

HOLLISTON BOARD OF SELECTMEN

August 28, 2017
7:00 p.m.

Selectmen's Meeting Room - 105
Town Hall

AT 7:00 P.M., MR. MARSDEN MOVED TO ENTER INTO EXECUTIVE SESSION TO DISCUSS CONTRACT NEGOTIATIONS WITH NON-UNION EMPLOYEES. 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 7:41 P.M., THE BOARD EMERGED FROM EXECUTIVE SESSION AND MOVED TO OPEN SESSION.

MR. AHRONIAN MOVED TO APPROVE THE FOLLOWING WARRANT

18-09	GENERAL WARRANT	\$ 479,185.09
	VOIDS:	\$ (864.35)
	STUDENT ACTIVITY (8030) PLACENTINO	\$ 1,125.00
	PERFORMANCE DEPOSITS (801)	\$ 4,484.50
	AGENCY (890) VETERANS DISTRICT	\$ 50.00
	AGENCY (890) VETERANS DISTRICT PAYROLL	\$ 1,125.00
	TOWN PAYROLL	\$1,143,387.82
	TOTAL PAID WARRANT	\$1,627,368.06

ACCOUNTANT'S NOTE:

ACCRUED DEDUCTION LIABILITIES NOT PAID	\$ 26,226.48
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TREASURER'S NOTE:

WIRE TO HEALTH INSURANCE TRUST	\$ 5,030.20
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THE MOTION WAS SECONDED BY MR. MARSDEN. ALL IN FAVOR.

COMMENTS FROM THE BOARD

Mr. Marsden said that his thoughts and prayers go out to the residents of Texas with all the bad weather they are having.

PUBLIC COMMENTS

There was none.

REPORT OF THE TOWN ADMINISTRATOR

Mr. Ritter said that he has been reminded by HCAT that the Selectmen need to speak clearly into the microphones so you can be heard.

Mr. Ritter said that the 8 Arch Bridge is on schedule for the bid opening on September 22, 2017.

He said that on September 8, 2017, there will be a walk through at 10:00 a.m.

Mr. Ritter said that this morning that there was an onsite walk of the Andrews School. He said that three contractors were there. He said that all responses are due on September 8, 2017, at noon.

Mr. Ritter said that the Conservation Agent has given her notice. He said that they will be advertising that position soon.

Mr. Ritter said that the former Flagg School has been raked out. He said that next week there will be a form to return the property back to the School Committee. He said that this project should be all completed by Thursday August 31, 2017. He said that this project is on schedule and under budget.

Mr. Ahronian asked if the area was graded and seeded?

Mr. Ritter said that they did re-seed the area and they watered it. He said that they will be watering the area until Thursday and at their suggestion, the area should not be cut for two weeks. He also said that the fence will be removed.

Mr. Conley said that the area looks nice.

ROCHELLE WAGNER – THE WINEHOUSE

Rochelle Wagner, owner of the Winehouse was present. She said her business is on Central Street.

Mr. Conley said that Ms. Wagner is looking to expand her beer and wine license to an all alcohol license.

Mr. Conley said that we do not have any available full liquor licenses at this time. He said that for every five thousand people in Town, you can have a full liquor license. He said that we are close to fifteen thousand residents now. Mr. Conley said that the State Censes will not be done for a few more years, and the only other way is to petition the Legislature.

Mr. Conley said that Town Meeting would have to approve this first.

Mr. Conley said that if this is going to happen, and another license would be available, it would be available to the public. People would have the opportunity to apply for it.

Ms. Wagner said that she understands that. She said that she would like to think that she is the front runner in this. She said that she has been in business the longest. She said that she has been in business for ten years in November. She said that she has given back to the Community. She has a good track record. She said that she employ local residents. Ms. Wagner said that she and Mr. Ritter have met and she is asking for the support of the Selectmen in petitioning the Legislature so she can get a full liquor license.

Ms. Wagner said that she has heard that if the Town is willing to help a business, it usually goes in their favor.

Mr. Ahronian thanked Ms. Wagner for everything that she has done and donated to the Town.

Mr. Marsden said that he would like to know why the State does a census every ten years.

