HALIFAX BOARD OF SELECTMEN

SELECTMEN MEETING

TUESDAY, OCTOBER 12, 2021 – 6:30 P.M.

SELECTMEN MEETING ROOM

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Meeting came to order at 6:45 p.m. with Selectmen, Gordon C. Andrews, Troy E. Garron and Ashley A. DiSesa 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.

**AGENDA**

Moved by Garron and seconded by DiSesa, the Board unanimously approved the agenda for Tuesday, October 12, 2021.

**MINUTES**

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

Regular Session – June 8, 2021

Regular Session – July 13, 2021

**AFFIRMED WARRANTS, COMMITMENT & BILL**

Moved by DiSesa and seconded by Garron, the Board voted as follows to affirm payment of the following warrant:

|  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- |
| Gordon C. Andrews | - | Abstained |
| Troy E. Garron | - | Yes |
| Ashley A. DiSesa | - | Yes |

|  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- |
| Vendor Warrant | #31 | $ 303,092.39 |

Moved by DiSesa and seconded by Garron, the Board unanimously voted to affirm payment of the following warrant:

|  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- |
| School Warrant | #32 | $ 334,566.06 |

Moved by Garron and seconded by DiSesa, the Board unanimously voted to affirm payment of the following commitment:

|  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- |
| Ambulance Commitment  9/20/21-9/26/22 | for | $ 28,527.97 |

Moved by Garron and seconded by DiSesa, the Board unanimously affirmed payment of the following Selectmen bill:

|  |  |
| --- | --- |
| Sandra Nolan (reimbursement for paper) ….…………. | $ 40.47 |
|  |  |

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**APPROVED WARRANTS & COMMITMENT**

Moved by DiSesa and seconded by Garron, the Board voted as follows to approve payment of the following warrants:

|  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- |
| Gordon C. Andrews | - | Abstained |
| Troy E. Garron | - | Yes |
| Ashley A. DiSesa | - | Yes |

|  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- |
| Payroll Warrant | #33 | $ 417,087.67 |
| Vendor Warrant | #34 | $ 1,365,200.80 |
| Mobile Home Park Fee | #10 | $ 5,160.00 |

**APPROVED BILLS**

Moved by DiSesa and seconded by Garron, the Board voted as follows to approve payment of the following Selectmen bills:

|  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- |
| Gordon C. Andrews | - | Abstained |
| Troy E. Garron | - | Yes |
| Ashley A. DiSesa | - | Yes |

|  |  |
| --- | --- |
| National Grid (Town Hall electricity)…………………………………...  Brook & DeRensis, P.C. (legal services/September)…............................  RELX Inc. dba LexisNexis (MA law books subscription)....................... | $ 1,343.03  $ 18,466.55  $ 74.26 |

**SCHEDULED APPOINTMENTS**

**Steve Corkren – Appointment to Historic District Commission**

Moved by DiSesa and second by Garron, the Board unanimously voted to appoint Steve Corkren to the Historic District Commission.

**Dan Barrows – Monponsett Ponds**

Don Barrows, President of the Monponsett Watershed Association, came in to talk about the ponds. He began by saying that they want to get ahead of the issues for next year and they need think about is what needs to be done for next year because of all the different studies and things.

The State has given the Town $124,000, which has to be spent by June 30th of 2022. The town money will stay where it is even if it remains unused. Seelig said treatments can probably be done this next spring, late April or early May.

Barrows asked about the invasive weeds and Seelig said he hopes to go out to bid this winter for an herbicide treatment to be done late in April because we want to hit the weeds just as they are starting to grow, not at the end of the cycle.

Seelig said there is approximately $180,000 in the town’s funds for Monponsett Pond. The State funds only can be used for the cyanobacteria and not for the milfoil.

Barrows said there was an issue with flooding and wanted to see if there was a plan that when there is an extreme water event someone is doing something to get the gates open.

