

HOLLISTON BOARD OF SELECTMEN

January 11, 2017
7:30 p.m.

Selectmen's Meeting Room – 105
Town Hall

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

MR. MARSDEN MOVED TO APPROVE THE FOLLOWING WARRANT

17-28	GENERAL WARRANT	\$368,802.32
	DEBT SERVICE TOWN (001)	\$129,634.19
	SPECIAL FUELS TAX	\$ 1,256.16
	EXPENDABLE TRUST (710) HOUSING TRUST	\$ 310.00
	EXPENDABLE TRUST (710) CONSERVATION	\$ 1,410.00
	AGENCY (890) VETERANS DISTRICT PAYROLL	\$ 1,033.64
	TOWN PAYROLL	\$155,342.26
	TOTAL PAID WARRANT	\$656,754.93

ACCOUNTANT'S NOTE:

ACCRUED DEDUCTION LIABILITIES NOT PAID	\$ 38,472.66
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TREASURER'S NOTE:

WIRE TO HEALTH INSURANCE TRUST	\$ 25,549.08
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THE MOTION WAS SECONDED BY MR. CONLEY. ALL IN FAVOR.

COMMENTS FROM THE BOARD

Mr. Leary said that he will not be seeking re-election for Selectmen in May. He said that his new job is causing all kinds of changes in his life. He said that he does not have the time to volunteer on the Board of Selectmen. He said that he was proud to serve on this Board. He said that there are many meetings and public gatherings that as a Selectmen you need to attend. He said the he just does not have the time. He said that he has been a Selectmen for six years. Mr. Leary said that Mark Ahronian will run for election in May.

Mr. Marsden said that he will miss Mr. Leary. Mr. Marsden said that all three of them work very well together.

Mr. Conley said that he has not always agreed with Mr. Leary, they have always gotten along.

REPORT OF THE TOWN ADMINISTRATOR

Jeff Ritter, Town Administrator, said that the 1750 Washington Street contract has been signed for the elevator. He said that the building permit has been issued. He said that Tim McGrath Contracting will be starting tomorrow. He said that Scott Moles, the Health Agent, will be watching very closely.

Mr. Ritter said that he met with the consultants from GZA for the Flagg building, he said that they are on target. He said that the bid documents should be ready by early February. He said that the demolition will start in July. He said that the asbestos will have been removed from the building by then.

Mr. Ritter said that the Green Community surplus that we have he would like to put it towards the lights at the Police Station. He said that this was a grant from the State, and there is 15,000 remaining. He said that Chris Meo was successful how those funds can be used at the Police station for lighting.

Mr. Ritter said that the new boiler will be installed starting tomorrow. He said that Town Meeting approved this in October. He said that it will only take a few day to have this installed.

Mr. Ritter said that the posting has gone up for the Senior Center Director.

BOARD BUSINESS - ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT BUDGET

Peter Barbieri, Chairman of the Economic Development Committee, Barbara Burton, David Thorn and Karen Sherman, Town Planner, were present.

Mr. Barbieri presented their budget for FY 18. He said that it is in the amount of \$12,200. He said that they have not spent all their personnel service funds. He said that the budget was set for six hours per week for Ms. Sherman, but she is only putting in five hours. He said that they have increased their purchased services. He said that they have joined the Metrowest Chamber of Commerce, the Holliston Business Association and the Milford Chamber of Commerce. He said that each group costs to join. He said that they have moved some of their funds around so that they can join these groups. He said that this budget is down 2.5% over last years.

Mr. Leary thanked Mr. Barbieri and his group for all their hard work.

Mr. Barberi said that the 495 Partnership has had many meetings. He said the bus service has been expanded into Milford. He said that there was a great discussion on downtown areas. He said that this discussion was about breweries in the downtown area. He said that it is a way to draw people in the area. He said that food, drink and entertainment brings people in. He said that septic is the issue in Holliston.