Mr. Marsden said that he is not sure how other business that have this license would feel about another one to compete with. He said that there may be other business in the same boat that would like a full liquor license as well. He said that he needs to do some homework.

Ms. Wagner said that there are three stores that have a full liquor license now. She said that if there are other applicants she knows that they would be worthy of the full license just like her. But, she said that she has seniority she has been in business the longest. She said that not many stores can make it on just beer and wine, and they are only looking for a small section of spirits.

Mr. Conley said that Ms. Wagner runs a great business. The area for spirits will be small.

Mr. Conley said that if this does go to Town Meeting for approval, then the Selectmen ask for Legislation for another full liquor license, and if it is approved anyone could apply for it.

Mr. Conley suggested that Ms. Wagner get a sponsor to take this to Town Meeting and if it approved, there is no guarantee that the Winehouse will get it. But it would give her the opportunity to apply. Ms. Wagner said that sounds positive.

BOARD BUSINESS - MINUTES

MR. AHRONIAN MOVED TO APPROVE THE MEETING MINUTES OF NOVEMBER 30, 2016, AS WRITTEN. THE MOTION WAS SECONDED BY MR. MARSDEN. TWO IN FAVOR. MR. AHRONIAN ABSTAINED.

MR. AHRONIAN MOVED TO APPROVE THE MEETING MINUTES OF DECEMBER 7, 2016, AS WRITTEN. THE MOTION WAS SECONDED BY MR. MARSDEN. TWO IN FAVOR. MR. AHRONIAN ABSTAINED.

MR. AHRONINA MOVED TO APPROVE THE MEETING MINUTES OF DECEMBER 14, 2016, AS WRITTEN. THE MOTION WAS SECONDED BY MR. MARSDEN. TWO IN FAVOR. MR. AHRONIAN ABSTAINED.

MR. AHRONIAN MOVED TO APPROVE THE MEETING MINUTES OF DECEMBER 21, 2016, AS WRITTEN. THE MOTION WAS SECONDED BY MR. MARSDEN. TWO IN FAVOR. MR. AHRONIAN ABSTAINED.

MR. AHRONIAN MOVED TO APPROVE THE MEETING MINUTES OF JANUARY 4, 2017, AS WRITTEN. THE MOTION WAS SECONDED BY MR. MARSDEN. TWO IN FAVOR. MR. AHRONIAN ABSTAINED.

CONTRACT DOCUMENT WITH LORUSSO CORPORATION FOR THE DOWNTOWN PROJECT

Mr. Ritter said that the Board has already approved the contract with Lorusso Corporation, this is to proceed with the project.

MR. MARSDEN MOVED TO APPROVE AND SIGN THE CONTRACT WITH LORUSSO CORPORATION FOR THE DOWNTOWN PROJECT IN THE AMOUNT OF \$1,048,697. THE MOTION WAS SECONDED BY MR. AHRONIAN. ALL IN FAVOR.

HOST COMMUNITY AGREEMENT – NEW ENGLAND CANNABIS CORPORATION

Mr. Ritter said that they are still in negotiations and they are very close. He asked if this could be postponed until next meeting.

BLAIR SQUARE DEVELOPMENT COMMITTEE CHARGE

Mr. Conley said that they had a discussion about the Blair Square area. He said that there is a private Committee from the Friends of the Rail Trail who have ideas and suggestions.

Mr. Conley said that the Friends of the Rail Trail have been raising funds. He said that they are a private group so they can't contribute to a municipal group.

Mr. Marsden said that he understands that there should be public input.

Mr. Ahronian said that whatever the plans are, we have to respect what has been done. Mr. Ahronian said that there would not be a Blair Square without the Veterans. He said that they raised funds for the gazebo, installed a new flagpole and cleared a lot of the land.

Mr. Marsden said that the gazebo became a landmark at that time. He said that he agrees with Mr. Ahronian that the gazebo and the flag pole should stay. Mr. Marsden said that he hope that it can be incorporated into the plan for the area.

Walter McGrath, American Legion, asked how are you going to form this Committee?

