

**HOLLISTON BOARD OF SELECTMEN**

March 1, 2017  
7:30 p.m.

Selectmen’s Meeting Room – 105  
Town Hall

Present: Jay Leary, Chairman; Kevin Conley, Vice Chairman; Jay Marsden, Clerk and Jeff Ritter, Town Administrator.

**MR. MARSDEN MOVED TO APPROVE THE FOLLOWING WARRANT**

17-35	GENERAL WARRANT	\$ 144,947.95
	PAY.COM (APPLICATION FOR MEDICARE-HEALTH)	\$ 683.40
	TO STABILIZATION (750)	\$ 150,000.00
	FROM STABILIZATION (750)	\$ 200,000.00
	OPEN SPACE (710)	\$ 150,000.00
	CAPITAL EXPENDITURE (FROM)	\$ 750,763.00
	TO CAPITAL EXPENDITURE	\$1,610,149.00
	COMMUNITY PRESERVATION (265)	\$ 1,750.00
	GIFT ACCOUNTS POLICE LAW ENF (285)	\$ 598.96
	CAPITAL PROJECTS (300)	\$ 10,000.00
	PERFORMANCE DEPOSITS (801)	\$ 5,585.50
	AGENCY (890) VETERANS DISTRICT	\$ 135.00
	AGENCY (890) VETERANS DISTRICT PAYROLL	\$ 1,123.64
	TOWN PAYROLL	\$ 108,281.29
	TOTAL PAID WARRANT	\$4,132,894.10

**ACCOUNTANT’S NOTE:**

ACCRUED DEDUCTION LIABILITIES NOT PAID	\$ 228,780.25
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**TREASURER’S NOTE:**

WIRE TO HEALTH INSURANCE TRUST	\$ 186,144.72
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**THE MOTION WAS SECONDED BY MR. CONLEY. ALL IN FAVOR.**

**COMMENTS FROM THE BOARD**

Mr. Conley said that Celebrate Holliston will be holding their meeting on March 20, 2017, at 6:45 p.m. at the Library on Washington Street. He said that at this meeting they will go over the finances. He said that new Board members could be appointed. Mr. Conley said that anyone that can’t attend is welcome to send an email with recommendations.

Mr. Conley said that Bob Nemet and Carl Damigella have been inducted into the Hall of Fame for the Mudville Nine.

Mr. Marsden said that Walter Rossini and Grace Monahan both passed away this past week.

**REPORT OF THE TOWN ADMINISTRATOR**

Jeff Ritter, Town Administrator, was present to give an update on the Senior Center Director’s position. He said that the Committee is meeting at 2:00 p.m. tomorrow March 2, 2017. He said that they received 19 resumes.

Mr. Leary said that our Police Chief is leaving in about one month. Mr. Leary wanted to thank the Police Chief Screening Committee for all their hard work. He said that they were able to get the number to four applicants. He said that they will be going to the assessment center.

Mr. Leary said that the Finance Committee approved the Reserve Fund Transfer to cover the cost of the assessment center. He thanked the Screening Committee for getting this done very fast.

#### **ATTORNEY DANIEL BROWN – LABOR COUNSEL INTERVIEW**

Mr. Leary said that Attorney Brown came highly recommended by our previous Labor Counsel. Mr. Brown said that he love the Labor side of the law. He said that in his practice he represents School Committees.

He said that there are three Attorneys in their firm. He said that they always try to do what is best for their clients. Attorney Brown said that he is excited to be working with Holliston. He said that it will work well with his practice.

Mr. Conley asked if Attorney Brown could breakdown a complicated contract? Attorney Brown said that he could.

Mr. Conley asked what is the closest Town to Holliston that you work for? Attorney Brown said Walpole and Foxboro. He said that they represent over fifteen different Towns.

Mr. Leary asked if the Selectmen use Feeley and Brown for counsel would we be working with one Attorney or any attorney in the firm?

Attorney Brown said that we would be working with the same Attorney on a regular basis. Attorney Brown said that it is the most efficient way to handle it.

Attorney Brown said that they do limited work, they are not interested in taking on too much. Attorney Brown said that they want to give each client personal service.

Mr. Marsden said that he would like to call a few references before a decision is made.

