



Office of  
SELECTMEN  
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**BOARD OF SELECTMEN**  
**MEETING MONDAY, FEBRUARY 23, 2015**  
**MEETING MINUTES**  
**GLADYS L. HURRELL REHOBOTH SENIOR CENTER**

**Present:** Michael Costello, Chairman; Fredrick “Skip” Vadnais, Vice Chairman; Joseph Tito, Clerk; and Susan Pimental

**Also Present:** Jeff Ritter, Town Administrator

**Absent:** David Perry

**1.1) EXECUTIVE SESSION:** At 6:00p.m. J. Tito made a motion to enter into Executive Session, pursuant to Massachusetts General Law, Chapter 30A, and Section 21; (6) to consider the purchase, exchange, lease or value of real property if the Chair declares that an open meeting may have a detrimental effect on the negotiating position of the public body. Second, S. Pimental. Roll Call Vote – Pimental – Aye; Tito – Aye; Vadnais – Aye; Costello – Aye. Voted 4-0

**Topics of Discussion:** 280 Summer Street Pilot Agreement and Interest in Real Estate

**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: 15-33A, Withholdings, \$19,028.57; Payroll: 15-34B, \$85,215.20; Invoices: 15-34, \$79,752.79. J. Tito made a motion to approve the weekly Warrants as read. Second, S. Pimental. Voted 4-0

**Minutes:** J. Tito made a motion to approve and release the Meeting Minutes from February 17, 2015. Second, S. Pimental. Voted 4-0

J. Tito noted the Board approved in Executive Session the Executive Session Meeting Minutes from January 29, 2015 and February 17, 2015.

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**3.0 Open Forum – Announcements:** Lorraine Botts was present and provided the Board and update regarding the shed to be constructed at the Senior Center. The shed a 16x10 building with assistance from Habitat for Humanity will be constructed during the second or third week of April. However, there is still a critical need for four hundred and thirty (430) s/f of siding and two (2) doors. To date, two thousand fifty dollars (\$2,050) has been received from private donations.

M. Costello stated the next regular meeting of the Board of Selectmen will be on Monday, March 3, 2015 at 7:00p.m. at the Senior Center.

Gary Menissian was present and introduced the Ocean State Multisport Road Race which is a running marathon for about 200 participates that will be held on November 1, 2015. He has met with the Police Department. They have no objection. He will meet with the Fire Department and inform the Rehoboth Ambulance. He anticipates departmental approvals shortly.

M. Costello stated that once the approvals are received the request will be placed on the Agenda for Board action at that time.

**Town Administrator's Report:** J. Ritter reported that Michael Viveiros started working today as the new Town Mechanic. This is not a new position this is filling the position due to a retirement in the Highway Department last month. Interviews are scheduled to take place this Thursday at 2:30p.m. for the Heavy Equipment Operator.

He requested approval from the Board to take a one week vacation from Tuesday, March 10<sup>th</sup> through Tuesday March 17<sup>th</sup>. There was no objection.

J. Ritter provided an update regarding the water leak at the Public Safety Building. The insurance adjuster completed an inspection and a report is pending. Remediation work is now complete. Preliminary information provided by the insurance adjuster is that this is not a roof problem but a drainage issue. J. Ritter will invite the Public Safety Building Committee to a future meeting.

Next Monday the Board will review the special Town Meeting and Annual Town Meeting draft Warrants. Also, the FY16 budgets as submitted. There will be two new policies introduced from the Animal Control Advisory Committee.

On March 9<sup>th</sup> another application for a road race will be on the agenda. The Board will hear the preliminary report from consultants regarding the concept of a Regional Dispatch Center. Dr. Gross will be present to introduce the FY16 Budget for the Bristol Plymouth Regional Technical High School and there will be two pole hearings.

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**1.0) NEW BUSINESS: Action Item #1:** Discussion with the Animal Control Advisory Committee re: Kennel Zoning Bylaw Amendment for the May 11, 2015 Annual Town Meeting Warrant: Richard Panofsky, Chairman of the Animal Control Advisory Committee was present. R. Panofsky reviewed the proposed revisions to the Zoning Bylaws as they relate to the approval of kennels.

Different kennels need different approvals. Revisions to the Bylaws would include Board of Selectmen approval for personal kennels for residents who have more than four (4) dogs. S. Vadnais pointed out the revisions would bring Rehoboth into compliance with the laws of the Commonwealth specifically G.L. Chapter 40. A personal kennel is not a business.

