

The following Meeting was video recorded for cable broadcast.

BOARD OF SELECTMEN
Wednesday, 29 October, 2014, 7:30 o'clock p.m.
Regular Meeting
Town Hall Lower Level

Chairman Dean V. Cronin called the meeting to order at 7:30 p.m. Representatives from the Housing Committee were present (including Jeffrie Allie).

The Pledge of Allegiance was then recited.

The Minutes from October 22, 2024, were approved on a motion from Selectman Pires and seconded by Selectman Menges. Vote: Unanimously approved.

Warrants 18-A, \$ 68,962.69, and 18-B, \$16,571.59, 18-C \$93,875.05, 18-D \$3424.51 were approved on a motion by Selectman Menges, seconded by Selectman Pires. Approved by unanimous vote.

Correspondence

- From the Mass DOT regarding a Technical Assistance Grant which the Town received in the amount of \$11,000.00 was read by Chairman Cronin. This grant will assist communities in preparing for the South Coast Rail. He added that this is the second time we have received this type of Grant in his short term. He went on to thank and acknowledge Selectman Menges for being instrumental in helping us to obtain this grant and for his continued efforts to better the Town.
- Selectman Cronin also read an email correspondence from Donald Sullivan at SRPEDD regarding another technical assistance grant available from the Department of Housing and Community Development for assistance with downtown/town center revitalization efforts. This grant will supply consultant services up to \$10,000.00 to address specific issues such as Business Improvement Districts, Design, Small Business Support, Housing and Parking.

Patrick will present at a future meeting to see if there is any interest in pursuing this grant.

Announcements were read by Tom Pires. Added to the announcements were:

- Board of Selectmen's office is now selling 2 gallon sharps containers for \$7.50/each. This is a savings of \$4.50 vs. \$12.00 for 2 gallon containers.
- Added to The Dighton tribal Council's Oak Tree Ceremony was the fact that they are leaving Council Hall at 9:30 am to proceed to the Council Oak Tree.

- Added to the Dighton Arts Festival by Ed Olney strongly recommended leaving your car at the Auto Auction and taking the shuttle to the Festival. Parking is very dangerous along Williams Street on this day. Shuttle is free and leaves every 15 minutes.
- Added to Dighton Rehoboth Regional Agreement Committee meeting, by Tom Pires, was that they are expecting to be done in 2 – 3 months. Now is the opportunity for the public to provide some input if you wish.

Patrick added that this Saturday is “Fall Back”. Remember to set your clocks back.

Old Business:

- Members of The Housing Authority are present to appoint Jeffrie Allie to the Housing Committee Vacancy. Selectman Menges states that due to the passing of Frank Costa, there has been a vacancy left within the Housing Authority.
It was asked by Selectman Menges if the Housing Authority had held a quorum to vote on this appointment and the answer was “yes”.
Alice Souza motions to appoint Jeffrie Allie to the Housing Authority and it is seconded by Ed Olney. Motion unanimously approved.
The question is raised by a member of the Housing Authority as to whether the appointment is until the end of Mr. Costa’s term, or until the next election. Selectman Menges states that it could be either. Selectman Pires is of the opinion that it should be until the end of the term. And Chairman Cronin agrees, stating that it will avoid confusion and keep things uniform. NOTE: Address Correction to the appointment is, 1928 County Street for Jeffrie Allie.
Jeffrie Allie steps forward to sign, and Patrick Menges adds that Jeffrie Allie has worked as V. Chairman of the Council on Aging for approximately 9-10 years and is a retired Fire chief for the Town of Dighton as well.
- Correspondence is read by Chairman Cronin from the Civil Service Commission with regarding to determining the process necessary for filling the vacant Plumbing Inspector position within the Town.
It was suggested by the Civil Service, that the Town post the job to its website and on a bulletin within Town Hall. The Town should then maintain a list for future vacancies, and the individual can be selected from that list.
Selectman Pires asked if a civil service exam is required, Selectman Cronin answered “No.”
Motion by Selectman Pires that Board should take this under advisement and save for future reference. Seconded by Selectman Menges.

New Business:

- The Warrant for The Special Town Meeting is read by Chairman Cronin. Selectman Menges outlines the details on the reason for two Special Town Meetings in one week, and asks that the public please bring a canned good to the Town Meeting for the Food Bank, in order to make the November food bank special
- Requests for Worker's Compensation Waivers from the Town of Dighton for owner/operators working as plows during the 2014-2015 season, are read individually by Selectman Tom Pires as follows:

Simon Teles

Kevin Raposa

John Burrell, Jr.

Samuel Pine & Sons Excavating

Michael Rodrigues

All of the above are motioned for approval by Selectman Tom Pires and seconded by Selectman Menges, and unanimously approved.

