



**TOWN OF HOLLISTON
BOARD OF SELECTMEN**

**703 Washington Street
Holliston, MA 01746**

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**BOARD OF SELECTMEN
MEETING MINUTES
HOLLISTON TOWN HALL
SEPTEMBER 10, 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 (19-11) in the amount of \$1,614,842.03. Second, M. Ahronian. Voted 3-0

2.) Public Comment: J. Cronin offered his congratulations to PJ Kilkelly and Martha Ellis who were recently selected as the 2018 Citizens of the Year. He also recognized George Snow who at 88 recently passed away. Mr. Snow was a Navy veteran. Finally, he recognized Harvey Brown as the oldest Holliston veteran who was recently designated "Holliston's Unsung Hero."

M. Ahronian also recognized and thanked PJ Kilkelly and Martha Ellis as outstanding community volunteers. M. Ahronian also noted that several residents had approached him about what an outstanding job Karen Sherman, Holliston's Town Planner is doing for the community. She is exceptionally calm in working with residents, some who can be a challenge when they don't want to hear the message.

Finally, he thanked the Superintendent of School Brad Jackson who recently provided a cost estimate to repair an exterior wall at the High School at \$72,000. He will follow-up with the School Committee. The appearance is not up to Holliston standards with insulation coming out and birds nesting in the wall.

J. Marsden noted the Economic Development Committee is meeting Wednesday evening at 7p.m. with downtown business owners.

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Roger Boyle, 24 Quincy Place asked about the rental of the Upper town Hall and a waiver of the fee because the event would be a fundraiser for a non-profit. J. Marsden said the Board might consider the request if it is for charity.

3.) Report of the Town Administrator: J. Ritter said the Annual Harvest Festival will be held on September 22nd and all residents are encouraged to attend.

The roof replacement project at 1750 Washington Street is proceeding and bids should be received by October 15th.

J. Ritter reminded the Board about the scheduled tour of Mayflower Medicinal, 89 October Hill Road this Thursday at 4p.m.

As of this evening the Special Town Meeting Warrant has closed.

Regarding the Town Center project which is 99% complete. J. Marsden and he will be meeting with McMahon this Friday morning to sort out the issue of the globes to be installed.

Finally, J. Ritter announced the Town had received a \$5,400 grant under the Sustainable Materials Recovery Program from the Department of Environmental Protection. J. Cronin asked if the funds could be diverted to support the Marshall Street recycling center. J. Ritter will look into that.

6.) Board Business

Regular Meeting Minutes from August 27, 2018: J. Cronin made a motion to approve and release the meeting minutes from August 27, 2018. Second, J. Marsden. Voted 2-0-1 (Ahronian)

Executive Session Meeting Minutes from May 21, 2018; April 26, 2017; April 12, 2017; and June 26, 2017: M. Ahronian made a motion to approve and release the meeting minutes from May 21, 2018; April 26, 2017; April 12, 2017 and June 26, 2017. Second, J. Marsden. Voted 2-0-1 (Cronin)

1750 Washington Street, Lease Renewal Between Veterans Service of MetroWest District (Tenant) and the Town of Holliston: J. Marsden briefed the Board regarding the history of the inter-municipal agreement. Previously, they looked at the former Flagg School Building but decided that facility would not be suitable. M. Ahronian made a motion to renew the lease until 2020. Second, J. Cronin. Voted 3-0

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Washington Street – Change Order Request #3: M. Ahronian made a motion to approve a request for a change order #3 in the amount of \$2,750 for additional traffic striping in the Town Center as part of the Town Center signalization project. Second, J. Cronin. Voted 3-0

4.) Kate Feodoroff, Town Counsel, re. Special Town Meeting, Marijuana By-Laws: K. Feodoroff was present and said there are several general by-laws and zoning by-laws to be considered at the Special Town Meeting.

