HALIFAX BOARD OF SELECTMEN

SELECTMEN MEETING

TUESDAY, APRIL 23, 2019 - 6:30 P.M.

SELECTMEN MEETING ROOM

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Meeting came to order at 9:30 p.m. with Selectmen Kim R. Roy, Troy E. Garron and Thomas Millias present.

The following business was discussed:

**PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE**

The Board as well as those attending tonight’s meeting stood to recite the Pledge of Allegiance.

**SCHEDULED APPOINTMENTS**

**Town Meeting Discussion with Dennis Carman**

Carman began by saying said that even though we’ve had two Special Town Meetings where he was an active participant as Moderator, he is not feeling as confident as he would like to. The Town is complicated and sitting in the audience it is complicated for people. There are opportunities for people to be informed but we don’t always take up on that. His hope is that there might be some things worth talking about that they can do to move a Town Meeting forward in a productive/efficient way. He does not have a lot of the answers and hopes that asking for this meeting he was not being critical, he is not here to tell people what they should or should not be doing, but thinks it is a good conversation. Roy thought it was great that he wanted to reach out and work on that and asked if he had any suggestions.

Carman said that there were times that he got the impression that the Finance Committee felt there was not enough time on some of the matters that they were being asked to make recommendations on - not just a split vote, but they almost seem to have dissenting views because there wasn’t enough time for them to really walk through it, decide and then give recommendations that they can feel more confident of.

Roy explained that most of the work of the Articles gets done at Finance Committee meetings and there are at times when new information might show up but the Articles that are on the regular Town Meeting warrant are pretty much cut and dry and the capital items they have had ample time to have that discussion. Not to mention we have a fairly new Finance Committee as well.

Carman said that he is a big fan of encouraging and asking people to serve on boards and committees as they are able to see know how complicated these matters are, and that it is not easy to make a snap decision.

Roy said she likes having the diversity where everyone does not think or believe the same way because that is when best ideas are made. She continued to say that the members of the Finance Committee are very bright, and we are lucky to have them and unfortunately if it seemed like they did not have a lot of time to debate things at Town Meeting is was because there was a lot of last-minute information coming in.

Carman then said that he thinks that some of the articles/items get put in there because you figure you are going to have a warrant for one or two items so you might as well have some unfinished ones. He has heard some criticism that this should be done Annual Town Meetings and felt it leaves some with the impression that if you do a Special Town Meeting there might be less people going and less opposition and people might be looking to put through … he does not assume intentions, but other people might. But in terms of the actual meetings themselves he was amazed at how much he learned in listening to all the conversations and thinks people do need the opportunity to say what they need to say; ask the questions they need to ask.

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Roy said there is a fine line between a question and being difficult and she is happy to answer the questions as many times as she needs to but she does not want to be mocked and treated with disrespect, which she thinks there was little bit of that the last couple of Town Meetings. Carman said that is the challenge – when to step in and say ‘this isn’t acceptable and with him not having good vision it is not easy for him to watch somebody’s smirk that might go along with the comment. Carman feels there should be that the maximum time to allow people to speak as they have a right to say something, but also stop people at some point from being disrespectful.

He asked the Board I there are things that they have not done or things that could be done to move them in a good direction to avoid contentiousness. Garron said the hardest part for him is when he goes to the Post Office and all the flyers that the town sends out to let people know about the meeting with articles and stuff are laying on the counter at the Post Office or in the recycling bin and unfortunately they wait until the night of Town Meeting to look over the Articles not giving them enough time to look into things. Carmen said there are resources on our website where people can learn more about Town Meeting.

Roy said that many years ago the Finance Committee did a series of local cable shows about Town Meeting. She is not sure if people really watched local cable or have the same engagement, hence suggested a flyer. Carman said there is only so much you can do to prepare everyone for Town Meeting.

Roy explained to Carman what to expect during Annual town meeting as he only has attended two STMs.

Millias said the more information the better, especially the first night, because when you get into a second night of a Town Meeting, people tend to be a little more abrupt because everybody pretty much wants to get it finished. And to the point made earlier Millias said putting it in such a way as to have people actually understand it.

Roy said that not a lot of towns bring their warrant down to the level of which we do meaning that other towns have a vote just on the budget overall so the people just see in the printed warrant of what the Fire Department budget is or what the Town Clerk’s budget is. They don’t go into line by line and their big capital items that they are purchasing are also within the budget, so people don’t have any kind of idea. Here in Halifax, we give full disclosure, and she thinks that is what gets most of the debate. Carman said doing line by line is a great thing because you can put a line on hold and ask for it to be described, ask for you know, justified if you will.

