



Office of
SELECTMEN
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**BOARD OF SELECTMEN
MEETING MONDAY, JANUARY 5, 2015
MEETING MINUTES
GLADYS L. HURRELL REHOBOTH SENIOR CENTER**

Present: Michael Costello, Chairman; Frederick “Skip” Vadnais, Vice Chairman; Susan Pimental

Also Present: Jeff Ritter, Town Administrator

Absent: Joseph Tito and 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: 15-26A, Withholdings, \$20,312.19; 15-27V, Veterans \$16,125.04; Payroll, (Pray) \$4,470.15; 15-27B, Payroll, \$77,359.43. S. Pimental made a motion to approve the weekly Warrants as read. Second, S. Vadnais. Voted 3-0

3.0 Open Forum – Announcements: Tish Vadnais was present and cautioned the viewing public about a phone scam. Calls are being made to Rehoboth residents, the caller asks for certain information and explains that their Windows operating system has a virus. The caller identification simply shows “Zone 5.” Residents should be careful in providing any information about their operating systems to unknown individuals.

Town Administrator’s Report: J. Ritter reported that the next meeting of the Board of Selectmen will be held on Monday, January 12, 2015 at the Senior Center.

The new fuel management system at the highway department is now fully up and running. From the \$14,500 appropriation there is approximately \$2,000 remaining. These funds will be used to pay any outstanding invoices.

The Town has been approached by a subcontractor to National Grid who is removing double poles around Town and is seeking a staging area. S. Pimental made a motion to grant permission for this activity for a five (5) day period behind the Fire Station on Anawan Street. Second, S. Vadnais. Voted 3-0

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A request has been received from the Police Patrolmen's Union to commence bargaining. The Board agreed that the middle of January is a good time. J. Ritter will communicate that to the Union.

The School Department Financial Advisory Committee will be meeting tomorrow, Tuesday, January 6th at 6:00p.m. at the Superintendent's Conference Room.

4.0) NEW BUSINESS: Action Item #4: Vote to Approve One Day Liquor License Applications for Holy Ghost Brotherhood of Charity: S. Pimental made a motion to approve the following applications from the Holy Ghost Brother Hood of Charity:

All Alcohol, One Day Liquor Licenses for, Dean Botelho, Holy Ghost of Charity, 43 Broad Street, from 6:00p.m. until midnight on the following dates:

Alcohol Sale Date: January 31, 2015

Transportation of Alcohol Dates: January 30, 2015 and February 1, 2015

Alcohol Sale Date: March 7, 2015

Transportation of Alcohol Dates: March 6, 2015 and March 8, 2015

Alcohol Sale Date: April 25, 2015

Transportation of Alcohol Dates: April 24, 2015 and April 26, 2015

Alcohol Sale Date: May 30, 2015

Transportation of Alcohol Dates: May 29, 2015 and May 31, 2015

Alcohol Sale Date: September 26, 2015

Transportation of Alcohol Dates: September 25, 2015 and September 27, 2015

Alcohol Sale Date: November 14, 2015

Transportation of Alcohol Dates: November 13, 2015 and November 15, 2015.

Wine & Malt One Day Liquor Licenses for, Dean Botelho, Holy Ghost Brotherhood of Charity, 43 Broad Street, effective dates and times as follows:

Alcohol Sale Date: August 14, 2015 from 6:00p.m. – 12:00a.m.

August 15, 2015 from 6:00p.m. – 12:00a.m.

August 16, 2015 from 12:00noon – 11:00p.m.

Transportation of Alcohol Dates: August 7, 2015 through August 13, 2015 and August 17, 2015.
Second, S. Vadnais. Voted 3-0

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Action Item #3: Vote to Authorize Mike Tyler to Proceed with Chapter 90 Paperwork for Pleasant Street Culvert Project: S. Pimental made a motion to authorize Mike Tyler to proceed with Chapter 90 paperwork for the Pleasant Street construction phase of the project. Second, S. Vadnais. Voted 3-0

Action Item #5: Vote to Set May 11, 2015 Annual Town Meeting Date and Vote to Open and Close the Annual Town Meeting Warrant: S. Pimental made a motion to set the date for the Annual Town Meeting for May 5, 2015 at the Dighton Rehoboth Regional High School, 2700 Regional Road, North Dighton, MA and to vote to open the May 11, 2015 Annual town Meeting Warrant and for the Warrant to close on Monday, March 2, 2015. Second, S. Vadnais. Voted 3-0

Action Item #1: 7:15p.m. Public Hearing – Application for Transfer of All Alcohol Package Store Liquor License from Azevedo’s Mini Market to Winthrop Street Liquors: S. Pimental made a motion to open the Public Hearing. Second, S. Vadnais. Roll Call Vote: Vadnais – Aye; Pimental – Aye; Costello – Aye. Voted 3-0

M. Costello invited the applicant, Paul Rebelo to come forward and introduce himself to the Board. P. Rebelo explained his interest in securing the license and this was a change in ownership.

