TOWN OF HOLLISTON

SELECT BOARD

January 29, 2024 Town Hall 7:00PM 703 Washington Street

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

Also Present: Travis Ahern, Town Administrator; Peter Barbieri, Theresa Lamkin, Kathy Shore, Lisa Deering, members of Celebrate Holliston 300th Celebration Committee; Andre Vargas, 12 Curve Street Holliston.

At 7:10pm J. Cronin called the meeting to order.

UPDATE FROM CELEBRATE HOLLISTON 300™ CELEBRATION:

T. Lamkin gave a brief update of events which are now on the books and the calendar for the yearlong celebration. Banners have been ordered and the Committee would like to hang them on eight poles Downtown to leave up throughout the year, as well as a banner to be hung across Washington Street in an alternant location. T. Lamkin also made the request to have the \$30,000 which was approved at Town Meeting be transferred and put in the care of the Celebrate Holliston Treasurer, which would alleviate the need for the Celebrate Holliston Committee to seek the Select Boards final approval for funding planned events. T. Hein suggested allowing for some of the \$30,000 to be held with the possibility of bringing the Economic Development Coordinator, Melanie Hamlen into the loop and look to involve some local businesses who may want to participate in the 300th Celebration. T. Lamkin noted that the timeline was somewhat limited and that there are events already available to use the funding. T. Hein suggested holding \$5,000-\$10,000 of the \$30,000. J. Cronin asked that the Town Administrator contact the Economic Development Coordinator and revisit the topic at the next Select Board Meeting.

B. Sparrell made a motion to approve the installation, once reviewed by Town Council, of banners to be hung on poles requested by the Celebrate Holliston 300 Committee. T. Hein second. Vote 3-0.

BOARD BUSINESS / 7B. EVENT PERMIT 300™ ANNIVERSARY PARADE:

Peter Barbieri gave a brief update of the planned 300th Anniversary Parade, which included the parade route and various participants. P. Barbieri stated that more participants are welcomed and he encouraged more local groups to join. He also noted that the parade committee is in need of sponsors as well as a substantial amount of volunteers. P. Barbieri asked that a link be added to the Town website with the details.

B. Sparrell made a motion to approve the Event Permit for the Celebrate Holliston 300th Anniversary Parade on May 11, 2024 from 1:00pm to 5:00pm starting at Washington and

Highland Street to end at Washington and Woodland Street as indicated on the map with various road closures, and Police details. T. Hein second. Vote 3-0.

DISCUSSION OF EL HARVEY CONTRACT:

T. Ahern stated that the original E.L. Harvey contract for solid waste has been in place for almost five years, it will expire on June 30, 2024. There has been ongoing discussion of which Town Counsel has participated in regarding a new contract with E.L. Harvey. Based on a new ruling by the Attorney General the Prevailing Wage Rates Sheet will cover FY25, FY26 and FY27 through December 2026. After which a new Wage Rates Sheet can be calculated and the contract can be extended for FY28, FY29, or the Town can opt out and renegotiate or send out to bid. The overall increase for the new contract is 5.1%. The TIPing fee that the Town is being charged is \$75 per ton, however the current rate is \$105. This increase will be phased in over the next five years of the new contract. Replacement of bins/carts Town-wide is scheduled for year three of the contract renewal, however if a cart is broken or one is needed for a new residence the Select Boards Office will facilitate.

T. Hein asked that the Town receive periodic reports from the Sustainability Coordinator which is now provided through Weston and Sampson.

B. Sparrell made a motion to approve the contract for the Solid Waste and Recyclable Collection with E.L. Harvey as presented through calendar 2026 with the ability to extend the contract by one or two years. T. Hein second. Vote 3-0.

PUBLIC COMMENT:

Andre Vargas, 12 Curve Street, addressed the quick and efficient work done by the Select Board and Town Administrator in listening to various organization and individuals in setting up a road map for the Flag Policy, at the same time he would like the Town to acknowledge all the organizations and individuals' still yet to be heard from. A. Vargas would like to see the discussion continue and asked how to proceed. J. Cronin stated that the item is on the Select Board meeting agenda for February 5, 2024. J. Cronin added that the one email received regarding the Flag Policy which was received will be reviewed by Town Counsel.

- B. Sparrell read the No On Street Winter Parking Ban which is in effect until March 31, 2024.
- B. Sparrell will hold his monthly Select Chat at the Senior Center on Friday February 2, 2024.
- T. Hein read from a prepared memo pertaining to the recent posts online mocking the name change of a section of a street in Town. She noted that most residents will turn away from such mocking and intimidation of neighbors and want to see it stop. T. Hein has asked the Town Administrator to look into the use of social media by Town employees and Board and Committee Members. T. Hein stated that there may be disagreement and challenging debate in the work before the Select Board, but she remains committed to welcoming a diversity of opinion and thought in a respectful manner, and is available to listen to those who disagree with her and can be reached by email, in person or during Public Comment during a meeting. Also she is committed to keeping local government open to hearing the concerns and needs

of residents and offering a public process by which one can seek resolutions.

