

## HOLLISTON BOARD OF SELECTMEN

July 11, 2012  
7:30 P.M.

Selectmen's Meeting Room  
Town Hall

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

### **MR. LEARY MOVED TO APPROVE THE FOLLOWING WARRANT**

<b>13-03 GENERAL WARRANT</b>	\$341,867.44
COMMUNITY PRESERVATION (265)	\$ 84.85
AGENCY (890) VETERANS DISTRICT PAYROLL	\$ 1,776.00
COMMUNITY PRESERVATION (265) PAYROLL	\$ 1,021.08
GENERAL PAYROLL WARRANT	\$ 95,496.52
TOTAL WARRANT	\$440,245.89

#### ACCOUNTANT'S NOTE:

ACCRUED DEDUCTIONS LIABILITIES NOT PAID  
\$ 26,025.15

#### TREASURER'S NOTE

WIRE TO HEALTH INSURANCE TRUST  
\$ 15,442.67

**THE MOTION WAS SECONDED BY MR. MARSDEN. TWO IN FAVOR. MR. CONLEY WAS ABSENT.**

### **COMMENTS FROM THE BOARD**

Mr. Leary thanked Bobby Blair, Mary Greendale and Marc Ahronian and all the members of the America in Bloom Committee. Mr. Leary said that the Highway Department put in a lot of hours. He said that Town looks wonderful.

Mr. Leary thanked the Lions' Club for the new sign on Washington Street at the Sherborn line. Mr. Leary also said that he went to the High School to watch the Fire Department practice with the new ladder truck.

Mr. Marsden said that the America in Bloom judges will be in Town for a few days.

#### Comments from the audience

Ron Briggs, Stagecoach Road, he said that at the corner on Winter Street and Stagecoach Road, there is constant water flow down Winter Street. Mr. Briggs said that he has asked the Highway Department to look into it. He said that a berm was put in, but with plowing, it is now gone. He said that they have to scrape the ice off the road. Mr. Briggs said that the water is coming from a sump pump.

Mr. Le Beau said that there has been discussion with the Police Chief and the Highway Superintendent about trying to draft a By-law prohibiting water flow onto a public way.

Mr. Briggs said that this has been going on for years.

Mr. Leary said that he would look into it and get back to him.

Mr. Briggs said that he has e-mailed the Town Administrator about the compost at Marshall Street and asked why residents are not allowed to take it any more. He said that they have been taking it for a long time.

Mr. Leary said that it is regulated by the DEP they have to test the material.

Mr. Leary said that he will look into this and get back to him.

#### **TENT PERMIT FEE WAIVER – AMERICA IN BLOOM**

Mr. Marsden said that America in Bloom Committee is asking for a waiver of fees for a tent permit at the Historical Society for a function that they are having.

**MR. LEARY MOVED TO WAIVE THE FEE FOR THE TENT PERMIT AT THE HISTORICAL SOCIETY, FOR AMERICA IN BLOOM EVENT ON JULY 18TH. THE MOTION WAS SECONDED BY MR. MARSDEN. TWO IN FAVOR. MR. CONLEY WAS ABSENT.**

**SERGEANT INTERVIEW SCHEDULE - Postponed**

**AMENDMENT OF RECREATIONAL TRAILS PROGRAM - Postponed**

#### **HOUSING TRUST CLOSING DOCUMENTS – SIGNED**

Mr. Marsden said that they will be signing the documents after the meeting.

#### **SENIOR CENTER PARKING LOT**

Mr. Marsden said that they are planning on making changes to the turn around.

Mark Ahronian wanted to thank Karen Sherman who was very helpful with the lay-out of the turn around. Mr. Ahronian said that the Building Inspector has offered to go to the Center to look around to see if there can be any more parking spots.

Mr. Ahronian said that they did a practice run with an 18 foot bus to see if the driver could make the turn to the front door without having to back-up the bus. He said that the driver needed all 50 feet that the Conservation Commission has allowed them. He said that they needed all the area for the loop. They are going to see if more parking spots could be put in. Mr. Ahronian said that they do not want the bus to back-up because of the number of blind spots. Mr. Ahronian said that the handicap parking spaces have to shift to the left so that the bus can make the corner. He said that the center has to have 5 handicap parking spots. He said that they will be able to park the buses in the loop when not in service and that will free up two spots. Also, the staff can parallel park in the loop and free up a few more spots. He said that the ramp has to be expanded at the front door. Mr. Ahronian said that the plan was approved by the Conservation Commission on July 10<sup>th</sup>. Mr. Leary said he knows that there is a parking issue at the Center. Mr. Leary said that this project started out working with in the existing budgets but now it is much bigger. Mr. Leary said that we will be solving one problem and creating another.

Lina Arena-Derosa said that the Center is growing. She said that the MWRTA said that they do not want their buses backing up. She said that it is not the drivers, it is the people standing in the parking lot chatting and not paying attention. Ms. Arena-Derosa said that the original plan was not going to work with the Conservation Commission. That is why it was re-designed. Mr. Leary said that the property in the front of the building is not Town owned. Mr. Leary asked why the buses are not parked in the garage? Mr. Ahronian said that they are not in the garage because of the fall fair. They store everything in the garages and they also have a few tents set up.

Carl Damigella said that the MWRTA is trying to reduce the amount of traffic going and coming. Mr. Damigella said that the bus now makes three trips to the Center. He did say that they can increase the number of trips if needed. Mr. Damigella said that the MWRTA does not like there buses to back up. He said that it is a big safety issue.

