

Office of
SELECTMEN
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**BOARD OF SELECTMEN
MONDAY, FEBRUARY 12, 2024
MEETING MINUTES
FRANCIS FARM - FRANCIS HALL - 27 FRANCIS FARM ROAD**

Present: Selectman Frederick "Skip" Vadnais, Jr., Selectman Leonard Mills, Jr., Selectman George Solas, Sr., Selectman Robert Johnson II and Town Administrator Deborah Arruda

Absent: Selectman Michael P. Deignan

Call to Order at 7:15 PM: The meeting opened with the Board and the public participating in the pledge of Allegiance to the Flag.

At the Chairman Vadnais' request, a moment of silence in observance of the passing of the Town's senior most citizen, Gert Messier. Mary Frances Gertrude Messier a.k.a. Gert was 30 days shy of turning 102 years of age. A phenomenal person! She organized the Meals on Wheels and opened "Gert's Café", at the COA.

Selectman Johnson shared memories of Gert, stating Ms. Messier will be greatly missed by many.

When Ms. Messier turned "100", she was named Rehoboth's official "Mémé".

Consent Agenda

Warrant:

G. Solas- motion to approve Warrant for the week of February 12, 2024: 24-33B Payroll \$133,973.70; 24-32A Withholdings \$37,435.63; 24-32 Warrant \$82,354.49; 24-32V Veterans Warrant \$798.41. Second by R. Johnson. Vote 3-0. Selectman Mills abstained.

Minutes: Regular Minutes: 1/29/2024

G. Solas- motion to approve Regular Meeting Minutes for January 29, 2024. Second by R. Johnson. Vote 4-0.

The Board voted to table the December 19, 2023 and January 18, 2024 Executive Meeting Minutes, during Executive Session.

Announcements:

Our next scheduled meeting will be on **Monday, February 26, 2024 7:00 PM**, at Francis Farm, in the Francis Hall Building.

On Monday, February 19th, the Town Offices will be closed in observance of President's Day.

TOWN ADMINISTRATOR'S REPORT

Tomorrow, February 13th, is the official day of the bid placement for the property on Martin Street. Sealed bids are due back to the BOS office by 10:00 AM on February 27th.

Sealed bids for the Police Station BDA Equipment are due by 10am February 26th and will be opened on the same day at 1:00 PM.

Bid placement for the moving of the buildings at Francis Farm, through the Historical Commission, have been placed. Sealed bids will be due in March.

I am working on the preparation of other bids/quotes for upcoming projects to be posted, as well.

Due to the upcoming storm tomorrow on February 13th, Town offices will be closed.

NEW BUSINESS:

Action Item (1): Discussion RE: Agricultural Commission Sponsoring Garden Club Spring Plant Sale and Storage Area, with possible action

Patricia Vадnais asked the BOS for approval for set up for the annual plant sale, on May 1st thru the 3rd and May 4th. Also, requesting the assistance of Mike Viveiros and crew to put up the sides of the Pavilion. Insurance will be through the Agricultural Commission.

Selectman Solas- this is the 3rd year and the plant sale is impressive and a real community event.

Linda McHugh- the Garden Club has a wonderful partnership with Adam Latham, at Bristol Aggie (Bristol County Agricultural High School) and the school has provided unusual, special trees & shrubs on consignment. The Club will be working with Adam this year again. Last year's sale did so well that the annual scholarship was increased to \$4,000, thanks to the community -two scholarships were given out. The Garden Club is planning various projects to clean-up, renovate and educate – it's very important for the Garden Club to give back to the community.

G. Solas- motion to grant the use of Francis Hall Building and Pavilion to the Garden Club for their Spring Plant Sale from May 1-4th, 2024. Second by R. Johnson. Vote 4-0.

Chairman Vадnais brought up another issue for the Board's consideration and, asked Selectman Mills to share his thoughts about the possibility of the Club using space at the old Town Hall to store tools, etc. Selectman Mills spoke of the current activities happening at the old Town Hall, 148 Peck Street, and also said there is room that can be shared with the Club.

R. Johnson- motion to grant the Garden Club use of some space at the old Town Hall. Second by G. Solas. Vote 4-0.

Action Item (2): Discussion RE: Proposed Community Program, with possible action

G. Solas- motion to table Action Item number 2. Second by R. Johnson. Vote 4-0.

Action Item (3): Discussion RE: Hornbine School Association Committee Town Website Access, with possible action

G. Solas- motion to approve the Hornbine School Association Committee's request to be added to the Town's Website under "Groups & Organizations" with a link to their own site, and further allow them access to the website under "Boards and Committees" to upload agendas, meeting minutes and other important information for their committee. Second by R. Johnson. Vote 4-0.

Action Item (4): Vote to Approve Contract with Oakhill Engineering, LLC for the Surveying of the Corn Cribb Property at 3 Anawan Street, Map 71, Lot 37

G. Solas- motion to approve and sign the contract with Oakhill Engineering, LLC, for the survey work at 3 Anawan St-Corn Cribb. Second by R. Johnson. Vote 3-0. Selectman Mills abstained.

Action Item (5): Vote to Approve and Sign Purchase and Sale Agreement Between TOR and Catherine Kehoe and Nancy McCarthy for 165 Fairview Ave Property

G. Solas- motion to approve and sign the Purchase and Sale Agreement between the Town of Rehoboth and Catherine Kehoe and Nancy McCarthy, for 165 Fairview Avenue property. The purchase price is \$225,000.00. Second by R. Johnson. Vote 4-0.

