

TOWN OF HOLLISTON

SELECT BOARD

May 8, 2023
7:00PM

Town Hall
703 Washington Street

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

Also Present: Travis Ahern, Town Administrator; Shaw Lively, Park & Recreation Commission Chair; Shannon Cornwell, Park & Recreation Assistant Director; and James Keast, Facilities Manager.

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

BLAIR SQUARE PROCEDURES & POLICIES:

Shaw Lively, the Chair of the Park & Recreation Commission and Shannon Cornwell, Assistant Director of Park & Recreation joined the meeting to present the draft of the Policies and Procedures for the rental of the new Pavilion at Blair Square. The Park Department has a policy in place for the rental of the Pavilion at Stoddard Park and Goodwill Park, however due to the location and size of Blair Square there are guidelines specific to the space. S. Cornwell noted that communication between the Park Department and the Select Boards Office will be essential to the success of the rental process, as the Select Board may be responsible for approving various events permits at that location. J. Keast noted that the pavilion will not be competed and ready for rental until later this summer season.

T. Hein made a motion to approve the Procedure and Polices as presented with a plan to revisit the need for any potential changes no later than Monday September 18, 2023, for any unforeseen issues which would result in the need to include additional language, for the rental at Blair Square. B. Sparrell second. Vote 2-0. J. Cronin absent.

MAY 2023 ANNUAL TOWN MEETING REVIEW:

T. Ahern stated that the Annual Town Meeting Warrant printed document is available at the Town Hall, Senior Center and Library. The most recent "Ask the TA" episode features the two ballot questions for the proposed DPW Facility and the proposed sidewalk project on Norfolk, Central and Goulding Streets with Select Board Vice Chair John Cronin.

Day care will again be available at the High School during Town Meeting as well as parking permits for Seniors wishing to attend.

T. Ahern noted that BlackBoard Connect may be a good way to remind residents of the upcoming May 2023 Annual Town Meeting, using the email and text feature.

T. Hein made a motion to authorize the use of BlackBoard Connect email and text only to notify residents of Holliston of the May 15, 2023 Annual Town Meeting and May 23, 2023 Town

Elections, with ballot questions which include borrowing authorization related to the May 2023 Annual Town Meeting Warrant. B. Sparrell second. Vote 2-0. J. Cronin absent.

PUBLIC COMMENT:

T. Hein expressed her gratitude to all that contributed to the Safe Routes to Schools “Walk & Roll to School” last week success. Which included Holliston Police Department, and the PTO who provided coffee and donuts which were shared and greatly appreciated with and by the crew working on landscaping at Blair Square.

T. Hein also commented on the tremendous effort by Town Staff at the DPW sponsored “Touch A Truck” at the High School on May 6, 2023, especially DPW Deputy Director/Highway Superintendent Robert Walker.

T. Hein read a letter from the Upper Charles Climate Action Group which specifically spoke to the possible location and the alternative energy sources of the proposed DPW Facility.

Rich Rosenberry and Joan Levinsohn, 66 JarrBrook Road, two of the members joined the meeting via zoom to encourage the Town to look at 20 Cross Street as a site and endorse the use of renewable energy. T. Ahern noted that Weston & Sampson does indeed incorporate alternative energy sources in their proposals.

PUBLIC HEARING – CHANGE IN MANAGERS - BERTUCCI’S:

T. Hein made a motion to open the Public Hearing at 7:47pm for a change in managers at Bertucci’s Restaurant located at 414 Washington Street Holliston. B. Sparrell second. Vote 2-0. J. Cronin absent.

Sonya Dupuis, the newly appointed General Manager of Bertuccis in Holliston joined the meeting via zoom. She stated that she has been employed by Bertuccis for 17 years. All the proper paperwork is in order, including TIP certification.

T. Hein made a motion to close the Public Hearing at 7:56pm. B. Sparrell second. Vote 2-0. J. Cronin absent.

T. Hein made a motion to approve the change in manager, Sonya Dupuis, for Bertucci’s Restaurant located at 414 Washington Street Holliston, Massachusetts effective immediately. B. Sparrell second. Vote 2-0. J. Cronin absent.

WARRANT:

T. Hein approved the Weekly Warrant in the amount of \$2,774,544.49. B. Sparrell second. Vote 2-0. J. Cronin absent.

COMMENTS FROM TOWN ADMINISTRATOR:

T. Ahern stated that the FY22 Annual Report has been posted on the Town website and is also available in printed form at the Town Hall and at the May 15, 2023 Town Meeting.

The May 15, 2023 Town Meeting Warrant is now available at the Library, Town Hall, Senior

Center, Holliston Superette and Coffee Haven. There is a QR code which can be used to activate links with additional information.

BOARD BUSINESS:

T. Ahern stated that there had been a request to hang the Pride Flag from the flag pole in front of Town Hall for the month of June, however based on a recent court case in the city of Boston T. Ahern recommends awaiting more clarification while hanging the two flags in the same manner as last year, on the Town Hall building itself. Once a Flag Policy is finalized T. Ahern noted that it will include Holiday Lighting on telephone poles as well. There was also a request to advertise for Pride Month on the new message board located at Blair Square.

T. Hein made a motion to approve the request to hang the two versions of the Pride Flag at the Town Hall, including the H for Holliston Pride Flag for the duration of June 2023 otherwise known as Pride Month and further to promote Pride Month events on the new tri-panel board at Blair Square as soon as the area is open to the public. B. Sparrell second. Vote 2-0. J. Cronin absent.

T. Hein made a motion to appoint Tim Smith to the Golf Course Advisory Committee with a term to end June 30, 2024. B. Sparrell second. Vote 2-0. J. Cronin absent.

T. Hein made a motion to appoint Vladamir Nechev from an Associate to a Full Board Member of the Zoning Board of Appeals, and to appoint John Love from a Full Board Member to an Associate Board Member of the Zoning Board of Appeals immediately through June 30, 2023 at which time they will be reappointed. B. Sparrell second. Vote 2-0. J. Cronin absent.

T. Hein made a motion to approve the Meeting Minutes of March 13, 2023 and March 20, 2023 as written. B. Sparrell second. Vote 2-0. J. Cronin absent.

OTHER BUSINESS:

T. Hein asked that the 300th Celebrate Holliston Committee be put on an upcoming agenda with an update.

T. Hein noted some issues with lighting in the Railroad/Central Street area and Blair Square. J. Keast was on hand to inform her that there is a missing street light, which will be replaced and that all other lights are in the process of being converted.

B. Sparrell reminded all that the Annual Town Meeting begins at 7:00pm on Monday May 15, 2023 and Town Elections are on Tuesday May 23, 2023 both held at the Holliston High School.

T. Hein took the opportunity to thank B. Sparrell for serving as Chair this past year.

At 8:09pm B. Sparrell made a motion to adjourn. T. Hein second. J. Cronin absent.

Respectfully submitted,

Margaret Driscoll

Approved__07-10-23

