areas and Mayo believes that it is in the best interest of the Town to ensure that all paperwork is correct. Schleiff asked would sending a letter to the Country Club work and Seelig said that he wishes it would but there is a lot of sloppiness in the lease. Garron was in agreement with Schleiff in sending a letter but also suggested having them come in. Seelig stated that a revocation hearing is scheduled for October 9th and said that we can explain this to them that evening.

Old Colony Planning Council – Old Colony Metropolitan Planning Organization

OCPC is looking for an elected official in communities that have a population under 14,000 to serve on the OCPC Metropolitan Planning Organization. Garron stated that he has been asked but has not committed to this as of yet.

Constable

A letter was received from Jerold Loomis of *All State Constable* asking to be appointed as constable for the Town of Halifax. Seelig stated that the town does not appoint constable but they are elected.

Moved by Schleiff and seconded by Garron, the Board unanimously voted to have Seelig send Mr. Loomis a letter stating that constables are elected for the Town of Halifax and not appointed.

Autumn Lane

Representative from Community Bank, John Callahan, has called regarding Jake Development. The bank has renewed the construction loan (maturity date of April) for the property in Foxborough that Jake Development owns. The construction on this property needs to be completed first with the proceeds from the sale used for the roadwork on Autumn Lane. The expected date of completion for the house is January and he has factored in ninety days for the sale. The target date for the roadwork to begin on Autumn Lane is June. Garron wanted to comment that house can be built sooner than the time frame that was given.

Fuel Storage Permit – Nessralla

Mr. Nessralla has informed the Town Clerk that he no longer has tanks at 139 Hemlock Lane and 69 Summit Street. Seeing as he has already paid for the permit this year he is asking that the license be ‘revoked’ next year. Selig has put in a reminder for May 2013 when the license is up for renewal and will hold a hearing for the Board’s second meeting in May. The fire chief has been notified of Mr. Nessralla’s request.

SCHEDULED APPOINTMENT

Andrew LaGambina – Eagle Scout Project

Andrew came in this evening to enlighten the Board about the eagle project he would like to undertake and get their approval on. He began by saying that he is a member of Boy Scout Troop 439 and is looking to become an Eagle Scout. In order to get his Eagle Scout Award he needs to showcase that he can execute and manage a service project. His project will consist of rejuvenating two gardens at the Holmes Public Library. Andrew would like to clean up the garden under the windows facing Rt. 106 and put some stone in there as well as clean up the Ruth Perkins Garden that currently exists. In addition he would like to and make a pergola to produce shade for the patrons while sitting in the garden.

Garron asked where did he get this idea and he said that he asked troop committee of any ideas and one of the moms emailed him stating that the library was looking for some work to be done on the Ruth Perkins Garden so he talk to the former Library Director, Debra Dejonker Berry. She has since stepped down but has been having conversations with Richard Conley, head of library trustees, and they are in support of his proposal. He has also talked with Tom Millias and as far as building the pergola, there was no issue with zoning. Millias then directed him to the Board of Selectmen and the Municipal School and Building Committee.

Garron thinks that his idea is a good one and asked if he approached anyone for plants or flowers and he said he has not but intends to contact Mr. Nessralla for input on where to place the plantings. As for the materials for the pergola he is going to talk with one of the fathers in troop, Mr. Murphy, and go over the costs. Garron asked if he had any volunteers who would be helping him and he said that he is going to go to his troop and rally them to help. He also intends to do some fundraising over the winter and spring to help fund the project with the hope to have the project done by August 2013. Garron suggested that he go to Walmart and Stop & Shop for donations and added that he would be more than willing to help and if there is anything the Board can do to please ask. Schleiff asked what size would the pergola be and he said 16x16.

Moved by Garron and seconded by Schleiff, the Board unanimously voted to send a letter to Andrew LaGambina approving his Eagle Scout project.

Road Cut – 29 Ocean Avenue

Moved by Garron and seconded by Schleiff, the Board unanimously approved Permit #2013-30 issued to Columbia Gas of Massachusetts for a 3' x 25'± road cut to install new service at 29 Ocean Avenue.

Roy joined the meeting at 8:10 p.m.

MINUTES

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

Regular Session – September 11, 2012

Moved by Garron and seconded by Roy, the Board voted as follows to approve the Executive Session minutes of September 11, 2012:

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

SCHEDULE APPOINTMENTS (CONTINUED)

Chief Manoogian –Request for Part Time Intermittent List

The police chief came in this evening to ask the Board to call for a part time Reserve/Intermittent list from Civil Service so that the department has officers available for future openings, fill shifts from time to time, to work when there is special events and to do details. Manoogian explained that if the department had intermittent officers and openings were to come available there would not be a delay in hiring and it would speed up the process. Theses officers who have been working for the department will know the department and the town and have the experience to come on as a full time officer if an opening would come up. Background checks would already be done and the chief would have the opportunity to observe these officers making it easier to select one as an officer when the time comes. At this time the town has two intermittent officers who are very good but both have chosen not to become full time.