Article 1 would allow the Town to move forward with a licensing process through the Board of Selectmen who may promulgate Rules and Regulations consistent with the By-Law. The second, addresses resident concerns about not wanting to have retail operations. It was noted that the legislation was amended during the Summer of 2017. We are now working under the revised legislation. Also, a Zoning By-Law is being proposed that would extend the moratorium until June 2019 to allow for a ballot question on the May election ballot to ratify the retail ban by-law.

J. Cronin asked if was alright to extend the moratorium until the Spring? K. Feodoroff said the Mansfield extension of its moratorium was recently approved by the Attorney General under similar circumstances.

The next three (3) articles defines cultivators and testing facilities would require Special Permit approval from the Planning Board and site plan approval if the growers want to grow for adult use.

J. Marsden clarified that if there were to be a switch from a medical grow facility to an adult use cultivation facility that would place the question before the Planning Board who under the new Zoning By-Law would have authority under the new Zoning By-Law.

J. Cronin asked when K. Feodoroff drafted the ballot question? K. Feodoroff said in September 2017. However, at that time there were many open and unanswered questions relative to the Cannabis Control Commission regulations which weren't yet promulgated, which made a delay of the ballot question appropriate. An example, including changes to regulations, regarding buffer requirements.

Based on the apparent conflict between the legislation and the draft regulations, the final regulations were revised to comply with the legislation.

J. Cronin asked K. Feodoroff what she saw on the horizon? K. Feodoroff said the regulations are now finalized but there are those on the Cannabis Control Commission who are challenging the financial components of the Host Community Agreements and there are members who would

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like to review the Host Community Agreements though this may exceed their authority. The Board of Health might want to think about local regulations.

J. Cronin asked about the moratorium extension until the Spring of 2019 and additional Town Meeting review and possible approval. K. Feodoroff said that, like all by-laws, it would be subject to the approval of the Attorney General following a 2/3 vote at Town Meeting.

J. Cronin asked about Federal regulations and if there is liability? K. Feodoroff said that would be an industry risk, in terms of Town liability that would be very difficult to establish.

J. Cronin asked about Federal grants and if those would be placed into jeopardy. K. Feodoroff said drug free workplace must remain to keep the grants which unions tend to take issue with, rather unions are primarily concerned with testing requirements.

6.) Board Business

Conservation Restriction, Minglewood Development: Karen Sherman, Town Planner was present. This is a three (3) party agreement between the Town (Conservation Commission), Minglewood Development (home owners association), and the Commonwealth of Massachusetts.

K. Sherman said, the Conservation Restriction is an option for open space protection under the zoning by-law and in this case, just over six (6) acres will be added to the Town's inventory. It is located on the west side of Concord Street in a three (3) lot subdivision accessed off Dodd Drive.

M. Ahronian asked if there is recreational land for residents. K. Sherman said there are multi-functions for the land including wetlands and trails. J. Marsden noted public education would be very important. M. Ahronian made a motion to approve and sign the Conservation Restriction. Second, J. Cronin. Voted 3-0

5.) Republic Services re. Trash and Recycling: Dan Higgins, and Joe Alves from Republic Services were present. D. Higgins noted the last time they met was mid-June. He noted the call center was trying to keep up with the complaint and they are trying to identify the problems and issues.

J. Alves said several recycling drivers have been replaced and they are starting new as of last Thursday. Additional drivers have been added. D. Higgins said thirteen (13) streets have been missed but it is mostly recycling. J. Alves said Tuesday is a heavier collection day. D. Higgins said a new manager is now in place.

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J. Cronin said your system is not working and it is clear that Republic Services is no longer customer friendly. D. Higgins said they have not yet resolved all the open issues.

J. Cronin asked when the issues will be resolved. D. Higgins said within two (2) weeks.

J. Cronin said the call center seems to be one of the issues a call center in North Carolina is not working for Holliston.

Roger Boyle, 24 Quincy Place said there are no responses to phone calls or messages. J. Cronin asked if there was a digital list between the caller, dispatcher center and driver, your system is broken and asked why nothing is done after a request for pick-up is not responded to after eight (8) days.

D. Higgins said they are fixing the system and the problems. J. Cronin said you have to place resources back into the company your customer service is broken and needs to be fixed.