Garron asked if there was an agreement with Brockton to open the gates and Seelig said it is informal. Seelig thinks that when there is a forecast for a hurricane coming in or a major rainstorm for several days, and/or the water level of Monponsett Pond goes above a certain number of inches versus the benchmark that they do the diversion, and informally we’re doing that right now.

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He agrees they should get something more formal, so we do not have to wait for complaints from residents.

Barrows said that there have been some chatter/emails about how the City of Brockton can’t open the gate because they think they can’t close it again. So, to that point he suggested that everyone go to the dam and ask these questions while standing right in front of it.

Andrews asked if Monponsett Watershed is being told when the Central Plymouth County Water District’s meeting are and Barrows said no, and that they were not meeting live and then they had fallen to Zoom, He can go to the next meeting and can and ask that question, but thinks he needs the BoS with him.

Garron asked if a letter can be sent in the meantime so that they are aware of what the issues are. Seelig said he can get a letter to Central Plymouth but also to the City of Brockton to let them know of the things we would like done in the next couple of months.

Andrews asked if there was a level of the pond that they wanted to ensure, and Barrows said there are there’s laws that restrict as to how much can be diverted.

Seelig will get a letter out to the City of Brockton and Central Plymouth County Water District and will keep Barrows posted.

**Cannabud Co. – Marijuana dispensary – Map 95 Lot 10 (Monponsett Street)**

Andrews recused himself from this discussion

Lesley Hawkins, counsel for Mr. Tringali, introduced herself to the Board and thanked them meeting with them.

Phil Tringali is the is the founder, chief investor and operator of CannaBud, and he is looking to open an adult-use dispensary. This is part of a seven-acre purchase and one of the reasons this spot is so appealing is not just because it is kind of on the outskirts and it’s away from kind of denser residential, denser commercial use, but it is also appropriately zoned - industrial zone which would allow for the adult-use with a special permit from the Board of Selectmen as well as a special site review from the Planning Board. The site is not in violation of any of the other requirements of the Zoning i.e., proximity to another establishment, areas where children congregate to proximity etc. This space will allow them to build it from the ground up and build a state-of-the-art dispensary ranging from public safety concerns, security concerns, to the operational pieces. There will be ample parking (50 spaces for patrons & employees).

They are looking at operating 8:00 a.m. to 8:00 p.m. but they are flexible. There would be 20 plus or minus patrons at a time. All of the queuing would be done outside. They are looking at six to eight employees per shift - total of 25 employees, plus or minus, with a very strong local hiring preference - people residing within the town of Halifax but if there are not enough applicants then neighboring communities and a very strong veterans hiring preference. The retail area of this space would be between 1900 and 2400 square feet. Because it would be newly constructed, they will have the opportunity to set up online ordering and now that curbside pickup has been allowed during the pandemic, they believe that the CCC is going to actually adopt that to be continued at their discretion. This will allow more flexibility to encourage curbside pickup with either a drive-thru staff area or with walk-up staff area, which encourages faster turnaround time and faster pickup times.

DiSesa asked how the drive-up thing would work i.e. knowing who was in the car is that person and Harkin explained that it is like going to a bank you would still have to present ID when first coming into the establishment which will all be gated. Your second point of identification would be actually that interaction with the teller, just like if you would at a walk-up.

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She said that having the drive-thru is not a deal-breaker, and there are municipalities that are very wary of it, but they can have a conversation about it.

DiSesa asked if he had another store elsewhere and he said no.

DiSesa asked about security and Harkins said they are bringing on is a former member of the Marine Corps, he was a colonel and has 20-plus years in private security and operations. Should the town think that this is an appropriate site, they would put out an RFP to someone who is cannabis specific as they want to go above and beyond as this is his first store in Halifax.

Tringali added that there is a perimeter fence incorporated around the retail store, a gated security guard and a gated entrance leading to in the perimeter of the store. There is also a security office within the building and a security person that will monitor each car that comes in and every person that enters the perimeter. He also said that the vault meets any State’s requirements today with the Cannabis Control Commission.

