

**HOLLISTON BOARD OF SELECTMEN**

March 9, 2016  
7:30 p.m.

Holliston Town Hall  
703 Washington Street – Room 105

Present; Jay Leary, Vice Chairman; Kevin Conley, Clerk and Jeff Ritter, Town Administrator.  
Jay Marsden, Chairman was absent.

**MR. CONLEY MOVED TO APPROVE THE FOLLOWING WARRANT**

16-37	GENERAL WARRANT	\$316,927.49
	STUDENT ACTIVITY (8030) PLACENTINO	\$ 568.00
	STUDENT ACTIVITY (8030) HIGH SCHOOL	\$ 4,385.68
	HEALTH INSURANCE TRUST (701)	\$ 335.01
	AGENCY (890) VETERANS DISTRICT	\$ 289.10
	AGENCY (890) VETERANS DISTRICT PAYROLL	\$ 1,302.00
	TOWN PAYROLL	\$ 153,041.50
	TOTAL PAID WARRANT	\$ 475,546.78

**ACCOUNTANT’S NOTE:**

ACCRUED DEDUCTION LIABILITIES NOT PAID	\$ 33,775.26
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**TREASURER’S NOTE:**

WIRE TO HEALTH INSURANCE TRUST	\$ 20,839.07
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**THE MOTION WAS SECONDED BY MR. LEARY. TWO IN FAVOR. MR. MARSDEN WAS ABSENT.**

**COMMENTS FROM THE BOARD**

Mr. Conley said that the weather is getting better and we should be outside enjoying it. He said that the Holliston Reporter ran the article about the trash containers.

Mr. Leary said that Pinecrest Golf Course was packed today. He said that Anthony’s on the Green is open for business.

There were no comments from the audience.

**REPORT OF THE TOWN ADMINISTRATOR**

Jeff Ritter, said the Economic Development Committee is meeting tomorrow morning at 7:30 a.m. to talk about a video that gives the highlights of Holliston.

Mr. Ritter wanted to remind the Board that Habitat for Humanity will be having an open house on March 11, 2016, at 11:00 a.m. at 10 Chamberlain Street.

Mr. Ritter said that he is meeting on March 16, 2016, the Metrowest Visitors Bureau and their staff. Mr. Ritter has invited several members of the Economic Development Committee to join them.

Mr. Ritter started the Town Meeting Warrant for May. He said that they will close the Warrant on March 18, 2016. He said that we will receive funds from the Community Compact Grant. He said we received a designation from the Massachusetts Interlocal Insurance Association of \$5,500 grant for the emergency response trailer. Mr. Ritter said that the trailer will be available for review next week.

He said that the Senior Center parking lot bids were received last Thursday and the low bid was in at \$125,000. He said that GLM Engineering is reviewing the submissions. He said that there is a

discrepancy between the low bidder at \$125,000 and what GLM has estimated the project to be at \$228,000. He said because of that they are going to be looking at this very closely. Mr. Ritter said that they want to make sure that the low bidder does not come back with too many change orders.

Mr. Ritter said that next Thursday is St. Patrick's day and the staff is going to have a St. Patrick's day lunch at town. He said cornbeef and cabbage will be served by the Corner Market. He said the cost per person is \$5.00.

Mr. Conley asked if we received any testimonials from the bidder. Mr. Ritter said GLM will work on this for us.

A resident said you get what you pay for.

### **SENATOR SPILKA AND REPRESENTATIVE DYKEMA**

Senator Spilka said that she was the Chair of the Opioid Conference Committee. She said that it was very important because of what was at stake. She said that this is a public health epidemic. She said that it was a blending of the House and Senate versions of the bill. She said some were the same but some were different. She said that they took the best of both and made on strong bill. She said that both the Senate and the House had a say in the bill. She said that more education and prevention is what we need. Senator Spilka said that the Insurance Companies, Pharmacists and Providers were very helpful. She said that there will be a seven day limit for the initial prescription. She said that there will be exemptions for chronic pain and for cancer patients. She said that the Provider need to have a conversation with the patient about the prescription. Senator Spilka said that there is education in the schools now. She said last year they were able to purchase Nar can for municipalities.

Representative Dykema said so much of what they did was driven by what they are hearing. She said that the impact on our communities sometimes it is not visible but when you start talking to people the number of families that are suffering. Representative Dykema said that young people get started on drugs by taking prescription drugs. Then they get addicted and then they move to heroin a cheaper drug. Representative Dykema said that it usually starts with the young people going through the medicine cabinet.

Mr. Leary asked if the regulations will be written soon. Senator Spilka said that the bill will be on the Governor's desk by Friday March 11, 2016, to be signed. Senator Spilka said that any opioid prescription would only be for seven days. And if you need more you need to go to your Providers office for a new prescription.

A resident said that her son died from an overdose. She thanked Senator Spilka and Representative Dykema for all their hard work on getting this bill passed.

Mr. Leary asked if the House and Senate had anything else of interest going on.

Representative Dykema said that there is a lot of traffic around Interstate 495 and the I 90 interchange. She said that there are a lot of back-ups. She said that they will be working for improvements in this area. Representative Dykema said that the commuter rail has had its fair share of problems. She said that they are making great strides on improving the system. She said that the commuter rail and the MWRTA is the lifeline of the Metrowest area.

Senator Spilka said if the Mass Pike is going to keep the tolls going the only fair way is to put tolls on all the other major roads in the State. She also said that there should be tolls at the State line.

Senator Spilka said that they will be working on an energy bill. She said that solar power will be included in this bill.

Senator Spilka said that this year's budget will be tight. She said that they cut the States income tax rate.

Mr. Leary said the school budget is the biggest budget in any Town. He said that special education costs are very expensive.

Mr. Leary asked about local aid. He said that he knows that it is going to be a challenging year.

Representative Dykema said that local aid is one of the first things that they work on. She said that there is going to be some health care concerns. She said that 43% of the State budget goes to health care costs.

Mr. Conley said that it is difficult to manage a budget. He said that people and departments are asking for more and more every year.

Mr. Conley asked if minimum wage was going up?

Senator Spilka said that it already went up. She said that in January 2017, the wage will go up to \$11.00 per hour.

Mr. Conley said that is on the lower side. Representative Dykema said that California is looking at \$15.00 per hour.

Mr. Conley asked if we were going to start charging a sales for on line shopping out of state. Senator Spilka said that is up to Congress.

Senator Spilka said that she and Representative Dykema work hard for the Town and that they have a great working relationship with the Board of Selectmen. She said that they are great to work with.

Robert Malone, Chair of the C.O.A., wanted to thank Senator Spilka and Representative Dykema for all their hard work and for all the support that they have given the Senior Center. He said that they were able to fund many renovations. He said that they have been able to expand their programs. He said that no Town funds pay for any of the programs. It all comes from grants and user fees.

The Board thanked Senator Spilka and Representative Dykema for everything.

#### **COMMUNITY FARM ADVISORY COMMITTEE INTERVIEWS**

Postponed

#### **BOARD BUSINESS – MINUTES**

**MR. CONLEY MOVED TO APPROVE THE MEETING MINUTES FOR JANUARY 13, 2016, AS WRITTEN. THE MOTION WAS SECONDED BY MR. LEARY. TWO IN FAVOR. MR. MARSDEN WAS ABSENT.**

#### **EVENT PERMIT – BREAKING AIDS RIDE AND AMERICAN FOUNDATION FOR SUICIDE PREVENTION WALK OUT OF DARKNESS**

**MR. CONLEY MOVED TO APPROVE A EVENT PERMIT FOR BREAKING AIDS RIDE ON SEPTEMBER 23, 2016. THE MOTION WAS SECONDED BY MR. LEARY. TWO IN FAVOR. MR. MARSDEN WAS ABSENT.**

**MR. CONLEY MOVED TO APPROVE A EVENT PERMIT FOR AMERICAN FOUNDATION FOR SUICIDE PREVENTION WALK OUT OF DARKNESS ON MAY 15, 2016. THE MOTION WAS SECONDED BY MR. LEARY. TWO IN FAVOR. MR. MARSDEN WAS ABSENT.**

#### **PILOT AGREEMENT – SUNED**

Mr. Ritter said that we have not received the final documentation from SunEd. He said that he hopes to have it by next week.

## **BUDGET REVIEW – COUNCIL ON AGING, FUEL BUDGET AND PUBLIC BUILDINGS**

Mr. Conley said that all of these budgets came in at guideline.

Mr. Malone, Chairman of the C.O.A. said we are asked to fund mandated increases in the personnel budget. He said that other line items need to be cut in order to meet the guideline. She said that he thinks that it is unfair that in the C.O.A. budget they have to pay for those mandated increases. He said that there is nothing that they can do about it. He said that it is a huge impact on their budget.

Mr. Leary said that he has looked at the C.O.A. budget and really nothing was cut. Mr. Malone said that they had to cut the utilities, maintenance and vehicles. He said that those three lines that were cut were cut to meet the guideline.

Mr. Leary said that he sees the cut for the custodian budget. He said that is the only cut he sees.

Mr. Malone said then you must not have the correct budget.

Mr. Leary said that he will look for it. Mr. Ritter said that it is dated March 4, 2016.

Steven Chin, 55 Amy Lane, said the Finance Committee and the Selectmen may want to revisit the amount of money that is given to the Senior Center for their activities. He said that the Selectmen need to be responsible and leaders in the Community. He said that seniors need to be more respected. He said that the Senior Center should expand their programs.

Mr. Leary said that it over the past four years it has gone up substantially. He said that the Selectmen's challenge is to try and make every budget bigger, but sometime it is not something that they can do.

Mr. Leary said with help from the State we were able to do the kitchen over at the Senior Center. He said that the parking lot will be renovated. He also said that the bathrooms will be renovated. Mr.

Leary said that we have put a lot of funds into the building.

Mr. Leary thanked Mr. Malone for looking out for the seniors.

