

The following Meeting was video recorded for cable broadcast.

BOARD OF SELECTMEN

Wednesday, December 2, 2015, 7:30 o'clock p.m.

Regular Meeting

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

TOWN CLERK
DIGHTON, MA

2016 JAN 14 AM 11:45

RECEIVED

Meeting called to order at 7:32 pm by Chairman Cronin.

The pledge of allegiance is recited.

There was a moment of silence for Donald French

Selectman Menges introduced members of the Dighton Rehoboth Regional High School Leo's Club who were present in the audience.

Andrew Carden, President of the Leos Club, said their idea to support the victims of the Paris attacks started with a suggestion, and eventually snowballed into the entire senior class. Everyone went out and formed the iconic Eiffel Tower in the shape of a peace symbol. They intended to mail the picture to Paris with some other items from our town to show our solidarity.

Selectman Menges asked who provided the helicopter used to take the photo. Mr. Carden stated that John Ferreira from Rehoboth had supplied the helicopter.

Selectman Goulart said the members of the Leos club will eventually become the next generation of our Lions' club.

Selectman Menges asked about current projects. Andrew mentioned a walking trail they are working on and said they also go to the senior center to help the seniors learn to use their computers and smart phones.

Selectman Goulart asked about K-8 and Victoria, a member of the Leos club, said they host a costume drive near Halloween where people can come and get a recycled costume because they can be so expensive. Andrew also said they are attempting to start a tutoring service for the elementary kids.

Lydia, another member of the Leos, said they recently had a food drive which collected 6,000 cans of food.

Andrew Carden also mentioned their advisor, Mr. DeMello, who is amazing and said the club would not be able to accomplish a lot of these projects without him.

Selectman Menges thanked the Leo's for coming in tonight and thanked them for the support that they gave to Paris.

(The Leos showed the pictures of the D-R High School spirit week and also of the Eiffel Tower peace symbol).

Eagle Scout Project

Selectman Menges said we have an Eagle Scout Project for an entrance ramp to the shed at the Community Church that has been completed by a member of Troop 45. Zachary Alexander came forward and said first he cleared out an area around the shed at friendship hall and put down some crushed stone. Then he built a ramp for the older folks to get in and out of the shed. He also constructed a loft for storage. Selectman Menges congratulated him on his project.

Selectman Goulart said there was another potential Eagle Scout project in the works by Nathaniel Vargas who is a senior in landscaping. Selectman Menges wished him the best of luck with his project.

Selectman Menges also recognized the Town Clerk and the tree lighting event last held Saturday afternoon.

Sue Medeiros comes to the front to talk about the event.

Sue Medeiros mentioned Tom Ferry, Ray Rose, Doreen (the elf), Terry Fredericks, Bella Powell, Erin Ferry, Gail Motta and Cindy Price.

Selectman Menges mentioned the Dighton-Rehoboth marching band and the Lion's club (who donated the hot dogs),

Sue mentioned Pat Haadad, Dunkin Donuts who donated the coffee and munchkins, Shawn Urban and his assistant Joe for the audio equipment and the elementary school chorus, who come faithfully every year. Sue said a huge thank you to the middle school kids, and her granddaughter on popcorn, Tyler Rose, Hannah and Matthew Cronin who were all there to help.

Selectman Menges said a special thanks to Mr. Michaud for his efforts.

Sue said the outpouring of donations this year was amazing. The committee did not spend a lot on this event.

Selectman Menges thanked Santa and Mrs. Claus for making a special stop.

The board thanked Sue Medeiros

Selectman Menges asked to pay tribute to one more person. He thanked Donald Hirschy for the excellent Veteran's Day Ceremony and the unveiling of the 48 star flag donated by the family of Byron Haskins. Don's wife Charlene brought cookies and coffee to the event.

Minutes

Selectman Goulart motioned, Selectman Menges seconded and it was unanimously **VOTED** for the minutes of October 21, 2015 be approved.

Executive minutes of September 20, 2015 were tabled.

Warrants

Selectman Goulart motioned, Selectman Menges seconded and it was **VOTED** unanimously for all of the following warrants to be approved:

Warrant #22A-16 in the amount of \$79,135.18 dated November 24, 2015.

Warrant #22B-16 in the amount of \$14,717.60 dated November 24, 2015.

Warrant #22C-16 in the amount of \$147,461.01 dated November 24, 2015.

Warrant #23A-16 in the amount of \$81,145.51 dated December 2, 2015.

Warrant #23B-16 in the amount of \$74,706.28 dated December 2, 2015.

Warrant #23C-16 in the amount of \$660.26 dated December 2, 2015.

Correspondence

Correspondence from Xfinity regarding rate increase was read by Chairman Cronin. He suggested that the residents look it over as there are nine pages of increases.

Chairman Cronin read correspondence from Good Energy regarding links to the Dartmouth MASSCEA videos regarding the energy aggregation plan on YouTube which can be viewed in English, Portugese and French. Chairman Cronin added that the meter reading in January for National Grid customers only, will reflect the cost of \$.0949 cents per kilowatt hour.

Chairman Cronin explained that anyone who has solar panels on their roofs are locked in to their current rates for 10 to 20 years and are not eligible to be part of this electricity aggregation. He advised them to be aware of their contracts and the penalties for canceling them. Everyone else will be receiving letters next week. National Grid customers do not have to do anything and will be automatically enrolled. If they decide to opt out, they have until the first week in January to let National Grid know that they do not want to participate.

If there are any further updates, the board of selectmen will keep the public informed. Feel free to call the selectmen's office if they have any questions.

