

The following Meeting was video recorded for cable broadcast.

BOARD OF SELECTMEN

Wednesday, August 5, 2015, 7:30 o'clock p.m.

Regular Meeting

Selectmen's Meeting Room, 979 Somerset Ave, Dighton, MA

TOWN CLERK
DIGHTON, MA
BY _____

2015 AUG 20 AM 10:43

RECEIVED

Meeting called to order at 7:32 pm

Pledge of allegiance is recited.

Selectman Menges asks the members of the Patriot Riders to join the selectmen at the front of the room. He tells them that they are a very special group of people. Especially this last weekend on Rebecca Road. There was a gentlemen out there is need of a ramp to go outside and you made this happen.

John Burrell says he came upon the request to pick up the ramp on Facebook. This person needed someone to pick up the ramp and someone to install it. We volunteered our time, people in town offered money for gas and Biss Lumber donated some lumber for the project as well. He says the gentlemen went down the ramp for the first time tonight and it was heartwarming.

Selectman Menges asks how this group come about. John says two years ago they started the group, a division of the Patriot Riders to do some events and some charity work, because as a group you can do so much more for the community. A groups of guys and girls came together and what we have now is a family of brothers and sisters. Kathy Burrell says we have a new junior member as well as two sisters. They are our Patriotic future. Selectman Menges says I know that you do not do this for personal credit, but says he would like to thank each of you. Selectman Menges and Chairman Cronin go down the line and shake each and every hand.

Chairman Cronin says if you see these people around town shake their hands, because they deserve it. They are an outstanding group of people.

Minutes

Selectman Menges motions that the minutes of the Special Meeting with the Chief of Monday June 29, 2015, be approved as prepared. Chairman Cronin steps down to second Motion. Motion carries.

Selectman Menges motions that the minutes from Special Meeting of Monday June 29, 2015, regarding Special Resource Officer, be approved as prepared. Chairman Cronin steps down to second. Motion carries.

Selectman Menges motions to approve minutes from the Department Heads Meeting of July 1, 2015, as prepared. Chairman Cronin steps down to second. Motion carries.

Selectman Menges motions to approve the minutes of the Special Meeting of Monday, July 6, 2015, with the Police Chief. Chairman Cronin steps down to second. Motion carries.

Selectman Menges motions to approve the minutes of the Regular Meeting of July 8, 2015, as prepared. Chairman Cronin steps down to second. Motion carries

Warrants

Warrant #5A-16 in the amount of \$72,785.41 dated 7/29/15.

Warrant #5B-16 in the amount of \$14,821.73 dated 7/29/15.

Warrant #5C-16 in the amount of \$128,896.94 dated 7/29/15.

Warrant #5D-16 in the amount of \$3,895.46 dated 7/29/15.

Warrant #6A-16 in the amount of \$75,026.28 dated 8/5/15.

Warrant #6B-16 in the amount of \$238,990.53 dated 8/5/15

All warrants motioned for approval by Selectman Menges. Chairman Cronin steps down to second.

Motion carries

Correspondence

Chairman Cronin reads correspondence from Democracy .com regarding free information for candidates, organizations and voters.

Correspondence from the Office of Health and Human Services regarding the Home Modification Loan Program, also read by Chairman Cronin.

Correspondence from Pro Homes regarding first time home buyers program for counseling and available grant funds is also read by Chairman Cronin.

New business

Announcements are read by intern Lucas Fagundes.

(Note to change date to return nomination papers to August 10, 2015.)

Selectman Menges introduces Lucas and says this is his last formal regular meeting with the board

Selectman suggests that we entertain "Friends of the Dighton Public Library" first, which is item d on the agenda. Their representative is here to speak on behalf of the group.

Chairman Cronin says that is fine.

Pat Gales speaks regarding the "Taste of Dighton" and a waiver for the temporary food permit fee from the town. She goes on to say that they have used the funds from this event in the past to purchase museum passes, Buttonwood Park passes and State Park season passes. Also the library has other passes that are provided for free. They have also partially funded Movie night last Saturday. Selectman Menges says it is an excellent event for an excellent cause and he announces the date and time again (September 14, 2015, 5pm-7pm.) Ms. Gales announces some of the vendors that will be there including Stuffies, Pattycakes, Sweet as pie, Almedias, Araujos, Dighton Lions, Northern Seafood, Sixth Street Café, Georgio's and Alice's. Selectman Menges moves that the board vote to waive the temporary food permit fee for the "Taste of Dighton" event. Chairman Cronin steps down to seconds Patrick says best of luck. Motion carries unanimously.

(Going back to letter a.)

Award bid for pump rebuilding and repairing of pumps for the fire department. Chairman Cronin says unfortunately we only received one written bid. According to procurement laws, it is required that we get three bids, so at this time I would entertain a motion not to accept this bid and put out to bid again. Selectman Menges motions to rebid. Chairman Cronin steps down to second the motion. Motion carries.