M. Costello acknowledged the current Bylaw is not working well and there is a need to limit the number of dogs under the personal kennel provision. However, approval under the new Bylaw should require a Public Hearing with notice to abutters.

S. Vadnais said the Board could establish criteria and it could be similar to an entertainment license or a gravel permit.

M. Costello questioned the need for the Planning Board to hold a Public Hearing on the revisions to the Zoning Bylaw. J. Ritter will ask Town Counsel for an opinion.

J. Tito made a motion to include the Article in the Annual Town Meeting Warrant. Second, S. Vadnais. Voted 4-0

**Action Item #2: Discussion with Friends of the Rehoboth Animal Shelter re: Gutters and Two Window Frames for the Animal Shelter:** Gillian Carter and Cheryl Dussourd were present and asked about the status of the gutters. J. Ritter stated it was a very small project and he was having trouble locating a roofer/gutter installer. S. Vadnais suggested he contact JR Roofing.

They will be participating in several fundraising events including but not limited to the Psychic Fair, Memorial Day Parade, Harvest Block Party, and Council on Aging Yard Sale. The proceeds will go to continued support of the Animal Shelter and a discounted microchip seminar at the Shelter.

**Action Item #3: Vote to Appoint South Coast Rail Task Force Representative:** J. Tito made a motion to appoint Wendy Wolfe Cardarelli effective February 23, 2015 through December 31, 2015 to the South Coast Rail Task Force. Second, S. Pimental. Voted 4-0

**Action Item #4: Vote to Approve Budget Amendments for Police Department:** J. Tito made a motion to decrease budget line item 012052-51990 Police Holiday Replacement by \$249.44 and to increase budget line item 012052-51550 Police Court Time by \$249.44;

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to decrease budget line item 012203-55802 Fire Hose/Pump Repairs and Maintenance by \$251.35 and to increase budget line item 012203-51910 Fire Uniform Allowance by \$251.35.

Second, S. Pimental. Voted 4-0

**5.0) OLD BUSINESS:** None

**6.0) OTHER BUSINESS: Dighton Rehoboth School Closing:** M. Costello expressed extreme concern that the Schools were closed today after a week of for vacation. The reason for the Schools being closed is the concern about the snow levels and the weight on the roofs. The School Department had a week to clear the snow off the roofs and apparently nothing was done. Also, he was very concerned that no one from the School Department had the foresight to contact the Building Inspector for advice. Finally, today he learned there were three (3) High School students on top of the Palmer River School roof removing snow. This is a very dangerous situation and they were ordered off the roof by the Building Inspector.

He encouraged the School Committee to investigate the matter and to call in the Facilities Manager for an explanation. To find out who was responsible. This is not acceptable.

J. Tito expressed frustration that he was notified at home Monday morning at 6:00a.m. while making lunch for his daughter. More advanced notification would have been very helpful. We all have jobs and we need to arrange for child care.

S. Pimental asked why the Building Inspector was not contacted?

M. Costello we need better communication.

**7.0) OPEN PUBLIC FORUM:** Ronald Whittemore asked about the roof survey and what that might include. M. Costello said normally a roof survey would be done looking for cracks, rust and or sagging. This would also include the decking.

**Fire Chief Pray's Retirement Party:** Chief Barresi was present and reminded the Board about the upcoming party and that he had tickets if anyone is interested.

**School Budget:** Michael Deignan was present and stated that the Board of Selectmen should instruct all Departments to incorporate an appropriate cost of living increase into their budgets. This is after hearing the School Department presentation last week on the FY16 Budget.

**8.0) BOARD OF SELECTMEN REPORTS:** S. Vadnais said he witnessed on several occasions snow being pushed into the street by private contractors. Dispatchers should be notified about what the procedure is. J. Tito said Police Department personnel should respond

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Initially and it is deemed necessary the dispatchers can notify the Highway Department to respond.

**9.0) EXECUTIVE SESSION:** None

**10.0) ADJOURNMENT:** J. Tito made a motion to adjourn the meeting at 8:17p.m. Second, S. Vadnais. Voted 4-0

Respectfully submitted,

J. Jeffrey Ritter  
Town Administrator

Approved 3/2/15