



Office of
SELECTMEN
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**BOARD OF SELECTMEN
MEETING OF THE BOARD OF SELECTMEN
MONDAY, NOVEMBER 2, 2020
MEETING MINUTES
SELECTMEN'S MEETING ROOM, TOWN HALL**

Present: Selectman Frederick "Skip" Vadnais, Selectman Dave Perry, Selectman James Muri, and Deborah Arruda, Interim Town Administrator

Absent:
Selectman Gerry Schwall, Selectmen Michael Costello

Call to Order at 7:01 p.m.:

1.0) Consent Agenda

Warrants for November 2, 2020: D. Perry read the weekly Warrants; 21-18B Payroll, \$108,554.15; 21-17A Withholdings, \$36,513.75; 21-17 Warrant, \$477,244.72; 21-18R Refund Warrant, \$32,411.84; 21-18R1 Refund Warrant, \$568.93. D. Perry motioned to approve the weekly Warrants as read. Second by J. Muri. Vote 3-0.

Minutes: Regular Minutes: 10/22/2018
Executive Session Minutes: none

D. Perry motion to approve the Regular Meeting Minutes from 10/22/2018 with minor edits. Second by J. Muri. Vote 3-0.

Announcements:

Next Selectmen's Meeting will be tomorrow night, at 6:00 PM Tuesday, November 3rd at Town Hall, 148 Peck Street; for Executive Session only.

The Selectmen will be meeting again on Monday, November 9th at 7:00 PM, in the Selectmen's Meeting Room at Town Hall, 148 Peck St.

Town Administrator's Report:

- Reminder, tomorrow November 3rd is Election Day. All Precincts will vote at the Palmer River Elementary School-Gymnasium. Polls open at 7AM – 8PM. The Town Clerk's office is asking all attendees to please wear face coverings. Thank you to all residents that have already voted during the Early In-Person voting Session. As of Friday, October 30th, approximately 2000 residents attended early voting. Town Clerk's office also received approximately 4000 mail in ballots as well.

- Town Counsel has reviewed and made all proper changes to the Highway Superintendent's Contract. Copies will be provided in the Selectmen's packets for next week for your review and vote.
- Our Veteran's Officer Jake Kramer has asked me to announce that there will be a small social-distanced Veteran's Day Ceremony on November 11th at 11:00 AM at Redway Plain. The Minutemen will be present to fire a volley to honor all veterans, and the Boy Scouts will present their Eagle Scout project of granite benches.
- COVID-19 updates, Town Nurse, Rehoboth in the red, as is surrounding towns. Starting Friday Gov Baker issues curfew, for restaurants, gyms from 10:00PM till 5:00AM.

NEW BUSINESS:

Action Item #1: Discussion re: Letter to Petitioners from the Board

Michael McBride and James (Jay) Crandall were present to represent the group of petitioners wanting to place an Article on the Town Meeting Warrant to withdraw grades K-8 from the Regional School District in accordance with Section 9 of the Regional Agreement.

The Board of Selectmen have set the date for the Annual Town meeting for December 1st. Chairman Vadnais explained why we need to have Town Meeting, in order to set the tax rate, but are faced with several obstacles of holding a large gathering as such, due to the COVID-19 restrictions. Therefore, the plan is to keep the Warrant as non-contentious as possible so as to keep the number of attendees low. Postponing this Article by petition will help keep the numbers down.

Each member of the Board present, Jim Muri, Skip Vadnais, and Dave Perry, personally pledged that they would make sure it was on the next Warrant after the state of emergency is lifted.

J. Muri motion to accept the Petitioners' letter to postpone the Article on K-8 de-regionalization and to add it to the next Town Meeting Warrant after the State of Emergency is lifted, with placement as the first order of business. Second by D. Perry. Vote 3-0.

Discussion:

Financial Summit that will cover what is on the Warrant will be held before Town Meeting, with Finance Committee member Michael Deignan. Town Moderator Bill Cute will also hold a mock Town Meeting to go through how the meeting will play out. Call-ins will be allowed for residents to have their questions answered regarding the budget numbers, so everyone can have a complete understanding of what will be voted on at Town meeting.

Documentation: list of petitioners' signatures

Action Item #2: Vote to Approve Superior Officers MASSCOP #208 MOA

After much discussion, both Union and the Board members have agreed on a Memorandum of Agreement for the Superiors.

D. Perry motioned to accept the Memorandum of agreement (MOA) between the Town of Rehoboth and MASSCOP local #208- Superior Officers Association for the term of 6/30/2020-6/30/2021. Second by J. Muri. Vote 3-0.

