

TOWN OF HOLLISTON

SELECT BOARD

July 19, 2021
6:30PM

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; Matthew Stone, Chief of Police; Jay Robinson, Finance Committee member.

At 6:30pm T. Hein called the meeting to order for Executive Session.

At 6:30pm J. Cronin made a motion to open an Executive Session for reasons #2 and #3, Non-Union Personnel and Collective Bargaining. B. Sparrell second. Roll Call: J. Cronin AYE, B. Sparrell AYE, T. Hein, AYE.

At 7:08pm T. Hein called the Open Meeting to order.

POLICE LIFE SAVING AWARDS:

Holliston Police Chief Matthew Stone was present to recognize four Holliston Police Personnel for their life saving efforts. J. Cronin read the citation regarding the awards which were presented to the four individuals at a recent HPD Roll Call.

The Life Saving Awards were given to Sergeant Ken Belson, Detective Christopher Avey, Officer John Loftus and Officer Ryan Parent. All responded to a medical emergency on June 14, 2021 in the Police Department Parking lot in which an individual with a possible drug overdose was treated and revived. Chief Stone noted that one of the recipients stated that "It was what we are trained for, this is what Officers do everyday".

T. Hein stated she was struck by the enormous amount of bravery as the "State of Emergency" was still in effect.

B. Sparrell voiced his gratitude to the HPD and appreciation for all their hard work.

COMMENTS FROM THE TOWN ADMINISTRATOR:

Chief Stone noted the success of the Blood Drive recently sponsored by the HPD in conjunction with Children's Hospital.

T. Ahern stated that he received official word from MassDOT regarding Heavy Commercial Vehicle Exclusions (HCVE). MassDOT approved exclusions for South Street, (Clark Street in Medway), Bullard, Locust and High Streets. Railroad and Fiske Street were not recommended for approval by the MassDOT at this time. Chief Stone added that the Holliston Police Department will follow the same process as with the recent Woodland Street HCVE, education before enforcement.

J. Cronin made a motion to adopt and approve the Traffic Rules and Order as authorized by

MassDOT for Heavy Commercial Vehicle Exclusions for South, Bullard, Locust and High Streets.

B. Sparrell second. Vote 3-0.

T. Ahern will coordinate with the Medway Town Administrator for the implementation on South/Clark Street. Chief Stone will work in conjunction with Medway Police regarding enforcement. The Police Department Safety Officer will work with the DPW and Traffic Advisory Committee regarding signage. T. Hein asked about the traffic sign to be installed near the Milford line on Washington Street indicating best route to 495. T. Ahern stated that MassDOT is aware that the request has been made and will be funded by them as it is a State owned road.

CARES ACT / ARPA PROGRAMMATIC UPDATE:

Chief Cassidy stated that the Town continues to spend down the CARES Act Funding.

T. Ahern presented a graphic illustrating the CARES Act Spending. It was broken down into percentages by use which included the Schools, Residents, Staffing, Covid Response, IT, Solid Waste, Unemployment and Health Department. The graphic will be posted on the Towns' website.

The ARPA Steering Group will have its second meeting the week of July 26, 2021. T. Ahern presented a flow chart, a "road map" of the funding request process. He explained that the Steering Group will not authorize spending however they will review the applications and prioritize any that may be time sensitive. The requests will then be presented to the Select Board for a vote. Those able to apply for funding are various departments throughout the Town, non-profit organizations, and some local small businesses. B. Sparrell stated that he would like to see a mechanism for future needs that are direct Covid relief, such as a cushion within the ARPA funding. The deadline for the first round is August 2, 2021. T. Ahern along with Chief Cassidy plan to do a Q&A to explain the application process next week Tuesday July 27, 2021.

WARRANTS:

J. Cronin made a motion to approve the FY21 Weekly Warrant in the amount of \$1,762,391.24.

B. Sparrell second. Vote 3-0.

J. Cronin made a motion to approve the FY22 Weekly Warrant in the amount of \$1,176,276.10.

B. Sparrell second. Vote 3-0.

PUBLIC COMMENTS:

J. Cronin asked T. Ahern for an update on the Technical Assistant Bureau review of the Town. T. Ahern responded that TAB is still collecting data and will hopefully have a report within the next several months.

J. Cronin will meet with the Park & Recreation Department soon. He also stated that a DPW report on the Well #5 project can be accessed on the Towns' website.

T. Hein welcomed Jay Robinson, a Finance Committee member who was in attendance as the

new liaison to the Select Board.

COMPLETE STREETS –PROGRESS UPDATE:

T. Ahern provided the Board with an update related to the Stantec Report and the Complete Streets Project. The DPW Director S. Reese will be leading point working with the various groups involved to determine a priority plan and develop a timeline. September 1st is the deadline for Tier II (the Towns' project prioritization list) application submission with the DOT. The deadline for Tier III (funding to implement the projects) application submission is October 1, 2021. There are 58 projects throughout Town that have been identified through Complete Streets. Funding has been approved up to \$400,000, which will not fund all of the 58 projects referenced. Discussion among the Select Board members emphasized the need to make sure the projects work in tandem as much as possible, to look at the big picture to maximize efforts.

COMMENTS FROM THE TOWN ADMINISTRATOR: CONT'D

T. Ahern explained how to navigate the Town's website to get the latest update regarding Town projects, ongoing and proposed as well as RFP's (Requests for Proposal). The DPW Study RFP deadline is July 23, 2021 and the Town Hall Septic deadline is July 30, 2021. T. Ahern also noted that the survey online for 260 Woodland Street will remain open till July 23, 2021. There are over 560 responses to date.

The Comprehensive Long Range Planning Committee will hold its second meeting on August 4, 2021 at 7:00pm. The CLRPC has their own page on the Town website.

The Economic Development Committee is now complete with Patrick Hafford being its 7th and final member.

T. Ahern will be out of the office from July 21-26th, 2021.

BOARD BUSINESS:

J. Cronin made a motion to appoint Pooja Gupta to the Cultural Council for a 2 year term. B. Sparrell second. Vote 3-0.

J. Cronin made a motion to appoint Richard Shansky as an alternative member of the Conservation Commission. B. Sparrell second. Vote 3-0.

R. Shansky joined the meeting to introduce himself and gave a very brief background of his interests. The Board members thanked him.

J. Cronin made a motion to award the contract for the Mudville Project to AP Associates, \$113,700 for Construction Administration, \$90,000 for Construction Monitoring, \$14,700 for Post Construction totaling \$218,400. B. Sparrell second. Vote 3-0. T. Ahern noted that the equipment has been mobilized and will be stored at the parking lot behind the Fire Station.

J. Cronin approved the Meeting Minutes of June 21, 2021 as written. B. Sparrell second. Vote 3-0.

J. Cronin made a motion to accept a donation in the amount of \$2,800 from the Newcomers

Club to the Park & Recreation gift account to be used for Summer Concerts at Goodwill. B. Sparrell second with a Thank you. Vote 3-0.

OTHER BUISNESS:

T. Hein will update the Board within the next several weeks on the Traffic Advisory Committees purchases and usage of tools and equipment to date.

At 8:31pm J. Cronin made a motion to adjourn. B. Sparrell second. Vote 3-0.

Respectfully submitted;

Margaret Driscoll

Approved _____ 8-16-21