

HOLLISTON BOARD OF SELECTMEN

February 5, 2014
6:30 p.m.

Selectmen's Meeting Room
Town Hall

Present Jay Leary, Chairman; Kevin Conley, Vice Chairman; Jay Marsden, Clerk and Paul Le Beau, Town Administrator.

AT 6:30, P.M., MR. LEARY MOVED TO ENTER INTO EXECUTIVE SESSION TO DISCUSS STRATEGY WITH RESPECT TO LITIGATION CAPTIONED JOHNSON GOLF MANAGEMENT V. TOWN OF HOLLISTON AND TO DISCUSS STRATEGY FOR COLLECTIVE BARGAINING WITH LABORERS' COUNCIL. THE MOTION WAS SECONDED BY MR. CONLEY. ALL IN FAVOR. A ROLL CALL VOTE WAS TAKEN.

	AYE	NAY
MR. LEARY	X	
MR. CONLEY	X	
MR. MARSDEN	X	

MR. LEARY SAID A PUBLIC DISCUSSION COULD HAVE AN ADVERSE EFFECT ON THE TOWN'S LITIGATING AND NEGOTIATING POSITION. HE SAID THAT EXECUTIVE SESSION WOULD LAST ABOUT ONE HOUR. AT 7:20 P.M., THE BOARD EMERGED FROM EXECUTIVE SESSION AND MOVED TO OPEN SESSION.

Mr. Leary said that this meeting is being taped so that minutes can be transcribed and that this is being broadcasted on HCAT TV. Mr. Leary said that the general public may record this meeting, but first they must notify the Chairman of the Board. This recording may not interfere with the meeting.

MR. MARSDEN MOVED TO APPROVE THE FOLLOWING WARRANT

14-33	GENERAL WARRANT	\$163,131.45
	WIRES/MANUAL CHECK US TREASURY	\$ 81.01
	EXPENDABLE TRUST (722) OPEN SPACE	\$ 181.25
	AGENCY (890) VETERANS DISTRICT PAYROLL	\$ 1,086.51
	GENERAL PAYROLL WARRANT	\$ 119,958.92
	TOWN PAYROLL	\$ 121,045.43
	TOTAL PAID WARRANT	\$ 284,439.14

ACCOUNTANT'S NOTE:

ACCRUED DEDUCTION LIABILITIES NOT PAID	\$ 26,418.14
--	--------------

TREASURER'S NOTE:

WIRE TO HEALTH INSURANCE TRUST	\$ 15,601.38
--------------------------------	--------------

THE MOTION WAS SECONDED BY MR. CONLEY. ALL IN FAVOR.

COMMENTS FROM THE BOARD

Mr. Marsden thanked the Highway Department for a job well done.

Mr. Conley said that they did a great job. Mr. Conley also said that the Lions' Club is hosting a Valentine's wine tasting in the Upper Town Hall, on Thursday, February 13th, from 7:00 p.m. to 9:30 p.m.

He said that tickets are \$25.00 per person. Mr. Conley also said that he will be hosting office hours at Coffee Haven on Saturday, February 15th, from 8:00 a.m. to 9:00 a.m.

Mr. Leary also said that the Highway Department did a great job with plowing snow in the last storm. Mr. Marsden asked residents to shovel out the fire hydrant in their neighborhood.

There were no comments from the audience.

ZONING BOARD OF APPEALS BUDGET REQUEST

John Love, from the Zoning Board, was present to discuss the budget. Mr. Love said that they adjusted the Legal line to have more funds as needed. Mr. Le Beau said that many committees budget for a modest amount for legal fees. Mr. Le Beau said that it hard to budget for litigation. He said that if a department or a board is having a problem with expensive legal fees, they will often talk to the Selectmen and try and coordinate with Town Counsel to see if there are funds available. He said that this has happened in the past with the Planning Board and the Board of Health. Mr. Le Beau said that legal services are now specialized. He said that thirty years ago, Town Counsel was able to handle all legal issues, now you need a specialist.

MR. MARSDEN MOVED TO APPROVE THE ZONING BOARD OF APPEALS BUDGET. THE MOTION WAS SECONDED BY MR. CONLEY. ALL IN FAVOR.

SELECTMEN BUDGET REQUEST

Mr. Le Beau said that this budget is at guideline after adjustments. He said that they moved the cost of the rental of the copy machine from the Selectmen's line to the Public Buildings line. He said that we increased the Memorial Day line from \$1,500 to \$2,000. He said that it was requested by the Veterans organizations.

Mr. Le Beau said that the communications line was over because of a one-time event. He said that the certified mail for the liquor hearing to all the abutters around Pinecrest Golf Course for the new liquor license for Anthony's on the Green was very expensive. Mr. Le Beau also said that the Selectmen budget takes care of the property and casualty insurance and liability insurance. Mr. Leary asked if the insurance coverage ever goes out to bid. Mr. Le Beau said that there are other insurance companies that may show a lower premium, but if you go through the layers with the coverage, what you are being offered is not as good as what MIAA offers to us. He said that the insurance company that we use is just for Massachusetts municipalities. He said that is the MIAA makes a profit at the end of the year, it goes back into the communities in the form of credits.

MR. CONLEY MOVED TO APPROVE THE SELECTMEN'S BUDGET. THE MOTION WAS SECONDED BY MR. MARSDEN. ALL IN FAVOR.