Mr. Leary said that Holliston is going to start offering a rebate on water conservation toilets and washer machines. Mr. Leary said that a notice will be on each water bill so that residents will know that this is going to be offered.

MR. MARSDEN MOVED TO APPROVE THE ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT BUDGET FOR FY 18 IN THE AMOUNT OF \$12,200. THE MOTION WAS SECONDED BY MR. CONLEY. ALL IN FAVOR.

HOUSING TRUST PROJECTS

Mr. Leary said that the Housing Trust would like to sell 11 Wedgewood Drive, and purchase property at 46 Marked Tree Road. Mr. Leary said that this requires the Selectmen's approval. Mr. Marsden said that he does not have a problem with this as long as there is a deed restriction, so that the house can be sold again to another low income family in the future.

Kay Baxter, Housing Trust, said that there will always be a deed restriction on the house. Ms. Baxter said that the buyer will have a special type of mortgage, because some banks will not make a loan on a restricted property.

Mr. Leary said that at a joint meeting with surrounding towns Board of Selectmen they heard that a buyer for an affordable housing property re-mortgaged the property twice and then lost the property. He said that the Town had to buy-back the property that was over mortgaged. He asked if there were any restrictions.

Ms. Baxter said that would be an issue to the mortgage company.

Mr. Marsden said that a title search should have been done.

Mr. Conley said that there was an occasion in another Town that an affordable housing unit was rented out, so the owner was making money on it.

Ms. Baxter said that there is a monitoring agent that is going to check in every year on the affordable units.

MR. MARSDEN MOVED TO APPROVE THE SALE OF 11 WEDGEWOOD DRIVE BY THE HOLLISTON HOUSING TRUST. THE MOTION WAS SECONDED BY MR. CONLEY. ALL IN FAVOR.

MR. MARSDEN MOVED TO APPROVE THE PURCHASE OF 46 MARKED TREE ROAD FOR THE HOUSING TRUST UP TO \$146,000, AND TO SPEND UP TO \$15,000 FOR THE LOTTERY DOCUMENTS. THE MOTION WAS SECONDED BY MR. CONLEY. ALL IN FAVOR.

ANIMAL CONTROL BUDGET

Mr. Ritter said that the Animal Control budget is a shared budget, we share it with the Town of Ashland. He said that Holliston pays an annual fee to Ashland for this service. He said that a portion of the annual fee is part of the Animal Control Officers salary, benefits and supplies. He said that he has talked with the Town Administrator in Ashland and they think that the arrangement is working great. He said that last year the appropriation was in the amount of \$38,570. He said in FY 18 the new guideline is \$38,956. He said that this budget is at guideline.

MR. MARSDEN MOVED TO APPROVE THE ANIMAL CONTROL BUDGET FOR FY 18 IN THE AMOUNT OF \$38,956. THE MOTION WAS SECONDED BY MR. CONLEY. ALL IN FAVOR.

MOTOR VEHICLE FUELS BUDGET

Mr. Ritter said that the Motor Vehicles Fuels budget for FY 18 is in the amount of \$125,000. He said that these funds are used to purchase gas and diesel for all municipal and school department vehicles and equipment. He said that he does not think that he needs any more funds for this line.

Mr. Leary said that the Departments that use the fuels are invoiced by the Highway Department every month for their usage.

MR. MARSDEN MOVED TO APPROVE THE MOTOR VEHICLE FUELS BUDGET FOR FY 18 IN THE AMOUNT OF \$125,000. THE MOTION WAS SECONDED BY MR. CONLEY. ALL IN FAVOR.

SOLID WASTE BUDGET

Mr. Ritter said that the Solid Waste Budget for FY 18 is in the amount of \$1,550,608. Mr. Ritter said that this budget falls into two different buckets. He said the Solid Waste Contract that the Board signed last week with Republic Service and the tipping fees for Wheelbrator. He said that Wheelbrator is the disposal facility in Millbury. He said that we purchase green recycling containers from Orbis. He said that we provide them to residents at no cost. He said that Electronic Recyclers picks up the CRT's at Marshall Street. He said that Clean Harbors also does the Household Hazardous Waste Day in July. He said that there is a collector of metals and we have to pay for that.

