

Holbrook Board of Selectmen
Minutes of the Regular Session of
Wednesday, February 22, 2017

Present: Matthew V. Moore, Chairman (Arrived at 6:44, during Executive Session)
Daniel F. Moriarty, III, Clerk
Daniel R. Lee, Associate
Richard B. McGaughey, Associate

Absent: Kevin J. Sheehan, Vice-Chairman

In attendance: Timothy J. Gordon, Town Administrator
Marjorie E. Godfrey, Assistant Town Administrator

The meeting was called to order at 6:20 p.m. by Acting Chairman Moriarty, in the Selectman Noel C. King Meeting Room, Holbrook Town Hall, Floor 3R, 50 North Franklin Street, Holbrook, MA 02343.

MOTION: At 6:21 pm, to adjourn to executive session to discuss strategy and conduct collective bargaining with union personnel (Clerical & Public Works), and return to open session at 7:00 pm in the former Selectmen's Meeting Room on the 1st Floor of the Town Hall

ROLL CALL VOTE: Mr. Lee – Yes
Mr. McGaughey – Yes
Mr. Moriarty – Yes

The meeting was called to order at 7:03 pm by Chairman Moore in the 1st Floor Meeting Room, and began with the Pledge of Allegiance.

MINUTES:

MOTION: By Mr. Moore, second by Mr. Lee, to accept the minutes of the regular session of Wednesday, December 14, 2017, as printed

VOTE: 3:0:1 (Mr. Moriarty abstained)

MOTION: By Mr. Moriarty, second by Mr. Lee, to accept the minutes of the regular session of Wednesday, January 11, 2017, as printed

VOTE: 4:0

MOTION: By Mr. Moriarty, second by Mr. Moore, to accept the minutes of the executive session of Wednesday, January 11, 2017, as printed

VOTE: 3:0:1 (Mr. Lee abstained)

Mr. Gordon reported that:

- Members of the Historical Commission and the Historical Society are present tonight to dedicate this meeting room as the "Heritage Room".
- The updating of the rezoning by-laws, with the assistance of Atty. Mark Bobrowski, is continuing.
- Work is continuing on the purchase of the streetlights from National Grid. The Town will replace the lights with LED lights and maintain them. Mr. Lee and Mr. McGaughey advised that an agreement could be reached with Braintree Electric Light Dept. (BELD) for maintenance.

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- Bringing the Edgewood Park properties through a process with the Dept. of Revenue to classify them as low value is being considered, as an alternative to going through the courts.
- A cost allocation study has been done by a third party on the Communications Center so that the proper fees can be determined.
- A grant application is being filed for trash and recycle bins through the Dept. of Environmental Protection (DEP).

MOTION: By Mr. Moore, second by Mr. Moriarty, to authorize Town Administrator Timothy Gordon to act on behalf of the Board of Selectmen to enter into a grant agreement for purposes of trash and recycling bins

VOTE: 4:0

- The exterior of the Public Safety Building will need to be painted or vinyl sided. The cost of the project is being determined.
- The Economic Development Advisory Committee discussed tax increment financing, which may be considered to attract a supermarket to Holbrook, and will be discussed at a Selectmen's meeting.
- Tri Town Water will be hiring a project manager for the new water treatment plant project. Holbrook's share of the capital costs is currently 16%, but the operating costs will be based on usage. Mr. Gordon will continue exploring hooking up to the MWRA.
- Requests for Qualifications (RFQ) could be issued for the Kennedy and South Schools after the schools close, in order to determine what a developer would do with those properties. At this time, the School Committee has not indicated whether they will be turning those properties over to the Town.
- Under the new Municipal Modernization Act, the Town Administrator authorizes deficit spending for Snow and Ice. At this time, there is a \$37,700 deficit.

Following the resignation of Mr. Richard Reuss, the vacancy in the EMERGENCY MANAGEMENT DIRECTOR's position was advertised. Mr. James Hannon, a Special Police Officer, indicated interest in the position, and Chief Smith supported his appointment. Mr. Hannon was present.