PUBLIC BUILDINGS BUDGET REQUEST

Mr. Le Beau said we will have to go before the Finance Committee for a Reserve Fund Transfer Request to cover costs this year. Mr. Le Beau said that we did improvements at the clubhouse and restaurant. He said that we will be splitting the utilities with the manager of the clubhouse for the first year. The following year, we will pay 25% and the clubhouse will cover 75% of the cost. The following year the clubhouse will be responsible for 100% of the utilities. He said that we painted the interior and put in a

new rug along with hardwood floors in the bar area. Mr. Le Beau said that the other problem with this budget is the software expense for MUNIS up-grades. Mr. Marsden asked if there were any MUNIS lines that we are not using we may be able to save? Mr. Le Beau said that the Treasurer/Collector and the Accountant use MUNIS the most, but he will check on it.

Mr. Le Beau said that Town Hall is drafty. You just never know what the gas bill will be. He said that this budget also covers the cost of the postage machine that is available for all departments. He said that Public Buildings also covers the cost of the two copier machines: one in the mail room and the other downstairs. Mr. Le Beau said that both copiers will have a scanner in them to save on paper. Mr. Le Beau said that when the solar projects get up and going we will be able to purchase electricity at a very reasonable rate to cover Town owned buildings. Mr. Leary asked if we were ever going to get solar panels on Town owned buildings? Mr. Le Beau said that with the two solar projects in Town, it could cover 80% of the power needed to run them. Mr. Le Beau said we could look into solar panels, but it needs to be discussed more. Mr. Leary asked about the Revolving Fund for Town Hall. Mr. Le Beau said that this is rental funds but we do use some of the funds to pay a salary, the cleaning of the Upper Town Hall, new tables and chairs. He also said that we re-did the hardwood floors about 5 or 6 years ago and the funds came out of this revolving account.

MR. MARSDEN MOVED TO APPROVE THE PUBLIC BUILDINGS BUDGET REQUEST. THE MOTION WAS SECONDED BY MR. CONLEY. ALL IN FAVOR.

BOARD BUSINESS – MINUTES

MR. MARSDEN MOVED TO APPROVE THE MEETING MINUTES OF DECEMBER 4, 2013, AS WRITTEN. THE MOTION WAS SECONDED BY MR. CONLEY. ALL IN FAVOR.

MR. MARSDEN MOVED TO APPROVE THE MEETING MINUTES OF DECEMBER 18, 2013, AS WRITTEN. THE MOTION WAS SECONDED BY MR. CONLEY. ALL IN FAVOR.

MR. MARSDEN MOVED TO APPROVE THE MEETING MINUTES OF DECEMBER 23, 2013, AS WRITTEN. THE MOTION WAS SECONDED BY MR. CONLEY. ALL IN FAVOR.

MR. MARSDEN MOVED TO APPROVE THE EXECUTIVE SESSION MEETING MINUTES FOR JANUARY 29, 2014, AS WRITTEN BUT NOT TO BE RELEASED. THE MOTION WAS SECONDED BY MR. CONLEY. ALL IN FAVOR.

CHANGE TO TRAFFIC RULES AND ORDERS – TRAFFIC SIGNALS

Mr. Le Beau said that since right on red became legal in MA we had to add it to the Traffic Rules and Orders. It said that unless there is a sign saying you can't right turn on red at a traffic light you are allowed to do it. Mr. Le Beau said that the Police Chief is in agreement with this. Mr. Le Beau said that this does not include the Highland Street light he said that is State owned.

MR. MARSDEN MOVED TO ADD WOODLAND STREET, WASHINGTON STREET AND HIGH STREET TO THE TRAFFIC RULES AND ORDERS SO THAT YOU MAY TAKE A RIGHT ON RED. THE MOTION WAS SECONDED BY MR. CONLEY. ALL IN FAVOR.

Mr. Le Beau said that there was a resignation from the Highway Department, but it is not in effect until it is accepted by the Board of Selectmen.

MR. MARSDEN MOVED TO ACCEPT THE LETTER OF RESIGNATION FROM THE HIGHWAY DEPARTMENT AS SUBMITTED. THE MOTION WAS SECONDED BY MR. CONLEY. ALL IN FAVOR.

KEEFE TECH ROOF

Mr. Le Beau said that Keefe Tech has discussed at last fall's Town Meeting and at their budget presentation the need to replace the roof. He said that at the last School Committee Meeting, they voted to authorize this. Mr. Le Beau said that the share for Holliston is about \$17,000 per year and they think it will be about 5 years to pay off the short term borrowing. Mr. Le Beau said that the District needs approval from all five Towns that are involved. Mr. Le Beau said that we have until April 1, to approve this or not approve it. Mr. Leary asked if they were going to get some State funding? Mr. Le Beau said that they did apply for it and it does look favorable, but it is not set in stone that they get it. Mr. Marsden said that he would like to make sure that our share does not change. He said that we can wait to see if they get the State funding before we go any further with this.

AY 8:25 P.M., MR. MARSDEN MOVED TO ADJOURN. THE MOTION WAS SECONDED BY MR. CONLEY. ALL IN FAVOR.

Respectfully submitted,

Donna A. Muzzy

approved_____