J. Marsden asked when the last person was out of Town. D. Higgins said around 3:15p.m. 4:15p.m. and asked for the last driver to check in with J. Ritter for any open issues.

M. Ahronian said he happened to be in Town Hall on Friday morning and he witnessed the Town Administrator having to ask the DPW to clean up the trash because it was a public health issue behind Town Hall that had been there for four (4) days after multiple to have it removed.

J. Marsden said he is willing to without payment base on a \$150 per event for liquated damages over 79 occurrences for the last month or \$11,850 to be reduced from the most recent bill the service is still bad and Republic Services must do better.

J. Cronin asked if they had any reaction. D. Higgins said he recognized the need to improve services.

6.) Board Business

Golf Course Advisory Committee & Pinecrest Club House Committee Reporting Relationship: M. Ahronian said it is important everyone understand who is responsible for overseeing the operations of the Club House. J. Cronin asked J. Ritter when the RFP was published for the management of the golf course. J. Ritter said it was still being edited.

M. Ahronian said there is a new Committee in place to oversee the short and long terms goals of the building. The Club House was built during another economic time but now both the golf course and the food service has exceeded all expectations. We can't have the Town Administrator running out there every time there is a problem. The facilities manager would help with this. But we need an immediate solution.

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M. Ahronian said either the new Committee or the Golf Course Advisory Committee should oversee the operations of the food service part.

J. Cronin said you have to understand the history of the Golf Course Advisory Committee and their relationship to the Club House.

J. Marsden said the Town took something that broken and fixed it, now it is a successful and profitable and now you want to return to a broken system, it makes no sense to me and you have to ask yourself how well is it serving the public.

There is a different skill set required to oversee the restaurant vs. the golf course. Yes, there is some overlap but I do not see this alternative as a solution to a problem that really does not exist.

Deb Moore, 183 Mills Street, Chair of the Golf Course Advisory Committee was present. She reminded the Board that during 2001-2003 the Golf Course Advisory Committee did oversee the food operations and they have worked to make Anthony's on the Green Successful.

J. Marsden said when Mr. Ficco got the Contract that was a very challenging time period but overtime we have learned he has done an outstanding job he was selected because everyone else dropped out. There limited options.

D. Moore said the proposals received were weak due to a lack of experience. At least Mr. Ficco had some experience.

J. Cronin said he was in favor of having the Golf Course Advisory Committee assuming the oversight of the restaurant and the selection of a future vendor can be a joint decision of the Board of Selectmen and the Golf Course Advisory Committee.

J. Marsden said he did not recall the amount of review or advocacy when Mr. Ficco was selected.

J. Cronin said the correct vendor was selected there are just some contractual issues that need to be addressed such as smoking on Town property or if the Club House is not open to golfers due to a private function, or no snack at the snack shack. If there is a problem the Committee will address it. We give it a try and see how well the management of the restaurant works under the Golf Course Advisory Committee on a short term temporary basis until the end of the Fiscal Year.

D. Moore said the term should not be tied to the Fiscal Year but to the golf season.

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The Board agreed to try the new arrangement on a temporary basis.

Special Town Meeting: The Board reviewed the draft Warrant.

7.) Any Other Business: M. Ahronian said he met with the DPW Superintendent and discussed the plans for Mudville reconstruction plans for water mains, sidewalks will be one side of the street, and there are no plans to widen the road.

M. Ahronian said there are many trees that need to come down and the appointment of Sean Reese to be the Tree Warden is on the Agenda for next week. There are at least fifty-two (52) trees that need to come down and we should work with the Finance Committee to secure more funding.

J. Cronin said he shared information with J. Ritter regarding the establishment of policies and procedures for the Selectmen's Office and other departments. J. Ritter said he would have an update on that in two (2) weeks.

Adjourn: At 9:16p.m. M. Ahronian made a motion to adjourn the meeting. Second, J. Cronin. Voted 3-0

Respectfully submitted,



J. Jeffrey Ritter
Town Administrator