



**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  
JULY 9, 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 (18/53) in the amount of \$1,362,507.05. Second, M. Ahronian. Voted 3-0.

J. Cronin read the Warrants and made a motion to approve the weekly vendor (expense) and payroll Warrant (18/54) in the amount of \$345,731.92. Second, M. Ahronian. Voted 3-0.

J. Cronin read the Warrants and made a motion to approve the weekly vendor (expense) and payroll Warrant (19/01) in the amount of \$2,959,252.43. Second, M. Ahronian. Voted 3-0.

J. Cronin read the Warrants and made a motion to approve the weekly vendor (expense) and payroll Warrant (19/02) in the amount of \$382,684.14. Second, M. Ahronian. Voted 3-0.

**2.) Public Comment:** J. Cronin offered thanks to the Holliston Trails Committee and noted there was a great event honoring the Committee on July 4<sup>th</sup>. He also thanked Bobby Blair for helping to organize the event.

He asked about the structure at 310B Woodland Street. J. Ritter said we received an environmental impact report and the DPW is working to secure a large dumpster to have it removed.

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M. Ahronian thanked Eagle Scout Pocher for doing the plantings at the Old Burial Ground.

He also thanked the DPW staff for assisting with the July 4<sup>th</sup> event and veteran Michael Tyman who has been a member of the Lion's Club and helped to remove the tent after the July 4<sup>th</sup> event.

M. Ahronian noted the Judges from America in Bloom will be in town next Thursday morning starting at 8:30a.m. ending at 6:00p.m. at the Historical Society and asked if J. Marsden would be willing to emcc the event. J. Marsden agreed.

He would also like to recognize John Thomas of Beals and Thomas for his assistance with the Rail Trail project.

**3.) Dog Hearing (continued) – Stonybrook Drive:** J. Marsden reviewed the options before the Board.

J. Cronin asked about the Appeals process if any. J. Marsden said any appeal could be applied if the Board decided to euthanize Orlando.

M. Ahronian said he would be in favor of requiring Orlando to use a soft muzzle. This would be the best approach to protect residents and other animals.

J. Cronin agreed and thanked Mr. Villa and the residents during this difficult time. He viewed Orlando to be a nuisance and noted the backyard is not fenced but would yield to any conditions established by the Animal Control Officer (ACO).

J. Marsden said he thought Orlando was a nuisance and the entire event was unsettling but agreed a soft muzzle on Orlando would be a good solution when off property and agreed with J. Cronin's comments.

J. Cronin questioned if Orlando had been neutered. Sarah Villa said no, not yet because he has a skin infection but once that is addressed Orlando would be.

The Board agreed to have Orlando muzzled when off property and restrained when on property.

**4.) Down Town Project Update:** Robert Smith from McMahon Traffic Engineers was present. R. Smith reported the project is very close to the end. Paving and crosswalks are completed and several of the lights have been installed.

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He noted that four (4) ornamental light globes unfortunately fall within the safety zone for Eversource. The preliminary design plans were sent to Eversource and they provided no comments or observations. The solution will not have any immediate impact on activating the signal lights. However, the final and best solution would be to reinstall fifty (50) foot poles by Eversource. While working with Eversource, which will take years to implement, DPW can hold onto the globes and have them installed at a later date.

J. Cronin asked if the globes could be retrofitted.

R. Smith said that might be an option to install them at a lower level.

The poles could not be moved into the sidewalk due to ADA restrictions.

J. Cronin asked about the cost or value of the globes. R. Smith said the globes are a pretty small cost compared to the poles which were made to look similar to what is there now.

J. Marsden asked if the lights could be installed but activated. R. Smith said the installer, CMS will not go into the Eversource envelope. Other than this issue there has not been any push back from Eversource.

J. Marsden asked if this requirement is by code or industry standard? R. Smith said it was by OSHA code for safety reasons and the poles would be capped.

M. Ahronian said this is very disappointing someone should have caught this defect before now. There are always unforeseeable developments in a construction project but this should have been discovered during the design phase.

J. Cronin asked who at McMahon reviewed the response from Eversource during the preliminary design and submission to Eversource. R. Smith said one of their senior engineers.

R. Smith noted the signal can be activated we just need a plan to address the globes.

J. Cronin said he was concerned the globes would get damaged while Eversource and McMahon re-engineer the mast arms to get the globes on the poles.

