

Office of
SELECTMEN
148 Peck Street
Rehoboth, MA 02769



Tel.: (508) 252-3758
Fax: (508) 252-5342

BOARD OF SELECTMEN
MEETING, TUESDAY, JANUARY 22, 2013
MEETING MINUTES
GLADYS L. HURRELL REHOBOTH SENIOR CENTER

Present: Joseph Tito, Chairman, Michael Costello, Vice Chairman; Selectman, Susan Pimental, Clerk; and Selectman, Lorraine Botts

Absent: Donald Leffort

Call to order at 6:30p.m.

Executive Session: At 6:30p.m. on a motion by Selectman S. Pimental, seconded by Selectman L. Botts, it was voted by roll call to enter into Executive Session pursuant to G.L. Chapter 30A, Section 21, (2) to conduct strategy sessions in preparation for negotiations with nonunion personnel or to conduct collective bargaining sessions or contract negotiations with nonunion personnel; (3) to discuss strategy with respect to collective bargaining or litigation or potential litigation if an open meeting may have a detrimental effect on the bargaining or litigating position of the public body and the chair so declares; (6) to consider the purchase, exchange, lease or value of real property if the chair declares that an open meeting may have a detrimental effect on the negotiating position of the public body.

Topics of Discussion: Town cell towers, Cichocki vs. Rehoboth, Contracted Services Agreement; Litigation updates.

The Chairman declared an open meeting would have a detrimental effect on the bargaining or litigating position of the Board.

Roll call Vote: Pimental – Aye; Botts – Aye; Costello – Aye; Tito – Aye. Voted 4-0

At 7:28p.m. S. Pimental made a motion to exit Executive Session and to reconvene the open meeting of the Board of Selectmen. Seconded, L. Botts.

Roll call vote: Pimental – Aye; Botts – Aye; Costello – Aye; Tito – Aye. Voted 4-0

1.0) Call to Order: The Board and the public participated in the Pledge Allegiance to the Flag.

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2.0) Consent Agenda

Warrants: J. Tito read the weekly payroll and expense Warrants. S. Pimental made a motion to approve the weekly Warrants, 13-28A Withholdings, \$19,079.46; 13-28 Invoices, \$60,967.76; and Payroll, \$77,376.67; Refunds, \$4,281.29. Second, L. Botts. Voted 4-0

Minutes: S. Pimental made a motion to approve and release the Meeting Minutes from January 14, 2013. Second, L. Botts. Discussion: M. Costello asked that on Page Three, 4.0, 2nd paragraph that a reference be inserted to Mrs. Goulart in the 3rd sentence.

Also, 4.0, 3rd paragraph, delete the word "He" and insert "The Board of Selectmen."

Page five, Action Item #5, last paragraph, last sentence, insert "residents are not allowed to plow snow into the street." Voted 4-0 as amended.

J. Tito noted that the Board reviewed and voted to approve and hold the Executive Session Meeting Minutes from January 14, 2013 in Executive Session.

Announcements: J. Tito stated the next regular meeting of the Board of Selectmen would be next Monday, January 28, 2013 at the Senior Center starting at 7:30p.m.

3.0) Open Forum – Announcements – Acting Chief of Police James Trombetta was present and reviewed with the Board Rehoboth Police Department's involvement in a recent arrest involving the seizure of 6 oz. of marijuana. He commended all the Officers involved but especially Officer Brule for outstanding police work.

J. Tito noted that the American Legion Post 302 will be holding an All-You-Can Eat Pasta Night on Thursday, January 24, 2013 from 5:00p.m. – 7:00p.m. (serving at 6:00p.m.) prepared by Veterans – Tickets are \$8.00 per person and the public are asked to bring non-perishable food items for Helping Hands. There will be live music, a 50/50 raffle.

Town Administrator's Report: J. Ritter reported that the first budgets will be on the Selectmen's Agenda for next Monday for review. He noted that the Federal Highway Administration has approved the Wheeler Street Bridge and referred it back to MassHighway District 5 for construction.

The Town received the check for \$5,105.56 from the insurance company for damages from the hail storm to the South Rehoboth Fire Station roof.

