



**TOWN OF HOLLISTON
SELECT BOARD**

**703 Washington Street
Holliston, MA 01746**

508-429-0608

**SELECT BOARD
MEETING MINUTES
HOLLISTON TOWN HALL
APRIL 6, 2020**

Present: Mark Ahronian, Chairman; John Cronin, Vice Chairman; Tina Hein, Clerk

Also Present: Jeff Ritter, Town Administrator

At 7:00p.m. M. Ahronian called the meeting to order.

1.) Coronavirus Update: Michael Cassidy, Emergency Management Director and Fire Chief was present to provide a community update regarding the response to the Coronavirus pandemic.

M. Cassidy said as of today there have been fifteen (15) active and positive cases in Holliston. Five (5) are in recovery. There has been one (1) death and there are nine (9) active cases.

Using 3-D technology the School Department have produced fifteen (15) visors and are providing meals. For many people this change in life style is coming hard but they should all remain at home.

Most businesses remain in compliance. The supply chain provided materials and equipment just in time for the surge.

Not many people know that FEMA has a facility in Holliston to support hospitals in Worcester, Boston, and Rhode Island. He thanked all Department Heads and their support staff for all their cooperation during the pandemic.

T. Hein asked about the supply of hand sanitizers. M. Cassidy said at the moment there is a good supply on hand.

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J. Cronin asked about the supply of Personal Protective Equipment for first responders and if anything was needed. M. Cassidy said nothing is needed at the moment and there is a good supply for the next week and a half.

J. Cronin asked about the notification and communication with the Police Department. M. Cassidy said the lines of communication are excellent. The Town uses the Marven system. If there is a positive case reported the address is provided to first responders.

J. Cronin said if there is a positive case reported there is a fourteen (14) period to quarantine the individual what happens if on day thirteen (13) the individual is still infected. M. Cassidy said the individual would be quarantined for an additional fourteen (14) days.

T. Hein asked about testing. M. Cassidy said only if the individual is showing symptoms.

S. Moles, Health Director/Agent also provided a summary report.

By way of remote participation Jim Pond, 18 Temi Road asked if the Town is tracking those who have been tested. M. Cassidy said we do not have access to that information. However, the total cases by community is reported and updated daily. Some communities only provide county wide information.

S. Moles said the Massachusetts Department of Public Health recommends county wide information be posted.

J. Cronin said the Emergency Management Director, M. Cassidy provides a weekly update to the Select Board and that information is posted to the web site. T. Hein agreed but too much information might also increase fears.

J. Cronin made a motion to instruct the Emergency Management Director to post daily updates to the Town's web site. Second, T. Hein. Voted 3-0

By way of remote participation, Jay Sheroff, 51 Francine Drive asked about property taxes. T. Hein said the Governor signed a bill last Friday and the Select Board will start to address this question next week. J. Cronin said it was a smart piece of legislation.

2.) Warrants: T. Hein made a motion to approve and sign the weekly expense and vendor Warrant (20-41) in the amount of \$7,261,057.82. Second, J. Cronin. Voted 3-0

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3.) Public Comment: T. Hein reminded the public about the Holliston Community Action.org. who are working with Youth and Family Services and the Holliston Food Pantry to provide services during the pandemic. So far they have provided assistance to 126 families.

M. Ahronian thanked residents for supporting the local business community. Small businesses are very important to our economic health.

4.) Report of the Town Administrator: J. Ritter said he received a message from E.L. Harvey that bulk pick-up of items will be discontinued until May 4th.

Also, for those interested the closing for the Town Administrator Screening Committee is this Friday.

5.) Board Business

Meeting Minutes of March 30, 2020: No action was taken.

On-Call EMT Appointment: T. Hein made a motion to endorse J. Ritter's appointment of Nicholas Cutone as an On-Call EMT. Second, J. Cronin. Voted 3-0

McMahon Town Center Project Update: The Board discussed proceeding with the \$24,000 adjustments to the recently completed Town Center signalization project.

There will be a project meeting with the Police, Fire, and DPW to determine who is going to do what and when.

T. Hein said social distancing should be observed on the job.

Gift Acceptance – Community Farm, Fire Department, and Berkholtz Family: T. Hein made a motion to approve and accept a \$200 gift from Willow Brook Farm to the Holliston Community Farm. Second, J. Cronin. Voted 3-0

T. Hein made a motion to approve and accept a \$975 gift from the Holliston Newcomers to the Holliston Fire Department. Second, J. Cronin. Voted 3-0

T. Hein made a motion to approve and accept a \$150 gift from the Berkholtz Family to the Holliston Fire Department. Second, J. Cronin. Voted 3-0

Annual Town Meeting Warrant: J. Ritter reviewed the most recent changes and adjustments to the Warrant. It was agreed to place the Capital Policy on the Select Board's Agenda at the end of April.

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Town Administrator Screening Committee: J. Ritter reported the closing date for residents expressing interest in serving on the Committee is next Friday.

T. Hein asked residents to complete the questionnaire.

Adjourn: J. Cronin made a motion to adjourn the meeting at T. Hein made a motion to adjourn the meeting at 7:48p.m. Second, J. Cronin. Voted 3-0

Respectfully submitted,



J. Jeffrey Ritter
Town Administrator