

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

April 24, 2023  
7:00PM

Town Hall  
703 Washington Street

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

**Also Present:** Travis Ahern, Town Administrator; Michael Cassidy, Fire Chief/Emergency Management Director.

At 7:01pm B. Sparrell called the meeting to order.

**ARPA STEERING RECOMMENDATIONS:**

T. Ahern and Chief Cassidy presented the latest recommendations made by the ARPA Steering Committee during their April 13, 2023 quarterly meeting as follows:

Holliston Access Cable is seeking \$18,000 in loss of revenue.

Lombardo Associates would like to move forward with permitting for the Wastewater Treatment Plant in the amount of \$77,000. This does not include the \$10,000 necessary for “normal” permitting at that site.

Moving forward with the 9 Green Street Project as originally presented with the supplemental \$96,000, with the intent to mobilize in May, construct in June and complete at the end of summer 2023.

Installation of Dude Solutions at the Woodland Street Campus only, in the amount of \$61,165. The Steering Committee also recommended the reclassification of two previous requests from Youth & Family Services in the amount of \$6,800 that did not come to fruition, to be used to fund part-time staffing.

T. Ahern noted that due to the fact that Full Day Kindergarten has been incorporated in next year’s budget, the balance of allocated ARPA funding may be used for other school related projects, \$75,000 for Music Lab and \$250,000 for the High School Auditorium Lighting. This will be discussed after the May 2023 Annual Town Meeting.

J. Cronin took the opportunity to obtain feedback from Chief Cassidy regarding the Emergency Management perspective regarding the overall preparedness of the Community as it transitioned from the pandemic to its current state. Chief Cassidy will draft a presentation to present at a future meeting.

T. Hein inquired if any of the remaining ARPA funds could be allocated for Small Business owners in Town. Chief Cassidy stated that there had been previous interest in such funding however the challenge arose from facilitating a third party to oversee the process.

T. Hein made a motion to approve the ARPA Steering Group recommendations as presented; \$18,000 for HCAT loss in revenue, \$77,000 for special permitting related to the Wastewater

Treatment Plant, \$96,000 for supplemental funding for the 9 Green Street Project based on the actual low bid and \$61,165 for a Facilities Assessment of the Woodland Street School Campus to be used for School Dudes Solutions, bringing the total of these requests to \$252,165. J. Cronin second. Vote 3-0.

T. Hein made a motion to approve the reclassification of two previous authorizations at the request of the original Youth & Family Services application project #55004 and #55003 in the amount of \$5,000 and \$1,800 respectfully to project #55009, Covid Mental Health and Community temporary position. J. Cronin second. Vote 3-0.

#### **MAY 2023 ANNUAL TOWN MEETING WARRANT:**

T. Ahern presented the most recent draft of the May 2023 Annual Town Meeting Warrant. Several items will be combined in a consent agenda, Articles 3-10.

The most recent episode of “Ask the TA” was dedicated to DPW Articles 21 & 22.

More feedback will forthcoming regarding Article 20, Keefe Tech Capital Stabilization Fund.

A rendering of the Goodwill Park renovation project has been added.

Article 29 Tree Ordinance bylaw, has been written in such a way that it will impact Town owned land only.

Article 30 No Knock Registry, Peddling & Hawing is based on other cities and designed with input from Town Counsel and supported by Public Safety. It suggests that Holliston Police Department administer the registry, and the Town Clerk maintain it.

Article 31 & 32, Easement Town Hall Parking Lot, will include diagrams of the design for Jasper Hill Road, with pedestrian access.

T. Hein made a motion approve the Warrant for the May 2023 Annual Town Meeting as presented with the changes as stated for Article 30, No Knock Registry, also to include any further clerical and administrative changes by Town Counsel or the Town Moderator prior to posting. J. Cronin second. Vote 3-0.

#### **PUBLIC COMMENT:**

Dr. Liz Theiler, 17 Norland Street, questioned the need for 3 Deputy Fire Chiefs. T. Ahern explained that there were recent vacancies, one of which is being appointed later in the meeting this evening, a second vacancy to be filled in the near future and the third in which a retired Deputy, Mark Dellicker is looking to be reinstated via a Town Meeting Article which if passes would need State approval. T. Ahern will research the last time the Holliston Fire Department employed 3 Deputy Chiefs per Dr. Theiler’s request. Lastly Dr. Theiler questioned why the Fire Log pertaining to the fatal accident on March 18, 2023 on Highland Street did not list any Holliston Fire or EMS as responding. B. Sparrell will fact check and email Dr. Theiler his findings.

**WARRANTS:**

T. Hein made a motion to approve the Weekly Warrant in the amount of \$1,670,903.45. J. Cronin second. Vote 3-0.

**COMMENTS FROM THE TOWN ADMINISTRATOR:**

T. Ahern stated the last 3 episodes of "Ask the TA" have been filmed. One with J. Cronin discussing the 2023 May Town Meeting DPW Articles, DPW Facility Project and Infrastructure Water/Sidewalk Project. Another discussing the Assistant Fire Chief Position with Fire Chief Cassidy, and lastly a conversation with Select Board Chair and Mary Greendale.

T. Ahern drafted a letter to Authentic Auto Body regarding the negative feedback received associated with the Car Event they recently sponsored at their place of business.

T. Hein made a motion to sign letter on behalf of the Select Board to Authentic Auto Body, Mr. Steve Proia listing concerns and looking for a response from Mr. Proia, President of Authentic Auto Body. J. Cronin second, with a comment, indicating the need to hear the "other side" to determine the proper course of events. Vote 3-0.

**BOARD BUSINESS:**

T. Hein made a motion to appoint Alan Greendale as On-Call Deputy Fire Chief effectively immediately with reappointment as of June 30, as is standard practice. J. Cronin second. Vote 3-0.

T. Hein made a motion to appoint the following Per Diem EMT's to the Holliston Fire Department, Jeremy Kempton, Corey Flodstrom and Shamus Miller.

The 9 Green Street Contract & Notice to Proceed was postponed until next week's Select Board Meeting, May 1, 2023.

T. Hein read into the record the Proclamation for the Holliston Peace Officers Memorial Day to be observed on Monday May 15, 2023, after which it was signed by the Select Board members.

T. Hein made a motion to approve the Train Show on April 29, 2023 to be held at the Historical Society from 9:00am-4:00pm. J. Cronin second. Vote 3-0.

**OTHER BUSINESS:**

J. Cronin requested an update from the Celebrate Holliston Committee regarding the 300<sup>th</sup> celebration. He added he endorsed the idea brought forth by T. Hein to plant trees throughout Town as part of the celebration.

T. Ahern stated that there is no longer conflict with the Memorial Parade and the 300<sup>th</sup> Celebration parade. The Tercentennial Parade will be held on May 11, 2024.

At 8:03pm J. Cronin made a motion to adjourn. T. Hein second. Vote 3-0.

Respectfully submitted,

Margaret Driscoll

Approved\_\_06-26-23

