

Holbrook Board of Selectmen

Minutes of the Regular Session of

Wednesday, October 23, 2013

Present: Timothy J. Gordon, Chairman
Kevin J. Sheehan, Clerk
Richard B. McGaughey, Associate

Absent: Matthew V. Moore, Associate

In attendance: William J. Phelan, Town Administrator
Benjamin Ecord, Superintendent of Public Works
Marjorie E. Godfrey, Assistant Town Administrator

The meeting was called to order at 7:00 pm by Chairman Gordon, in the Selectmen's Meeting Room, Holbrook Town Hall, 1st Floor, 50 North Franklin Street, Holbrook, MA 02343, and began with the Pledge of Allegiance.

It was announced that:

- o YARD WASTE can be dropped off at the Lower Compound (old landfill) on Maple Ave., between 8 am and 4 pm on the Saturdays beginning on October 26, 2013, and ending on November 23, 2013. Yard waste will also be picked up curbside at residential properties on the Saturdays of November 2 and November 23, 2013.
- o The Town Forest Committee would like to recognize the Boy Scouts of Troop 153 and Scout Leader Gerry Bussiere for completing a conservation project along the Wiggins Trail in the Town Forest. A "water bar" was constructed to divert water from the trail to prevent future erosion.
- o Student Government Day, when approximately 30 South School students spent the day with a Town official and learned about their responsibilities, was held on Thursday, October 17th.

VERIZON representatives, Stanley J. Usovicz, Regional Director, Verizon – Government Affairs, and Mark Derosier, were present asking that the Board grant Verizon a permit to go door-to-door to the homes of current Verizon customers for a service initiative. They explained that technicians would be visiting customers to explain a network upgrade at no fee to the customer, and the twelve (12) technicians in Braintree, employees of Verizon, would be conducting the canvassing. It was noted that the Town's General By-Law regulates the hours of such activities.

MOTION: By Mr. Sheehan, second by Mr. McGaughey, to grant a permit to Verizon Communications for door-to-door sales as presented

VOTE: 3:0

Mr. Phelan explained that Massmedicum, the company seeking to operate a MEDICAL MARIJUANA FACILITY on Mear Road, near the site of the transfer station, needs certain assurances and input from the Town by the November 21st deadline. A meeting has been scheduled for November 6th with Mr. Phelan, Health Agent Arthur Boyle, and Police Chief William D. Marble, Jr. Negotiations will need to be conducted between the 6th and the 21st so that a host agreement can be drafted. This type of business lends itself to certain payments to the Town, in addition to other benefits that can also be negotiated. A public hearing and joint meeting with the Board of Health will be held on November 13th.

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Kevin Bardon, a resident of 44 Snell Street, sent in a request to be appointed to fill a vacancy on the CONSERVATION COMMISSION. He was present at this meeting, introduced himself, and discussed his history and interest in serving on Conservation. Mr. Gordon explained that the Conservation Commission has requested that he come to one of their meetings prior to his appointment. Mr. Bardon will now be contacted by Conservation.

Fire Chief Edward J. O'Brien forwarded a request that the Board grant the AMBULANCE ABATEMENTS for the period of July 1, 2013 through September 30, 2013.

MOTION: By Mr. McGaughey, second by Mr. Sheehan, to grant the ambulance abatements for the first quarter of FY14, totaling \$107,644.98

VOTE: 3:0

Contact documents were received from Mass. Emergency Management Agency for reimbursement of expenses (75%) related to the blizzard of February 8 – 9, 2013. The eligible expenses totaled \$59,465.03, and 75%, or \$44,598.77, will be returned to the Town.

MOTION: By Mr. Sheehan, second by Mr. McGaughey, to authorize the Chairman to execute contract documents with the Massachusetts Emergency Management Agency for reimbursement of expenses related to the Blizzard of February 8 – 9, 2013

VOTE: 3:0

The Board considered opening the warrant for the SPECIAL TOWN MEETING of November 20, 2013.

MOTION: By Mr. Sheehan, second by Mr. McGaughey, to open the warrant for the Special Town Meeting scheduled for November 20, 2013 to add an article for a consultant to create an overlay zoning district

VOTE: 3:0

MOTION: By Mr. McGaughey, second by Mr. Sheehan, to approve the warrant with the Planning Board article for the Special Town Meeting included

VOTE: 3:0

MOTION: By Mr. McGaughey, second by Mr. Sheehan, to close the warrant for the Special Town Meeting of November 20, 2013

VOTE: 3:0

Mr. Ecord notified the Board of the results of the bid opening on October 22, 2013 for Washed Sand for Ice Control, and requested that the Board award the bid to the lowest responsible bidder.

MOTION: By Mr. Sheehan, second by Mr. McGaughey, to award the bid for Washed Sand for Ice Control to P.A. Landers, Inc., 351 Winter Street, Hanover, MA 02339, at a rate of \$12.43 per ton delivered, with a contract from October 31, 2013 through June 30, 2014

VOTE: 3:0

Town Treasurer/Collector Paul Digirolamo reported that he is working on the September 2013 reconciliation of cash.

Mr. Digirolamo advised that he is waiting for direction from the Board on the minimum bids for future properties to be auctioned.

Mr. Digirolamo explained that he needs the Board's signatures on a \$1.5 million bond to be rolled over until May 30, 2014, and said that he will end up with one larger bond. He is going out for 9 months, and will have the price for the bond on November 6th.

Mr. Ecord reported that:

- The South Street and Weymouth Street sidewalks are complete.
- There is a sign has been ordered which will be posted at the entrance to the Library on Plymouth Street directing drivers not to block the entrance while they wait for the traffic light to change.
- That a vehicle hit a sewer cover on Weymouth Street while the road was pulverized.
- The sewer project is moving more slowly than expected due to equipment issues and a deeper dig than thought.
- The water main project is moving along.
- The two new lamps for Route 139 have been received, and the department is now awaiting the poles so they can be installed.
- The concrete floor has been removed from the former fire station adjacent to the town hall.

It was discussed that a complaint was received from a resident about the DOUBLE UTILITY POLES the utility companies are leaving in place now, and how unsightly they are.

Mr. Phelan recently went to the State House and spoke about the impediment caused by the cost of hooking up to the MWRA, in support of legislation about the WATER POLLUTION ABATEMENT FUND, which would provide a one to one match for joining the MWRA and would pay with a grant for the necessary infrastructure for the connection.

Mr. Phelan explained that due to the Town's financial policies, increased reserves last year, and the conservative budgeting the Town did, the S & P upgraded the Town's BOND RATING.

MOTION: To adjourn to executive session to discuss strategy as it relates to collective bargaining with Union personnel (Police & Public Works), and not return to open session

ROLL CALL VOTE: Mr. McGaughey – Yes
Mr. Sheehan – Yes
Mr. Gordon – Yes

Kevin J. Sheehan, Clerk

Documents: Agenda, Yard Waste & Forest Committee announcements, request for appointment to Conservation, Ambulance Abatement request, MEMA contract, Sand Bid documents, list of short-term bond anticipation notes