



Office of
SELECTMEN
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BOARD OF SELECTMEN
MEETING, MONDAY, SEPTEMBER 23, 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 or dismissal of, or complaints or charges brought against, a public officer, employee, staff member or individual.

Topics: Personnel Issue

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

At 7:07p.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. J. Tito made a motion to approve the weekly Warrants: 14-11A, Withholdings, \$19,363.81; 14-12, Invoices, \$70,062.35; 14-12B, Payroll, \$86,830.17. Second, L. Botts. Voted 5-0

Minutes: J. Tito made a motion to approve and release the September 16, 2013 Meeting Minutes. Second, L. Botts. Voted 5-0.

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S. Pimental noted the Board voted in Executive Session to approve and release the Executive session Meeting Minutes from January 10, 1994 (7:10p.m. and 9:08p.m. sessions). Also, to approve and hold the Executive session Meeting Minutes from September 16, 2013.

S. Pimental reported that an invitation was received from the Superintendent of the Bristol County Agricultural High School, Stephen Dempsey for the Fall Show to be held on October 17, 2013 at the School on Center Street in Dighton. The entire Board is invited.

The next meeting of the Board of Selectmen will be held on Monday, September 30, 2013 starting at 7:00p.m. in the Senior Center.

3.0 Open Forum – Announcements: William Saunders, Veterans Agent and Ken Abrams both are members of the Veterans Memorial Committee were present and reviewed with the Board the current status of the Veterans Memorial to be constructed at Redway Plain. The first payment was made last Friday to the vendor and the signs are now up.

J. Tito noted that he wanted to thank the owner of Fast Signs who has done a lot of community volunteer work as well as Boy Scout Troop 13.

W. Saunders stated that the groundbreaking would be held on Monday, October 7th at 5:00p.m. The Board is invited and after nearly 15 years of work the project is finally about to be completed.

John Moriarty, a member of the Lions Club was present and extended his thanks to the community for making the 14th Annual Larry Procopio Harvest Block Party a resounding success there were fifty-six (56) booths and several municipal departments represented along with their equipment. He hoped to see everyone again next year.

Town Administrator's Report: J. Ritter reported that the Town's representative from the Department of Revenue would be at the Town Hall tomorrow working toward certifying free cash which we should have later this week.

Last Wednesday several Town employees received AED/CPR training and wished to thank Rehoboth Ambulance for helping to complete the training.

J. Ritter reported that he would be meeting with an energy management company tomorrow morning to gain a better understanding of the Town's overall energy usage.

He would be attending a briefing at the Regional Planning Agency offices in Taunton Wednesday morning regarding the Community Innovation Challenge grant program.

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On Wednesday afternoon he would be meeting with Tom Carney, whose family owns the proposed Raynham Slot parlor along with the Acting Police Chief, representatives from the State Gaming Commission and the Regional Planning Agency. The purpose of the meeting is to discuss possible mitigation for Rehoboth.

The Zoning Bylaw Review Committee will be meeting tomorrow evening at the Senior Center starting at 6:00p.m.

On the Agenda next week will be the Special Town Meeting Warrant for signing. Another Public Hearing with National Grid for a pole location. An appointment of an Associate member to the Zoning Board of Appeals. A request from the Senior Club for the placement of temporary signs and a Public Hearing regarding the layout of Fire Tower Road.

4.0) NEW BUSINESS

Action Item #1: Pole Location Hearing – Petition by National Grid for Bliss Street: M. Costello made a motion to open the Public Hearing. Second, J. Tito.

Roll Call Vote: Vadnais - AYE; Tito – AYE; Costello - AYE; Botts – AYE; Pimental - AYE.
Voted 5-0

Crystal Tognazni from National Grid was present and reviewed the petition from National Grid seeking approval to install a new solely owned push brace P3474-89 on public property to be set off existing pole 3474 which will provide new service to 48 Bliss Street.

S. Pimental asked if there was any public comments? John Kelly, 49 Bliss Street stated he was happy to see the work being completed.

S. Vadnais made a motion to close the Public Hearing. Second, J. Tito.

Roll Call Vote: Vadnais - AYE; Tito – AYE; Costello - AYE; Botts – AYE; Pimental - AYE.
Voted 5-0

M. Costello made a motion to grant approval of the petition from National Grid. Second, L. Botts. Voted 5-0

Action Item #2: Review October 28, 2013 Special Town Meeting Warrant: S. Pimental recommended that a page be inserted in the front of the Warrant reminding residents to bring non-perishable food items to Town Meeting. There was no objection.

