



Office of
SELECTMEN
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**BOARD OF SELECTMEN
MEETING, MONDAY, APRIL 14, 2014
MEETING MINUTES
GLADYS L. HURRELL REHOBOTH SENIOR CENTER**

Present: Michael Costello, Chairman; Frederick “Skip” Vadnais, Vice Chairman (arrived at 7:19p.m.); Joseph Tito, Clerk; and Susan Pimental

Also Present: Jeff Ritter, Town Administrator

Absent: David Perry

1.0) Call to Order at 7:00p.m.: The Board and the public participated in the Pledge Allegiance to the Flag.

2.0) Consent Agenda

Warrants: M. Costello read the weekly Warrants: 14-40A, Withholdings, \$17,099.64; 14-41B, Payroll, \$83,152.84; 14-41, Invoices, \$20,081.30. J. Tito made a motion to approve the weekly Warrants as read. Second, S. Pimental. Voted 3-0

Minutes: S. Pimental made a motion to approve and release the meeting minutes from April 8, 2014. Second, J. Tito. Voted 3-0.

3.0 Open Forum – Announcements: M. Costello announced that the Community Recycling Day will be held on April 26th. The event is sponsored by the Lions Club and held at the Beckwith Middle School from 9:00a.m. until noon.

A free community CPR/AED class will be held on May 1st at 6:30p.m. at the Senior Center. Anyone interested in participating should contact the Town Nurse Jamie Conlon by e-mail at jconlon@town.rehoboth.ma.us or call her at 508-252-5947 extension 127 to sign up. J. Tito highly recommends those who are interested to participate, it does save lives.

The next regular meeting of the Board of Selectmen will be held on Tuesday, April 22, 2014 at the Senior Center starting at 7:00p.m.

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Town Administrator's Report:

J. Ritter reported that he is working to setup a meeting with the abutters to the Wheeler Street Bridge project in the attempt to secure their permission to grant a temporary construction easement. That meeting should take place during the last week in April well in advance of the Annual Town Meeting. There is an article on the Warrant to ask Town Meeting to approve this request.

He received notice from the Federal Emergency Management Agency (FEMA) that they might undertake an audit the grant funds received for the Hurricane Sandy event, especially for the Police and Fire Departments. Both Chief have been notified of this possibility.

Work on the Special and Annual Town Meeting Warrants is now complete and he thanked Helen Dennen and the Finance Committee for all their hard work.

The Town Offices will be closed this Friday in observance of Good Friday and next Monday in observance of Patriots Day.

Requests for Proposals on the reuse of the former Anawan School are due this Thursday at noon.

He also requested permission to take the last week in June off. Without objection the Board approved this request.

Finally, next week the Board will assign Special and Annual Town Meeting warrant articles to each member. The purpose is to help and be prepared to address any questions that might come at Town Meeting.

4.0) NEW BUSINESS

Action Item #2: Discussion with George Cardono on Report to the Board of Selectmen as Revenue Enhancement Officer: G. Cardono presented his written report to the Board and briefly reviewed the highlights. He recommended identifying those parcels that are tax exempt, develop a list and determine where their base of operations is located.

There is a question for Town Counsel. If we determine that a non-profit who has a base of operations outside the Commonwealth can the Assessors then send them a tax bill and expect payment as what appears to be the law?

J. Tito stated that this approach is worth pursuing. G. Cardono working with the Assessors will develop the list and work with Town Counsel about the feasibility of sending those non-profit who appear to fit the criteria a tax bill.

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Action Item #1: Public Hearing: 2014 Renewal of Class II Auto for Lopes Sales dba First Class Auto Sales, 29 Fall River Avenue: S. Pimental made a motion to open the Public Hearing. Second, J. Tito. Voted by Roll Call. Tito – Aye; Pimental – Aye; Costello – Aye. Voted 3-0

M. Costello stated that the purpose of the Public Hearing is to act on the application for the renewal of a Class II Auto License in the name of Lopes Auto Sales, Inc. dba First Class Auto Sales, the current Manager is Vilma Perez. The facility is located at 29 Fall River Avenue.

Ms. Perez was present and explained that they failed to renew their license in December because they had lost an employee and they resubmitted the application on March 26 for a renewal period from January 1, 2014 until December 31, 2014.

M. Costello stated the reason they were now before the Board is because there has been two (2) unsuccessful attempts by the Rehoboth Police Department to re-inspect the premises and they have not been able to gain access.

Also, during the last inspection on December 13, 2013 the log book was missing and it was determined the premises was in fair to good condition.

V. Perez and Robin Perez who was also present requested a sixty (60) day extension.

Acting Chief of Police James Trombetta said it was true that Officer Casey has been there three (3) times and no contact was made or any activity observed. He could not review the log books to determine if they were up to date.

S. Vadnais (arrived at 7:20p.m.) asked why they had not renewed their Class II License?

V. Perez stated their only employee had quit and was not replaced and is not able to be there all the time.

S. Pimental stated that V. Perez does not have to be on site all the time even if she is the manager.

M. Costello asked for public comments: Ronald Whittemore asked if the license could be issued with a conditional approval?

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

S. Pimental made a motion to suspend the Class II license but to also grant a sixty (60) day extension to Lopes Auto Sales, Inc. dba First Class Auto Sales allowing for the appropriate inspections to be completed. Second, J. Tito. Voted 4-0

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Action Item #3: Vote to Approve One Day Liquor License for Holy Ghost Brotherhood of Charity: J. Tito made a motion to approve a One Day All Alcohol Liquor License Applications from Dean Botelho, Holy Ghost Brotherhood of Charity, 43 Broad Street for the sale of alcohol on May 10, 2014, May 9, 2014, and May 11, 2014 and for the transportation of alcohol. Authorized dates 6:00p.m. until 12 midnight.

