

TOWN OF HOLLISTON

SELECT BOARD

July 12, 2021
7:00PM

Town Hall
703 Washington Street

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

Also Present: Travis Ahern, Town Administrator; Jennifer Warren-Dyment, Assistant Town Administrator candidate; Mary Bousquet, Treasurer/Collector; Al Hanscom, representative from PARE Corp; Chris Lencioni, owner of the Superette; Wesley and Julia Fjeldheim, abutters of 9 Green Street.

At 7:00pm T. Hein called the meeting to order.

INTERVIEW OF ASSISTANT TOWN ADMINISTRATOR / HR DIRECTOR:

T. Ahern outlined the position/responsibilities of the proposed Assistant Town Administrator/Human Resource Director. The position is not adding to the number of Town employees as there has been a recent retirement. Eight candidates had the necessary credentials, of which five candidates were interviewed by Dr. S. Kustka, Chief Stone, M. Bousquet, C. Meo, M. Frank and K. Sherman. Three finalists were then interviewed by T. Ahern, T. Hein and A. Faison, a Holliston resident and Town Administrator of a Mass municipality. Jennifer Warren-Dyment the finalist was present to be interviewed by the Select Board members.

Each board member had the opportunity to ask J. Warren-Dyment several questions with emphasis on interaction/interfacing with the community as well as the importance of the Human Resource Directors role as a liaison within the Town Departments. T. Ahern also noted that J. Warren-Dyments legal background would be an asset when developing warrants for Town Meetings.

At 7:29pm the Select Board thanked J. Warren-Dyment for her time and she them for the opportunity to meet with them and left the meeting.

After some discussion the Board felt that J. Warren-Dyment was a very strong candidate. J. Cronin suggested waiting another week before making a decision to allow for public feedback. T. Hein and B. Sparrell agreed to wait as T. Hein felt a unanimous decision was preferred.

BOND ANTICIPATION NOTE – SIGNING OF NOTE & DISCLOSURE FOR WELL #5:

M. Bousquet presented the Board with documentation related to the Bond Anticipation Note for the DPW construction project at Well #5. The Note is for \$8.252 million at a rate of 2%.

J. Cronin read the Notice for the Bond Anticipation Note (BAN) given to him by. M. Bousquet. At which time he made a motion to approve. B. Sparrell second. Vote 3-0.

The BAN was then signed by the Select Board.

J. Cronin made a motion to approve and sign documentation for “no litigation official statement certificate”. B. Sparrell second. Vote 3-0.

J. Cronin made a motion to approve and sign documentation for “significant against disclosure certificate”. B. Sparrell second. Vote 3-0.

J. Cronin made a motion to approve and sign documentation for “tax certificate”. B. Sparrell second. Vote 3-0.

T. Hein thanked M. Bousquet for her hard work on behalf of the Board.

PRESENTATION PARE CORP. 9 GREEN STREET:

At 7:46pm J. Cronin read the memo to open the Public Hearing for the 9 Green Street Project.

J. Cronin made a motion to open the Public Hearing with PARE Corp for the 9 Green Street project. B. Sparrell second. Vote 3-0.

Al Hanscom a representative from PARE Corp presented an update on the proposed project at 9 Green Street. The goal is to clean up the site and make a usable green space with parking. A. Hanscom presented 3 graphics of possible designs. The first phase will include the demolition of the building and address the contamination which was caused by the use of various solvents used by previous owners. At the May 2021 Town Meeting it was voted to appropriate \$120,000 to cover the cost of the demolition of the building and cap the site. A. Hanscom suggested the Town open up the bid process for 60 days. The Board agreed to follow his recommendation. Chris Lencioni and Wesley and Julia Fjeldheim abutters of 9 Green Street joined the meeting and asked several questions regarding the parking lot and the demolition process. C. Lencioni stated that the current driveway and parking lot next to and behind the Superette is owned by 3 property owners. If the plan includes a one way only off of Washington Street it should be discussed further with the owners/abutters. A. Hanscom noted that all environmental safety requirements will be followed during the demolition process. Susan Adelman, 46 South Street phoned into the meeting to ask if there was a plan for the gas station located next to 9 Green Street facing Washington Street. T. Ahern stated that it is a privately owned property and not under the Towns jurisdiction. T. Hein asked that abutters keep the line of communication open with the Town Administrator and the Select Board.

At 8:37pm J. Cronin made a motion to close the Public Hearing for the discussion of the 9 Green Street Demolition Project. B. Sparrell second. Vote 3-0.

