

Hull Board of Selectmen

Minutes

October 6, 2015

The meeting of the Hull Board of Selectmen was called to order at 7:30 p.m. on Tuesday evening, October 6, 2015, at the Hull Municipal Building, 253 Atlantic Ave., Hull, Massachusetts.

Present: John C. Brannan, Chair; Domenico Sestito, Vice-Chair; Christopher Mitchell, Clerk; John D. Reilly, Jr., Member, and Kevin Richardson, Member. John D. Reilly, Jr., Member was absent. Also present were Philip E. Lemnios, Town Manager; and Catherine Goldhammer, recording secretary. James Lampke, Town Counsel, was not present.

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MINUTES

The selectmen voted to approve minutes for the Board of Selectmen meetings of April 7, 2015, June 30, 2015, and September 24, as follows:

Motion	Sestito	Motion to approve April 7, 2015 minutes
Second	Richardson	
Vote	Passed	Brannan – Aye Sestito – Aye Reilly – Aye Richardson – Aye Mitchell – Abstain [was not on Board at time of meeting]

Motion	Sestito	Motion to approve June 30, 2015 minutes
Second	Richardson	
Vote	Unanimous	

Motion	Sestito	Motion to approve September 24, 2015 minutes
Second	Richardson	

Vote	Unanimous	
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LICENSES AND RENEWALS

The selectmen voted to approve licenses for Knights of Columbus, 440 Nantasket Ave., for a one-day all alcohol license for October 16, 2015 from 7-11 p.m.; and a one-day all alcohol license for October 30, 2015 from 8 p.m.-12 a.m.

Motion	Reilly	Motion to approve both licenses
Second	Richardson	
Vote	Unanimous	

APPOINTMENTS

Ed Burke regarding appointment to War Memorial Commission

Burke served in the Marine Corps and is a veteran of the Vietnam War. He has been active in Hull Youth Sports for decades and has also been active in the Hull Veterans' Council. He was part of the committee which organized the addition of the names of Vietnam veterans to the Monument.

Dr. John Silva regarding appointment to War Memorial Commission

Silva is a longtime Hull resident, a retired dentist, and a former selectman. He served in active duty in the Navy for four years and in the U.S. Army Reserves for 18 years. He is a member of the Military Officers Association of America. He has been active in Hull Youth Sports for many years.

Note: As there is only one spot on the commission, the board will vote at a future date to appoint the new member.

Richard T. Manewal regarding appointment to the Canine Control Committee

Manewal is a resident dog owner who would like to see responsible use of the beach for dogs and their owners. There is one spot left on the committee and one other candidate whose interview has not yet been held.

Randy Gould regarding appointment to Parking Study Committee

Gould is a resident in the Pemberton area and has been attending Parking Study Committee meetings for years, being particularly active during recent discussions and planning for the new Pemberton parking plan. He is particularly concerned with the Pemberton area, but when asked said that he would be participatory in town-wide parking considerations as well.

[Note: The following vote took place after subsequent votes on hackney badges.]

Motion	Reilly	Motion to appoint Randy Gould to the Parking Study Committee
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Second	Brannan	
Vote	Unanimous	

Reilly requested that the board publically apologize to Edward Burke for curtailing his discussion regarding his appointment to the War Memorial Commission. Brannan offered to convey apologies.

John D. Corely regarding applicant for hackney badge

Corley is applying to drive for Seaside Transport. His application was accompanied by a letter from Police Chief Billings stating that based on information currently available, Corley appears to be a suitable person to receive a livery badge.

Motion	Reilly	Motion to approve
Second	Mitchell	
Vote	Unanimous	

James E. Charubini regarding applicant for hackney badge

Charubini is applying to drive for Seaside Transport. His application was accompanied by a letter from Police Chief Billings stating that based on information currently available, Charubini appears to be a suitable person to receive a livery badge.

Motion	Richardson	Motion to approve
Second	Reilly	
Vote	Unanimous	

Conservation Department Update

Anne Herbst, Conservation Administrator, was present at the meeting to provide an update on its projects and activities.

The following were some of the points from the presentation, edited for this document. The full presentation is available on the town’s website.

- The Conservation Department is staffed by Herbst and Conservation Assistant Sarah Clarren.

- One of the department’s primary functions is permitting, educating and enforcing matters pertaining to the Wetlands Protection Act, which protects all coastal wetlands, riverfront areas, land under water, land subject to tidal action, and flood zones.
- The department’s ecological restoration and land protection projects include the Straits Pond improvements; Nantasket Beach Dune repair; and the Chatham St. entrance to the Weir River Woods.
- The actions of the Conservation Department have enabled Hull residents to get a 10% discount on their flood insurance. In addition, the town is recognized by NOAA, FEMA, and the EPA for its freeboard incentive.
- The department has been the recipient of numerous grants over the past several years, from MA Coastal Zone Management, FEMA, and DCR Waterways. A grant for the Crescent Beach seawall project is currently pending decision from the State Dam and Seawall Fund.
- The department works closely with the Conservation Commission which reviews projects and issues permits. They also conduct 200-300 reviews of building permits per year. Herbst praised the Conservation Commission and its members for their work for the town.
- The department also provides information and advice to residents and prospective residents regarding flood maps and flood insurance, and receives questions, complaints, and violation reports.
- The department works closely with the Beach Management Committee, the Building Department, the Department of Public Works, Mass Audubon and other state and federal organizations.