Mr. Leary asked if we were going to re-look at the automated pickup up service by Republic Service?

Mr. Marsden said that we will look at that again in the fall.

Mr. Leary said that several surrounding Towns have the automated pickup service and they love it.

Mr. Leary said that he is surprised in the mount of CRT's that are picked up at Marshall Street. He said that we could fill a container in less than 2 weeks, now it is several months before we can fill one. He said that we charge \$20 per CRT item.

Mr. Ritter said that the Treasurer/Collector has issued eleven hundred window decals for the Recycling Center.

Mr. Leary said that decal is good until December 31, 2017, then you will have to get a new one.

Mr. Ritter said that if there is an increase in trash volume, the tipping fee will go up.

MR. CONLEY MOVED TO APPROVE THE SOLID WASTE BUDGET FOR FY 18 IN THE AMOUNT OF \$1,550,608. THE MOTION WAS SECONDED BY MR. MARSDEN. ALL IN FAVOR.

STREET LIGHTING BUDGET

Mr. Ritter said that we have about 919 street lights in Town that includes the traffic lights.

Mr. Ritter said that the cost of the lighting goes up and down. He said that this could go up because of new sub-divisions going in. He said that street lights could be added. Mr. Ritter said that the new traffic lights in downtown will add to the cost of the lighting. He said that he has appropriated \$60,600 for this lighting account for FY 18.

Mr. Ritter said that there has been talk about owning the lights. He also said that that we could change over to L.E.D. lighting.

Mr. Marsden said that there are companies that will help with setting up the L.E.D. lighting.

MR. MARSDEN MOVED TO APPROVE THE STREET LIGHT BUDGET FOR FY 18 IN THE AMOUNT OF \$60,600. THE MOTION WAS SECONDED BY MR. CONLEY. ALL IN FAVOR.

8 ARCH BRIDGE COMMITTEE EXPANSION AND APPOINTMENT

Mr. Leary said that there are five members on the Committee but there has been a request to expand that to six members. Mr. Leary said that Herb Brocket would have lots of knowledge on this project.

MR. CONLEY MOVED TO APPOINT HERB BROCKET TO THE 8 ARCH BRIDGE COMMITTEE. THE MOTION WAS SECONDED BY MR. MARSDEN. ALL IN FAVOR.

Mr. Leary asked Jay Robinson if they have had any meetings yet?

Jay Robinson, 232 Chamberlain Street, is on the 8 Arch Bridge Committee. He said that their first meeting will be on January 17, 2017. He said that now that they have six members of the Committee, he thinks that a member may step back from the committee. Mr. Robinson asked if the Selectmen were going to join them in their meeting on January 17, 2017 at 7:00 p.m.?

Mr. Leary said that one of the Board will try to attend.

DOWNTOWN PROJECT

Mr. Conley said that he met with a representative from McMahan and Associates last week about the project. Mr. Conley talked about the crosswalk at Green Street. He said that it will be moved to the corner. He said that this crosswalk can't interfere with the entrance of the Mobil gas station. He said that if we leave it where it is, a telephone pole will have to be moved. He said a fire hydrant will have to be moved, and the curb will have to be cut at a different angle. Mr. Conley said that there is a drain in front of the telephone pole and that would take a lot of work to get that moved. Mr. Conley said that

Green Street will have a little bump out, on Green Street not Washington Street. He said that with the bump out on Green Street there will be two more added parking spots in the downtown area.

Mr. Leary asked if Mr. Conley talked to DPW about this?

Mr. Conley said that he will talk to them.

Mr. Ritter said that we will save a lot of money by not moving poles.