MOTION: By Mr. Moore, second by Mr. Moriarty, that the Board of Selectmen appoint Mr. James Hannon as an Emergency Management Auxiliary Police Officer, with a term to expire on June 30, 2017

VOTE: 4:0

MOTION: By Mr. Moore, second by Mr. Moriarty, that the Board of Selectmen appoint Mr. James Hannon as the Town of Holbrook's Emergency Management Director, with a term to expire on June 30, 2017

VOTE: 4:0

TOWN FOREST COMMITTEE members David Dingley, Heather McLellan, and Adam Fabian were present. Mr. Fabian presented an update on the monthly Town Forest hikes offered by the Committee, the work accomplished remarking and clearing trails, and the activities that will be offered by partnering with other groups like the Scouts, the Public Library, and St. John's Afterschool Program. They have applied for a trail maintenance grant through the Dept. of Conservation and Recreation (DCR), in order to be able to add entrance and trail signs and foot bridges or boardwalks over wet areas.

Mr. Fabian spoke about a 32 acre parcel of land that abuts the Town Forest, which has been privately owned, and is now owned by the Town following the tax title process. He said it has trails going across it and is environmentally critical. The Town Forest Committee wants to retain it. The parcel is landlocked. Mr. Gordon explained that the authority for the sale of tax title property lies with the Tax Title Custodian, which is the Treasurer. However, if the developer who is proposing a residential project on abutting properties purchases the parcel at the auction, a solution could be worked out to allow public use of the trails. Treasurer Digirolamo said the developer needs more open space, but would only build on about five acres of this property, leaving the rest open, and is willing to include restrictions on the deed. Mr. Siddharth, the developer, is expected to be on the agenda at the meeting in two weeks.

A Daisy Girl Scout troop, holding signs about protecting the environment, entered with their leader. The leader spoke against allowing the 32-acre parcel to be sold to Mr. Siddharth. Mr. Tim Stinson, a member of the Conservation Commission, said Mr. Siddharth is hiring an environmental consultant, and will be applying to both the Planning Board and Conservation Commission about his project in the near future.

RE-OPEN the SALARY ADMINISTRATION PLAN HEARING:

Present: Laurice Hedges, Animal Control Officer
Daniel Moriarty, Jr., Building Inspector
Cynthia Brennan, Interim Council on Aging Coordinator
James Taggart, COA Van Driver

Mr. Moriarty said he has served in his position for 33 years. He asked for a \$5,000 increase due to an increase in his work hours and the workload of the department.

Communications Director Hooke asked for an increase for the Part-Time Dispatchers, who are currently paid \$15.91 per hour. The department relies heavily on the part-timers. Other centers pay \$21 - \$22/hr. Holbrook trains them, and they then have the opportunity to move on somewhere else.

Chief Smith spoke about the accreditation of the Police Department he is working toward. Part of that process would be to move the Animal Control Officer under the Police Department. The Union would have to vote the position in to the Union. Mr. Gordon will look at what the ACO made at the time Avon was added to her duties, and contact them to increase their contribution accordingly.

MOTION: By Mr. Moore, second by Mr. Lee, to continue the Salary Administration Plan hearing to Wednesday, March 8, 2017, in the Selectman Noel C. King Meeting Room

VOTE: 3:0:1 (Mr. Moriarty abstained)

Department Updates:

Communications Director Hooke said the Next Generation 9-1-1 will be live tomorrow after 1 pm.

Police Chief Smith reported that new recruit Justin Murphy graduated from the academy. The Police are sponsoring a Blood Drive on Sunday from 9 – 3.

Fire Chief McFadden said the injured member is recovering, and the Department participated in training on the ice rescue equipment.

Superintendent Ecord said they had another water main break, and have been working on pot holes and debris.

Members of the Historic Commission and Historical Society were present for the dedication of the first floor meeting room as the “Heritage Room”. Mr. Moore explained that the purpose of the room is to

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show off the Town's history. Mrs. Sara Stinson spoke about the historic quilt on display and the pictures and items on display in the glass cases mounted on the walls. Mr. & Mrs. Siddharth Siddharth were introduced. The Siddharths generously donated an original copy of the plans for the Franklin School Building, which were found in the basement of the building at 169 North Franklin Street. The building has been renovated by the new owner and currently houses medical offices.

MOTION: By Mr. Moore, second by Mr. Moriarty, that the Board of Selectmen vote that as of February 22, 2017, the former Selectmen's Meeting Room on the first floor of the Holbrook Town Hall shall be appropriately renamed the HERITAGE ROOM

VOTE: 4:0

MOTION: At 8:55 pm, by Mr. Moriarty, second by Mr. Lee, to adjourn the meeting

VOTE: 4:0

Clerk

Documents:

Minutes

Salary Admin. By-Law

ACO salary survey

Building Inspector projects list

Request for appt. to Emergency Mgmt.