Discussion:

Town Administrator Deb Arruda announced the closing date of March 13, 2024.

Action Item (6): Vote to Approve FY24 Firefighter Safety Equipment Grant Award for \$18, 475

G. Solas- motion to approve and sign the FY24 Firefighter Safety Equipment Grant Award for \$18,475.00. Second by R. Johnson. Vote 4-0.

Discussion:

Selectman Solas- Congratulations to Chief Barresi and the Fire Dept, for being awarded the FY24 Firefighter Safety Equipment Grant for \$18,475.00. The funds will help in the purchase of Highway/Roadway Safety Equipment and Fit Testing Machine.

Action Item (7): Vote to Award Portable Restroom Trailer Quote Submissions-Quotes Received by-NRT Sales, LLC; TGSM Tailgating Sports Marketing; Lang Specialty Trailers and Portable Restroom Trailers, LLC

Selectman Solas- Mike Viveiros has reached out to a few vendors for quotes for portable restrooms that will be located at Francis Farm, outside of the Museum Building. These units will be handicap accessible, with heat/AC functions, as well as, portable if needed at another Town site. The quotes were received from the following vendors and all appropriate measures were taken for procurement. Warranties on the units are provided on the quotes. Once a vendor is chosen, the contract will be drafted by Town Counsel for signature by the Board of Selectmen.

NRT Specialty Trailers - \$67,483.00

Portable Restroom Trailers, LLC. - \$71,550.00

TGSM Tailgating Sports Marketing - \$72,960.00

Lang Specialty Trailers - \$77,763.99

Chairman Vadnais requested confirmation that Superintendent Viveiros has reviewed these quotes.

Town Administrator confirmed the Superintendent's review of the quotes and his recommendation that that Portable Restroom Trailers, LLC be accepted because they are available immediately. Based on different events, including election on March 5th, the placement of the units cannot wait and needs to be immediate.

G. Solas- motion to approve the portable restroom trailer quote of Portable Restroom Trailers, LLC for the cost of \$71,550.00 and, authorize Mike Viveiros to work with the Town Administrator to prepare a contract for the Board to sign. Second by R. Johnson. Vote 4-0.

Discussion:

Selectman Solas mentioned the convenience of having these units, the fact that the units have heat and air conditioning and that, if needed, the units can be transported to any other location for a town event.

Selectman Mills mentioned the importance of having these units in the event there's ever a septic issue at any Town building.

Action Item (8): Vote to Approve Request for Transfer from Reserve Funds for the Fire Station Truck Repairs and Towing Cost of \$12,163.42

G. Solas- motion to approve a Reserve Fund transfer for the Fire Department, \$12,163.42, to be transferred to their equipment replacement line 012203-58700 and forward the request to the Finance Committee for final approval. Second by R. Johnson. Vote 4-0.

Per Chair Vadnais, this has to do with a truck that has transmission problems and the associated costs.

Action Item (9): Vote to Approve Road Race Request from Ocean State Multisport "Crazy Clam" 5K Race

G. Solas- motion to approve the Crazy Clam 5K road race, to be held on March 10th at 8:30 AM and conclude by 11:00 AM and, further, to allow the runners to gather at the parking lot at Francis Farm. Second by R. Johnson. Vote 4-0.

Discussion:

Chairman Vadnais- confirmed all Police & Highway requirements are being met, no permanent paint, signs will be removed after the race. Letter to go out from the Town Administrator with complete guidelines.

Action Item (10): Vote to Approve Hawker & Peddler Licenses for Vincent Papile O'Roak and David Perry from Trinity Solar, Inc.

G. Solas- motion approve Hawker & Peddler Licenses, for Vincent Papile O'Roak and David Perry from Trinity Solar, Inc. effective through December 31, 2024. Second by R. Johnson. Vote 4-0.

Action Item (11): Vote to Open Warrant for Spring Town Meeting on June 4, 2024

G. Solas- motion to open Warrant for the Spring Town Meeting, on June 4, 2024. Second by R. Johnson. Vote 4-0.

OLD BUSINESS:

Selectmen's Reports:

Vadnais:

Johnson: None.

Solas: A Valentine's luncheon was held today; there were about 130 attendees and most attendees were there in support Gert Messier. As always call Linna for a ride - ride will be at no cost!

Mills: Per Kevin Chace, Superintendent of Highway, and according to MassDOT, Chapter 90 funds has been increased for Rehoboth an additional \$350K. This will bring the funds up to one million.

Deignan: Absent.

Other Business:

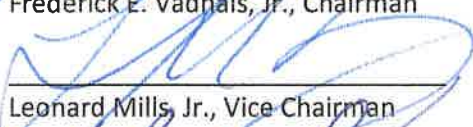
ADJOURNMENT:

Selectman G. Solas motioned to adjourn the Regular Session at 7:52 PM. Second by Selectman R. Johnson. Vote 4-0.

Respectfully Submitted,


Odete Lacourse


Frederick E. Vadnais, Jr., Chairman


Leonard Mills, Jr., Vice Chairman


George M. Solas, Sr., Clerk

Absent

Michael P. Deignan, Member


Robert Johnson II, Member

BOARD OF SELECTMEN

Approve: 3/4/2024