



Office of
SELECTMEN
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**BOARD OF SELECTMEN
MEETING MONDAY, OCTOBER 9, 2018
MEETING MINUTES
GLADYS L. HURRELL REHOBOTH SENIOR CENTER**

Present: Selectman Frederick "Skip" Vadnais, Selectman Gerry Schwall, Selectman Jim Muri, Selectman Dave Perry, Selectman Mike Costello, and Helen Dennen, Town Administrator.

At **6:02 PM** it was voted to enter into Executive Session pursuant to **MGL CHAPTER 30A, Section 21(a) 2.** *To conduct strategy sessions in preparation for negotiations with nonunion personnel or to conduct collective bargaining sessions or contract negotiations with nonunion personnel; 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; 4. To discuss the deployment of security personnel or devices, or strategies with respect thereto.*

Roll Call Vote: Vadnais, aye; Muri, aye; Schwall, aye; Costello, aye; Perry, aye. Vote 5-0

Call to Order at 7:00 p.m.: The Board and the public participated in the Pledge of Allegiance to the Flag.

1.0) Consent Agenda

Warrants for October 11, 2018: S. Vadnais read the weekly Warrants; 19-15B Payroll, \$95,131.46; 19-14A Withholdings, \$47,619.74, 19-14 Warrant, \$99,436.53, 19-14C Parade Warrant, \$44,925.00.
J. Muri motion to approve the Warrant as read. Second by G. Schwall. Vote 5-0.

Minutes: Regular Minutes: 6/18/18
Executive Minutes: 8/10/18 and 9/24/18

G. Schwall motion to table Regular Meeting Minutes from 6/18/18 for multiple edits as read. Second by J. Muri. Vote 5-0

S. Vadnais announced that in Executive Session the Board voted to approve and hold 8/10/18 and 9/24/18 Executive Meeting Minutes.

Open Forum – Announcements:

Reminder that the Board is invited to the Bristol Plymouth Regional School District Open House and Reception on Saturday, 10/13/18 from noon to 3:00 PM beginning with a ribbon cutting at 12:15 PM celebrating the opening of their new Engineering Technology Program and completion of the Early Childhood Education Building.

The next Selectmen's meeting will be held on Monday October 15, 2018 at 7:00 PM at the Senior Center 55 Bay State Road.

The 2018 Firefighters Memorial will be October 14, 2018 at 10:30 AM at the South Fire Station with the public cordially welcome to attend - Reception to follow.

Town Administrator's Report:

At the next meeting on 10/15/18, the Board of Assessors has asked to hold a Classification of Land for Taxation Public Hearing with the Selectmen. Hearing has been advertised and will be held at 7:15 pm here during the regular selectmen's meeting.

Helen mentioned she has provided the Board with a few changes to the Warrant.

NEW BUSINESS:

Action Item (2): 7:30 PM Public Hearing Columbia Gas Request for Roadway Utility Installation License for 109 Broad Street

Michael J. Harn, Business Development Manager, and Michael F. Kane, Director Government Affairs, were present representing Columbia Gas.

Chairman Vadnais made note of the absence of the prerequisite payment for legal notice advertisement. He stated that the other two prerequisites for the public hearing, the proof of insurance, and proof of abutter notification have been received.

M. Costello made note that even if they are allowed to be heard tonight, whether we deny or approve, they cannot do any work until the Highway Departments issues a roadway cut permit.

Chairman asked the Board whether they wish to waive the rule that the fee must be paid and continue or table and postpone before proceeding with the public hearing.

D. Perry motion to proceed and open the public hearing, trusting that the nominal fee for legal advertising to be paid tomorrow. Second by J. Muri. Vote 3-2.

G. Schwall motion to open the public hearing. Second by J. Muri.

Roll Call Vote: Vadnais, aye; Muri, aye; Schwall, aye; Costello, aye; Perry, aye. Vote 5-0

Mr. Kane and Mr. Harn spoke to the Board regarding the two residents that are awaiting gas conversion in Rehoboth, pending the street opening permits.

The Board clarified that they are not here for a street opening permit, issued by the Highway Superintendent, but for a Gas Installers License, issued by the Board of Selectmen, and that they will need both.

Gas is already in place on the streets in question, just looking to tap into it and connect to each house.

M. Costello spoke to the particulars of the job and the need for the license. The former Highway Superintendent choose not to enforce this, but is required by the by-laws.