CARES ACT / ARPA PROGRAMMATIC UPDATE:

T. Ahern stated that a memo went out to all Department, Boards, Committees and Organizations via Facebook and the Holliston Reporter with a link to access the guidelines for ARPA funding requests. The Town is expecting approximately \$4.4 million to be allocated over the next 3 fiscal years or longer if there are capital projects that go beyond FY24. Requests will be presented to the ARPA Steering Group beginning August 2021.

On behalf of Chief Cassidy who was not present J. Cronin reported that there are no new cases of Covid-19 to report and currently 1 active case. He took the time to also remind citizens that the Delta variant is spiking around the world, however no cases have been detected as of yet in Holliston.

T. Ahern will present a report on the CARES Act Spending totaling \$1.3 million once all the information is complete.

WARRANTS:

J. Cronin made a motion to approve a FY21 Weekly Warrant in the amount of \$240,251.81. B. Sparrell second. Vote 3-0.

J. Cronin made a motion to approve a FY22 Weekly Warrant in the amount of \$653,308.76. B. Sparrell second. Vote 3-0.

PUBLIC COMMENT:

J. Cronin thanked the American Legion for sponsoring the laser show held on Saturday July 10, 2021 and suggested a similar event for the Town's 300th Anniversary.

J. Cronin also thanked those who made the Hazardous Waste Day a success on Saturday July 10, 2021.

T. Hein congratulated C. Meo, IT Director marking tonight's meeting as the 500th Zoom meeting.

T. Hein heard from various residents regarding the confusion over last weeks (July 5, 2021) trash schedule. Despite the effort to notify the public (Facebook, Holliston Reporter, Town website and announced at Select Board Meetings), there were some residents who were unaware that there was not a delay due to the July 4th Holiday. It was suggested by several residents to use the Blackboard Connect as a form of notification.

T. Ahern stated that when The Blackboard Connect was instituted it was not intended to be used for nonemergency use. He added that after a conversation with E.L. Harvey they will be lenient as possible when picking up extra trash this week. He added "that this will be a chance to look to enhancements to get the word out".

Susan Adelman, 46 South Street asked for an update on the request for HCVE on South Street.

T. Ahern stated that the analysis has been completed and the application is now in Boston and based on the recent timeline with the Woodland Street exclusion it should take 2-3 weeks for a decision. S. Adelman also inquired about the amount of 24/7 operations currently within the Hopping Brook Industrial Park. T. Ahern will look at the permits currently held by the business there and report back.

COMMENTS FROM TOWN ADMINISTRATOR:

T. Ahern stated that the Fall Town Meeting previously scheduled for October 24, 2021 has been and posted for October 18, 2021. The warrant will be opened in early August and close mid to late September 2021.

The State has approved the FY22 Budget. The State Aid to Holliston is what was anticipated and as follows: \$100,000 for Goodwill Park improvements, \$30,000 for the construction of the Iraq/Afghanistan monument, \$25,000 for the Holliston Drug and Alcohol Coalition and \$350,000 to support Mental Health Issues at schools in the MetroWest area.

On Wednesday July 14, 2021 the Comprehensive Long Range Planning Committee will hold a meeting via Zoom at 7:00pm. T. Ahern will continue as Chair until one is selected.

BOARD BUSINESS:

J. Cronin made a motion to approve a one-day alcohol license for Crafted LLC to serve beer and wine on Saturday July 17, 2021 at Arcadian Farms from noon till 3:00pm. B. Sparrell second. Vote 3-0.

J. Cronin made a motion to approve the Meeting Minutes of June 14, 2021 as written. B. Sparrell second. Vote 3-0.

OTHER BUSINESS:

J. Cronin made a motion to transfer \$60,000 from Health Insurance Benefits to Solid Waste. B. Sparrell second. Vote 3-0.

J. Cronin made a motion to transfer \$11,550 from the Holliston Police Department Dispatchers to Patrol Medical Expenses. B. Sparrell second. Vote 3-0.

J. Cronin made a motion to transfer \$3,060 from the Holliston Police Department Dispatchers to Holliston Police Department Supplies. B. Sparrell second. Vote 3-0.

At 9:12pm J. Cronin made a motion to adjourn to Executive Session for reason #6 Real Property, not to return to open session. B. Sparrell second. Roll Call: T. Hein AYE, B. Sparrell Aye, J. Cronin AYE.

Respectfully submitted;

Margaret Driscoll

Approved_8-02-21