Regarding the Capital Budget article, Acting Chief of Police Trombetta was present and stated when asked if he had an extra vehicle for the Building Inspector that the Department had a 2009 Toyota, V-6 Quad Cab that might be available once it cleared the court system.

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M. Costello made the point that the Building Inspector needed a vehicle similar the Animal Control Officer which would be good for the (10) to twelve (12) years and could access difficult terrains.

S. Vadnais agreed with M. Costello and stated that in his experience it was more efficient to simply turn over the old police vehicles to scrap.

J. Trombetta stated that he has been working to rebuild the fleet of cars now for two (2) years and that he was working with his Finance Committee liaison and the Board of Selectmen liaison to reach his goal.

S. Vadnais asked about purchasing a truck instead of an SUV and noted that most Building Inspectors in the area use trucks.

It was agreed that M. Costello would speak with the Building Inspector before the meeting next week.

J. Trombetta discussed with the Board his request to purchase ten (10) TASARS. If approved by Town Meeting this would allow the Department to be fully equipped and to have six (6) spares.

S. Vadnais asked why six (6) spare were needed? J. Trombetta stated that the current TASARS are eight (8) years old and that he wanted the newest equipment for the Department but also there are several reserve officers who are not equipped and there are details which could utilize the TASARS.

S. Pimental agreed.

Regarding the request to upgrade the radio equipment J. Trombetta stated that the current 800 MHZ radio equipment can't effectively communicate with the dispatchers and between vehicles because of the location of the fifty-five (55) foot antenna. This proposal would relocate the antenna to the communications tower behind the Public Safety Building.

M. Costello asked if most of the funds would be used for running the coaxial cable between the tower and the building?

J. Trombetta stated that a majority of the expense is the cost of the cable which is estimate to be approximately six thousand (\$6,000) dollars.

Additional information will be provided by Michael Tyler (Acting Highway Director) regarding funds needed under the Budget Amendment article.

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Tiffany Bartholomew (of the Dighton Rehoboth School Committee) was present and introduced the School Committee article. She will read the Report of the Dighton-Rehoboth Regional School District Capital Projects Task Force.

Action Item #3: Vote to Approve \$53,087.75 Payment to the Rehoboth Antiquarian Society for Blanding Library: M. Costello made a motion to approve and authorize the 2nd quarter payment of \$53,087.75 to the Rehoboth Antiquarian Society for the operations of the Blanding Public Library. Second, L. Botts. Voted 5-0

Action Item #4: Vote to Approve & Authorize Chairman to Sign MEMA Contract for \$61,799.75 to Reimburse Town for February 8-9, 2013 Blizzard: J. Tito made a motion to approve and authorize the Chairman to sign MEMA Contract in the amount of \$61,799.75 as a reimbursement to the Town from FEMA for the expenses related to the February 8-9, 2013 Blizzard. Second, L. Botts. Voted 5-0

Action Item #5: Vote to Approve One Day Liquor License Application for Rehoboth Antiquarian Society: L. Botts made a motion to approve and sign a One Day Wine & Malt License application from the Rehoboth Antiquarian Society for use at the Carpenter Museum, 4 Locust Avenue on September 27, 2013 from 5:00p.m. – 9:00p.m. Second, J. Tito. Voted 5-0

Action Item #6: Appointments to the Economic Development Committee; Assistant Treasurer; and the Council on Aging Board: L. Botts made a motion to appoint John Jordan to the Economic Development Committee for a term from September 23, 2013 through June 30, 2014. Second, J. Tito. Voted 5-0

M. Costello made a motion to appoint Debra Giles as Assistant Treasurer for a term starting on July 1, 2013 through June 30, 2014. Second, S. Vadnais. Voted 5-0

L. Botts made a motion to appoint Robert H. Lambe to the Council on Aging Board effective September 23, 2013 through June 30, 2015. This appointment will fill the position vacated by Maureen Brawley. Second, J. Tito. Voted 5-0

Action Item #7: Request from Gary Jennings to Place Signs on Town Property: J. Tito made a motion to table this item until an application comes before the Board. Second, L. Botts. Discussion: J. Tito stated the Board needs a policy to define certain standards for the placement of temporary signs. M. Costello and S. Vadnais will work to prepare the policy. Voted 5-0

Action Item #8: Vote to Approve One Day Liquor License for Emery's Catering/Five Bridge Inn for September 21, 2013 Ratifying Phone Approval by Board of Selectmen: J. Tito made a motion to ratify the previous approval granted and instructed J. Ritter to write a letter to the owners of Emery Catering that this would be the last time approval would be provided after the fact. Second, L. Botts. Voted 5-0

Action Item #9: Review Status of Each Department's Updated Fixed Asset Listing: The Board reviewed the fixed asset list for each department. S. Pimental recommended that the list be forwarded to each department by the Board's liaison to that department for confirmation that it is current.

