



Office of
SELECTMEN
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**BOARD OF SELECTMEN
MEETING OF THE BOARD OF SELECTMEN
MONDAY, MARCH 15, 2021
MEETING MINUTES
SELECTMEN'S MEETING ROOM, TOWN HALL**

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

At 6:05PM it was voted to enter into executive session pursuant to MGL CHAPTER 30A, §21 (1) *To discuss the reputation, character, physical condition or mental health, rather than professional competence, of an individual, or discuss the discipline or dismissal of, or complaints or charges against, a public officer, employee, staff member or individual.* (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.* (6) *To consider the purchase, exchange, lease or value of real estate, if the chair so declares that an open meeting may have a detrimental effect on the negotiating position of the public body.*

Call to Order at 7:25 p.m.: The Board and the public participated in the Pledge of Allegiance to the Flag.

1.0) Consent Agenda

Warrants for March 15, 2021:

D. Perry motion to approve this week's Warrant: 21-37B Payroll \$111,196.19; 21-36A Withholdings \$29,607.00; 21-37 Warrant \$74,657.38. Second by J. Muri. Vote 4-0. G. Schwall abstained.

Minutes: Executive Minutes: 8/8/2020, 11/3/2020, 1/11/2021(tabled), 2/22/2021, and 3/1/2021
Regular Minutes: 9/14/2020

J. Muri motion to approve the Regular Meeting Minutes from September 14, 2020. Second by G. Schwall. Vote 4-0. D. Perry abstained.

Announcements:

The next Board of Selectmen's meeting will be held Monday, March 22, 2021 at 7 PM at Town Hall.

Town Administrator's Report:

Town Meeting Update: Per Town Counsel, M.G.L. Chapter 39, Sec 9 allows the BOS in conjunction with the Moderator to hold Town Meeting outside of our area. I have reached out to our Moderator and he is on board with this and I have also reached out to the Ramada Inn, they are available and holding the date. I just need the "vote" from the Board to confirm with the Ramada. Included in the Agenda.

Keep Rehoboth Beautiful: The committee will be holding their annual town clean up on 4/18-4/25. All Covid protocols will be followed, social distancing, wearing masks & gloves, and hand sanitizing during breaks. The registration information and instructions will be on their website. The orange trash bags and

t-shirts will be handed to the volunteers outdoors at certain locations; distributions dates will be listed on the website as well.

COA-OPM Updates: Per direction of the Board, after receiving the draft on RFQ (Request for Qualifications) for an OPM from Town Counsel in mid-January, I reached out to other towns for any input on projects and OPM's that they could share with me. I was not so successful in being able to retrieve that information. However, Jim Muri asked that I reach out to a consultant that possibly could help me. The gentleman was able to provide me with 2 OPM's earlier this month, one from Taunton and one from Freetown. I reviewed them both; made some notes and sent them last Wednesday evening to our Town Counsel to incorporate some information that I felt should be included into our "draft." Town Counsel will be working on it this week. I have also asked Mike Costello when the draft is sent to me if he would review it with the COA Advisory Committee, especially our Building Commissioner on the "Scope of Work" for the new building. Once the draft is approved, we can move on to the next step which would be to advertise the RFQ.

Update from the Town Nurse: COVID case numbers 43 cases this month, 22 probable cases this month. School Students will have the option of returning to full in-person learning based on guidance from DESE, beginning on April 5 for K-4th grade, April 7 for 5th grade, April 28 for 6th – 8th, and the return of grades 9th -11th are yet to be determined.

UPDATE ON COVID VACCINATION CLINIC:

This week focused on second doses for individuals. The freezer has arrived, we can now use it to be a depot. Disappointedly, the State has cancelled first doses to all clinic sites except State Sites for this week from ordering. Happy to report, the survey for the Homebound is live as of today. If you can't fill out the survey, call the Health Department and Amy Brown will help you. If you need a ride, please call the Veterans Service Office.

NEW BUSINESS:

Action Item #3: Discussion: Boy Scout Eagle Project Presentation

Rob Johnson, animal Control Officer, along with Boy Scout Daniel Savary, were present to present his suggested Eagle Project to the Board. The project includes a livestock fence area, and 2 benches in front of area so people can greet animals at Animal Shelter.

M. Costello motion to authorize Daniel and his Troop with adult supervision to complete this Eagle Project. Second by G. Schwall. Vote 5-0.

Action Item #1: Vote to Approve and Sign Snow Removal Deficit Invoices for Payment

D. Perry motion to approve payment of the invoices for snow removal, totaling \$1780.00 Second by J. Muri. Vote 4-0. M. Costello abstained.

Discussion:

The Board does not need to approve each week. Once they approve deficit spending for the snow removal invoices, they can just be notified of the amounts.

Action Item #2: Vote to Approve Town Election Warrant and Discuss Updates for April 6th Election

Town Clerk Laura Schwall was present to review updates on the April 6th Town Election and to ask the Board for their vote on the Election warrant. On March 9th the school committee approved the use of D. L. Beckwith Middle school for the election. Based on recent legislation passed on March 11th (which extends the provisions of Chapter 45 & 255 of the Acts of 2020), in both the House and Senate and is currently awaiting the Governor's signature, the emergency legislation "allows, upon a recorded and public vote by

the Board of Selectmen, authorizing early in-person voting, any eligible voter of such municipality to vote early in-person for any annual or special municipal election held on or before June 30, 2021”.

