

**The following Meeting was video recorded for cable broadcast.**

**BOARD OF SELECTMEN**

Wednesday, February 10, 2016, 7:30 p.m.

**Regular Meeting**

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

Meeting was called to order by Selectmen Cronin at 7:30 pm  
Selectman Menges was not present.

Pledge of allegiance was recited.

**Dighton and Rehoboth Boards of Selectmen Joint Statement** regarding public safety was read by  
Selectman Goulart.

**Report from Van Gyzen Hall Study Committee**

Jack Taylor introduced the members of the committee: Robert Mullen (Chairman), Jim Ready, Brett Zagrofos (Clerk), Donald Hirschy and Jim Aguiar.

Jack stated that the committee met seven times and initially came up with alternatives for the building. The committee then looked at the pros and cons each alternative. Then the committee developed a cost estimate for each alternative. It was determined that the building has no asbestos, but it did have mold and lead paint that would need to be remediated before any sale of the building.

Jack added that the committee prepared a report on December 7, 2015, and presented to it to the selectmen, but has since revised the report and made a few minor changes.

Jack Taylor went over the six alternatives and the pros and cons of each.

The Committee's revised report dated January 29, recommended, on the chance someone would want it as is, to put it up for auction with a minimum bid of \$75,000.000 and see what the results were. If there was no interest, they recommended that the building be demolished and a spot will be reserved for a memorial.

Selectman Goulart asked how the committee came up with a minimum bid of \$75,000.00 for auction. Jack responded that they had talked with a real estate professional and Mary Hathaway, the town treasurer.

Selectman Goulart asked if we had gotten a response from the Leo's Club. The board had previously denied them access to the building for a tour but had invited them to come in to the meeting to discuss their plans. There has been no response.

Selectman Goulart asked if the committee had produced the warrant articles. Jack said he had them and read them aloud.

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Selectman Goulart asked Jim Aguiar, building commissioner, to update the status of the building right now.

Jim Aguiar stated that on Halloween there were windows broken and the windows are now boarded up as a result of that. Jim said that the Van Gyzen Hall Committee was approached by an interested party and they toured the building. Once inside, it was found that there was a frozen pipe in one of the rooms which resulted in water coming out of the pipe into the building. Jim said when he responded, he decided to cut off the utilities to the building so no further damage would occur. As a result, the building is without utilities and heat and is basically abandoned. That is the reason the he had denied access to the Leo's club.

Selectman Goulart asked the committee members if there was anyone else who had expressed interest.

Jack Taylor said no.

Jim Aguiar said the party that was interested ultimately decided that it needed too much work.

Jack added that as stated in most of the alternatives, to do anything with the building would be a half million dollar investment.

Vicki Piazza asked what it would cost the town to build a community center instead of using Van Gyzen Hall.

Jim Aguiar said there had been discussion about adding 5000 square feet to the town hall building and that was over one million dollars.

Robert Woods said in order for the building to be used for anything other than residential they would have to go before the Zoning Board of Appeals. If they wanted to do a restaurant or a bar they would have to install a sprinkler system and go before the Zoning Board of Appeals. Mr. Woods added that he did not think there was much use left for the building.

Chairman Cronin thanked the committee for their hard work and said they left no stone unturned. He added that the owner has the option of fixing it or tearing it down. That will have to be voted on at town meeting because each one of us owns the building. The building belongs to the taxpayers.

Jack Taylor asked if these articles would be recommended by the board of selectmen.

Chairman Cronin said there will be discussion on the floor and the finance committee will make their recommendations.

Jack Taylor said the Committee will have a discussion at the beginning of town meeting and he also said that he wished that more people would attend the selectmen's meeting to express their concerns or opinions about these things.

### **Minutes**

Selectman Goulart motioned, Chairman Cronin stepped down to second and it was **VOTED** unanimously to approve the minutes of the Regular meeting of December 30, 2015 and the minutes of the Regular Meeting of January 6, 2016.

### **Warrants**

Selectman Goulart motioned, Chairman Cronin stepped down to second and it was **VOTED** unanimously to approve Warrant #33A-16 in the amount of \$75,299.27, Warrant #33B-16 in the amount of \$191,566.39, Warrant #33C-16 in the amount of \$2,176,285.00 and Warrant #33D-16 in the amount of \$177.38 all dated February 10, 2016.

