



Office of
SELECTMEN
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**BOARD OF SELECTMEN
MEETING MONDAY, APRIL 6, 2020
MEETING MINUTES
GLADYS L. HURRELL REHOBOTH SENIOR CENTER**

Present: Selectman Gerry Schwall, Selectman Frederick "Skip" Vadnais, Selectman Dave Perry, Selectman James Muri, and Selectman Michael Costello

Viewing Live: Deborah Arruda, Interim 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 preparation for negotiations with nonunion personnel or to conduct collective bargaining sessions or contract negotiations with nonunion personnel;***

On a motion made by Selectman Perry, seconded by Selectman Muri, the Board voted to enter into Executive Session.

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

Call to Order at 7:06 p.m.: The Board and the public participated in the Pledge of Allegiance to the Flag.

1.0) Consent Agenda

Warrants for April 6th, 2020: G. Schwall read the weekly Warrants; 20-40A Withholdings, \$29,813.80, 20-41B Payroll, \$100,920.49; 20-40 Warrant, \$21,350.51; 20-40VS Veterans Warrant, \$687.00. S. Vadnais motioned to approve the weekly Warrants as read. Second by J. Muri. Vote 5-0

Minutes:

Regular Minutes: July 8, 2019

J. Muri motioned to approve the Regular Meeting Minutes for July 8, 2019. Second by S. Vadnais. Vote 5-0.

Regular Minutes: August 19, 2019

M. Costello motioned to approve Regular Meeting Minutes for August 19, 2019. Second by S. Vadnais. Vote 3-0. J. Muri and D. Perry abstained.

Regular Minutes: August 26, 2019

J. Muri motioned to approve Regular Meeting Minutes for August 26, 2019. Second by D. Perry. Vote 5-0.

Regular Minutes: October 7, 2019

J. Muri motioned to approve Regular Meeting Minutes for October 7, 2019, Second by D. Perry. Vote 4-0. S. Vadnais abstained.

Regular Minutes: October 16, 2019

J. Muri motioned to approve Regular Meeting Minutes for October 16, 2019. Second by D. Perry.
Vote 5-0.

Regular minutes: October 21, 2019

J. Muri motioned to approve Regular Meeting Minutes for October 21, 2019. Second by D. Perry.
Vote 5-0.

Open Forum – Announcements:

G. Schwall stated that Keep Rehoboth Beautiful has postponed their scheduled clean up until the fall. Encouraged the public to get a bag, go outside on a nice spring day and do some clean up. Practice social distancing. The Highway Department will take care of picking up the bags.

G. Schwall stated to complete the 2020 Census; it is required.

G. Schwall stated to visit the COVID-19 webpage on the town website for updates to town services. There is also a list of items donated.

G. Schwall stated there is a Great Easter Egg Hunt going on. You can print the page with the egg on it, color it, and hang it on your mailbox. It is a great way for families to get out, driving in their cars to see if the kids can spot them. Please practice social distancing.

G. Schwall recognized the church in the village for posting signs around town with a message of peace.

The next regularly scheduled Board of Selectmen's meeting will be Monday, April 13 at the COA at 7:00PM.

D. Perry stated that some politicians have taken this opportunity to use to their advantage. Please listen to Chairman Schwall's advise because time is precious.

J. Muri stated that the COA is making masks for the seniors. Meals on Wheels are still being delivered. Donation care packages are being compiled and left at the vestibule. Check our website for updates. The Library updates were posted today.

G. Schwall stated that masks that are being donated should be washed and dried prior to being used.

J. Muri stated that elastic for the making of masks is in short supply. G. Schwall stated that we have ordered some to help.

S. Vadnais stated that farmers are essential workers. Please follow the guidelines for social distancing. This is not business as usual. Farmer's Markets are considered essential but he would advise against it.

NEW BUSINESS:

Action Item #1 Coronavirus (COVID – 19) Taskforce Update

G. Schwall read the statement which included decisions made over the past few weeks and additional information of importance as received from local, state and federal agencies.

Action Item #2: Vote to Continue Public Hearing to a Future Date RE: National Grid and Verizon New England, Inc. Pole Hearing.

J. Muri motioned to continue the public pole hearing for National Grid and Verizon New England, Inc. until May 11, 2020. Second by S. Vadnais. Vote 5-0.

Action Item #3 Request from National Grid for Temporary Waiver to Noise Regulations RE: Reynolds Avenue Project

M. Costello stated that they first need a Utility License, and a Trench Permit second. We need to verify noise decimals and their hours of operation are usually 7-4 Monday – Saturday. They are looking for some flexibility on hours of operation. They may run over the 4PM time frame; depending on what type of job they are doing.

D. Perry stated that the Planning Board should take all things into consideration.

M. Costello stated that the Board can put stipulations on the licensees. They may hit ledge.

S. Vadnais stated that if they hit ledge, they will deal with it. The job is ok. It benefits the entire community.

J. Muri stated the Planning Board has ok'd the Special Permit. He didn't think that this has anything to do with the Board. We can send a letter to the Planning Board listing all aspects of what the town is ok with.

G. Schwall asked if the Board should refer this to the Town Planner?

J. Muri replied yes, they are the issuing authority.

Action Item #4: Vote to Extend Relief Under Provisions of H.4598 as Enacted by the General Court

J. Muri motioned pursuant to H.4598 Section 10 to delay the May 1, 2020 real estate tax due date to June 1, 2020. Second by D. Perry. Vote 5-0.

J. Muri motioned pursuant to H.4598 Section 11 to waive interest and penalty for late payment of excise tax made after its respective due date but before June 30, 2020. Second by D. Perry. Vote 5-0.

Discussion: G. Schwall stated that if you can pay on time to please do so. If not then pay by June 1st.

OLD BUSINESS:

None

DEPARTMENT HEAD REPORTS

Selectmen's Reports:

Vadnais: no report

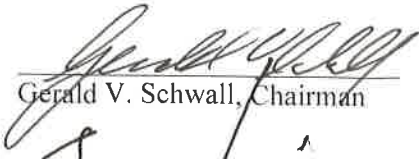
Schwall: There will be no election tomorrow. June 30th is the new date. Absentee ballots will be held until June 30, 2020 or you can still apply for one. Ballots will have April 7, 2020 date on them. We are still allowed to use them.


Perry: Sturdy Memorial Hospital has a great staff. They are very professional. Thanked them for all their help. They handled his family's business very well and they were very compassionate.

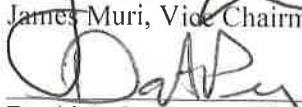
Muri: A resident had asked if you could transmit the COVID-19 through well water. Well water is safe.

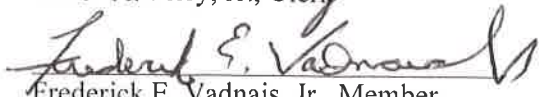
Costello: Dr. Azar asked to have a meeting with myself, Chairman Schwall, the Finance Committee Chairman, Mr. Kitchen, and the School Committee Chairman. G. Schwall and I decided that I would take the lead on this. There was no meeting held until this past Friday. The meeting went well. Comments on social media were wrong.

ADJOURNMENT: Selectmen J. Muri made a motion to adjourn the Regular Session Meeting at 8:04 PM., Second by Selectmen M. Costello. Vote 5-0



Gerald V. Schwall, Chairman


James Muri, Vice Chairman


David A. Perry, Jr., Clerk


Frederick E. Vadnais, Jr., Member


Michael Costello, Member


Respectfully Submitted,
Deborah Arruda
Interim Town Administrator

Approved 5/26/20