G. Schwall motion to approve Early In-Person voting for the April 6 2021 Rehoboth Annual Town Election. Said days and hours of Early In-Person voting shall be established by the Town Clerk and are included in the is motion as follows:

Saturday, March 27	10:00AM – 2:00 PM
Monday, March 29	8:00 AM - 4:00 PM
Tuesday March 30	8:00 AM - 4:00 PM
Wednesday March 31	8:00 AM – 4:00 PM
Thursday April 1	8:00 AM – 4:00 PM

All Early In-Person voting shall take place at the Rehoboth Town Hall, 148 Peck Street, Rehoboth, MA 02769. Approval of this motion is contingent upon Governor Baker signing the legislation, which is on his desk awaiting his signature. Second by M. Costello. Vote 5-0.

M. Costello motion to approve the April 6th Election Warrant. Second by D. Perry. Vote 5-0.

Action Item #4: Vote to Approve New Location for Annual Town Meeting – May 11, 2021, if needed

Interim Town Administrator Debbie Arruda announced that per town counsel, we are allowed to hold the Annual Town Meeting at the Ramada Inn.

G. Schwall motion to approve holding our May 11th Annual Town Meeting at the Ramada Inn at 213 Taunton Ave, Seekonk, MA 02771. Second by J. Muri. Vote 5-0.

Action Item #5: Discussion: FY22 Budget Approvals, Possible Action Taken

Finance Committee Chair, Mike Deignan, was present to talk about the budget and answer any questions, and to ask for the Board’s vote to release the budgets to the Finance Committee so that they may review them at their next scheduled meeting.

G. Schwall motioned to release the FY22 Town Budget reports to the Finance Committee for review, consideration and vote. Second by M. Costello. Vote 5-0.

Action Item #6: Ratify Vote on Volunteer Appointments for the Vaccination Center

The Chairman appointed the following residents by request of Selectman Schwall to work at the vaccination center. The vote needs to be ratified by the Board.

M. Costello motion to ratify the following appointments for “working/volunteering at the Vaccination Center” effective 3/8/2021-12/31/2021: Charlotte Castro, Maureen Whittemore, Jane Daggett, Cathy Machala, Jeanne O’Malley, Jennifer Lecomte, and Jessica Shaw. Second by G. Schwall. Vote 5-0.

Action Item #7: Vote Appointments, as submitted

Steve Silva, Chairman of the Economic Development Committee is requesting to appoint Amanda Salvatore to the Committee. This appointment will be the 8th member.

D. Perry motion to appoint Amanda Salvatore to the Economic Development Committee, effective 3/15/2021-6/30/2021. Second by M. Costello. Vote 5-0.

Action Item #8: Discussion: Travel Policy Update- New State Updates

On March 10th, the Dept of Public Health updated the travel policy for those individuals entering into Massachusetts, as follows:

- o Persons Who Have Been Completely Vaccinated for COVID-19: Individuals who have received two doses of either the Moderna or Pfizer COVID-19 vaccines OR who have received a single dose

of the Janssen vaccine, more than 14 days ago and who do not have symptoms, do not need to obtain a negative test prior to traveling to, or quarantine upon arrival to, Massachusetts. COVID-19 vaccinated individuals arriving in Massachusetts must have documentation of their vaccination(s), including the date(s) of administration, available if asked. This exception does not include vaccinated individuals who have symptoms of COVID-19, who must follow all testing and quarantine guidance outlined in the travel rules

M. Costello motion to amend the current temporary town travel policy to include vaccinated individuals. Second by G. Schwall. Vote 5-0.

Selectmen's Reports:

Schwall:

-Thank you to Dave Scanlon who began training Department Heads today on giving performance reviews.
-American Rescue plan, by Gov/Fed to cities/towns to help with COVID, Rehoboth will be receiving money, need more time to review packet.

Costello:

-Police Department Updates-Septic complete, electric complete, waiting for generator, flooring 60%complete, Derek working on fiber optics, cell units, getting quotes - Ted Rowse, Ramps going in, waiting on contractor, key pads/alarms are in.
-Thank you to Deb Arruda and Dave Scanlon for help with the interviewing process. The new Highway hire will start 3/29.

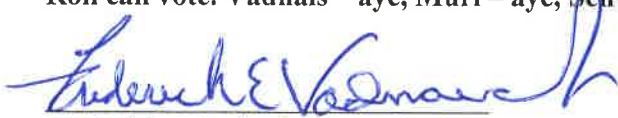
Perry: no report

Muri: Anticipating the end of the pandemic, Linna has been looking at alternate venues to hold COA events, classes, etc.

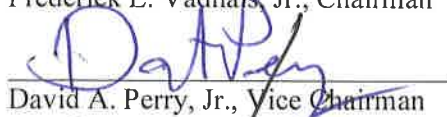
Vadnais: no report

ADJOURNMENT: Selectmen Perry made a motion to adjourn the executive session at 8:18 PM. Second by J. Muri.

Roll call vote. Vadnais – aye, Muri – aye, Schwall-aye, Perry -aye, Costello-aye.



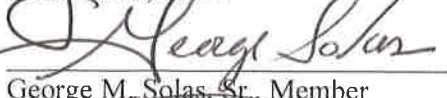
Frederick E. Vadnais, Jr., Chairman



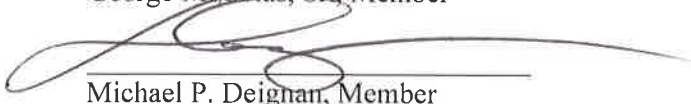
David A. Perry, Jr., Vice Chairman



James Muri, Clerk



George M. Solas, Sr., Member



Michael P. Deignan, Member



Respectfully Submitted,

Cindy McDonough

Assistant to the Town Administrator

Approved: 9/20/2021