

TOWN OF HOLLISTON

SELECT BOARD

April 11, 2022
7:00PM

Town Hall
703 Washington Street

Present: Tina Hein, Chair; Ben Sparrell, Vice Chair; John Cronin, Clerk.

Also Present: Travis Ahern, Town Administrator; Michael Cassidy, Fire Chief; Lisa Deering, Kathy Shore, Theresa Lamkin, representing Celebrate Holliston (300th Anniversary); Jason Reposa CEO Good Feels Inc.; Bella Gelman, Director of Finance, Good Feels Inc.; Attorney Leslie Haskins, representative Good Feels Inc.; and Attorney Elizabeth Lydon, Holliston Town Counsel;

At 7:00pm T. Hein called the meeting to order:

300TH ANNIVERSARY / CELEBRATE HOLLISTON:

Lisa Deering, Kathy Shore and Theresa Lamkin joined the meeting to start the discussion regarding the celebration of the Town's 300th Anniversary. The vision is to have a 14 month long celebration starting in the end of 2023 and culminating with an event, possibly a gala near the actual anniversary which is December 3, 2024. The idea will be to have events which will encompass Hollistons Past, Present and Future. Some of the events mentioned include a parade, field day, canoe race at Lake Winthrop and a fun run as well as anticipating events sponsored by local organizations as well as local businesses. The group will form a sub-committee within Celebrate Holliston and will provide contact information in the near future. Until then interested parties can use the Celebrate Holliston website.

An article on the upcoming May Town Warrant will establish a placeholder for future funding for the celebration.

J. Cronin stated that he had been to a recent celebration for the Town of Norwood's 150th Anniversary and will pass along the list of events to the Celebrate Holliston Committee. T. Hein suggested that the Committee use the Town's new quarterly newsletter to advertise.

The Board thanked committee members for their introductory presentation and offered their support.

REVIEW OF THE HOST COMMUNITY AGREEMENT (HCA) / GOOD FEELS INC.:

Jason Reposa, Bella Gelman and Attorney Leslie Hawkins, representing Good Feels Inc. joined the meeting to review the proposed HCA with the Town of Holliston. In February Good Feels Inc. made a presentation to the Select Board seeking approval to operate a cannabis infused seltzer manufacturing business located at 72 Jeffrey Ave for wholesale purposes only. Since that time a Host Community Agreement was drafted with the aid of Attorney L. Hawkins and Attorney Elizabeth Lydon of Holliston Town Counsel. Attorney Hawkins noted 3 specific areas

within the Host Agreement in which Good Feels Inc. is seeking amendments. The first involves language related to the Community Impact Fee. Discussion revolved around capping the Fee and the ongoing changes within the law regarding the future of the Community Impact Fee. The fee's which are paid to the Town must be used in direct relationship as a result of the cannabis business and not at the discretion of the Town. The second section of the HCA seeking amending is the provision "no shared space". The facility at 72 Jeffrey will have a break room that will be shared by employees. Attorney Hawkins pointed out that due to the fact that this facility is not a retail establishment it should not incur any legal ramifications. The third amendment relates to the proposed hours of operation. The facility will operate from 7:00am-9:00pm 5 days a week. Staff will work in 2 shifts.

The Select Board agreed to the suggested second and third amendments to the HCA. However after a lengthy discussion around the language of the Community Impact Fee and due to the fact that no other HCA's between Holliston and several cannabis manufactures contain such language regarding capping the Community Impact Fee the Select Board asked the Attorneys to continue to work towards a mutual agreement.

COVID-19 UPDATE / ARPA UPDATE:

Chief Cassidy presented an ARPA request in the amount of \$75,000 which was brought forward by Lisa Borchetta, Senior Center Director in conjunction with Habitat for Humanity. The Program is designed to assist elderly residents in need with smaller projects within their homes to assure safety and help them "age in place". The process will be similar to that of the Mortgage and Rent relief program which was facilitated by Youth and Family Services during the pandemic. Habitat for Humanity will provide the labor and the materials and will administer 5-6 projects.

J. Cronin made a motion to approve ARPA funding in the amount of \$75,000 to fund a program to assist elderly residents with household projects through Habitat for Humanity to help those "age in place". B. Sparrell second. Vote 3-0.