M. Ahronian asked if the globes could be returned. R. Smith said they are exploring all the options.

J. Marsden said it would take Eversource at least two (2) years to address this issue.

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J. Cronin said Eversource needs to try harder and would like McMahon to provide a solution.

R. Smith said the lights would be flashing by the end of the week and the following week will be fully activated.

J. Cronin said the Police Department should have the ability to regulate the traffic lights to best control traffic flow patterns.

The Board asked R. Smith to return in two (2) weeks with a solution.

**5.) Board Business**

**Meeting Minutes of September 25, 2017 and June 25, 2018**

M. Ahronian made a motion to approve and release the Meeting Minutes from September 25, 2018. Second, J. Marsden. Voted 2-0-1 (Cronin)

M. Ahronian made a motion to approve and release the Meeting Minutes from June 25, 2018. Second, J. Cronin. Voted 3-0

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

J. Cronin said he spoke with the Police Chief and he is comfortable with the appointment. J. Cronin made a motion to confirm the Town Administrator's recommendation to appoint Alexander Porter to be an on-call firefighter. Second, J. Marsden. Voted 2-0-1 (M. Ahronian)

**Gift Acceptance – Park and Recreation**

M. Ahronian made a motion to accept a gift to the Park and Recreation Department from the Holliston Newcomers Club in the amount of \$3,000 the Holliston Summer Concert Series. Second, J. Cronin. Voted 3-0

**Building Inspector Position Job Posting**

J. Ritter reviewed the proposed timeline, interview questions, the posting notice, and job description. J. Ritter said he would welcome a Board member to participate during the interview process. M. Ahronian volunteered to assist.

M. Ahronian made a motion to approve the documents as presented. Second, J. Cronin. Voted 3-0

**WCG Enterprises License Correction**

M. Ahronian made a motion to approve the amended Class II License for WCG Enterprises. Second, J. Cronin. Voted 3-0

**Year End Transfer**

J. Marsden reviewed a \$10,250 year end transfer request from the Fire Chief. M. Ahronian made a motion to approve and refer to the Finance Committee a year end transfer request from the Fire Chief in the amount of \$10,250 for the purpose of paying additional ALS intercept bills received during the last thirty (30) days; from regular salaries organization number 01231; object number 51112 to professional, organization number 01231; object number 53000. Second, J. Cronin.  
Voted 3-0

**Pinecrest Club House Committee Profile/Charge**

Deb Moore, Chair of the Pinecrest Advisory Committee was present. M. Ahronian said the reason for the proposed Committee is to assist in addressing the building maintenance needs at the Club House.

D. Moore reviewed the recent accomplishments of her Committee regarding the golf course at no expense to the Town and the significant increase in revenues generated. There should be one (1) committee to oversee the entire operations not two (2). The Golf Course should be welcoming and safe.

M. Ahronian said he recently toured the golf course and was impressed but there are current and future issues with the club house that need to be addressed.

D. Moore said close oversight is needed to address painting, cleaning, deck repairs and golfers need access to the club house even when there are private functions going on.

M. Ahronian said the oversight is not working very well now.

D. Moore asked how the revenue generated by the golf course and the club house would be allocated.

J. Cronin said it is important to look at a long range plan as well like over the next several years. M. Ahronian added the new Committee would also look at the possibility of expansion and we do not want to overwhelm the existing Committee with more work.

D. Moore said that would not happen and the current Committee has a lot of experience.

J. Cronin asked who is currently on the Committee. D. Moore provided that information.

J. Cronin said a maintenance plan is missing and Pinecrest has suffered as a result.

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M. Ahronian said the bond payments are going down as a result more resources could then be applied to Pinecrest.

J. Cronin said he viewed the golf course and the events that take place at the club house as two (2) separate issues. For example, with any expansion the septic system would have to be revisited.

J. Marsden said be it one (1) committee or two (2) committees a fresh set of eyes would be helpful. Understanding what a new expanded club house might look like would be very helpful.

J. Ritter will talk with the Health Agent about what might be possible regarding the septic system and the Treasurer/Collector about the remaining years on the bond.

**6.) Any Other Business – None**

At 8:46p.m. M. Ahronian made a motion to adjourn the meeting. Second, J. Cronin. Voted 3-0

Respectfully submitted,



J. Jeffrey Ritter  
Town Administrator