

HOLLISTON BOARD OF SELECTMEN

July 24, 2017
7:00 p.m.

Selectmen's Meeting Room – 105
Town Hall

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

AT 7:00 P.M., MR. MARSDEN MOVED TO ENTER INTO EXECUTIVE SESSION TO DISCUSS UNION CONTRACT NEGOTIATIONS. THE MOTION WAS SECONDED BY MR. AHRONIAN. ALL IN FAVOR. A ROLL CALL VOTE WAS TAKEN.

	AYE	NAY
MR. CONLEY	X	
MR. MARSDEN	X	
MR. AHRONIAN	X	

AT 7:31 P.M., THE BOARD EMERGED FROM EXECUTIVE SESSION AND MOVED TO OPEN SESSION.

MR. AHRONIAN MOVED TO APPROVE THE FOLLOWING WARRANT

18-04	GENERAL WARRANT	\$420,513.87
	CAPITAL PROJECTS (300)	\$ 23,362.50
	AGENCY (890) VETERANS DISTRICT	\$ 319.81
	AGENCY (890) VETERANS DISTRICT PAYROLL	\$ 1,125.00
	TOWN PAYROLL	\$119,591.89
	TOTAL PAID WARRANT	\$563,788.07

ACCOUNTANT'S NOTE:

ACCRUED DEDUCTION LIABILITIES NOT PAID	\$ 35,748.14
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TREASURER'S NOTE:

WIRE TO HEALTH INSURANCE TRUST	\$ 23,941.95
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THE MOTION WAS SECONDED BY MR. MARSDEN. ALL IN FAVOR.

PUBLIC COMMENT

Mr. Conley said that Bill Mayer has retired as our Town Counsel. He has served Holliston for many years. Mr. Conley said that the Board has signed a proclamation for Mr. Mayer. The Board thanked Mr. Mayer for all his hard work and dedication to the Town of Holliston. Mr. Mayer thanked the Board for all their kind words.

There were no comments from the audience

REPORT OF THE TOWN ADMINISTRATOR

Jeff Ritter, Town Administrator, was present. He said that last week, he met with the 8 Arch Bridge Committee. They are working on an invitation to bid on this project. Mr. Ritter said that the 8 Arch Bridge Committee will be joining the Selectmen on August 7th at a meeting.

He said that a host agreement with 29 Everett Street is the next step for this growing facility. He said that Town council is reviewing the agreement.

Mr. Ritter said that the Flagg School demolition project the environmental portion work has been completed. He said that it is a clean building. He said that Eversource has removed an underground transformer from the site. He said that all the electricity has been shut off to the building. He said that the demolition is starting on Wednesday, July 26, 2017. He said that the final landscaping will be at the end of August.

Mr. Ritter said that last week we received a grant from Mass Office of Disabilities in the amount of \$30,000. He said that this is for work being done at 1750 Washington Street. He said that on August 7, 2017, he is going to ask the Board to open the Warrant for the Special Town Meeting. He said that the Special Town Meeting will be on October 23, 2017.

Mr. Ritter said that last week we opened bids for the down town light project. He said that we received nine bids. He said that McMahon and Associated are reviewing the bids.

Mr. Ritter said that Town Council hours will be on Thursday, August 3, 2017, at 11:00 a.m. He said that Robert Weidknecht from the Trails Committee has an appointment to talk about encroachment onto the trail by property owners.

POLICE DEPARTMENT STRATEGIC PLAN

Mr. Conley said that Chief Stone is present to talk about the five year Strategic Plan.

Chief Matt Stone said that he emailed everyone the plan. He said that this is a follow-up from the plan that was first put in place in 2012. He said that this is the second five year plan. He said that there was a community survey online that they were able to collect data from. He said that over one thousand residents took this survey. He said that they focused on five things, traffic, juvenile, community relations, crime prevention, and domestic violence and mental health. He said that this plan will take the Department to 2022. He said that every focus area has a team leader. And at the end of the year, a report will be given to the Chief.