OTHER BUSINESS

Mr. Leary said that they appointed a Senior Center Director Screening Committee. Mr. Leary said that Bob Malone who was going to be away will in fact not be. Mr. Leary said that Mr. Malone will replace Carmen Chiango on this Committee.

MR. CONLEY MOVED TO APPROVE BOB MALONE TO TAKE THE PLACE OF CARMEN CHIANGO ON THE SENIOR CENTER DIRECTOR SEARCH COMMITTEE. THE MOTION WAS SECONDED BY MR. MARSDEN. ALL IN FAVOR.

Mr. Leary said that they should talk about what to do for the search of a new Police chief.

Mr. Leary said that there are a few strong candidates from the Department.

Mr. Marsden said that there are many strong candidates. The posting will be internal and external.

Mr. Conley said that he thinks we have a fabulous Police Department and he is sure there will be some great candidates looking for the Chief's position. He said that he is not an expert in hiring a Police Chief. He said that he would like the Assessment Center to look at all the applications.

Mr. Leary suggested that we get retired Chiefs from other communities to do the interviews.

Mr. Conley said that he would like to see someone from the School and the Senior Center as part of the screening committee.

Mr. Ritter said that he got an estimate from MMA Consulting and Badgequest. He said that the estimate is between \$15,000 and \$20,000. Mr. Leary said that Badgequest will take about four months.

Mr. Leary said that there could be a Committee and they could narrow it down to a few, then pass along their applications to the Assessment Center.

Mr. Leary said that when Chief Moore was hired, that process went well. He said that now you want to change it a little. Mr. Leary said that you want to hire a professional from the outside agency to do an assessment. Mr. Leary asked Mr. Marsden if the last time was there something missing that you think should be there? Or do you think that this is a professional group to oversee the hiring.

Mr. Marsden said that he may change his mind depending on who shows up for the Police Chief Screening Committee.

Mr. Leary said that a reserve fund transfer will be needed to cover this cost.

Mr. Conley said that he would like to see this go through a professional Assessment Center. He said that they are the professionals.

Mr. Marsden said that the order would be as follows, Screening Committee, Assessment Center then presentation to the Board of Selectmen for interviews.

Mr. Conley said that is what he is in favor of.

Mr. Marsden said that they can ask for letters of interest for the Screening Committee.

Mr. Marsden said that seven Committee members is the right amount of people.

Mr. Conley said that he would like at least one ex-police Chief on the committee.

Mr. Leary said that they will have a representative from the School Committee, Council on Aging, Business Community, DPW or Public Safety, and three people at large.

Mr. Marsden said that they should have law enforcement background.

Mr. Ritter said how about two people at large and a Police Chief from a surrounding community.

Mr. Leary asked about a former Police Chief?

Mr. Ritter read the list for the Police Chief Search Committee, a School Committee representative, Council on Aging Representative, a Business Community representative, a representative from the DPW or Public Safety, 2 at large and a current or former Police Chief.

Mr. Leary said that this Committee needs to come up with the top four candidates. Mr. Marsden said that the Assessment Center will interview the top four and rank them.

Mr. Leary said the sooner we post this position, the better. He suggested a 30 day post.

This posting will also say that a Committee will be formed and then applicants will go to the Assessment Center, then ranked and then four will move on to interviews with the Board of Selectmen.

MR. CONLEY MOVED TO APPROVE THE POLICE CHIEF POSTING. THE MOTION WAS SECONDED BY MR. MARSDEN. ALL IN FAVOR.

Jay Robinson, 233 Chamberlain Street, wanted to talk about Axton Cross. Mr. Robinson said that he went through the Board of Health file on Axton Cross. He said that he wants to understand what is going on with the property. He said that Scott Moles, the Health Agent, was very helpful.

Mr. Marsden said that the Town has hired an Attorney to walk us through this property. He said that this property is contaminated.

AT 9:11 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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