

**HOLLISTON BOARD OF SELECTMEN**  
**MEETING MINUTES**  
**April 24, 2013**

The Board convened in the Room 105 at the Town Hall at 6:40 p.m. Present from the Board were Chairman Jay Marsden, Vice-Chairman Jay Leary and Clerk Kevin Conley. Also present was Town Administrator Paul Le Beau.

The Board met with the Board of Water Commissioners.

Mr. Adams noted receipt of information from the Selectmen dated April 10 regarding a proposed DPW. He asked why should we have a DPW. Mr. Marsden said the Board put together a framework as a starting point for discussion in what they hope will be a collaborative process with the Water Commissioners. The proposal is to integrate similar functions and look at opportunities due to the retirement of the Water Superintendent and the formation of a union among Highway and Water personnel. Mr. Adams said outside studies in the past done for the Water Department rejected a DPW. Mr. Le Beau quoted from a 2006 study for the Water Department which stated that the study did not consider a DPW. Mr. Weise said he does not see the benefit to the Town. Mr. Leary said there are potential benefits in staffing, finances and consolidation. He said the Board would like to have a dialog with the Water Commissioners. Mr. Weise and Mr. Adams said they are willing to talk. Mr. Adams said he did not think the new union was an issue that related to a DPW. Mr. Antonioli said he works for the DPW in Hudson that includes water, sewer and highway in one building. He is willing to talk about a DPW. Mr. Weise said he would like to see the vision for a DPW. Mr. Marsden said the Board could add details to what they have submitted but he would like to see the Water Commission respond to what they already have. Mr. Weise said he wants to see how the Town and the Water Department gain from a DPW. Mr. Ferreira asked why the proposal does not include a DPW commission. Mr. Conley said the Board has submitted a proposal as a starting point for discussion. Mr. Ferreira asked what the Selectmen would like the Superintendent Search Committee to do. Mr. Marsden said they should put the process on hold. It was agreed that the Selectmen and the Water Commissioners should find a common meeting date with the DPW as the sole agenda item.

The Selectmen recessed at 7:15 p.m.

At 7:30 p.m. the Selectmen met with officials from the towns of Hopkinton, Medway and Ashland to discuss the Milford Casino proposal. Present from Hopkinton were Selectmen Ben Palleiko, Brian Herr, John Mosher and Todd Cestari and Town Manager Norman Khumalo. Present from Medway were Selectmen Andrew Espinosa, Dennis Crowley and John Foresto and Town Administrator Suzanne Kennedy. Present from Ashland were Selectman Joseph Magnani, Jr. and Town Manager Anthony Schiavi.

Mr. Marsden noted the presentation by the Gaming Commission on April 10 and the problems with timing and logistics that the towns confront as surrounding communities. We are waiting for a response to those concerns from the Commission. In the meantime, Holliston will be asking town meeting for funding to do an impact analysis and will pursue the possibility of an

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intermunicipal agreement with the other towns present this evening.

Mr. Palleiko said Hopkinton is opposed to the casino. It will have a devastating effect on the region. The towns should band together to take advantage of the strength of numbers.

Mr. Espinosa said that the mission of an intermunicipal arrangement should be defined and the agreement should address issues such as financing and possible reimbursements.

Mr. Magnani said that research shows that there is significant collateral damage to towns near casinos.

Mr. Marsden said that funding from the developer will not come soon or easily and he is not sure that the MAPC has the expertise to do the kinds of analyses the towns will need.

Mr. Khumalo said that they have asked Mr. Nunes and Mr. Butera about funding for studies and have not received a response.

Mr. Foresto said he agreed that the MAPC was not equipped to handle all the issues.

Mr. Crowley said he doesn't think the Milford proposal will come to fruition and he asked how much money the towns should contribute.

Mr. Espinosa asked what the mission of the group would be. Mr. Leary said it would be to show Milford to be the least attractive option for a casino.

Mr. Palleiko said it is very difficult to assess the likelihood of the success of the Milford casino proposal. It is prudent to prepare for the worst case. The studies that would be done to analyze the impact of the casino would also be valuable for use should we get to the point of negotiating over mitigation.

Mr. Crowley suggested that each town designate one representative to be part of a steering group.

Mr. Herr said we should play hardball with the developers and start by challenging the legitimacy of their application.

Mr. Marsden and Mr. Palleiko said that they were each seeking \$100,000 from their town meetings.

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Mr. Espinosa recommended that each town make a decision in the next two weeks whether to join the group and, if so, designate a representative and an amount of money. The representatives could then meet and write an intermunicipal agreement.

Mr. Marsden asked if anyone at the table was opposed to this process. There was no response.

The town managers and town administrators were tasked with coordinating a date for the next meeting.

The casino discussion concluded at 8:40 p.m.

**MR. CONLEY MOVED, MR. LEARY SECONDED AND IT WAS UNANIMOUSLY VOTED TO APPROVE WARRANT #13-44 IN THE AMOUNT OF \$1,113,014.30.**

**MR. CONLEY MOVED, MR. LEARY SECONDED AND IT WAS UNANIMOUSLY VOTED TO APPROVE AND SIGN THE WARRANT FOR THE 2013 ANNUAL TOWN MEETING.**

**AT 8:55 P.M. MR. CONLEY MOVED, MR. LEARY SECONDED AND IT WAS UNANIMOUSLY VOTED TO ADJOURN THE MEETING.**

Respectfully submitted,

Approved: \_\_\_\_\_

Paul D. Le Beau  
Town Administrator