

**TOWN OF HOLLISTON**  
**SELECT BOARD**

July 6, 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; Michael Cassidy, Fire Chief.

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

**CARES ACT/ARPA PROGRAMMATIC UPDATE : COVID-19 UPDATE:**

Chief Cassidy presented a request from the School Committee, which had been voted at their June 29, 2021 meeting. The request is comprised of two phases. One request prior to the inauguration and the second after the inauguration totaling \$533,646. The Schools had previously requested, and the Select Board voted on March 1, 2021 a total of \$115,000 for Pool Testing and testing supplies which has never been spent. The Chief explained that that amount added to the remaining balance in CARES, (\$142,000) will create a new balance of approximately \$257,000. He recommended that the Select Board request \$257,865.80 be allocated from the CARES Act and \$275,780.44 be allocated from FEMA. The Board members asked for clarification around funding for Covid-19 related expenses once the CARES Act funding is exhausted. Both T. Ahern and Chief Cassidy explained that ARPA funding will be available for reimbursement and that the Town currently has received \$750,000 in ARPA funding.

J. Cronin made a motion to apply \$257,865.80 CARES related expenses from the Schools to the CARES Act Funding, \$275,780.44 in FEMA reimbursement against the CARES Act Funding. Within the expense the Select Board acknowledges the repurposing of \$115,000 previously approved for Pool Testing and equipment within the Schools. B. Sparrell second. Vote 3-0.

T. Ahern stated that the ARPA Steering Group has begun communication with Town Departments and Committees and has posted a link in the Holliston Reporter outlining guidance and fact sheets. T. Hein made an inquiry as to how to get the information out to all organizations within the Town.

**WARRANTS:**

J. Cronin made a motion to approve the Weekly Warrant in the amount of \$1,257,590.52 for FY21, and for \$4,271,279.22 for FY22. He noted that \$2,600,000.00 was attributed to Middlesex Retirement. B. Sparrell second. Vote 3-0.

**PUBLIC COMMENT:**

J. Cronin recognized Sergeant Glenn Dalrymple today, July 6, 2021 on his retirement from the

Holliston Police Department. J. Cronin read a memo outlining Sergeant Dalrymple's accomplishments during his 35 years on the force and thanked him for his service to the Town. Sergeant Dalrymple will remain on as a Special Officer over the next 2 years.

J. Cronin stated that the Holliston Police Department is sponsoring a Blood Drive to be held on July 15, 2021. At this time there are no longer appointments available however residents may contact the HPD for information regarding other locations that may have availability.

J. Cronin noted that the first ARPA Steering Group meeting will be held on July 8, 2021. Once the schedule of future meetings becomes available it will be posted.

J. Cronin will be meeting with the Park and Recreation Department on July 14, 2021 to go over goals after which he will reach out to S. Reese DPW Director to discuss the various fields within Town.

B. Sparrell stated that the Town of Holliston now has a Standard and Poor's AAA bond rating. He acknowledged and thanked M. Bousquest, S. Emerick, K. Peirce and T. Ahern for their efforts as this will be an asset to the Town going forward.

T. Hein expressed her condolences to the Loscanno family on the passing of Pennie Loscanno a much beloved Holliston resident and School Bus driver.

T. Hein reported that a call had been received from an individual who noticed that the telephone poles did not display the American Flags in honor of July 4<sup>th</sup> this year. She stated that this was not a decision that was made by the Select Board and will look to see that it was not an oversight.

#### **COMMENTS FROM THE TOWN ADMINISTRATOR:**

T. Ahern also wanted to express thanks to Paul LeBeau, former Town Administrator and Beth Liberty a former Finance Committee member for their contributions to establishing the Standard and Poor's AAA bond rating.

T. Ahern stated that at the next Select Board meeting on July 12, 2021 Pare Corp will give a presentation on 9 Green Street, including the status of a Site Plan and Storm Water Mitigation at 7:30pm.