M. Costello asked if there were any public comments? None were heard. S. Vadnais made a motion to close the Public Hearing. Second, S. Pimental. Roll Call Vote: Vadnais – Aye; Pimental – Aye; Costello – Aye. Voted 3-0

S. Pimental made a motion to approve the application for the transfer of the All Alcohol Package Store Liquor License from Azevedo’s Mini Market to Winthrop Street Liquors. Second, S. Vadnais. Discussion: S. Vadnais stated the hours of operation would be Monday – Saturday 8:00a.m. – 11:00p.m. and Sunday 10:00a.m. – 11p.m. There was no objection from P. Rebelo. Voted 3-0

Action Item #2: Presentation by Good Energy Aggregation Electricity: John O’Rourke, Good Energy and Ross Perry from the Southeast Regional Planning & Economic Development District (SRPEDD) were present. R. Perry provided the public with an overview of what SRPEDD does its member communities including planning, economic development and joint purchasing of goods and services.

J. O’Rourke stated that Massachusetts consumers are paying the highest electrical rates in the country primarily due to a high demand and a low supply especially in the natural gas markets.

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Good Energy is working its way through the regulatory agencies to secure approvals but that is a three (3) to six (6) month process.

However, once everything is in place and Good Energy seeks bids the Selectmen will have the final decision regarding the supplier and the rates that will be paid under this voluntary program.

S. Pimental asked about the fixed transmission fee of six (6%) percent vs. the estimated thirty-seven (37%) percent estimated savings. Therefore, the savings might be around ten (10%) percent.

J. O'Rourke stated it boils down to a transmission vs. supply question. National Grid purchases power six (6) months in advance whereas Good Energy can purchase power in the market at the best time for the consumer.

S. Vadnais asked about the purchasing of Green Energy and how that might be figured into the procurement. J. O'Rourke stated that decision is up to each community.

Walt Monroe asked about certain exemptions and if the ten (10%) exemption would still be included for agricultural uses. J. O'Rourke stated that the exemptions would still apply.

Ron Whittmore stated that National Grid does not actually sell power that they are in the business of distribution. Therefore, National Grid does not care where the power comes from.

Tish Vadnais asked what happens if a customer is currently locked into a company like Viridian. Also, what would happen if a Rehoboth resident owned property in Attleboro?

J. O'Rourke said the program will only affect customers who are on basic service with National Grid. Also, Attleboro is not currently part of this program there would not be any effect on those accounts at this point in time.

S. Vadnais asked about the small business exemption with fewer than six (6) employees. J. O'Rourke said those would continue.

8.0) BOARD OF SELECTMEN REPORTS: S. Pimental stated that the budget calendar should be adjusted slightly to provide a little bit more time for review by the Finance Committee and the Board of Selectmen given the deep cuts in the budget more discussion will be needed for some of the larger budgets. Therefore, the Board agreed to adjust the budget calendar for budget submissions to be during the first part of February.

5.0) OLD BUSINESS: None

6.0) OTHER BUSINESS: None

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7.0) OPEN PUBLIC FORUM: None

9.0) EXECUTIVE SESSION: At 7:58p.m. S. Pimental made a motion to enter into Executive Session, pursuant to Massachusetts General Law, Chapter 30A, Section 21: (3) to discuss strategy with respect to collective bargaining or litigation or potential litigation, to conduct strategy sessions in preparation for negotiations with non-union personnel and if an open meeting may have a detrimental effect on the bargaining or litigating position of the public body and the chair so declares. Second, S. Vadnais. Roll Call Vote – Vadnais – Aye; Pimental – Aye; Costello – Aye. Voted 3-0

It was noted that the Board would reconvene in open session only for the purposes of adjournment.

Topics of Discussion: Nonunion personnel matter.

10.0) ADJOURNMENT: S. Vadnais made a motion to adjourn the meeting at 8:09p.m. Second, S. Pimental. Voted 3-0

Respectfully submitted,

J. Jeffrey Ritter
Town Administrator

Approved 1/12/15