Sheila Connor, Chair of the Conservation Commission, noted that the commission has a vacant seat that they would like to fill. The selectmen have interviewed applicants for the position.

Connor also said that the Conservation Department and Commission are working together on a project that will identify all of the small unbuilt lots in town, map them, and potentially make them accessible to residents. Clarren gave a brief demonstration of one such site and how it can be photographed and made accessible on an interactive online map. Connor asked that the selectmen vote to create a committee to further this work to research and assess these sites, recommend next steps to the Board of Selectmen, and oversee approved implementations of these recommendations.

Motion	Reilly	Motion to establish the committee consisting of five members. A designee of the Conservation Commission shall be ex-officio and shall serve as Chairperson with voting status. The term will be for one year, with the initial term ending on June 30, 2017. The other four members will be citizens at large.
Second	Richardson	
Vote	Unanimous	

Town Meeting Warrant Discussion

The selectmen went through the Special Town Meeting warrant and reviewed the articles one at a time. David Clinton, Chairman of the Advisory Board was present and participated in this discussion.

Article 1 regards improvements to the Crescent Beach seawall, which would allow the town to receive grants and borrow funds to make needed repairs and upgrades. [See warrant for specific wording of the article.] This is a \$6.75 million project which would be funded with a \$1.5 million state grant, a \$1.5 million low interest loan, and a \$3.75

million market-rate loan. The Advisory Board recommended favorable action on the article. The selectmen voted to support it.

Motion	Reilly	Motion to support Article 1
Second	Brannan	
Vote	Unanimous	

Article 2 regards appropriation of funds to pay the costs of replacing docks, gangways, and associated equipment at several locations in town. [See warrant for specific wording of the article.] The funds are surplus from a bond for a previous dredging contract and would be paid from the Harbormaster Enterprise Fund. The Advisory Board recommended favorable action on the article. The selectmen voted to support it.

Motion	Richardson	Motion to support Article 2
Second	Reilly	
Vote	Unanimous	

Article 3 is the initial article submitted to see if the Town would transfer Fort Revere Park Water Town and all town-owned parcels within the park to the DCR. [See Warrant for specific wording of the article.] This article has since been reconsidered by its proponents and replaced with Article 4. The Advisory Board recommended no action on the article. The selectmen voted to support no action.

Motion	Richardson	Motion to support no action on Article 3
Second	Reilly	
Vote	Unanimous	

Article 4 is the substitute article, which petitions the Board of Selectmen to work with local boards, committees, and commissions, the DCR, and other state and federal organizations to reach an agreement to finalize the land swap vote initially taken in 1997. [See warrant for specific wording of the article.] The Advisory Board recommended favorable action on the article. The selectmen voted to support it.

Motion	Reilly	Motion to support Article 4
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Second	Richardson	
Vote	Unanimous	

Article 5 is an article proposing the amendment of the town bylaw regarding dogs on the beach in the summer months. [See warrant for specific wording of the article.] Clinton stated that the proponents of the article met with the Advisory Board and voiced their intent to take no action on the article. They stated that they were aware that the newly formed Canine Control Committee would need time to make their decisions on the subject. The selectmen voted to support no action on the article.

Motion	Reilly	Motion to support no action on Article 5
Second	Sestito	
Vote	Unanimous	

Article 6 proposes that the town raise, transfer, or borrow \$1.98 million for the construction of a community walking track and turf field on property located on Hull High School grounds. The track and field would be for use of citizens and town and school sports teams. [See warrant for specific wording of the article.]

The Advisory Board initially recommended no action on this article, but since that time the article’s proponents have agreed to modify it to be contingent on the passing of a debt exclusion. James Canavan on behalf of the proponents stated that Lemnios had agreed that the town could fund \$100,000 to plan the project and the remainder would be tied to the proposed debt exclusion.

Clinton stated that it was a step by the group to show their willingness to work together on the capital planning needs of the town. Reilly, Sestito, and Richardson voiced their support of the article. Mitchell said that he had not been in support, but would reconsider now that it was tied to the passage of the debt exclusion. Brannan questioned the haste of agreeing to such a funding when the Capital Outlay Committee has not yet had the chance to review and prioritize all the capital needs of the town. He asked if it would impede the passage of a debt exclusion. Canavan said that he thought that it would attract a huge voting block to vote for the debt exclusion. Lemnios said that it is very important that the Board of Selectmen, the School Committee, and the Advisory Board speak with one voice and put together a package that would touch as many people as possible in order for a debt exclusion to pass.

