

HOLLISTON BOARD OF SELECTMEN

May 4, 2016
7:00 p.m.

703 Washington Street

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

MR. CONLEY MOVED TO APPROVE THE FOLLOWING WARRANT

16-45	GENERAL WARRANT	\$ 445,947.36
	STUDENT ACTIVITY (8030) PLACENTINO	\$ 1,900.00
	STUDENT ACTIVITY (8030) HIGH SCHOOL	\$ 22,578.00
	COMMUNITY PRESERVATION (265)	\$ 21,909.00
	HEALTH INSURANCE (701)	\$ 471,915.11
	AGENCY (890) VETERANS DISTRICT	\$ 120.00
	AGENCY (890) VETERANS DISTRICT PAYROLL	\$ 1,302.00
	TOWN PAYROLL	\$ 115,107.66
	TOTAL PAID WARRANT	\$1,079,477.13

ACCOUNTANT'S NOTE:

ACCRUED DEDUCTION LIABILITIES NOT PAID	\$ 30,538.59
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TREASURER'S NOTE:

WIRE TO HEALTH INSURANCE TRUST	\$ 18,125.45
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THE MOTION WAS SECONDED BY MR. LEARY. ALL IN FAVOR.

COMMENTS FROM THE BOARD

Mr. Conley said that the Youth Softball and Baseball parade was this past weekend. He said that he had so much fun.

Mr. Marsden said that it was fun.

COMMENTS FROM THE AUDIENCE

Greg Lavin, 289 Washington Street, said that he was at a Selectmen's Meeting about one month ago and he asked for a no through trucking sign on High Street and to have some work done on the crosswalk. He said that the Board agreed that work needed to be done. He said that he received a letter from the Board about his request. This letter said that there is proper postings of High Street not being a through trucking. And that the police have given out several citations. He said that he would like the Board to look at this again and instead of having a sign that says no trucks over 2 ½ tons, put a no through trucking sign.

He said that in his letter about the complaint about the sidewalk he sent it to the Department of Transportation and the reply was that for public safety, the crosswalk should not be removed. Mr. Lavin said that he did not care about pavers or not he was talking about the noise. He said that when the trucks go over the road, it makes a lot of noise. He said when trucks go over the crosswalk, it rattles his house and several others. He said that he has called DPW Director twice but he has not called him back.

Mr. Marsden asked if there was a sign saying "no through trucking"? Mr. Lavin said no. The sign says "no trucks over 2 ½ tons". Mr. Lavin said that High Street is a short cut for many drivers. He said that if we put that sign up it would solve many of the problems on High Street.

Mr. Lavin said that Mr. Reese, DPW Director did not address the issue of the crosswalk and the noise. Mr. Leary said that Mr. Reese is very responsive to residents. Mr. Leary said that the State thinks that the crosswalk is fine the way it is. Mr. Lavin said then why are there different crosswalks through Town? They are painted not stamped. Mr. Leary said that we received grant money for the East Holliston Project so we need to do what the State tells us to do.

Mr. Lavin asked what are we going to do will we have to get our State representative involved.

Mr. Marsden said that they may think that this is a local issue. Mr. Marsden said that he does not think that there are any options. Mr. Lavin said that it is too bad that everyone who lives in that area has to listen to the noise.

REPORT OF THE TOWN ADMINISTRATOR

Mr. Ritter said that they have opened the bids for 1750 Washington Street for the renovations of the building. He said that the estimated cost is \$200,000 for the interior.

He said that the bid came in at \$207,000. He said that it is close to the estimate. He said that there was an addendum on the project for additional work on the exterior. He said that they are working with the architect, Ed Clinton, to come up with a revised budget. Mr. Ritter said that he is hoping to have a contract in place by June 1, 2016.

Mr. Ritter said that UMass Boston, the Collins Center, was in yesterday to talk to Department Heads on the creation of a Capital Improvement Plan. He said that the proposal should be ready by September 1, 2016 for the Selectmen to review. He said that the Flagg building environmental report has come in. He said that the building has lead paint and asbestos and it needs to be removed before the building can be taken down. Mr. Ritter said that they also need to get everything out of the building before work can be done. Mr. Ritter said that the Technology Director is able to have all the computer equipment removed free of charge. He said that a representative from the Secretary of State is going to do a walk through to see what documents can be tossed away and what we have to keep.

Mr. Ritter said that the Pinecrest Golf Course Club House will be power washed within the next several weeks.

He said that there will be work done in the hallway at the Senior Center and there will be work done in the conference room. He said that painting will be done.