Carman said that some of the feedback he saw on the community Facebook pages for our town, ‘I can’t be there in the evening’ and why not have it on a Saturday. Roy said the nice thing about Town Meeting is that it is one to two days a year and she understands that some people work at night but if we moved it to a Saturday, you’re going to have a whole bunch of families saying my children have sports and I have this … therefore it is hard to accommodate everybody.

Seelig said that if there are a sufficient number of people who want to make the change, they can bring a petition Article for Town Meeting and get the bylaw changed when we have Town Meeting.

Roy said that she heard that if you eliminate ‘quorum’ sometimes more people come but not sure how true this is. Carman said it is sad that for a Special Town Meeting you can barely get a hundred people he knows that we cannot accommodate everyone in town would like to see two or three hundred. He continued to say that we sometimes get frustrated when we might not like the answer, or we get frustrated with the same questions that people ask because they are not reading or not researching it. Millias thinks that some of the frustration comes from Boards and Committees that are proposing things that spent a tremendous amount of time developing the Article and then uninformed, more or less uninformed, residents making negative comments, but if everybody continues to be conscious of body language, of their interaction with the group, that should help.

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Carman said appreciates the Board taking the time to talk with him and he looks forward to the upcoming Town Meeting even if it may be challenging.

Roy thinks having the pre-Town Meeting is very helpful where they go through the warrant and because it kind of sets us up to be successful and we are able to identify the Articles that might need more discussion and some that might require an Australian ballot. Carman said as they get more comfortable with each other there are only going to be very few instances where they would have to do that. Fellow townspeople should not think any differently to one another because everyone has a right to exercise the way they want to vote but we also need to acknowledge that there are times when there may be a sensitive vote where would need to have an Australian Ballot.

**COA & M&SBC – Pope’s Tavern**

Seelig began by saying that the town has been trying to raise funds for the renovation and expansion of Pope’s Tavern. There was $104,000 (money left over from the bonds for the “Old Landfill Project that remained unspent after the project was completed) voted at Town Meeting to the Article for the renovation and expansion. This money was real money and was not money that was borrowed for the COA project, which was voted down, so it is still there in the account. Town Accountant Nolan and Treasurer/Collector Adduci have checked with counsel and it was confirmed that we do not need another appropriation, therefore the money is available to spend. Now the challenge is prioritizing the things that need to be done at Pope’s Tavern that have the greatest impact on preserving the building for the long term versus those that might be more cosmetic/a wish list. He wanted to have this meeting with the Council on Aging and the Municipal Building Committee to talk with the Board of Selectmen about that because Seelig thinks for this to move forward there needs to be some sort of consensus among all the individuals about how we want to go about doing this.

Roy asked John Campbell, member of the M&SBC if he had any ideas and he said that this was dropped on them last week so the M&SBC really didn’t have a lot of time to get the committee and the COA together to talk. He said he talked with Scott Materna, Director of Building Maintenance, and they discussed putting in an Article in the warrant new windows because there has been water damage over the years and they are losing heat so they should be replaced. Campbell said whatever they want to use the money for is fine. He also mentioned due to leaks water went down inside and the area around the chimneys.

Roy asked the Town Accountant if the windows were being funded by the money and she said we have enough to not use that money but could use it if we needed to.

In reference to the chimneys Campbell said they talked to the Historic Commission and the Historical Society about taking the chimneys off and putting us a fake one. There is one chimney that is used so if they take off the brick it might be possible to build a lighter weight chimney and still get the same effect.

Roy then said she knows that one of the other largest complaints was the electrical. Campbell said it can be fixed up to a point but once you open up that can of worms it could lend to other things.

Garron then asked about the front and back doors for wheelchair access and Campbell said that is another whole thing and again Campbell said another can of worms.

Millias pointed out that all the door openings are small and Campbell said the hallways are too and the second floor cannot be accessed because there’s no elevator. Millias said first priority is to secure the building and then try to work at whatever else we can do to make it beneficial to people using the facility. Campbell said the small stuff they do inside won’t cost a lot of money.

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Materna said the roof issue is a little bit bigger than just another chimney. Last year when fixing a section of the roof the contractor came across two places that the shingles had not been stripped.

