

**All Boards Meeting
Holliston Senior Center
January 14, 2015 - 7:30 PM**

Present: Selectmen Kevin Conley, Jay Marsden and Jay Leary; Finance Committee members William Dowd and Beth Liberty; Police Chief John Moore; DPW Director Sean Reese; Highway Superintendent Tom Smith; Town Administrator Paul LeBeau; Conservation Agent Charles Katuska; Principal Assessor Kathy Peirce; School Superintendent Brad Jackson; School Business Manager Keith Buday; School Committee members Anne Marie Hanstad, Ian Kelly, Carol Emmons, Stacey Raffi and Joan Sousa; Police Lt. Craig Denman; Golf Course Advisory Committee member Deborah Moore; Robert Malone of the Council on Aging; David Thorn, Warren Chamberlain and Taro Matsuno of the Planning Board; Conservation Commission member James McGrath; Open Space Committee member Lixy Carey; John Cronin of the Board of Assessors; Library Trustee Bill Heuer; Library Director Leslie McDonnell; Tony Lulek, P.J. Kilkelly and Paula Mark from the Agricultural Commission; Tree Warden Mark Ahronian; Senior Center Director Jean Boulette; Carl Damigella of the Holliston Development Corporation; Robert Weidknecht from the Trails Committee; Inge Daniels and Melissa Kaspern from the Park Commission; Health Director Scott Moles; John Love of the Zoning Board of Appeals; and Mary Greendale from HCAT.

Mr. Conley explained that the meeting would cover the FY16 budget guideline and that everyone would have an opportunity to discuss their department's respective projects and challenges. He noted that the Selectmen have been working on redeveloping Andrews School, implementing a downtown traffic plan, discussing the use of tasers by the Police Department, developing a process to recruit a new Town Administrator, eliminating the Solid Waste Fee, developing FY16 budgets, continuing to fund the OPEB liability and securing the Axton Cross site. Mr. Conley also noted that the Police Department has two new Lieutenants, a new Sergeant and a new Officer; we have new Senior Center Director, a new Town Accountant and the Town's first DPW Director. Both the golf course and the restaurant at the golf course had good financial years after getting off to a late start.

Mr. LeBeau noted that nomination papers would be available in early February. He urged everyone to utilize the liaison process with the Finance Committee during budget preparations.

Mr. Cronin noted some staffing changes in the Assessors' office and that they were working on potential payment-in-lieu-of-taxes (PILOT) arrangements with solar developers.

Ms. Peirce said the Assessors are heading into the triennial recertification year and reminded everyone that abatement applications are due by February 1.

Mr. Smith said they are planning to do paving work in the Mudville and Queens neighborhoods along with Marshall Street, Mill Street and Adams Street over the next few years.

Mr. Reese said that Water and Highway personnel and equipment have been merged, they have added a Water Operator and are working on a change in the culture of the departments. They also plan to do a pilot study of improving water quality from well #5.

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Mr. Heuer said that the Library would be embarking on a new five year planning process.

Ms. McDonnell said that the library is continually increasing its e-media offerings and they will be addressing the needs of an aging building.

Mr. Malone noted plans to expand the parking lot at the Senior Center and expand their program offerings to a growing and diverse senior population. He said they also plan to make some cosmetic improvements to the building.

Chief Moore explained that the Police Department is working on an accreditation process; they are meeting their goals midway through the five year plan; civilian dispatching has been successful; and they will be discussing the utilization of tasers with the Selectmen and the community.

Lt. Denman said that the Auxiliary Police Officers contributed more than 2,000 work hours last year and they will be looking to replace their aging portable radios.

Mr. Lulek noted the success of the community garden at the golf course, the recent acquisition of the Serocki property and the Kiss the Pig fundraising effort.

Mr. Love said that the ZBA is busy with a regular stream of applications but most of them relate to additions to existing houses.

Ms. Carey noted the recent acquisitions of the Serocki property and property from Northeastern University. The project to acquire a conservation restriction on some of the Bullard Farm property was not successful. The Open Space Committee has one vacancy.

Ms. Moore said it was a good year at the golf course and she praised the landscape improvement around the clubhouse.

Mr. Ahronian said that Holliston in Bloom is working to bring the community together. They will continue participate in America in Bloom (AIB) and they will be posting an AIB national conference in 2017.

Ms. Greendale said she is looking for suggestions and input for this year's community profile to be submitted to AIB.

Warren Chamberlain noted that there are now two solar projects in Town and that Pulte Homes is putting together an over 55 housing development.

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Mr. Damigella said the Holliston Development Corporation is planning to dissolve and turn over their remaining funds to the housing Trust. He also noted that the MWRTA has a strong partnership with the Senior Center.

Mr. Dowd urged everyone to reach out to the Finance Committee. He said the Finance Committee would be putting together a capital inventory, continue to build reserves, look at energy efficiency and scrutinize compensation, benefits and union contracts.

Ms. Hanstad said the School Committee is constantly seeking to enhance communication with the community and they perennially deal with budget challenges.

Ms. Emmons said the school system continues to be a very high performing district. They will be developing a new five year plan and they are engaged in a search for a new Principal at the Placentino School.

Mr. Jackson said that the National Honors Society may be able to help with some projects at the Senior Center.

Ms. Liberty noted that the Finance Committee is reviewing a draft set of financial policies and they are continually working to both balance the annual budget and address long term liabilities.

Mr. Katuska said that the Conservation Commission did not issue any denials during 2014. They are rewriting their regulations and working on a management plan for Lake Winthrop.

Mr. Weidknecht said that portion of the rail trail currently owned by the Town has been surfaced and they have funding to complete acquisition of the entire trail.

Ms. Kaspern said the Park Commission has made improvements at the beach at Lake Winthrop and to the tennis courts on Green Street. They are also developing a proposal for the Flagg Cole building.

Mr. Moles said that they have a Sharps program through CVS. They are working on revised food regulations and e-cigarette regulations.

Mr. Thorn said the Planning Board is seeing an increase in the number of development projects.

Mr. Matsuno said the Planning Board is updating their regulations.

Mr. Marsden said the Selectmen will be exploring possible changes to the position of Town Administrator, perhaps a change to Town Manager. He thanked everyone for all of their hard

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work and cooperation for the benefit of the Town.

Mr. Leary said he was impressed with the positive approach shown by everyone. He hopes that the Selectmen will have more meetings in different parts of Town. He is pleased by all the recent new hires and he expressed appreciation to Mr. LeBeau for his years of service to the Town.

MR. LEARY MOVED, MR. MARSDEN SECONDED AND IT WAS UNANIMOUSLY VOTED TO APPROVE WARRANT #15-29 IN THE AMOUNT OF \$1,546,631.37.

At 9:20 p.m. Mr. Conley thanked everyone for attending. **MR. LEARY MOVED, MR. MARSDEN SECONDED AND IT WAS UNANIMOUSLY VOTED TO ADJOURN.**

Respectfully submitted,

Paul D. LeBeau
Town Administrator