The Board thanked Attorney Brown for attending the meeting. They will get back to him.

#### **COMMUNITY FARM ADVISORY COMMITTEE**

Kristine Westland, 103 Norfolk Street and Bobby Blair, 57 School Street, were present.

Ms. Westland said that they did a lot of work on the Rogers Road property last year. She said that all the work was donated time. Ms. Westland said that they are working on the Conservation Restriction and the RFP. She said that there are some things that need to be done that we need to pay for. She said that there is \$32,957 in the account. They have to have the land surveyed and they need to pay for it. They would also like to install a fence. She said that to have the land surveyed it could be as much as \$6,500. Ms. Westland said that the cost of the fence could be as much as \$10,000. Ms. Westland spoke about the septic system.

Ms. Westland said that they had a hay ride last year, and many residents are interested in the garden plots.

Mr. Marsden thanked the Community Farm Advisory Committee for all their hard work. He said that this is the direction that the Board was hoping for.

Mr. Leary said that we can't put up a fence until we know where the boundaries are. He said that the land needs to be surveyed first.

Mr. Leary said that there are several question about the structure of the house, so a discussion on the septic is off the table for now. Mr. Leary said that the Building Inspector said that there are a few things that need to be done to the house before it can be used.

Mr. Conley said that there is a crack in the foundation of the house.

Mr. Leary said that he knows that winter rye was planted on the property. He asked what are their plans for the spring? Mr. Blair said that they are going to plant buckwheat. Mr. Leary asked how many stages of the buckwheat and winter rye do we have to plant before the area can be farmed with vegetables? Mr. Blair said just one more in the fall. He said then they will test the soil again.

Mr. Blair said that they are going to plant pumpkins. They are going to sell them. He said that they planted over 2,000 daffodils that they will be selling. Mr. Leary said that this Committee has done exactly what they Board wanted it to. Mr. Leary said that they should let the Board know what they need, because they are willing to help.

Mr. Blair said that they already know that they are lacking parking. He said that they are going to have an egg hunt in April. He said that he is checking with Lieutenant Denman about parking in the street. He said that they are having another function in June and that will draw more people.

Mr. Conley said that he is very impressed.

Mr. Ritter said that everything that you have done was done so that an RFP can go out.

Ms. Westland said that the RFP will reference the Conservation Restriction. Mr. Ritter asked if they had a time frame in mind when the RFP would be ready?

Ms. Westland said that it would be ready within the year. She said that she wanted to see what is going to happen this year.

#### **BOARD BUSINESS – MEETING MINUTES SEPTEMBER 14, 2016**

**MR. MARSDEN MOVED TO APPROVE THE MEETING MINUTES OF SEPTEMBER 14, 2016, AS WRITTEN. THE MOTION WAS SECONDED BY MR. CONLEY. ALL IN FAVOR.**

#### **YOUTH AND FAMILY SERVICES FY 18 BUDGET REQUEST**

Darleen Vittori-Marsell, Chair of the Youth and Family Advisory Committee, and Jennifer Lieberman were present. Bryan DiGiorgio, School Resource Officer also attended.

Ms. Vittori-Marsell said that they are hoping to bring in another Social Worker. She said that the position has been vacant since July 2016. She said that Ms. Fitzpatrick, Director is doing the work of two people. She said that they have interviewed several good candidates and the salary was the drawback. Ms. Vittori-Marsell said that they need someone who can work independently. She said that they have to have more than two years experience. This Social Worker needs to work with the schools, police and fire.

Mr. Marsden asked about the salary for the Social Workers position, is it too low? Mr. Marsden asked how many hours per week in this position?

Ms. Vittori-Marsell said that the salary is low and the hours per week is 30.

Mr. Conley asked what are the requirements for a Social Worker?

Ms. Fitzpatrick said (MSW) Masters in Social Work, and you have to be (LICSW) licensed and an independent Social Worker. You have to work five thousand hours before you can even take the test for Clinical Work.

Mr. Leary asked if this was a requirement?

Ms. Fitzpatrick said yes it is a requirement for the Social Worker position.

Ms. Fitzpatrick said that she has spent \$1,000 in advertising the position and there are no takers. She said that there is a survey for Youth and Family Directors salary out there and on that scale she is earning \$10,000 less than all the other Directors who have been in this position a lot less than she has.

