



**TOWN OF HOLLISTON
BOARD OF SELECTMEN**

**703 Washington Street
Holliston, MA 01746**

508-429-0608

**BOARD OF SELECTMEN
MEETING MINUTES
HOLLISTON TOWN HALL
MARCH 12, 2018**

Present: Kevin Conley, Chairman; Jay Marsden, Vice Chairman; Mark Ahronian, Clerk

Also present: Jeff Ritter, Town Administrator

- 1.) EXECUTIVE SESSION:** J. Marsden made a motion under M.G.L. Chapter 30A, Section 21A to enter into Executive Session for the purposes of discussing the acquisition of a portion of the Finn property at 397 Hollis Street. The Board will reenter open session at approximately 7:00p.m. Second, M. Ahronian.

Roll Call Vote: Marsden – Yes; Ahronian – Yes; Conley – Yes

At 7:18p.m. J. Marsden made a motion to exit Executive Session and to return to open Session. Second, M. Ahronian.

Roll Call Vote: Marsden – Yes; Ahronian – Yes; Conley – Yes

K. Conley called the meeting to order at 7:18p.m.

- 2.) Warrants:** M. Ahronian read the Warrants and made a motion to approve the weekly vendor (expense) and payroll warrants in the amount of \$1,500,392.28. Second, J. Marsden. Voted 3-0
- 3.) Public Comment:** M. Ahronian reviewed the revised trash and recycling schedule and that the Marshall Street recycling center will be open the next two (2) Sundays from 8a.m. until 3p.m. The purpose for the extend hours of operation is to assist residents in bringing their brush to the recycling center.

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J. Marsden said it is important for residents to bring in their trash and not to leave it on the curb side where town plow trucks might hit the bags. Also, to remove any tree limbs from the right of way.

Sharon Weaver, 69 Woodland Street said her trash and recycling have been missed several times by Republic Services and would like addressed. She was recently on the phone with Republic Services for forty-five (.45) minutes and finally hung up.

- 4.) **Report of the Town Administrator:** J. Ritter reported the Town has received a Mass. DEP Technical Assistance Grant to support the work of the Sustainability Waste and Recycling Committee work to prepare bid specifications in anticipating of going out to bid next winter. The current Contract with Republic Services expires on June 30, 2019.

He asked the Board for the authority to close Town Hall in anticipation of a large snow storm tomorrow. There was no objection.

Regarding the Town Center signalization project work is scheduled to resume on or about March 26th.

Work continues with Town staff reviewing and meeting with various vendors to introduce a proposal for a new web site.

- 5.) **Town Counsel – Opioid Litigation:** Jay Talerman, Town Counsel was present and briefed the Board regarding nationwide opioid litigation. The law firm taking on the opioid litigation would not take any actions without first consulting with Town Counsel. It is the same law firm who took on the MBTE litigation several years ago and there would be no risk to the Town.

J. Marsden said every community is dealing with this public health crisis. There is a lack of accountability in the drug industry and they will not feel any pain until there is a financial impact.

K. Conley said it was a step forward. J. Talerman said it might get settled outside of Court and there is a lack of government controls and regulations.

J. Marsden made a motion for the Town of Holliston to join the law suit and to try to re-capture some of the expenses incurred by the Town in responding to the opioid crises and for J. Ritter to sign any needed documents. Second, M. Ahronian. Voted 3-0

- 6.) **Board Business:**

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Minutes from June 5, 2017 and March 5, 2018: J. Marsden made a motion to approve and release the meeting minutes from June 5, 2018 and March 5, 2018. M. Ahronian. Voted 3-0

Event Permits – Annual Easter Egg Hunt and Three Squares Bike Ride: J. Marsden made a motion to approve an event permit at the Community Farm for an Easter Egg Hunt to be held on Saturday, March 24, 2018 at 10a.m. and the Three Squares Bike Ride to be held on Sunday, September 23, 2018. Second, M. Ahronian. Voted 3-0

Annual Town Meeting Warrant: J. Ritter reviewed the first draft of the Annual Town Meeting Warrant. Beyond the non-routine articles J. Ritter highlighted the upgrade to the Town's Web site, Rescind borrowing, water treatment plant, accept Hopping Brook Road and Boynton Road, Accept Solect Energy Easement and the acceptance of M.G.L. Chapter 150 Section 139C (Waiver of dog licensing fees for those over 70 years old).

Chapter 90 Project Requests: The Board reviewed the Chapter 90 project requests for re-construction and repairs on the following streets: Chestnut, Evergreen, Hemlock, Highland, Kuniholm, Spruce, Walnut and Wedgewood. J. Marsden made a motion to approve the Chapter 90 Project Requests as present by the Department of Public Works. Second, M. Ahronian. Voted 3-0

Constable Re-Appointment: M. Ahronian made a motion to re-appoint Scott Gonfrade as Constable for a term to expire on March 16, 2021. Second, J. Marsden. Voted 3-0

Veteran Parking Only Parking Space Designation at 1750 Washington Street: J. Ritter presented a proposal from Rifles to Rods and their request to designate one (1) parking space to be designated for veterans parking only. M. Ahronian made a motion to approve the request as presented. Second, J. Marsden. Voted 3-0

- 7.) **Other Business:** J. Marsden made a motion to approve and authorize the Chairman to sign the Payment Voucher for the Schools to receive \$50,000 in support of their Substance Abuse and Prevention Program. Second, M. Ahronian. Voted 3-0

J. Ritter thanked all the public safety for their quick and efficient response to most recent storms.

M. Ahronian said affordable housing for seniors and young people continues to be a challenge. Seniors want to continue to remain in their homes. Perhaps the Board should consider establishing a committee to look into the problem. The Board agreed to invite Bryan Clancy to a future meeting.

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Adjourn: M. Ahronian made a motion at 7:48p.m. to adjourn the meeting. Second, J. Marsden. Voted 3-0

Respectfully submitted,



J. Jeffrey Ritter
Town Administrator