Garron asked what type of lighting will be around the perimeter and he said there will be light around the whole front. Harkins said the State has their guidelines for lighting but they would like to have a conversation with the police and anyone else the Board thinks is appropriate. They also are very much dedicated the security footage as they want to make sure that police, State Police are looped into that, and we are on a constant basis so that it can always be accessed.

Tringali said that all of the funding is in place for the purchase, and they are ready to go. He has three other team members working with him on this, two construction firms and a principal on the real estate program.

DiSesa asked about restrooms for the public and Harkins said social consumption is not legal and whereas this is not a place of assembly, restrooms are discouraged, seating areas are discouraged, because we want you to come in, do your transaction, and move on.

Tringali said he has been waiting for this for a long time, this business plan took him a year to put together. The company was started the beginning of this year, his offer as accepted in March, and then Boards were notified of his intentions. Unfortunately, there have been delays, National Heritage on one end, and he has had a few.

Harkins said that Tringali has put a lot of time, thought and effort into how he can do this in a responsible way, and some of the things they are thinking about in addition to the local hiring is they would like to have open communication and meet six times a year. Should this establishment be allowed to open and operate they have a dedicated phone number to continue the communication with not just the municipal departments but also the residents, and business owners. In terms of the positive impact on the community they are looking at approximately 25 positions for a mix of full and part-time. In addition to the 3% community impact they would be looking for help in establishing a Board of Directors to determine how those monies are spent but they understand that the 3% Community Impact Fee legally has to go to cost reasonably related to the operation itself sometimes. They anticipate a significant amount of sale and revenue that could generate money for the town, especially as they move towards their second year where the projections are looking at anywhere between 23 and 26 million dollars in gross sales. They didn’t want to submit a draft HCA without having a conversation with the Board and getting their feedback and would like to formally ask to be allowed to schedule a Community Impact Meeting.

DiSesa asked about the sign offs they were waiting for with National Heritage and Harkins said they have a binding letter of intent.

DiSesa was not opposed to him re-scheduling and speaking with the town but would not be comfortable signing off on the HCA or anything like that until all of that has gone through. Hawkins said they are asking if they can you move forward with the Community Impact meeting as it needs to come before the HCA. Garron had no issues.

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Tringali said everything is in place – the financing is done for the property and as soon as it is released it will be ours, and with the blessing of the town we will proceed to put in a brand new marijuana facility. He will be going to a convention and will be reviewing security systems, the latest in computer software and everything else for the store. He will have a full presentation of everything that they are going to do. Tringali further said that the property itself was just over seven acres, there was just over three acres of upland on the front of the property, there was 456 feet of frontage on Route 58, it is away from town so they do not anticipate any traffic issues, it is more than 300 feet from residential – this is the perfect spot in our town.

DiSesa asked if they needed a motion and Seelig said he was bringing that issue up for a different facility. He stated that both marijuana applicants can come in and suggested November 2nd as this would give them time to advertise and notify the abutters. The Board agreed on November 2nd starting at 6:30.

DiSesa asked would it be in person, zoom or both and Seelig said Zoom would probably be easier because we are asking two groups of residents but that is up to the Board. DiSesa felt it would be more beneficial to be in person but also wants to give the option for people to be able to zoom in if they are not comfortable or cannot make it.

**Planning Board, Conservation Commission & ZBA – Discussion on Regulatory Personnel & Supervisors**

Andrews checked with Town Counsel and was told he could participate in this discussion.

One of the members on the Planning Board, stated that they are asking for the Board of Selectmen to vote to allow them to have their own secretary and hire (inaudible).

Kim King, member of the Conservation said that Conservation voted at their last meeting on this issue, and it was a four to one vote. She was the ‘no’ vote – they would like to stay as is; continue under the Regulatory Board. They talked about the ideas that Selectman Andrews brought forward about having a secretary/agent and they were not overly thrilled with that idea. She did some research and reported it to the Board with other towns but there is no other town to have a comparison to so it would take a lot more research to see if it was even possible to have that doable, and with her being new she would need guidance from Seelig and the BoS but they definitely like to see an agent in the future. Andrews asked if they had an agent then that person could take care of the administrative work. King said yes but there was no comparable towns with the pay rate or the hours worked and all the other towns that are comparable to Halifax have an administrative assistant and an agent so there will some difficulty there and we would have to be creative and do more research and the Board didn’t feel that having one person do both be possible.

Amy Troup, member of the Planning Board asked King why you’re, why you think you know, and what you thought the reason and the rest of the Board is just, so what was your reason for now simple.

King said where Conservation Commission is so different than the rest of the Boards in town they do not necessarily fall under the Building Inspector and personally felt it would be best to have their own Administrative Assistant/Secretary and Agent report directly to the Commission because they have more knowledge and other things of what conservation does and more updated on the new acts and regulations that come in and so much changes for conservation monthly even if it is just a small policy or one word change it really affects the whole law and the regulations. My Board felt differently because they like the way that it operates and that if someone is out sick or something and they did not want it to become “I only answer Conservation” if the Building Inspector or the Board of Health or someone had a question, they didn’t want any potential issues. Troup said that they should team work on things like that so that should that does not happen.

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Building Inspector Perry has no problem with keeping Conservation. He did not initiate this but is willing to do whatever they need to do to move forward. As far as payroll goes, he can move payroll for Planning Board if that helps the situation, so whatever works for the town.

Garron said he has not heard a good explanation of what the deficiencies are. Why such a radical change all of a sudden. Troup did not think it was a radical change and said in the past couple of years their secretary has not listen to what needed to be done. He then stated it more so personality more than anything else and she wouldn’t say that, and he said if it is the same the same person.

Troup said she has only been on for the last couple of years, she had noticed that they did not have direct control of what their secretary was and was not doing or putting on agendas. When you call and ask for something to be on the agenda and we are getting questioned, that is not really how the secretary should be acting.

King said Conservation never had that trouble with Terry - the Chair or anybody else. Terry was great to us but we didn’t share the same administrative assistant, but she knows that others have had issues as Chair and others trying to get an agenda item on. She does not think that’s fair to the Boards or very effective when the Chair and the Board members can’t discuss what they need to discuss.

Andrews did not see there being a problem with the Planning Board being in control of their secretary seeing as they are an elected Board. They are the only elected committee that doesn’t have direct control over the public contact that is here in the building.

Gordon Andrews, member of the PB, wanted to reiterate that the secretary should come onto the Planning Board, and they should be directing the secretary what they want. The last time the secretary got hired they were not consulted as to who was getting a job and to what she was being trained on. It was totally taken away from them - it does not make any sense and when he spoke with the secretary, she told him that she is a recommendation for the Building Inspector. That does not work as a secretary.

DiSesa asked if Conservation had a new secretary yet and King said she has not been informed but did pick the top four and interviews are going on between the Chair and Perry.

Perry said two candidates were interviewed last week and we were going to touch base and make a decision, but he has not heard back from Kathy Evans (Chair of Conservation). DiSesa asked what has the hold up been because she said that they have had applications for quite a while, and he said it was just timing on Conservation’s part. King said she was given the applications a week and a half ago through email and that she is not the Chair, hence did not know. DiSesa asked how long have they had the applications and Perry said he dropped the physical applications at least four weeks ago or more.

DiSesa we really need to hold all these Boards accountable including them. Something she has learned in the short time being on the BoS is that no one wants to work together we all want to blame each other and that is not going to work for Halifax anymore. We need to support each other because if we don’t support each other then the residents fail. She thinks they need to figure out a way to start, especially with some of these appointed Boards, why the jobs are not being done properly and going in the right direction. Personally, she saw the applications come in and saw Seelig put the job posting out, so she knows he did what he needed to do. The fact that we still do not have a secretary is a problem and that we are sitting here tonight having a meeting with Zoning, Conservation and Planning and Zoning is not even here and only the newest member of Conservation has showed up. This is not okay.

King said she got the feeling that at the Conservation meeting last week they thought that tonight was voluntary.

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Garron asked Town Accountant Nolan if they can afford putting more people on payroll and Nolan said she does not think they are looking to put another person on payroll. We had a Conservation Commission secretary; we are just trying to replace them.

DiSesa asked if we ever had a Conservation Agent and Nolan said the last Conservation Agent we had left in 2009. Building was down and we did not have the need for it, Conservation at that time chose to discontinue the position because they did not have that many applications coming forth and they could get a review engineer to do the work.

DiSesa asked how we feel about that now, today. King said Conservation is in charge of so much more than just reviewing plans.

Andrews asked if the secretary is funded from an Article and Nolan explained that the secretary had two fundings. There was funding through the Regulatory Board, but then there was other funding that was put aside for extra hours if need be and for the hiring of an engineer to do delineations or something that was at the request of the Conservation. There is a dual purpose for that Article but the initial funding for the Conservation Secretary was through the Regulatory Board, and then we put extra money in there because we didn’t have an agent, the secretary was being asked to do more work, so it was extra money to support those Articles, which comes from the wetland funds i.e., wetlands fees which pay for the application.

Andrews said seeing as Conservation is not here, he thinks they should put Conservation’s question to the next meeting. He asked Garron and DiSesa if there was further discussion on the Planning Board. DiSesa thinks if they are the only elected Board who does not have control of their secretary it only makes sense to give them control especially where we have Mr. Perry who’s willing to help with the payroll issue.

Nolan asked how payroll is going to work – is the Planning Board, are they still going to be pulling money from the Regulatory Board budget and Andrews said he would think so for this fiscal year. Nolan said it would have to be for this fiscal year because there is no other way to fund that position. The hours would be um still reported to the Building Inspector and he would still do the payroll. Andrews said the Planning Board would sign off on the payroll and Perry authorized as the signature ….

She asked if the PB would be the ones who sign off on the payroll, because we really need that person who is signing off on the payrolls to make sure they are coming in every couple of weeks to sign off and be available. Perry said right now the secretary checks in in the morning when she shows up and checks out when she leaves in the afternoon, so that could still happen. He does not see any reason that you guys are just looking to have more control over your secretary.

Nolan said the intention was that the Boards have control over their secretary but that they would have a supervisor in the building, being the Building Inspector, just to help out in case someone needed help. Perry said that is going to continue.

King asked why there isn’t a time clock and Seelig if the Board was going to institute that it would probably go under the Wage and Personnel By-Law since it would be an entirely different system of conditions of employment. Andrews said they could dd that to the Wage and Personnel questions with FinCom whether or not it’s needed or not.

Seelig said the challenge really is at some point someone physically needs to sign the payroll whether it’s a member of the Planning Board who comes in at the appropriate time or whether it is Perry either one works. The Planning Board can assign Perry that duty.

Andrews added the Chair or vice Chair could be the primary and then the alternate could be the Building Inspector.

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Nolan would have to check that because right now it is it’s under Regulatory and Perry is the Department Head, but the law says on a committee if that person answers to the committee it has to be that committee who signs it. DiSesa said the Planning Board right now has somebody who comes in and signs anyways for plans and other stuff so they could vote that one person to come into sign the payroll.

Troup said that they have meetings the first an thirds Thursdays so they would not be missing out if it was timed correctly. She also said would like to come in more often to have more on hands-on time with the secretary.

Moved by DiSesa and second by Garron, the Board unanimously voted to have the Planning Board Secretary report to the Planning Board.

King spoke with Bob Valery, Health Agent, and he mentioned that would like to work closely with Conservation to have a better relationship with them.

DiSesa stated that they are going to move Conservation to the next meeting and as far Zoning they did not ask to change anything and Mr. Perry doesn’t want to change that, they didn’t show up tonight, so her guess is leaving Zoning the way it is since he’s the Zoning Enforcement Officer. She did not feel a need to move that to the next agenda but would put Conservation on the next agenda.

**Darlene Regan – Volunteer Programs - Other Elder Service Agencies**

CoA Director, Darlene Regan came in to discuss volunteer programs sponsored by other agencies, how the Town can participate, and what the Town’s obligations would be. She began by saying that it is a federal program that is administered through Coastline. This program gives people over the age of 55 the opportunity to stay employed, benefits any of the paid, it’s a paid position that is funded through the federal programs, whereas AmeriCorps is volunteer. They are two different programs but under the umbrella of the Executive Office of Elder Affairs and gives us the opportunity to utilize services under these particular programs.

Courtney Krajeski, Volunteer Coordinator at Old Colony Elder Services/AmeriCorps, explained that they recruit volunteers 55 and over specifically for this program because the intent is taking advantage of those with lived and learned experiences, so they can help support and improve the programs that already exist, whereas when you recruit for younger persons, high school and even college students, you have to train them up, you have to do a bit more hand-holding so we take on the resources that are available to us to help support and improve those programs. As for AmeriCorps Senior Volunteers – there is s no pay or incentive for them to participate in the programs.

Garron asked if they would bring people in from out of town and Krajeski said they recruit not only for the local town but also if there are programs that you need support with and you are not finding the resources within your own community, we have other volunteers from outside the community that can come in as well, so you feel supported, and we also help to develop programs. So, if there is a senior in town that wants to learn how to paint, we can help find volunteers that will come in and teach painting or drawing or knitting or sewing or music – can help support music and memory programs for any cognitive decline, whether it is dementia programs, Alzheimer’s.

Moved by DiSesa and seconded by Garron, the Board unanimously voted to approve the Host Agency Agreement with Coastline Elderly Services, Inc.

**New Van Driver – Discussion on Starting Wage**

Regan is asking that the Board of Selectmen and Finance Committee approve a starting pay rate for the new van driver at Grade 2, Step 5 ($19.11) instead of Step 1 ($15.12) as the applicant has previous experience.

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Moved by DiSesa and seconded by Garron, the Board unanimously voted to allow the new van driver start at Grade 2, Step 5.

**GATRA**

The Greater Attleboro and Taunton Regional Transit Authority contacted Council on Aging Director Darleen Regan and Seelig about the possibility of Halifax joining. There were discussions a couple of years ago but those halted during the pandemic. They will talk with them again on October 13th at 11 a.m. to find out what services GATRA might be able to provide and how it could supplement the work done by the CoA’s Elderbus program.

Recycling Abatements

Moved by Garron and seconded by DiSesa, the Board voted to abate Bill #2239, #2503, #561, #682, #1160, #124, #2572, #1913, #367, #2247, #1477, #1829, #2383, #378, #2618, #326, #1973, #394, #1265, #2071, #2264, #1985, #2148, #1014, #2393, #2650, #2269, #1235, #1359, #1272, #1080, and #2276 based on the fact that the office has received confirmation from their private haulers that they provide recycling service to the residents.

Turkey Swamp/Earth Removal

The permit holder trying to close out this project. Waiting for Conservation Commission “okay”.

Recording Secretary

Given the number of meetings the Board of Selectmen is holding, the Board should give some consideration to hiring a “recording secretary”. That person would watch the video of the meeting and then write -up the minutes. McSherry would continue to handle all the paperwork for the meeting (before and after). Otherwise, the office will continue to be behind on the production of minutes or else not get other work done. The Town Accountant and Finance Committee will be contacted about the comparison from other towns.

