



Office of
SELECTMEN
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**BOARD OF SELECTMEN
MEETING, MONDAY, MAY 6, 2013
MEETING MINUTES
GLADYS L. HURRELL REHOBOTH SENIOR CENTER**

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

Also Present: Jeff Ritter, Town Administrator

Absent: Joseph Tito

Call to order at 7:00p.m.

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. L. Botts made a motion to approve the weekly Warrants, 13-43A Withholdings, \$20,425.42; 13-44B, Payroll, \$100,350.30; 13-44, Invoices, \$3,380,665.79. Second, L. Botts. Voted 4-0

Minutes: L. Botts made a motion to approve meeting minutes from April 29, 2013. Second, S. Vadnais. Voted 3-0-1 (Costello)

3.0 Open Forum – Announcements: S. Pimental noted that the Boy Scouts would be collecting can goods during the Special and Annual Town Meetings on Monday, May 13, 2013.

The next meeting of the Board of Selectmen would be on Monday May 13, 2013 at the Dighton Rehoboth High School before Town Meeting starting at 6:30p.m. if necessary. Also, the Board would be meeting tomorrow May 7, 2013 at 6:00p.m. instead of 6:30p.m. at the Senior Center to discuss the deployment of personnel at the Police Department.

Town Administrator’s Report:

National Guard Change of Command: J. Ritter reported he attended the change of command ceremony at Redway Plain on Sunday along with several selectmen.

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Landfill Site Walk: This Thursday at noon there will be a site walk as part of the formal bidding process at the landfill for the possible lease of the property for a large solar array installation. Four vendors have expressed interest to date. Bids are due on Friday, May 31st at 11:00a.m.

Department Heads Meeting: The next meeting of Department Heads will be this Thursday at 10:00a.m. the Board is welcome to attend.

Public Safety Building Fence Project: There will be a pre-bid meeting with vendors on Thursday, May 16th at 10a.m. The Fire Chief has been notified and he confirmed his attendance.

Procurement Meeting: J. Ritter attended a procurement training and update session in Worcester last Thursday.

Senior Center Hot Water Tank: The Town received a check for \$1,878.02 from the insurance company to replace the boiler at the Senior which failed several weeks ago.

FEMA Briefing: There was a meeting last Wednesday in New Bedford which he attended. The purpose of the meeting was to review reimbursement activities for the February 8th and 9th snow storm. There will be a follow-up meeting in Rehoboth with FEMA and Department Heads to document the expenses on June 18th.

Police Superior's Union Contract: J. Ritter reported he is working on the final addendum to the current Contract and it should be ready for Board action on May 20th.

Ice Cream Social: J. Ritter recommended that the Selectmen consider holding an ice cream social event to say thank you to the citizen volunteers and Town employees.

Anawan School Project: The Central Register will be notified tomorrow and ad would appear in the May 22nd edition. There is a planned site walk on Thursday, June 6th at 2:00p.m. Proposals will be due on Thursday, June 27th.

Future Agenda Items: J. Ritter reviewed upcoming Agenda items for next week with the Board.

4.0) NEW BUSINESS

Action Item #2 Tree Warden Public Hearing Public Shade Tree Removal: L. Botts Made a motion to open the Public Hearing with the Tree Warden for the removal of public shade trees pursuant to G.L. Chapter 87, Section 3. Second, M. Costello. Roll Call Vote: Vadnais – Aye; Costello – Aye; Botts – Aye; Pimental – Aye. Voted 4-0

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Tree Warden Rob Johnson was present with Tree Removal Manager from National Grid. R. Johnson reviewed the proposed list of trees to be removed by National Grid. It was noted that the Public Hearing was advertised and the trees marked in accordance with the laws of the Commonwealth.

S. Pimental asked if there were any public comments on the list of trees referenced on the National Grid "Hazard Tree Removal List?"

Marion Cordeiro, 28 Pleasant Street addressed the Board and asked about a leaning tree heading west on Pleasant street near her home and showed the Board a picture of the tree.

S. Vadnais stated that the tree was on private property and was not part of the Public Hearing process.

M. Costello noted that National Grid only removes trees within the Right of Way and trees which jeopardize the wires.

There were no other public comments.

S. Vadnais made a motion to close the Public Hearing. Second, L. Botts. Roll Call Vote: Vadnais – Aye; Costello – Aye; Botts – Aye; Pimental – Aye. Voted 4-0

S. Vadnias made a motion to approve the Hardard Tree Removal List submitted by the Tree Warden and National Grid. Second, L. Botts. Voted 4-0

Action Item #1: Discussion Re: Special Town Meeting & Annual Town Meeting Warrants, Motion & Assignments of Articles with Moderator Bill Cute & Town Clerk: S. Pimental welcomed Town Moderator, William Cute, Town Clerk Kathy Conti, and Interim Town Clerk Laura Schwall to the meeting.

