



Office of
SELECTMEN
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**BOARD OF SELECTMEN
MEETING TUESDAY, JANUARY 22, 2019
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 **6:00 PM** it was voted to enter into Executive Session pursuant to **MGL CHAPTER 30A, Section 21(a) (2)** *To conduct strategy sessions in preparations 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;*

Roll Call Vote: Schwall, aye; Vadnais, aye; Perry, aye; Costello, aye; Muri, 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 January 24, 2019: S. Vadnais read the weekly Warrants; 19-30B Payroll, \$96,366.84; 19-29A Withholdings, \$28,599.02, 19-29 Warrant, \$91,377.23; 19-30V Veterans \$9,300.40. G. Schwall motion to approve the Warrant as read. Second by J. Muri. Vote 5-0.

Minutes: Regular Minutes: none
Executive Session Minutes: 1/14/19

Open Forum – Announcements:

The Board of Selectmen will be holding two Open Meeting Law Presentation being conducted by our Town Attorney Jay Talerma on February 13th; one at 3:00 PM at the Rehoboth Town Offices in the Selectmen's meeting Room and one at 7:00 PM in the evening at the Town Offices. Everyone is welcome. The Board strongly encourages all chairmen and vice chairmen of any of our Town committees and boards to attend.

The next Selectmen's meeting will be held on Monday, January 28, 2019 at 7:00 PM at the COA on 55 Bay State Road, Rehoboth.

Cheryl Gouveia, Tax Collector, informed the residents that 3rd quarter taxes are due on February 1st, 2019. If you are having trouble paying your taxes due to the government shutdown, contact our office at 508-252-3751 and we can set up a payment plan. Also, when the tax bills were printed, there was a misprint with about 50 accounts and so they did not receive their tax bill on time. If that includes you, please call

508-252-3262 and you will have an extra week to pay without a late fee, as they received them a week late.

Town Administrator's Report:

Rehoboth Green Energy Committee will be hosting a presentation by Seth Pickering, Regional Coordinator for the Green Communities at DOER on "Green Energy and the Stretch Code" next week on 1/28/2019.

Cathy Potter contacted office regarding an issue with the wiring and electric heat at Hornbine School.

- Board inquired about the nature of the repair and discussed how this might be the sign of a bigger problem
- Board elected J. Muri to look into it further

A resident has offered his services to the town as a state licensed auctioneer, free of charge, when he was at town offices recently regarding his business license.

Confirmed that S. Vadnais would be attending the Bristol County Advisory Board Meeting on 1/31/2019.

Scheduled interviews for Facilities Manager for 2/5/2019 with J. Muri and Dave Scanlon.

Dorrance Building electric has been switched on as of 1/18/19. National Grid has address listed as 350 Anawan, not 2 South Old Ananwan. Board agreed to change it once we receive our first electric bill.

Lindley Road and Sprague Road title searches are complete and sent to Attorney Talerman. He will prepare a report for the Board.

Two town vehicles at town offices, what would the Board like to do with them? Board would like to keep them for now, no need to surplus just yet.

A tentative date has been scheduled as 2/11/2019 for Algonquin Gas to come before the Board to discuss the moratorium on all non-emergency gas work with in the Town. Board confirmed that date.

Received estimates from Dave Lenart for the EAP for the Perryville Dam, at \$35,000. He will have a conversation with Bill Maiorano regarding mapping before presenting to the Board.

G. Schwall asked if Helen had communicated with the School Department yet regarding the need to have the meeting comply with Open Meeting Law, the same as any other meeting. Helen had not yet.

G. Schwall inquired about the security measures at Town Offices. Helen confirmed they have been taken care of.

S. Vadnais inquired if they should occasionally have someone do walk throughs of the new building as it is unoccupied. J. Muri will, as well as a walk through with the previous owner.

NEW BUSINESS:

Action Item (1): 7:15 PM Public Hearing Pole Location - Walnut Street

M. Costello motion to vote to open the public hearing. Second by D. Perry.

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

No abutters were present to speak either for or against.

G. Schwall motion to close the public hearing. Second by D. Perry.

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

Discussion:

Mike Fraser from National Grid explained that this is a new pole, reason being tree guard to guide wire. The hanging pole will be replacing a tree with a pole because tree is gone. New pole is to anchor an existing pole.

M. Costello motion to approve request from National Grid to install solely owned Pole 4607-84 and anchor to support existing pole 4607 on Walnut Street. Second by G. Schwall. Vote 5-0.

Action Item (2): 7:20 PM Pole Hearing for Plain Street

M. Costello motion to vote to open the public hearing. Second by D. Perry.

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

No abutters were present to speak either for or against.

M. Costello motion to close the public hearing. Second by J. Muri.

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

Discussion:

Mike Fraser from National Grid commented that this one is for service at 151 Plain Street. Reason for Pole is that customer wants to go underground.

