



Office of
SELECTMEN
148 Peck Street
Rehoboth, MA 02769

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

BOARD OF SELECTMEN
MEETING, MONDAY, JANUARY 6, 2014
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: 14-26A, Withholdings, \$19,388.36; 14-27, Invoices, \$108,306.48; 14-27B, Payroll, \$80,188.29; 14-27V, Veterans, \$14,997.13. L. Botts made a motion to approve the weekly Warrants as read. Second, S. Vadnais. Voted 4-0

Minutes: L. Botts made a motion to approve and release the Executive Session meeting minutes from June 6, 2005. Second, M. Costello. Voted 4-0

L. Botts made a motion to approve and release the Executive Session meeting minutes from June 13, 2005. Second, S. Vadnais. Voted 4-0

3.0 Open Forum – Announcements: S. Pimental noted that the next regular meeting of the Board will take place on Monday, January 13, 2014 starting at 7:00p.m. at the Senior Center.

William Saunders, Veteran Services Officer provided the Board with an update regarding the status of the Veterans Memorial. They currently need \$25,000 to complete the project through regular donations. Donations for pavers are continuing to come in. The electrical work should be completed by the end of March and placement of the pavers can start around that time. A flag

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pole has been donated and will be stored at the Highway Department until Spring. Work on the retaining wall will start when the weather breaks.

M. Costello asked how the public can purchase a paver and get it inscribed? W. Saunders reported that the donation forms can be downloaded from the Town web site and are available at the American Legion, Vinos, Goff Hall and the Senior Center.

M. Costello took a moment to recognize the Lopes family and the recent passing of their father. The Lopes family lives in Dighton but have over the years been a huge supporter of several important Rehoboth activities including the police/fire departments, Lions Club, the D-R Band and the Senior Center.

L. Botts reported that the public should be cautious in that there is a telephone scam going on. Especially the elderly when a person calls and identifies themselves as being with Bristol County Savings Banks and they are requesting card numbers and bank account pin numbers.

Town Administrator's Report: J. Ritter wished the Board a Happy New Year. There will be three collective bargaining sessions this week. First, with the clerical union on Tuesday, January 7th at 4:30p.m. with Selectman Vadnais which will take place at the Building Department. Second, on Tuesday, January 7th at 6:30p.m. with Highway Department union at the Senior Center with Selectman Costello. Third, with the Dispatchers Union on Thursday, January 9th at 6:00p.m. at the Senior Center with Selectman Pimental.

A new Request for Proposals (RFP) has been issued for the lease of the landfill to implement a solar array. Responses are due on February 6th at noon.

Work has started on preparing the Annual Town Meeting Warrant. Next week there will be a Public Hearing with the Board on the proposal from Comcast to renew the Cable License.

4.0) NEW BUSINESS

Action Item #1: Discussion Re: May 12, 2014 Annual Town Meeting - State Date Time – Open Warrant and Set Date to Close Warrant: M. Costello made a motion to set the date for the Special Town Meeting to be held on May 12, 2014 at 7:00p.m. at the Dighton Rehoboth Regional High School, 2700 Regional Road, North Dighton and for the Annual Town Meeting to be held at 7:30p.m. on Monday, May 12, 2014 at the same location with a follow-up session if necessary on May 19th.

Second, L. Botts. Voted 4-0

S. Vadnais made a motion to open Warrants for both meetings and to close the Warrants on March 3rd. Second, M. Costello. Voted 4-0

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Action Item #2: FY15 Budget Guidelines and Selectmen Budget Liaison Assignments: The Board reviewed the budget guidelines document. It was decided to remove the reference to the Capital expense section and to insert “if you need assistance contact and work with your Board of Selectmen and Finance Committee liaisons.”

Regarding liaison assignments the Board decided to assign to J. Tito all budgets under the jurisdiction of the Treasurer/Collector, Cheryl Gouveia.

Action Item #3: Annual Town Meeting Warrant Articles: The Board review a list of possible articles for the Annual Town Meeting. S. Pimental suggested that the articles be reordered with the routine articles at the front and the end of the Warrant.

M. Costello will assume responsibility for Updating the Zoning Bylaws, Establish a Department of Public Works, and Speed Limit on the Palmer River.

Articles will be inserted to address the needs of the Town Hall and the placement of snow within the street.

L. Botts reported that there might be an article on rezoning a portion of County Street. The Board discussed the merits of a Humane Treatment of Animals Bylaw.

Action Item #4: Vote to Accept the Resignation of Peter Jacobson from the Community Preservation Committee and the Agricultural and Natural Resource Preservation Council:

M. Costello made a motion to accept the resignation from Peter Jacobson from the Community Preservation Committee and from the Agricultural and Natural Resource Preservation Council effective on April 1, 2014 and to send a letter of thanks for 40 years of service to the Town of Rehoboth.

Second, L. Botts. Voted 4-0

Action Item #5: License Renewals: L. Botts made a motion to approve a Junk (Antique) Dealers License effective from January 1, 2014 through December 31, 2014 for Gary Jennings – Anawan Antiques – 180 Anawan Street. Second, M. Costello. Voted 4-0

5.0) OLD BUSINESS:

Action Item #1: Scheduling of Special town Meeting for School Capital Project: This items will be reviewed and discussed again next week. The Board is currently waiting to hear from the Dighton Rehoboth Regional School Committee regarding the roof project at various schools.

6.0) OTHER BUSINESS: None

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7.0) OPEN PUBLIC FORUM: None

8.0) BOARD OF SELECTMEN REPORTS: M. Costello thanked the Highway Department personnel for doing an outstanding job during the recent snow storm. S. Vadnais asked if pushing snow into the street was still an issue? M. Costello stated yes more than ever. S. Vadnais suggested that a reporting system be implemented and to create a warning list.

S. Vadnais made a motion to designate M. Costello to work with the Acting Highway Superintendent to establish a warning notification system for residents and contractors to limit the Town's liability. Second, L. Botts. Voted 4-0

L. Botts reported that she sent State Representative Steven Howitt an e-mail regarding several large pot holes on Rt. 44 and the State should do something to repair the road.

S. Pimental noted that regarding the Morra vs. Town of Rehoboth that those identified as Jane Doe have been dismissed.

9.0) EXECUTIVE SESSION: None

10.) ADJOURNMENT: M. Costello made a motion to adjourn the meeting at 7:51p.m. Second, L. Botts. Voted 4-0

Respectfully submitted,

J. Jeffrey Ritter
Town Administrator

Approved 1/13/14