



**TOWN OF HOLLISTON
BOARD OF SELECTMEN**

703 Washington Street
Holliston, MA 01746

508-429-0608

**BOARD OF SELECTMEN
MEETING MINUTES
HOLLISTON TOWN HALL
703 WASHINGTON STREET
JUNE 25, 2018**

Present: Jay Marsden, Chairman; Mark Ahronian, Vice Chairman; John Cronin, Clerk

Also Present: Jeff Ritter, Town Administrator

At 7:00p.m. J. Marsden called the meeting to order.

1.) **Warrants:** J. Cronin read the Warrants and made a motion to approve the weekly vendor (expense) and payroll warrant in the amount of \$1,005,530.37. Second, M. Ahronian. Voted 3-0.

2.) **Public Comment:** J. Cronin offered thanks to the Police Department for their outstanding detective work in locating the two (2) individuals who held up the TD Bank several months ago.

M. Ahronian thank the adult leadership running the Eagle Scout program in Holliston and the Eagle Scouts who worked with the senior citizen to establish a vegetable garden at the Senior Center and to make improvements at the Central Burial Ground including local residents Bobby Blair and Frank Chamberlain.

The Marigold Project donated \$1,000 to assist with the project at the Central Burial Ground. Plantings will be completed this week-end. The Eagle Scout program is a community asset.

J. Ritter reported on July 4th the Rail Trail will be official opened with lots of fun events. The public is welcome to attend.

Tina Hein, 142 Union Street was present. Ms. Hein said she and other residents met with the Police Chief and his staff last Wednesday regarding traffic concerns in Mudville and understood

Page Two
Board of Selectmen's Meeting Minutes
6-25-18

the Selectmen will be taking a look at the speed and volume of traffic in September. At this point in time her concern is not so much about volume but rather it is speed so she spoke with MassDoT about their regulations. The Chief and MassDoT have been very helpful. MassDoT suggested a camera be installed to measure volume and speed perhaps using the resources of MAPC or CTPS staff.

Area residents would like to see the speed limit reduced from 30mph to 25mph. The ideal solution is to lower the speed limit to 20mph but she understands there would be a required traffic engineering study to support that needed change so for now they are seeking a 25mph reduction.

Lesley Kennally, 32 Spring Street was present. Speed and volume are the primary issues and suggested the Town paint on the pavement "Slow Children" and or "Thickly Settled Area." There is a need to post something to catch the eye of the driver.

She also mentioned the grass is high around the former Andrews School now privately held parcel of land, with pools of water which attract mosquitoes. J. Ritter will contact the new owner and pass along that information.

Tina Lingham, 75 Union Street was present. Speed and volume have increased recently. There is a need for new restrictions.

3.) Dog Hearing – Stonybrook Drive: J. Marsden reviewed the options before the Board as to what to do at the conclusion of the Hearing. The Board could take no action; the Board could declare the dog a nuisance and order the dog to be fenced in; the Board could declare the dog to be dangerous; or the Board could decide to have it euthanized.

M. Ahronian made a motion to open the Hearing and read the public notice. Second, J. Cronin. Voted 3-0

Susan and Frank Delaney, 59 Stoneybrook Drive were present. The Delaney's reviewed the circumstances surrounding their complaint to the Animal Control Officer after a neighbor's dog (Orlando) attacked their dog (Keely) in November on their private property. Ms. Delaney said she now walks with mace and has a baseball bat at her doors.

Keely was not taken to a veterinarian but did receive puncture wounds and Ms. Delaney's finger was cut when she tried to remove Orlando's jaw off her dog.

Page Three
Board of Selectmen's Meeting Minutes
6-25-18

Ms. Delaney asked for the Selectmen to put something in place to protect the public. There were no questions from the Board at that point in time.

Frank, Beth and Sarah Villa, 60 Stonybrook Drive were present. They agreed with many of the points made by the Delaney's. Orlando is mostly an indoor dog but when she goes outside they try to use a leash and tether. She does have a tendency to react to other dogs.

Sarah read a statement and presented information to the Board (attached). She is seeking an animal friendly apartment and her stay in Holliston was originally intended to be temporary. Orlando is not an attack dog. She offered to pay for any veterinarian bills.

They did take Orlando to a veterinarian and as a result Orlando was quarantined for ten (10) days inside her parent's home. She is preparing Orlando for a comfortable retirement. Ms. Villa said she does not believe Orlando is a danger or needs to be put down.

Orland is often in the back yard and tied and never alone. When Orlando goes for a walk she is on a leash and they avoid the other side of the street. They have undergone one on one training session. She is muzzled when the grandchildren are around. She does not like other dogs but is OK with people.

They were never told by the Animal Control Office (ACO) to place a muzzle on Orlando

J. Cronin asked when Orlando arrived in Holliston. S. Villa said October 19, 2017.

J. Cronin asked if Orlando was licensed. S. Villa said yeas.

J. Cronin asked if Orlando was tethered. S. Villa said yes.

J. Cronin asked if Orlando was fenced in. S. Villa said no.

Dona Walsh, ACO was present and stated she first learned about the event during November 2017 and issued a quarantine order but no fines were issued at that time. S. Delaney filed a report about a month after the event. A lot of time has gone by but the parties have been trying to settle the dispute before going to the Selectmen. She was concerned about the security of the backyard. Also, she did not have the authority to issue an order to have Orlando muzzled.

