



Office of  
SELECTMEN  
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Rehoboth, MA 02769

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**BOARD OF SELECTMEN  
MEETING OF THE BOARD OF SELECTMEN  
MONDAY, JUNE 28, 2021  
MEETING MINUTES  
SELECTMEN'S MEETING ROOM, TOWN HALL**

**Present:** Selectman Frederick "Skip" Vadnais, Selectman Dave Perry, Selectman James Muri, Selectman George Solas, Selectmen Michael Deignan and Interim Town Administrator Deborah Arruda

At 5:30 PM it was voted to enter into Executive Session pursuant to MGL CHAPTER 30A, §21 (3) To discuss strategy with respect to collective bargaining or 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. (6) To consider the purchase, exchange, lease or value of real estate, if the chair so declares that an open meeting may have a detrimental effect on the negotiating position of the public body

**Call to Order at 7:02 p.m.:** The Board and the public participated in the Pledge of Allegiance to the Flag.

**1.0) Consent Agenda**

**Warrants for June 28, 2021:**

J. Muri motion to approve this week's Warrant: 21-52B Payroll \$132,558.76; 21-51A Withholdings \$157,660.75; 21-52 Warrant \$74,387.61; 21-52R Refund Warrant \$9,614.90; 2-52R1 Refund Warrant \$9,604.12; 22-01V Veterans Warrant \$7,319.83. Second by M. Deignan. Vote 5-0.

**Minutes:** Executive Minutes: none  
Regular Minutes: none

**Announcements:**

Next Selectmen's Meeting will be held Tuesday, July 6 at 7 PM at Town Hall.

Town Offices will be closed on Monday, July 5<sup>th</sup> in observance of the 4<sup>th</sup> of July Holiday.

**TOWN ADMINISTRATOR'S REPORT**

Improvements to the front entrance to Town Hall are underway and should be completed by tomorrow afternoon.

In your packets I supplied you with copies of Talent Bank forms for Financial Committee, for your review. If the Board is in agreement, we can either move forward with appointments, or we can interview the individuals at an upcoming meeting.

M. Deignan appointments on for 7/6

COVID-19 one active case in Rehoboth

D. Perry reconsider for reopening Town Hall 7/6.

**NEW BUSINESS:**

**Action Item #1: Discussion with Historical Commission and CPC**

Carol Williams of the Community Preservation Committee and Mark Canuel of the Historical Commission were present. They felt that they were left out of the decision to demolish Anawan School. They feel the foundation is still sound, need to contact a structural engineer to review entire structure, before it is torn down.

Mark Canuel of the Historical Commission is very upset. The Anawan School has any used and should not be torn down. We can go through the State to get funds to rebuild. Whose fault is it the building looks like it does? Previous BOS (Ferreira /Morra) wanted to put a roof on it and it was turned down.

Selectman Solas updated everyone with information that he has collected in speaking with people that have knowledge of the structure. 15 years back the roof was not safe. 12 years ago, the building was deemed not safe to go inside. Women's Development Group came in and they were going to tear down the 2 back parts of the building. He continues to speak on the timeline of events.

Selectmen Perry updated all and shared pictures of the interior of the building with C. Williams and M. Canuel, as well as a letter from ZEO Bill McDonough. He also had a meeting with Fire Chief, Building Commissioner and the Health Agent.

- Past approval of roof repair was denied by town meeting
- We have 90 days to respond to Building Commissioner
- The only safe structure (sound)is foundation
- Approximately \$500K to clean it up and approximately another \$1M to rebuild.
- It is very dangerous.

Discussion ensued as to what could or couldn't be done to save the building and with what funds.