As a follow-up to the question last week from Selectmen Pimental, the vendor check to "Factor Systems," in the amount of \$3,400 was for the mailing of the quarterly tax bills.

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Next in addition to the review of some of the FY14 budgets the Board will revisit a Class II license renewal application from Maria Silveira and from Hornbine Enterprises.

4.0) NEW BUSINESS

Action Item #1: 7:45p.m. Pole Haring: Pole Relocation Hearing for Bay State Road: S.

Pimental made a motion to open the Public Hearing. Second, L. Botts. Voted 4-0

Crystal Tognazzi from National Grid (Hopedale) was present and briefed the Board regarding the application to relocate the pole approximately forty-two (42 feet) which would allow a new driveway. J. Tito asked if there were any comments from the public in favor or against the petition. There were no comments. J. Tito noted that the application had been reviewed and approved by the Police Chief, Tree Warden, and the Highway Superintendent.

S. Pimental made a motion to close the Public Hearing. Second, L. Botts. Voted 4-0

L. Botts made a motion to approve and sign the Joint Petition from Mass Electric Company and Verizon New England, Inc. to relocate pole #3166, forty-two (42) feet northeast by National Grid to accommodate a new customer driveway. Second, S. Pimental. Voted 4-0

Action Item #2: Vote to Authorize the Hire of Jacob Miranda as Full Time Patrolman: Acting Chief of Police James Trombetta was present and introduced Jacob Miranda to the Board. He noted that he was familiar with Mr. Miranda for many years and as a Reserve Officer he scored second during a recent test and recommends the Board approve the hiring.

S. Pimental made a motion to accept the recommendation from the Acting Chief and to hire Jacob Miranda as a full-time Police Officer effective immediately. Second, L. Botts. Voted 4-0

Action Item #3: Discussion with Town Clerk Re: Retirement: Kathy Conti, town Clerk was present and announced that her last day before retirement would be this June 30, 2013. The Board congratulated Ms. Conti for her outstanding work and dedication to the Town.

The Board will make an interim appointment before June 30th and that anyone interested should send a letter and resume to the Selectmen's Office. Ms. Conti volunteered to help train the interim appointee about her job.

Action Item #4: Discussion with I/T Committee Re: FY14 Budget: James Muri, Chairman of the Information Technology Advisory Committee was present and reviewed four (4) items with the Board. First, there is a need to update the Town Hall server at a cost of \$2,000. J. Ritter reported those funds are available within the FY13 budget. Second, there is a need for a

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backup generator to protect the computer equipment at the Town Hall. M. Costello stated there is a backup generator from the army surplus located behind the Public Safety Building. Third, the Information Technology Advisory Committee would like an article at Town Meeting to restore the original \$15,000 appropriation. S. Pimental stated that this should be included as part of the overall Capital Improvement Plan. Fourth, there should be established a small training budget within the FY14 budget.

Action Item #5: Vote to Appoint David House as Renewable Energy RFP Coordinator: S. Pimental made a motion to appoint David House as Renewable Energy RFP Coordinator who will serve as an unpaid consultant for the Town for a term of January 20, 2013 through June 30, 2013. Second, L. Botts. Voted 4-0

Action Item #6: Vote to Rescind Vote Accepting Deed for Key West Boulevard & Duvall Street & Re-Vote to Accept With Out Open Space Parcel: M. Costello made a motion to accept the "Quitclaim Deed" from The Community Bank, a Massachusetts co-operative bank, with a principal place of business at 1265 Belmont Street, Brockton, MA as outlined in said deed for the purpose of accepting Key West Boulevard, Duval Street as public ways in accordance with the Article 12 vote of the 2012 Special Town Meeting. Second, L. Botts. S. Pimental asked why this item was back before the Board. M. Costello stated that last week the Board approved the acceptance with the open space parcel and Town Meeting had not accepted that. That will have to go back to Town Meeting for acceptance. Voted 4-0

Action Item #7: Vote to Accept Resignation of Michael J. O'Hearn from the Veterans Memorial Relocation Committee: J. Tito read the letter of resignation. M. Costello made a motion to accept the resignation with regrets. Second, L. Botts. Voted 4-0 The Board asked that a letter be sent to Mr. O'Hearn.