Mr. Conley asked if down Town traffic concerns was high on the list?

Chief Stone said yes number 2 or 3.

Mr. Ahronian said that drug awareness is high on the list. He asked if they should have a second school Resource Officer (SRO)?

Chief Stone said that they could use an extra SRO. He said that being able to talk to the younger kids will help.

Mr. Conley said that mental health issues are growing.

Chief Stone said that they have a part-time clinician who shares her time with Ashland, Hopkinton and Sherborn. He said that they are seeking a full time Mental Health Clinician. He said that he thinks that this will be a common practice for other Police departments.

Mr. Ritter congratulated Chief Stone on all the work that was done on this. Chief Stone said that several members of the Department were involved in creating it. He said that it was a team effort.

Mr. Ritter asked about the plan and the accreditation.

Chief Stone said they are almost side by side. Chief Stone said that the Department will be fully accredited on August 14, 2017. He said that they will be one of only a handful that are accredited.

The Selectmen thanked Chief Stone.

BOARD BUSINESS – EXECUTIVE SESSION MEETING MINUTES

MR. MARSDEN MOVED TO APPROVE THE EXECUTIVE SESSION MEETING MINUTES OF JUNE 26, 2017. BUT NOT TO BE RELEASED. THE MOTION WAS SECONDED BY MR. AHRONIAN. ALL IN FAVOR.

MR. MARSDEN MOVED TO APPROVE THE EXECUTIVE SESSION MEETING MINUTES OF JULY 17, 2017. BUT NOT TO BE RELEASED. THE MOTION WAS SECONDED BY MR. AHRONIAN. ALL IN FAVOR.

ONE DAY ALCOHOLIC BEVERAGE PERMIT – LETOURNEAU PARTY

MR. MARSDEN MOVED TO APPROVE A ONE DAY ALCOHOLIC BEVERAGE PERMIT FOR THE LETOURNEAU PARTY AT THE HISTORICAL SOCIETY ON SEPTEMBER 9, 2017. THE MOTION WAS SECONDED BY MR. AHRONIAN. ALL IN FAVOR.

EVENT PERMITS – BREAKING AIDS RIDE

MR. MARSDEN MOVED TO APPROVE THE EVENT PERMIT FOR THE BREAKING AIDS RIDE ON SEPTEMBER 8, 2017, STARTING AT 7:45 A.M. THE MOTION WAS SECONDED BY MR. AHRONIAN. ALL IN FAVOR.

EVENT REQUEST – MUSCULAR DYSTROPHY FILL THE BOOT TOLL ROAD

MR. AHRONIAN MOVED TO APPROVE THE MUSCULAR DYSTROPHY FILL THE BOOT TOLL ROAD ON AUGUST 19, 2017, AT ROSSINI CORNER FROM 9:00 A.M. TO 2:00 P.M. THE MOTION WAS SECONDED BY MR. MARSDEN. ALL IN FAVOR.

RESIGNATION – ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT COMMITTEE

Robert Warburton has resigned for the Economic Development Committee.

MR. MARSDEN MOVED TO APPROVE THE RESIGNATION OF ROBERT WARBURTON'S RESIGNATION FROM THE ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT COMMITTEE. THE MOTION WAS SECONDED BY MR. AHRONIAN. ALL IN FAVOR.

APPOINTMENT – ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT COMMITTEE

Matthew Colletti would like to be appointed to the Economic Development Committee.

MR. MARSDEN MOVED TO APPOINT MATTHEW COLLETTI TO THE ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT COMMITTEE FOR A TERM TO EXPIRE JUNE 2019. THE MOTION WAS SECONDED BY MR. AHRONIAN. ALL IN FAVOR.