The Town website will be updated to include a registration form for Holliston residents who own businesses located out of town as part of the EDC Business Directory. Also information regarding the Farmers Market including parking will be located on EDC webpage.

T. Ahern noted that the Town along with the Park Commission extend their thanks to Simpkins Tree Services for donating services at Pleasure Point. T. Ahern will send a letter formally thanking them.

#### **PRELIMINARY SURVEY RESULTS – USE OF 260 WOODLAND STREET:**

There are more than 400 responses to the survey regarding the use of 260 Woodland Street to date. T. Ahern noted that  $\frac{3}{4}$  of those residents that responded had children of school age.

A preliminary tally appears to show a majority in favor of a Dog Park with a Pump Track second and Rest Area as a third choice. After some discussion it was decided to continue to receive input from residents for several more weeks and revisit the results at the end of the month, (July 2021).

#### **FISCAL YEAR 2021 – YEAR END TRANSFERS:**

T. Ahern stated at this time there are no Year End Transfers needed for FY21. However as bills continue to come in if transfers are needed he will bring them to Select Boards attention.

#### **FISCAL YEAR 2022 – SELECT BOARD GOALS & OBJECTIVES:**

T. Hein read the goals and objectives that each Board Member had set for FY21. Then each member outlined their goals and objectives for FY22 as follows:

J. Cronin will continue to work with the DPW on the infrastructure needs throughout Town.

J. Cronin will work with the Park & Recreation Department on Parks maintenance, focusing on making improvements.

In conclusion J. Cronin will work with the ARPA Steering Committee to assist in navigating the Town through FY22 – FY24.

B. Sparrell will work with the Finance Committee on policies and building timelines. Once implemented he would like to evaluate what is successful and what is not.

B. Sparrell will work with the CLRPC, Comprehensive Long Range Planning Committee in an effort to keep projects moving forward, “think long term”. And put bylaws in place if needed.

In conclusion B. Sparrell will also concentrate on Capital Planning specifically the Town’s infrastructure by using data obtained by studies approved at Town Meeting.

T. Hein will work towards improving all modes of transportation and recreation within the Town. She is currently a member of the Traffic Advisory Committee and the Metrowest Regional Collaborative.

T. Hein will continue to work on Sustainability and mitigation, in an effort to encourage the use of available alternative resources throughout the Town.

In conclusion T. Hein stated that it is a pleasure working with J. Cronin and B. Sparrell.

#### **BOARD BUSINESS:**

J. Cronin made a motion to approve the request to widen the driveway at 131 Union Street from 15ft to 20ft. B. Sparrell second. T. Hein abstained (as resident is a neighbor). Vote 2-0-1.

J. Cronin made a motion to approve the Meeting Minutes of June 7, 2021 as written. B. Sparrell second. Vote 3-0.

J. Cronin made a motion to appoint Joan Shaughnessy to the Governance Committee filling a seat being vacated by Tina Lingham. B. Sparrell second. Vote 3-0.

#### **OTHER BUSINESS:**

T. Ahern made a motion to approve an event permit for the American Legion Laser Light show

at Goodwill Park on Saturday July 10, 2021 an event which has been approved by Chief Stone and commemorates the 100<sup>th</sup> anniversary of the American Legion which was in 2020. B. Sparrell second. Vote 3-0.

T. Hein stated that a resident had contacted her regarding the volume of the music played by the band at the Farmers Market, as it was quite loud. T. Ahern will pass the information onto the Farmers Market organizers.

J. Cronin reminded residents that the Household Hazardous Waste Day will be held on Saturday July 10, 2021 from 8:00am – noon at the Robert Adams Middle School or until capacity is reached. Also there is no change in the trash schedule this week (ending July 9, 2021) due to the 4<sup>th</sup> of July holiday.

At 8:17pm J. Cronin made a motion to adjourn. B. Sparrell second. Vote 3-0.

Respectfully submitted;

Margaret Driscoll

Approved\_\_8-16-21\_\_\_\_\_