

## **TOWN OF HOLLISTON**

### **SELECT BOARD**

December 14, 2020

Town Hall

6:30 P.M.

703 Washington Street

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

**Also Present:** Travis Ahern, Town Administrator; Michael Cassidy, Fire Chief; Joan Shaughnessy, Shelley Bochner, Erica Plunkett, Daniel Whynot, Tom Dumas, Stipend Committee members (remotely), Sydney Cohen, Casey Wing, Abigail Roche (remotely) and Martin Garvey III, owner of The Car Vault.

At 6:30PM J. Cronin called the meeting to order.

#### **STIPEND COMMITTEE:**

J. Shaughnessy, Stipend Committee Chair introduced the committee members and updated the Select Board on their findings. She stated that the committee focused on researching 16 municipalities, communities with similarities to Holliston. They found that 50% of the communities offered stipends and of those communities 75% offered stipends to the Board of Assessors. Board of Assessors members often spend considerable time around the certification process. D. Whynot put together a spreadsheet and presented it to the Select Board. J Cronin noted that there does not appear to be a "Common Thread" among those communities which offer stipends. He explained that he would like to have input from the committee to determine if the Town should 1. Leave the stipends as is "status quo". 2. Eliminate stipends. Or 3. Create a new model. T Hein stated that she would like to see that the stipends, if offered are equitable and appropriate. B. Sparrell added that he would like to look at the impact of added or removed stipends on how it may effect interest within the communities. J. Shaughnessy stated that some of the information around stipends can be difficult to obtain. They will continue with some more investigation with the plan to return to the Board in January 2021.

#### **BLAIR SQUARE TRASH DISCUSSION:**

T. Ahern introduced 3 Holliston High School sophmores who are enrolled in a service learning class and are participants in the "Pick it up Project". Sydney Cohen, Casey Wing and Abigail Roche have been collecting trash on the Rail Trail and disposing it at their homes. The goal is to place a trash receptacle in Blair Square and have it maintained by volunteers and the Holliston DPW. This would hopefully eliminate the issue of trash and dog waste being deposited into the same receptacles. Currently R&R Landscaping is voluntarily maintaining the dog waste stations. The students so far have raised \$300 with a "Go Fund Me" page to put towards the cost of a

trash bin. T. Ahern will look into the cost and design of a receptacle. J. Cronin stated that it would be helpful if the students could gather data indicating how much trash and how often it needs to be disposed of. This would be helpful going forward to determine the final placement of the receptacle. T. Hein happily offered to serve as a contact for the project. J. Cronin offered a “huge thanks” to the students for helping to find a solution to this ongoing issue. He also asked that T. Ahern arrange to have the Town supply them with trash stickers while they dispose of the trash at their residents.

**WARRANT:**

B. Sparrell made a motion to approve the weekly warrant in the amount of \$429,220.68. T. Hein second. Vote 3-0.

**PUBLIC HEARING THE CAR VAULT CLASS II USED CAR DEALER:**

At 7:30PM B. Sparrell made a motion to open the Public Hearing to discuss the request for a change of address for the Car Vault LLC from 161 Kuniholm Drive Unit #4 to 72 Jeffrey Ave. T. Hein second. Vote 3-0.

M. Garvey the owner of the Car Vault was present to request a change of location of his business from 161 Kuniholm Drive Unit #4 to 72 Jeffrey Ave. At this point most of the inventory has been moved to the new location. They are looking to run both businesses, 360 Motor Sport and the Car Vault at 72 Jeffrey Ave. T. Hein asked if there are any outstanding items with the Building and Planning Department or the Treasurer Collector. M. Garvey replied that there are not. When asked about specifics of the dealership M. Garvey informed the Board that their inventory consists of second cars for families and first time cars for their children, priced between \$3,000-\$10,000. Most inventory is acquired from on-line sales and auctions. The inventory is usually acquired and driven to the site of business by himself or his son.

B. Sparrell made a motion to approve the change in address for The Car Vault LLC from 161 Kuniholm Drive Unit #4 to 72 Jeffrey Ave. T. Hein second. Vote 3-0.

B. Sparrell made a motion to close the Public Hearing for the new location of the Car Vault Used Car Dealership. T. Hein second. Vote 3-0.