Mr. Conley said that they have a draft in place with one Veteran, one Friend of the Rail Trail, one Selectmen, one person with a planning background, one person with a historic background, and two at large.

Mr. McGrath volunteered to be the Veteran member of the Committee.

Peter Barbieri, Juniper Road, said that he sent a letter to the Board on behalf of Celebrate Holliston requesting his appointment to this Committee. He said that Celebrate Holliston would like to put a caboose on the Rail Trail sponsored by Celebrate Holliston. Mr. Barbieri said that he and Robert Weidknecht have discussed this. He said that the owner of Edaville Railroad also owns Hopping Brook Park and he has a one caboose left. He said that the big cost would be moving the caboose at a cost of six to seven thousand dollars from Edaville Railroad to Holliston. Mr. Barbieri said they will sandblast the caboose inside and outside then paint it, so that there is not a lot of work to do in the future. He said that it would have a bathroom with running water. He said that he has a budget of \$35,000 to fix up the caboose. He said that Celebrate Holliston would pay for it. He said that there would not be any cost to the Town. He said that they could put in security cameras that could benefit the area.

Mr. Marsden said that he thinks it is a great idea.

Ken Szajda, Finance Committee, asked who is going to pay for the up-keep? He said that someone has to come in and clean and empty the trash and re-stock items.

Mr. Marsden said he would call Ed Carr and ask him how this works in his Town. Mr. Marsden also said what if this does not work, how much is it going to cost to get it out of Town?

Mr. Szajda said that there could be liability issues or insurance issues.

Mr. Marsden said that he would hate to see it vandalized.

Mr. Conley said that the Charge should include Blair Square to Church Street, Central Street and Exchange Street

MR. MARSDEN MOVED TO APPROVE THE CHARGE OF FIVE MEMBERS AND TWO ALTERNATE'S. THE MOTION WAS SECONDED BY MR. AHRONIAN. ALL IN FAVOR.

MEETING SCHEDULE THROUGH DECEMBER

Mr. Marsden said that the Selectmen will meet the following Mondays: September 11, September 18, September 25, October 2, October 16, October 23, November 6, November 20, November 27, December 4, December 11, and December 18, 2017.

Mr. Marsden said that if every other week does not work, they will go back to every week.

FIRE DEPARTMENT GIFT ACCEPTANCE – METROWEST MEDICAL CENTER AND CITIZEN

MR. MARSDEN MOVED TO APPROVE AND ACCEPT THE GIFT TO THE FIRE DEPARTMENT AND THE AMBULANCE. THE MOTION WAS SECONDED BY MR. AHRONIAN. ALL IN FAVOR.

APPOINTMENTS – ON-CALL FIRE FIGHTERS, ON-CALL EMTS, PER DIEM DISPATCHER AND AUXILIARY POLICE OFFICER

Mr. Conley said that Chief Cassidy would like the following appointed as On-Call Fire Fighters, Eric Frachette, Travis Gross and Dylan Mahoney.

MR. MARSDEN MOVED TO APPOINT ERIC FRACHETTE, TRAVIS GROSS AND DYLAN MAHONEY AS ON-CALL FIRE FIGHTERS. THE MOTION WAS SECONDED BY MR. AHRONIAN. ALL N FAVOR.

MR. MARSDEN MOVED TO APPROVE DERICK VALOVGIN AS AN ON-CALL FIRE FIGHTER AND EMT. THE MOTION WAS SECONDED BY MR. AHRONIAN. ALL IN FAVOR.

MR. MARSDEN MOVED TO APPOINT KELSEA LEBLANC AND CAITLIN WARD AS AN ON-CALL EMTS. THE MOTION WAS SECONDED BY MR. AHRONIAN. ALL IN FAVOR.

MR. MARSDEN MOVED TO APPOINT GARY GRENIER AS A PER-DIEM DISPATCHER. THE MOTION WAS SECONDED BY MR. AHRONIAN. ALL IN FAVOR.

MR. MARSDEN MOVED TO APPOINT JOHN LOFTUS AS AN AUXILIARY POLICE OFFICER. THE MOTION WAS SECONDED BY MR. AHRONIAN. ALL IN FAVOR.