B. Cute stated that the Special town Meeting would start at 7:00p.m. sharp followed by the Annual town Meeting at 7:30p.m. It was his hope that the meetings would take one evening but was planning for two evenings.

The Board reviewed the Special and Annual Town Meeting Warrants for errors, omissions and speaker assignments.

K. Conti thanked Neil Harrington and L. Schwall for their help and assistance during the last Special election and reminded the public of the upcoming election in June.

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3.0 Open Forum – Announcements (continued): J. Muri was present with Boy Scout XYZ. They reviewed the need to collect canned goods for those in Rehoboth who are in need of food. Efforts benefit the Rehoboth Food Pantry.

Action Item #3: Finance Committee Appointment: Kelly Hamilton-Welzel was present and discussed with the Board her interest in serving on the Finance Committee. M. Costello made a motion to appointment Keely Hamilton-Welzel to the Finance Committee for a term to expire on June 30, 2013. Second, S. Vadnais. Voted 4-0

Action Item #4: 295 & 366 Winthrop Street: S. Vadnais stated that he had asked this item be tabled from last week allowing him to research the matter. He stated that he was in favor of auctioning the two properties and allowing the Chairperson to negotiate a flat fee.

M. Costello disagreed, the former Community Services building at 366 Winthrop Street was ideal for a realtor but agreed the 295 Winthrop Street would be a good candidate for public auction.

S. Vadnais understanding the ground water quality is not in question at 295 Winthrop.

S. Pimental stated she would support selling both properties by public auction and you can't assume a realtor would drive a higher price instead of public auction the objective is to get both properties onto the tax rolls as soon as possible.

L. Botts stated she would support the auction approach.

S. Vadnais noted the Community Services building had been on the market for six years with no taker.

Ron Whittemore, 21 Pond Street cautioned the Board about the value of money over the years.

S. Vadnais made a motion to pursue auctioneers for proposals. Second, L. Botts. Voted 4-0

Action Item #5: Discussion Re: Policy on Anonymous Letters: S. Pimental noted that from time to time the Board has received anonymous letters.

L. Botts stated that it was her opinion that each letter should be dealt with on a case by case basis.

S. Pimental asked how does the Board want to treat these they should not necessarily come before the Board.

S. Vadnais stated it was difficult to know what to do if you don't know the source of the letter.

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M. Costello said they should simply be placed into correspondence for the Board's information.

S. Vadnais said these are mostly civil matters and disputes between neighbors and unless there is a Town Bylaw there is little the town can do to address the complaint.

S. Pimental said she did not think the Board should act on anonymous letters but individual could follow-up if they want to.

M. Costello made a motion that anonymous letters should simply be included into the Board's weekly correspondence but for the Board to take no action. Second, S. Vadnais. Voted 4-0

Action Item #6: Vote to Authorize Chairman Pimental to Sign FEMA Contract Documents for Hurricane Sandy Funding: M. Costello made a motion to approve and authorize Chairman Pimental to sign FEMA Contract documents for \$18,343.89 (Police Department) \$4,543.74 (Fire Department) and \$3,782.81 (Highway Department). Second, S. Vadnais. Voted 4-0

Action Item #7: Chapter 90 Reimbursement Request: The Board reviewed and discussed a \$262.50 Chapter 90 reimbursement request for the Elm Street, Pleasant Street and Wheeler Street Engineer & Design Services. It was decided to table this matter until additional details can be provided. L. Botts made a motion to table. Second, S. Vadnais. Voted 4-0

Action Item #8: Vote to Sign Waiver of 90 Day Notice for Foreclosure Sale of 23 Bay State Road, Assessors Map 40, Lot 3 & 6A: M. Costello made a motion to approve the request and authorize the Board to sign it. Second, L. Botts. Voted 4-0

Action Item #9: Vote to Accept Resignation of Maureen Brawley as a Member of the Council on Aging Board: L. Botts made a motion to accept the resignation from Maureen Brawley as a member of the Council on Aging Board with regrets. Second, S. Vadnais. S. Vadnais asked that a letter of thanks be sent. Voted 4-0

Action Item #10: Discussion Re: Pilot Program: S. Pimental noted there will be a meeting this week with the Assessors and a representative from Citizens Energy which she will attend to try to work out the final details of the Pilot Agreement but at this point in time there is not action for the Board to take.

