



Office of  
SELECTMEN  
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**BOARD OF SELECTMEN  
MEETING OF THE BOARD OF SELECTMEN  
TUESDAY, OCTOBER 13, 2020  
MEETING MINUTES  
SELECTMEN'S MEETING ROOM, TOWN HALL**

**Present:** Selectman Frederick "Skip" Vadnais; Selectman Gerry Schwall, Selectman Dave Perry, Selectman James Muri, Selectmen Michael Costello and Deborah Arruda, Interim Town Administrator

At 6:35 PM it was voted to enter into Executive Session pursuant to **MGL CHAPTER 30A, Section 21(a)**  
(1.) To discuss the reputation, character, physical condition, of an individual, or discuss the discipline or dismissal of, or complaints or charges against, a public officer, employee, staff member or individual. (2.) To conduct strategy sessions in preparation for negotiations with nonunion personnel or to conduct collective bargaining sessions or contract negotiations with nonunion personnel;

**Roll Call Vote:** Vadnais, aye; Muri, aye; Perry, aye; Schwall, aye. Vote 4-0

**Call to Order at 7:15 p.m.:** The Board and the public participated in the Pledge of Allegiance to the Flag.

**1.0) Consent Agenda**

**Warrants for October 13, 2020:** D. Perry read the weekly Warrants; 21-15B Payroll, \$119,074.34; 21-14A Withholdings, \$39,796.41; 21-15 Warrant, \$117,568.28; 21-15R Refund Warrant, \$2,530.38; 21-15R1 Refund Warrant, \$876.02. D. Perry motioned to approve the weekly Warrants as read. Second by J. Muri. Vote 5-0

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

**Announcements:**

Next Selectmen's meeting will be held on Monday, October 19th at 7:00 PM via the Zoom platform. The Board of Selectmen's meeting room will be set up for in-person voting so the Board cannot hold their meeting at Town Hall.

Town Clerk, Laura Schwall, was present to updated the Board on early voting:

- 3689 ballots went out by 10/9/2020.
- You can track your ballot online with "Track My Ballot MA".
- She went through how residents are to submit their ballots to properly vote.
- She thanked Lynn Shaker, Odete Lacourse, and Logan Shaker for all their help.
- **November 3<sup>rd</sup> Election Day** will be held at Palmer River Elementary School Gymnasium for all precincts

### **Town Administrator's Report:**

- On Wednesday, October 7<sup>th</sup> the Assessor's Office, Dave Scanlon, Gerry Schwall and myself interviewed 7 candidates for the Assessor's Administrative Aide position. All candidates did well in the interviewing process. The Assessor's will be moving onto phase II of the interview process with the applicants that they have narrowed down to. Hoping to have a decision by the end of October.
- In Person early voting will be taking place this coming weekend and will go through the end of October. All voters that would like to vote during this time can visit the Town Hall and come through the back entrance. There will be greeters at the door to help everyone navigate through the process. Mask are required! The hours are as follows:  
Saturday and Sunday-10am-2pm  
Monday-Thursday 8am-4pm  
Friday-8am-12pm
- I was able to contact Counsel and we have scheduled November 16<sup>th</sup> at 7pm to discuss the Chapter 61 process. We will invite Assessors as well.

### **NEW BUSINESS:**

#### **Action Item #1: Vote to Approve November Spending Plan**

We are continuing with our monthly spending plan and the Town Accountant has put together the spending plan for November.

J. Muri motion to approve the November 2020 Spending Plan for the amount of \$3,689,119.00 and to forward the Spending Plan to Department of Local Services. Second by M. Costello. Vote 4-0. G. Schwall abstained.

#### **Action Item #2: Vote to Approve Utility Installers License**

MJD Excavating, Inc. is submitting an application for the Utility Installation License. Highway Superintendent Mike Costello has approved the application and the work will be performed on Pine Street. All fees have been paid.

D. Perry motion to approve the Utility License for MJD Excavating, Inc. effective October 13, 2020-October 13, 2021. Second by J. Muri. Vote 4-0. M. Costello abstained.

#### **Action Item #3: Vote to Approve Employment Contract-Chief of Police**

The Board and Police Chief have had discussions on his employment contract and all have come to a mutual agreement.