T. Ahern presented a chart representing the ARPA funds that have been approved to date, broken down by categories' and the remaining balance.

WARRANT:

J. Cronin made a motion to approve the Weekly Warrant in the amount of \$1,795,424.14. B. Sparrell second. Vote 3-0.

J. Cronin made a motion to approve a Warrant in the amount of \$2,800 for Holliston's Veterans District membership. B. Sparrell second. Vote 3-0.

FY23 OPERATING BUDGET & CAPITAL REVIEW & DELIBERATION:

B. Sparrell, liaison to the Finance Committee stated that the Committee does not feel comfortable cutting any Capital. The members noted their support for the Grounds Division

However would like to hold off on adding a 26th member to the Holliston Police Department. J. Cronin stated that he would like the Finance Committee to attempt to be more creative and look to find funding for both the Grounds Division and the 26th Police Officer.

The Finance Committee will be meeting on Tuesday April 12, 2022 and will vote on their final recommended FY23 Budget.

T. Ahern stated that the final number for Norfolk Aggie, which is expected to change from the current one prior to Annual Town Meeting on May 9, 2022 will be open for further discussion.

2022 ANNUAL TOWN MEETING – WARRANT REVIEW & DELIBERATION:

T. Ahern presented the list of 42 Warrant Articles for the May 9, 2022 Town Meeting. The Articles pertaining to Cannabis are now at the beginning of the Warrant and several articles will be joined in a Consent Agenda.

B. Sparrell made a motion to open the Warrant for the May 2022 Annual Town Meeting to discuss possible changes. T. Hein second. Vote 3-0.

The Governance Committee will no longer be sponsoring Article #35, however they would like to have a brief presentation in its place.

B. Sparrell made a motion to amend Article #35 and allow the Governance Committee to make a presentation in its place. T. Hein second. Vote 2-0-1. J. Cronin opposed.

J. Cronin made a motion to close the Warrant for the May 2022 Annual Town Meeting. B. Sparrell second. Vote 3-0.

PUBLIC COMMENT:

T. Hein congratulated RAMS Student Caitlin Blois who placed first in a National Competition held in New Jersey in March 2022.

T. Hein also reminded residents that on Saturday April 23, 2022 there will be a Scrape Metal Recycling event at Marshall Street.

COMMENTS FROM THE TOWN ADMINISTRATOR:

T. Ahern noted that the Emergency Medical Dispatch (EMD) services agreement which Holliston had partnered with the town of Medway in February 2022 ended on April 1, 2022. T. Ahern will send a letter of appreciation.

The first meeting was held with Lombardo Engineering, consultants for the Wastewater Treatment Feasibility Study. The consultants will be working with J. Keast, Facilities Manager and K. Sherman, the Town Planner.

The Town has an opportunity to research various ways to reduce the cost of natural gas for some of its municipal buildings. J. Keast will present his findings at a future Select Board meeting.

T. Hein stated that the Schools voted unanimously to put the Statement of Interest forward. It will be an item on next weeks Select Board Meeting (April 11, 2022) agenda.

T. Ahern stated that a memo has been drafted proposing that Finance Director become part of the job description/title for the Treasurer/Collector. This will not impact FY23.

T. Ahern will distribute the memo to a larger audience for feedback.

BOARD BUSINESS:

J. Cronin made a motion to approve an Event Permit for Zelus Beer Garden at the Holliston Historical Society on May 15, 2022 from 12:00noon till 8:00pm. B. Sparrell second. Vote 3-0.

J. Cronin made a motion to approve an Event Permit for the Memorial Day Parade and Ceremony to follow on Monday May 30, 2022 starting at 11:00am. B. Sparrell second. Vote 3-0.

J. Cronin made a motion to approve the Meeting Minutes of March 14, 2022 as written. B. Sparrell second. Vote 3-0.

J. Cronin made a motion to accept a Grant Award – Automated External Defibrillator (AED) in the amount of \$2,500 to the Holliston Fire Department from the Executive Office of Public Safety and Security Department of Grants and Research. B. Sparrell second. Vote 3-0.

OTHER BUSINESS: NONE

At 9:14pm J. Cronin made a motion to adjourn. B. Sparrell second. Vote 3-0.

Respectfully submitted,

Margaret Driscoll

Approved__05-31-22