Action Item #11: Local Access Broadcast Policy: S. Pimental stated that the Board did not raid the local access revenues to pay for legal fees. The allocation was an eligible and legal expense to defend the tax payers of the town. M. Costello noted this item should be on the Board's agenda after Town Meeting when J. Tito is present and D. Rousseau is available. However, a question for D. Rousseau would be how much would it cost to broadcast every meeting?

Action Item #12: Vote to Approve One Day Liquor License Applications for: Young's Catering @ Country Gardens; Seekonk Police Honor Guard at South Seekonk Gun Club; Cabral's Catering at Five Bridge Inn; Bristol County Fire Chief's at South Seekonk Gun Club: L. Botts made a motion to approve and grant a one day liquor license to the Seekonk Police Honor Guard, event to be held at the South Seekonk Gun Club, 61 Reed Street on May 16, 2013 from 5:45p.m. to 10:00p.m. for the sale of wine and malt, restrictions include the firing range to be closed during the sale of alcoholic beverages. Second, M. Costello. Voted 4-0

L. Botts made a motion to approve and grant a one day liquor license to Carol C. Marcil, Young's Caterers, Inc. 364 Newman Avenue, Seekonk, MA 02771, for an event to be held at Country Gardens, 339 Tremont Street, Rehoboth, MA on May 26, 2013 from 5:00p.m. to 10:00p.m. for the sale of wine and malt beverages. Second, M. Costello. Voted 4-0

L. Botts made a motion to approve and grant a one day liquor license to Armando Cabral, Cabral's Catering, 94 Robert Street, Attleboro, MA 02703 for an event to be held at Five Bridge Inn, 152 Pine Street, Rehoboth, MA on May 18, 2013 from 11:00a.m. to 12 midnight for the sale of wine and malt beverages. Second, M. Costello. Voted 4-0

L. Botts made a motion to approve and grant a one day liquor license to the Bristol County Fire Chief Association, 1118 Drift Road, Westport, MA 02790 for an event to be held at the South Seekonk Rod & Gun Club, 61 Reed Street, Rehoboth, MA on June 1, 2013 from 3:00p.m. to 9p.m. for the sale of all alcoholic beverages. Restrictions to include firing range to be closed during the sale of alcoholic beverages. Second, M. Costello. Voted 4-0

Action Item #13: Vote to Amend Dates Voted by the Board for a One Day Liquor License for Rehoboth Lion's Club License #13-10L: L. Botts made a motion to amend a previous vote of the Board (4/29/13) in approving a One Day Liquor License for the Rehoboth Lions Club (Chuck Procopio) by removing the dates of March 5, 2014 and April 2, 2014. Second, M. Costello. Voted 4-0

Action Item #14: Review & Approval of 2012 Board of Selectmen Annual Town Report: The Board reviewed the first draft of their Annual Report for the 2012 Annual Town Report. The Board would like some additional time to make edits and revisions.

Action Item #15: Vote to Approve Payment to the Antiquarian Society of \$4,895.97 for the Operation of the Blanding Public Library from FY2013 State Aid for Libraries: L. Botts made a motion to approve payment to the Rehoboth Antiquarian Society in the amount of \$4,895.97 for second half of FY2013 State Aid for Public Libraries for the Blanding Public Library. Second, S. Vadnais. Voted 4-0

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5.0) OLD BUSINESS

Action Item #1: Local Broadcast Update – S. Pimental reviewed the current status of the ongoing litigation.

6.0) OTHER BUSINESS: None

7.0) OPEN PUBLIC FORUM: Ronald Whittemore, 21 Pond Street asked if Town meeting would start at 7:00p.m. or 7:30p.m? S. Pimental stated the Special Town Meeting would start at 7:00p.m. and the Annual town Meeting would start at 7:30p.m. on Monday, May 13th.

8.0) BOARD OF SELECTMEN REPORTS: S. Vadnais asked about the current status of the street acceptance of Fire Tower Road. M. Costello noted the proposed building lot was approved by the Planning Board and the lot is a “form A.” S. Vadnais asked that the Board resolve this matter as soon as possible and a meeting with the Planning Board should take place with the Selectmen.

M. Costello noted the increase to the Chapter 90 funding would be almost \$400,000 for a total of close to a million dollars.

S. Pimental asked for a report to be prepared on the vacancies coming up on various Town boards and committees the report should be ready by June 1st.

S. Pimental stated that she was preparing for two nights of Town Meeting but was hoping for one night. Also, the Capital Improvement Plan discussion should go on the agenda after Town Meeting.

9.0) EXECUTIVE SESSION: None

10.0) ADJOURNMENT: M. Costello made a motion to adjourn the meeting at 8:37p.m. Second, S. Vadnais. Voted 4-0

Respectfully submitted,

J. Jeffrey Ritter
Town Administrator