This appears to be an isolated incident.

F. Villa said they would welcome the opportunity to work with the ACO.

Page Four
Board of Selectmen's Meeting Minutes
6-25-18

J. Cronin said it is common to have unrestrained dogs and methods to introduce corrective behavior are also common in town.

D. Walsh said the law does not allow for discrimination against certain breeds of dogs. Would I declare the dog to be dangerous mostly not.

J. Cronin asked S. Delaney what she saw for the next 6-8 months. S. Delaney said it is her hope to locate a dog friendly apartment that does not cause anxiety for Orlando.

M. Ahronian asked when Orlando received training was there a certificate issued or a written report?

S. Delaney said Orlando did complete the training but there was no written report. Orlando just does not like other dogs.

M. Ahronian asked how long would it take for Orlando to like other dogs.

S. Delaney said the trainer provided not timeline but Orlando is always reactive to other dogs.

M. Ahronian asked if a harness would be enough?

D. Walsh said a harness, collar, leash and a soft muzzle might be enough to ease concerns.

S. Delaney said they looked into fencing but if she is moving it would not be worth the investment.

Resident from 83 Stonybrook Drive (AnnMarie last name unknown) was present. The dog is mostly reactive and generally not aggressive. Her concern is just because he has not attacked since the first event what is to say he will not do it again in the future? We keep hearing that Orlando's behavior is unpredictable and mostly has issues with men but there are 19 children in the neighborhood and I'm concerned for their safety.

S. Delaney questioned why it took so long to get to this point she was going to call the police not the ACO.

F. Villa said he would be willing to work with the police and provide a statement and we have been totally cooperative.

D. Walsh said to her knowledge there are no reports with the Police Department.

Page Five
Board of Selectmen's Meeting Minutes
6-25-18

Emily Hankard, 7 Queens Terrace said she often takes her 8 month year old child on neighborhood walks and dogs should be on a leash. The trainer should provide a letter, this is a routine matter. She is also concerned that when she is walking there are times the front door is open at 60 Stonybrook Drive and Orlando could get out.

F. Villa said the doors is always locked.

B. Villa said she bumped the door once and it did not open.

J. Marsden suggested the Board take the matter under advisement. M. Ahronian made a motion to continue the Hearing until July 9th. Second, J. Cronin. Voted 3-0

4.) Bertucci's Change of Manager: J. Cronin read the Notice of Public Hearing and made a motion to open the Public Hearing. Second, M. Ahronian. Voted 3-0

J. Marsden invited the new manager to introduce herself.

Sharon L. Logiudice said that she was being transferred from the Mansfield store. It was noted the Holliston Police Department completed a background check on Ms. Logiudice and that everything came back fine.

M. Ahronian made a motion to close the Public Hearing and to approve the Change of Manager at Bertucci's at 414 Washington Street. Second, J. Cronin. Vote 3-0

5.) Board Business

Meeting Minutes of September 18, 2017

M. Ahronian made a motion to approve and release the Meeting Minutes from September 18, 2018. Second, J. Marsden. Voted 2-0-1 (Cronin)

Appointments – Lieutenant, On-Call Fire Fighter and MAPC Representative

M. Ahronian made a motion to appoint Chad Thompson as a Police Lieutenant for a term to expire on June 30, 2019. Second, J. Cronin. Voted 3-0

J. Cronin made a motion to appoint J. Marsden to serve as the Town's representative to the MAPC for a period of three (3) years. Second, M. Ahronian. Voted 2-0-1 (Marsden)

On-Call Fire Fighter, no action taken.

Page Six
Board of Selectmen's Meeting Minutes
6-25-18

172 Concord Street

M. Ahronian made a motion to approve and sign the closing documents for the Holliston Housing Trust and to have all related closing documents filed at the Registry of Deed. Second, J. Cronin. Voted 3-0

Gift Acceptance

M. Ahronian made a motion to accept a gift to the Fire Department (Ambulance) from Lady Gordon Lodge in the Memory of Doris Dedham in the amount of \$50. Second, J. Cronin. Voted 3-0

M. Ahronian made a motion to accept a gift to the Fire Department from various residents for sending a fire engine to a birthday party and the purchase of a helmet for retiree by the engine company in the amount of \$340. Second, J. Cronin. Discussion: Fire Chief Cassidy explained to the Board the custom of the Fire Department of sending a fire engine to events upon request. Voted 3-0

M. Ahronian made a motion to accept a gift to the Fire Department (Ambulance) from various residents in the Memory of Richard Kampersal in the amount of \$520. Second, J. Cronin. Voted 3-0

Conservation Restriction – Concord Street

M. Ahronian made a motion to accept a Conservation Restriction from Pulte Homes of New England for a property located at 415 Concord Street. Second, J. Cronin. Voted 3-0

MWRTA Contract Extension

M. Ahronian made a motion to extend the Contract for public bus transportation for elderly and disabled transportation services from July 1, 2018 until June 30, 2019. Second, J. Cronin. Discussion: J. Cronin asked about the volume of use. J. Marsden said he can get that data. Voted 3-0

Blair Square Committee Appointment

M. Ahronian said the Blair Square will ultimately be folded into the Parks Department now that the Rail Trail is now complete. There needs to be a discussion with the Committee, the Parks Commission, and the Rail Trail Committee about developing a plan like Goodwill Park and we need input from others.

