



**TOWN OF HOLLISTON
BOARD OF SELECTMEN**

**703 Washington Street
Holliston, MA 01746**

508-429-0608

**BOARD OF SELECTMEN
MEETING MINUTES
HOLLISTON TOWN HALL
DECEMBER 17, 2018**

Present: Jay Marsden, Chairman; Mark Ahronian, Vice Chairman; John Cronin, Clerk

Also present: Jeff Ritter, Town Administrator

1.) Warrant: J. Cronin read the Warrant and made a motion to approve the weekly vendor (expense) and payroll Warrant (19-25) in the amount of \$1,843,801.41. Second, M. Ahronian. Voted 3-0

2.) Public Comment: J. Cronin wished everyone a happy, peaceful and safe Holiday season.

He requested for transparency purposes that the process for the evaluation of the town Administrator be placed on a future Agenda. J. Ritter will take care of that.

M. Ahronian thanked Tom Smith from the Highway Department for doing an extraordinary job in making repairs to the cemetery. Work of the Highway Department often goes unnoticed and underappreciated and they often take on additional duties beyond their routine work. This is greatly appreciated and he thanked them.

Tina Hein, 142 Union Street was present and asked the Board to follow-up on the December 3, 2018 recommendations from public safety personnel. She had two issues for the Board to consider. First, she stressed the importance of turning restrictions off Route 16 into Mudville. Second, she asked the Board to explore the feasibility of no through trucking signs

J. Cronin said he understood J. Ritter will be having a meeting with public safety officials this Friday to start the implementation of the eight (8) recommendations approved by the Board earlier in the month.

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Additional restrictions on traffic would have to be reviewed and considered at a future meeting of the Board and public safety personnel.

J. Marsden said the Board would have to review the possibility of additional changes at a future meeting.

T. Hein asked that a comprehensive review is needed as to what needs to get done with the regulations and input of all stakeholders for the safety of pedestrians.

J. Cronin said we need to take an approach where the Selectmen do not treat the Mudville neighborhood different than other areas of Town.

T. Hein said we need to balance the needs of the residents and those cutting through Mudville and asked if a timeline will be developed this Friday by public safety personnel.

J. Ritter said that is one of the objectives for the meeting on Friday and provide feedback to the Selectmen and schedule a meeting with the public safety personnel to meet with the Selectmen at a future date.

James Arena Derosa, 9 Mechanic Street was present and addressed the Board. He asked how their voices can be heard regarding these concerns.

J. Marsden said regarding the additional requests not already approved the public will have an opportunity to express why additional items such as no through trucking and turning restrictions might be needed.

3.) Report of the Town Administrator: J. Ritter reported the Contract for the roof replacement which the approved last week has been sent to the vendor PO Roofing for signature.

He reminded all Boards, Committees, Commissions and Departments that their Annual Town Report needs to be submitted to the Selectmen's Office by January 31st.

Work has started on the FY20 budget and he anticipates the guidelines to be released by the Finance Committee very shortly.

There will be a public safety staff meeting Friday morning where will develop a timeline for the implementation of the eight (8) approved recommendations.

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Self-evaluation performance evaluations have been release to the first four (4) Department Heads with a response date requested for this Friday.

It is anticipated the Board will approve a new management Contract for Pinecrest this evening a Notice to Proceed is in the to be signed folder and a Contract will be prepared for your next meeting.

Contract documents have been received for the \$100,000 Senior Center window and door replacement project from the Commonwealth. We will now continue work on the RFP document.

J. Ritter is working with the Building inspector to refine the RFP document for the door replacement project for Town Hall. Town Meeting approved \$30,000 for this project but additional funds will most likely be needed.

4.) Board Business

Meeting Minutes from November 19, 2018 and December 10, 2018: M. Ahronian made a motion to approve and release the Meeting Minutes from November 19, 2018 and December 10, 2018. Second, J. Cronin. Voted 3-0

Standard Contract with the DEP – Compost Kit Grant: M. Ahronian made a motion to approve and authorize the Chairman to the DEP for composting kits. Second, J. Cronin. Voted 3-0

Alcoholic Beverage License Renewals: J. Cronin read the following list of Alcoholic Beverage License Renewals: Mall Liquors, Inc. d/b/a Lincoln Liquors; Depot Package Store, Inc; Pramdaksh, Inc. d/b/a Holliston Wine & Spirits; The Wine House; Crafted; Corner Market; Bertucci's Restaurant Corporation; Casey's Crossing Limited; Bar Athena; Anthony's on the Green; and Central Café & Convenience.