Seelig recommended that some of the money be spent on hiring an engineer to come up with the specs for a new roof if we need to do that much work and said this project will not be a large project like the school.

Seelig said that we still have the plans, we have the engineering, the specifications and such so we can utilize that stuff. He asked if we have any idea if anything has been done in the last twenty years and Materna said it has been replaced but the problem they run vertical and underneath, there not altogether.

Materna also said there are some loosely laid installation underneath but there’s nothing major up there.

Marjorie Smith, member of the COA, asked when the last roofing job was done was that just patch work or were there specs because if there were specs was there any condition for replacing rotten boards or is there a warranty because maybe we could recoup some of that if in fact it was initially done improperly.

Roy said Materna had stated that the way the roof is designed, rafters are going the wrong way, so there is not much stability for the roof making it more of a chance of other sections failing so she thinks the idea would be to have an engineer come in, re-engineer the style of the roof so that we have a more stable roof. Materna or Campbell said it was patched last year due to a storm and previous to that he believes the entire building was done eleven years ago.

Garron said that they should prioritize what needs to be done.

Seelig said that they have $104,000 to work with and Campbell said the windows are about $14,000.

Seelig suggest to Brenton that that the COA might want to attend the next Building Committee meeting in on May 21st.

Campbell stated that he sees Town government moving in a different direction more on the lines of *town manager’s style*. He said there is nothing wrong with what Seelig is doing and Seelig understood what he was saying but he feels that the committees are not doing a good job. For instance, when we went to Town Meeting to get the two million dollars for Pope’s Tavern, the Building Committee found out it was in warrant after it was mailed out, so the committee really wasn’t ready to bring that to Town Meeting. The two million dollars was voted at Town Meeting and the project wasn’t completely done yet so then when we had to come back at a Special Town Meeting in the fall, which was absolutely disastrous, and asked for another million and a half he felt it lost its vote because we should have asked for three million at one time. Another thing that that happened was ten minutes before Town Meeting they were trying to figure out how they are going to fund the project. Roy agreed with him and said because it was about a debt exclusion or not a debt exclusion, we needed to get the Finance Committee online. Campbell said that the young gentleman who just joined the Finance Committee had it right – he voted no against the project because we did not inform the Town of what we were asking for. It should be printed in the warrant before they get in the mail and Roy agreed with him but said that on a couple of occasions, they had some estimates that were wrong that they were relying on. She continued to say that he was part of a lot of the meeting as well as she was and they both saw that the architect had come up with this price and then his estimator came up with another price, so it was a combination of many things. Again, she agrees with what he is saying.

Campbell said being from *the old school* in his opinion town government has not been able to catch up with this new management-type stuff. Roy did not think that it is new management and explained that you have a plan then you have surprises where different numbers come in for estimates, which has happened with the last couple of projects.

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They tell you this is the price and then you go and inform everyone and then the numbers change. The BOS has not been happy with the process either, it had been very frustrating.

Campbell said Town Meetings are tough, so the more we can inform the residents with the accurate figures and how we are going to finance projects before going to Town Meeting is key. Roy agreed with Campbell – it’s been a really tough couple of projects.

Garron said it really comes down to the fact that it’s a trust factor – we trust the people who are making these estimates for them to give us the proper estimates and they’re not doing that.

Roy said that there are many layers of people who are involved in these projects - the OPM’s, architects, contractors etc.

Troup was curious as what happened to the two million money that the Town voted for them to have, like where did that go, and Roy said we did not raise because it didn’t pass. Seelig explained that the original appropriation, because the entire project was never approved we never borrowed that money so it’s never ‘there’ – we still have an outstanding authorization if for some reason we wanted to borrow money and try and do the project for the two million we could, but we don’t have a set of plans that meets that, so all we have right now is a bonding authorization, we don’t have money sitting in the bank.

Campbell said the seniors need space and we will continue and try to bring back something on the existing building or build a new building altogether, whatever we decide to do is going to cost three million dollars.

Dick Wright said regardless of what happens down the road to Pope’s Tavern, you want to at least preserve it because it is an historical building. It needs a roof and windows and the money has been appropriated so this is a good place to start.

Amy Troup asked if they could raise money like HOPS did and Roy said you could do it, but it took HOPS six years to raise almost $200,000 for a playground we would need five million.

Garron said the government says that if we are going to do any work on town buildings there are certain regulations that have to be met.

