

TOWN OF HOLLISTON
SELECT BOARD

July 13, 2020

Town Hall

7:01 P.M.

703 Washington Street

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

Also Present: Michael Cassidy, Fire Chief; Travis Ahern, incoming Town Administrator; Mark Frank, Park and Recreation Director.

At 7:01 J. Cronin called the meeting to order.

COVID-19 UPDATE:

Chief Cassidy reported that it has been over one month since any new cases have been reported and two weeks since the last case recovered. At this point the Chief suggested that the update on the Town website be done weekly rather than daily, with the understanding that the update will go back to a daily reporting if needed. The Board agreed.

The Chief went on to outline the plan for the Annual Town Meeting at Placentino/Miller schools on Monday July 20, 2020. The Placentino main entrance doors will open 7:00pm for a 7:30pm start. There will be a check-in desk set up in the lobby. One hundred and twenty five chairs will be positioned in the cafetorium and one hundred and fifteen overflow seats in the gym with a two way AV connection. Arrows will be placed on the floors to direct the foot traffic and once those in attendance are seated must remain so other than restroom breaks. If a person leaves the meeting they will not be allowed to reenter the building. A boom microphone supplied by HCAT will be used instead of a podium for questions/comments from the audience. Due to the fact that the schools do not have air conditioning the Chief presented the Board with information regarding the rental of portable A/C units at the cost of up to \$6,035 for one evening to be covered by the CARES Act. T. Hein made a motion to authorize the rental of portable A/C units for Annual Town Meeting on July 20, 2020 for one evening at the cost of up to \$6,035 to be funded by the CARES Act. Second by B. Sparrell. Vote 3-0.

In conclusion face coverings and social distancing will be enforced and hand sanitizer will be available for all. J. Cronin asked that the Chief appoint a hall monitor to assist with the flow of traffic. He also stated that there is a recommendation before the Board to combine some of the administrative articles that are on the Warrant into one vote in an effort to decrease the overall length of the Town Meeting.

WARRANTS:

T. Hein made a motion to approve a warrant in the amount of \$1,896,923.17 of which payroll is \$638,516.85. Second by B. Sparrell. Vote 3-0. T. Hein made a motion to approve a warrant in the amount of \$438,322.04. Second by B. Sparrell. Vote 3-0.

PUBLIC COMMENT:

T. Hein reported that there were two water main breaks this past week, one on Dorset Road, the other on Church Street. She will present the cost of repair at an upcoming meeting as she feels it is important to bring to the attention of the Town residents the cost of the Towns aging water infrastructure.

J. Cronin stated that he received a letter from Jackie Dellicker the former Town Clerk regarding the significance of public service and encouraged town residents to consider serving their community.

ANNUAL TOWN MEETING MOTIONS:

After reviewing the Annual Town Meeting Motions it was determined by the Board that articles 3, 6, 7, 8, 9, 10 and 14 will be included in the consent agenda motion. Article 15 needs to be corrected to reflect that it is sponsored by the Finance Committee and not the Select Board and also that the vote required is not a majority but rather 2/3 Vote. After some discussion regarding Article 19, Road Acceptances the Board voted to keep the article as written on the warrant. T. Hein made a motion to approve Article 19 Road Acceptances as written to accept roads which have previously been discussed. Second by B. Sparrell. Vote 3-0.

BOARD BUSINESS:

J. Cronin stated that he would like to delay his appointment to the Metro West Regional Transit Authority due to the fact that he needs more clarification on this assignment.

J. Cronin, as Chair signed the letter previously presented to the Board by T. Hein to be sent to the State and Federal legislators. The letter will be passed to the Finance and School Committee Chairs for their signatures before it is mailed.

The Board set a public meeting for August 25, 2020 to discuss the truck traffic in and around the Lowland Industrial Park.

OTHER BUSINESS:

T. Hein informed the Board that the tall grass on the Marshall Street site of the solar array is in desperate need of mowing. The DEP inspectors are unable to access the site properly. The heavy duty mower that the Town owns is in need of repair and therefore cannot be used. B. Sparrell will contact the DPW Director to inquire if a neighboring town might be able to assist,

and requested that Marshall Street Maintenance be added to next weeks meeting agenda. Mark Frank the Park and Recreation Director was present to discuss a \$10,000 CPC funding request for a drainage project at Stoddard Pond as part of Article 14. However this is not listed as part of Article 14 as currently written on the Annual Town Meeting Warrant. J. Cronin asked M. Frank to speak with the CPC Chair to obtain clarification and amend as needed.

At 7:54pm T. Hein made a motion to adjourn. Second by B. Sparrell. Vote 3-0.

Respectfully submitted;

Margaret Driscoll

Approved_____