Funding Source/Town Hall Lobby Monitor/Wall-Mount

Seelig is not sure that when the Board approved this project, what its intention was for a funding source ($513). If it is Data Processing, that line item may need a line item transfer at the end of the year depending how much other equipment is needed during FY2022.

Transfer of “Parcel B” on Aldana Road

Moved by Garron and seconded by DiSesa, the Board unanimously voted to have the Chair, Gordon C. Andrews sign the transfer “Parcel B” on Aldana Road.

Transfer of “Sliver” on Aldana Road

Moved by Garron and seconded by DiSesa, the Board unanimously voted to have the Chair, Gordon C. Andrews sign the *disclosure statement* for the transfer of the “sliver” on Aldana Road to DCAMM.

National Opioid settlement/Filing of Documents

A nationwide settlement has been approved. If Halifax wishes to participate, then it needs to:

1. Register at the settlement web site
2. Begin to review the documents and prepare questions for Town Counsel and the AG’s Office. January 2, 2022, is the deadline to decide whether to participate
3. Monitor communications for the participation agreement, release, a model resolution, and instructions to execute these documents via DocuSign

This was moved to the Board’s meeting on October 18th when Paul DeRensis will be here.

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Ambulance Abatements

Moved by Garron and seconded by DiSesa, the board unanimously voted to approve ambulance abatements for September 2021 for $167,392.70.

Zoning By-Law Review Committee

Meeting rescheduled to October 27 at 5:30 pm.

Monponsett Pond Earmark

Moved by DiSesa and seconded by Garron, the Board unanimously voted to have the Chair, Gordon C. Andrews sign the contract for the testing and treatment of cyanobacteria and related contaminants.

Proposed Streetlight/Monponsett Street

Because of a serious accident several weeks ago, Kristin Barry has asked that a streetlight (or flashing arrow or guard rail) be installed at this site. The Traffic Safety Committee is meeting later this week and the Board could wait for a recommendation from the Committee. Past practice is to have Town Meeting approve each additional streetlight given that the budget for streetlights is based on a specific number. The board will wait to hear back from the Traffic Safety Committee.

Silver Lake Capital Plan

Proposed meeting on November 18th at 5pm (virtual meeting).

Green Earth Cannabis

Seelig has not received any advice from Town Counsel concerning the issue of what criteria the Board can use in making a decision concerning the HCA. The Board will continue this discussion to October 18th.

Plymouth County ARPA/CARES Program

The first 25% of funding is available for each community based on a per resident basis. Communities will need to submit proposals for funding. Plymouth County will decide whether it fits ARPA criteria. Depending on the type of project (usually connected to COVID or economic assistance), proposals under $250K will be reimbursed instead of a direct grant. The Town has asked for guidance from Plymouth County CARES (not ARPA) about a possible $17K expenditure for Tec-Gen 51 personal protective gear for the Fire Department.

715 Old Plymouth Street – Site Visit

DiSesa and Garron had prior commitments on October 2nd, so they were unable to do the site visit. Seeing as there were a couple of conflicts between the BoS and a date could not be settled on they decided to bring it back at their meeting on October 18th.

Green Earth Cannabis

Andrews rescued from this discussion

Resident (Kristen) was not happy that those viewing on Zoom had been on this call for two hours waiting for the Board to address Green Earth Cannabis and now they are not. She stated that the Board should have said this was not going to be address at the beginning of the meeting. Seelig explained that the Board is meeting with Town Counsel on October 18th to get advice as there are legal issues as to what criteria the Board can use to make a decision on signing the HCA so adding this discussion to their October 18th agenda was the wise thing to do.

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She further said this is complete disregard of those who stayed on the line and have been showing up consistently opposing and/or supporting it and Seelig stated that the Board has heard what she said, and they will take it under consideration in for future changes.