Mr. Ritter said that this position in July 2017, if approved at Town Meeting in May, will go from a grade 400 to a grade 500.

Ms. Fitzpatrick said that she will be turning over un-used money back to the Town because the position has not been filled.

Mr. Leary said in order to get a good candidate is to reduce the number of hours that the Social Worker can work.

Ms. Fitzpatrick said that by not having this Social Worker it is impacting the Town. She can only see so many people. She said that she would like to increase the number of hours, not reduce them.

Officer DiGiorgio said this position is very important. He said that in 2012 there were about 50 students that were helped through this program. He said that the Court Diversion Program is a great service for the Town to offer. He said that he would meet with Krissy, once a week and she was a dedicated person. He said that now there are about 6 students that could benefit from this program, but there is not enough help.

Mr. Marsden asked Ms. Fitzpatrick if there was a job posting being advertised?

Ms. Fitzpatrick said no.

Mr. Marsden suggested that the add be posted again and see what happens.

Ms. Fitzpatrick said that all the resumes that have come all are (LICSW). That means that they have done their Clinical work up to 5,000 hours and have passed the test.

Ms. Vittori-Marsell said that they can't take a new Social Worker, they need one with experience. So someone just getting out of college will not be a good choice.

Mr. Conley asked how many hours per week was Krissy working? Ms. Fitzpatrick said 30 hours per week. Mr. Conley asked how much was she making? Ms. Fitzpatrick said \$43,400 per year.

Mr. Conley asked what was the add for? Ms. Fitzpatrick said 30 hours per week and a salary of \$35,000 for a (LICSW).

Mr. Conley asked how many times was this advertised?

Ms. Fitzpatrick said three times.

Mr. Conley said that they did not get any takers. Ms. Fitzpatrick said no, the salary was too low. She said that she was going to ask the Selectmen for more money. She said that everyone refused to take the position because of the low salary.

Mr. Conley said that is a problem that they have to fix. He said that we could add \$3,500 to the salary.

Mr. Leary said that we can't do that because every other department will be coming in looking for more money.

Mr. Conley said that we should go to the Finance Committee looking for extra money. He said that this may have to go to Town Meeting.

Ms. Fitzpatrick said that she has the money, because Krissy's salary has not been touched since she left in July.

Mr. Leary said that we have been following the Stone Report for five years and now you want to change how we do things? Mr. Leary said that we should go to Town Meeting to change the grade of the Social Workers position.

Ms. Fitzpatrick said that they have to talk about her salary as well.

Mr. Leary said that there is a guideline for that.

Ms. Fitzpatrick said that the Stone Study has her salary in the middle range, she has been in this position for fifteen years.

Mr. Leary said that we could talk about it.

Ms. Fitzpatrick said that she has been talking about it for years, and no one will listen.

Mr. Leary asked if Ms. Fitzpatrick has had a review done by her Board?

Ms. Fitzpatrick said yes and she has a copy with her.

Ms. Vittori-Marsell said that a review is done every year.

Mr. Ritter said that it is simple, the Finance Committee gave a 1% increase across the Board.

Mr. Ritter said that every Board and Committee has followed the 1% except for one.

Mr. Leary said that we have guidelines to follow.

Mr. Marsden suggested that the position be re-posted.

Ms. Fitzpatrick said that will bring the advertising costs up to \$1,300.

Ms. Fitzpatrick said that she believes that there was a mistake on the Stone Report. She said that this mistake has put her department at risk. She said that their work is all confidential and very stressful. She said that they do not feel appreciated.

Someone said that Ms. Fitzpatrick is going to re-post the position, what will happen if there are no takers what is the next step?

Mr. Leary said that we would have to have a very detailed discussion about moving that step for the Social Workers position from a grade 400 to a grade 500. Mr. Leary said that step would be more money. He said that this would have to be a vote at Town Meeting.

Ms. Fitzpatrick said then this would not go into effect until July 1.

Mr. Leary said yes, FY 18.

