

The following Meeting was video recorded for cable broadcast.

BOARD OF SELECTMEN

Wednesday, 19 November, 7:30 o'clock p.m.

Regular Meeting

Town Hall –Selectmen's Meeting Room

1. **Chairman Dean V. Cronin called the meeting to order at 7:30 p.m.**
2. **The Pledge of Allegiance** was then recited.
3. **Memorial moment of silence for Joseph Coelho.**
4. **Approval of Minutes:** Minutes for BOS Regular Meeting from November 5, 2014; minutes for Board of Selectmen and Department Heads, November 5, 2014; Executive Session Meeting (Dighton LLC vs. Appellate Tax Board), November 5, 2014; Special Meeting with Sewer Commissioners, November 17, 2014; were all approved on a motion by Tom Pires and seconded by Patrick Menges.

Minutes for the Special Meeting with Industrial Development Finance Authority and Development and Industrial Commission, November 17, 2014; were motioned for approval by Chairman Dean Cronin who stepped down, due to Tom Pires not being present at the meeting, and seconded by Patrick Menges.

Warrants: **20A-15** \$120,586.53; **20B-15** \$263,591.58; **20C-15** \$2,149,108.00; dated November 12, 2014, and **21A-15** \$69,856.17; **21B-15** \$44,250.93; **21C-15** \$308,236.31; **21D-15** \$2,048.29 dated November 19, 2014, were all approved on a motion by Patrick Menges and seconded by Tom Pires.

Correspondence:

- a. Xfinity rate increase of between \$2.00 and \$2.25 per hour for various services was read aloud by Chairman Dean Cronin. Notification will be given to customers in advance via their invoices. Contact number is 508-732-1532.
- b. Daughters of the American Revolution letter to the Board was read by Selectman Pires. The DAR thanks the Board for the Town Proclamation honoring Constitution Week 2014. The letter went on to say that the document was beautifully formatted and dignified in appearance, and was included in a Constitution Week exhibit at the Somerset Public Library.

Announcements were read in part by Selectman Pires and finished by Chairman Cronin. (See attached). Noted: Change the address of Police Station to 1551 Somerset Avenue, and added

verbally that the food pantry will be open early by one week, for the Thanksgiving Holiday. It will be open this Saturday 8:00 am to 12:00 pm.

Old Business: There was no Old Business to discuss.

New Business:

- a. A write-off request from Chief Antone Roderick, Jr., of the Dighton Fire Department for ambulance run #121441, in the amount of \$96.30, due to hardship. Motion to approve by Selectman Tom Pires and seconded by Selectman Patrick Menges. Unanimously approved.
- b. Request by Lori Waterman was read by Selectman Menges, to replace a historic Town Border Marker on Maple Swamp Road. It had been taken down last summer and is currently lying on the side of the road in front of Lee Burial Vault. She remembered accompanying her father-in-law, Jack Waterman, who was a selectman in Rehoboth, on his ceremonial tour of the town borders in the late 1970's. Would like to see it returned to its original location.
Selectman Menges went on to say that Highway Superintendent Tom Ferry is of the opinion that the marker is a considerable distance from its original location. He suggested that we hire an engineer to survey and replace the marker. It was suggested, that we contact Delano & Associates in Taunton for a price. They are familiar with the area. Patrick will get in touch with Lori Waterman and let her know that we will get it replaced.
Chairman Cronin says that we should do it right to prevent any future problems, and Tom Pires added that maybe we should get in touch with Rehoboth to see if they will share in the cost. Motioned for approval by Patrick Menges and seconded by Tom Pires. Unanimously carries.
- c. A Worker's Comp Insurance waiver from Stanley Levesque, for snowplowing season 2014-2015, was motioned for approval by Tom Pires and seconded by Patrick Menges. Unanimously carries.
- d. A letter from the Dighton Rehoboth Regional School District regarding the Advisory Finance Committee, requesting that the Board of Selectmen select one member to serve on the committee along with two members from the local finance committee, was read by Selectmen Menges. He also added, that he has taken the liberty of preparing a response to the letter. His response was that we do not think that it is in the best interest to appoint a selectman to this committee. It would deprive the committee of the benefit of having someone on the committee who has school age children, but that we are thankful for the opportunity and the invitation. Selectman Pires and Chairman Cronin agree, and Selectman Cronin adds that Selectmen should not serve on every committee to do with money, budgets, etc. This gives the parents of school age children an opportunity to be serve and

be heard. Motioned for approval by Patrick Menges and seconded by Tom Pires. Unanimously carried.