G. Schwall questioned the safety precautions for residents that are gas customers, in regards to the recent happening in the Merrimack Valley and what is being done so that it doesn't happen in Rehoboth.

G. Schwall brought up annual fee required by the Town bylaws and the lack of payments from Columbia Gas in recent years. G. Schwall stated that he is not in favor of extending a license with these issues outstanding.

J. Muri inquired about the installer qualifications.

S. Vadnais quoted the bylaw requirements and what it is the Board needs to consider in order to consider issuing an installers license.

Carolyn Panofsky, chair of the Green Energy Committee, suggested that her committee be included in the licensing process.

No abutters were present.

Chris Gauthier, of 3 Cross Street, was present on behalf of CARCS, Citizens against the Rehoboth Compressor Station to state that they are in opposition of the Columbia Gas hook up on Broad Street. An inadequate emergency response from Columbia Gas in the recent gas explosion in Lawrence is very concerning. Encouraging any further natural gas projects encourage more pipelines. The threat of the compressor station and all the harmful effects are not gone. Based on the fact that the welfare of our Town is at stake, we encourage the Board to look to cleaner energy and less infrastructure, especially no new ones.

Diane Evers, Hillside Avenue, not an abutter but will be if service continues, stated her concerns that if gas lines will be going into the new development with several cul-de-sacs/dead ends which is also heavily wooded, a potential fire would be devastating.

J. Muri pointed out that our Fire Fighters are an on-call department.

The Board debated continuing or closing the public hearing.

G. Schwall motion to accept Columbia Gas' request to withdraw the application for gas service at 109 Broad Street and 134 Pine Street. Second by J. Muri. Vote 5-0.

S. Vadnais shared his concerns regarding the aged system and that he would be in favor of awaiting more information/reports.

J. Muri motion to close the public hearing. Second by G. Schwall.

Roll Call Vote: Vadnais, aye; Muri, aye; Schwall, aye; Costello, aye; Perry, aye. Vote 5-0

Discussion:

G. Schwall addressed how do we get word to developers in town what the bylaw states about gas service.

J. Muri suggested sending notification to Building Department and Planning Board to make developers aware of the bylaw regarding gas service in Town.

Action Item (3): 7:35 PM Public Hearing Columbia Gas Request for Roadway Utility Installation License for 134 Pine Street

Applicant withdrew their application during previous Action Item/Public Hearing.

Action Item (1): Vote to Approve & Authorize Chairman Vadnais to sign Contract for FY19 Earmark Funds for Senior Center HVAC Repairs and Upgrades

G. Schwall motion to approve and Authorize Chairman Vadnais to sign Contract for FY19 Earmark Funds for Senior Center HVAC repairs & upgrades. Second by D. Perry. Vote 5-0.

Discussion:

J. Muri- Representative Steve Howitt and Senator Paul Feeney secured a \$20,000 grant to pay for the HVAC modification that were just recently made to address issues with the system. Thank you both. Still some issues to be addressed.

Action Item (4): Vote to Accept Resignation of David L. House as Renewable Energy RFP Coordinator

G. Schwall motion to regretfully accept the resignation of David House as Rehoboth's Renewable Energy RFP Coordinator effective 10/1/2018. Mr. House has served as our Renewable Energy RFP Coordinator since January 22, 2013 and prior to that as a member of the Energy Commission since May 18, 2009. Mr. House's current appointment term was to expire on June 30, 2019. Second by M. Costello. Vote 5-0.

Discussion:

M. Costello expressed what a pleasure it was to serve with David on the Energy Commission, and his appreciation of all his hard work on grants and other solar projects.

J. Muri addressed the suggestion put forth by Mr. House in his resignation letter that the responsibilities be assigned to an employee in the future, to ensure things are addresses in a timely manner.

Action Item (5): Vote to Approve Payment to Rehoboth Antiquarian Society for \$58,817 for 2nd Quarter Payment for Blanding Library

M. Costello motion to approve payment to the Rehoboth Antiquarian Society for the second quarter payment in the amount of \$58,817.00 for the operation of the Blanding Library. Second by J. Muri. Vote 4-0. G. Schwall abstained.

Action Item (6): Vote to Approve Scott Hirshberg to REMA

G. Schwall provided the Board with the background information that although Scott does not live in Rehoboth, he comes highly recommended by Bill Maiorano and has no problem getting into town during emergencies. According to the bylaws, we would need to grant a waiver to allow such an appointment.