M&SBC Report

Work is being done on the Highway Barn, Town Hall, Police Station, ADA Assessment, and the Fire Station.

Social Media Policy

Calouro continues to write up the proposed final version for the Board.

Andrews thinks need to talk about this in an employee & committee meeting because members cannot comment because it would be an open meeting violation.

DiSesa suggested emailing the department heads asking them to talk with their staff about this and then bring back to the Board.

Andrews said to hold off on this and they can talk with Paul DeRensis on October 18th about this.

Proposed Storage Facility - 314 Plymouth Street

The site plan is on the “buffet” in case any of the members of the Board wish to provide comments to the Planning Board and the Zoning Board of Appeals.

Andrews does not think it fits in the area and Planning board is looking for comments.

Amy Troup, PB member, stated that they have not voted on it as there were issues of the size of the building and the applicant will need a special permit.

Kimberley King, Conservation Commission member, said that Conservation was concerned with draining issues.

Andrews suggested having a joint meeting with ZBA, Planning, BoH and ConCom when the plans come in. DiSesa agrees that is may not fit here in Halifax but maybe the plans can be revised.

Ragnar Relay

Ragnar had proposed an event pre-pandemic but cancelled. The relay is a 200 mile race featuring teams of runners. The event is for October 22-23, 2021, with the Halifax portion from 2 am to 7 am on Saturday, October 23rd with a transfer point at the Elementary School. They have sent a note to the Police Chief and contacted the school. Andrews asked Chief Chaves if a detail was needed, and he said that they are using the sidewalks on Rt. 106 and it would be difficult to get someone at the time. He further said that there is not a lot of traffic at that time, and he will reach out to the event coordinator.

Moved by Garron and seconded by DiSesa, the Board unanimously granted permission to Amber Sadlier, Senior Race Director for Ragnar Relay Series, to set up a runner exchange location in the Halifax Elementary School parking lot on Saturday, October 23, 2021 pending approval from Police Chief Chaves.

Redistricting Maps

The proposed redistricting may divide Halifax into two districts for State Representative. Precinct 2 (the north section) would be part of Representative Cutler’s 6th Plymouth and Precinct 1 (the south section) would be part of Representative LaNatra’s. Halifax would remain a part of the “Brockton” senatorial district (SD34). The Board would like both precincts in Halifax to be in one district rather than split into two districts as they felt the residents should be united rather than divided by district boundaries. Seelig will send a letter to Rep LaNatra letting her know the Boards view on this.

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**EXECUTIVE SESSION**

Moved by DiSesa and seconded by Garron, the Board voted as follows to enter into Executive Session at 8:40 p.m. to discuss contract negotiations for Sergeants, Patrol Officers, Firefighters, Highway, “Mixed-Unit”, & all unions at the SLRSD & HES and to discuss the deployment of security personnel or devices, or strategies with respect thereto:

|  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- |
| Gordon C. Andrews | - | Yes |
| Troy E. Garron | - | Yes |
| Ashley A. DiSesa | - | Yes |

as discussing strategy with respect to collective bargaining in an open meeting may have a detrimental effect on the bargaining position of the Town.

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

Moved by Garron and seconded by DiSesa, the Board voted as follows to come out of Executive Session at 9:40 p.m.:

|  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- |
| Gordon C. Andrews | - | Yes |
| Troy E. Garron | - | Yes |
| Ashley A. DiSesa | - | Yes |

**MEETING ADJOURNED**

There being no further business, moved by Garron and seconded by DiSesa, the Board unanimously voted to adjourn the meeting at 9:40 p.m.

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Jonathan Selig

Clerk

/pjm

Documents referenced

Memo from Monponsett Watershed Association Re: questions regarding the ponds

Printout of presentation from Cannabud Co.

Letter from Kristen Barry Re: lack of streetlight lighting on Monponsett Street

Monthly status report from M&SBC

Email from Amber Sadlier Re: Ragnar Relay information