M. Ahronian made a motion to approve and sign the licenses as read. Second, J. Cronin. Voted 3-0

Entertainment License Renewals: M. Ahronian made a motion to approve the Entertainment License for Casey's Crossing. Second, J. Cronin. Voted 3-0

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Amusement Device License Renewal: M. Ahronian made a motion to approve, grant and sign the Automatic Amusement Device License for Casey's Crossing. Second, J. Cronin. Voted 3-0

Event Permit – First Night Trail Walk: M. Ahronian made a motion to approve and grant an Event Permit for the First Night Walk scheduled for December 31, 2018 starting at 5:00p.m. ending at approximately 8p.m. Second, J. Cronin. Voted 3-0

Project Needs Letter – Spilka and Dykema: This item has been on the Agenda several times. M. Ahronian thanked J. Ritter for pulling together such as comprehensive list of projects for the Town. The Board will sign the letter at the end of the meeting.

Deer Run Conservation Restriction: M. Ahronian made a motion to approve and sign the Conservation Restriction from the Grantee, Town of Holliston Conservation Commission to the Grantor, Chelcie Development, LLC. Second, J. Cronin. Voted 3-0

Prentice Street Sign Request: M. Ahronian made a motion to approve and instruct the Department of Public Works to install "Do Not Block Intersection," signs on the eastbound side of Prentice Street at Pinecrest Road and Fairfield Street and pavement markings on the eastbound side of Prentice Street at those intersections. Second, J. Cronin. Voted 3-0

Pinecrest Management Contract Award: M. Ahronian made a motion to sign the Contract with New England Golf. Second, J. Cronin. Discussion, J. Cronin noted that as a result of this new Contract the Town would realize about \$180,000 in new revenue. He extended his thanks to Golf Course Advisory Committee. Voted 3-0

Dog Appeals – Process: J. Marsden provided a summary of the recent court decision to overturn the Selectmen's decision to euthanize "Rocky." The Clerk Magistrate order Rocky to be removed from Town which is illegal.

The decision for the Board is do we want to file an appeal of this decision. A judge would have the ability to overrule the Clerk Magistrate's decision and or order Rocky to be muzzled and restrained.

J. Cronin said this is all very troubling when a Clerk Magistrate overrules a decision of the Board of Selectmen given Rocky's previous history and his decision was not based on any solid legal basis.

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M. Ahronian made a motion to instruct Town Counsel to immediately file an appeal of the Clerk Magistrate's ruling. Second, J. Cronin.

Discussion: M. Greendale, 57 Roy Avenue asked about the current location of Rocky. J. Ritter said it was his understanding based on information from the owner's attorney that Rocky is still in Holliston.

Pat Gipps, 165 Shaw Farm Road asked why the Animal Control Officer did not take Rocky. J. Marsden said there is a process that needs to be filed including any appeal process by the owners.

Kathy Chisholm, 72 Kim Place during this appeal process there needs to be restrictions placed on Rocky and if Rocky is relocated to another community they must be informed.

J. Marsden said we have not encounter this type of decision before but someone has to assume responsibility.

J. Cronin read a summary from Town Counsel which outlined the options for the Board at this point in time.

M. Greendale asked if Rocky were to be moved would this be documented and who would assume liability.

J. Marsden said the controlling document is the decision from the Court at this point in time that is why it is important for the Board to take action.

J. Cronin said we can't control the behavior of the owner but we also want to understand if and when the dog is removed.

Voted 3-0

5.) Any Other Business: M. Ahronian made a motion to sign the posting of the Annual Town Meeting Notice. Second, J. Cronin. Voted 3-0

J. Cronin asked about the Holiday meeting schedule. It was agreed that the next regular meeting will be Wednesday, January 2nd. There might be a need for the Board to stop in to sign Warrants or other documents and if a meeting is needed it can be scheduled.

M. Ahronian asked J. Ritter to look into the Hopkinton Senior Tax Relief program currently approved by the State Legislature.

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Adjourn: At 7:40p.m. M. Ahronian made a motion to adjourn the meeting. Second, J. Cronin.
Voted 3-0

Respectfully submitted,



J. Jeffrey Ritter
Town Administrator