G. Schwall motion to approve the Police Chief Employment Contract for James Trombetta, effective July 1, 2021 through June 30, 2027. Second by J. Muri. Vote 5-0.

#### **Discussion:**

G. Schwall remarked how fortunate we are to come together and agree. The Chief does a great job for all.

#### **Action Item #4: Appointments, as submitted**

We have an additional resident wanting to help the Town Clerk with the upcoming elections.

D. Perry motion to appoint Daniel Medeiros as Election Worker-Inspector, Unenrolled, Precinct 1, effective 10/13/2020-10/30/2021. Second by M. Costello. Vote 5-0.

The Board approved an ad hoc COA Building Advisory Committee to help with the process of rebuilding the Senior Center. The following individuals have been selected:

J. Muri motion to appoint Michael Costello to the COA Building Committee effective 10/13/2020-6/30/2021. Second by G. Schwall. Vote 4-0. M. Costello abstained.

J. Muri motion to appoint David Perry to the COA Building Committee effective 10/13/2020-6/30/2021. Second by G. Schwall. Vote 4-0. D. Perry abstained.

J. Muri motion to appoint the following individuals to the COA Building Committee effective 10/13/2020-6/30/2021. Second by G. Schwall. Vote 5-0.

William McDonough

Ryan DuVally

Ron Whitemore

**Action Item #5: Vote to Approve 11/3/2020 Election Warrant**

The Town Clerk is requesting the vote of the Board to approve the 11/3/2020 Election Warrant. As a reminder the Election will be taking place at the Palmer River Elementary School-Gymnasium for ALL 3 Precincts on 11/3 for those residents that would like to vote in person. Hours are 7:00 AM to 8:00 PM.

J. Muri motion to approve the 11/3/2020 Election Warrant as presented by the Town Clerk. Second by M. Costello. Vote 5-0.

**Action Item #6: Vote to Approve Chapter 90 Reimbursable Program Project**

Highway Superintendent Mike Costello is submitting a request for State Aid Reimbursable Program for a 2021 HV507 SFA International Dump Truck.

D. Perry motion to approve the Superintendent of the Highway Department to submit request for a 2021 HV507 SFA International Dump Truck through Chapter 90 State Aid Reimbursable Program. Second by G. Schwall. Vote 4-0. M. Costello abstained.

**Discussion:**

G. Schwall inquired how the funds were going to be used, bought or leased?

M. Costello replied, buying.

**Selectmen's Reports:**

**Perry:** no report

**Muri:** Working with Green Energy to get moving on upgrades to Town buildings. Will work with them on Police Department modular for next grant.

**Costello:**

-New Police Department is coming along. The skirting is an issue as the grade at Dartmouth was at different levels. Ordered new skirting from A&R, should arrive next week.

G. Schwall reminded him about money concerns and how we have to be careful. Hoping we can get in soon; we can use CARES money to help set-up Fire/Ambulance. Needs to be done before end of December.

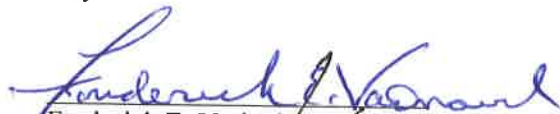
-Meeting with Bill McDonough and Vanguard to do walk through. Need to get RFP for asphalt.

-M. Costello will follow-up on generator, D. Arruda to order generator per G. Schwall.


**Schwall:** COA Annex has been set-up and Linna, Brad, Kim are all set-up. Many hands helped to put this together.

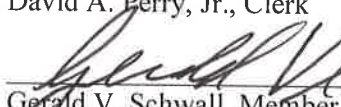
**Vadnais:** Dighton BOS sent Board a note with sincere apologies for the loss of our COA. Offered to help in any way and offered meeting space. Deb will send letter of thanks.

**ADJOURNMENT:** Selectmen M Costello made a motion to adjourn the Regular Session Meeting at 7:50 PM., Second by Selectmen G. Schwall. Perry – aye; Costello – aye; Muri – aye, and Schwall – aye, Vadnais – aye.


  
Frederick E. Vadnais, Jr., Chairman

  
James Muri, Vice Chairman

  
David A. Perry, Jr., Clerk

  
Gerald V. Schwall, Member

  
Michael Costello, Member

  
Respectfully Submitted,  
Cindy McDonough

Assistant to the Town Administrator

**Approved: 3/8/2020**