#### **GREEN COMMUNITIES GRANT APPLICATION**

**MR. MARSDEN MOVED TO AUTHORIZE THE CHAIRMAN TO SIGN THE GREEN COMMUNITIES GRANT APPLICATION. THE MOTION WAS SECONDED BY MR. CONLEY. ALL IN FAVOR.**

#### **GOALS AND OBJECTIVES**

Tabled

#### **CHAPTER 90 REQUEST – MAPLE STREET, MARKED TREE ROAD, NORFOLK STREET, N. MILL STREET AND WASHINGTON STREET.**

Mr. Conley asked if the construction on Washington Street will be worked around the new lights? Mr. Ritter said yes.

**MR. MARSDEN MOVED TO APPROVE THE CHAPTER 90 REQUEST AS READ. THE MOTION WAS SECONDED BY MR. CONLEY. ALL IN FAVOR.**

**BROOKSMONT LOCAL ACTION UNITS APPLICATION**

**MR. MARSDEN MOVED TO AUTHORIZE THE CHAIRMAN TO SIGN THE BROOKSMONT LOCAL ACTION UNITS APPLICATION FOR THE SEVEN AFFORDABLE UNITS AS PART OF THE SIXTY-SIX UNIT DEVELOPMENT. THE MOTION WAS SECONDED BY MR. CONLEY. ALL IN FAVOR.**

**APPOINTMENTS – MEMORIAL DAY COMMITTEE**

**MR. MARSDEN MOVED TO APPOINT HENRY DELICKER TO THE MEMORIAL DAY COMMITTEE. THE MOTION WAS SECONDED BY MR. CONLEY. ALL IN FAVOR.**

**MR. MARSDEN MOVED TO APPOINT ROBERT HOPKINS TO THE MEMORIAL DAY COMMITTEE. THE MOTION WAS SECONDED BY MR. CONLEY. ALL IN FAVOR.**

**MR. MARSDEN MOVED TO APPOINT RALPH STOVER TO THE MEMORIAL DAY COMMITTEE. THE MOTION WAS SECONDED BY MR. CONLEY. ALL IN FAVOR.**

**TAX TITLE PROPERTIES**

Mary Bousquet, Treasurer/Collector was present. Ms. Bousquet said that there has been some interest on the Bayberry Street property from one of the abutters. She said that the town tried to auction it off and there were no takers. She said that 28 Maple Dell will go up for auction. She said that there was talk many years ago about putting a sewer pump station on this property. It was sold but it is now in the hands of the Town again. Mr. Leary asked if there were any buildings on these properties? Ms. Bousquet said that they are land only no buildings.

Ms. Bousquet said that there is the Pescatore property behind Scooby's on Washington Street. She said that there is a pending legal action on this.

Ms. Bousquet said that 172 Concord Street the Charles Mann property was offered to the Housing Trust and they are interested in it. Ms. Bousquet will take this property off the Tax Title auction list. She said that this property could be bought with CPC money so the Housing Trust needs to make sure that CPC will fund it. If the funding does not come through, it will go back on the auction block.

Ms. Bousquet said that she would like to have to auction in June.

Mr. Leary said that there is property on Washington Street.

Ms. Bousquet said that it is at the corner of Cross Street and it is full of water.

**MR. MARSDEN MOVED TO AUTHORIZE THE TREASURER/COLLECTOR PERMISSION TO AUCTION OFF THE PROPERTIES DISCUSSED. THE MOTION WAS SECONDED BY MR. CONLEY. ALL IN FAVOR.**

**Mr. Marsden said that 172 Concord Street, is to be deeded over to the Housing Trust if it can be purchased with CPC funds, if not it will be up for auction.**

**FIRE DEPARTMENT SUPPLEMENTAL BUDGET REQUEST**

Tabled

**AT 9:07 P.M., MR. CONLEY MOVED TO ENTER INTO EXECUTIVE SESSION TO DISCUSS POTENTIAL PROPERTY ACQUISITION. THE MOTION WAS SECONDED BY MR. MARSDEN. ALL IN FAVOR. A ROLL CALL VOTE WAS TAKEN.**

	AYE	NAY
MR. LEARY	X	
MR. CONLEY	X	
MR. MARSDEN	X	

Mr. Leary said that they will not be going back to open session only to sign documents that have been approved.

Respectfully submitted,

Donna A. Muzzy

approved\_\_\_\_\_