



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
TUESDAY, APRIL 20, 2021
MEETING MINUTES
SELECTMEN'S MEETING ROOM, TOWN HALL**

Present: Selectman Frederick "Skip" Vadnais, Selectman James Muri, Selectman Dave Perry, Selectman George Solas, Selectmen Michael Deignan and Interim Town Administrator Deborah Arruda

At 6:30 PM it was voted to enter into Executive Session pursuant to MGL CHAPTER 30A, §21 (4) *To discuss the deployment of or strategy regarding security personnel or devices, e.g., a sting operation.* (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 7:53 p.m.: The Board and the public participated in the Pledge of Allegiance to the Flag.

1.0) Consent Agenda

Warrants for April 20, 2021:

J. Muri motion to approve this week's Warrant: 21-42B Payroll \$106,964.46; 21-41A Withholdings \$37,629.95; 21-42 Warrant \$63,834.97. Second by M. Deignan. Vote 5-0.

Minutes: Executive Minutes: 10/26/2020
Regular Minutes: 10/26/2020

J. Muri motion to approve the Regular Meeting Minutes from October 26, 2020. Second by M. Deignan. Vote 5-0.

Announcements:

The next Board of Selectmen's meeting will be held Monday, April 26, 2021 at 7 PM at Town Hall.

The Rehoboth Antiquarian Society would like to announce their Annual Scholarship for \$1000. The Rehoboth Antiquarian Society (RAS) will award a scholarship to one or more students accepted by or enrolled in a post-secondary program related to museum or library studies. Applications are due June 15th. More information can be found on their website, RehobothAntiquarian.org/RAS-scholarship

Dave Perry regretfully announced the passing of Jim Sine, our Plumbing Inspector for 18 years (8 as the alternate, 10 as our full-time inspector). The Board observed a moment of silence in Jim's honor.

Town Administrator's Report:

Forestry Dept: We have posted on our Town Website a job opening for the Forestry Dept. Rob Johnson is looking for a Full Time Laborer. Please view the website for more information and send in your application to the Board of Selectmen.

Transfer Station: We are still in need of a Part Time Monitor for the Transfer Station. Please send applications to the Board of Selectmen's office.

NEW BUSINESS:

Action Item #2: Discussion Re: Council on Aging

Gerry Schwall was present and updated the Board and residents on possibly purchasing Francis Farm for use as the new COA Senior Center. It has 47 acres of land, several buildings, 2 commercial kitchens, 2 outdoor pavilions, an office building, all the furniture, and plenty of open space. The purchase of this building will not raise real estate taxes and will provide an immediate solution to the problem of replacing the Senior Center, all while preserving a community landmark and valuable open space. The funding source will be the insurance proceeds as well as CPC funds and grants.

Action Item #1: Discussion Re: Town Hall

Gerry Schwall updated Board and public on the possibility of purchasing the Kane Building for use as a new Town Office Building. The location, 340 Anawan Street, next door to the existing Public Safety Building and across from the Highway Department, makes for a more convenient location for residents and easier to find for out-of-town visitors. The building is 11,000 square feet, and sits on over 2 acres. It can be easily expanded for future growth. The purchase price is \$995,000, which is 1/3 of estimated costs of renovating existing Town Hall and a fraction of the \$6,500,000 cost to construct a new one. Residents agreed that a new building was necessary, however they did not want taxes raised. Funding for this purchase would come from budget savings, reoccurring revenue from the solar and marijuana projects, and state and federal grants. The purchase of this will not raise real estate taxes and will meet the need of town government.

Chairman Vadnais announced that in Executive Session the Board voted to accept the Purchase and Sales agreements for both of these properties, subject to Town Meeting approval. Now we need to open the warrant.

D. Perry motion to open Annual Town Meeting Warrant for placement of these three articles. Second by J. Muri.

D. Perry motion to authorize Articles necessary to purchase Francis Farm to provide the facilities necessary to service the needs our Council on Aging. Second by J. Muri. Vote 5-0.

M. Deignan motion to authorize all Article to purchase Kane Building for use as Town Hall. Second by J. Muri. Vote 5-0.

M. Deignan motion to accept a warrant Article for Special Legislation for Treasurer/Collector Position. Second by G. Solas. Vote 5-0.

D. Perry motion to close the Warrant. Second by G. Solas. Vote 5-0.

Action Item #3: Vote to Accept State Aid for Blanding Library

J. Muri motion to accept state aid of \$9214.28 and to allow the Treasurer's office to pass on those funds to the Antiquarian Society for the operation of the Blanding Library, per our contract. Second by G. Solas. Vote 5-0.

Action Item #4: Vote to Accept Warrant Article for Special Legislation for Treasurer/Collector

Per previous discussion with our current Treasurer/Collector Cheryl Gouveia and our Town Counsel, we are proposing to move the Treasurer/Collector's position from an elected position to an appointed position because of the specialized nature of the job and the knowledge necessary to perform the job, which has changed over the years.

M. Deignan motion to vote to accept the warrant article for special legislation for the Treasurer/Collector position as outlined in the packet. Second by D. Perry. Vote 5-0.

Action Item #6: Vote to Approve Appointments, as submitted

The Cultural Council has received a talent bank form from Mackenzie Morgenweck and they are requesting the Board's approval to accept Mackenzie as a new member.

J. Muri motion to appoint Mackenzie Morgenweck to the Cultural Council, effective 4/20/2021-4/20/2024, Second by M. Deignan. Vote 5-0.

Action Item #7: Discussion and Possible Action on Town Meeting Warrant

J. Muri motion to table discussion of warrant until next week. Second by M. Deignan. Vote 5-0.

Action Item #5: Vote to Approve New Job Description- Treasurer/Collector Position

Based on Special Legislation from the previous action item, a new job description has been drafted and needs to be submitted to the Personnel Board for their review and approval.

M. Deignan motion to allow Interim Town Administrator to forward the Treasurer/Collector job description to the Personnel Board for their review and approval. Second by J. Muri. Vote 5-0.

Selectmen's Reports:

Deignan: regarding Audits of Town of Rehoboth and Bristol Plymouth:

-Bristol Plymouth, on page 9, spoke about no deficiency- means they continue to be good custodians of funds that are paid by tax payers.

-Powers and Sullivan- also mentions no deficiency, good custodian of funds. Board agreed. He asks that a copy be posted on Town webpage

Solas: no report

Perry: no report

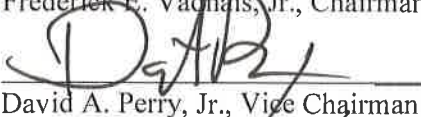
Muri: spoke of thank you letter to Officer Beaudoin from residents.

Vadnais: no report

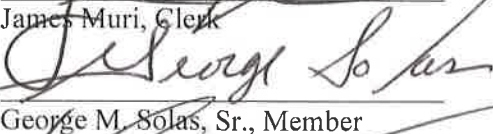
ADJOURNMENT: Selectmen D. Perry made a motion to adjourn the executive session at 8:24 PM. Second by M. Deignan.

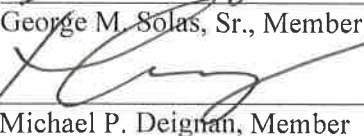
Roll call vote. Vadnais – aye, Muri – aye, Perry -aye, Solas – aye, Deignan – aye.


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