- e. Correspondence from the Selectmen's office regarding Mr. James Digits being assigned to do some planting of Chestnut Trees on Town Hall property. He asked permission to plant some going down the side of the property with identification markers. Selectman Pires added that these trees are hybrid and also disease resistant, and they are currently in pots ready for planting. The only thing the Selectmen asked is that they not impede access for the emergency vehicles to the football field, which is used for large events. Selectman Pires motions for approval and is seconded by Patrick Menges. Unanimously carries.
- f. An excerpt from a document from the Forest Stewardship Implementation Grants, is read by Patrick Menges. It is a 50/50 match, but the paperwork is very involved and Chairman Cronin asks that it be put aside to give all the selectmen a chance to go over it individually. Selectman Menges says the first necessity is to enroll the Town Forest in the Stewardship Program, so we will need to determine what is required to do that. It is possible that the students at the Agricultural School may want to get involved in the process as well. Once we do that, we will have a good chance of receiving funds. Selectmen Pires thinks it is a good idea to partner with the school on this. Until we determine the process, motion is made to table by Selectman Pires, and seconded by Selectman Menges. Motion carries.

Reports:

- a. Patrick Menges reports that we have asked Rehoboth for a quarterly meeting which should have happened on November 1, 2014. Jeff Ritter has informed us the he will supply us with a suitable date. We will await word from them.

Acknowledgements:

- a. The Council on Aging submitted two anonymous donation reports, one in the amount of \$268.00 and one in the amount of \$30.00. Selectman Pires motions to accept, seconded by Patrick Menges. Motion unanimously carries. The board thanks these anonymous donors.

Public Input:

- a. Mike Thibodeau asked. How much money was acquired by the Veteran's Agent for the POW-MIA chair, flags and related hardware to be installed in the lobby. He added that this has become very big with Red Sox, and Celtics. He will mentioned at his next lodge meeting, as they do some donations to this sort of thing.
- b. The magazine "A Primitive Place," December issue, features the home of Mary Lou Watson. It features images of a well-preserved home here in Dighton. It is a reminder and an inspiration that we can maintain our heritage. Patrick Menges added, that we have only a handful of houses from the 1600's. Today demolition began on the Norman Bowen house on Main Street. Historical Society has had a

hand in this to save any items of historical value within the house. Town Government supports the saving, but also needs to be even-handed and support a person that maintains their old house, abate the hazardous materials and passes the houses on.

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

- The Board of Health has sharps disposal containers for sale for Dighton residents only at the office (\$3.00qt/\$6.00gal). We now have 2 gal size for \$7.50 (a savings of \$4.50). 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.
- Veterans Services is accepting donation for a POW-MIA chair, flags and related hardware to be installed in the Dighton Town Hall lobby. This legal notice posted in the Gazette on 11/12, 11/13 and 11/14.
- There will be no Board of Selectmen Meeting on Wednesday, November 26, 2014.
- The Thanksgiving Day football game begins at 10:00am. DR vs. Seekonk will be a home game.
- In the first week of January, the Town Clerk’s office will mail out census forms; please check your mailboxes and return census forms as soon as possible
- Dog licenses for 2015 will be available on January 5th.
- There will be a special Town Election to vote on a debt exclusion authorization for a new police station and communications center, on Tuesday, January 13th. Polls will be open from 9:00am to 7:00pm at Dighton Elementary School. Absentee ballots for the special election are now available.
- Wednesday, December 24th is the last day to register to vote for the January 13, 2015, special election. New voters may register at Town Hall from 7:30 am to 1:00 pm, and from 1:00pm to 8:00 pm at the Police Station, 1551 Somerset Avenue.
- Nomination papers for town offices for the Annual Town Election will be available at the Town Clerk’s office beginning January 5th, 2015.