

HOLLISTON BOARD OF SELECTMEN

December 10, 2012
7:30 P.M.

Selectmen's Meeting Room
Town Hall

Present: Jay Marsden, Chairman; Kevin Conley, Clerk, Paul Le Beau, Town Administrator. Jay Leary, Vice Chairman and Andrea Minihan, Administrative Assistant were absent.

MR. CONLEY MOVED TO APPROVE THE FOLLOWING WARRANT:

13-25	GENERAL WARRANT	\$ 12,721.40
	VOIDS	\$ (2,773.49)
	STUDENT ACTIVITY (830) HIGH SCHOOL	\$ 17,285.73
	PERFORMANCE DEPOSITS (801)	\$ 500.00
	NEW POLICE STATION BOND (340)	\$ 1,247.00
	AGENCY (890) VETERANS DISTRICT PAYROLL	\$ 1,021.08
	GENERAL PAYROLL WARRANT	\$ 148,275.90
	TOWN PAYROLL	\$ 149,296.98
	TOTAL PAID WARRANT	\$ 178,277.62

ACCOUNTANT'S NOTE:

ACCRUED DEDUCTION LIABILITIES NOT PAID	\$ 32,850.79
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TREASURER'S NOTE:

WIRE TO HEALTH INSURANCE TRUST	\$ 20,695.38
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THE MOTION WAS SECONDED BY MR. MARSDEN. TWO IN FAVOR. MR. LEARY WAS ABSENT.

COMMENTS FROM THE BOARD

There were none.

There were no comments from the audience.

TAX CLASSIFICATION HEARING (CONTINUED FROM NOVEMBER 28th 2012)

Kathy Peirce, Principal Assessor was present. Ms. Peirce said that she spoke with the State and they said that the values would be certified tomorrow. Mr. Marsden said that as long as the DOR does not make any changes to what we have sent them we should be good to follow through. Mr. Marsden said that they have been asked to set a rate factor of 1. Mr. Marsden said that is the rate that they talked about at the last meeting. He said that will keep the class of property the same for everyone. He said that they will not recognize special or separate classes for different properties. Mr. Marsden said that they will be finalizing the tax rate based on the rate factor of 1.

Mr. Conley said that the Assessors have worked hard on this, and it was a lot of work.

Mr. Marsden said that the new tax rate would be \$18.62 per thousand dollars.

Mr. Le Beau said that in the past, the Board has voted not to have a residential exemption nor would there be an open space discount. Mr. Le Beau said that those are options as well as a small commercial exemption. Mr. Le Beau said that the Board has never adopted those modifications and in fact, when the small commercial exemption became available, the Board consulted with the Holliston Business Association to see if they had a sense of the whether the business community was interested in the exemption and they indicated that they were not. Mr. Le Beau said that the small commercial exemption would shift the tax levy in the commercial class so that larger business pay a higher rate and smaller business pay a lower rate. He said that the residential exemption does the same thing in the residential class. Mr. Le Beau said that the Town has never chosen to adopt those exemptions. Mr. Marsden said that they are looking for a motion to set the tax rate.

MR. MARSDEN MOVED TO SET THE TAX CLASSIFICATION OF 1 WITH NO OPEN SPACE EXEMPTION, NO SMALL COMMERCIAL EXEMPTIONS AND NO RESIDENTIAL EXEMPTIONS. THE MOTION WAS SECONDED BY MR. CONLEY. TWO IN FAVOR. MR. LEARY WAS ABSENT.

POLICE LETTERS OF COMMENDATIONS

Mr. Marsden said that three employees of the Police Department did a wonderful job in the capture of three suspects. This started as a stabbing in Framingham on December 1, 2012. Mr. Marsden said that Sergeant David Gatchell, Officer Kenneth Belson and Dispatcher Katie Hickey did an outstanding job.

See attached Commendations.

UNDERWOOD DOG BITE

Mr. Le Beau said that they received communication from the owner of the dog Georgia, the subject of the hearing with the Board. Mr. Le Beau said that the Board adopted an order on the 28th of November in public session in front of the dog owner. That order was delivered, in hand, to the dog owner advising them the dog was deemed dangerous and was to be euthanized on December 10th 2012. Mr. Le Beau said that the owner of the dog, through his mother, asked for an extension of time. Mr. Le Beau said that they were unclear that the appeal period was ten days. They did not have the financial means to pay for the court filing fee nor do they have the financial means to euthanize the dog. Mr. Le Beau said that the dog is still with its owner and the deadline has almost past. Mr. Le Beau said that they are requesting an extension of time to pursue a late appeal with the court or more time. Mr. Le Beau said that the Town does have the right, through the Animal Control Officer or the Police Department, if they are not in compliance, to take the dog. Mr. Le Beau said that could lead to another appeal. Mr. Le Beau said that the Animal Control Officer is prepared to take the dog and keep it in a secure location. He said that the Police Department would be assisting in this.

Mr. Marsden said that all parties were notified of the public hearing about this dog attack. He said that many people spoke about how Ms. Underwood was attacked. Mr. Marsden said that the appeal time has gone by and the window is closed. Mr. Marsden said that if they do not have the funds to cover the cost to euthanize the dog, the Town may be able

to help. Mr. Conley asked when and if they get the funds, will they be going to court to file that appeal? Mr. Le Beau said that he did not get a time line from the letter. Mr. Marsden said that the ten days are up. Mr. Conley asked if we could give the family 24 more hours to make the appeal. Mr. Marsden said that it is out of our hands, the ten days are up.

Mr. Conley said that if they did not have the funds for the appeal, they would not have the funds for a fence.

MR. MARSDEN MOVED, MR. CONLEY SECONDED AND IT WAS VOTED TWO IN FAVOR WITH MR. LEARY ABSENT TO DENY THE REQUEST FOR AN EXTENSION.

AT 7:50, P.M., MR. CONLEY MOVED TO ADJOURN. THE MOTION WAS SECONDED BY MR. MARSDEN. TWO IN FAVOR. MR. LEARY WAS ABSENT.

Respectfully submitted,

Donna A. Muzzy

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