ANDREWS SCHOOL REQUEST FOR PROPOSALS

Mr. Ritter said that he has a draft for the sale of the Andrews School at 17 School Street. He said that Town Meeting gave the Selectmen authority to dispose of the property.

Mr. Ritter asked that the Board approve this so that it can be advertised. He said that he would like a response date of Friday, September 8, 2017 at noon. Mr. Ritter said that there are a few zoning changes.

Mr. Conley said that last time there was not a lot of interest.

Mr. Ritter said that we did have a couple of contractors that were interested, but they did not submit anything.

Mr. Conley said that with the zoning change, now they can put three house lots on the site.

Mr. Ritter said yes the zoning has changed in the Mudvill area of Town. He said that it is now Village Residential. He said that we are still waiting for the Attorney General to approve it.

Mr. Ahronian asked if someone just wanted to purchase the building and refurbish it, they could.

Mr. Ritter said that it is possible.

MR. AHRONIAN MOVED TO APPROVE THE SCHEDULE FOR THE ANDREWS SCHOOL PROPOSALS. THE MOTION WAS SECONDED BY MR. MARSDEN. ALL IN FAVOR.

TOWN COUNSEL FEE SCHEDULE

Mr. Ritter said that there are two ways to pay Talerman, one is per the hour and the other is a monthly retainer. Mr. Ritter said that in each one of you has a package with the breakdown.

Mr. Ritter said that we just received our first bill in the amount of \$1,200. He said that this is going to be a learning curve. Mr. Ritter said that there is a great need for Town Counsel. He said that land use has several issues. Mr. Ritter said that he is leaning towards a retainer instead of hourly billing.

Mr. Ahronian asked if it could be reviewed every year?

Mr. Ritter said that they could review it every six months or whenever you would like to.

Mr. Marsden said that he would like more clarification. He said that it looks like we will be getting about 20 hours of service from them. Mr. Marsden said that the Town does not have its own legal department.

MR. MARSDEN MOVED TO AUTHORIZE THE FLAT FEE OF \$3,500 PER MONTH FOR TALERMAN, MEADE AND COSTA, WITH A REVIEW AFTER ONE YEAR. THE MOTION WAS SECONDED BY MR. AHRONIAN. ALL IN FAVOR.

Mr. Ritter said that this is only for basic services. This does not include litigation.

COMMON VICTUALLER'S LICENSE

MR. MARSDEN MOVED TO INVOKE THE RULE OF NECESSITY TO APPROVE THE UP COMING LICENSE. THE MOTION WAS SECONDED BY MR. AHRONIAN. ALL IN FAVOR. (MR. CONLEY AND MR. AHRONIAN ARE LIONS' CLUB MEMBERS).

MR. MARSDEN MOVED TO APPROVE A COMMON VICTUALLER'S LICENSE FOR THE CARNIVAL, ON WEDNESDAY JULY 26, 2017, SPONSORED BY THE LIONS' CLUB. THE MOTION WAS SECONDED BY MR. AHRONIAN. ALL IN FAVOR.

MR. MARSDEN MOVED TO WAIVE THE FEE FOR THE COMMON VICTUALLERS' LICENSE FOR THE LIONS' CLUB CARNIVAL. THE MOTION WAS SECONDED BY MR. AHRONIAN. ALL IN FAVOR.

POLICE CANDIDATE INTERVIEWS

Tess Lacoss was present to be interviewed. Mr. Conley asked Ms. Lacoss to make an opening statement.

Ms. Lacoss thanked the Board for the interview.

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Mr. Conley asked why do you want to be a police officer in Holliston?

Ms. Lacoss said that she likes the small home town feeling. She said that she would fit in well.

Ms. Lacoss said that she is working in Woburn as an Officer. She said that Holliston is very different.

Mr. Conley asked what is the difference?

Ms. Lacoss said that Woburn is a city. She said that it is very busy. She said that Holliston has a lot of small stores. She said that in Woburn there are a lot of big box stores. She said that Woburn is very loud compared to Holliston. Ms. Lacoss said that she can picture herself in this community.

