



Office of
SELECTMEN
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**BOARD OF SELECTMEN
MEETING OF THE BOARD OF SELECTMEN
MONDAY, NOVEMBER 16, 2020
MEETING MINUTES
SELECTMEN'S MEETING ROOM, TOWN HALL**

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

At **6:30 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 or mental health, rather than professional competence, of an individual, or to discuss the discipline or dismissal of, or complaints or charges brought against, a public officer, employee, staff member or individual.

Call to Order at 7:23 p.m.: The Board and the public participated in the Pledge of Allegiance to the Flag.

1.0) Consent Agenda

Warrants for November 16, 2020: D. Perry read the weekly Warrants; 21-20B Payroll, \$109,524.43; 21-19A Withholdings, \$35,210.04; 21-20 Warrant, \$4,963,007.72. D. Perry motioned to approve the weekly Warrants as read. Second by J. Muri. Vote 4-0. G. Schwall abstained.

Minutes: Regular Minutes: none
Executive Session Minutes: none

Announcements:

The next Selectmen's Meeting will be on Monday, November 23rd at 7:00 PM, in the Selectmen's Meeting Room at Town Hall, 148 Peck St. The Board will meet with the Moderator and Town Clerk to review the Warrant for the Annual Town Meeting on December 1, 2020.

The Financial Summit Meeting has been changed to Tuesday, November 24th at 7:00 PM via Zoom. The Finance Chair wants to make certain that the residents have their copy of the Warrant prior to holding the meeting. The Warrant will also be available on the Town's website as well.

Town Administrator's Report:

A clean copy of the Warrant was provided to all members of the Board, based on last week's updates/changes. Please let me know if there are further updates, as I would like to pass the file along to the printer.

J. Muri motion to approve the Warrant as submitted to the Board this evening. Second by M. Costello. Vote 5-0.

I met with the Town Nurse last Thursday and she provided an update that the Elementary Schools' COVID cases are rising. It is essential that parents are aware of the danger in sending their child to

school. Some of the children may not have tested positive, but have been exposed by a family member or friend. The nurse in the schools and town are available if you have any questions or need guidance.

The same rule applies to town offices. It seems we have had some close calls within the last week. The Board of Selectmen's office needs to be aware of any potential cases within the buildings as well as the Town Nurse. There is a lot of contact tracing that needs to be coordinated and the sooner she knows, the faster she can react.

NEW BUSINESS:

Action Item #3: Vote to Accept Classification of Land Taxation

Members of the Board of Assessors, and Chairman Gene Campbell, were present for the annual Classification Hearing and to review the Classification of Land Taxation and recommend a single rate.

J. Muri motion to accept the Classification of Land Taxation as presented by the Board of Assessors. Second by D. Perry. Vote 5-0.

Discussion:

G. Campbell explained why the Assessors recommend a single rate versus multiple rates in town. Annual Classification meeting explained taxation. There is no advantage to use multiple rates,

Linda Greaves, Assessors Administrative Aide, explained that the Gateway LA-5 tax rate submission form for DLS. We will know what the excess levy is after Town Meeting, can't submit until after Town Meeting.

First, we need the vote to approve the single rate, then after Town Meeting will need additional vote for tax levy.

Documentation:

List of tax rates

Action Item #2: Vote to Approve Part-Time Dispatcher for Police Department

Chief Trombetta was present to request approval for Michael Peixinho as a part-time dispatcher for his department. Michael has been through all of the necessary training, certifications and passed his pre-employment physical.

J. Muri motion to approve Michael Peixinho as a part-time dispatcher for the Police Department. Second by D. Perry. Vote 5-0.

Action Item #1: Vote to approve Interim Town Nurse's Position

J. Muri presented the candidate, Jessica Potter, who currently works for the Rehoboth Ambulance Department and was highly recommended by Jaime Conlon. On Thursday, November 12, Selectman Muri, Dave Scanlon from the Personnel Board, Jaime Conlon and Debbie Arruda met with Jessica. She is a great candidate and is very familiar with the Town. Jessica's resume and application has been provided for the Board's review. We ask that the Board approve Jessica as the Interim Town Nurse.

J. Muri motion to approve Jessica Potter as a part-time Interim Town Nurse to cover for Jaime Conlon while she is on FMLA. Effective immediately through March 2021 Second by G. Schwall. Vote 5-0.

Discussion:

The Board expressed their approval and appreciation for Jessica stepping up at this time.