**Action Item #2: Discussion Re: Highway Solar Issues**

David House and Colleen Simpson have been researching the issues with the solar at the highway department. Colleen has researched the usage/savings and will be present to discuss them with the Board. David House was not able to be present today, but shared the following information with our office on his results and his recommendations:

The bullet points for the board to consider based on the information Peter Fine presents below are:

1. The current solar panels on the DPW have at least 15 years of productive life left.
2. Given the \$20,000 inverter replacement cost and projected minimal average savings of \$8,800 in town power costs per year, payback for the investment is 2.25 years with an expected 12.75 years of at least \$8,800 per year of savings totaling \$112,200 for the period.
3. New inverters come with a 10-year warrantee, unlike the 3-year warrantee inverter warrantee available 10 years ago. This means that, for at least the next 10 years, the town should not expect any large-scale investments to keep the system up and running.

Additional consideration:

The DPW photovoltaic system is essentially a power production site and, as such, requires on-going monitoring and maintenance. Skill sets for the monitoring and maintenance have not proven easy for town staff to obtain. To avoid long term downtime of the system in the future, the town has two options:

Option 1. Obtain detailed training on system maintenance for selected town workers. The town would have to research the cost and location for such training and assign specific individuals to receive training and conduct maintenance activity to ensure the maintenance occurs.

Option 2. Contractors can provide maintenance services for an additional fee. It is recommended that the town obtain maintenance contract quotes from each contractor bidding on the inverter replacement to determine the cost benefit of outside maintenance over the life of the system. An example of a maintenance quote process is US Solarworks requiring a full system survey before providing an annual maintenance quote, the cost of such survey being \$1000. The bidding process would reveal whether other contractors require a fee to provide a maintenance quote.

Conclusion:

There is definite town financial benefit to replacing the inverters on the DPW garage. Greater attention to system monitoring and maintenance is required to ensure the greatest return on investment occurs over the useful life of the system.

D. Perry motion to engage Peter Fine to review panels at Highway Garage and survey system and also give cost on maintenance. Second by J. Muri. Vote 5-0.

**Action Item #3: Vote to Approve Home Commercial Security Evaluation of Francis Farm**

Per the direction of Dave Perry, in speaking with Jason at HCS, Jason would need to evaluate the system at Francis Farm, he would like to do some spot testing of detectors in each building to confirm operation. They would also need to power up the fire alarm panel which is located in Miller Hall. Once this is complete, they can suggest what will be needed to move forward. This evaluation would take between 4-8 hours at a cost of \$120 per hour for the tech. Jason will be the backup and will not charge for his services. If the Board is in approval, HCS will forward an agreement to be signed by the Chair or ITA.

D. Perry motion to approve Home Commercial and Security to evaluate the Francis Farm systems and detectors and allow Chairman or Interim Town Administrator to sign the agreement to perform the work. Second by J. Muri. Vote 4-0. G. Solas was not present.

**Action Item #4: Vote to Approve SRPEDD MOU Energy Grant for 2021-22**

As the current energy grant is coming to a close, the town has an opportunity to apply for another grant in September. This grant will include the COA, Police Station and Town Hall (new locations). The grant provides assistance in reporting and application process for both 2021 and 2022. We will work with the Green Energy Committee on this grant as well. The Board will need to approve the Interim Town Administrator to sign the MOU.

J. Muri motion to approve the Memorandum of Understanding between SRPEDD and the Town of Rehoboth for the Massachusetts Department of Energy Resources Regional Energy Planning Assistance Grant. And to allow the Interim Town Administrator to sign the agreement. Second by M. Deignan. Vote 5-0.

**Action Item #5: Vote to Approve FY22 Material/Equipment/Services for Highway Dept.**

Background: In accordance with the Procurement Law, the Highway Dept. conducted a sealed bid process for various products and services used by the dept. throughout the year. The request for bid was advertised and the sealed bids were opened at Town Hall outside at the picnic table on Thursday, June 24 at 10 AM. Highway Superintendent Mike Costello, Highway Office Administrator Stacy Vilao read and recorded the bids. Alternate Procurement Officer Debbie Arruda kept bids secure prior to the appointed hour of opening, and witnessed the opening of the bids by Superintendent Costello and the reading of them. There was one representative present from Lynch.

D. Perry motion to approve winning bids as read by Selectman Perry, with amendment on Lynch bid. Second by J. Muri. Vote 5-0.