Road cut permit for Columbia Gas at 1703 Somerset Avenue, Dighton, MA

Chairman Cronin reads the terms of the permit aloud. Selectman Menges motions to approve the permit, subject to the terms of the text that you have just read, be issued. Chairman Cronin steps down to second. Motion carries.

Award the bid for the upgrade to the security system at town hall. Chairman Cronin says as required we were in the midst of getting quotes to update the security system at Town Hall. For informational purposes, this is the original security system that was installed thirty + years ago. What has happened is, over the years, different committees departments and subcommittees have had access to the building for meetings. The trouble is some of these members have left and still have keys to this building. Going forward, each person will be issued a numbered and coded card, which will give them access to the building only when needed. Some will have 24 hour access, some will be business hours only. When the person leaves, that card is deactivated, so even if it was picked up it cannot be used. We were required to get three oral or written quotes. He states the three names at the deadline were A & A Security who were contacted and decided not to submit a proposal, National Security and H&C Security. We received a written proposal from National Security and H&C Security. H&C Security was \$7,933.54. National security was \$7,560.00. Chairman Cronin indicates he will entertain a motion to award the bid to National Security for \$7,560.00. Selectman Menges motions that the contract be awarded to National Security in the amount of \$7,560.00. Chairman Cronin steps down to second the motion. Selectman Menges says it was due to Chairman Cronin's efforts in seeing this through and meeting with all the contractors, that we are able to do this. Chairman says thank you, motion has been made and seconded. All in favor, aye, aye. Motion carries unanimously

Chairman moves on to d, which has already been taken care of – e is tabled.

To approve the hiring of two Highway Department employees. Selectman Menges motions to table until interviews are complete. Chairman Cronin steps down to second that. Motion carries.

Selectman Menges says item d we took care of at the beginning of new business with the presentation for the "Taste of Dighton" and item e we were advised by the Board of Assessors that we were not prepared to act on tonight and Item f we are tabling, just to be clear.

Possibility of imposing FINES FOR LITTERING AT muddy cove. Selectman Menges says we received an email complaining of the litter and asking for the signs. Selectman Menges says that there are signs asking the public to respect the property at broad cove nature trail. As far as fines, we have a bylaw already on the books for littering. We now will just need to enforce this. Not that we don't enforce it now. Selectman Menges says perhaps we could just pass this along to the police chief.

Chairman Cronin says we were hoping to give a report on 911 regionalization. This has process has slowed down considerably. The only update that we received was an update of the about funds available and the fact that they have lengthened the application process to September or November when they will mail the forms out to the Towns.

Selectman Menges says he would like to make a couple of small progress reports

He says concerning the clerical pay study. We have established that union agent, Sue Medeiros and this board will meet to review the job description and questionnaires that were filed by the clerical

personnel. We will compare them to the job descriptions that were submitted in the last wage study that we did, and whether there were increases or decreases in job duties based upon the submissions. With the help of the union agent and steward of the clerical union we will make the appropriate grade adjustments to reflect the present circumstances.

Number two is the Town government policy book. It is now in effect on a trial basis. Any adjustments that have to be made are being asked for by the first of October. Our intern Lucas has offered to come back and make the changes and adjustments. He has carried this work on very diligently. He has taken over the typing and editing. We appreciate his offer to return in October to produce the final copy.

Concerning the new police station

Chairman Cronin says there was a meeting yesterday. Out of that came a few encouraging words. They are moving along in the stages of putting out the construction bids. The sketching and drawings are at about 75% completion. The Fire Chief and our Building commissioner have been asked to look at the sketches to see if, from their aspect, anything they believe needs to be changes. They have predicted to put a shovel in the ground somewhere in September or October. We will publicly announce on every public forum we have and make the public aware of this when it happens. I commend all the people on that committee. They are doing a tremendous job led by Mr. Dennis Maguy. 75% of schematics are done and they are in the homestretch.

Selectman Menges says we have some intelligence that we hope turns out to be correct. The temporary bridge at the Dighton Berkley Bridge will need to be removed by the end of August. Traffic may be limited to one lane at a time at first, but we at least know that the bridge will be available for traffic this fall. This is something splendid for the people of Dighton and Berkley to look forward to. And thank you to Nancy Goulart for being our bridge liaison.

Nancy says she needs to talk to you about something that happened this week with the bridge

Chairman Cronin asks if it is true that the initial talks started seven years ago. Nancy says yes, late 2006 she thinks. It was an official public hearing. It was supposed to open in 2012 and then some of equipment was taken to Somerset for the Memorial Bridge and we had to wait. Nancy says when the bridge is finished there is still a park that needs to be completed and should not cost this town anything. She says that will be where the little pier is.

