



Office of
SELECTMEN
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BOARD OF SELECTMEN
MEETING, MONDAY, NOVEMBER 25, 2013
MEETING MINUTES
GLADYS L. HURRELL REHOBOTH SENIOR CENTER

Present: Susan Pimental, Chairman; Joseph Tito, Vice Chairman; Lorraine Botts, Clerk; Michael Costello and Frederick “Skip” Vadnais

Also Present: Jeff Ritter, Town Administrator

Call to order at 6:45p.m.

Executive Session: L. Botts made a motion to enter into Executive Session pursuant to G.L. Chapter 30A, Section 21, (1) to discuss the reputation, character, physical condition or mental health, rather than professional competence, of an individual, or to discuss the discipline of, or complaints or charges brought against, a public officer, employee, staff member or individual, and (3) to discuss strategy with respect to collective bargaining, 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.

Topics: Two Personnel Issues

Second, J. Tito. Roll Call: Botts – Aye; Vadnais – Aye; Costello – Aye; Tito – Aye; Pimental – Aye. Voted 5-0

At 7:15p.m. J. Tito made a motion to return to open session. Second, L. Botts. Roll Call: Botts – Aye; Vadnais – Aye; Costello – Aye; Tito – Aye; Pimental – Aye. Voted 5-0

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

2.0) Consent Agenda

Warrants: S. Pimental read the weekly Warrants: 14-20A, Withholdings, \$108,883.02; 14-21, Invoices, \$22,174.94; 14-21B, Payroll, \$80,315.66; and 14-21R Refunds \$15,124.47. J. Tito made a motion to approve the weekly Warrants as read. Second, L. Botts. Voted 5-0

Minutes: L. Botts made a motion to approve and release the meeting minutes from November 18, 2013. Second, J. Tito. Voted 5-0
J. Tito noted that the Board voted to approve and release the Executive Session Meeting Minutes from September 26, 2005 in Executive Session (Sessions 1-5).

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3.0 Open Forum – Announcements: Fire Chief Robert Pray was present and updated the Board and the public about the structure fire today on Rocky Hill Road. He praised the assistance of a postal worker who first discovered the smoke and called in the fire. He reminded the public that chimney fires are very dangerous and caution must be used with what appears to be dead embers.

M. Costello said hello to his grandsons who are watching on television.

S. Pimental noted the next regular meeting of the Board of Selectmen would be held on Monday, December 2, 2013 in the Senior Center at 7:00p.m.

Town Administrator's Report: J. Ritter reported that last Friday, the Community Innovations Challenge grant application was filed with the Commonwealth for seven (7) communities to participate in a records management program. The grant application is for \$405,000.

There was an owner's project manager's meeting at the Public Safety Building last Thursday. There were four vendors present along with the Public Safety Building Committee and the project architect. As a result of this meeting an addendum has been prepared and issued to all vendors expressing interest in being selected.

Last Friday a Community Innovations Challenge Grant Application was filed with the commonwealth on behalf of six (6) communities. If funded the \$394,000 grant would significantly improve the Town's mapping options. We should hear in February if the grant is successful.

Rt. 6 & Barney Avenue, the Regional Planning Agency has completed its initial traffic count and crash analysis and so far has determined that the data does not support the installation of a traffic signal at that location. J. Ritter will invite the staff person from SREPDD to meet with the Selectmen as soon as the final report is available.

4.0) NEW BUSINESS

Action Item #1: Appointment of Special Reserve Police Officer: Acting Chief of Police James Trombetta and Bryan Syrett were present J. Trombetta briefed the Board regarding the background of B. Syrett and stated he would be an excellent addition to the Town's reserve police officers. S. Vadnais made a motion to hire and appoint Bryan Syrett as a Special Reserve Police Officer for the Town of Rehoboth effective from November 25, 2013 through June 30, 2014. Second, L. Botts. Voted 5-0

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Action Item #2: Vote to Authorize the Hire of Part-Time on Call Dispatcher: Acting Chief of Police James Trombetta and Carol Days were present. J. Trombetta briefed the Board regarding the background of C. Days and stated she would be an excellent addition to the Town's dispatching staff. It was noted that Ms. Days has completed several of the required training classes to be a public safety dispatcher. J. Tito made a motion to hire and appoint Carol Days as a Part-Time on Call public safety dispatcher. Second, L. Botts. Voted 5-0

Action Item #3: Vote to Approve Petition from National Grid for Pole on Pond Street: S. Vadnais made a motion to approve the petition received from National Grid for the installation of a solely owned P4511-1 utility pole to be sited on public property off Pond Street which will be located approximately 27 feet across the road from existing pole 4511 that will be used to provide service to the Veterans Memorial Gazebo which was recently constructed onsite. Second, J. Tito. Voted 5-0

Action Item #4: Continued Hearing on Wig Wam Auto Sales Class II Auto License: Attorney Fredericks was present and provided an update to the Board regarding the cleanup that has been done since last October. His clients are working on the installation of a new fence and the removal of the remaining cars on the property. He noted they are having difficulty with a tenant on the site and are trying to get him evicted.