Troup then asked if we get taxed for the Community Preservation Act, because if so, she was thinking that could go for the windows and the roof, but Roy said we do not. She further said that we do not have CPA money, we tried to get that passed at Town Meeting many years ago and it did not pass, so we don’t have that ability to raise that additional tax revenue.

**VFW Post 6258 – Award Presentation to Selectmen Roy**

Mr. Walsh, Commander for the Veterans of Foreign Wars Post 6258, and another member of the Post came in this evening to present Roy with a citation and a bouquet of flowers as an expression of their sincere appreciation for her services rendered to the community. They wished her well on her retirement. Roy was honored and thanked them for this award.

**Candance Kniffen – Beautification Committee**

Kniffen began by saying there is going to be a town-wide clean-up this Saturday as they want to get the town cleaned up. Anyone is invited to help and can clean up wherever they want to there is no pressure. The other thing they wanted to talk about is the Article regarding “reduction of single use plastic bags”. They are not here to give a big presentation on the Article, which we support, but are asking the Board to take a position on it not per say this evening. She further said that they had a presentation at the library where they showed three videos and had popcorn. They had an excellent turn-out and people were very receptive.

Garron stated that we are trying to get rid of the plastic straws, but why are we not getting rid of the plastic cups and Kniffen said Candace Dunkin’ Donuts is getting rid of their styrofoam cups in 2020.

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A committee added that Mutual Bank donated a hundred reusable bags for us to pass out to the community and Roy believes if you buy reusable bags at Stop and Shop it benefits HOPS. The committee has gone to businesses and they have said that they will do what the Town votes. Millias did not think enforcement would be an issue.

Another thing Kniffen wanted to mention is that Tom Schindler has come across a number of good-sized planters in the basement from years ago so they thought about people/business adopting a planter and putting them in front of public areas – this is probably the next push the committee will have.

Kniffen also wanted to mention that they are going to have rain barrels available to purchase on clean-up day.

She then wanted to say that they have a company that is very interested in adopting the island at intersection of Route 58 & 106. They want to make it look nice and are going to do plantings that do not require a lot of water (no access to water there). With that being said the Beautification Committee would like to place a small sign saying that this company had adopted the island and asked if there was a procedure they needed to follow. Millias was concerned with the ‘sign pollution’ and Kniffen said that she thinks it would have to be controlled. Millias then asked by what Board and Garron said that would be on town property.

Roy asked if they wanted to adopt it for this season and Kniffen said she thinks they are prepared to start it if given permission to.

Kniffen asked should they develop a contract or have expectations for them and Garron thought there should be something in place as to how long they might want to continue maintaining the island. What they have done is drafted a contract asking them to commit to two years. For the Fitzgerald Garden they sent out a request for quotes to only local landscapers and they got three estimates. They met with each one and picked C-Mac and they have committed for two years. The committee is having a small wooden sign that will say that the garden is being maintained by them, and then in two years they are going to see where they are at and go from there. So, if the people who want to do the island offer to do it for two years then we can offer the same agreement as we did for the garden.

Roy said that she as fine with it but at some point they should maybe let people bid on the islands.

Garron thought the advertisement at 58 & 106, might encourages others to come forward.

Roy thanked the committee for being so active and in closing Kniffen wanted to say that she is sorry that Roy is leaving the Board and the Town as she brings a perspective that no one else can bring and will be missed. She knows from personal experience that it is a thankless job and not an easy one.

**Soft Recycling**

Courtney Forrester from Waste Zero came in to talk with the Board about curbside textile recycling. Textiles which they call soft recyclables are bags, shoes, stuffed animals, curtains, drapes, linens and so forth. They are partnering with this company called “Simple” and it’s as simple as putting a pink bag out curbside on your collection day for recycling. So rather than having to search for a drop-off bin; remember putting it in your car or calling a different charity to come and get it you can do it at your curb. Eighty-five percent of textiles are currently being thrown in the trash and only 15% are probably getting recycled. So, whether it is re-used, or they sell it, or it turns into carpet padding or insulation, there’s always a market for it. We wanted to make it more convenient for residents what they are doing is doing is sending out more transit vehicles on the Town’s collection days for recycling and looking for those pink bags and picking them up at no cost to the residents or the Town, and the best part is the Town can actually make money on this - a penny a pound.

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Garron asked where the bags come from and she said they make the bags and they are sent to the residents free.She continued to explain that Simple would get the recycling routes and mailing list and they will directly do a mailing along with two bags to the residents stating that starting on such and such day we will be starting this program. When the textiles are picked up two more bags will be left.