Acknowledgements

Selectman Menges says Wayne Robinson, a member of the rolling thunder group, journeyed to Washington, D.C., where he made an etching of Glen Jennings of Dighton. He is the only Dighton fatality of the Vietnam War. We have a memorial to Glen Jennings in North Dighton. We also have a bench at Veteran's Memorial Common. This etching from the Veteran's Memorial Wall is in a black frame in the Veterans Office. Lucas crafted a suitable caption to go with it. Along with the WWII Honor Roll and the name of John L. Dutra, Class of 1948, who perished in Korea, that framed etching and the caption will be mounted on the wall outside the veterans' office above the bulletin board and can be viewed at the veterans' office. Selectman says thank you to Wayne Robinson for thinking of Dighton

Selectman Menges says this is his last Board of Selectmen's meeting for the intern Lucas Fagundes. He asks Lucas if he has any words about his experience. He feels like everyone is dedicated and focused to

make a positive difference. Everyone is working for the benefit of the town and he thinks that is a wonderful thing.

Chairman Cronin asks if it is what he expected. He says he had no expectations, but it was a very positive experience and also a learning experience

Selectman Menges says Lucas has been part of a number of great achievements. We put the Annual Town Warrant in the Annual Town Report. He and Karin Brady worked hard to make that happen. The intern's accomplishments have included the new Town Policy Manual. This was a major achievement. He has already prepared the Town Warrant for the Fall Town Meeting, and at the same time he has converted the articles to motions. They have been created as we moved on. This week he began digitizing the full certification for the Disaster Committee for five years' worth of grants. When we have the Disaster Committee meeting in Monday we will have two sets of minutes to go with the application. Next week when it is complete, it will be sent electronically to FEMA. These accomplishments could not have gotten done, with all of the other things that we have been dealing with. We would not have been able to do it without your help

Lucas says thank you and it has been a pleasure

Public Input

Nancy suggest giving Lucas a copy of the Towns' Anniversary book as a parting gift. Not because she wrote it, but there is a lot of good things in it. I think you will find it interesting. There are a lot of people who maybe still living that have made significant contributions to our town.

Nancy has a couple of questions to ask

She talks about broad cove nature trail. Lot #83. She says when we gave Johnathan permission to build that, the assessors map clearly showed that the lot belonged to the Town. Can the public still walk down the trail to the point of Lot 83? Selectman Menges says yes, but someone has placed a length of chain link fence across our trail inside the boundaries on lot 82. We are attempting to determine who did it. Heidi and I intend to make a visit on Saturday to try to figure this out. In the meantime, we are going to put something at the boundary that indicates that it is the end of the trail. We were told that our use of lot 82 does not pose any imposition to the owners of lot 83.

Nancy says her concern is that she knows that when they approved his request, it was all town of Dighton's property. It is important to know that we acted in good faith at the time based on town records and counsel. The young man that did that project did not lose anything. There was no loss. I think it's important for the public to know that they can still walk there. Maybe not all the way down, but they can.

Nancy says she saw Selectman Menges' discussion about decorative lighting and her light went on about the lighting at Berkley Bridge. The lighting on the bridge is considered decorative. In just talking about it with Tom and Ron, I told them that I would talk with you about, instead of putting it under that exorbitant maintenance contract, that Berkeley and Dighton could come to some sort of agreement as to the maintenance of the bridge. How it is done in the future is up to the selectmen of the two towns. Nancy says just a suggestion that down the road, we not enter into a maintenance agreement. She says I was much relieved in talking to Ron about the lights. When he said you do not have to put the lights

under maintenance agreement. She adds, just so you are aware, when that bridge was condemned by the state and we continued to use it as a one way, the insurance dropped it from our policy. So when it is up and running, Torres will add it back onto the insurance so that if there was an incident on the bridge it would be covered. Just so that you're aware of that. She asks if she can have a copy of the policy manual so that she may share it with the Finance Committee.

(Lucas leaves to create a manual with the latest changes)

Selectman Menges says he wants to say about the lights on the bridge. This one will probably consume a little more electricity than the last.

Nancy says actually all of the light bulbs are energy efficient and will just light the deck and wash down the abutment of each post. She says she is getting excited about this. . It will be a work of art. Selectman Menges says it is definitely shaping up to be something. Nancy says this town has been very fortunate to have secured the money for the bridges. Nancy says I am hoping that we will see an increase in traffic. And I hope that we will have a sufficient traffic on 138 to convince Mass DOT to put a light at Main Street and 138, because it is one of the most dangerous intersections in the State.

Chairman Cronin thanks Nancy.

Nancy says one gets a great deal of satisfaction seeing something like that being created. I feel good that I had this chance.

Selectman Menges says he would like to dedicate the adjournment to some very special people who are leaving at three o'clock Thursday morning for their plane out of Boston to aid the mission in Honduras. The missionary volunteers of St Nicholas of Myra and The Knights of Columbus. We wish them Godspeed, a safe trip and return. They will represent the town and our nation and their faith. Selectman Menges motions that the adjournment at 9:07 be dedicated to them and their safe return. Chairman Cronin steps down to Second. Motion passes. Chairman Cronin says good night to everyone

Adjourned at 9:07pm

Respectfully submitted.

Karin L. Brady
Administrative Assistant
Board of Selectmen



Dean V. Cronin-Chairman



Patrick W. Menges-Clerk