

The following Meeting was video recorded for cable broadcast.

BOARD OF SELECTMEN

Wednesday, June 22, 2016, 7:30 p.m.

Regular Meeting

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

Meeting was called to order at 7:40 p.m., by Chairman Cronin

Present were: Chairman Cronin, Selectman Goulart, Selectman Zografos, Chief Roderick, Rick Martin of Comstar and Greg Lucini

The pledge of allegiance was recited.

There was a moment of silence for Paula Latham and Erin Noble.

Chairman Cronin introduced Tyler Doane and Patrick Newman and asked them to come to the front of the room.

Chairman Cronin explained that both men had recently been appointed to the Air Force Academy and that it was very rare to have two appointees from the same district in Massachusetts much less the same school.

Patrick Newman said it was a very lengthy process to get appointed, stating that he spent much time traveling around contacting senators and filling out the required paperwork. Tyler agreed that the process was very lengthy and he expressed excitement about his future.

Minutes

Selectman Goulart motioned, Selectman Zografos seconded and it was **VOTED** unanimously to approve the minutes of the regular meeting of May 11, the regular meeting with the superintendent of schools of May 25 and the minutes of the department heads meeting of June 2.

Warrants

Selectman Goulart motioned, Selectman Zografos seconded and it was **VOTED** unanimously to approve warrant #51A-16 in the amount of \$84,677.80, warrant #51B-16 in the amount of \$55,420.45, warrant #51C-16 in the amount of \$7512.52, warrant #51D-16 in the amount of \$230,000.00 and warrant #51E-16 in the amount of \$23,976.09 all dated June 15, 2016, warrant #52A-16 in the amount of \$79,061.70, warrant #52B-16 in the amount of \$98,657.54 and warrant #52C-16 in the amount of \$1,253.74 all dated June 22, 2016.

Correspondence

None

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Announcements

Announcements were read by Chairman Cronin.

Chairman Cronin extended congratulations to the D-R Falcons for their recent win over Danvers at the Division II State Baseball Championship last Wednesday night. He added that the towns will be hosting an event at the Lion's Pavilion on July 30, 2016 in celebration of this monumental achievement.

Old Business

Ambulance Receivables Write offs

Chief Roderick was present to discuss the ambulance write offs with the board.

Selectman Goulart began by saying, in going through the report she could only find approximately \$189,109.59 of the \$313,000.00 that was discussed a couple of weeks ago. She also stated that she could only find a total of \$10,433.22 that could be written off due to being uncollectible. Selectman Goulart added that she did not feel that she had gotten any answers from these reports. She added that the board would request their own reports with specified columns showing the total cost of the run, minus the payments made by Medicare, etc., and then what the balance is remaining. Selectman Goulart said the board is looking for the history of each run from beginning to end.

Selectman Goulart said that one of the problems was the age of some of these. She didn't understand "debtor cannot be located." The medical facility must have that information. Also, Selectman Goulart mentioned "Settled in full." There should be nothing left in the balance due column. Selectman Goulart said the board would need more clarification in order to write this stuff off.

Selectman Goulart was concerned and said it seemed that there has been a loss of control since 2007 and no steps were being taken to institute collection procedures that the town can use. She added there is no accountability from FFR as to what accounts they have settled and for how much. Selectman Goulart told the chief that FFR should be informing you when the statue is running out. It seemed to her that FFR could be doing a much better job.

Selectman Zografos asked about a clause in the FFR contract where it says that the client requests them to close cases.

Chief Roderick said he has never requested that anything be closed.

There was discussion about how long Comstar will sit on these accounts before passing them on to the other collection agencies and about what future policies will be when these are received back from Comstar.

Chief Roderick said he would request the report with the additional information and get it back to the board as soon as possible.

The board thanked Chief Roderick and he left the meeting room.

PILOT Agreement for ISM Solar

Attorney Rob Fredericks came forward to speak about two solar projects; one located on Williams Street and the other on Elm Street. He stated that he and his clients are trying to elicit the proper procedure in getting a PILOT agreement with the town.

There was discussion about how the vote went at town meeting.

Selectman Goulart explained that the voters approved the PILOT agreement at 1401 Williams Street. There were issues raised about a possible bankruptcy with the Elm Street project so it was tabled and the remaining article was also tabled.