**MR. CONLEY MOVED TO APPROVE THE COUNCIL ON AGING BUDGET IN THE AMOUNT OF \$214,926. FOR FY 17. THE MOTION WAS SECONDED BY MR. LEARY. TWO IN FAVOR. MR. MARSDEN WAS ABSENT.**

## **FUELS BUDGET**

**MR. CONLEY MOVED TO APPROVE THE FUELS BUDGET IN THE AMOUNT OF \$125,000 FOR FY 17. THE MOTION WAS SECONDED BY MR. LEARY. TWO IN FAVOR. MR. MARSDEN WAS ABSENT.**

## **PUBLIC BUILDINGS**

**MR. CONLEY MOVED TO APPROVE THE PUBLIC BUILDINGS BUDGET IN THE AMOUNT OF \$269,422 FOR FY 17. THE MOTION WAS SECONDED BY MR. LEARY. TWO IN FAVOR. MR. MARSDEN WAS ABSENT.**

Mr. Malone, 414 Central Street, asked why is the 1750 Washington Street building included in the Public Buildings line and not the Senior Center.

Mr. Leary said that the 1750 Washington Street is an annex of the Town Hall so we should be paying a portion of their utilities.

Mr. Malone asked about insurance. Mr. Leary said that the Town pays for the insurance.

## **FOUNDATION BUDGET REVIEW COMMISSION LETTER**

Mr. Leary said that there are letters from the School Committee, Finance Committee, Board of Selectmen, Senator Spilka and Representative Dykema. Mr. Leary said that the Board would draft their

own letter with the concerns of the School Committee around the foundation budget. Mr. Leary said that health insurance and special education are the biggest lines in any budget. Mr. Conley moved to table this till next week when the Chairman is back from vacation.

### **PROPOSED ZONING BY-LAW AMENDMENTS**

Mr. Leary said that these amendments are proposed by the Planning Board. He said that they are looking to make five changes.

Mr. Ritter said that the Planning Board is planning on meeting tomorrow night and there are several changes that they want to make. He said that there are changes for Medical Marijuana locations in Town. Mr. Leary said that it would require a special permit with a site plan review.

Mr. Leary said that there will be discussion about multifamily homes.

Anne Chipman, 116 Stagecoach Road, asked about the zoning for marijuana. She said that she is hoping that the Selectmen support the Planning Boards decision to have these growing facilities in an industrial park.

Mr. Leary said that this is a proposal from the Planning Board. He has not been voted on yet.

Ms. Chipman said we should have zoning for the facilities. She said that the perfect location is an industrial park.

Mr. Leary said that every application that they have received the location that they want to grow on is in an industrial park.

Mr. Leary said that legislation has addressed what can and can't be done by the growers.

Mr. Leary said that he has checked with the DPW about water use, and they said that it would not be a problem. Mr. Leary said that a site plan would need to be approved by the Planning Board as well.

Tom Chipman, 116 Stagecoach Road, asked where are the growers going to store their fertilizer? Mr. Leary said that he thinks that they would keep it on their property. Mr. Chipman said that a site plan would show where it would be stored.

Mr. Leary said that the State already regulates this.

Mr. Conley said that he would be in favor of asking the Planning Board to delay this for one year.

Mr. Conley said that they should delay their action for a year. He said that we are trying to business friendly, and then the Planning Board wants to add new regulations.

Ms. Chipman said that the host agreement that the Board has signed for Brighton Health Advocates was removed from the process and then they re-organized as a for profit corporation under a new name.

She said that there is not an organization non-profit called Brighton Health Care Advocates. Ms. Chipman said that the Board of Selectmen signed a letter granting this non-existent non-profit the right to grow medical marijuana on Summer Street. She said that the Board of Selectmen signed a letter for a company that does not exist. She said that it is their intention is to wait until the law passes and sell it for recreational use.

Mr. Leary said that he is not sure if this is true.

Ms. Chipman said yes this is very true.

Mr. Leary said that the letter that was signed by the Selectmen is only good for non-profit facility that would be in Holliston.

Mr. Ritter said that the Department of Public Health has strict regulations on that. If they are not a real non-profit then the host agreement is worthless.

Ms. Chipman said that the Selectmen did not do their homework and we are putting the Town in a bad situation.

Ms. Chipman said that she will bring in all the documentation proving that Brighton Health Advocates filed false paperwork.

Mr. Leary said that if this is true and Brighton Health Advocates is a for profit company, then if they try and sell their location for the purposes of recreational marijuana, Mr. Leary said that they would not be able to do it. Mr. Leary said that we would not have an agreement any more.

Mr. Leary said that they did investigate the back ground of Brighton Health Advocates. He said that when they were before the Board they told the Board what happened to cause them to be removed for the original plan.

Mr. Leary said that they will all agree to have the growing facilities in an industrial setting. Mr. said that it would be the best place to have them.

Ms. Chipman said then please zone it industrial. Mr. Leary said that we do not want this type of facility at Highland Hill Farm, MacArthurs Farm, New Found Farm or any other farm in Town.

**AT 8:45 P.M., MR. CONLEY MOVED TO ADJOURN. THE MOTION WAS SECONDED BY MR. LEARY. TWO IN FAVOR. MR. MARSDEN WAS ABSENT.**

Respectfully submitted,

Donna A. Muzzy

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