**Documentation:** bid list

**Action Item #6: Vote to Approve Appointments, as submitted---AMENDED 6/28 ADDITIONAL PEOPLE**

We have received additional Talent Bank forms for the Town Events Committee. Please appointment the following individuals:

Courtney Keith  
Jenn Gill  
Regan Furtado

J. Muri motion to appoint the above-mentioned individuals to the Town Events Committee, effective 7/1/2021-6/30/2022. Second by D. perry. Vote 5-0.

At our meeting on 6/8/21, the Board appointed members to the Litter Committee with the effective date of 6/8/21 to 6/30/21. We have received a request asking if the effective dates could be rescinded and revoted as 6/8/21-6/30/22 for all members? Instead of having the members be sworn in twice in a short amount of time, they will be voted in once for a year.

J. Muri motion to rescind the previous effective date of 6/8/21-6/30/21 of the following Litter Committee Members. Second by D. Perry. Vote 5-0.

Jay Crandall  
Edward Bertozzi  
Michael Costello  
Michael Ursillo  
James Whitehead, Jr.

J. Muri motion to appoint the following members of the Litter Committee, effective 6/8/2021-6/30/22. Second by M. Deignan. Vote 5-0.

Jay Crandall  
Edward Bertozzi  
Michael Costello  
Michael Ursillo  
James Whitehead, Jr.

J. Muri motion to appoint the following members to the K-8 Withdrawal Study Committee, effective 6/28/2021-12/31/2021. Second by M. Deignan. Vote 5-0.

Tim Maynard  
James "Jay" Crandall  
Susan Ohsberg  
Kelly Doran

**Action Item #7: Discussion Re: Facebook/Social Media**

M. Deignan presented a Social Media Policy draft for the Boards' review. It was presented to the IT Committee, but it was never voted out of advisory committee. There are other policies that need to be reviewed as well. G. Solas will work with J. Muri.

**Selectmen's Reports:**

**Perry:** no report

**Deignan:**

-Job Description for Assistant Treasurer is being reviewed for temporary position.

-Mask wearing in Town Hall issue

-email from Ms. Haskell re: solar on 90 Pond Street, we need to answer, add to 7/6 agenda

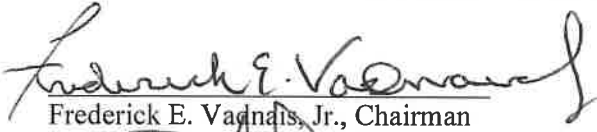
**Solas:** July Bristol Agricultural Commission aqua funds 15<sup>th</sup> waiting for more information.

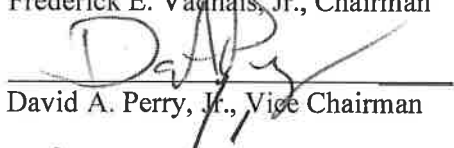
**Muri:** no report

**Vadnais:** no report

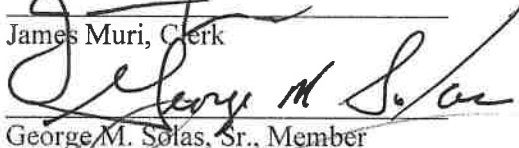
**ADJOURNMENT:** Selectmen D. Perry made a motion to adjourn the executive session at 9:25 PM and enter back into Executive Session. Second by M. Deignan.

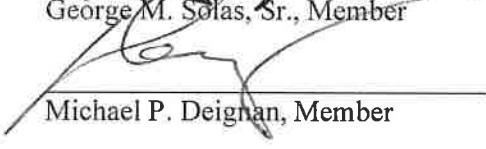
**Roll call vote. Vadnais – aye, Muri – aye, Perry -aye, Solas – aye, Deignan – aye. (5-0)**

  
Frederick E. Vadnais, Jr., Chairman

  
David A. Perry, Jr., Vice Chairman

  
James Muri, Clerk

  
George M. Solas, Sr., Member

  
Michael P. Deignan, Member

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Respectfully Submitted,  
Cindy McDonough  
Assistant to the Town Administrator

**Approved: 1/18/2022**