



**TOWN OF HOLLISTON
SELECT BOARD**

**703 Washington Street
Holliston, MA 01746**

508-429-0608

**SELECT BOARD
MEETING MINUTES
HOLLISTON TOWN HALL
MAY 28, 2020**

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

Also Present: Jeff Ritter, Town Administrator

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

1.) 1/12 Budget Review and Discussion: M. Ahronian reviewed the 1/12 budget review process and the Town is working to prepare a letter to the Massachusetts Department of Revenue (DoR).

T. Hein asked about the Board of Health budget and asked if Sharon Emerick, Town Accountant has reviewed this budget. Scott Moles, Health Agent said new numbers were submitted at a zero percent increase there have been several reductions to various line items such as office supplies, professional services and salary line items.

T. Hein made a motion to approve the Board of Health budget at \$152,650 as a 1/12 budget. Second, J. Cronin. Voted 3-0

Regarding the Board of Assessors FY 1/12 budget the 1/12 budget month expense would be \$19,413 for an annual budget of \$232,960. T. Hein made a motion to approve the budget. Second, J. Cronin. Voted 3-0

Regarding the Economic Development Committee budget it is level funded from FY20. T. Hein made a motion to approve the budget. Second, J. Cronin. Voted 3-0.

2.) FY21 Budget Reviews (Select Board, Liability, Public Buildings, Solid Waste, Waste Water): Select Board T. Hein made a motion to approve the **Select Board budget** at \$351,855 which includes \$150,000 for a new Town Administrator with an additional \$10,000 set aside by the Finance Committee.

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Liability Insurance, J. Ritter said payments have traditionally been made during July and if that was not done there could be an additional expense. T. Hein made a motion to approve the proposed FY21 budget with a zero percent increase. Second, J. Cronin. Voted 3-0.

Public Buildings, J. Cronin made a motion to approve the proposed budget. Second, T. Hein. Voted 3-0.

Solid Waste, Vincent Murphy asked if there was any opportunity for cost savings due to the new trash and recycling Contract. It was noted the dust is still settling on that but there does appear to be a future opportunity but for now it should remain level funded.

J. Cronin made a motion to approve the FY21 level funded budget at \$1,277,851. Second, T. Hein. Voted 3-0

Waste Water, T. Hein made a motion to approve the level funded budget from FY20 into FY21. Second, J. Cronin. Voted 3-0.

Veterans budget, J. Cronin made motion to approve the Veterans FY21 budget. Second, T. Hein. Voted 3-0.

3.) Capital Request Policy Recommendations by the School Committee: The Board agreed to defer action on this item.

4.) Open Meeting Law Violation Involving the Finance Committee on May 5th: Town Counsel, Jay Talerman was present remotely. Considerable discuss was held between the Select Board and member of the Finance Committee about a Finance Committee discussion regarding Department Head salary adjusts.

It was not a posted Agenda item for the Finance Committee but was held within the context of the review of the Annual Town Meeting Warrant review.

J. Cronin and T. Hein said they were inclined to file a complaint but given this information thet have decide not to at this point in time.

J. Talerman said he would be willing to hold an Open Meeting Law seminar to address these questions.

T. Hein said she was concerned about a pattern of behavior. Other view this as not a healthy situation.

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J. Talerman said if this matter were to come up at Town Meeting would be a question for the Moderator.

Dan Alfred a member of the Finance Committee who participated remotely provided the history of the issue based on his perspective based on the Select Board's posted Agenda it assuming the Finance Committee is guilty before a trial.

Ben Sparrell, a member of the Finance Committee who participated remotely asked for the Finance Committee and the Select Board to move on to more important issues facing the Town.

Meeting Minutes of May 11, 2020: T. Hein made a motion to approve and release the Meeting Minutes of May 11, 2020. Second, J. Cronin. Voted 3-0

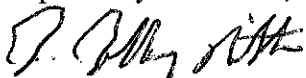
Parade Permit Application: T. Hein made a motion to approve a Parade/Event Permit Application for the Holliston High School Senior Car Parade to be held on June 7, 2020 starting at 1p.m. Second, J. Cronin. Voted 3-0

Review of Annual Town Meeting Warrant: J. Ritter reviewed the most recent version of the Warrant noting several minor changes.

Year End & Reserve Fund Transfers: None

Adjourn: T. Hein made a motion to adjourn the meeting at 9:11p.m. Second, J. Cronin. Voted 3-0

Respectfully submitted,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'J. Jeffrey Ritter', written over a horizontal line.

J. Jeffrey Ritter
Town Administrator