

Office of
SELECTMEN
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BOARD OF SELECTMEN
TUESDAY, OCTOBER 23, 2023
MEETING MINUTES

FRANCIS FARM - FRANCIS HALL - 27 FRANCIS FARM ROAD

Present: Selectman Frederick "Skip" Vadnais, Jr., Selectman Leonard Mills, Jr., Selectman George Solas, Sr., Selectman Robert Johnson II and Town Administrator Deborah Arruda

Absent: Selectman Michael P. Deignan

Call to Order at 7:07 PM: The meeting opened with the Board and the public participating in the pledge of Allegiance to the Flag.

Consent Agenda

Warrant:

G. Solas- motion to approve the Warrant for the week of October 23, 2023: 24-17B Payroll \$167,288.58; 24-16A Withholdings \$154,947.24; WIRE_001 Withholdings \$40.21; 24-16 Warrant \$402,537.79; 24-16V Veterans \$5,425.24. Second by R. Johnson. Vote 4-0.

Minutes: None.

Announcements:

The next scheduled meeting will be held on **Monday, October 30, 2023, 7:00 PM** at Francis Farm, in the Francis Hall Building.

TOWN ADMINISTRATOR'S REPORT

On Monday, October 30th at 7:30 PM, we will be holding a Public Hearing for Upcycle Edibles d/b/a Rehoboth Baking Company, for a 7-Day Entertainment License.

A reminder that the Rehoboth Police Department is accepting new unwrapped toy donations until December 18, 2023. Any and all donations are greatly appreciated. Let's help them fill a cruiser!

On Saturday, October 28th the Rehoboth Police Department will be taking back unwanted prescription drugs.

Also, from the Media Department- tune in to Channel 98 broadcast of the Public Safety Day held on October 8th. The broadcast will be at noon time and 7 PM and will be shown through the end of December; the Fall Festival is on daily at 12:45 PM & 7:45 PM; an upload of information about a Rehoboth resident that photographs animals can be seen at 1 PM and 8 PM.

Action Item (1): Discussion with Town Clerk and Moderator to Review the Special Town Meeting Warrant of November 7, 2023, with possible action

Present were Mr. William Cute and Town Clerk Laura Schwall to discuss the upcoming STM and to review the Articles and motions.

Mr. Cute stated he had met with Mrs. Schwall, Mrs. Arruda, Ms. Pimental and Mrs. Simpson from the Finance Committee, for a pre-Town STM meeting and discussed issues that may come up and looked at the warrant - went through the STM on Nov 7th went through the different Articles and funding sources where necessary. Also, discussed the votes that would be appropriate on each question: Article 1, would be the Capital Stabilization fund and needs a 2/3rds vote. Article 2, needs a simple majority vote and Access & Cable would be the funding source. Article 3, allow Ms. Arruda to amend on the floor, to add \$599.23 prior year bill which is not on the warrant- requires a 9/10ths vote. Article 4, majority vote. Article 5, funding source will be announced by the Finance Committee at Town Meeting - waiting for Town Counsel to determine vote required and will be know at the Meeting. Article 6, requires a 2/3rds vote and will need 75 people present for a quorum because it's a general Bylaws amendment- if quorum is not met, the article will have to be dropped. Article 7, requires a simple majority vote.

Mr. Cute recognized Mrs. Arruda for a good job preparing the warrant and, recommended the public to read the commentary she put after each question because it enables people to educate themselves on the matter at hand.

NEW BUSINESS:

Action Item (2): Vote to Approve and Sign Town Administrator's 3-year Employment Contract

G. Solas- motion to approve a 3-year contract between the TOR and Deborah Arruda, as Town Administrator, pursuant to Chapter 41 Section 108N, effective July 1, 2023 to June 30, 2026; and further to void the previous agreement for a year term 2023-2024. Second by L. Mills. Vote 4-0.

Action Item (3): Vote to Approve and Sign Side Letter Agreement Between TOR and Clerical Union Staff Member Stacy Vilao

This agreement between TOR and Stacy Vilao, Clerical Union Member is for the additional duties to help with the filings of any and all Storm Water Reports. These duties are not tied to the Office Administration position in the Clerical Union. This agreement is to be reviewed and approved by the Union.

L. Mills- motion to approve and sign side letter agreement between TOR and clerical Union staff member Stacy Vilao, subject to Union approval. Second by R. Johnson. Vote 4-0.

