

**TOWN OF HOLLISTON**  
**SELECT BOARD**

October 3, 2022  
7:00PM

Town Hall  
703 Washington Street

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

**Also Present:** Travis Ahern, Town Administrator; William Mayer, Town Moderator, Jay Talerman, Town Counsel; and Michael Cassidy, Fire Chief;

At 7:00 B. Sparrell called the meeting to order.

**WARRANT:**

T. Hein approved the Weekly Warrant in the amount of \$706,383.07. J. Cronin second. Vote 3-0.

**EXECUTE TOWN ADMINISTRATOR CONTRACT (JULY 1, 2023 – JUNE 30, 2026):**

B. Sparrell stated that after conversations with Travis Ahern and Labor Counsel and referencing two exemplary performance reviews the Select Board was pleased to announce that T. Ahern will be renewing his contract with the Town of Holliston for three more years. Each Select Board member noted their enthusiasm, looking forward to continue working with T. Ahern as well as gratitude for all his hard work over the past two years as Town Administrator.

T. Hein made a motion to approve the Town Administrator contract for the three year period, July 1, 2023 through June 30, 2026. J. Cronin second. Vote 3-0.

T. Ahern voiced his appreciation to the Select Board and is thankful to have such a good working relationship with staff, Boards and Committees.

**UPDATES FROM THE TOWN ADMINISTRATOR:**

T. Ahern stated that the October 17, 2022 Fall Town Meeting Warrant was posted last Friday September 30, 2022. The Finance Committee recommendations will be available by Friday October 7, 2022.

The Town Treasurer Collector Mary Bousquet will be retiring the end of the calendar year. M. Bousquet has agreed to stay on in a consulting role once the position is filled to facilitate a smooth transition.

The DPW, Water Department is seeking residents interested in volunteering to participate in a water quality study. More information can be found on-line.

The Select Board will not hold a meeting the week of October 31, 2022.

**BOARD BUSINESS:**

T. Ahern stated that there are 3 interested individuals in the remaining seat for the Traffic

Advisory Committee, (Resident At-Large). Letters of Interest have been received by 2 of the residents. T. Hein will reach out to the third individual and request a letter, after which the Select Board will review all 3 candidates.

T. Ahern and J. Cronin participated in a negotiation with DPW laborers union members to recommend a Side Letter to approve vacation accrual for new employees.

T. Hein made a motion to approve the "Side Letter" of agreement between the Town of Holliston and the Massachusetts Northern Labors District Counsel for vacation accrual effective October 3, 2022. J. Cronin second. Vote 3-0.

At 7:16pm the Select Board took a recess.

At 7:30pm The Select Board returned from recess to open the PRE-FALL TOWN MEETING (OCTOBER 17, 2022) FORUM In the Upper Town Hall.

B. Sparrell began the Open Forum by thanking all in attendance, and going over the logistics of the October 17, 2022 Fall Town Meeting. The meeting will begin at 7:00pm in the High School Auditorium. The Holliston Community Action Fund will host child care in the cafeteria and additional temporary handicap parking will be available.

The Town Moderator William Mayer gave a brief procedural overview of Open Town Meeting. W. Mayer explained that this is the opportunity for residents to be active in important decisions, many of which are financial. W. Mayer encouraged residents to attend and also noted that they have the opportunity to speak and ask questions. "Town Meeting is the only real opportunity for direct citizen participation."

T. Ahern went through each Warrant Article, giving a brief explanation of some. More details on such Articles as Programmatic Stabilization Fund, (#3), FY2023 Budget Adjustments, (#7), Water related Articles, (#13/#14/#15), Non-binding Question/Private Site for DPW Facility, (#19) and Envisioning Future Holliston, (#25/#26).

#### **PUBLIC COMMENT:**

Elizabeth Theiler, 17 Norland Street joined the meeting via zoom. She thanked the Town Administrator, Select Board and Finance Committee for their efforts in bringing Article #3, Programmatic Stabilization Fund and Article #7, FY2023 Budget Adjustments to Town Meeting.

E. Theiler strongly voiced her support of Holliston Ambulance (EMS) moving to an ALS, Advanced Life Support model and urged all listening to support these Articles as well.

E. Theiler asked for clarification regarding the added care provided by an ALS model. Chief Cassidy stated that the pre-hospital care provided by ALS includes, but not limited to establishing intravenous lines, establishing airways, and administering certain medications.

B. Sparrell asked W. Mayer to explain the process to amend an article during the Town Meeting. W. Mayer explained the process as follows:

1. The Warrant Article is read – then a motion is made to entertain the Article – then a second.
2. The Article is then open for discussion. In the course of the discussion if there is a suggested amendment to the Article, as long as the suggested amendment does not go above or beyond the scope of the published Article then there needs to a second to discuss the amendment motion.
3. At that point the suggested amendment needs to be put in writing and given to the Town Moderator to read. After which a vote will be taken on the amended Article.

B. Sparrell thanked all who attended and participated for their input and time.

At 8:36pm T. Hein made a motion to adjourn. J. Cronin second. Vote 3-0.

Respectfully submitted,

Margaret Driscoll

Approved\_\_\_\_11/7/22