Garron asked how many officers he would want to call up on. Manoogian said that it is easy to come up with a number on his end but the other figure you need to worry about is with the Finance Committee but with that put aside at the moment he said to go for three.

Roy wanted to point out that these officers will be filling in when someone may be sick on or on vacation which will be cost effective. Manoogian said that the cost imposed to the town would be; uniforms, \$350 a year for clothing allowance and sending them to school once a year for a week. Garron thought having extra officers was a good idea seeing as recently there have been concerns about parking issues and speeding in addition for police details. Manoogian said to try for three and wanted to note that he does not have a definitive date for the next academy due to State funding for the training.

Schleiff had a couple of questions one being does the *intermittent officer* pay for the academy themselves stating that is how the Sheriffs do it. Manoogian said no they would be union employees but added that the *special officers* pay for their training and their uniforms. Schleiff also wanted to know how it works with the union and as Manoogian said they are union and asked if they were hired as intermittent on open shifts. Roy explained that it goes full time officers first, intermittent officers second and special officers third.

Roy wanted to recap the process as to why the chief is asking for this. She began by saying that when there is an opening in the department through Civil Service it will make it easier to choose someone from your own permanent intermittent staff because the chief will have had the chance to work with them and see how they work within the department. The chief added that most of the staff he has right now were from that intermittent status and there is going to be a time that some of the current officers will be retiring and the department will need officers to step up in the ranks. Roy stated that we do have *special officers* but they cannot be hired because they are not on the Civil Service list and the chief said that was correct. She also wanted to clarify that the cost to the town would be uniforms, annual clothing allowance and then if they had to attend the part time academy.

Karen Fava, member of the Finance Committee, was present and asked if there would be the additional expense for hours as well as the uniforms and clothing allowance and the chief said no. Manoogian said that he is not adding hours or special shifts and the only change would be that they will have five intermittent officer altogether instead of two. Manoogian does not anticipate needing the money quite yet and said that when they go to the academy they will go in civilian clothes. Thinking over the timeline Manoogian seems to think that it will fall in next year's budget. Fava thought that this would need to go before Wage and Personnel but it was stated that these officers would be union therefore not needing to. Roy went over the process which would be; call for the list, do the background checks and then maybe January or February the individual would attend the academy. She also wanted to clarify the budget asking him if his budget stays current the funds will be there. Manoogian said that she was correct regarding the process and the budget and added that they will not start for a while and he just wanted to get the process going and is planning ahead.

Garron sees it as improving the prospect of hiring a known officer who has been trained and has worked within the department shorting up the hiring process when a position opens up.

Seelig mentioned to the Board that they need to figure out how they want to do the interviewing and said the rule of thumb is 3 in plus 1 so what you would do is look at the top 7 candidates who signed. Roy asked the Board if they wanted to set a policy when hiring police officers. Garron said that he is comfortable following the chief's recommendation and Manoogian said he would give the Board his recommendation to the Board they can interview that applicant. Garron wanted to be honest and stated that he would not be bothered if he was involved in the interviews and is okay with whomever the chief decides. Schleiff suggested interviewing as many as allowed. Roy stated so if hiring three you would interview seven and that was correct and she was fine with if that is how the numbers worked.

Seelig wanted the chief aware that when he submits his budget for FY2014 the question will be asked if the money is available for uniforms for three new hires. Roy would like to mention this to FinCom early so that they have the heads up and seeing as Fava is here this evening the hope would be that she would inform the committee of this discussion. Fava asked the chief if it was roughly \$1,100 for a new set up and he felt that was in the ball park. She also asked if a vest would that be additional cost. Manoogian said that there is a cost to them for the vests but they are reimbursed by the Feds and the State but could be rotated through the vest fund that is voted every 5 years.

Manoogian stated the advantage is that they do not need the uniforms until academy is over not from day one like the full timers. He is hoping that when a full time position becomes available that the *intermittent officer* would want to apply for the position.

Garron asked when would he want the list by and Manoogian asked if it was possible for the Board to take vote for the list but not do something right away because at this time we do not know when there is going to be an academy and when the timing is right paperwork will only need to be filled out.

Moved by Garron and seconded by Roy, the Board voted as follows to authorize the calling of a part time Reserve/Intermittent list from Civil Service, to fill up to three (3) openings, when Police Chief Manoogian feels the need for this request:

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

Patrol Officer Contract

Moved by Garron and seconded by Roy, the Board voted as follows to sign the Union contract between the Town of Halifax and Halifax Association of Police Patrolmen for the period of July 1, 2011 through June 30, 2014:

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

APPROVED WARRANT

Moved by Roy and seconded by Garron, the Board voted as follows to approve the Payroll Warrant #24 in the amount of \$ 314,232.79:

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

MEETING ADJOURNED

There being no further business, moved by Garron and seconded by Schleiff, the Board unanimously voted to adjourn the meeting at 8:45 p.m.

Michael J. Schleiff
Clerk

/pjm