After lengthy further discussion, the selectmen voted unanimously to support Article 7 with two contingencies as follows:

Motion	Reilly	Motion to support Article 6 with the stipulations: <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. That there is an agreement made with Parks and Rec similar to the one made with L Street, to assure people that this won’t just be a school project; it will be community project. 2. That it is subject to a debt exclusion.

Second	Sestito	
Vote	Unanimous	

Article 7 asks the town to require the Board of Selectmen to appropriate money to hire an independent consultant to perform an efficiency and cost effectiveness assessment of the town's operations. [See warrant for specific wording of the article.]

The Advisory Board had not yet made a recommendation on the article as they had not met with the proponents yet. The selectmen voted to wait to take a position at Town Meeting.

Motion	Reilly	Motion that at this time the board takes no position on Article 7, but will do so at Town Meeting
Second	Sestito	
Vote	Withdrawn	

They further voted to discuss the article at next week's meeting.

Motion	Richardson	Motion to discuss Article 7 at the next Selectmen's meeting
Second	Sestito	
Vote	Withdrawn	

NEW BUSINESS

Lemnios asked the board to vote on and sign a document regarding the useful life of the pending purchase of four DPW vehicles.

Motion	Richardson	<p>Motion that the maximum useful life of the departmental equipment listed below to be financed with the proceeds of the \$600,000 borrowing authorized by the vote of the Town passed May 5, 2015 (Article 13) is hereby determined pursuant to G.L. c.44, {7(9) to be as follows:</p> <p>Department: Public Works Purpose: Trucks with Sander & Plow (4) Amount: \$600,000 Maximum Useful Life: 10 years</p>
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Second	Sestito	
Vote	Unanimous	

Lemnios also presented the amortization schedule for the snow removal costs of last winter.

Motion	Reilly	Motion to approve amortization schedule as presented this evening
Second	Sestito	
Vote	Unanimous	

Lemnios reported that he had heard from National Grid’s Dennis McCaffery that the work on the lines that serve Hull has been completed except for one pole in Hingham. Lemnios thanked Richard Miller, Hull Light Operations Manager, who pushed very hard for the project, which repaired and replaced poles and lines that serve Hull but run through Hingham.

Motion	Reilly	Motion to write a letter thanking and commending Richard Miller, Hull Light Operations Manager for his efforts
Second	Richardson	
Vote	Unanimous	

Richardson noted that the Aquarium looks better and that he would like to thank the owner for doing some minor cosmetic improvements. He also asked that the Plymouth County Treasurer be scheduled for a meeting with the selectmen. He also requested an update on the hiring process for the police and fire chiefs.

Sestito said that he had gotten a call from commuters regarding a rock formation developing in the Helen Street parking lot. Randy Gould said that the rocks are there to delineate the way to the stairway to the beach. This will be looked into. Sestito also thanked the Hull Heroes and said that the celebration was well attended. He further said that he has reached out to Representative Bradley’s officer to get an update on the activity in the legislature regarding the opiate epidemic. He would like to schedule time at a future meeting for this.

Mitchell recommended that a sign board be placed at Pemberton to remind commuters that real tickets will be coming next week. He also thanked David Clinton and the Advisory Board for their efforts in working on the warrant for the upcoming Special Town Meeting. Brannan offered his thanks for this as well.

The meeting was adjourned at 11:45 p.m. The board will meet again on October 13, 2015.

Recorded by Catherine Goldhammer

Approved by:

Documents

The following documents were included in the Board of Selectmen's packets or were presented during the meeting and are available in the Board of Selectmen's office upon request:

- Board of Selectmen agenda and amended agenda for October 6, 2015
- Board of Selectmen's minutes for April 7, 2015, June 30, 2015, and September 24, 2015
- Email from Edward Burke requesting appointment to the War Memorial Commission
- Letter from Dr. John A. Silva requesting appointment to the War Memorial Commission
- Email from Richard T. Manewal requesting appointment to the Canine Control Committee
- Letter from Randy Gould requesting appointment to the Parking Study Committee
- Application for a one-day all alcohol for the Knights of Columbus for October 16, 2015 from 7-11 p.m.
- Application for a one-day all alcohol for the Knights of Columbus for October 30, 2015 from 8 p.m.- 12 a.m.
- Application for hackney badge for John Corley
- Application for hackney badge for James E. Charubini
- Handout from Conservation Commission regarding Public Lands Committee
- Special Town Meeting Warrant
- Flyer from proponents of turf field Warrant Article 6
- Presentation packet, Design Review Committee
- Amortization document for signature
- Bond document for signature