Action Item #4: Discussion Re: Chapter 61 Procedures

Town Counsel, Jay Talerman, was present to discuss the procedure for Chapter 61 and answer any questions the Board may have. He went through the benefits of Chapter Land for Towns and explained the three different variations for Chapter 61 (forestry), 61 A (agricultural) and 61B (recreational). He talked about the obligations of a seller to notify the Town prior to selling/converting land that is in Chapter and how that notice is what triggers the right of first refusal process of up to 120 days (45 days after the State of Emergency is lifted).

Action Item #5: Vote to Approve the December Spending Plan as Submitted by the Town Accountant

In an abundance of caution, the accountant prepared the December Spending Plan for the Boards approval.

M. Costello motion to approve the December 2020 Spending Plan for the amount of \$2,659,600.00 and to forward the Spending Plan to the Department of Local Services, if necessary. Second by J. Muri. Vote 4-0 G. Schwall abstained.

Discussion:

G. Schwall stated we will need to process before 12/1 to be live to spend. When Town Meeting occurs, spending plan will become null and void. We need to have money available on 12/1 to pay bills.

Action Item #6: Vote to Accept Resignation of Elizabeth Alcock

The Town Clerk's office received 2 letters of resignation from Elizabeth, one as an election worker and one as a member of the Cultural Council. Elizabeth will be moving out of state for a while and will not be able to serve on these committees. She is very grateful for the opportunity to have been able to volunteer for the town.

J. Muri motion to accept Elizabeth Alcock's resignation as an Election Worker and as a member of the Cultural Council, effective immediately. Second by M. Costello. Vote 5-0.

Discussion:

The Board expressed their appreciation.

Selectmen's Reports:

Schwall:

-Spoke to Steve Sloan and will send info to Town Planner about Chapter 61 land and nonprofit sources available to help them acquire them

-S. Vadnais – We need a plan in place for parcels in town that we would like to preserve and keep in Chapter. He agreed with the need to find funding sources but adds that we need a plan of which are priorities to fund.

-D. Perry -Why can't we use list from Assessor's to review?

-J. Muri- Open Space plan needs to be reviewed

-S. Vadnais -Need PB/ConCom and Carol Williams to review "Plan"

-Secured another grant, to address food insecurities, working with Linna/Jake and Bill Dalpe for residents in town for the holidays. Thank you, Rep Howitt and Sen Feeney.

-If the Board okays, I would be applying for another grant for Safe Space Grant as well, for more outdoor space for safe outdoor recreation. BOS okay that I look into it? BOS agreed.

Muri:

Will work with Planning Board to work on "Open Space"

Costello:

Hoping to get asphalt by end of week for PD area and will get quote to Deb this week

Perry:


First meeting of Senior Center Reconstruction.

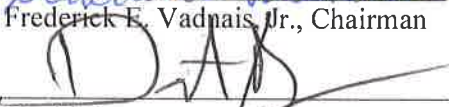
- Gave RFP to Deb to send to Counsel to review.
- OPM-looking at Bill McDonough as a possibility, keeping in house, would have Town's interest in mind, could save us some money. For Board to approve.
- Need architect to further discuss
- 3 areas to consider Dorrance Land, Anawan Street, and current area, Bay State Road
- Looking at stand-alone building and concept of having future Town Hall

Vadnais:

- Letter from Francis Farm, need to speak to Collector regarding payment plan
- Mr. Ruhan, proposal to buy parcel at 50 Reynolds Ave. Need proposal in writing.

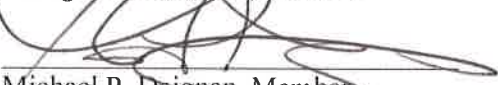
ADJOURNMENT: Selectmen Perry made a motion to adjourn the Regular Session Meeting at 8:30 PM., Second by Selectmen Schwall. Perry – aye; Muri – aye, Vadnais – aye, Costello-aye, Schwall-aye.

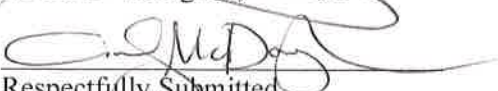

Frederick E. Vadnais, Jr., Chairman


David A. Perry, Jr., Vice Chairman


James Muri, Clerk


George M. Solas, Sr., Member


Michael P. Deignan, Member


Respectfully Submitted,
Cindy McDonough

Assistant to the Town Administrator

Approved: 4/12/2021