

**The following meeting was neither audiotaped nor video recorded.**

BOARD OF SELECTMEN AND DEPARTMENT HEADS

Wednesday, September 2, 2015, 10 o'clock a.m.

Town Hall Hearings Room

RECEIVED  
2015 SEP 17 AM 9:15  
TOWN CLERK  
DIGHTON, MA  
BY

Meeting called to order at 10:02 am

Present are Chairman Cronin, Selectman Menges, Chief MacDonald, Chief Roderick, Tom Ferry, Jen Luiz, Mary Hathaway, Cathal O'Brien, Don Hirschy, Jocelyn Tavares, Sue Medeiros, Alice Souza Melissa St. Laurent is present in the audience

Pledge of allegiance is recited.

Minutes motioned for approval by Selectman Menges, and Chairman Cronin steps down to second. Motion carries

**Chief MacDonald**

We met with the schools for crisis plans and have gone through their crisis plans. There are a couple of things to change, but other than that they are good. That is it right now.

Tom ferry asks if he will need to be present at tomorrow's meeting of the Links System presentation that pertains to the school. Chief says no.

Chief Roderick says Ms. Antonellis may not be able to make it.

**Jen Luiz**

She says she doesn't have anything.

**Mary Hathaway**

She is working with payroll -a lot of new requirements and work for health insurance.

**Cathal O'Brien**

Dighton water district flushed elementary and middle school on Friday in anticipation of school opening. District meeting next Tuesday on the 8<sup>th</sup>, at 6:00p.m. All is well.

September work schedule is in place. We now have 3 staff at plant. Working great so far right now.

**Tom Ferry**

He says they will try to get reimbursement done for Chapter 90 monies that are out before Jen leaves. They will also hold off on work on Forest Street, so that they can concentrate on drainage problem in North Dighton. Right after they finish servicing police cruisers, they will service all generators. Hopefully within a week. Still have to change all of the signs east of Williams Street, but we will do the drainage before that.

Chairman Cronin asks about Main Street. Were there some road cuts? There are a couple that need patching. Tom Ferry says yes. They scheduled to have patch and I asked them not to hot patch it right away, until all services are done.

**Donald Hirschy**

Veterans Day is November 11<sup>th</sup> and I have been presented a 48 star flag. On the 11th we will have a ceremony here at town hall to unveil it.

Van Gyzen hall study committee is meeting tomorrow night at 6:00pm.

Veterans benefit figure is good at \$90,000.00 per year.

Berkley town hall will have an open house on September 18<sup>th</sup>, and I will have a space over there shared with the ACO, the dog officer and the cemetery commissioner.

Jen asks if we sent a letter to Berkley for the reimbursement money that we usually get. Don and Karin will check on that.

Tom Ferry says that in reference to communicating with Berkley, it should be in writing how they will pay for bridge electricity as well. Selectman Menges says all electric street lights within the boundaries of Dighton are responsibility of the Dighton Electric District. There are 16 of them. If they are decorative, they will cost \$16,000.00 per year for maintenance under a S6 contract. The poles that we normally maintain are under a S1 contract. They cost \$100.00/year maintenance. This happened on John Street. Tom Ferry says I don't believe that we would paying that on an S1 contract anyway. I believe it would be paid off the meter on our side. And Berkley would have to reimburse us.

Selectman Menges says if they attempt to put it under a S6 contract, they will be taken down and replaced with standard poles.

Selectman Menges says the lights that you mentioned on 138 and so forth, you mean traffic control lights. Tom Ferry says it is the same scenario we own them, we maintain them. You just pay the electric bill and if we need to change a light bulb we will handle it.

Tom Ferry say as far as the lights on the channel your board will have to do something in writing. Similar to the Veteran's agent. It may take a full year to get the actual dollar value, but the communication should be made now, so they are ready for it.

**Jocelyn Tavares**

She mentions Taste of Dighton is coming up. In addition to that we have mostly story times and a four season energy event. We will be having a demonstration of ancestry.com in a couple of weeks. She goes on to say she is chasing quotes for the chimney. Expecting a second one to come in and a third appointment in a few weeks.

Selectman Menges says judging from the first quote that came in, it is doable from the building maintenance account.

**Sue Medeiros**

She says she will need a signed Sexual Harassment Policy signed by the end of the month. Even if it has not changed. It needs to be signed on the back page each year for the ethics. Karin can get that to me.

