

Holbrook Board of Selectmen

Minutes of the Regular Session of

Wednesday, April 8, 2015

Present: Timothy J. Gordon, Chairman
Matthew V. Moore, Vice-Chairman (arrived at 7:02 pm)
Kevin J. Sheehan, Clerk
Richard B. McGaughey, Associate
Daniel F. Moriarty, III, Associate

In attendance: Paul Digirolamo, Town Treasurer-Collector
Luke McFadden, Fire Chief
William Smith, Acting Chief of Police
Benjamin Ecord, Superintendent of Public Works
Cynthia Brennan, Town Accountant
William J. Phelan, Town Administrator
Marjorie E. Godfrey, Assistant Town Administrator

The meeting was called to order at 7:00 p.m. by Chairman Gordon, in the Selectmen's Meeting Room, Holbrook Town Hall, Floor 3R, 50 North Franklin Street, Holbrook, MA 02343, and began with the Pledge of Allegiance.

MINUTES:

MOTION: By Mr. Sheehan, second by Mr. Moriarty, to approve the minutes of the regular session of Wednesday, March 11, 2015, as printed

VOTE: 3:0

MOTION: By Mr. Moriarty, second by Mr. Sheehan, to approve the minutes of the regular session of Wednesday, March 25, 2015, as printed

VOTE: 2:0:1 (Mr. Gordon abstained)

It was discussed that:

- HOLBROOK PRIDE DAY will be held on Saturday, May 16th this year.
- The WE REMEMBER 5K ROAD RACE will be held on Memorial Day, May 25th. Further information is available on racewire.com
- Selectmen Sheehan and Moriarty were re-elected to the Board at the recent annual town election.
- Ways to keep the public informed of Town news will be discussed at the next meeting.

ANNUAL REORGANIZATION:

MOTION: By Mr. McGaughey, second by Mr. Moriarty, that the organization of the Board of Selectmen stay the same, with Mr. Gordon as the Chairman, Mr. Moore as the Vice-Chairman, and Mr. Sheehan as the Clerk

VOTE: 5:0

Eagle Scout candidate JOSEPH YEB explained that he created a plan of his proposed project to construct an outdoor patio at the Public Library and met with the Building Inspector. Because the project would have to be ADA compliant, he will not be able to complete it. He is currently working with the Library Director to identify another project. He was encouraged to consider a project at the Council on Aging or in the Town Forest.

FINANCE COMMITTEE members met jointly with the Board of Selectmen to discuss the Town budget and related matters in preparation for the upcoming town meetings in May.

Finance Committee members present: Kevin Costa, Chairman; Peter Mahoney; and Paul Lynch
The year beginning July 1, 2015 will be a difficult financial year, due in part to a 10% increase in the County Retirement assessment, an increase in the Blue Hills assessment, an increase in the cost of health insurance, and the Snow and Ice deficit of over \$500,000. With the enrollment in the public schools down approximately 40 students next year, the state aid is reduced. The School Department has indicated that they need an additional \$400,000 in order to maintain services in addition to the 1% increase the Finance Committee's draft budget includes for the Schools.

Members of the FIREFIGHTERS' UNION were present. The Selectmen voted previously to enter into an agreement with the Union for a new 3-year contract. The newest Memorandum of Understanding, and the previous ones, have now been incorporated into an up-to-date contract.

Firefighters present: Lt. Eric Beltramini, Brian Macauley, Joseph McKinnon, and Dale Campbell
The new contract was signed by the Selectmen and the Firefighters.

The articles on the draft SPECIAL TOWN MEETING warrant were reviewed and discussed. Town meeting will be asked to affirm prior votes to authorize borrowing for the Weymouth, Pine and Sycamore signalization project and repairs to the Great Pond Dam.

MOTION: By Mr. Gordon, second by Mr. Moore, to approve the amended Special Town Meeting warrant for May 6, 2015, with Article 1, the Town Center Overlay District zoning article, moved to the Annual Town Meeting warrant for May 6th, and with the changes indicated by Town Counsel to be incorporated into the amended Special Town Meeting warrant

VOTE: 5:0

The articles on the draft warrant for the ANNUAL TOWN MEETING were reviewed. The Treasurer-Collector placed an article on the warrant to establish a Tax Title Revolving Fund. It is required under the statute that the Board of Selectmen must recommend the creation of such a fund.

MOTION: By Mr. Gordon, second by Mr. Moore, that the Board of Selectmen recommend the acceptance of MGL Chapter 60, Section 15B, as amended, in order to establish a tax title revolving fund for the Treasurer-Collector

VOTE: 5:0

The Board indicated that the employees under the Salary Administration Plan should be given 2% raises for FY16 if the previous amendments to the Plan allow for those raises.

The Finance Committee submitted three articles for town meeting, including a complete revision of the Capital Improvement By-Law. Mr. Phelan advised that Town Counsel indicated that extensive changes would be necessary. Mr. Costa said the by-law included in the article came from another community.

