



Office of
SELECTMEN
148 Peck Street
Rehoboth, MA 02769

Tel.: (508) 252-3758
Fax: (508) 252-5342

**BOARD OF SELECTMEN
MEETING OF THE BOARD OF SELECTMEN
MONDAY, MARCH 22, 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

Call to Order at 7:05 p.m.: The Board and the public participated in the Pledge of Allegiance to the Flag.

1.0) Consent Agenda

Warrants for March 22, 2021:

D. Perry motion to approve this week's Warrant: 21-38B Payroll \$118,407.69; 21-37A Withholdings \$31,891.84; 21-38 Warrant \$110,664.67. Second by J. Muri. Vote 4-0. G. Schwall abstained.

Minutes: Executive Minutes: none
Regular Minutes: none

Announcements:

The next Board of Selectmen's meeting will be held Monday, March 29, 2021 at 7 PM at Town Hall.

Town Clerk Laura Schwall was present to bring the Town Election Warrant mailer to the residents' attention. It includes an application for a mail in ballot if you would like. Deadline to drop off your ballot is March 31st at 5:00pm. Hours of early in-person voting will be Saturday March 27th, 10:00am to 2:00PM, Monday March 29th through Thursday April 1st, 8:00am to 4:00pm, here at Town Hall. Please enter through the rear door. Election Day polling location will be at Beckwith Middle School from 7:00am to 8:00pm.

Town Administrator's Report:

Update from the Town Nurse: Residences in isolation or quarantine (within 90 days), 260. Probable case, 14 (within last month). Confirmed positive cases, 30 (within last month).

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.

Snow Deficit Notifications: Last week the Board discussed the approval process with the Snow Deficit Invoices and the Town Accountant notifying the Board of the deficit. This week the Board was provided with additional invoices which were included in the Warrant for approval. Skip would like to clarify how the Board would like to proceed after the initial Deficit vote has been taken, (i.e. in the correspondence section of the packets, as a discussion item only on the agenda, or additional votes by the BOS on the agenda?). Copies of the invoices have been included in your packets as well as the M.G.L. Chapter 44, sec. 31D explanation.

The Board agreed that once they take a vote to authorize deficit spending, then any invoices are then included on warrant and their approval is made by their approval of the warrant.

UPDATE ON COVID VACCINATION CLINIC:

G. Schwall gave an update on the Vaccination Center. Waiting on first doses, which is unacceptable. Has reached out to State. Senator Feeney video conference this week with Secretary Sudders to review situation. Will update next week. Second doses will be given this week. Might be a depot for feds due to our freezer capacity and ability to hold vaccine, waiting for more information.

NEW BUSINESS:

Action Item #1: Vote to Approve and Sign the Nomination of Inspector of Animals Forms

Annually our office receives from the Department of Agricultural Resources, nomination forms for the Inspector of Animals. This information has been verified by our office and is due back to the Division of Animal Health by April 1st.

D. Perry motion to approve and nominate Robert E. Johnson, II and Brian McKearney for Inspectors of Animals, per M.G.L. Chapter 129, sec 15 and 16, effective 5/1/2021-4/30/2022. Second by J. Muri. Vote 5-0.

Action Item #2: Vote to Approve Highway New Hire-Truck Driver/Laborer

Highway Superintendent Mike Costello, Interim Town Administrator Debbie Arruda and Personnel Board Chair Dave Scanlon interviewed 5 candidates early this month for the Truck Driver/Laborer's position. All candidates interviewed well and it made it harder to choose one. We are happy to announce that Joshua McCabe has accepted the position. Contingent upon a successful DOT physical and CORI check, Joshua's start date will be 3/29/21.

D. Perry motion to approve Joshua McCabe as Truck Driver/Laborer for the Highway Dept, effective 3/29. Contingent upon a successful DOT physical and CORI check. Second by G. Schwall. Vote 4-0. M. Costello abstained.

Action Item #3: Discussion on 125 Tremont Street-Form M, Possible Action Taken

The Planning Board has provided the Board with their Form M documents on 125 Tremont Street. The is a "change of use" application process. There is an existing building on the property, the changes that will be made is adding additional wood fencing to the front of the property (small section) and remove existing business sign and replace it with the new business name (sign will be the same size as the one that is there). No gravel will be moved.

The Board discussed and agreed that no action was necessary and that it was not an actionable item for the Gravel Committee. No application is required.

D. Perry motion to vote No Gravel Committee Meeting or application is necessary and no recommendations for 125 Tremont Street location at this time. Second by J. Muri. Vote 5-0.

Action Item #4: Vote Appointments, as submitted

We have some additional volunteers to appoint for Working/Volunteering at the Vaccination Center.

D. Perry motion to appoint the following individuals for "Working/Volunteering at the Vaccination Center" effective 3/8/2021 – 12/31/2021. Second by G. Schwall. Vote 5-0.

Sandra Phillips

Douglas Gobeille

William Maiorano

Meredith Inman
Linda Brightman
Katherine Melo

Action Item #5: Discussion on Amended Travel Policy, Possible Action Taken

M. Costello motion to table the vote to amend the current Town Travel Policy. Second by J. Muri.
Vote 5-0.

Selectmen's Reports:

Vadnais:

-Questioned who would be doing the department heads' performance reviews. Selectmen Schwall explained how the reviews would be done by the individual's liaison and the Town Administrator. This does not include the Police Chief and Fire Chief and TA, whose reviews will be done by the Board.
-Rep Howitt is asking if we have any requests for earmark funds. The Board discussed suggestions, possibly something for the new Police Department, possibilities include fire alarms, security cameras, exterior lighting. The areas that usually get approved are for public safety or seniors. Will ask for \$35,000 to "bring public safety building up to code."

Schwall:

- Has been approached regarding 90 Pond Street and the Boy Scouts intent to put a solar farm on their property and the neighbor's disapproval. This is under the Planning Boards purview. The BOS has tried to come up with an alternative solution but the owners were not interested.
- Residents concern regarding the speed limit on Peck Street: what can be done to reduce? Will post limit signs, but wait to see if 35MPH limit passes at Town Meeting, otherwise it would be posted as 40MPH.

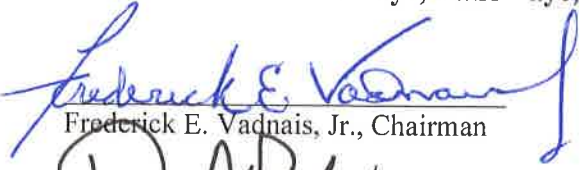
Costello: no report

Perry: no report

Muri: no report

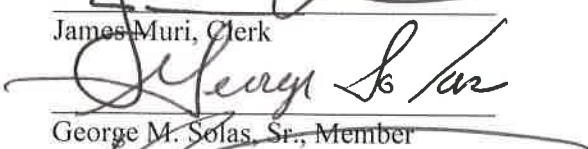
ADJOURNMENT: Selectmen Costello made a motion to adjourn the executive session at 7:55 PM.
Second by G. Schwall.

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

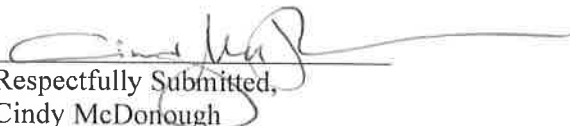

Frederick E. Vadnais, Jr., Chairman


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: 9/27/2021**