Forrester said that they are in town every day so if someone needs a bag they can call and bags can be dropped off that day if not the next day, very convenient. She said that there is no fee for the town just an agreement that basically just says they’re going to do what they say they’re going to do, which is pay you a penny a pound and pick up on your recycling route.

She provide a spreadsheet with the breakdown of what the tow n will get and based on your residents and households, it will be ten pounds a year, which is about sixteen tons that we can pull out and take way the disposal cost the town is looking at a projected revenue and savings of about two thousand dollars a year. The number is not huge but something that could offset cost for containers or educational materials and it also takes it out of the trash stream.

Seelig was concerned that people would put stuff in the bag that was not under a list, and so what happens then. Forrester said that they have been doing this in communities for two years and Simple has not seen enough of contamination that’s made it a problem

Roy asked if Johnson she wanted the Board to make decision tonight and Seelig said the Board can make a decision tonight and he will make sure that we had Town Counsel review it and approve it and then bring it to the Board for signatures.

Moved by Garorn and seconded by Millias, the Board unanimously voted to accept the agreement between the Town of Halifax and Simple Recycling contingent on approval from Town Counsel.

**Michael Boncariewski – Appointment - Special Police Officer**

Chief Chaves stated he is here this evening to request consideration for Michael Boncariewski to be appointed as a Special Police Officer. He’s 28 years old; a life-long resident of the town; attended local schools; a 2010 graduate of Silver Lake Regional High School; 2014 graduate of Bridgewater University with a bachelor’s degree in criminal justice, and he wishes to protect and serve us. He is very motivated and committed to our community and is experienced in law enforcement as he has been working as a Special Police Officer in the Town of Hull since 2016.

The Chief also wanted the BOS to know that he received an award from the Hull Police Department for going into a burning building and removing a child that was in the building. This is the courage and dedication that we are trying to foster here in Halifax. He also had been working as a line cook at Red Robin since 2012

Chief continued to say that he has his certification in First Aid/CPR and is licensed to carry. Michael was interview by the Chief and a couple of the sergeants and they all were very impressed with the responses, he is very motivated and dedicated and will be a great addition to the department.

Garron asked what did fair, firm and consistent mean to him and he said to be fair in his judgment; firm - not let people go just because they are really nice as you need to hold people accountable for their actions.

Garron then asked how does he deal with stress and he said he goes to the gym and he has a very supportive family.

Roy asked what his favorite thing about being a police officer and he said the interactions. We see a lot of people – the different, wide-range of people. I’ve always loved this community; I never had a problem here. I look forward to protecting the people here.

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Millias like the fact that he is a ‘local’ and knows the community, the residents, the type of mentality that’s in the Town and just logistically know the Town, which is huge all by itself.

Moved by Garron and seconded by Millias, the Board unanimously appointed Michael Boncariewski to the Halifax Police Department as a Special Police Officer.

**Public forum – Fieldstone Farms Horse Shows**

Roy began by saying that we are here to talk about changes in the consent agreement. This is an official hearing and abutters have been notified.

Seelig said it was up to the Board to discuss where they would like to go in terms of the request for the changes in the agreement. The major changes in the proposed consent agreement are to increase the maximum show days from 30 to 38; increase the number of multi-day shows from 7 to 8t; and then wanted to add language stating that Mr. Clawson will be able to come back to the Board in the future to ask for additional days or additional multi-day shows without having to go to court but by approval of the Board of Selectmen.

Attorney Taylor did not think they should start at the beginning but focus on the changes proposed by Attorney Mayo.

Roy thought that the big show in August needed an additional day and Taylor said that is a one-day show after that and Roy asked on top of the New England Dressage and Taylor said yes. He continued to say that he got rid of the April show, added the May show, and then Clawson ended up with needing three days to cover New England Dressage, and then the one day and then that one day so that is where the change went from three to eight.

Garron stated that originally he wanted 32 days. Taylor said events are now tending to be a week-long shows (five days) so the three days are to address New England Dressage Show and then he would need a day in August and then not that he foresees this right now but there could one more week-long show so that would be the reason why there would be one additional multi-day show. Based upon the season here and the turf in the fields, Clawson does not anticipate more than that because the fields need to recover.