### **Announcements**

Chairman Cronin read the list of offices with vacancies for the Annual Town Election.

Chairman Cronin also read the weekly announcements

### **Old Business:**

#### **Request from Bill Mendoza to make adjustments to personal time and vacation time for FY15.**

Chairman Cronin said that the board had talked to the town accountant and the four hours was put on his timesheet as vacation time in error. Selectman Goulart motioned, Chairman Cronin stepped down to second the motion and it was **VOTED** unanimously to grant Bill Mendoza's request to change the 4 hours from vacation time to personal time.

### **New Business:**

#### **Request from South Shore Road Race Management to hold a road race on May 1, 2016, to benefit "Bases Covered."**

Mr. Fredericks came forward to speak about "Bases Covered" and how it began. Mr. Fredericks stated that it was started to help families going through some tough medical times. They started in August with a home run derby, and went on to hold a comedians' night in January and this will be our third event. Allison Tessier came forward to speak about this upcoming road race. Allison stated that South Shore Race Management will be handling all of the logistics and legal aspects of the race so that they may focus on other things. Allison said as far as advertisement and awareness they will be posting on local websites, etc.

Selectman Goulart asked where the race will go. Allison explained the route.

Chairman Cronin read the request from South Shore Race Management for the Bases Covered team aloud.

Selectman Goulart motioned, Chairman Cronin stepped down to second and it was **VOTED** unanimously to grant the request of South Shore Road Race Management to hold a road race on May 1, 2016.

### **Bid for demolition of 1889 Elm Street**

Jim Aguiar said that the owner of 1889 Elm Street does not have the means to renovate or demolish it themselves. In this case, the town will pay for the demolition and place a lien on the property. The owner will be given a chance to pay and we will eventually get the money or the property.

Jim stated that the town had received six bids for demolition ranging from \$32,700.00 to \$9,865.00. Jim read his letter to the board explaining the process, the company he recommended and he asked the board to award the bid to Simons Construction.

Selectman Goulart motioned, Chairman Cronin stepped down and it was **VOTED** unanimously to award the bid for demolition to Simons Construction for \$9865.00 as recommended by the building commissioner.

Selectman Goulart asked if there are any other buildings set for demolition and Jim mentioned a brown building that is boarded up near Chace Avenue.

#### **Award bid for printing of the 2015 Annual Town Report.**

Chairman Cronin said there were four companies that bid on the printing of the Annual Town Report. The bids ranged from \$875.00 to \$2491.15. Chairman Cronin read all of the bids out loud.

Selectman Goulart motioned, Chairman Cronin stepped down to second and it was **VOTED** unanimously to award the bid to Country Press of Lakeville, MA, in the amount of \$875.47. Chairman Cronin added that Country Press was a great company to work with.

#### **Reports**

Selectman Goulart mentioned that Bristol-Plymouth Regional Technical School has prepared a preliminary budget report.

Nancy will pass it along to Ed Swartz, Finance Committee Chairman. Selectman Goulart added that Bristol-Plymouth will submit a proposal to Mass School Building to replace the roof and add some additional classroom space and repair the facade of the building.

There is a new building being constructed by the students which will be used to expand the early childhood care program to include infants.

Selectman Goulart also mentioned that Mass Municipal Association is holding their spring legislative breakfast meetings beginning in March and the closest one is at the Berkley Town Hall.

#### **Acknowledgements**

Three anonymous donations in the amount of \$24.00, \$30.00 and \$150.00.

Selectman Goulart motioned, Chairman Cronin stepped down to second and it was **VOTED** unanimously to acknowledge the anonymous donation of \$24.00 to Council on Aging.

Selectman Goulart motioned, Chairman Cronin stepped down to second and it was **VOTED** unanimously to acknowledge two donations to Prime Time in the amount of \$30.00 and \$150.00, totaling \$180.00.

**Public Input**

A resident of County Street, Dighton asked about trash delay and if it was posted.

There was general discussion about ways to get that kind of information out to the public.

Selectman Goulart motioned to adjourn, Chairman Cronin stepped down to second and it was **VOTED** unanimously to adjourn at 9:20 pm.

Respectfully Submitted

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



**Dean. V. Cronin-Chairman**



**Patrick W. Menges-Clerk**



**Nancy J. Goulart-Member**