



Office of
SELECTMEN
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**BOARD OF SELECTMEN
MEETING OF THE BOARD OF SELECTMEN
MONDAY, AUGUST 29, 2022
MEETING MINUTES
FRANCIS HALL BUILDING, FRANCIS FARM
27 FRANCIS FARM ROAD**

Present: Selectman Frederick "Skip" Vadnais, Selectmen Michael Deignan, Selectman Robert Johnson II, Selectman Leonard Mills Jr., and Interim Town Administrator Deborah Arruda

Absent: Selectman George Solas

Call to Order at 7:11 p.m.: The Board and the public participated in the Pledge of Allegiance to the Flag.

1.0) Consent Agenda

Warrant for August 29, 2022:

M. Deignan motion to approve the Warrant for the week of August 29, 2022: 23-09B Payroll \$134,023.79; 23-08A Withholdings \$173,733.84; 23-08 Warrant \$428,938.74; 23-08V Veterans Warrant \$7,215.81. Second by L. Mills. Vote 4-0.

Minutes: Executive Minutes: none

Regular Minutes: 6/13/22, 6/21/22, 6/27/22

M. Deignan motion to approve Regular Meeting Minutes for June 13, 2022. Second by R. Johnson. Vote 4-0.

M. Deignan motion to approve Regular Meeting Minutes for June 21, 2022. Second by R. Johnson. Vote 4-0.

M. Deignan motion to approve Regular Meeting Minutes for June 27, 2022. Second by R. Johnson. Vote 4-0.

Announcements:

The next BOS meeting will be held on Tuesday, September 6, 2022 7pm at Francis Farm in the Francis Hall Building.

Wishing everyone a safe Labor Day Holiday!

TOWN ADMINISTRATOR'S REPORT

At the Sept 6th BOS meeting we will have a public hearing for Hillside Country Club. The hearing will be for a manager change, financial officers changing and financial investment changes.

The Board of Health and FinCom are looking for residents that are willing to volunteer a few hours a month to help with the needs of their committees. Please send in a Talent Bank Form to the BOS office if you are interested. Thank you.

OPEN PUBLIC FORUM:

Geri Hamel, Public Health Nurse, gave a health update:

1. COVID: Hospital admissions have not changed much in the area. Geri stated that home testing being done does not allow for accurate reporting from the State.
2. Monkey Pox: There are 280 cases in Massachusetts.

S. Vadnais suggested updates be given to the BOS if/when a Monkey Pox case is reported in Town.

3. Concern: Many children have not visited Doctors due to COVID, so they are not updated on their vaccines. In result, many different cases of diseases are increasing.
4. Geri is working with Chief Trombetta on a substance abuse program in the area.
5. Flu shots will be available for scheduling at Anawan Pharmacy in the near future.

M. Deignan asked Geri about the availability of NOVA vaccine. Geri wasn't sure of the status, and will update the Board next week.

NEW BUSINESS:

Action Item (1): Vote to Approve & Sign North Bristol County Public Health Alliance Grant-Shared Services Statement of Commitment

Per last week's presentation with Geri Hamel and Anne Marie Fleming, both the BOH and Dr. Lambe and Dr. Thayer recommend that we join the other communities with this grant.

S. Vadnais asked Mr. Panofsky to update the public on his findings about the Shared Service. Mr. Panofsky stated it is a good, reasonable program and will help the Board of Health and nurse area.

Rachel Smith stated the Board of Health reviewed and recommend participating in the program.

M. Deignan asked some questions about how the program will work. The Town will be dealing with North Attleboro for requests if a need comes up. Ms. Smith and Mr. Panofsky stated no money will be transferred to the Town. Whatever the need for the town, the program will provide an expert. M. Deignan was concerned with Rehoboth not getting much help from the program because we are a smaller community. Mr. Panofsky said the program asks for all communities to work together and provide needs that will be requested.

R. Johnson motion to approve the signing of the Statement of Commitment letter for the North Bristol County Public Health Alliance Grant for Shared Services. Second by L. Mills. Vote 4-0.

Action Item (2): Vote to Approve New Hires-Andrew Prata for the Facility Maintenance Dept and Aaron Sousa for the Highway Dept.

Lenny Mills spoke to this action on the new hires for both these departments. CORI checks were done and physicals completed and passed. Andrew started on 8/24 and Aaron started today 8/29.

