

TOWN OF HOLLISTON
SELECT BOARD

October 19, 2020

Town Hall

7:00 P.M.

703 Washington Street

Present: John Cronin, Chair; Tina Hein, Vice Chair; Ben Sparrell, Clerk.

Also Present: Travis Ahern, Town Administrator; Michael Cassidy, Fire Chief; Martin Garvey, proprietor of 360 Motor Sports LLC.

At 7:01pm J. Cronin called the meeting to order.

COVID-19 UPDATE:

Chief Cassidy was present with an update for the Board. The Town has gone from Yellow back to Red. The Town has 120 cases to date, 14 of which are active. The active cases are from various residences within the Town. J. Cronin expressed his gratitude along with the Board for the outstanding work the Chief has been doing since the beginning of the pandemic. The Chief has been posting each Thursday morning any information regarding the Corona Virus and any changes throughout the week. This is located on the home page. The Chief went on to state that the Board of Health is strongly suggesting that residents look into low risk alternatives to the traditional door to door "Trick or Treating" this year as it is deemed HIGH risk. The Chief reported that he had checked with the Technology Director and was informed that there is adequate video coverage of the two vault areas where the Town Clerk is storing ballots. This was in response to question regarding security by the Chair at a previous meeting.

CARES ACT REQUESTS:

The Chief reported that Jackie Winer, the director of Youth & Family Services has successfully allocated rent and mortgage assistance through the CARES Act funding. \$22,247 has been distributed to 9 families, 28 individuals, totaling 14 months of rent and mortgage assistance. The Chief asked the Board to consider looking to approve an additional round of assistance based the fact that there is an anticipated need going forward. J. Winer phoned into the meeting to thank the Board for their support. She stated that going forward she would look to amend the guidelines for assistance for as little as 1 month which will reduce the maximum from \$5,00 to \$2,000. J. Cronin asked her to please forward a request to T. Ahern for the Board to review at the next meeting.

There was discussion around the remaining balance of the CARES Act funds. The Chief will continue to

have conversations with the various departments, specifically but not exclusive to the Schools and Technology as to what may be eligible for funding requests.

HEARING/CHANGE OF ADDRESS 360 MOTOR SPORTS LLC:

B. Sparrell read the statement to open the hearing. Martin Garvey and his son were present to discuss their business 360 Motor Sports LLC Class 2 License. They currently run their business out of 275 Hopping Brook Road. They have bought the building at 72 Jeffrey Avenue and would like to move their business and therefore their license to that location. T. Hein expressed her concern over the hours of operation and noted that this would be the first business of its kind in the Lowland Industrial Park. She was thinking that it would be helpful to have more time to gather abutter input. After some discussion it was decided to continue the hearing until next week.

B. Sparrell made a motion to continue the hearing until next week Monday October 26, 2020. T. Hein second. Vote 3-0.

WARRANT:

B. Sparrell made a motion to approve the weekly warrant in the amount of \$1,151,944.89. T. Hein second. Vote 3-0.

PUBLIC COMMENT:

B. Sparrell read the No On Street Parking notice which will go into effect on November 1, 2020 until March 31, 2021. He also reminded residents of the Fall curbside leaf pickup, details are on the Town website. He continued to state that in-person voting has begun and is taking place at Town Hall.

T. Hein wanted to remind residents that Saturday October 24, 2020 is the last day to register to vote.

T. Ahern stated that if residents who have received a ballot in the mail and now wish to vote in-person they must bring that ballot with them when they do.

COMMENTS FROM THE TOWN ADMINISTRATOR:

T. Ahern has invited the newly hired Building Inspector Mark Kaferlein to next weeks Board meeting. He stated that Chris Canney and Mark Kaferlein will work together for a brief period of time to cross train and also in an effort to update outstanding permits and projects.

There is a webpage for the 555 Hopping Brook Road Project which enables people to sign up for email updates.

The Rail Trail parking lot project at Casey's Crossing is currently on schedule and should be finalized in the Spring.

T. Ahern opened discussion around Balancing Rock. Due to the fact that it is on private property the Board felt that they need not get involved at this point in time.

The Board will review and discuss feedback on the Front Street One-Way Pilot program at next weeks meeting.

SPECIAL TOWN MEETING WARRANT:

T. Ahern presented the Board with the most recent draft of the Warrant for Special Town Meeting. There are various articles that are still waiting for clarity and therefore were not discussed. The following articles were approved for the Warrant.

