

Office of  
SELECTMEN  
148 Peck Street  
Rehoboth, MA 02769



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**BOARD OF SELECTMEN**  
**MEETING MONDAY, March 14, 2016**  
**MEETING MINUTES**  
**GLADYS L. HURRELL REHOBOTH SENIOR CENTER**

**Present:** Michael Costello, Chairman; Fredrick “Skip” Vadnais, Vice Chairman; Susan Pimental, Clerk; Dave Perry and Gerald Schwall, Members

**Also Present:** Helen Dennen, Interim Town Administrator

**1.0) Executive Session:** At 6:02p.m. S. Pimental made a motion to enter into Executive Session, 2<sup>nd</sup> by D. Perry, pursuant to Massachusetts General Law, Chapter 30A, and Section 21; (3) 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 property if the chair declares that an open meeting may have detrimental effect on the negotiating position of the public body\*

**Topics of Discussion:** Town Land; FMLA Request\*

Roll Call Vote – Pimental – Aye; Schwall – Aye; Perry – Aye; Vadnais – Aye; Voted 4-0

**Call to Order at 7:15p.m.:** The Board and the public participated in the Pledge of Allegiance to the Flag.

The Board of Selectmen also called a moment of silence for the passing of Gale Pray.

**2.0) Consent Agenda**

**Warrants:** M. Costello read the weekly Warrants; Withholdings 16-36A, \$26,322.10; Payroll: 16-37B, \$81,787.67; Invoices: 16-37, \$108,271.97. S. Pimental made a motion to approve the weekly Warrants as read. Second, G. Schwall. Voted 5-0

**Minutes:** S. Pimental made a motion to approve and release the Regular Meeting Minutes from February 18, 2014, 2015. Second, S. Vadnais with discussion: for the record S. Pimental was the only present at that meeting, minutes will be approved for record only. Voted 5-0; S. Pimental made a motion to approve and release the Regular Meeting Minutes from October 14, 2014. Second, D. Perry. All Vote 5-0

**Page Two of Seven**  
**Board of Selectmen, Meeting Minutes**  
**March 14, 2016**

**3.0) Open Forum – Announcements:**

- Laura Schwall: exciting news, we held the third annual rabies clinic with Seekonk 68 licenses issued for a total of \$740.00. A lot of people thanked Lynn and I for being there on a Saturday. A lot of people still had the form from the census already filled out.
- Tish Vadnias: the Republican Town Committee is having a Hot Dog Buffet fund raiser at the Legion Friday night, \$15.00pp at 6:30pm, kids under 10 eat free. Gourmet hot dogs with lots of toppings.
- SAVE THE DATE: A Representative Betty Foyer announces its forth senior spectacular Friday April, 22, 2016 9AM – 2PM free breakfast and lunch. Learn about senior benefits and discounts, workshop, free health screenings, etc. Contact 617-722-2100 for more information.
- M. Costello: Saturday we had a number of Boy Scouts out front here giving the front entrance a facelift.. Mitchell Greene received his Eagle Badge for completing project. Boys Scouts involved: Mitchel Greene, Samuel Almeida, Marcel Almeida, Jonathan Drowne, Colton Travis, Ryan Rezendes, Chris Tito. S. Pimental read a thank you letter from Ericka Greene. M. Costello: They did a great job.

• Next regular Selectmen's meeting will be Monday March 21, 2016 at the Senior Center at 7:00 PM

**Town Administrator's Report:** Helen Dennen

- Bristol County Mosquito Control Board Open House on Thursday March 24, 2016 12PM – 3PM
- MMA Legislative breakfast at the Berkley Town Offices brand new building, very nice; Topics of discussion: Chapter 90; Public records law; Opioid discussion became very heated
- Electric Aggregation is running a month behind from what they told us. Residents might not see the rate change until late March. If you had a third party and ended contract after September, you need to call Con Ed to be put on the list. If you are not with a third party you might have a block on your bill or your phone.

**4.0) NEW BUSINESS: Action Item #1 7:15PM Interview Town Accountant Candidate**

Interview of Kimberly Thompson for the position of Town Accountant.