J. Muri motion to grant a waiver to allow Scott Hirshberg to serve on REMA. Second by G. Schwall. Vote 5-0.

G. Schwall motion to appoint Steven B. Hirshberg to REMA effective 10/9/18 through 6/30/19. Second by D. Perry. Vote 5-0

Action Item (7): Review of 10/29/18 STM Warrant

H. Dennen spoke of changes:

- Article 8: "Town will vote to appropriate", instead of prior wording.
- Article 10 and 11: asked Town counsel, said it would require a local license, for microbreweries that sell on-site.
- Minor typos to be corrected, per Laura
- Past year bill from 375th? That does not need to go on warrant because of account it paid out of.
- One other change, Chuck Procopio wants to reduce the Article 15 Park Commission for lease/license of Redway Plain from 10 to 5 years
- Added two information sheets from Town Clerk on early voting and election to fill blank pages

Action Item (8): Review of Request to Place Link on Town Website RE: Providers for Internet, Cable, Etc.

G. Schwall has reviewed the request and is not in favor of supporting a for profit business advertising on the Town's website. It is of no benefit to our local businesses.

G. Schwall motion to decline the offer to link on the town website to this. Second by M. Costello.
Vote 5-0

Action Item (9): Vote to Approve & Sign 11/6/18 State Gubernatorial Election Warrant as Submitted by the Town Clerk

G. Schwall motion to approve and sign 11/6/18 State Gubernatorial Election Warrant as provided by the Town Clerk. Second by J. Muri. Vote 5-0.

Action Item (10): Review & Approval of Job Descriptions for Assistant Tax Collector & Assistant Treasurer

Dave Scanlon was present to discuss the new job descriptions. He has worked with Tax Collector/Treasurer Cheryl Gouveia on these job descriptions.

- Assistant Tax collector, used to be an administrative aide, added educational requirements, and responsibilities.
- Both positions must be bondable.
- Assistant Treasurer position has changes to items B& D, but pretty much the same as before.

G. Schwall motion to approve the job descriptions as submitted for the Assistant Tax Collector and the Assistant Treasurer. Second by J. Muri. Vote 5-0

OLD BUSSINESS:

Action Item: Request from Hand Me Downs to Place Containers on Town Property (discussion as needed)

At this time the Board has not heard back from Town Counsel, so we don't need to address

OPEN PUBLIC FORUM

Michael and Susan McBride were present to present their report (created with George Solas) addressing the four issues that they think were most important to amending the regional school agreement.

G. Schwall suggested taking the week to review it and then talk at next meeting.

J. Muri addressed the question of Chapter 70 monies and how it is distributed.

Are minutes necessary for the advisory board, when no votes are taken? Will bring to town counsel.

SELECTMEN REPORTS

Vadnais: Nice to hear from Keith Quint, Police Officer and First Lieutenant, he has sent a letter of appreciation to Veterans Agent Jake Kramer in assisting his father Fred Quint.

Costello: Parade was a success, went off beautifully. The committee was a joy to work with. Fundraising efforts are still \$8-10 grand short of the 50 we had borrowed in repaying but will do a few more small fundraisers to square up and repay.

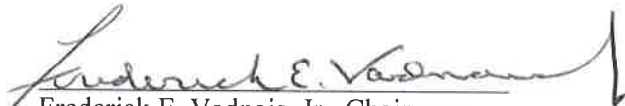
Perry: Seconded Costello's sentiments about the success of the parade and appreciated the work that went into it.

Muri: no report

Schwall:

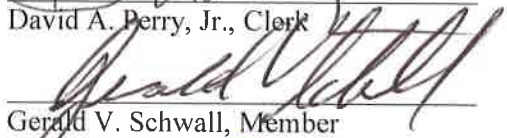
- Ghost Stories in the Cemetery Sunday night at 7:00 PM tickets available, put on by the Library.
- Before that, the Fire Fighter Memorial at Station 3 at 10:30 Sunday morning. Eagle Scout project completed. Reception to follow.
- Thank you to parade committee and Highway team's work to get ready for the parade
- Happy 90th birthday tomorrow to Neil Harrington!

ADJOURNMENT: Selectmen Schwall made a motion to adjourn the Regular Session Meeting at 9:27 PM, Second by Selectmen Costello. Vadnais - aye; Muri - aye; Perry - aye; Costello - aye, and Schwall - 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: 12/21/2020