Selectman Menges says it's part of the clerical union contract and in the policy manual.

Sue says we have three hundred letters going out today to remind people to register their dogs. We receive the rabies lists from the vets and that's how we know they have a dog. It includes a fifteen dollar late fee which becomes an issue. I had to put up a sign to say that if you are over 70 it is free, because I don't want to ask anymore.

**Alice Souza**

With regard to the Prime time building. She reads a letter regarding the AC unit that Ed Silvia replaced. He suggested we get estimates to replace the old units. The newer units are energy efficient. He also recommended that we update the furnace, as it is the same age.

She states that she has been getting clients from Berkley with the bridge opening.

I hear she questions the chief about prescription drug box.

Chief says we have a prescription drug box. We will post this, but no liquid, no needles. I will post the exact list of what can go in there. When I get the list, I will make sure you get that. The box is in the lobby. We got it through a grant with Fall River and Taunton. This is one of the things that we received through the grant. We will also be getting a surveillance camera for it. He will share the information when he gets it.

Flu season coming. Alice asks if there is hand cleaner still available. Chief Roderick says yes. Alice thanks him.

**Chief Roderick**

A lot of work with the schools. So far so good. Elementary school went through a major construction project. Middle School went very well.

Two rooms added at the high school, the culinary arts program and a new preschool room in the back. Still some minor stuff to be done, but all alarms and sprinkler systems have been tested. More Alice training to be done this year at the Elementary school.

We made it so everyone has to go park in the parking lot. Coming from Center Street- If dropping off, parents will have to park in the lot. There is a staff person there so the students can walk down with no traffic. Buses are going behind the school now. Main office is not where it used to be. Everything is on a buzzer. It is a secure area.

Next is the middle school. They have the vestibule, but just need some mechanical work.

I have some certificates to do today.

Sue Medeiros asks who has been hired as a school nurse since Mrs. Borden has retired. Chief can't remember her name.

He adds that the new wing holds all of the administration offices. Principal, assistant principal, a meeting office.

I spoke with the facilities and business manager this morning. They have a Capital planning meeting coming up to square away issues at the high school. They are working with the same contractor as the elementary school for the heating issues and they will be ready for winter. They are aware and we will stay on that.

Selectman Menges says our ancestors are rolling over in their graves. It is time we humiliate and shame some of these lethargic people who are not getting the job done. If the furnaces are not right, the parents have a right to complain, especially with an average of \$5,000.00 per house in taxes.

Chairman Cronin says before we leave I would like to make a couple of points. If it applies to you fine, if not please disregard.

There will be a memo sent out to every department head with regard to their web pages. Please be sure they are updated each week for events, meeting times, etc. We will begin checking them in two weeks. If you have a problem, let us know. It is a topic of conversation and it is time to update them.

Sue Medeiros says when we got virtual town hall came and put this in, no one was trained on this. There are some things we can do. Five thousand was approved by Richard Hegerman and nothing ever happened.

Sue even with a tutorial, I don't get it. I have gone to the class. I can do minor things.

Chairman Cronin says start with what you do know and we will go from there.

Chief says we have had a problem where we couldn't get in

Mary says she doesn't know how either. She did not get the training.

Sue says I have extensive notes I am just not computer literate.

Chairman Cronin says see what you can do and list what you can't.

Melissa says she is not getting her emails from us through news and announcements.

Chairman Cronin says give me all the cons. Jot them down.

Alice asks if the board would like estimates from Mr. Goulart.

Selectman Menges says in October we will ask for all of the changes to the policy manual. And then I will call Lucas to come back and prepare the final policy book.

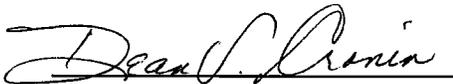
Alice says the Council on Aging meets on the first Thursday of the month for the town report. Alice asks to please change the information.

Tom Ferry says the question will be raised at meeting on whether there are underground tanks at the piece of land that the town is considering buying. If the chief could confirm that. And secondly, this week we filled our emergency tanks.

Selectman Menges motions to adjourn and Chairman Cronin steps down to second at 10:52 am.

Respectfully submitted,

**Karin Brady**  
**Administrative Assistant**  
**Board of Selectmen**



**DEAN V. CRONIN**  
**Chairman**  
**Board of Selectmen**



**PATRICK W. MENGES**  
**Clerk**  
**Board of Selectmen**