

MINUTES  
**Tues, March 7, 2023**  
**Select Board Meeting – 6:00PM**  
**Town Hall Community Room 1<sup>st</sup> Floor & Virtual**  
27 Sturbridge Rd.  
Holland, MA 01521

Select Board Members in attendance: Clelland Johnson, Ernie Fancy, James Whalen

Others in attendance: Stacy Stout (Town Administrator), Lauren LaBel (The Reminder), Chief Gagne (Holland Fire Chief), Val Lundin (Town Clerk), Rick Lundin, Kathy Boyer (Assistant Town Clerk), Sarah Naples (Aqua Riders), Gary Naples (Aqua Riders), Chris Polkowski (Aqua Riders), Ron Seaburg, Michael Breor (Recreation Committee)

Meeting called to order by Chair at 6:00pm

1. Public Hearing- Mail in Voting

- a. The Town Clerk would like to opt out of mail in voting for the upcoming election in June. The Mail in voting was required for the Primary elections and was very costly to the Town. Walk in voting and absentee ballots to the Town Hall would still be available. This will have to be voted on every year.

Motion to opt out of mail in voting for the local election this year by E Fancy, 2<sup>nd</sup> by J Whalen; All in favor, Yes

- 2. Aqua Riders – They would like to host an adaptive waterskiing clinic on Hamilton Reservoir, along with Webster Water Ski Collective and Team Hoyt. This event would run on June 21, 2023 from 8:00am – 4:00pm. They would like permission to have 3 skiers behind one boat and to forgo counterclockwise boat traffic. They will contact Police Chief about possible police patrols that day.

Motion to allow Aqua riders of Holland and adaptive waterskiing program to use the lake on June 21<sup>st</sup> from 8:00am – 4:00pm and to have the Chief of Police sign the acknowledgement by J Whalen, 2<sup>nd</sup> by E Fancy; all in favor, Yes

3. ARPA Requests-

- a. Recreation Committee- They are looking for recreational field upgrades and renovations. They have separated them into four categories. Recreation will get more information and prioritize the order of importance of their request.
  - i. Structural repairs and Improvements- storage sheds, dugouts, snack shack, scoreboards and fixing existing bleachers.

- ii. Field Enhancements- New benches, picnic tables and replacing existing bleachers
  - iii. Athletic Field renovations- Baseball, softball and T-ball field overhaul
  - iv. Ongoing and Seasonal field maintenance- Purchase of a utility vehicle and accessories for upkeep and maintenance.
- b. Large Causeway – a resident wants to know if the large causeway is being considered for ARPA funds. It is being looked at in by MVP and Lake oversight Committee. It is currently in the assessment phase to identify what needs to be considered. A Letter in writing outlining the ideas on improvements to the causeway can be submitted for consideration.
- 4. Ambulance services- Tri Town ambulance committee met. The Wales Selectboard voted to continue the contract with Action Ambulance and start negotiations on a new three-year contract. The Brimfield Selectboard will vote on Monday. After everyone has voted the ambulance committee will meet again to go over the contract and update anything needed. They will then bring in Action Ambulance without going out to bid to another contract. There is a general agreement to continue with the current contract and use it as a template going forward to protect our communities in the future. We are now receiving between 85–92% ALS services. The previous staffing issues have greatly improved.

Motion to have the Selectboard authorize the Tri-Town Ambulance committee to take the one- year renewal in current contract and to enter negotiations for a new 3-year Tri-Town ambulance service contract by J Whalen, 2<sup>nd</sup> by E Fancy; all in favor, Yes

5. Minutes - Tabled

6. Appointments –

- a. Mike Barker to Recreation Committee
- b. Jennifer Gumlaw as Interim Board Clerk

Motion to appoint Mike Barker to Recreation Committee by J Whalen, 2<sup>nd</sup> by E. Fancy: Roll Call to Vote: all in favor, Yes

Motion to appoint Jennifer Gumlaw as Interim Board Clerk by E Fancy, 2<sup>nd</sup> by J Whalen: Roll Call to Vote: all in favor, Yes

7. Warrant Articles

- a. Assessor- Transfer of Funds

## 8. FY24 Budget

- a. We received preliminary feedback on a Collins study that we participated in. There is work being done on a previous study for the Town of Holland based on years of experience and level of responsibility. Finance board has requested that the study gets worked on and it is being worked on as quickly as possible. The Town Administrator is working on this as the manager of all positions along with the Treasurer as the payroll admin of all positions.
- b. Finance should be notified of the possible increase in the negotiations with upcoming Ambulance contract.
- c. The Selectboard need to come up with a realistic IT budget.

## 9. Reserve Fund Transfers – IT Services

- a. The accountant recommended notifying the vendor that they would be paid in May, and then do an account to account transfer out of the Selectboard budget after May 1<sup>st</sup>. Other account options will be looked into. IT will be notified that we are working on paying their invoices.

## 10. Board/Committee/Department updates

- a. IT Status – IT sent over a diagram and High-level project plan for the New VPN that looks to be completed by the end of March. Documentation needs to be put in writing for the Program administrator to release the ARPA funds.
- b. Finance Board -Continuing to meet with Boards/ Committees
- c. Lake Oversight Committee – No meeting. There was a sit down with Chief Haughey and Carrie Robertson to discuss the chief's overview on the dock bylaws. The dock bylaw concerning the waterfront area seems to be the biggest issue that needs to be addressed. Then other problem areas can be considered. We need to be clear on the intentions of accomplishment. Also, we need to fully understand that what is presented needs to not be too strict. Another discussion is needed
- d. Ambulance – see above
- e. ByLaw Committee –
  - i. FEMA Administrator needs to be a Town employee and cannot be a volunteer. Conservation Commission cannot be appointed as the admin. Whoever is

assigned will need to work together with conservation so that everyone understands the impact and responsibilities.

- ii. Element One – Postponed to next meeting
- f. Planning Board update – They are having trouble meeting. They have pushed through 10 of their questions and have 30 more questions to go. FEMA is looking to find out where the Planning board is on writing the required changes to the FEMA bylaws.
- g. Community Center update – The vendor has inspected the kitchen and the sink does not meet code. A new sink has been added to the quote which shouldn't exceed the requested amount. We are waiting on the final quote to come in.
- h. School Committee - Has a public hearing on Thursday night

#### 11. Select Board Communications

- a. Highway is requesting a joint meeting with Selectmen, Planning Board, and Town Council to discuss converting Sandy Beach Rd to public. They would like an article at ATM to make the road public and advice on how this is accomplished. There isn't enough time to accomplish this for this years Warrant but a joint meeting could be scheduled with an engineer present to help get the process moving.
- b. Insurance Advisory Committee (IAC) met today. This meeting was to discuss the changes to the Town Insurance. There are no changes to the Plans but the Insurance premiums are increasing 6% this year and 5% next year. There will be a reduction in the dental cost.
- c. Highway sent a letter to Selectboard about a snow & ice deficit.
- d. Selectboard received a certified letter from FEMA letting them know that they will be receiving MAPS in the mail.

#### 12. Bi-weekly Warrants for approval

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|--------------------|--------------|
| a. FY23-17A AP     | \$89,310.67  |
| b. FY23-18 Payroll | \$139,079.20 |
| c. FY23-18 AP      | \$54,447.88  |

Motion to approve all three Warrants by J Whalen, 2<sup>nd</sup> by E Fancy: All in favor, Yes

Chair Closed Meeting - Meeting Adjourned at 7:57pm  
Respectfully submitted by Jennifer Gumlaw