**PUBLIC COMMENT:**

T. Hein congratulated Dr. Susan Kustka who is now the permanent Superintendent of Schools through June 30, 2023.

**TOWN ADMINISTRATOR:**

T. Ahern stated that the application for the Heavy Commercial Truck Exclusion on Woodland Street has been filed and the expectation is that he will hear back from MassDOT once the process is complete. The Town will continue to look into Heavy Commercial Truck Exclusions other streets such as South and Lowland Industrial area as well.

James Keast, Facilities Manager is looking to obtain bids for the various projects. Several smaller scaled projects will begin this week, such as the railing at 1750 Washington Street. He will also be looking into various natural gas vendors in an effort to reduce the overall cost to the Town. Work will begin to install lights at the crosswalk on Prentice Street at the Golf Course.

The MIAA awarded the Town a \$10,000 grant to offset the cost for Dudes Solutions, (assets management software) which will be paid directly to them.

T. Ahern stated that he has begun to look at the FY22 budget now that Special Town Meeting is over. He extended his thanks to K. Pierce, M. Bousquet and S. Emerick for all their hard work on setting the Tax Rate. Once it was submitted to the DOR it took only 3 hours to be approved.

In response to a question from T. Hein regarding Green Street T. Ahern stated that the issue with DEP still needs to be resolved, however the Board can move forward with the quote from PARE once given the go ahead if they so choose.

After some discussion regarding the newly acquired equipment for the Holliston Police Department it was decided that a plan for effective storage will need to be put in place, possibly in multiple locations throughout Town.

#### **BOARD BUSINESS:**

B. Sparrell made a motion to accept the Edward Byrne Memorial Justice Assistance Grant in the amount of \$28,827.77 for the Holliston Police Department. T. Hein second. Vote 3-0.

B. Sparrell made a motion to accept a \$400 donation from the Holliston Superette to the Senior Center Nutrition program. T. Hein second. Vote 3-0.

B. Sparrell made a motion to approve, contingent on inspections being completed by January 31, 2021 applications for the annual license for Alcoholic Beverages for Retail. T. Hein second. Vote 3-0.

B. Sparrell made a motion to approve, contingent on inspections being completed by January 31, 2021 applications for the annual Common Victualler's License for alcohol to be consumed on the premises. T. Hein second. Vote 3-0.

B. Sparrell made a motion to approve, contingent on inspections being completed by January 31, 2021 applications for the annual license for Retail Package Goods Stores for wine and malt not to be consumed on the premises. T. Hein second. Vote 3-0.

B. Sparrell made a motion to approve, contingent on inspections being completed by January 31, 2021 applications for the annual renewal for the Common Victualler's license for establishments serving food goods on the premises. T. Hein second. Vote 3-0.

B. Sparrell made a motion to approve, contingent on inspections being completed by January 31, 2021 applications for Entertainment license. T. Hein second. Vote 3-0.

B. Sparrell made a motion to approve, contingent on inspections being completed by January 31, 2021 applications for Used Auto Dealership Class II annual license. T. Hein second. Vote 3-0.

T. Hein made a motion to approve, contingent on inspections being completed by January 31, 2021 applications for Used Auto Dealership Class III annual licenses. B. Sparrell second. Vote 3-0.

**OTHER BUSINESS:**

T. Hein asked that T. Ahern obtain information on the 4-5 cultivating businesses in Town that have Host Community Agreements to determine what the projected revenue might be in the upcoming fiscal year.

T. Ahern asked that the Board authorize him to apply for a Rapid Recovery Grant from the State, as the deadline is on Friday December 18, 2020. This will look at the impact of the pandemic and may be helpful to the local businesses within the community.

B. Sparrell made a motion for the T. Ahern to apply for a Rapid Recovery Grant. T. Hein second. Vote 3-0.

Chief Cassidy reminded the residents that a plowable snow storm was approaching and to keep in mind to please assist in clearing hydrants that may be located closeby.

At 8:25PM B. Sparrell made a motion to adjourn. T. Hein second. Vote 3-0.

Respectfully submitted;

Margaret Driscoll

Approved\_\_\_\_\_