Mr. Gordon and Mr. McGaughey left the meeting at 8:14 pm to attend the Planning Board's hearing on the Town Center Overlay District zoning amendment.

Mr. Moore took over as the Acting Chairman.

Mr. Phelan explained the initial work that has been done by the law firm of Kopelman and Paige, PC, on the area of Holbrook known as EDGEWOOD PARK. The area includes about 400 small parcels of land that were given to customers who bought suits from a store in Brockton decades ago. There are many years of back taxes owed on the properties, which include some known and some unknown owners. It was discussed that there are companies that purchase tax title properties, collect the back taxes, or foreclose and pay the town. A letter from Kopelman and Paige about the legal work that would be necessary going forward was reviewed.

MOTION: By Mr. Moore, second by Mr. Sheehan, to authorize the Title Examiner to complete minimal further research, at a cost of up to \$1,000, in order for him to better determine the scope and cost of the necessary title work, as recommended by Kopelman and Paige

VOTE: 3:0

Mr. Keith O'Brien submitted a request for appointment to the PERMANENT CABLE TELEVISION ADVISORY COMMITTEE. Members are needed to fill vacancies and begin negotiations with Comcast for a 10-year successor license agreement.

MOTION: By Mr. Moriarty, second by Mr. Sheehan, that the Board of Selectmen appoint Mr. Keith O'Brien to a position on the Permanent Cable Television Advisory Committee, with a term to expire on June 30, 2016

VOTE: 3:0

There is an opening on the PERMANENT SCHOOL BUILDING COMMITTEE, which was vacated by the School Business Manager when he moved to another district. The Superintendent requested that the new Business Manger be appointed to that position.

MOTION: By Mr. Sheehan, second by Mr. Moriarty, that the Board of Selectmen appoint Ms. Patricia Coppola-Lugo to fill the position for a "Member who is MCPPO certified" on the Permanent School Building Committee, with a term to be effective on May 4, 2015 and expiring on June 30, 2017

VOTE: 3:0

ANNUAL RENEWAL – BOWLING ALLEY & POOL TABLE LICENSE:

MOTION: By Mr. Moore, second by Mr. Moriarty, that the Board of Selectmen approve the renewal of the following Bowling Alley and Pool Table Licenses, effective May 1, 2015, provided all taxes, fees, assessments, betterments, and any other municipal charges are paid to date:

Union Street Lanes, LLC, 231 Union Street – 16 Bowling Alleys & 2 Pool Tables
Lg Jian, Inc. dba Golden Pacific Restaurant, 470 North Franklin Street – 1 Pool Table
Union Street Pub, 73-77 Union Street – 1 Pool Table

VOTE: 3:0

The Board was notified by the Massachusetts State Lottery Commission that Cottage Variety, 1 Beach Street, will be receiving a KENO monitor at that location, which is a KENO To Go agent. The Board had no objections.

Emergency Management Director Richard Reuss has been notified that the Town has received a grant for the MEDICAL RESERVE CORPS.

MOTION: By Mr. Moore, second by Mr. Moriarty, to move that the Board of Selectmen authorize the Chairman to execute the documents related to a grant agreement between the National Association of County and City Health Officials (NACCHO) and the Town of Holbrook, in the amount of \$3,500.00, Contract number MRC15-0398, with the funding source being the Department of Health and Human Services, GRANT# 1HITEP150026-01-00, CFDA #93.008, entitled "Promote, Support and Build Capacity in the Medical Reserve Corp"

VOTE: 3:0

Acting Police Chief William Smith reported that he has received notification that the Police Department has been awarded the grant, in the amount of \$35,000.00, for the purchase of a fingerprint machine. Also, the gun that a resident reported lost previously has been found at the Randolph Savings Bank. The new K-9 is doing well at the Academy.

Fire Chief Luke McFadden reported that some Firefighters are participating in an EMT/Intermediate course to advance to EMT/Advanced. There was a frost heave this winter at the Public Safety Building, which affected the rear entrance. It has resolved itself with the improvement in the weather.

Public Works Superintendent Benjamin Ecord said that spring projects are being started. The water main replacement project on STEVENS DRIVE and BAKER ROAD is beginning in about a week. The extension of the sewer system on Route 139 will begin the end of the month. He reported that Verizon hit a gas pipe while putting in a pole at Spring & High Streets, and evacuations were necessary.

Supt. Ecord said that with the increase in the electricity rates, he may not make it through the year with his budget for STREET LIGHTING for FY15. Also, he needs an additional \$20,000 over what the Finance Committee is recommending for his street lighting line item for FY16.

MOTION: At 8:39 pm, to adjourn to executive session to discuss strategy and conduct contract negotiations with non-union personnel (Assistant Town Administrator), and not return to open session

ROLL CALL VOTE: Mr. Sheehan – Yes
Mr. Moore – Yes
Mr. Moriarty – Yes

Kevin J. Sheehan, Clerk

Documents: Agenda, minutes, K&P (Edgewood Park), NACCHO grant docs, STM/ATM warrants, Firefighter Agreement, appointment requests, Lottery notice, FY16 draft budget