J. Cronin said he did not disagree that there is still work to be done including the issue of encroachments and this could be part of the FY20 budget cycle.

Page Seven

Board of Selectmen's Meeting Minutes

6-25-18

M. Ahronian said entire area should be viewed as part of our overall economic development strategy and the Parks Department should take over at some point.

J. Marsden said he reviewed the Committee makeup and DPW could take this on given the resources to do the work needed. Do we want to continue with the current model or do the Selectmen want to change the model.

J. Cronin made a motion to appoint M. Ahronian, to fill the vacated appointment of K. Conley as the Selectmen's representative on the Blair Square Committee and to revise the Profile/Charge from two (2) at large positions to one (1) at large position and to include a representative from the Parks Commission. Second, M. Ahronian. Discussion: M. Ahronian asked that the Committee and the DPW Superintendent be placed on a future Agenda for further discussion. Voted 3-0

Year End Transfers

Sharon Emerick, Town Accountant was present. J. Cronin asked S. Emerick if she tracks the School Department budget. S. Emerick says she does the best she can but the details are difficult to follow.

J. Cronin noted the end of the Fiscal Year 2018 is approaching quickly and asked when the last Warrant would be completed. S. Emerick said July 16th.

J. Cronin said he wants to understand the year end balances. S. Emerick said she should have that information around July 18th.

M. Ahronian made a motion to approve and refer to the Finance Committee a year end transfer for the Board of Health (clerical salaries) in the amount of \$1,282.75. Second, J. Cronin. Voted 3-0

M. Ahronian made a motion to approve and refer to the Finance Committee a year end transfer for the Fire Department (Ambulance) (professional development) in the amount of \$5,000. Second, J. Cronin. Voted 3-0

M. Ahronian made a motion to approve and refer to the Finance Committee a year end transfer for the Selectmen – Streetlights (Energy and utilities) in the amount of \$5,000. Second, J. Cronin. Voted 3-0

Page Eight

Board of Selectmen's Meeting Minutes

6-25-18

M. Ahronian made a motion to approve and refer to the Finance Committee a year end transfer for the Selectmen – Streetlights (Energy and utilities) in the amount of \$5,000. Second, J. Cronin. Voted 3-0

M. Ahronian made a motion to approve and refer to the Finance Committee a year end transfer for the Finance Committee (professional development) in the amount of \$255.00. Second, J. Cronin. Voted 3-0

M. Ahronian made a motion to approve and refer to the Finance Committee a year end transfer for the Selectmen (office supplies) in the amount of \$150.00. Second, J. Cronin. Voted 3-0

M. Ahronian made a motion to approve and refer to the Finance Committee a year end transfer for the Selectmen (office supplies) in the amount of \$150.00. Second, J. Cronin. Voted 3-0

M. Ahronian made a motion to approve and refer to the Finance Committee a year end transfer for the Police Department (professional and technical) in the amount of \$50,000. Second, J. Cronin. Voted 3-0

M. Ahronian made a motion to approve and refer to the Finance Committee a year end transfer for the Police Department (professional development) in the amount of \$15,000. Second, J. Cronin. Voted 3-0

M. Ahronian made a motion to approve and refer to the Finance Committee a year end transfer for the Police Department (uniforms) in the amount of \$22,000. Second, J. Cronin. Voted 3-0

M. Ahronian made a motion to approve and refer to the Finance Committee a year end transfer for the Fire Department (utilities) in the amount of \$3,000. Second, J. Cronin. Voted 3-0

M. Ahronian made a motion to approve and refer to the Finance Committee a year end transfer for the Wastewater Treatment Plant (equipment) in the amount of \$19,000. Second, J. Cronin. Voted 3-0

M. Ahronian made a motion to approve and refer to the Finance Committee a year end transfer for the Auxiliary Police Division in the amount of \$3,969. Second, J. Cronin. Voted 3-0

E-Mail Policy

J. Marsden said he has reviewed the policy for all elected and appointed officials to have an assigned town issued e-mail address. This would help to ensure compliance with the public

Page Nine

Board of Selectmen's Meeting Minutes

6-25-18

records law and better track information. M. Ahronian made a motion to adopt and issue the policy. Voted 3-0

6.) Any Other Business – None

At 9:04p.m. M. Ahronian made a motion to adjourn the meeting, Second, J. Cronin. Voted 3-0

Respectfully submitted,

J. Jeffrey Ritter
Town Administrator