Mr. Ritter said that the parking lot at the Senior Center will be improved. He said that in the month of July, while work is being done some of the classes will have to be moved.

He said that the DPW will be doing road work on the following streets starting May 9, 2016: Adams Street, Marshall Street, Washington Street, Hanlon Road, Gorwin Drive, Chamberlain Street, Central Street, Bullard Lane and Norfolk Street. Mr. Ritter said that this project will take about four weeks. He said they will start on the 9th of May.

BOARD BUSINESS

Carolyn Dykema, State Representative was present to talk about downtown. Ms. Dykema said that this is a very personal issue for her. She said that she was very close to the person who was killed downtown in December. She said that their children grew up together. Ms. Dykema said that she supports and thanks the Selectmen for all their hard work in pushing this through. She said that lights are essential. She said that there may be a problem with the lane format. She said that Mass Highway had some concerns as well.

Mr. Conley said that if the lights go in, it will still be part of the plan that McMahon and Associates put together. He said that the plan is very useful. Mr. Conley said that we need to get this project right the first time. He said that he likes the residents to have a voice in what is going on in Town. Mr. Conley said that this will change the way downtown looks. He said that we have to keep up with the changes. Mr. Conley said that he thinks the single lane approach is the way to go. He said we should do it for one year and see how things go and if it is not working they can look into it again.

Ms. Cheblek said that if McMahon and Associates were to come back and look at things over again, there would be a charge for it.

Ms. Dykema said that there is a reasonable argument for both plans, the two lanes or the one lane. She said that the single lane will allow parking spaces in downtown. If we go to the two lane, we will lose some of the parking. She said that many residents are concerned about the amount of parking spots that will be taken. She said that a lot of residents who attended the meeting had a lot of safety concerns about the two lanes.

Mr. Leary said that he thinks the reason that it was voted down at last Town Meeting was the presentation. He said let's just put up the lights and give it one year and if we have to re-visit this we can. He also said that we can also restrict when street parking is available. Mr. Leary said that when the lights do go in downtown, it will take longer to get through the center. Mr. Leary said that we can go with the one lane for one year and then we could have two lanes and for one year we could compare all the data and see what plan worked better.

Ms. Dykema said that she has heard from several residents about public safety and they want the downtown to stay the same or with minimal changes.

M. Marsden said that this Board, and many other Boards and Committees, have put a lot of time into this project. He said that they want to get it right the first time. Mr. Marsden said that he wants what is best for the Town. Mr. Marsden said that lights will slow the traffic down. He said that could bring some order to downtown. He said that if they restrict traffic at different times during the day, in the a.m. and p.m., they could still keep the parking spots.

Mr. Conley said that we need a parking lot in downtown.

Mr. Leary said that they all have to agree on a plan or the residents will be getting mixed signals about what to vote on.

Ms. Dykema said that whatever plan is approved, she would like to re-visit this in one year just to see how things are going. She said that after one year, they will see what happens and if they have to make a few changes they can.

Mr. Leary said that they will be in touch with McMahon and Associates with their thoughts about the travel lane with parking restrictions going north and south on Washington Street.

Mr. Marsden said that he will take care of getting this information to McMahon and Associates.

Brian Loughlin, Burnap Road, asked if the Board had any concern because this will be a new plan. Do you think the residents will be mixed up?

Mr. Marsden said that they made a lot of compromise to have this plan come together. He said that this has not been discussed at any downtown meeting. Ms. Dykema said that people do not like surprises.

Mr. Loughlin said that residents have to show up to Town Meeting to make this decision.

Mr. Marsden said that all the options that they have discussed may need some tweaking in the end.

Mr. Leary asked Chief Cassidy if he had any thoughts because he has been part of this discussion from the very beginning.

Chief Cassidy said that McMahon and Associates are the professionals.

Mr. Leary said that the Selectmen are behind Ms. Dykema to solve the traffic and safety issues in downtown.

The Selectmen thanked Ms. Dykema for all her hard work.

BOARD BUSINESS

Mr. Ritter said that there are three ZBA Applications that they can weigh in on if they choose.

Mr. Marsden said that they are being asked to sign-off on a drainage easement on Indian Ridge Road South. He said that the Planning Board has approved and signed-off on this project.

MR. CONLEY MOVED TO APPROVE AND SIGN THE AUTHORIZATION FOR THE DRAINAGE EASEMENT ON INDIAN RIDGE SOUTH BY THE AUTHORITY OF THE MASS GENERAL LAWS, CHAPTER 40, SECTION 14. THE MOTION WAS SECONDED BY MR. LEARY. ALL IN FAVOR.

World Energy is the process of putting in a Green Community Program price quotations. Mr. Marsden said that the Board needs to authorize them to do this. Mr. Marsden said that this is not an obligation to the company.

Mr. Ritter said that the Town Administrator, Chief Cassidy and Lieutenant Gatchell are the ones that are required to sign this energy reduction application to Eversource for the purpose of securing price quotations for the Town's participation in a Green Community Program.

MR. CONLEY MOVED TO AUTHORIZE THE TOWN ADMINISTRATOR, FIRE CHIEF AND LIEUTENANT TO SIGN THE ENERGY REDUCTION APPLICATION FOR EVERSOURCE. THE MOTION WAS SECONDED BY MR. LEARY. ALL IN FAVOR.

ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT COMMITTEE

Mr. Marsden said that they are in the process of setting up a webpage. He said that Chris Meo, Technology Director has spoken to several different vendors. Mr. Marsden said that this request is for \$4,250.00 as a line item transfer to fund this. He said that this would come from the street light account to the Selectmen's budget.

MR. MARSDEN MOVED TO AUTHORIZE A LINE ITEM TRANSFER FROM THE STREETLIGHT ACCOUNT TO THE SELECTMEN'S ACCOUNT FOR THE CREATION OF A WEBPAGE FOR THE ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT COMMITTEE IN THE AMOUNT OF \$4,250.00. THE MOTION WAS SECONDED BY MR. LEARY. ALL IN FAVOR.

LIBRARY

Mr. Marsden said that they have had some building maintenance issues for more than one year.

MR. LEARY MOVED TO AUTHORIZE A LINE ITEM TRANSFER FOR LIBRARY REPAIRS IN THE AMOUNT OF \$3,000.00. THE MOTION WAS SECONDED BY MR. CONLEY. ALL IN FAVOR.

Mr. Leary asked if we should have McMahon and Associates attend the first night of Town Meeting. He said that we may not get to the discussion of downtown and he does not want to pay her if all she is going to is wait.

Mr. Marsden said that she could come later in the night. She could come at 9:00 p.m. just in case they do get to the downtown discussion.

Mr. Ritter asked if the Board could take articles out of order so that she will only be needed on Tuesday night.

Mr. Ritter said that the residents of Holliston would want to see a revised plan.

Mr. Leary said that the revision is not much.

He said that parking spaces heading toward Sherborn will not be available in the morning until after rush hour. He said that parking spaces heading to Milford in the evening, will not be available until after rush hour.

Robert Nemet, 145 Robert Road, asked what happens at 8:45 p.m. the first night of Town Meeting and a resident asked for the question to be moved up, what happens?

Mr. Leary said that he will talk to the Moderator about that.

CORRECTION FOR THE AUXILIARY POLICE LINE ITEMS

MR. LEARY MOVED TO AMEND THE FY 17 AUXILIARY POLICE BUDGET REQUEST, NOT IN THE DOLLAR AMOUNT BUT IN LINE ITEM AMOUNTS. PURCHASED SERVICES \$5,775, REPAIR AND MAINTENANCE \$190, SUPPLIES AND MATERIALS \$7,264 FOR A GRAND TOTAL \$13,229. THE MOTION WAS SECONDED BY MR. CONLEY. ALL IN FAVOR.

Discussion of modifying the Response and Recovery Revolving Account. Mr. Leary said that the Finance Committee would like to lower it from \$100,000 to \$10,000. Chief Cassidy said that he is not in favor of that. He said that fund does go up from time to time. He said that spending authorization has not caught up with it.

Mr. Marsden said that he supports Chief Cassidy.

Mr. Leary said they do not need a motion from the Selectmen because they do not want to change it.

MR. LEARY MOVED TO SUPPORT THE EFFORTS OF PUBLIC SAFETY OFFICER, CHIEF CASSIDY, WHO IS THE STEWARD OF THIS FUND. HE SAID THAT IT NEEDS TO STAY AT THE \$100,000 LEVEL. THE MOTION WAS SECONDED BY MR. CONLEY. ALL IN FAVOR.

MR. LEARY MOVED TO AUTHORIZE THE CHAIRMAN TO SIGN AN OPEN MEETING LAW COMPLAINT LETTER. THE MOTION WAS SECONDED BY MR. CONLEY. ALL IN FAVOR.

AT 9:27 P.M., MR. MARSDEN MOVED TO ADJOURN. THE MOTION WAS SECONDED BY MR. CONLEY. ALL IN FAVOR.

Respectfully submitted,

Donna A. Muzzy

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