L. Mills motion to approve Andrew Prata and Aaron Sousa as new hires for the Town of Rehoboth. Second by R. Johnson. Vote 4-0.

Action Item (3): Vote to Closeout 2020-21 Green Community Project Grant

Per our discussion last week with Carolyn Panofsky regarding the closing of the grant. The Board decided it would be a good idea to vote the closing of the grant so it is official and on record. The final 2 invoices are included in this week's warrant and payment will be mailed out tomorrow before the grant closing of 9/2. The remaining reporting of documents is due late October and the BOS staff will be working with Carolyn and SRPEDD to complete the process. The 2022 grant opportunities will be in Sept.

M. Deignan motion to close out the 2020-2021 Green Community Project Grant, submit final payments and final reporting by the appropriate deadlines. Second by R. Johnson. Vote 4-0.

Action Item (4): Vote to Approve Appointment to Agricultural & Natural Resources Preservation Council-Parks Commission Rep-Lissa Solas

The Parks Commission voted at their July meeting to appoint Lissa Solas as their representative to the Agricultural & Natural Resources Preservation Council. They are asking of the BOS final approval.

M. Deignan motion to appoint Lissa Solas as the Parks Commission Representative to the Agricultural & Natural Resources Preservation Council, effective 7/19/2022 to 6/30/23. Second by L. Mills. Vote 4-0.

Action Item (5): Vote to Approve Reappointments for Council on Aging, IT Committee, and Economic Development Committee

Our office continues with this year's reappointments.

M. Deignan motion to reappoint Charlene Cunha to the Council on Aging Board, effective 7/1/22 to 6/30/2025. Second by L. Mills. Vote 4-0.

M. Deignan motion to reappoint Dr. Bruce Thayer to the Council on Aging Board, effective 7/1/2020 to 6/30/2023. Second by L. Mills. Vote 4-0.

M. Deignan motion to reappoint Timothee J. Maynard and Jay Jil to the IT Committee, effective 7/1/2022 to 6/30/2023. Second by L. Mills. Vote 4-0.

R. Johnson motion to reappoint Anna Deignan to the IT Committee, effective 7/1/2022 to 6/30/2023. Second by L. Mills. Vote 3-0. Selectman M. Deignan abstained from voting.

M. Deignan motion to reappoint Stephen Silva, Joseph Cherepowich, Linda Ferreira, and John Jordan to the Economic Development Committee, effective 7/1/2022 to 6/30/2023. Second by L. Mills. Vote 4-0.

Selectmen's Reports:

Vadnais:

1. Attended the event hosted by Mr. Runey, and had a good meeting with him. Asked to meet with the Chairs and the BOS from both towns and financial advisors.
2. A part-time position will be posted soon for the Board of Selectmen's Office. Deb Arruda is working on a list of needs for the position.

Deignan:

1. "Dad Duty" begins on Friday.
2. Mr. Runey put on a great event to introduce his new staff to everyone on Friday.

Solas: Absent

Johnson: No report

Mills:

1. Asked Bill McDonough to speak to the BOS regarding ceased and desist order on Zoning. Bill McDonough explained this process to the Board:
 - a. Building: 45-day appeal period.

- b. Zoning: 30-day appeal period.
- L. Mills stated cease and desist are handled differently depending on which one is being worked on. Mills wanted everyone to understand the difference between both areas and what the process is. There is a single individual enforcing both building and zoning rules.
2. Stated the COA is becoming busier and Mike Viveiros is concerned that the parking may not allow emergency vehicles to get through. There may need to be a one-way entry and no parking under the portico.

Tish Vadnais approached the Board to ask why at the 8/6/2022 Special Town Meeting the question did not show the total number of voters, but instead a percentage? She also asked, "How do we find the total numbers?" M. Deignan asked if there was a possibility to display the total number of votes and the percentages. The company that displays the votes said that request is not possible at this time, but it will be looked into. M. Deignan suggested to ask Laura Schwall for the certification of the vote.

ADJOURNMENT: Selectman M. Deignan motion to adjourn the regular session. At 8:08PM. Second by L. Mills. Vote 4-0.

Frederick E. Vadnais, Jr., Chairman

Michael P. Deignan, Vice Chairman

George M. Solas, Sr., Clerk

Robert Johnson, II, Member

Leonard Mills, Jr., Member

Respectfully Submitted,
Logan Shaker

Approved: 10/11/2022