B. Sparrell made a motion to approve Article 7 Roadway Drainage & Sidewalks as written. T. Hein second. Vote 3-0.

T. Hein made a motion to approve Article 8 Sidewalk Prioritization Plan Study as written. B. Sparrell second. Vote 3-0.

After some discussion it was determined to hold off on approving Article 9 Water System Modernization Plan until specific language can be added.

The Board opened discussion around Article 10 Winter Street Water Main Replacement. The current article does not include sidewalks as part of the project. The Board decided to hold off until they are included prior to putting them on the Warrant.

B. Sparrell made a motion to approve Article 11 Water Treatment Plant as written. T. Hein second. Vote 3-0.

B. Sparrell made a motion to approve Article 12 Storm Water Management as written. T. Hein second. Vote 3-0.

T. Hein made a motion to approve Article 13 9 Green Street Design & Engineering as written. B. Sparrell second. Vote 3-0.

T. Hein made a motion to approve Article 14 Traffic Advisory Committee regarding public safety signs and equipment with potential edits. B. Sparrell second. Vote 3-0.

HUMANITARIAN AWARDS DISCUSSION:

J. Cronin brought to the Board a concept which was originally introduced by Mark Ahronian for Holliston Humanity awards. The awards are for those individuals who possess the following "Caring ways towards others; consideration of others and compassion for others. Each Board member will nominate one person and an award ceremony will be held in early November.

AMBULANCE BILLING:

Chief Cassidy presented the Board with a proposal for collecting outstanding payment for ambulance services rendered. The Chief outlined the proposed plan, part of which includes a collection agency.

B. Sparrell made a motion to approve the removal of all receivables for outstanding services prior to July 1st 2018 from the balance sheets. T. Hein second. Vote 3-0.

T. Hein made a motion to approve the receivables policy as present by Chief Cassidy describing payments including hardship. B. Sparrell second, adding "with the addition of specific language based on the Towns criteria." Vote 3-0.

EDA STATUS APPLICATION:

T. Ahern brought to the Boards attention the status on the Economically Distressed Area application. If a Town falls into the required criteria it can allow access to grants and tax credits for public and or private development. T. Ahern thought an example of these could be 9 Green Street and Axton Cross. The Board asked T. Ahern if he would discuss the matter with the Economic Development Committee and report back in the future.

BOARD BUSINESS:

B. Sparrell made a motion to re-appoint John Drohan to the Holliston Cable Access TV for a 3 year term. T. Hein second. Vote 3-0.

B. Sparrell made a motion to appoint Paul Guyon as a bonded Constable for a 3 year term. T. Hein second. Vote 3-0.

B. Sparrell made a motion to approve the Meeting Minutes of September 9, 2020 and September 29, 2020 as written. T. Hein second. Vote 3-0.

B. Sparrell made a motion to accept a donation in the amount of \$200 from residents on Fieldstone Drive to the Fire Department. T. Hein second. Vote 3-0.

B. Sparrell made a motion to accept a donation in the amount of \$50 from residents on South Street to the Fire Department. T. Hein second. Vote 3-0.

B. Sparrell made a motion to accept a donation in the amount of \$100 from residents on Mohawk Path to the Fire Department. T. Hein second. Vote 3-0.

T. Hein made a motion to approve the Green Community Annual Report Submission due the first week of November 2020. B. Sparrell second noting appreciation to Chris Meo. Vote 3-0.

B. Sparrell made a motion to approve the Notice of Proposed Acquisition for Thistle Dew Farm. T. Hein second. Vote 3-0.

B. Sparrell made a motion to re-open the Warrant for Special Town Meeting effective immediately through October 30, 2020 at noon. T. Hein second. Vote 3-0.

J. Cronin recognized the promotion of Rear Admiral Derek A. Trinke, a Holliston native along with his parents whom still live in town. The Board signed the certificates of recognition.

OTHER BUSINESS:

J. Cronin reported that an individual had been struck by a vehicle on Washington Street this morning. He asked if anyone witnessed this accident to please contact the Holliston Police Department.

At 9:37pm B. Sparrell made a motion to adjourn. T. Hein second. Vote 3-0.

Respectfully submitted;

Margaret Driscoll

Approved_____