J. Muri motion to approve the request from National Grid and Verizon jointly to install Pole 742-51 and anchor for a new residential service at 151 Plain Street. Second by M. Costello. Vote 5-0

Action Item (3): Vote to Approve & Sign Contract Between TOR & Daniel Roach

D. Perry motion to approve and sign contract with Daniel Roach commencing February 1, 2019 and ending January 31, 2022 for the position of Town Planner/Conservation Agent. Second by M. Costello. Vote 5-0.

Action Item (4): Continued Discussion: 275 Anawan Auto Application for Class II Auto License- Review of Class II Auto License & Additional Information Requested

The Board at their meeting on 1/14/2019 voted to approve the transfer of the Class II Auto License previously held by Borges Auto for 257 Anawan Street to Mark Almeida (sole member of) 257 Anawan LLC dba Anawan Auto with the following conditions which the Chairman read into the record:

- No mechanical repairs, body repairs, oil changes are to be performed at 257 Anawan location
- Hours of Operation: 7:00 AM to 8:00 PM Monday – Saturday; Sunday Sales only 12:00 noon to 4:00 PM
- No on/off deliveries on roadway

- Deliveries restricted to 9:00 AM to 5:00 PM Monday through Saturday & no deliveries on Sunday
- Maximum number of vehicles on site is 50 vehicles
- Signage allowed only as per Town of Rehoboth Zoning Bylaws
- Term of License 1/14/2019 through 12/31/2019
- Under the terms and conditions of the Description of Duties on file with the Town

The Board requested a memorandum of understanding be submitted to the description of duties document.

M. Costello motion that the document that the Chair read be put into the record. Second by G. Schwall. Vote 5-0.

Action Item (5): Discussion with Tree Warden Robert Johnson Re: Request for Trees to be Removed on Calisto Drive

Rob Johnson, Tree Warden appeared before the Board to discuss an issue with 13 black walnut trees on Calisto Drive. He has received several complaints from residents pertaining to the messiness of the trees' pods as well as the way their roots come up through the roadway and driveways. Johnson is proposing to remove the trees and have the Highway Department grind the stumps, repair lawns. He would like to bring before a public hearing. The Board advised on the need to coordinate with the Planning Board.

M. Costello motion to schedule a Public Hearing with the Tree Warden regarding the removal of trees on Calisto Drive for February 11, 2019. Second by D. Perry. Vote 5-0

M. Costello motion to amend the date on said hearing to March 18, 2019. Second by J. Muri. Vote 5-0.

Action Item (6): Vote to Designate Animal Control Officers for the Town of Rehoboth

We have received notice from the Department of Agricultural Resources in accordance with MGL C. 140 s. 151a to designate an animal control officer.

M. Costello motion to certify that Robert E. Johnson II and Brian McKearney have been designated as Animal Control Officers by our municipality to perform the duties described in MGL C. 140 s. 151 for 2019. Second by J. Muri. Vote 5-0.

Action Item (7): Reserve Fund Transfer BOS \$9,000

D. Perry motion to approve the following Request for Transfer from the Reserve Fund. Second by G. Schwall. Vote 5-0.

Intro Line #	Department	Balance in Account	Amount of Transfer
011513-53069	Special Legal Counsel	\$38,157.30	\$9,000.00

The reserve fund was approved by the Finance Committee on 1/17/19.

Action Item (8): Review of Non-binding Ballot Question

S. Vadnais proposed placing a non-binding question on the 4/1/19 Election Warrant regarding natural gas, worded as such:

Non-binding ballot question #1:

Do you approve of natural gas companies being allowed to extend gas lines within the Town of Rehoboth to provide the availability of natural gas service to residence and businesses addressed with in the Town? Yes or No

G. Schwall motion to approve the wording of the above mentioned non-binding question. Second by M. Costello. Vote 5-0

Action Item (9): Review of FY20 Budget Guidelines

G. Schwall spoke to the current timetable allowing people to procrastinate. He proposed meeting with Department Heads on 2/18, doing reviews 2/18-3/11, then on 3/18 voting to approve the preliminary budgets, to then be ready to give to the Finance Committee on the 19th. Then FinCom can schedule meetings with the Department Heads. Then we can sign Warrant on 4/17 and have it to the printers in time for the May 13th meeting. Therefore replace 15th of March with 15th of February. Replace question marks with February 18th – 3/11. Next 3/18, selectmen to FinCom 3/19.

G. Schwall motion to make this the timetable. Second by J. Muri. Vote 5-0.

G. Schwall proposed the following timetable for budget reviews:

- BOS Budget review on 2/18/19
- Building Department and Fire Department on 2/25/19
- Forestry and Highway on 3/4/19
- BOH and Police Dept on 3/11/19

J. Muri motion to approve the changes to the schedule. Second by M. Costello. Vote 5-0

Action Item (10): Reappointment of 375th Anniversary Committee Members

D. Perry motion to appoint Cynthia Lee and Jennifer LeComte to the 375th Steering Committee effective 1/1/19 through 6/30/19. Second by G. Schwall. Vote 5-0.

Action Item (11): Vote to Approve COA Volunteers

J. Muri motion to appoint Ralph Arquin, Reginald Berry and Susan Berry to volunteer at the Senior Center. Second by M. Costello. Vote 5-0.