Announcements

Announcements were read by Chairman Cronin. Selectman Menges added that the 2016 Historical calendar is on sale at the town clerk's office for \$15.00.

A list of elected officials whose term will expire in April of 2016 was read by Chairman Cronin. He also announced that nominations open on January 4.

Selectman Menges read the list of elected officials whose terms are expiring, the terms for each office, and added that he will not be running for re-election.

Old Business

None

New Business

Selectman Menges motioned, selectman Goulart seconded and it was **VOTED** unanimously for a transfer of \$1500.00 to the Zoning Board overtime account.

Transfer of funds for Zoning Board of Appeals office supplies

Selectman Goulart motioned, Selectman Menges seconded and it was **VOTED** unanimously for a \$700.00 transfer to the Zoning Board of Appeals' office supplies account due to moving the office from upstairs to downstairs in town hall.

Transfer of funds for the Board of Health Payroll

Selectman Goulart motioned, Selectman Menges seconded and it was **VOTED** unanimously to transfer the amount of \$5500.00 to the Board of Health Food Inspector payroll due to the drastic increase in health inspections and re-inspections.

Selectman Menges added that it is important to say that the food inspector used to be paid from the professional and technical account which was considerably larger. The food inspector had since been switched to a town employee and is being paid from the payroll account.

Selectman Goulart asked if the account for inspections gets reimbursed by charging re-inspection fees. Selectman Menges said we need to be sure that we collect the re-inspection fees.

Selectman Goulart suggested billing for the re-inspections and violations and then follow a write-off procedure when they are uncollectible. That would help to keep track of the fees.

Selectman Menges agreed and said it was a very good idea.

Selectman Goulart thought it would send a message to the violator that they only have a certain amount of time to correct the situation.

Resignation of Pamela Waller from the Development and Industrial Commission.

The resignation letter from Pam Waller was read by Chairman Cronin.

Selectman Goulart motioned, Selectman Menges seconded and it was **VOTED** unanimously to accept the resignation and thanked Pam Waller for her service.

Selectman Menges said that Pam was one of the founding members of the Industrial Development Finance Authority and is also a current member of the Board of Assessors.

Letter from the Dighton Building Commissioner regarding purchase of an Ionization Machine to neutralize the air in Van Gyzen Hall and any other building if necessary, was read by Chairman Cronin.

Jim Aguiar, the Building Commissioner was present to speak about this subject. Selectman Goulart asked if he saw other uses for this machine. Jim said yes, he was amazed at how well it worked. The town could use it at the Segregansett School and also in the lower level of the library at times. It removes the smell of mold and bacteria that is present and cleanses the air. He stated that it had worked very well and when it was offered to us for purchase, he thought that it would be a good addition to the arsenal.

Selectman Goulart motioned that the town purchase this machine for the amount of \$650.00.

Selectman Menges would not vote because his sister worked for the company that distributes the machine. Chairman Cronin stepped down to second.

Vote:

2 in favor – Selectman Goulart, Selectman Cronin

0 opposed

1 abstention – Mr. Menges

Selectman Goulart asked Mr. Aguiar to mention what had happened with Mr. Lucini and his solar farm project.

Jim gave a short report on what had transpired with regard to the permit fee. He explained how he arrived at the fee and assured the public that it is not a random number. The property could have been developed with houses. If those houses are not being built, the town will not have revenue from the permit fees for the garages, fences pools etc. Jim stated that he met with Mr. Lucini and explained this to him. One day later he received two checks in the mail. One was for the permit fee of \$138,000.00 and one was for \$10,000.00, a portion of the decommissioning fee of \$50,000.00 which will be paid over the course of the next twenty years. Jim said with this revenue we can do things in town.

(There was general discussion about power sources and revenue being generated.)

Workman's Compensation waiver request from Stanley Levesque for snowplow season 2015-2016 .

Selectman Goulart motioned, Selectman Menges seconded and it was **VOTED** unanimously to approve a workman's compensation waiver for Stanley Levesque.

Recommendation from the highway superintendent for the purchase of magnesium chloride flakes.

Selectman Goulart motioned, Selectman Menges seconded and it was **VOTED** unanimously to approve the recommendation of Tom Ferry, Highway Superintendent for the purchase of magnesium chloride at \$10.50/bag.

Reports

Selectman Menges stated that regarding Broad Cove, a representative of Parks and Recreation, the Highway Superintendent and possibly Mr. Mello will meet at our regular meeting next Wednesday.

Acknowledgements

Selectman Goulart motioned, Selectman Menges seconded and it was **VOTED** unanimously to acknowledge anonymous donations to Prime Time totaling \$513.00.

Dedication of adjournment to Donald French by Selectman Menges

Selectman Menges spoke about Mr. French who worked as a safety manager at ICI and how he was entrusted with access to the entire facility and the safety of all of the employees. Selectman Menges added that Mr. French also served as plumbing inspector in Dighton and surrounding towns for forty years. He was a pillar of the First Parish Church in Taunton and had a keen memory for people, places

and events. Selectman Menges added that he had the pleasure of serving with Mr. French on the Town Administrator Study Committee last year. He thanked Mr. French for his contributions in life and added that Mr. French was an example of good citizenship for us all. [Mr. French was a World War II Marine Corps Veteran].

Selectman Goulart motioned to adjourn, Selectman Menges seconded and it was **VOTED** unanimously to adjourn.

Meeting adjourned at 9:30 pm

Karin L. Brady
Administrative Assistant
Board of Selectmen



Dean V. Cronin-Chairman



Patrick W. Menges-Clerk



Nancy J. Goulart-Member