



**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 30, 2018**

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

Absent: Jay Marsden, Chairman

Also Present: Jeff Ritter, Town Administrator

At 7:00p.m. M. Ahronian called the meeting to order.

**1.) Warrants:** J. Cronin read the Warrants and made a motion to approve the weekly vendor (expense) and payroll Warrants (18/57) in the amount of \$469,960.86 and (19/05) in the amount of \$2,306,034.67. Second, M. Ahronian. Voted 2-0.

**2.) Public Comment:** J. Cronin thanked School Department personnel and the Chair of the Holliston School Committee for hosting a tour of the interior and exterior of the High School last Friday morning. The tour and information provided was very informative.

M. Ahronian thanked Bobby Blair for providing flowers to Town Hall.

M. Ahronian noted the signal lights in the Town Center are now active and he asked that residents be patient as the bugs are worked out of the system. Overall he has received more positive comments than negative. It is now safe to shop in the downtown and overall the lights should enhance business activity. We are exploring an arrow at Washington and Hollis Streets.

M. Ahronian noted the Police Department is continuing their efforts to monitor traffic in Mudville but we are currently sticking with the plan to revisit any need for a traffic study until September.

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J. Cronin asked so the Police Department is monitoring?

M. Ahronian stated yes and police personnel are issuing tickets as needed.

M. Ahronian observed he attended 1<sup>st</sup> grade at the former Andrews School on School Street. Even at that time parents were concerned about the safety of their children, the dense neighborhood and the traffic flow. Mudville was built the way it is by design with close smaller homes for the workers building the railroad line which is now the rail trail.

The Department of Public Works will next Spring be undertaking a large road, sidewalk and water line replacement project in Mudville.

M. Ahronian agreed with J. Cronin's comments regarding the recent High School tour.

Paul Saulnier, 29 Church Street asked about the need to establish a new "Pinecrest Club House Committee."

M. Ahronian explained the new committee's charge is different that Golf Course Advisory Committee. The new committee would address needed physical upgrade both short term and long term. The facility needs to be renovated and a determination needs to be made if the facility can be expanded to accommodate like 200 people, if so what is that going to take.

P. Saulnier said the committee would work on a mini master plan?

M. Ahronian said the committee will focus on what the needs are for the building. The Golf Course Advisory Committee with its management of the golf course brings in a lot of revenue for the Town.

P. Saulnier said the Selectmen should use the existing expertise on the Golf Course Advisory Committee to take this project on.

**3.) Economic Development Committee:** Peter Barbieri, Chairman of the Economic Development Committee was present. P. Barbieri provided the Board with an update of recent work of the Economic Development Committee.

A new "Business and Community Guide," has been created by the Committee and will be used to market Holliston to the business community both inside Holliston and outside of town. The Guide will be posted to the Town's web site and be made available around town. The Guideline highlights the quality of life and the business climate in Holliston.

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The Committee has also been investigating two (2) different scenarios to try to address buildings in need of repair. The first would be the adoption of a General Bylaw to address nuisance properties in need of repair. However, the Committee does not believe the adoption of a bylaw is the correct approach to address this need.

A second, approach would be the adoption of a grant program based on the Ashland model recently adopted at their Town Meeting and the City of Marlborough. The purpose of the grant program would be to provide grants to businesses to update store fronts and to beautify their properties. The Committee believes many local businesses would be willing to donate to the grant program. The program would be a full repayment or repayment of half of the amount of the grant. The Committee would like to submit an Article for the upcoming Special Town Meeting.

J. Cronin asked if the program would be only focused on the commercial and or business community and how many business do you think are impacted.

P. Barbieri said yes only for the business community and perhaps 4 or 5 businesses could be potentially impacted. Perhaps initial seed money of \$15,000 that would come from private donors. We would have to develop guidelines. It would further enhance the appearance of the community.

J. Cronin asked if the Committee has met with the Holliston Business Association.

P. Barbieri stated not yet the Committee wanted to receive input from the Selectmen first.

P. Saulnier asked if the funds would be used to reduce taxes. P. Barbieri said the funds would be used to address the exterior appearance of businesses.

Deb Moore, 183 Mill Street asked if the funds could be used to improve of the Pinecrest Club House.

P. Barbieri said the resources would be better used for that.

J. Cronin asked if the next step would be to approach the Finance Committee. P. Barbieri said yes that would be the next step in anticipation of the Special Town Meeting.

The Board agreed to support this approach.

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**4.) Board Business**

**Meeting Minutes from June 18, 2018, July 19, 2018, and July 23, 2018:** J. Cronin made a motion to approve the Meeting Minutes as presented. Second, M. Ahronian. Vote 2-0

**Appointments – Conservation Commission, Associate:** J. Cronin made a motion to appoint Sean Fay to serve as an Associate member of the Conservation Commission with a term to expire on June 30, 2019. Second, M. Ahronian. Voted 2-0

**Event Permits – Dalton Road Block Party; Tim's Trot and Turkey Trot:** J. Cronin made a motion to approve an event permit for a block party to be held on September 16, 2018 starting at 2p.m. between address 22 and 25 Dalton Road. Second, M. Ahronian. Voted 2-0

J. Cronin made a motion to approve an event permit for a Tim's Trot to be held on September 23, 2018 starting at 3p.m. between address at 370 Hollis Street (Holliston High School). Second, M. Ahronian. Voted 2-0

J. Cronin made a motion to approve an event permit for the Holliston Turkey Trot to be held on November 22, 2018 starting at 8a.m. between address at 370 Hollis Street (Holliston High School). Second, M. Ahronian. Voted 2-0

**Pinecrest Club House Restaurant Request for Proposals (RFP):** J. Ritter reviewed the draft RFP. The current draft version is simply marked up any future adjustments can be addressed by way of an addendum(s). The primary objective is to get the RFP issued. J. Cronin asked if one company could manage both the Golf Course and the restaurant. D. Moore said many years ago that approach was tried but it did not work but there would be nothing stopping one firm from bidding on both projects. J. Cronin made a motion to publish the RFP. Second, M. Ahronian. Voted 2-0

**Pinecrest Golf Course Management Request for Proposals:** Due to lack of information this matter will be discussed next week.

**Gift Acceptance Form – Senior Center:** J. Cronin made a motion to accept a gift in the amount of \$400 from Holliston Superette to the Holliston Senior Center. Second, M. Ahronian. Voted 2-0

**One Day Alcoholic Beverage Permit – Upper Town Hall:** J. Cronin made a motion to approve and sign an application for a One Day Alcoholic Beverage permit for a welcome home party to be held on September 1, 2018. Second, M. Ahronian. Voted 2-0

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**Goals and Objectives Review and Update:** J. Ritter reported it his custom to provide an update on various pre-defined goals and objectives. This helps to enhance communication and track progress or lack of progress with each goal.

**5.) Any Other Business** – J. Cronin asked for the job description from the Town of Medfield for the Building and Grounds Superintendent. J. Ritter will secure.

**Adjourn:** At 7:41p.m. J. Cronin made a motion to adjourn the meeting. Second, M. Ahronian.  
Voted 2-0

Respectfully submitted,



J. Jeffrey Ritter  
Town Administrator