M. Costello: The committee that interviewed you put a professional assessment together and stated that you are a good fit and we should hire you. G. Schwall: We are looking to fill the Full Time Town Accountant position. The committee we put together consisted of Dave Scanlon(Personnel Board), Cathy Doane(Town Accountant), Helen Dennen, and I served as an observer. We did have several excellent candidates. I was impressed with the interview process. Kimberly Thompson exceeded what we were looking for. The Committee was impressed with her professional as well as her personal demeanor. S.V.: I reviewed your resume and have no questions. S.P.: For the public to know, she has a very strong background in accounting, her

**Page Three of Seven**  
**Board of Selectmen, Meeting Minutes**  
**March 14, 2016**

current title is Senior Accountant, which she has held since 2006. D.P.: Are you ready for the transfer from private sector to public sector. K.T: I have been talking to Cathy Doane and I feel like I'm ready.

On a motion made by G. Schwall Second by S. Pimental it was voted to hire Kimberly Thompson as the new Town Accountant upon satisfactory pre-employment physical, drug screening and successful negotiation of a contract, appointment term 4/1/16 – 6/30/16 . All Vote 5-0. Gerry Schwall went into conference room with Kimberly to discuss and go over contract agreement.

**Action Item #2: Reserve Fund Transfer IT Committee**

Laura Schwall: Reserve fund transfer for the town's scanning equipment. Windows XP that we have no longer supports the scanning software and the permanent records are piling up. S. Pimental: I believe reoccurring should go to IT budget. L. Schwall: M. Deignan donated a computer. Thank you Mike.

On a motion made by S. Pimental Second D. Perry to approve reserve fund transfer as submitted and send to Finance Committee All Vote 4-0(Gerry Schwall - out of room)

**Action Item #3: Resignation of Veteran's Officer**

On a motion made by S. Pimental Second by D. Perry the Board voted to accept the resignation of Richard A. Grenier as Veteran's Service Officer and Veteran's Graves Officer effective 4/29/16 All Vote 4-0(Gerry Schwall – out of room)

S. Pimental read resignation letter. The Board thanked him for his service.

**Action Item #4: SRPEDD Hours**

On a motion made by S. Pimental Second by D. Perry the Board voted to approve the use of the 20 hours designated as Board of Selectmen hours to the Planning Board to use for the permitting guide. All Vote 4-0(Gerry Schwall – out of room)

**Action Item #5: Budget Amendments**

Vote to approve the following budget amendments:

Line #	Department	Increase by:	Decrease by:
012052-52510	POLICE COMP/ VACATION	\$ 3,235.36	
012052-51430	Police Comp/IOD Repl		\$3,235.36
012052-51920	POLICE COMP/ TRAIN OT	\$ 6,022.05	
012052-51120	Police comp/Wages FT		\$6,022.05
012052-51550	POLICE COMP COURT TIME	\$1,142.54	
012052-51560	Police comp/Fam Leave		\$1,124.54
012103-57140	POLICE EXP REGS	300.00	
012103-55000	Police First Aid		\$300.00

**Page Four of Seven**  
**Board of Selectmen, Meeting Minutes**  
**March 14, 2016**

On a motion made by S. Pimental Second by S. Vadnais it was voted to approve Police Department budget amendments. All Vote 4-0(G. Schwall – out of room)

012203-54400	Fire Software Expense	\$357.00	
012203-57120	Fire travel		\$357.00

On a motion made by S. Pimental Second by D. Perry it was voted to approve Fire Department budget amendments. All Vote 4-0(G. Schwall – out of room)

012913- 57902	REMA Advertising	\$91.08	
012913-55800	REMA supplies Other		\$91.08

On a motion made by S. Pimental Second by S. Vadnais it was voted to approve REMA budget amendments. All Vote 4-0

011873-52126	BOS Fac Maint Highway Electric	\$2,000.00	
011873-52146	BOS Fac Maint Highway Oil		\$2,000.00
011873-52417	BOS Fac Maint Anawan School Repair	\$3.00	
011873-52127	BOS Fac Maint Anawan School Electric		3.00
011253-52920	BOS Contracted Services Refuse	\$800.00	
011253-52910	BOS Contracted Services Custodial		\$800.00