Roy asked Clawson if he wanted want to have it in there so that he did not have to keep coming back and he said yes and said part of the reason for that is that the horse people only want to go to the same place so many times a year as they want to travel around the country. The only thing Clawson could foresee is if went well for New England Dressage next year they might want to do a spring and a fall show. Roy asked if he saw them adding a day for the August show and Clawson said he wouldn’t do any more than that, two weeks is enough for him.

Roy asked what Taylor did not like about the agreement and he said he noticed overall the majority of the language starts in 1993 and carried through, then they had the revision where they added language with regard to the safety issues. Roy said that was added when they revised the agreement two years ago.

Taylor said one thing that that agreement didn’t have was any local town enforcement provisions, so we added a process for local enforcement and they actually kept Clawson’s enforcement from the original agreement, which was he would have to go to court. So, one of the major changes Attorney Mayo is presenting is that he removed Clawson’s ability to enforce this agreement so that is a big issue because he left everything for the Town and deleted Clawson’s ability to have any enforcement. Roy said so what you are saying is the Town cannot really do that because by court Clawson retains his rights and Taylor said correct - we have a judgment and the language Mayo deleted is basically reciting that it is enforced in court through consent proceedings with the exception of the Town having their local enforcement. Some of the other language throughout the agreement was basically deletions of the 1993 language that has been carrying through, so he does not know the rationale of that.

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Seelig asked if he corresponded with Mayo about it and Taylor said he didn’t know that it would be appropriate because he presumed that the BOS has had discussions with Mayo and then the draft would be sent to him.

Seelig recommended that Taylor correspond with Mayo if he was concerned about the changes that he made.

Roy stated that Mayo was pretty consistent throughout the agreement and Taylor said one of the original premises of the agreement was Clawson and the Town’s understanding was, as to what he can use on the property that remained in the 2017 Agreement, so from his perspective the Town has now changed what they believe the use of the property could be.

Roy thought it would helpful for Seelig to have a conversation with Mayo about that specifically but did say they can talk about the extra days. She asked if there was anyone in audience who had any comments about the additional horse days.

The neighbor at 7 Plymouth Street that he has only have two concerns – the PA speakers and people coming down his driveway thinking it is Clawson’s. Roy said maybe put balloons out there. Clawson did say there should be something.

Roy said that one can definitely hear the PA system and Clawson said that they are working on it as we speak. He hired a professional from Pennsylvania who just does horse shows and he is spending a lot of money to re-direct how it sounds. The PA system is one of his pet peeves because he too does not want to hear it either. Clawson said that he does not have anything directed towards his neighbor’s direction but if there is a problem to come to him and he’ll try to adjust it.

Taylor asked when was the new PA system installed and Clawson said he did not have a professional actually set it up he now is having one do it, he had local installers but none of them do outdoor facilities.

Roy said for the times she had been sown there she had only heard one announcer and Clawson said there is usually three announcers. Clawson said the English voice, which is in the back field is quite loud, but it is a priority to get the sound system taken care of. He is spending a lot of money to get it correct, not to mention what he has spent over the years, but he just hasn’t had the right person who knows how to direct the sound and not make to have it blaring and still sounds good.

Roy said to the neighbor that there use to be a gate at the tip of his driveway and he said he still does but people tend to push it open with their car or something. She asked the neighbor if he had any other questions and he said no.

Roy asked Garron and Millias if they had any other comments or concerns about the additional dates and Millias said that he does not see any reason not to add the extra days.

Clawson said that if there are problems to call him anytime. Roy said they appreciate that.

Garron only concern was the neighbors and the community and asked what is he putting up to funnel the noise? Clawson said that that the speakers are there, he is just directing it in different direction - more towards the ground and so it is not blaring throughout the whole park.

Roy said that the Board will approve the additional dates but Taylor and Mayo will continue to work on the language so they will not be we approving the contract as a whole this evening.

Taylor said so it is his understanding is the dates will be increased 38 and Roy said the Board will vote on only that this evening.

Taylor said he will work out the details with Mayo regarding the other language.

Moved by Millias and seconded by Garron, the Board unanimously **only** approved the additional days for the horse shows.

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Taylor asked when is the next meeting and Seelig said the next regular meeting would be on the May 14th but that is Town Meeting and we are not going to do any regular business that night so the next regular meeting after that is the May 28th. He did say that the BOS is meeting on Seelig: we’re going to meet on May 7th but that’s an irregular meeting, we may not be doing regular business – it’s up to the Board. Taylor said they can be put on for the 27th.