Action Item #8: Discussion Re: Invitation to Join Opposition to Proposed Tolls for Sakonnet River Bridge: M. Costello made a motion to table this item. No second. S. Pimental made a motion to join other communities in their opposition to the proposed tolls on the new Sakonnet River Bridge and to prepare a resolution. Second, L. Botts. Voted 3-1(Costello)

Action Item #9: Vote to Approve Fire Department SAFE Grant: Fire Chief Pray was present and explained to the Board that over the years the SAFER grant has been very successful and the program has expanded locally. M. Costello made a motion to approve the SAFE grant program application for the fire Department for \$4,625.00 and to authorize Chairman Tito to sign the application. Second, L. Botts. Voted 4-0

Action Item #10: Vote to Approve One Day Wine & Malt Liquor License for South Seekonk Gun Club: S. Pimental made a motion to approve the application from the South Seekonk Gun

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Club for a one day wine and malt liquor license applications for events to be held on February 1, 2013, March 1, 2013, April 5, 2013, May 3, 2013, June 7, 2013, and September 6, 2013. Hours of operation 6:00p.m. to 12:00 midnight;

and from 12:00noon to 6:00p.m. on February 10, 2013 and March 10, 2013. Restrictions are that the firing range to be closed during the sale of alcoholic beverages. Second, L. Botts. Voted 4-0

5.0) OLD BUSINESS:

Action Item #1: Follow-Up Discussion Re: Breed Expo Request to Access Town Owned Land:

Ray Viau, Chris Viau and Donna Spellman representing the Breed Expo was present. Mr. Viau read a letter and a prepared statement regarding his request to access Town owned property as a means of egress for the traffic related to the annual Breed Expo. His plan would access the former Anawan School property and exit onto Bay State Road.

M. Costello noted that there was not a traffic problem yet and to date they have not had to hire a police detail and he did not see the compelling need or imminent danger to public safety therefore the need to improve traffic flow on the site. R. Viau stated this year they were planning to hire a police detail.

J. Tito stated he was concerned about the proximity of the public water supply and well providing service to the Senior Center and it was not worth the risk to allow traffic to drive over that well. R. Viau stated they were not looking for a right of way and a locking gate would be installed.

Gilbert Larrabee, 167 County Street voiced his opposition to the proposal.

M. Costello made a motion to allow the Breed Expo the ability to pay the police detail at the same rate as if it were a Town Department. Second, S. Pimental. Voted 4-0

M. Costello made a motion to not grant the access to the Breed Expo over Town owned land. Second, S. Pimental. Voted 4-0

6.0) OTHER BUSINESS: None

7.0) OPEN PUBLIC FORUM: Michael Deignan, Vice Chairman of the Republican Town Committee was present and asked about the status of the Town Hall project that was proposed to be located at the former Anawan School? J. Tito stated that the Board is focused on making that building into affordable, veterans housing.

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8.0) BOARD OF SELECTMEN REPORTS: L. Botts stated that she went on a site walk with Bob Ashton and LeeAnn Bradley at the WigWam. Also, she recently completed an on line training seminar regarding conflict of interest.

S. Pimental asked that a place holder article be inserted into the Annual town Meeting Warrant addressing the Finance Committee membership.

M. Costello asked J. Ritter the status of the National Grid letter sent recently. J. Ritter stated the letter had been returned due to an incorrect address but the letter was resent.

M. Costello asked about the status of the insurance claim and the Senior Center. J. Ritter stated an adjuster was expected soon.

J. Tito noted the Highway Department did a good job during the recent snow storm and as a reminder the Board of Selectmen are cooking at the Senior Center at noon on Monday, January 28th.

9.0) EXECUTIVE SESSION - None

10.0) ADJOURNMENT: S. Pimental made a motion to adjourn the meeting at 9:12p.m. Second, L. Botts. Voted 4-0

Respectfully submitted,

J. Jeffrey Ritter
Town Administrator