HIGHLAND STREET LIGHT REQUEST

Mr. Ritter said that it is on hold for now.

HOLLISTON IN BLOOM UPDATE AND FEE WAIVER REQUEST

MR. MARSDEN MOVED TO WAIVE THE TENT FEE FOR HOLLISTON IN BLOOM. THE MOTION WAS SECONDED BY MR. CONLEY. TWO IN FAVOR. MR. AHRONIAN ABSTAINED.

DRAFT SPECIAL TOWN MEETING WARRANT

Mr. Ritter said that he is working on the first draft for the Special Town Meeting Warrant.

Mr. Ritter said that the Library is on the Warrant for a new roof and the air conditioning.

He said that there are legal bills for the Planning Department for litigation.

Mr. Ritter said that there is also funding for Blair Square on the warrant.

He said that there will be a petition Article from the owner of the Winehouse.

EVENT PERMITS – CELEBRATE HOLLISTON PARADE AND TIM'S TROT

MR. MARSDEN MOVED TO APPROVE THE PARADE PERMIT FOR CELEBRATE HOLLISTON ON SEPTEMBER 16, 2017. THE MOTION WAS SECONDED BY MR. AHRONIAN. ALL IN FAVOR.

MR. MARSDEN MOVED TO APPROVE TIM'S TROT, OCTOBER 1, 2017. THE MOTION WAS SECONDED BY MR. AHRONIAN. ALL IN FAVOR.

FEE WAIVER REQUESTS – AMERICAN LEGION

MR. MARSDEN MOVED TO APPROVE A WAIVER REQUEST FOR THE USE OF THE UPPER TOWN HALL FOR THE AMERICAN LEGION ON SEPTEMBER 10, 2017. THE MOTION WAS SECONDED BY MR. AHRONIAN. ALL IN FAVOR.

MPO NOMINATION PAPERS

Mr. Conley said that the Town of Medway has asked that the Board to vote for Dennis Crowley as the SWAP Representative.

MR. MARSDEN MOVED TO APPROVE DENNIS CROWLEY AS THE SWAP REPRESENTATIVE. THE MOTION WAS SECONDED BY MR. AHRONIAN. ALL IN FAVOR.

Mr. Conley said that the Assessors are looking for a salary increase for the Principal Assessor.

Mr. Conley said that the Town has had many requests to increase salaries.

Mr. Conley said that a compensation study was done in 2012. He said that no one was fond of the results.

He said that you can't compare the public sector to a municipality. Mr. Conley said that people like to be rewarded for their performance.

Mr. Conley asked if the Board should do another salary compensation study? He said that if the Board approves another study, they will need to get funding to pay for it. He said that the process could take from six months to a year. He said that he knows that the study will come back saying to give everyone raises.

Mr. Ahronian said that this study was done five years ago and he thinks that it is a good idea.

Mr. Marsden said there have been raises given out. Mr. Marsden said that there is always going to be someone who is making more than someone else. Mr. Marsden said that he does not think that we need to go through another compensation study now. Mr. Marsden said that if this is something that the Board wants to do, then the Finance Committee needs to be involved.

Mr. Conley said that his employees have a time clock that they need to punch in and out.

Mr. Ahronian said that he has timesheets that his employees have to sign.

Mr. Conley said that Town Hall everyone is in their own little box.

Mr. Ritter said that there is a lot of independence at Town Hall.

Mr. Conley said that in his business everyone has an evaluation including himself.

Mr. Conley said that it is a great tool to look at when it comes to salary increases.

Mr. Conley wanted to talk about a Capital Improvement Committee. He said that he and Mr. Ritter have talked about this in the past. He said that he would like to look at this in September. He said that for this plan he would like to give each Department a percentage of the budget. He said with new growth each Department would maintain the same percentage.

Mr. Conley said that Representative Dykema had a cookout for the seniors at the YMCA in Hopkinton.

AT 8:41 P.M., MR. MARSDEN MOVED TO ADJOURN. THE MOTION WAS SECONDED BY MR. AHRONIAN. ALL IN FAVOR.

Respectfully submitted,

Donna A. Muzzy

approved_____