Seelig said to wait and see what Taylor and Mayo have worked out because if everything is fine and both attorneys have signed off the Board can say okay and we may not even need to meet.

Roy then asked if they should revise the motion and Seelig said no, what he is saying is that it may not be necessary for them to have to come back in for the BOS to vote on it.

Roy suggested that Taylor give attorney Mayo a call tomorrow to get things going.

**Revocation Hearing – Davis Automotive**

Ms. Davis did make a payment this week and is caught up on property taxes, the business still owes thousands of dollars in excise taxes. Seelig recommends that the Board rescind the revocation of the Class II and Fuel Storage license but continue the hearing to May 28th at 7:40 p.m.

Ms. Davis stated that she is chipping away at what is owned. She is trying to simplify things and has liquidated a lot of stuff and she wants to continue going in that direction. She also stated that she is getting ready to open the gas station.

Moved by Garron and seconded by Millias, the Board unanimously voted to rescind the revocation of the Class II and Fuel Storage License for Davis Automotive and continue the hearing to May 28th at 7;40 p.m.

**MINUTES**

Moved by Garron and seconded by Millias, the Board unanimously approved the following Selectmen Minutes:

Regular Session – February 26, 2019

Regular Session – March 12, 2019

**AFFIRMED WARRANTS AND COMMITMENTS**

Moved by Millias and seconded by Garron, the Board unanimously affirmed approval for the payment of the following warrants and commitments:

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| --- | --- | --- |
| Payroll Warrant | # 92 | $ 369,514.69 |
| Vendor Warrant | # 93 | $ 221,356.99 |
| Withholding Warrant | # 94 | $ 135,724.51 |
| Ambulance Commitment |  | $ 396,607.58 |
| from 4/1/19 – 4/7/19 |  |  |
| Ambulance Commitment |  | $ 56,069.29 |
| from 4/8/19 – 4/14/19 |  |  |

**APPROVED WARRANT**

Moved by Millias and seconded by Garron, the Board unanimously approved payment of the following warrant:

|  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- |
| Vendor Warrant | # 95 | $ 296,287.55 |

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**APPROVED SELECTMEN BILLS**

Moved by Millias and seconded by Garron, the Board unanimously approved payment of the following Selectmen bills:

|  |  |
| --- | --- |
| National Grid (service/Town Hall)…………………..................  ENGIE Resources (service/Town Hall)………………………...  Express Newspapers (ad/alum pumping station)……………….  Matthew Bender & Co., Inc. (MA law books)…………………. | $ 586.10  $ 630.22  $ 29.25  $ 142.43 |

**GENERAL MAIL / DISCUSSIONS**

Elementary School - Fire Suppression

There will be a project organization meeting on May 2nd at 9 a.m. in the Selectmen’s Meeting Room. Discussion of schedule, how to keep the building open (custodial staff overtime that will be paid by the project), introduction of the parties, etc.

Elementary School – Doors, Windows & Siding Project

Mr. Seelig ‘s hope is that the final punch list has been created and that by May 2nd we will have everything done.

Aldana Road Parcel/Fisheries and Wildlife

If the sale of the property is to happen, the Town will needto purchase the County’s interest in the property as the State will to buy half an interest in the property (and half an interest is worth less than half the value). Everyone is waiting for the DFW appraisal. Then if the Town wants to move forward, we will need to work something out with Plymouth County (town meeting action will be needed but not next month).

Howland/Waste Management Consent to Assignment

Waiting to hear back from Howard/Waste Management as to whether they agree to Attorney Mayo’s revisions.

Eagle Scout Ceremony

There will be an Eagle Scout ceremony for Jakob Burgess on Sunday, April 28th at the rededication ceremony for the Margaret Meyer Amphitheater (1:30 p.m.) and Court of Honor (2 p.m. at Town Hall). A certificate has been made up.

Municipal Vulnerability Preparedness Grant

Moved by Garron and seconded by Millias, the Board unanimously signed the support letter from the Board of Selectmen for the above grant application.

Harrison - Unregistered Vehicle

Since Mr. Harrison had not sent a copy of the registration for his vehicle, Seelig wrote to him last week requesting a copy. He will report back to the Board at the Board’s next meeting.

Rufus Hearing

Court hearing is scheduled for May 9th at 11 a.m. at the Plymouth District Court. All parties have been notified.