Action Item (4): Vote to Sign Finalized Contractual Agreement Between TOR and the Clerical Union 2022-2025 Contract

G. Solas- motion to sign the finalized contractual agreement between TOR and the clerical Union-Local 1701, effective 7/1/2022 to 6/30/2025. Second by R. Johnson. Vote 4-0.

Action Item (5): Vote to Approve and Sign Contract Between TOR and Oakhill Engineering, LLC for Surveying of 27 Francis Farm Road Conservation Restriction

G. Solas- motion to approve and sign the contract between TOR and Oakhill Engineering, LLC for the Conservation Restriction surveying at Francis Farm. Second by R. Johnson. Vote 4-0.

Action Item (6): Vote to Appoint Members to the Fair Committee-Kelli Trexler, Arthur Pierce, Jeanine Achin, Karen DaSilva and Tori Turbo

R. Johnson- motion to appoint an Ad-Hoc Committee to perform the functions of the Fair Committee. Second by L. Mills. Vote 4-0.

R. Johnson- motion to appoint the following individuals to the Fair Committee, effective 10/23/2023-6/30/2024: Kelli Trexler, Arthur Pierce, Jeanine Achin, Karen DaSilva, Tori Turco. Second by L. Mills. Vote 4-0.

Per Chairman Vadnais stated that this committee falls under the watch of Selectman Johnson.

Action Item (7): Vote to Approve One Day Liquor License for Holy Ghost Brother Hood of Charity 43 Broad Street.

G. Solas- motion to approve a One Day Liquor License for Holy Ghost Brother Hood of Charity on December 2, 2023 from 6 PM to midnight, at 43 Broad Street. Second by L. Mills. Vote 4-0.

Selectmen's Reports:

Johnson: None.

Solas: The COA held a Fall Festival last Tuesday, October 17th, in collaboration with Taunton and Dighton Seniors and over 100 seniors attended. Chico Charboneau, with the help of Lisa Halakjo, Joanne Bennett & Lisa Smith served a feast to remember.

This Monday, October 30th, Gert's Café will be hosting 'Gert's Spooky Café Halloween' themed luncheon.

Deignan: Absent.

Mills: Work continues at Town Departments, including the cleaning up of entrances so that they are visible from the street; working hand and hand with the Forestry Department, who has cleared the line of site in front of the Police Department. Also, some signs are up, although some may be in temporary positions, they are visible. Highway Department continues to work around Town completing the line paintings and filling pot holes (which have held up and not many pot holes in Town).

Urging everyone to slow down on the roads!

Vadnais: Perryville Road, going South there's a sign flashing saying speed 25 but, the other one in the opposite direction does not have a speed sign.

Working closely with Sue Pimental, Chief Financial Officer, and the Ambulance Committee. The Ambulance Committee has asked for help in order to continue services to the Town. A lot of time has been spent on the issue and a meeting will be held with a committee representative(s), to try to come to some agreement, so that they can continue serving Rehoboth residents. Hoping to come to some agreement within the next couple of weeks.

Also, have been working the Unions, etc. but nothing to report at this time.

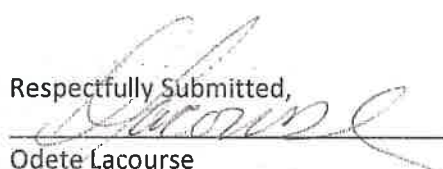
The Chair would like a proxy to attend a Boys & Girls Club event on November 15th, at 7:30 AM, and has asked Selectman Solas if available to go in his place, because the time of the event conflicts with his schedule.


Other Business:

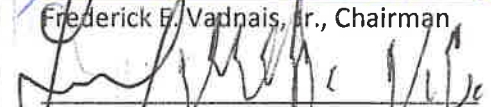
ADJOURNMENT:

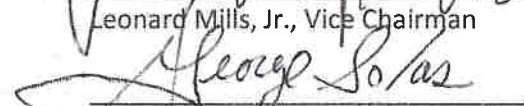
Selectman G. Solas- motion to adjourn the Regular Session at 7:34 PM. Second by Selectman M. Deignan. Vote 4-0.

Respectfully Submitted,


Odete Lacourse

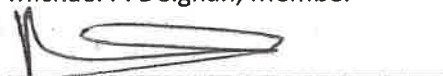

Frederick E. Vadnais, Jr., Chairman


Leonard Mills, Jr., Vice Chairman


George M. Solas, Sr., Clerk

Absent


Michael P. Deignan, Member


Robert Johnson II, Member

BOARD OF SELECTMEN

Approve: 11/6/2023