On a motion made by S. Pimental Second by S. Vadnais it was voted to approve Board of Selectmen budget amendments. All Vote 4-0

M. Costello: Highway Department electric needs to be checked out. Maybe David House can see if the solar panels are working properly. We need to go out for contract to rebid refuse service; company went up by \$800.00 so let's get new bids. On a motion made by S. Pimental Second by D. Perry it was voted to approve rebid on refuse service for a new contract. All Vote 4-0(G. Schwall – out of room)

**Action Item #6: April 4, 2016 Town Election Warrant**

On a motion made by S. Pimental Second by D. Perry the Board voted to sign 4/4/16 Annual Town Election Warrant for the election of Town Officers as submitted by Town Clerk. All Vote 4-0(G. Schwall – out of room)

**Action Item #7: Reserve Fund Transfer**

On a motion made by S. Pimental Second by S. Vadnais the Board voted to Table Police Department Reserve fund transfer for \$430.00 at this time. All Vote 4-0(G. Schwall – out of room)

**Action Item #8: Vote to Nominate Jane Foster & Robert E. Johnson II, Inspector of Animals**

On a motion made by S. Vadnais Second by S. Pimental the Board agreed to put item on hold until more information can be documented. All Vote 4-0(G. Schwall – out of room)

**Page Five of Seven**  
**Board of Selectmen, Meeting Minutes**  
**March 14, 2016**

**Action Item #9: Hawkers & Peddler's License**

Dorian Morales present: Solar City

M. Costello: we take this license very seriously for our residents who love their privacy. You do not have a driver's license. He stated that he will be dropped off and walk around the Town, then get picked up at the end of the day. M.C.: you are a Rhode Island resident and we are not able to do a CORI check on you and that is a concern to me. S. Pimental: How do people get on a do not disturb list? D.M: I will find that out. S. Vadnais: I would need evidence of your character reference. Maybe you can go to the Chief of Police in Cumberland and obtain a letter of citizen in good standing. On a motion made by S. Vadnais Second by S. Pimental the Board voted to hold application for one week so Dorian Morales can obtain a citizen in good standing letter from his local Chief of Police for future consideration. All Vote 5-0

On a motion made by S. Vadnais Second by S. Pimental the Board voted to table other applicants: Laura Mahoney and Brian A. Rose who were not present for meeting, until they come before the Board. All Vote 5-0

**Action Item #10: FY17 Budget Reviews**

**Fire Department:** Frank Barresi presented budget

Wages part time- 3 yrs ago took Fire Prevention Officer out of line item. With the new houses going up we are getting busier and I am trying to get some of those hours back. Storm coverage and fires I cannot predict.

Software expense for annual support: Board of Selectmen: remove it from Department and put it into the IT budget. Stay paying for this until 6/30/16 then remove it from budget.

Turn out Gear: 50% increase, several new recruits so no stock on hand

EMS Training: Line officers need to get to classes. We deliver some medical response with these calls; car accidents, fires, etc.

**2 Capital Items:**

Air cylinders: by the end of FY19 all will need replacing

New vehicle: for Chief – 6 yrs old; 90,000 miles (to use as secondary vehicle) Explorer- fully equipped – MHQ(Vendor)

**Building Department:**

Office supplies went up and they may be depleted of supplies.

G. Schwall: I would like to see the department heads assumptions to the budget giving us knowledge on how they build their budgets.

**OLD BUSINESS:**

**Action Item #1: Tolling Agreement – tabled from last week**

On a motion made by S. Pimental Second by D. Perry the Board voted to table Tolling Agreement from the US Army Corps, until documents are retained. All Vote 5-0

**DEPARTMENT HEAD REPORTS**  
**3/14/16 Selectmen's Reports:**

**Costello:** In February there was an incident at the high school involving two boys from Rehoboth and a stun gun. The Police Chief of Rehoboth, the Fire Chief and the Board of Selectmen were not notified of this incident. I feel that is wrong and we need to draft a letter to forward to the Dighton Board of Selectmen. Protocol was not followed.

