

The following Meeting was video recorded for cable broadcast.

BOARD OF SELECTMEN

Wednesday, 28 January, 2015, 7:30 o'clock p.m.

Regular Meeting

Town Hall –Selectmen's Meeting Room

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TOWN OF DIGHTON

1. **Chairman Dean V. Cronin called the meeting to order at 7:33 p.m.**
2. **The Pledge of Allegiance** was then recited.
3. **Approval of minutes:**
 - a. January 21, 2015, minutes from regular meeting, motioned for approval by Selectman Patrick Menges and seconded by Selectman Tom Pires. Unanimously approved.
4. **Approval of Warrants: 31A-15 \$83,623.45; 31B-15 \$15,109.64. 31C-15, \$26,450.17.** Motioned for approval by Selectman Menges and seconded by Selectman Pires. Unanimously carried.
5. **Correspondence: Selectmen Menges reports that** the Board has received a copy of the implementation element related to the Master Plan, which will be discussed in depth at a later date.
6. **Announcements:** Were read by Selectman Pires. (See attached).
 - a. Chairman Cronin reads a list of current Elected Officials whose terms are expiring 2015. They are as follows:

BOARD OF ASSESSORS	Joseph Silva, Jr.	1668 Pine Street, Dighton	2015
BOARD OF SELECTMEN	Thomas J. Pires	3223 Millers Lane, Dighton	2015
D-R SCHOOL DIST. COMM.	Christopher Andrade	1975 Milk Street, Dighton	2015
D-R SCHOOL DIST. COMM.	Susan M. Lorenz	1375 Center Street, Dighton	2015
HOUSING AUTHORITY	Alice E. Souza	1679 Elm Street, Dighton	2015
PARKS AND RECREATION	Timothy Rhines	316 Main Street, Dighton	2015
PLANNING BOARD	David J. Araujo, Sr.	790 Tremont Street, N.Dighton	2015
PUBLIC LIBRARY TRUSTEES	Alison A. Cembalistry	2544 Pleasant Street, Dighton	2015
SEWER COMMISSIONERS	William J. Mendoza	1721 Milk Street, Dighton	2015
TOWN MODERATOR	William E. McKeon Jr	2308 Pleasant Street, Dighton	2015
TREE WARDEN	Thomas C. Ferry	1070 Williams Street, N. Dighton	2

7. Old Business: None

8. **New Business:** Selectman Menges reports on the status of Blizzard 2015.

He begins by mentioning that the Town should be very proud. Preparations for an emergency such as this began a year ago, and have been ongoing. The entire team has been trained to interact with MEMA and FEMA. An emergency generator was obtained by Dighton Police Sergeant Ed Dutra and installed at Town Hall. Building Commissioner James Aguiar, traveled south, in a storm to get it, and Tom Ferry and his crew poured concrete pad for it, and also landscaped around it. Mr. St. George installed it and had there been an interruption of power, it would have been ready and able to power the building. He goes on to say, that we knew Sunday night. He spoke with Chief Antone Roderick, who was waiting on a telephone conference with MEMA, and at that time we determined that we would issue a standby declaration of emergency.

When the Governor made his declaration the Board of Selectmen also put a "Local Declaration" into effect. We assembled an emergency meeting with all department heads at 1300 hours. In that meeting there was special concern with the possibility of the need to open the Middle School as a shelter, as Lincoln Village is heated entirely by electricity. Chief Roderick assured us that there are 32 cots available, and that he is able to get more if needed. Mr. Aguiar personally went to the middle school and confirmed that it was ready to go. Kathleen Antonellis and Mr. Nappi were present at the emergency meeting to confirm that the food service company Whitsons had adequate food at the Middle School, but as it turned out, this was not necessary.

Police chief MacDonald placed additional officers on duty and employed the use of Hummers and SUV cruisers to patrol the area. Dispatch was beefed up during the height of the storm and they are trained to give instruction to laymen if the need should arise.

The highway Department should be commended, because if the roads are not clear nothing rolls, and the citizens should also be commended for not driving as well.

At 11:00am all employees went to Alice's Restaurant for food. We thank Brian Stone for opening his restaurant to feed them. We did have offers from other restaurants and we thank them as well. Dighton has 600 gallons of fuel storage capacity, also have mobile capability, and a pickup with a tank at Station #1. As luck would have it, we did not need to use our reserves. Ed Reese kindly opened his gas station making fuel available to our emergency responders. Superintendent Ferry keeps everyone going with his humor and comradery.

Thank you to all the folks that came to our Monday meeting (he lists them all by name). We were able to compile a list of questions for which we obtained answers for, right after the meeting.

When we all arrived on Wednesday morning, the parking lot was completely accessible, and Mr. Borges resumed trash pickup this morning at 10:00am.

In the future cable will display a message with the town website info and the website will post information regarding closings and trash pickup.

With regard to school tomorrow we have been in contact and they are in the process of making final assessments with the highway department, but as of this time, intends to have school tomorrow.

Finally, please limit your travel to what is necessary, and clear the fire hydrants that are adjacent to your property. I would like to say a good word about the vehicle maintenance during this storm. It is a blessing to live in Dighton under these circumstances. Thank you to all.

Dean adds that after Monday's meeting, he walked out thoroughly convinced that anything that was encountered during the storm by any of the people present, would be met with open arms. I am honored to have the opportunity today to personally thank them. If you have the chance just say thank to them.

Tom Pires says that he is honored to be part of this town. In all situations, there is always cooperation in every task.

Selectmen Menges adds that Prime Time adult day care follows the public schools. He adds that lifelong resident Everett Carr's funeral was to be today, but has been postponed to Friday to allow everyone to attend.

Motion to adjourn by Selectman Pires and seconded by Selectman Menges.

Meeting adjourned at 8:25 p.m.

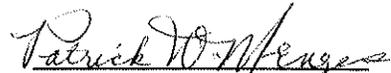
Respectfully Submitted,

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.
- 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. Contact Donald Hirschy at 508- 669 5027 for information.
- Census forms have been mailed. Please check your mailboxes and return census forms as soon as possible
- Dog licenses for 2015 are available. Female \$10.00, female (spayed) \$5.00; Male \$5.00, male (neutered) \$5.00.
- Nomination papers for town offices for the Annual Town Election will be available at the Town Clerk’s office until
- Recycling Stickers –are on sale for \$1.00 at Town Hall. Be advised that these are strictly for containers that you choose to purchase on your own which do not have recycling symbols on them already.
- Burning season starts January 15th. Get permits at Station #1, 300 Main Street for \$10.00. Check or money order only.
- A copy of the Master Plan is available at Town Hall and at www.dighton-ma.gov for review. Any questions or comments can be addressed to Heidi Swist at hswist@townofdighton.com or by calling 508 669 6636.
- Due to the weather the Food Bank is postponed to Saturday February 7, 2015. There will be two in the month of February.