- Carol Bedard has submitted a volunteer application for Dighton Historical Society, but meant Dighton Historical Commission. With the Commission being full, Selectman Menges recommends that she be appointed as an alternate member. Her qualifications are listed on the application. She has been a tutor in the Town for 17 year, as well as a substitute teacher for 4. Selectman Cronin suggest to table until next week to be performed according to the procedure. Motioned by Selectman Pires, Seconded by Selectman Menges. Motion carries.
- Execute the Energy Aggregation Contract as approved at the Town Meeting. Town of Dighton is committing to be part of a buying group to get lower rates on energy. Terms will be locked in for 1, 2 or 3 years. There is no signed contract, this is simply a commitment to be part of the group. It was mentioned at the meeting, that this will give us more buying power than the largest corporation in the U.S. Chairman Cronin stated that he and Selectmen Menges attended a meeting this morning in which they were told that Fall River has accepted. Chairman Cronin also added that National Grid rates will increase by 37% this year. As a homeowner you may opt out at any time, by phone or email with no charges and no early termination fees. There is no financial commitment to the homeowner. This was passed unanimously at the Town Meeting on Tuesday night. Motion to enter into contract for Energy Aggregation by Selectman Pires and seconded by Selectman Menges.
- Selectman Menges read memo for the Highway Superintendent for 2% pay increase in the amount of \$773.72 and a \$300.00 incentive allowance. Motion to accept as voted at the Town Meeting by Selectman Pires and seconded by Selectman Menges. Selectman Menges also noted that Highway Superintendent did not ask for this increase. Selectman Pires added that he is a remarkable individual.

- Memorandum read to increase the full-time regular weekly hours of the Building Inspector from 35-40 hours per week. Motion to accept by Selectman Pires and seconded by Selectman Menges.

Reports:

- Generator Installation report given by Selectman Menges. At the annual meeting, \$16,000.00 was appropriated for installation of a generator. Dighton Rehoboth students painted it. Once installed it will be capable of powering 100% of Town Hall. This will be a major step forward. The building may then be used as an emergency shelter or an incident command center in the event of a disaster. Selectman Menges added that there are willing hands that have volunteered to plant some foliage around it.
- Report on the Town Administrator Selection Process, given by Selectman Menges. He stated that this was voted for at the Special Town Meeting. This is in the appeal period. Once the Attorney General accepts bylaws, we will be able to begin the process. In the meantime it will incumbent upon the Board to obtain job description information from other Towns, and also determine if the committee that recommended this will stay on and assist with this process. All have indicated that they will be willing to serve. Selectman Cronin asked, "I assume that we will wait for an answer from the Attorney General? Selectman Pires added that in the meantime we will begin with the research. No motion required.

Acknowledgements:

- An anonymous donation in the amount of \$120.00 to the Council on Aging was received. Motion to accept and acknowledge by Selectman Pires. Seconded by Selectman Menges.

Public Input:

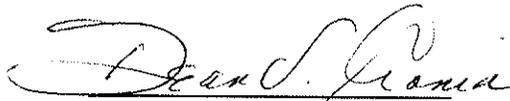
- Mr. Dempsey in attendance for Public Hearing with Verizon for a pole relocation. No one is in attendance from Verizon. Motion to approve relocation on terms agreed on between Verizon and Mr. Paste. Mr. Dempsey state that he does not want them to remove the old pole and would like them to just cut the wires. Motion to approve by Selectman Pires and seconded by Selectman Menges. Motion carries.
- As a final note Selectman Menges added that Halloween is this Friday and the Trick-or -Treaters will be out on the roads. The leaves on the road make it very slippery. This makes for a dangerous situation. Please be aware and drive safely.

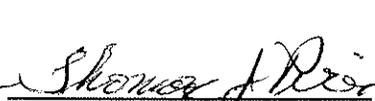
- Also, noticed that the Police Department has been pulling over a lot of motorists for moving violations. Thank you to them for their diligence.

Motion to adjourn by Selectman Pires. Seconded by Selectman Menges. Unanimously approved

Respectfully Submitted,

Karin L. Brady
Administrative Assistant
Board of Selectmen


Dean V. Cronin-Chairman


Tom Pires – Selectman


Patrick Menges - Clerk

ANNOUNCEMENTS

- On Veterans' Day, 11 November 2014, Boy Scouts of America Troop 45 will perform the Flag Raising on Veterans' Memorial Common. There will be a collation in the Town Hall, Main Floor Hearings Room, after the Ceremony.
- The Board of Health has sharps disposal containers for sale for Dighton residents only at the office (\$3.00qt/\$6.00gal). Once full, they can be brought back to the Board of Health for proper disposal at no additional cost.
- Please attend the Holiday Lights On Ceremony to be held at Town Hall on Saturday, November 29, 2014, at 3:30 pm.
- National Grid will be performing selective side pruning and/or danger tree removal along as electric transmission right of way – the "Power Lines," in Dighton, now thru March 31, 2015. Call Mariclaire Rigby at 508 860 6282 or email mariclaire.rigby@nationalgrid.com for any questions.
- On November 7, 2014, the Dighton Board of Selectmen will meet with the Rehoboth Board of Selectmen to exchange thoughts and ideas for moving forward.
- The Dighton Intertribal Council will be holding a Dighton Council Oak Tree Ceremony on Sunday, November 2, 2014. Everyone will meet at Council Hall and drop off a dish for the pot luck. The group will then drive to Council Oak Tree for the ceremony. After the ceremony, back to the hall for sharing of food, drum and dance social. Everyone in welcome.
- The Lions Club presents the 10th Annual Dighton Arts Festival, Sunday, November 2, 2014, 10:00am to 4:00pm at Araujo Farms in Dighton, MA. This event showcases local art and entertainment for all ages.
- The Dighton Rehoboth Regional Agreement Revising Committee will meet at the Media Center of Dighton Rehoboth Regional High School on Tuesday November 4th, 2014, 6:30pm. Public is welcome.
- Set your clocks back Saturday November 1, 2014. Fall back.