



**Select Board Minutes**  
**Tuesday August 15, 2017 - 6 pm**  
**Holland Town Hall**  
**27 Sturbridge Road**  
**Holland, MA**

Present:

Bettina Schmidt - Chair

Elias Gillen - Member

Lawrence Mandell - Member

Kelli A. Robbins, Esq., Executive Secretary

**Call to Order:**

Ms. Schmidt called the meeting to order at 6PM

**Approval of Minutes**

**Motion 081517-1**, Mr. Mandell to approve the July 18, 2017 minutes as amended by Ms. Schmidt. 2<sup>nd</sup> Mr. Gillen. So Voted

**Meetings with the Board**

Chief Gagne informed the Select Board that the Newington Ct. Fire Department has once again shown great generosity to the Holland Fire Department. Newington has upgraded their turn-out gear and subsequently gifted Holland with 18 sets of turnout gear. Ms. Robbins to write a letter of appreciation to Newington on behalf of the Select Board.

Chair, Schmidt met with Chief Gagne of the department in regard to promoting his wife to Deputy Chief. Mr. Gagne was in touch with the Ethics Commission, who said he could do it with the permission of the Select Board if he were to fill out the proper paperwork and submit it to the Select Board. Ms. Robbins is to check with the Ethics Commission.

Chief Gagne would like to have a contract with the Town as Fire Chief. Mr. Gillen suggested a 90 day probation period as Chief Gagne is new to the position. Mr. Mandell agreed that it was a good idea.

There was discussion regarding having done similarly in the past with the Police Chief. Ms. Robbins stated that the Police Chief got a one year contract that became a 3 year contract after the first year because he was actually acting chief for some time before being appointed as chief.

**Motion 081517-2**. Mr. Gillen to have a 90 day trial period for the Fire Chief prior to discussing a contract. 2<sup>nd</sup> Mr. Mandell. It was noted that the time frame they were discussing was going to expire very soon.

**Motion 081517-3**, Mr. Gillen to amend the original time to 120 days probationary period. 2<sup>nd</sup> Mr. Mandell. Motion to amend so voted.

**Motion 081517-4**, Mr. Gillen to have a 120 day trial period for the Fire Chief to expire 120 days from 7-1-17. 2<sup>nd</sup> Mr. Mandell. So voted.

### **Old Business**

South Boat Ramp. Mr. Mandell explained that Mr. Allard of the Lake Oversight Committee, Ms. Robbins and he spoke with Attorney Robert Nislick regarding doing an opinion on how the town could acquire land for a south boat ramp. Mr. Gillen asked if Mr. Mandell and Mr. Allard had spoken with Bacon and Wilson. Mr. Mandell said they did not. Mr. Mandell explained that Mr. Allard had done a lot of research in regard to the attorneys that specialize in land acquisition. Mr. Mandell asked the Select Board to approve a letter of engagement to hire Atty. Nislick to write an opinion. Mr. Gillen asked how long it would take the attorney to accomplish this. Ms. Schmidt stated she would not agree to have an open ended contract that could eat up the entire legal budget. Once there is a ballpark time on how long the project could take, there can be a cap placed on the expense.

Ms. Robbins will contact Atty. Nislick to get a time estimate.

### **New Business:**

Community Room Use. The Library used the Community Room for a craft event. The room was left with glitter everywhere, paint on some of the chairs, crayons ground into the carpet and along the hallway. The ladies room was left a shambles also. Ms. Schmidt will speak with the library department regarding this.

Conservation would like to follow the same path as the Board of Health in hiring a consultant. The Conservation Commission asks the Select Board to make the position of Conservation Consultant a Special Municipal Employee. Conservation has statutory authority to hire consultants. Mr. Harhay stated the consultant would be paid from wetland's protection funds.

**Motion 081517-5**, Mr. Gillen to make "Conservation Consultant" a special municipal employee position. 2<sup>nd</sup> Mr. Mandell. So voted.

### **Appoint to:**

Trails Committee has asked that Anne Hall be appointed to the Trail Committee.

**Motion 081517-6** Mr. Gillen to appoint Anne Hall to the Trail Committee. 2<sup>nd</sup> Mr. Mandell. So voted.

**Motion 081517-7** to adjourn the meeting until after the Conservation Commission hearing for the Notice of Intent to do the drawdown on Hamilton Reservoir. 2<sup>nd</sup> Mr. Mandell. So voted

Meeting adjourned 6:31 PM

Meeting reopened 7:12 PM for public access

Mr. Joseph Delaney complained regarding noise. Mr. Delaney read information he had gathered from the General Laws, the Town Zoning Bylaws and the Code of Mass Regulations. Ms. Schmidt stated that the Select Board has no authority in the area of noise complaints. The correct departments to contact are the Board of Health and the Zoning Enforcement Officer.

**Motion 081517-8** Mr. Gillen to adjourn. 2<sup>nd</sup> Mr. Mandell. So voted.

Meeting closed 7:30 PM