Discussion:

J. Muri-Due to the pandemic, it makes it hard to work together, but things came together.

S. Vadnais- This MOA is only for 1 year, more work to come.

Action Item #3: Vote to Approve Grant Application for the Fire Department

Chief Barresi is requesting the Board's approval on a grant that will assist in the repurposing of acquired equipment from REMA to the Fire Department. The total grant is \$3500, but the Fire Department is looking for \$1500 for LED Light Retrofit.

J. Muri motion to approve the application and authorize the Chair to sign the contract for the grant to assist in the repurpose of acquired equipment from REMA to the Fire Department. Second by D. Perry. Vote 3-0.

Action Item #4: Vote to approve Proclamations for 90th Birthday Recipients

Steve Silva from the COA Board is requesting the Selectmen to put together Proclamations for residents that have or will be turning 90 this year. A "drive-by" celebration will take place on November 7th at the Palmer River School. Gathering at 10am and then departing at 10:30. Selectmen Perry will be joining the celebration with Rep Howitt and handing the proclamation out to the recipients.

J. Muri motion to approve and accept the proclamations for the following 90th Birthday recipients:

Dolores Bubier
Beverly Costa
Manuel Costa
Shirley Goff
Mildred Hamlin

Second by D. Perry. Vote 3-0.

Discussion:

D. perry remarked what an honor it is to meet these individuals who have done and seen so much over their ninety years.

Action Item #5: Vote Appointments, as submitted

The Building Commissioner, Bill McDonough is asking the Boards' vote to accept another alternate Plumbing and gas inspector.

D. Perry motion to approve Paul Haselton as the Second Alternate Plumbing and Gas Inspector effective 11/2/2020-6/30/2021. Second by J. Muri. Vote 3-0.

Discussion:

D. Perry stated he has known Paul for years, and he is an excellent choice.

Action Item #6: Vote to Accept Resignation

The Town Clerk's office and Board of Selectmen's office received the resignation of Jake Kramer from the Town Events Committee. Jake's dedication and hard work will be missed.

J. Muri motion to accept the resignation from John "Jake" Kramer from the Town Events Committee, effective immediately. Second by D. Perry. Vote 3-0.

Discussion:

J. Muri remarked that Jake has served our Town in so many ways and thanked him for all his work.

D. Perry concurred that Jake has done a lot for the Town.

Action Item #7: Discussion Re: Sgt. Norman Todd's Retirement Request

The Board of Selectmen's office received a letter from Norman Todd rescinding his previous letter of April 2020 to retire in December 2020. We motioned to accept his retirement letter, so now we need to motion to rescind it.

D. Perry motion to accept Sgt. Todd's rescinding of retirement from April 2020. Second by J. Muri. Vote 3-0.

Documentation: Todd's letter of resignation, read into record by S. Vadnais.

Selectmen's Reports:

Perry: Spoke about Insurance article to hold a spot on the upcoming Warrant. Deb has already spoken to Counsel and has wording.

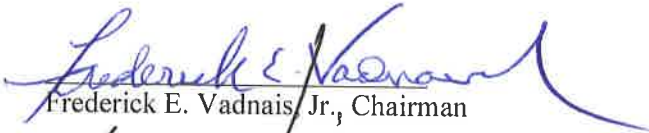
Muri: Found out we have someone interested in filling the temporary Town Nurse position.

Costello: absent

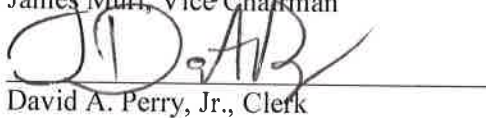
Schwall: absent

Vadnais: no report

ADJOURNMENT: Selectmen Perry made a motion to adjourn the Regular Session Meeting at 7:35 PM., Second by Selectmen Muri. Perry – aye; Muri – aye, Vadnais – aye.

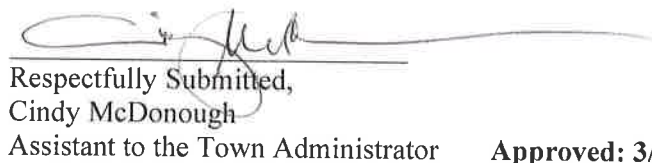

Frederick E. Vadnais, Jr., Chairman


James Muri, Vice Chairman


David A. Perry, Jr., Clerk

_____ absent _____
Gerald V. Schwall, Member

_____ absent _____
Michael Costello, Member


Respectfully Submitted,
Cindy McDonough
Assistant to the Town Administrator

Approved: 3/8/2020