**Vadnais:** 1) Re: Animal Shelter evaluation & everything it provides. Chelsie Rienhart from Tufts University came down & conducted an evaluation of the shelter and met with me about our policies and what we are trying to do with the shelter. She also met the Jane Foster, ACO, Rob Johnson Assistant ACO, and one of the volunteers at shelter. With this we will be getting a comprehensive report from Tufts. This is being paid for by the Friends of Animals. 2) RAAC meeting took place; I was not able to attend: I ask that George Solas & Sue McBride speak on behalf of the committee. The RAAC does not have any meeting minutes done since day one. The importance of the meeting laws were expressed last year. Nothing was ever done. Last meeting David Katseff wanted it taped and no one was able to operate the cameras. Tiffany Bartholomew offered to take notes. G.S: These meetings are secondary, if they have someone available to video. One of the agenda items was open meeting law: I wanted to insure that they understood the guidelines to open meeting law and I was not allowed to speak. They told me that they would have me escorted out if I continued to talk. I was trying to let them know that we had 14 days to decide how will respond to the State on the missing minutes. David Katseff said he had taken care of it and it didn't need any more discussion. S. McBride: A: as soon as person elected they would take the seat. B: Each town would take care of own capital costs for schools other than high school. C: Weighted vote tabled. D: Wealth factor- ok E: Statutory Method: determine costs not by enrollment. Discussion continued about Statutory vs. Alternative Method.

**On a motion made by S. Vadnais Second by S. Pimental it was voted that a letter be sent to the RAAC in regards to the Alternative Method must be put in the agreement and must be available for future use. All Vote 5-0**

S.V. In regards to meeting notes and how the Chair person was decided on, there is video on all the meetings except for last one. It will be time consuming. M.C. Both towns have to agree on this before it can go to Town Meeting or everything that was discussed fails. David Katseff: Came in to announce some statements were not the truth. He would not go into specifics. Discussion continued on the Statutory Method and Alternative Method. Some people are afraid that if an Alternative Method gets put into the Regional Agreement, somehow someone is going to get around the process. People are voting and judging on fear not logic. D.K. We are trying to get to a Regional Agreement Amendment that we can all stand behind. M. Whittemore: Asked about extension for meeting minutes. DK the co-chairs sent letters to the citizen and Attorney General's Office to ask for an extension of 1 month. We have not heard back from the Attorney General's Office.

**Page Seven of Seven**  
**Board of Selectmen, Meeting Minutes**  
**March 14, 2016**

**Schwall:** 1) Update: Police radios, making significant progress. Chief & I will be making a decision tomorrow along with the Board. We are down to the cost of the actual conduit. They will come down and run it and we will pay for the conduit. The next thing was performance guarantee. We don't want dark spots in the Town. We are working on the wording of that right now. I would like the permission of the Board to move forward. 2) I was misrepresented at the RAAC meeting the other night. I understand the Wealth formula. Understanding does not mean supporting. I will leave it to the committee to do their work and I as a member of the Board of Selectmen I will vote my conscience.

**Perry:** none

**Pimental:** Can we please get the budgets asap, so that the Finance Committee can get it before vacations start and they don't have a quorum. Helen stated that the Board received the budgets weeks ago in a different folder. She will send electronically.

**5.0) ADJOURNMENT:** Selectmen Schwall made a motion to adjourn the meeting to enter into Executive Session and only to return to Regular Session to adjourn., Second by Selectmen Vadnais. All Vote Pimental – aye; Vadnais – aye; Schwall – aye; Perry – aye; Costello – aye.

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Michael R. Costello, Chairman

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Frederick E. Vadnais, Jr., Vice Chairman

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Susan M. Pimental, Clerk

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David A. Perry, Jr., Member

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Gerald V. Schwall, Member

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Respectfully Submitted,  
Kelly Hathaway  
Interim Assistant Town Administrator

Approved 5/23/16