J. Cronin noted that long time Holliston resident John Losch passed away recently. Mr. Losch was a very dedicated member of the community and spent many years volunteering his services. J. Cronin expressed his condolences.

BOARD BUSINESS / 7F. FAMILY REQUEST FOR DEDICATION OF BENCH AT TOWN HALL:

Anna Dellicker joined the meeting to make a request that a bench located at the Town Hall be dedicated to her grandparents Henry and Jackie Dellicker as a remembrance of all their service to the Town of Holliston. The family would like to affix a plaque to the bench.

B. Sparrell made a motion to approve the request from the Dellicker family to add a plaque of dedication to the black bench located at the Holliston Town Hall. T. Hein second. Vote 3-0. All three Select Board members agreed that a dedication ceremony would be welcome.

WARRANT:

B. Sparrell made a motion to approve the Weekly Warrant in the amount of \$2,087,145.80. T. Hein second. Vote 3-0.

COMMENTS FROM THE TOWN ADMINISTRATOR:

T. Ahern stated that there will be further discussion regarding the Flag Policy on the February 5, 2024 Select Board Meeting Agenda as well as the Water Rate Hearing. As part of the process the Water Rate Hearing may be continued.

T. Ahern summarized the work done during the end of calendar 2023 and beginning of 2024. This update can be found on the Town's website. Some of items include the following: Update from the Fire Chief regarding the progress of ALS.

Successor agreements for both Pinecrest contracts were completed.

Authorization of Onyx LLC to take over the Marshall Street Solar Project.

Update of the SOI for the Holliston High School, with useful feedback.

Executive Sessions pertaining to the possible purchase of 799 Washington Street, still in deliberation.

Petition and implantation of a road name change on a section of Lowland Street.

Adoption of a Flag Policy, with ongoing future discussion.

Transition to the Holbrook RECC, with thanks to IT Director Chris Meo.

Signed the E.L. Harvey Solid Waste Contract beginning June 2024.

The FY25 Budget process is also posted on the Towns webstie, and the Town Warrant for May 2024 Town Meeting is now open.

J. Cronin asked that an update for the status of the Marshall Street Solar Project as well as the proposed DPW Cross Street site be added to a future agenda.

BOARD BUSINESS:

B. Sparrell made a motion to appoint Michael Kelley as an EMT for the Town of Holliston to be reappointed on June 30, 2024. T. Hein second. Vote 3-0.

- B. Sparrell made a motion to appoint Mark MacDonald as an EMT for the Town of Holliston to be reappointed on June 30, 2024. T. Hein second. Vote 3-0.
- B. Sparrell made a motion to authorize the Select Board Chair to sign on behalf of the Town of Holliston for the First Amendment to Local Initiative Program Regulatory Agreement and Declaration of Restrictive Covenants and Exhibit B for Low and Moderate Income Units. T. Hein second. Vote 3-0.
- B. Sparrell made a motion to appoint Stephen Bradford, Walter McGrath and William
 Withington to the Memorial Day Committee American Legion Post 47 with a term to expire
 June 2024. T. Hein second. Vote 3-0
- B. Sparrell made a motion to appoint Patricia Pereira to the Historical Commission with a term to expire June 2026. T. Hein second. Vote 3-0.
- B. Sparrell made a motion to accept a donation from Colantonio, 16 Everett Street, Holliston to the Holliston Police Gift Account in the amount of \$1,000. T. Hein second. Vote 3-0.
- B. Sparrell made a motion to approve the Notice of Award to I.W. Harding Construction for Holliston 2023 Complete Streets for work on Central Street as outlined. T. Hein second. Vote 3-0.
- T. Ahern noted that the project consists of new sidewalks, ADA compliant ramps, a precast drainage structure and restriping the crosswalks along Central Street form Smith Row to Norfolk Street.
- B. Sparrell made a motion to approve the Meeting Minutes of December 4, 2023. T. Hein second. Vote 3-0.

OTHER BUSINESS:

- J. Cronin stated that the Town Clerk will have nomination papers available beginning on February 5, 2024. The Town Election will be held on May 21, 2024. J. Cronin stated that he has made the decision to not run again for a seat on the Select Board.
- B. Sparrell stated that it has been a pleasure working with J. Cronin over the past several years.

At 8:40pm B. Sparrell made a motion to adjourn. T. Hein second. Vote 3-0.

Respectfully submitted,

Margaret Driscoll

Approved 3-4-24