S. Pimental stated that his clients must comply with the bylaws.

R. Ashton stated that he had been there several times since the Board last met with the owners. Initially, he was very pleased with the progress. However, when he returned last Thursday he viewed several vehicles that had to be removed. He noticed that behind the shed there are about thirty (30) vehicles none appeared to be registered. There is still a lot of onsite work that needs to be done.

S. Pimental asked if additional cars had been added to the site and what is the timeline for the complete clean-up?

Attorney Fredericks stated that his clients are trying to address three (3) issues at the same time, an issue relating to public health, there is a zoning issue, and a licensing issue.

M. Costello noted the Conservation Commission issues go back many years. Cars have to be removed from the residential zone and they should be moved within two weeks.

J. Tito stated they should be removed tomorrow.

S. Vadnais asked if the Blue Book had been inspected. S. Pimental stated yes it had been reviewed recently.

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M. Costello voiced his frustration it was always a money issue or a time issue. This is hoarding stuff in violation of the Town's bylaws.

Attorney Fredericks said they want to do the right thing whatever the Town wants.

S. Pimental stated that you and your clients need to fully understand the consequences of not addressing these issues we have been working with you for twelve (12) month and it still is not resolved. Your Class II license is in jeopardy.

S. Vadnais stated he did not feel there was a good faith effort to resolve the issues of concern to the Town.

L. Botts noted that she stopped there today but did not notice anyone present.

M. Costello made a motion to extend the license until December 31, 2013 and that they either comply or they will get fined by the Health Agent. Second, L. Botts.

Discussion: Michael Deignan asked what message you are sending to others in Town with compliance issues. This has been going on for at least a year.

Voted 3-2 (Tito/Vadnais)

Action Item #5: Discussion, Request from Historical Commission to Place Historical Sign at Wheeler Street Bridge Site and Request Artifacts: J. Tito made a motion to support the request of the Historical Commission for a site to be designated for the placement of a sign marking the site of the mill. Second, S. Vadnais. Voted. 5-0

Action Item #6: Chapter 61B Parcel – 20 Starr Lane: J. Tito made a motion to waive the Town's right of first refusal to purchase a parcel of land on Assessors' Map 4, Lot 43 located at 20 Starr Lane currently under Chapter 61B (recreational land). Second, M. Costello. Voted 5-0

Action Item #7: December Meeting Schedule: The Board reviewed the proposed meeting schedule for December and January. The Board decided the only meeting date they would not meet on would be December 23, 2013.

Action Item #8 Vote to Accept Comcast PEG Funding Check for \$38,313.42: J. Tito made a motion to accept the quarterly check from Comcast in support of the local access in the amount of \$38,313.42. Second, L. Botts. Voted 5-0

Action Item #9: Vote Declaration of Support for Mosquito Control Board Funding For FY15: J. Tito made a motion to designate J. Ritter as the signatory on the FY15 Mosquito Control Board budget for the Town of Rehoboth. Second, L. Botts. Voted 5-0

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5.0) OLD BUSINESS:

Action Item #1: Fixed Asset Inventory Update: The Board reviewed the recently prepared listing of all the fixed assets by department. S. Pimental noted that the list is a good start but more detailed information should be included by department using the liaisons from the Board as a resource and as a tool. J. Ritter stated so the Board members will assist departments in collecting the information and once that information is collected it will be provided so the listing can be further updated. S. Pimental asked that the Munis list be incorporated into this list.

Action Item #2: Confirmatory Vote to Approve Nearby Community Agreement with Raynham Park LLC: L. Botts made a motion to approve and sign the recently negotiated “Nearby Community Agreement” between the Town of Rehoboth and Raynham Park LLC for a traffic mitigation study. Second, M. Costello. Voted 5-0

6.0) OTHER BUSINESS: None

7.0) OPEN PUBLIC FORUM: None

8.0) BOARD OF SELECTMEN REPORTS: M. Costello reported that several catch basin Covers have been stolen in recent days. He asked that residents be aware of anyone working in the streets especially those who appear to be contractors. All catch basin cleaning has been completed for the year and no one should be working on a catch basin without approval of the High Department.

L. Botts stated there was a meeting of the Friend of the Rehoboth Animal Shelter at the Senior Center last Saturday and thirty-seven (37) people attended. They have already received a one hundred (\$100) dollar donation.

Also, the Board asked that she look into the status of the trash containers. She has been in contact with the lead petitioner, the Acting Highway Director and the Acting Police Chief. From the Highway Department point of view this is an issue that relates to the ability of snow plow operators to clear the streets. From a Police Department perspective a bylaw would provide the Department with more authority.

Robert Ashton was present and said the Board of Health oversees the contracts with the trash haulers and a letter should be sent to the trash haulers and advisement of these concerns. J. Ritter and R. Ashton will draft a letter to be sent.

S. Pimental stated that she was approached by a resident who is interested in working with the Town to identify cost savings and revenue enhancement opportunities. It was agreed to place this item on the next upcoming agenda once the members of the Board have had a chance to think about it.

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Ron Whittemore, questioned the eviction notice process regarding the WigWam Auto Sales and the tenant they have on site.

9.0) EXECUTIVE SESSION: None

10.) ADJOURNMENT: J. Tito made a motion to adjourn the meeting at 8:35p.m. Second, L. Botts. Voted 5-0

Respectfully submitted,

J. Jeffrey Ritter
Town Administrator

Approved 12/9/13