Selectmen Meeting – April 23, 2019 Page 12

Fireworks Day

The Committee will hold evening activities which Seelig believes will be on Saturday, June 29th. There will be no daytime activities due to the lack of time before the event. The Committee will be selling chocolate bars at Town Meeting and at the Town Election to help raise funds.

Resignation Gerry Elliott

Gerry Elliott has resigned from the Parks Commission and the Municipal and School Building Committee. Seelig recommends sending a letter thanking him for serving on both boards.

Moved by Garron and seconded by Millias, the Board unanimously voted to send a letter to Mr. Elliott thanking him for his service on both boards.

Area 58 Budget

Copy of the 2019 budget is available.

School Fire Suppression System OPM Contract

Moved by Garron and seconded by Millias, the Board unanimously authorized the Town Administrator, Charles Seelig to sign the OPM contract between the Town of Halifax and The Vertex Companies for the fire suppression system at the Halifax Elementary School.

FEMA/March 2018 Grant Contract

Moved by Garron and seconded by Millias, the Board unanimously authorized the Chair, Kim R. Roy, to sign the March 2018 FEMA Grant between the Town of Halifax and the Commonwealth of Massachusetts,

Halifax Investments - Country Club

Revocation hearing is scheduled for May 28th at 7:45 p.m. on its fuel storage permit for failure to pay back taxes.

Talent Bank Form from Jennifer Campbell

Ms. Campbell is interested in serving on the Youth and Recreation Commission. Seelig has forward the form to Dick Steele.

Flashing Stop Sign for Cherry Street

Harold Sprague has suggested that the current stop sign at the three-way intersection with Walnut Street be replaced with a flashing stop sign. Seelig knows that the Highway Surveyor has run some trials with these and has notified him of the request and is waiting to hear back.

Old Colony Planning Council Annual Meeting

Annual Meeting on May 9th at 6 p.m. at the Mockingbird in East Bridgewater. Garron stated that he will be going.

Library Parking Lot Streetlight

Scott Materna has received an estimate of $1,500 for the work and is proceeding.

Green Communities Technical Assistance Program

Moved by Garron and seconded by Millias, the Board unanimously authorized the Chair, Kim R. Roy, to sign the Green Communities Technical Assistance Program.

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World Series Trophy

Seelig asked the Board if they were interested in any specific possible dates for the 2018 trophy to make visit. He is also going ot see if there is any interest at the school.

Fire Station Door Thank-You to Halifax Glass

Scott Materna would like to have the Town thank Halifax Glass for volunteering its resources to help repair the door at the Fire Station.

Moved by Garron and seconded by Millias, the Board unanimously voted to send a letter to Halifax Glass thanking them for repairing the fire station door.

John Peck Earth Removal

No word from John Peck.

Mailbox Kiosks

Seelig is waiting to hear back from Congressman Keating’s office.

Twin Lakes Liquors

The store appears to be closed for repairs.

Road Opening – 161 River Street

Moved by Garron and seconded by Millias, the Board unanimously approved Permit #2019-11 issued to Columbia Gas of Massachusetts for a 4’ x 6’ road cut tie in & a 4’ x 10’ road cut trench to install new service at the above location.

Road Opening – 13 Holmes Street

Moved by Garron and seconded by Millias, the Board unanimously approved Permit #2019-12 issued to Columbia Gas of Massachusetts for a 4’ x 6’ road cut tie in & 4’ x 10’ road cut trench to install new service at the above location.

**EXECUTIVE SESSION**

Moved by Garron and seconded by Millias, the Board voted as follows to enter into Executive Session at 9:00 p.m. to discuss contract negotiations for Sergeants, Patrol Officers, Highway, Firefighters, Police Chief, Town Administrator and Waterman Grievances (HEO wage, release of personal file documents, 2-week suspension & termination):

|  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- |
| Kim R. Roy | - | Yes |
| Troy E. Garron | - | Yes |
| Thomas Millias | - | Yes |

Roy announced that no statement would be made at the end of the Executive Session and the Board would not reconvene in open session.

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Moved by Garron and seconded by Millias, the Board voted as follows to come out of Executive Session at 9:33 p.m.:

|  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- |
| Kim R. Roy | - | Yes |
| Troy E. Garron | - | Yes |
| Thomas Millias | - | Yes |

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**MEETING ADJOURNED**

There being no further business, moved by Garron and seconded by Millias, the Board unanimously voted to adjourn the meeting at 9:33 p.m.

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Gordon C. Andrews

Clerk

/pjm