Attorney Fredericks said he did not know there was town meeting and it was his intention to go to the meeting and answer any questions.

Mr. Lucini explained the status of both projects and said there was no procedure in place when the PILOT agreement was signed and he thought that the agreement should be grandfathered. He added that he wanted a letter of assurance from the board that there was no problem with the project and he could move forward.

Selectman Goulart stated that the Department of Revenue's requirement of a town meeting vote on PILOT agreements has been in effect and anyone requesting a PILOT agreement should know that it is a state requirement and the town will follow the procedure established by the DOR.

Regarding the Elm Street solar farm, Selectman Goulart said she could not offer assurance to that effect until she knows who the town will be dealing with in the end. She again stated that a town meeting vote is required.

There was discussion about demolition and salvage of materials after decommissioning, tax credits and what they are.

Mr. Lucini mentioned that Elm Street is one month from completion and stated that he would be happy to help the town negotiate a net metering credit for the town.

Chairman Cronin thanked Mr. Lucini and Mr. Fredericks and they left the room.

Pay Harbormaster and Assistants Stipends

Effective July 1, 2016, the harbormaster will earn \$1,000.00 and his two assistants \$500.00 each. Selectman Goulart motioned, Selectman Zografos seconded and it was **VOTED** unanimously to pay stipends to the harbormaster and his assistants.

Formation of a Town Administrator Committee

Selectman Goulart explained that the committee will be advertising and screening for the position of town administrator. She added that last time they had narrowed it down to three candidates who came before the Board of Selectmen.

Chairman Cronin asked for volunteers and said the request will remain open until the board has a sufficient number of volunteers.

Selectman Goulart motioned, Selectman Zografos seconded and it was **VOTED** to announce the formation of a Town Administrator Committee.

Board of Health Organizational Committee

Selectman Goulart said the Board of Selectmen had contacted the former Board of Health Study Committee and asked if they would be interested in serving on the Board of Health Organization Committee.

Mr. Pires said that he and Mr. O'Connor will both be involved with this.

Winslow Davis House

The Winslow Davis House Covenant was discussed and Mr. Rhines said under the covenant, if the building is destroyed or if the property is sold, the Town of Dighton, Community Preservation Committee, will be the first to be paid.

End of Year Transfers

Selectman Goulart motioned, Selectman Zografos seconded and it was **VOTED** unanimously to transfer \$450.00 from town meeting Off Duty Details Account #010-0-113-0000-70-5301 to town meeting – Salary Checkers Account #010-0-112-0000-50-5120.

Request by Highway Department Superintendent Tom Ferry

Selectman Goulart motioned, Selectman Zografos seconded and it was **VOTED** unanimously to approve the request of the Highway Superintendent, Tom Ferry to roll over 80 hours of vacation time.

Road Opening Permit

Selectman Goulart motioned, Selectman Zografos seconded and it was **VOTED** unanimously to approve a road opening permit for the Dighton Water District at 1541 Wellington Street, Dighton.

Reports

Selectman Zografos read a report on the ZIKA virus.

Selectman Goulart gave a report on the MMA (Mass Municipal Association) meeting that she attended with Tom Ferry last week. This meeting was regarding technical assistance available for reconstruction of stream beds. There may be training set up in Dighton because Dighton has a completed project.

Acknowledgements

Selectman Goulart motioned, Selectman Zografos seconded and it was **VOTED** unanimously to acknowledge an anonymous donation in the amount of \$112.00 to the Council on Aging.

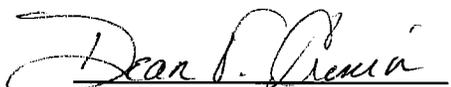
Selectman Goulart motioned, Selectman Zografos seconded and it was **VOTED** unanimously to acknowledge an anonymous donation in the amount of \$30.00 to Prime Time.

Selectman Zografos thanked Alice Souza for the invitation to the Prime Time luncheon and mentioned that the volunteer hours at Prime Time this year totaled 10,000.

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

Meeting was adjourned at 11:14 p.m.

Karin L. Brady
Administrative Assistant
Board of Selectmen


Dean. V. Cronin, Chairman


Brett R. Zografos, Clerk


Nancy J. Goulart, Member