

Holbrook Board of Selectmen

Minutes of the Regular Session of

Monday, November 21, 2011

Present: Timothy J. Gordon, Chairman  
Brinsley A. Fuller, Clerk  
Kevin J. Sheehan, Associate

Absent: Matthew V. Moore, Vice-Chairman  
Richard B. McGaughey, Associate

In attendance: William J. Phelan, Town Administrator  
Marjorie E. Godfrey, Selectmen's Secretary

The meeting was called to order at 7:00 pm by Chairman Gordon, in the Selectmen's Meeting Room, 50 North Franklin Street, Holbrook, MA 02343, and began with the Pledge of Allegiance.

MINUTES:

MOTION: By Mr. Fuller, second by Mr. Sheehan, to approve the regular session minutes of October 11, 2011 as printed

VOTE: 3:0

MOTION: By Mr. Sheehan, second by Mr. Fuller, to accept the minutes of the regular session of October 25, 2011

VOTE: 3:0

MOTION: By Mr. Sheehan, second by Mr. Fuller, to accept the minutes of the executive session of October 25, 2011 as printed

VOTE: 3:0

TOWN ADMINISTRATOR'S REPORT:

Mr. Phelan reported:

- That there is an issue with the negotiations with the Public Employee Committee (PEC). There is a provision in the agreement that provides for new employees to get paid for two months of the cost of health insurance up front, during the 60-day initial waiting period. This amounts to a \$3,200 - \$3,300 stipend to new employees. The state has been contacted, and we are waiting for a response. Stipends are not allowed by the state; the Board would have to enter into a side agreement. The current agreement also includes a provision for any terms of the agreement that are illegal.
- He attended a regionalization grant seminar recently relative to sharing town services as well as school services. There is a short window of opportunity to apply for the grant. Mr. Phelan will get in touch with Avon and Abington regarding sharing any services.
- The town is working with the Department of Revenue to certify the tax rate on time.
- There is too short of a time frame to complete a grant application for a Community Development Block Grant (CDBG) during this grant cycle. There needs to be a complete plan in place, including public meetings.
- A Capital Improvement Planning Committee meeting will be scheduled.

- The Department of Transportation called again about the money in the Traffic Improvement Program (TIP) for traffic lights at Abington Ave. and Plymouth Street.
- A resident has reported an issue with a gazebo that has been built on Siddharth Lane. There was a wiring permit issued, but no building permit. The Building Inspector believes it is under 200 square feet in size, therefore, a building permit is not necessary. The Planning Board has requested use of counsel and the bond money on the project to resolve the issue. The Building Inspector will measure the gazebo. The road is a private way, and there is a question as to whether the town has any liability.

Mr. Stephen Olson of ENVIRONMENTAL PARTNERS reviewed the company's study report on the town's WATER SOURCE ALTERNATIVES. He provided detailed information about the four options studied: Randolph/Holbrook Joint Water, Tri Town Water (Randolph/Holbrook/Braintree), purchasing water from the City of Brockton, or connecting to the Mass. Water Resource Authority (MWRA), both with Joint Water and Holbrook alone. The conclusions of the report are that the best option for Holbrook is with Tri Town Water, and the next best option would be with the MWRA. Mr. Olson said it is significant that neither the Joint Water nor the Tri Town Water alternatives address the Great Pond Reservoir safe yield issue. Also, because a lot depends on what the other towns do, there is no one clear option.

Selectman Sheehan reviewed the PAVEMENT MANAGEMENT COMMITTEE'S REPORT. The recommendations include:

1. Seek proposals for the engineering and design of Route 139, Union Street.
  2. Hire Howard/Stein Engineers to assist with a Mass. Works Infrastructure Program Grant application.
  3. Hire Howard/Stein Engineers to prepare the Project Need Form for the traffic improvements at Weymouth, Pine and Sycamore Streets.
  4. Hire BETA Group, Inc. to prepare a Pavement Management Program.
  5. Purchase a street sweeper, heavy duty dump truck with plow and sander, and a one ton dump truck.
- Some road work could be done using money from the general fund and reimbursing it with Chapter 90 money. BETA Group would look at every road in town, review the list of accepted streets, and make sure all accepted streets are on both the Mass. Department of Transportation's (DOT) list and the town's list. A pavement management plan would help maintain the streets and make the town's money go further by utilizing crack sealing, skim coating, etc. Chapter 90 money could be used to start the process to get on the Traffic Improvement Plan (TIP) and receive more funding for the intersection of Weymouth, Pine and Sycamore Streets. The purpose of using the Chapter 90 money is to create shovel ready projects to qualify for state money after Chapter 90 is used for the design of a project. Projects will move up on the TIP more quickly if they are fully designed. In May, the town could borrow short term for the street improvements.

MOTION: By Mr. Sheehan, second by Mr. Fuller, to accept and adopt the recommendations as listed on the Pavement Management Committee's report

VOTE: 3:0

**SPECIAL TOWN MEETING:**

Mr. Phelan reported that the Firefighters' contract is not yet settled, and the Fire Chief is still running the figures for the article for additional funding of the dispatchers' salary line. He is estimating that an additional \$90,000 will be necessary to fund the new hires' salaries for the regional dispatch for FY12.

The amount of the unpaid Medicare bills is approximately \$10,000, which will be taken out of the FY12 unemployment budget, as will the funding of the textbooks for the School Department. The proposed composition of the Town Government Study Committee was discussed. It was agreed that the motion to create a Town Government Study Committee would include 4 members appointed by the Moderator, 2 appointments by the Board of Selectmen, and 1 Finance Committee member. The funding of the Stabilization account will depend on the vote of the dispatch funding. The K-12 school project petition article will be moved by the petitioner.

The Board has received two requests for an appointment to the PERMANENT SCHOOL BUILDING COMMITTEE for a member with architectural, engineering, or construction experience. Mr. John Flanagan and Mr. Michael Reith applied. Mr. Flanagan was present at the meeting and explained his qualifications.

MOTION: By Mr. Sheehan, second by Mr. Gordon, to appoint Mr. Michael Reith as the member with architectural, engineering, or construction experience on the Permanent School Building Authority with a term to expire June 30, 2012

VOTE: 2:0:1 (Mr. Fuller abstained)

Mr. Phelan explained that the Department of Housing and Community Development (DHCD) called about a one-time state earmark put in place for Holbrook by Rep. Ronald Mariano and Rep. Mark Cusack, in the amount of \$100,000. Mr. Phelan requested the legislative language.

Town Treasurer/Collector Paul Digirolamo reported that there were no bidders on the second auction of 98 ABINGTON AVE. The minimum was set at \$110,000. Two people were at the auction, but no one bid. The Building Inspector believes the minimum was too high. Reportedly, several people are interested if the bidding is opened at a reasonable amount. Mr. Digirolamo recommends a starting bid of \$85,000. The Board told him to auction it again at his discretion.

MOTION: At 8:45 pm, by Mr. Fuller, second by Mr. Sheehan, to adjourn the meeting

VOTE: 3:0

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Brinsley A. Fuller, Clerk

Documents:

Agenda

Draft minutes

Letters of interest in Perm. School Bldg. Comm. appointment

STM warrant/draft motions

List of committee vacancies

Pavement Management Committee Report