Mr. Conley asked Ms. Lacoss what shift do you think you will get?

She said that she would work any shift that was offered. She said now she is on the overnight shift.

Mr. Ahronian said that you have a very impressive resume. What is your strong area.

Ms. Lacoss said every 911 emergency is different. She said that she has a great ability to go into a situation and calm it down and then come to an agreement. She said that she likes undercover work.

Mr. Marsden asked if Ms. Lacoss was an EMT?

Ms. Lacoss said no she is not.

Mr. Marsden asked if she would be willing to become an EMT?

Ms. Lacoss said yes.

Mr. Marsden asked what do you love about your job, and what do you hate about your job.

Ms. Lacoss said that she loves the people that she works with, and she loves the people that she sees on a daily basis. She said that she likes to make connection with people. She said in her job there is always something new, it is never boring.

Ms. Lacoss said that what she does not like is that the equipment is not up to date. She said that her radio has gone down several times and you need a radio.

Mr. Conley asked what is your most interesting story?

Ms. Lacoss said that they had a man that went into the woods and they could not find him. She said that they did not have a K9 so she went to YouTube and pulled up barking dogs, and put it over the loud speaker of the car, and he came out of the woods.

Ms. Lacoss thanked the Board for their time and she would really love to work in Holliston.

THE BOARD WENT TO RECESS FOR ABOUT 20 MINUTES WHILE WAITING FOR THEIR NEXT INTERVIEW.

AT 8:40 P.M., THE BOARD EMERGED FROM THEIR RECESS TO CONTINUE INTERVIEWS.

John McLaughlin was the next to be interviewed. Mr. Conley asked if he had any opening statements.

Mr. McLaughlin said he lives in Medway. He said that he is a single dad to two children. He said that he worked for the Medway Police Department for eighteen years. He said that he grew up in Medway.

Mr. Conley asked why do you want to work in Holliston?

Mr. McLaughlin said that there was an incident that happened so he had to resign. He said that since that time he has fixed that incident.

Mr. McLaughlin explained to the Selectmen what the incident was.

Mr. Ahronian asked what is your strongest gift as a police officer?

Mr. Conley asked what challenges are there in policing?

Mr. McLaughlin said drugs. He said that it is only going to get worse.

Mr. Marsden asked what is your favorite part of the job, and what is your least?

Mr. McLaughlin said that he really loved his job. He said that there is nothing better than helping someone.

Mr. Marsden asked if Mr. McLaughlin was an EMT?

Mr. McLaughlin said no he is not.

Mr. Conley asked what is your most interesting story?

Mr. McLaughlin said that you can go from the crazy ones to a bad one that you will never forget.

Mr. McLaughlin thanked the Board for their time and consideration.

Mr. Conley said that police business is very interesting. Mr. Conley said that the Board has a tough decision to make. Mr. Ahronian said that Mr. McLaughlin has more experience than Ms. Lacoss, but he really liked her. He said that she has a different skill set than Mr. McLaughlin has. He said that his choice is Ms. Lacoss.

Mr. Marsden said that Mr. McLaughlin has an impressive resume, but he thinks that Ms. Lacoss would be a better fit.

Mr. Marsden said that she had a great interview.

Mr. Conley said that Ms. Lacoss was very excited about the opportunity to work for Holliston.

MR. AHRONIAN MOVED TO APPOINT TESS LACOSS AS A POLICE OFFICER. THE MOTION WAS SECONDED BY MR. MARSDEN. ALL IN FAVOR.

Mr. Conley asked that Chief Stone call the candidates.

AT 8:45 P.M., MR. AHRONIAN MOVED TO ADJOURN. THE MOTION WAS SECONDED BY MR. MARSDEN. ALL IN FAVOR.

Respectfully submitted,

Donna A. Muzzy

approved_____