Bob Malone said that the fire lane is only one vehicle wide and it looks like it could be made into two vehicles wide. He said that some of the banking would have to come out. Mr. Damigella said that there is a wet area and the Conservation Commission would not let you get that close. Mr. Malone also asked about moving the dumpster so that a bus could pull in and then back up into an isolated corner of the parking lot.

Mr. Ahronian said that area is very close to the brook.

Mr. Marsden asked what the time-frame was for completing the turn around.

Mr. Ahronian said it would depend on the schedule of the Highway Superintendent.

He also said that the ramp and the turn around would have to be done at the same time, because they will be moving the handicap parking spaces.

Mr. Leary said that the Highway Superintendent had been willing to take the funds out of his budget, and he added that he does not want to ask the Highway Superintendent to take out more. Mr. Damigella asked which side of the front door the handicap ramp will be on. Ms. Arena-Derosa said they will be moving it from the right to the left.

Mr. Damigella said that the Lions' Club has a portable ramp and they may be able to borrow it for a short time, as long as the Building Inspector thinks it would be alright to use.

**MR. LEARY MOVED TO GO FORWARD WITH THE PROJECT OF THE LOOP WITH THE CONDITION OF THE RAMP OPTIONS AND THE HIGHWAY DEPARTMENTS NOT BEING RESPONSIBLE FOR THE RAMP, ONLY THE PAVING AREA. THE MOTION WAS SECONDED BY MR. MARSDEN. TWO IN FAVOR. MR. CONLEY WAS ABSENT.**

#### **SENIOR CENTER ROOF BID**

Ms. Arena-Derosa said that the building is leaking. She said that she is having trouble finding anyone to call her back. Mr. Leary said to go for the immediate fix and then see what happens. He did say to replace or fix the problem you need to go with the lowest bidder.

**TREES – WASHINGTON STREET AND CONCORD STREET**

Mark Ahronian, Tree Warden spoke to the Board about a few trees that should come down. He said the trees are not on Town property, they are on private property. He said that one tree is on Washington Street and the other on Concord Street. Mr. Ahronian said that if the trees should fall on a car, it could be serious. He said that these trees fall, there will be a power lose in the area. Mr. Ahronian sent out letters to the home owners in November then a follow-up certified letter. One homeowner responded and said that they can't afford to take down the tree. He has not heard back from the resident because they do not have a solution yet. He said that it is a liability issue. He said that the Town can't go on to someone else's property. He said that if you do it for one then you have to do it for everyone. Mr. Ahronian said that he told the homeowner that they have 30 days to get the tree down. Mr. Ahronian said that he has asked Mr. Le Beau to talk to Town Counsel about this. Mr. Marsden said that the homeowner's insurance company would have a problem if the owner has been put on notice about the potential danger of the tree falling and nothing was done about it.

Mr. Le Beau spoke with Town Counsel and he said any payment plan would have to be voluntary and there would no recourse under the tax powers if the payments are not made. The Town could not put a lien on the property. They would have to enter into an agreement that could be enforced. Mr. Marsden asked about liability. Mr. Le Beau said that was not raised by Town Counsel. Mr. Marsden asked Mr. Le Beau to look into that. Mr. Ahronian said that cost to remove the tree on Washington Street would be around \$3,500.00. The one on Concord Street is more accessible.

Mr. Leary said to send another letter indicating that the homeowner will be responsible for all costs for the clean up if the tree comes down.

Mr. Leary will get in touch with the homeowners to talk about it. Mr. Leary also said that he has spoken with the Highway Superintendent about the tree stumps that still need to be removed. Mr. Ahronian said that they will rent a special stump grinder and do them all at once.

**EVENT PERMIT – HAZARDOUS WASTE DAY**

**MR. LEARY MOVED TO APPROVE THE HAZARDOUS WASTE DAY EVENT FOR JULY 21, 2012, FROM 9:00 A.M. TO NOON AT THE MIDDLE SCHOOL. THE MOTION WAS SECONDED BY MR. MARSDEN. TWO IN FAVOR. MR. CONLEY WAS ABSENT.**

**BOARD GOALS - postponed****LAND DONATION – 30 ACRES FOR CONSERVATION COMMISSION**

Thirty acres of land on Wilson Street ( Wilson Acres), were donated for Conservation by Ronald Nation. Mr. Le Beau said that the Conservation Commission met last night and there were no issues.

**MR. LEARY MOVED TO AUTHORIZE THE SIGNING OF THE DEED FOR THE THIRTY ACRES ON WILSON STREET BY RONALD NATION. THE MOTION WAS SECONDED BY MR. MARSDEN. TWO IN FAVOR. MR. CONLEY WAS ABSENT.**

**APPOINTMENTS**

**MR. LEARY MOVED TO APPOINT THE FOLLOWING AS SPECIAL POLICE OFFICERS: JOSEPH QUINTIN, BRIAN REAM AND MICHAEL WOODS, FOR A ONE YEAR TERM. THE MOTION WAS SECONDED BY MR. MARSDEN. TWO IN FAVOR. MR. CONLEY WAS ABSENT.**

**MR. LEARY MOVED TO APPOINT THE FOLLOWING AS AUXILIARY POLICE OFFICERS: ROBERT RAMRATH, DONOVAN SEAY, GREGORY SCHMALL AND DAVID CHARETTE, FOR A ONE YEAR TERM. THE MOTION WAS SECONDED BY MR. MARSDEN. TWO IN FAVOR. MR. CONLEY WAS ABSENT.**

**AT 8:30 P.M., MR. LEARY MOVED TO ADJOURN. THE MOTION WAS SECONDED BY MR. MARSDEN. TWO IN FAVOR. MR. CONLEY WAS ABSENT.**

Respectfully submitted,

Donna A. Muzzy

approved\_\_\_\_\_