This item will be placed again on the Board's Agenda in two (2) weeks. The Board discussed the difference between the purchase price and the replacement cost. S. Pimental stated for example take a look at a building and the replacement of windows would be part of the capital plan.

S. Vadnais stated he was concerned about the accuracy of the numbers, for example, the Animal Control Shelter is listed as a purchase at \$200,000. Where did that number come from? M. Costello mentioned the acquisition cost of the catch basin cleaner was not accurate.

S. Pimental said we need to add the computer inventory to the updated fixed asset list.

5.0) OLD BUSINESS

Action Item #1: Review Personnel Policy Revisions & Review Request to Send Revisions to Town Counsel for Review: David Scanlon from the Personnel Board was present and the Board reviewed the following policies, Policy Number 7.0, Substance Abuse, (7.4) Violations, insert in the last sentence "and the Board of Selectmen," immediately. Employees should report to their supervisor if they are taking any prescribed drugs that might affect their performance (deleted last sentence of old policy). Input from Labor Counsel is needed.

Policy Number 4.0 Discipline, Section 4.3 (a) language should be clarified, there was an issue with the current section 4.3 of Policy 4.0. The revised Policy 4.0 takes care of the language problem and the Board agreed;

Section 4.4 throughout insert the Board of Selectmen shall have final decision making authority and the Personnel Board is advisory, there was a question which needs to be clarified regarding appointing authority ie. police, fire, Board of Health, who is the appointing authority.

Policy Number 9.0 Family Medical Leave Act, question for Town Counsel can an employee accrue sick time and vacation time while out on FMLA or he should clarify Section 9.7(c). Insert "including sick and vacation time after benefits in the first sentence of section 9.7 (c) just for additional clarification. Clarification from Town Counsel does the employee accrue benefits during FMLA?

There was a question Policy Number 6.0 (A), fourth paragraph under 6.5, last sentence, insert, "this shall be done by the Rehoboth Police Department." The Board did not like the word "stored" in section 6.7.1. It was suggested that "garaged" would be better or "parked." In

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section 6.8.5 the Board wanted to clarify that the Board makes the final determination whether to accept or not accept the applicant or invoke discipline.

S. Pimental congratulated the Personnel Board on a job well done and these policies will now be sent to David Gay, Special Labor Counsel for review and edits.

Action Item #2: Vote Chapter 61A Parcel Notice of Intent to Sell – Portion of 32 Brook

Street: M. Costello made a motion to waive the Board's right to purchase a portion of 32 Brook Street, known as Assessor's Plat 22, Lot 21 pursuant to the recommendations of the Planning Board, Conservation Commission and Agricultural Commission. Second, S. Vadnais. Voted 5-0

Action Item #3: Update on Darling Letter of Concern Re: Cameron Way: J. Ritter reported that Insite Engineering is in the process of creating a plan which will be submitted to the Conservation Commission by their October 1, 2013 meeting date if there are no infringement into the wetlands than work can proceed to alleviate the water concerns of Mr. Darling.

6.0) OTHER BUSINESS: None

7.0) OPEN PUBLIC FORUM: Ron Whittemore was present and offered his assistance in helping to prepare the fixed inventory including helping to affix identification tags to each item.

8.0) BOARD OF SELECTMEN REPORTS: M. Costello reported that the new entrance to the Public Safety Building is now complete including the installation of a new sign. There is also a sign at the Highway Department which can be used for Town Meeting notices.

L. Botts asked if the Board would be meeting on the first Monday in October. The Board decided to proceed with its normal weekly meeting schedule.

J. Tito congratulated the fine work of the Dighton Rehoboth Regional School District Marching Band and the support demonstrated by the Rehoboth Police Department at a recent event. Also, the EEE season is still with us and residents should be careful. This year is better than last year but residents should remain cautious.

S. Pimental stated that she was recently at the 14th Annual Larry Procopio Harvest Block Party. She was able to view and sit in many new vehicles. Also, she received a call from a resident on Tiger Lilly Lane who asked why their street had to have traffic markings. M. Costello stated that he spoke with Mike Tyler (Acting Highway Director) about this issue.

S. Vadnais recommended that in the future the Highway Department submit a list of streets in advance of any street line painting being completed for the Board's approval.

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9.0) EXECUTIVE SESSION: None

10.0) ADJOURNMENT: J. Tito made a motion to adjourn the meeting at 8:49p.m. Second, L. Botts. Voted 5-0

Respectfully submitted,

J. Jeffrey Ritter
Town Administrator