Action Item #4: Vote to Approve Budget Amendments for \$300 for the fire Department; \$10,094.07 Police Department and \$800 Highway Department: J. Tito made a motion to decrease budget line item 012203-57335 Fire EMS Training by \$300 and to increase budget litem item 012203-57310 Fire Dues by \$300.

To decrease budget line items 012052-5112- Police Comp Full Time by \$5,000 and budget line item 012052-51520 Police Comp Holidays by \$5,094.97, and to increase budget line item 012052-51310 Police Comp Overtime by \$10,094.97.

To decrease budget line item 014223-55300 Highway Program/Gravel & Stone by \$800 and to increase budget line item 014223-53030 Highway Road Program Advertising by \$800. Second, S. Pimental. Voted 4-0

Action Item #5: Vote to Approve Reserve Fund Transfers, Police \$2,896.40 and Town Counsel, \$2,013: J. Tito made a motion to approve two (2) requests for Reserve Fund Transfers. First, from the Reserve Fund \$2,896.24 into line 012123-51310 Police Training Wages and refer the request the Finance Committee. Second, S. Pimental. Voted 4-0

Second, from the Reserve Fund \$2,013.00 into line 011513-53060 Town Counsel and refer the request to the Finance Committee. Second, S. Pimental. Voted 4-0

Action Item #6: Review & Approval of the Special Town Meeting Warrant and Annual Town Meeting Warrant: J. Ritter reviewed both Warrants with the Board. Regarding Article 19, "Allocation of Solar Pilot Agreement Revenues for Capital Building Improvements." After Board discussion with the Chairman of the Finance Committee the Board decided to increase the amount from \$1 million to \$2 million and to better define exactly how the funds would be used. J. Ritter will consult with Town Counsel and make these changes tomorrow.

J. Ritter brought to the attention of the Board that there was an Article submitted to redirect roll back taxes into the Agricultural Trust Fund. The Board decided to drop this Article from the Warrant but the proposers were not notified. The Board decided to reinsert this article into the Warrant.

J. Tito made a motion to approve both the Special Town Meeting Warrant and the Annual Town Meeting Warrants with the changes incorporated. Second, S. Pimental. Voted 4-0

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Action Item #7: Discussion Re: Appointment of SRPEDD Representatives: Snow & Ice Invoices: S. Pimental made a motion to appoint M. Costello to serve on the Commission of the Southeastern Regional Planning & Economic Development District effective May 28, 2014 through May 31, 2015. Second, J. Tito. Voted 4-0

J. Tito made a motion to appoint M. Costello to the Joint Transportation Planning Group. Second, S. Pimental. Voted 4-0

J. Tito made a motion to appoint S. Pimental as the alternate to the Joint Planning Group. Second, S. Vadnais. Voted 3-0-1 (Pimental)

Action Item #8: Discussion Re: Comcast License Renewal: J. Ritter stated there was nothing to report as of today.

5.0 OLD BUSINESS:

Action Item #1: Public Safety Building, Owner Project Manager Bids: J. Ritter stated that since the Board wanted to explore the feasibility of securing a more cost effective approach that the proposals should be rejected. The Town received three (3) proposals.

J. Tito made a motion to reject the three (3) proposals. Second, S. Pimental. Discussion: It was suggest that the Board invite the Building Inspector in for further discussions on the matter. Voted 4-0

6.0 OTHER BUSINESS: None

7.0 OPEN PUBLIC FORUM: Michael Deignan was present and provided an update to the Board regarding his efforts to collect illegal signs. He provided several examples. He wanted to remind viewers that he is not interested in placement of signs on private property. However, if the sign appears within the right of way then he might decide to have it removed unless previously approved by the Board of Selectmen. He provided his contact information for any resident seeking additional information they could contact him with questions.

S. Pimental asked if he could work with the Building Inspector to develop a list of those placing illegal signs within the right of way for them to be contacted.

8.0 BOARD OF SELECTMEN REPORTS: S. Vadnais brought to the attention of the Board that a report had been received from Dr. Lorraine O'Connor, from the Massachusetts Department of Agricultural Resources, Division of Animal Health regarding a recent inspection of the Rehoboth Animal Shelter and asked for direction from the Board as to how they would like him to proceed. For example, does the Board want to address these issues or does the Board want him to address these issues with the Animal Control Officer?

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M. Costello stated that S. Vadnais should take the lead on this and meet with the Animal Control Officer and report back to the Board. S. Vadnais pointed out this is going to take time, there is a step by step process to be followed but the Town has already made significant progress in addressing several of the concerns brought up by Dr. O'Connor which would bring the Town into full compliance with the new regulations of the Commonwealth. The Board agreed with this approach.

10.) ADJOURNMENT: J. Tito made a motion to adjourn the meeting at 8:16p.m. Second, S. Pimental. Voted 4-0

9.0) EXECUTIVE SESSION: At 8:16p.m. on a motion to reconsider the adjourned meeting J. Tito made a motion to enter into Executive Session pursuant to MGL Chapter 30A, Section 21 (2) to conduct strategy sessions in preparation for 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. S. Pimental. It was noted the Board would return to open session only for the purposes adjourning the meeting. Voted 4-0

At 8:27p.m. J. Tito made a motion to adjourn the meeting. Second, S. Vadnais. Voted 4-0

Respectfully submitted,

J. Jeffrey Ritter
Town Administrator

Voted to approve on 4/22/14