Action Item (12): Vote to Approve Payment to Rehoboth Antiquarian Society for \$6,741.89 Received by Town in State Aid to Public Libraries for Blanding Library

D. Perry motion to approve payment to the Rehoboth Antiquarian Society in the amount of \$6,741.89 for funds received by the Town of Rehoboth in State Aid to Public Libraries for the operation of the Blanding Library. Second by M. Costello. Vote 5-0

Action Item (13): Discussion Re: Request to Place Information on Town Website from Awareness Advocate/The Recovery Village

G. Schwall reviewed the site and gave his opinion that this appears to be an advertisement rather than a service offered to local residence, and therefore should not be on the Town's website.

G. Schwall motioned not to post the information for The Recovery Village on the Town's website. Second by M. Costello. Vote 4-0 J. Muri abstained.

Action Item (14): Request from Ryan DuVally for Update on Gas Moratorium & Gas Services & Work in Town

Ryan DuVally appeared before the Board to follow up on a recent discussion regarding the moratorium placed on new natural gas services and work in town. He currently has four new homes that were under

contract before the moratorium was placed that are now unable to have the gas service installed in their homes.

Discussion ensued amongst the Board and Mr. DuVally including the need to clarify the current bylaws, the difference between a license and a permit and the process for applying for a license.

G. Schwall motion to entertain an exemption to the gas moratorium on 4 locations given that they were under contract before the moratorium was placed. Second by M. Costello. Vote 5-0

S. Vadnais stressed that the vote we took did not grant them permission to do anything. It just said we would be willing to listen to them coming in to apply for a license for those 4 properties.

M. Costello elaborated, saying that we are giving Mr. DuVally the go-ahead to get a hold of them and tell them they have to come before the Board for a public hearing and get a license and then once license is issued, if Board approves, then submit to the State for an exemption.

Action Item (15): Discussion Re: Pre-Apprenticeship & Vocational School Training Program

Mike Costello, Highway Superintendent, spoke of a Pre-Apprenticeship and Vocational School Program sponsored by University of Massachusetts and the Mass DOT.

- 2 students eligible, from Bristol Plymouth Vocational Tech, can only pick one
- State will reimburse pay up to \$14 per hour
- They would work one week, school for one week, alternating for 4 weeks.
- Would be hired as temporary employees, no interference with unions
- Would only need to have Workers Comp insurance from Town

D. Perry motion to enter into this program. Second by G. Schwall. Vote 4-0. M. Costello abstained.

S. Vadnais suggested leaving it up to the Highway superintendent to choose the best candidate.

Action Item (16): Application for Permit to Access State Highway for Rehoboth Highway to Perform Emergency Work on Route 44

Highway Superintendent Mike Costello has submitted application for a permit to Access State Highway in Rehoboth from the Dighton line to the Seekonk line to perform emergency work only. This permit needs to be filed for every year.

G. Schwall motion to approve. Second by D. Perry. Vote 4-0 M. Costello abstained.

OPEN PUBLIC FORUM

none

SELECTMEN REPORTS

Muri: HVAC work surplus equipment come before Board, logistics with moving it.

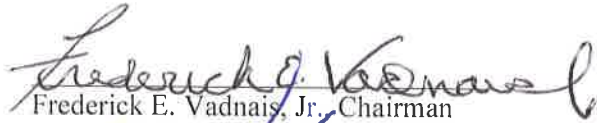
Costello: I have to say my crew did an outstanding job this weekend. Contractors came, ice, sleet, snow, flash freeze get out right away – clear openings right out and salt and sanding, very proud of them.

Schwall: Update on Planet Earth collection bins. It is the responsibility of the individual, who has been addressed to have it cleaned up.

Perry: Keep in mind, once it ices up, it takes two hours for the trucks to sand the whole town, so be patient.

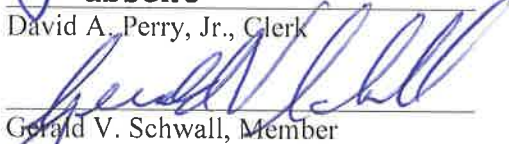
Vadnais: Rep. Howitt let him know that resurfacing bids for Route 44 are going out, should be repaved by Fall.

ADJOURNMENT: Selectmen Costello made a motion to adjourn the Regular Session Meeting at 8:49 PM, Second by Selectmen Schwall. Vadnais – aye; Perry – aye; Costello – aye; Muri – aye, and Schwall – aye

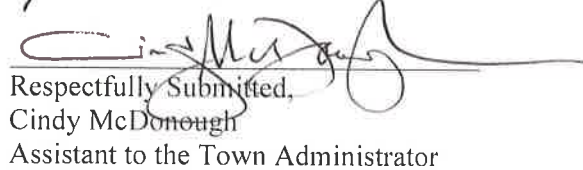

Frederick E. Vadnais, Jr., Chairman


James Muri, Vice Chairman

absent
David A. Perry, Jr., Clerk


Gerald V. Schwall, Member


Michael Costello, Member


Respectfully Submitted,
Cindy McDonough
Assistant to the Town Administrator

Approved: 07/27/2020