

**TOWN OF DIGHTON
BOARDS OF SELECTMEN/HEALTH
FEBRUARY 15, 2012**

E. Bud Whalon called the meeting to order at 7:30 PM.

Present: E. Bud Whalon, Thomas J. Pires and Dean V. Cronin

The pledge of allegiance was recited.

Approve Minutes

Motion: Dean V. Cronin, seconded: Thomas J. Pires, VOTED to approve meeting minutes of January 4, 2012 (Amendment).

Vote: UNANIMOUS

Motion: Dean V. Cronin, seconded: Thomas J. Pires, VOTED to approve meeting minutes of February 8, 2012.

Vote: UNANIMOUS

Approve Warrants

Motion: Dean V. Cronin, seconded: Thomas J. Pires, VOTED to approve the following warrants:

Warrant #033A-12 Payroll \$ 64,551.16

Warrant #033B-12 Vendor bills \$ 260,303.02

Vote: UNANIMOUS

Correspondence

NONE.

Announcements were read.

Report of the Personnel Officer

Newly appointed Personnel Officer, Dean V. Cronin submitted his first report.

The outstanding Highway Union Grievance has been resolved and it was noted that total legal fees for said case estimated \$2,100.00.

An Open Meeting Law Complaint recently withdrawn cost a total of \$876.00 in legal fees.

Current pending litigation includes two Open Meeting Law Complaints and a Fire Union Grievance which is near a resolve.

It was noted, particulars involving current pending legal matters can not be discussed.

Community Preservation Committee

The Community Preservation Committee is required by law to hold an annual public informational hearing which required newspaper publication two weeks preceding the hearing. Motion: Dean V. Cronin, seconded: Thomas J. Pires to approve the expenditure from the Board of Selectmen's Professional and Technical account \$300.00 for the newspaper publication for the CPC's annual meeting.

Vote: UNANIMOUS

Review/Discuss/Act – John Vangyzen Hall, Inc. Liquor License Application

Attorney Robert Fredericks and Richard Bleau appeared before the Board to discuss the pending liquor license application for the John Vangyzen Hall, Inc. E. Bud Whalon stated for the record the Board's displeasure of recent events involving the shut off of water service due to non-payment, no oil in the tank to provide sufficient heat in the building, a broken pipe and the outstanding debt. Further, the Board expressed concern that no initiative was taken by members of the John Vangyzen Hall, Inc., to rectify the situation. It was noted that a member of the Somerset Marine Corp., informed the Board that John Vangyzen Hall, Inc., still has an outstanding balance. Atty. Robert Fredericks stated for the record that he was taken aback to the water being shut off as it was his understanding that an agreement was made between the Water Department and John Vangyzen Hall, Inc. Further, Atty. Fredericks noted that Mr. Bleau meant no disrespect or dishonesty to the Board and shows good faith by contributing his own funds to the matter. Richard Bleau noted that a small business loan has been approved for John Vangyzen Hall, Inc., and expects to see the funds on Tuesday. The Board will be kept apprised of the situation.

Patrick Menges, Water Commissioner re: Remedial Legislation

Patrick Menges appeared before the Board seeking an endorsement of a petition for an amendment to Senate 2103 An Act Relative to the Dighton Water District in the Town of Dighton. Said amendment, incorporating Section 1a, is at the suggestion of the Division of Local Services Law Department of the Department of Revenue which reads as follows:

Section 1.a As to estates not within the territory described in Section 1, the Board of Commissioners shall have the power to refund taxes assessed and collected by the Dighton Water District during and after fiscal Year 2007 but prior to Fiscal Year 2013, pursuant to applications filed between December 15, 2011, and January 17, 2012, notwithstanding any general or special law to the contrary, provided that money for such refunds shall have been duly appropriated or transferred from the District treasury by a vote of a District meeting. The determination of the Assessors that an estate was outside for the Territory described in Section 1 shall be conclusive and binding upon the Commissioners in determining its eligibility for a refund of a tax under this section. In all other cases, abatements of taxes assessed by the Dighton Water District shall conform to applicable provisions and restrictions of all earlier and subsequent general and special laws.

It was noted that under the recently approved district map those within the boundaries will be able to vote at the Special Town Meeting scheduled for Thursday, February 16, 2012 7:00PM at the Dighton Middle School Cafeteria and those outside of the boundaries will not be able to vote. Mr. Menges explained that there will be a non-voters section during tomorrow nights meeting, wherein, they will have an opportunity to speak. Motion: Thomas Pires, seconded: Dean V. Cronin VOTED to accept and endorse the petition for an amendment to Senate 2103 An Act Relative to the Dighton Water District as presented.

Vote: UNANIMOUS

Land is Grand Presentation

Vaughn Millette, Mark Valentine and Carol Nab of Global Investment Renewable, New York appeared before the Board with an informal presentation of solar energy opportunities. Lisa Meade, Esquire was present to assist in options available for the Town of Dighton. Mr. Millette noted that they reviewed the recently posted Request for Proposal for solar energy and had a few suggestions that they would like to present to the Board. It was noted that any lease of land agreement with the town must be approved at a Town Meeting. It was agreed that Mr. Millette could contact Atty. Meade for further information, questions and/or concerns.

Review/Discuss/Act – Cruise Night Request

The Taunton Area Vietnam Veterans Associates is seeking permission to have their “Cruise Nights” on the 4th Saturday of June, July and August behind the Dighton Town Hall. Motion: Thomas J. Pires, seconded: Dean V. Cronin VOTED to grant permission to the Taunton Area Vietnam Veterans Association to host its Annual Cruise Night behind Town Hall the fourth Saturday during the months of June, July and August.

Vote: UNANIMOUS

Public Input

NONE

Motion: Dean V. Cronin, seconded: Thomas J. Pires VOTED to adjourn at 8:27 PM.

Vote: UNANIMOUS

Respectfully submitted,
Boards of Selectmen/Health
Kerrie J Easterday, Administrative Assistant

Approved by:
