

Town of Raynham, Massachusetts

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Board of Selectmen Minutes 10/04/2016

Board of Selectmen

October 4, 2016

Chairman Joseph Pacheco called the meeting to order at 7:00 p.m.
Present were Joseph Pacheco, Karen Roberts and Marie Smith.

Acceptance of the Minutes

Mrs. Roberts motioned and Mrs. Smith seconded to accept the minutes of the September 27, 2016 meetings as printed, Mr. Pacheco made it unanimous.

Department Heads & Committees

Chairman Brendan Loftus of the Capital Planning Committee was present to give his report on what they intend to approve by department, subject to the Board's approval.

First issue is Fire – purchase of a new class I ambulance, and the purchase of 32 lockers for \$11,584; Central Dispatch – purchase 4 new computers for first response vehicles; Next is Sewer – purchase and install new waste water pump at South St. East and Deer Hollow Pumping stations - \$116,785 and item 2 is to remove and replace existing electric service for a cost of \$76,000; Next is Park & Rec which is looking to replace the basketball court on Pleasant St. \$50,349.15; The Police Department has requested 3 patrol vehicles for a total of \$163,578; Purchase and install an L-Scan LXPS Rapid High Resolution finger printing system \$20,891; Next item is purchase and install low ambient units in the patrol, detective and chief's vehicles for a total of \$30,000; The next items are for the Highway Department - a 10 wheel dump truck so the department can have one large item in the event of a catastrophic storm for a total of \$239,000; another item is \$100,000 that was added for future salt storage, also the purchase of a new roll off truck for \$189,000 as the current one is 20 years old. The current items are still up for debate: the purchase of a mini excavator for \$78,233 also the purchase of a new John Deere mower for \$18,619. From the Treasurer/Collector is a request for a Dell server for \$17,000. The B-R School District has requested a new parking lot be installed at the Raynham Middle School for \$39,000 – which was declined by the Capital Planning Committee. The next item is Johnson's Pond – for a lake treatment contract for \$40,850 they feel that they have to start the process, as it is the only key waterway, and an asset to the community.

Mr. Ed Buckley, Highway Superintendent, was present to give his monthly report. They are almost complete with the Chapter 90 repaving projects; just line painting is left to do. They are continuing to clear catch basins and preparing for winter. Mr. Buckley wanted to thank Tom Bullock for his years of service as he is leaving to go to the Water District. Therefore, the department has a vacancy internally. Mrs. Smith asked if he knew about a situation on Hill Street where the road was completely flooded where it intersects Rt. 44. Mr. Buckley will put in another request from DOT as he feels it is a pipe that's clogged.

Public Hearing 7:00 p.m. - Comcast Ascertainment Hearing

Cathy Maloney, Senior Manager of Regulatory Government Affairs was present from Comcast to address the Board. She worked on the original proposal in 1984 for the Town. There have been many new programs that have been developed during

this time that are offered to the residents. They have introduced a new program for low income families that provides internet service for \$9.95 per month and the opportunity to buy a lap top for \$150.00. The renewal of the cable license is governed in great measure by governmental and state regulations. She looks forward to working with the Board and its representatives on the process. Special Counsel, Attorney William August was also present to help facilitate the process. Kevin Ellis, Chairman of the Cable Commission, was present to address the Board. He introduced Gerry Gibbs, Tim Durrigan and Michael Heylin. They are trying to locate residents in the town who would qualify for Comcast's new program. He has received two letters – the first letter was about wifi connectivity problems, the other letter was from a senior citizen who would like to see a discount for seniors and has issues with customer service representatives. Pat Riley was present and read two letters. The first letter was from the B-R School Committee who wanted to express their thanks on all of the video-taped coverage of meetings, achievement awards and sporting events. She also read a letter from the Board of Directors of RAVE expressing their appreciation for all of the cable coverage that has been done for their organization. Michael Heylin, Executive Director of the Raynham Channel, was present to address the Board. He had two letters that he would like to read. The first was from B-R's CPAC expressing their thanks for supporting their endeavors, by taping lectures for the community. The second letter was from the Jeremy Moleski of the Raynham Giants, thanking them for broadcasting the games for parents who may not be able to attend. Mr. Heylin also introduced Matthew Miller and Margo Fortier, who work for the Raynham Channel, as well as Wayne who is working in the booth. The only issue he has is the lack of high definition. Gerry Gibbs, from the Cable Advisory Commission, was present to address the Board. He has two issues to make the town aware of; the town will lose WHDH – Channel 7, and will replace it with a channel assigned to this area is from New Hampshire, also Comcast has blocked Fox 25. He would like to see Comcast petition the FCC bring back FOX 25 and to make sure that we do not lose the NBC Boston affiliation. Mrs. Smith thinks that Mr. Gibbs brought up some very important questions. Cathy Maloney did not have an answer, but she would look into it. She is not sure it fits into the parameters of what is being done here; rates and programming are not part of a renewal. Attorney August had a follow up comment on Cathy Maloney's looking into the signal carriage issue. Although it is true that a renewal license itself does not include program lineup and signal carriage specifications, the Board is still free to dialog with Comcast, as to what regulatory options may or may not be available with respect to items that are beyond the scope of renewal license itself. It is part of the great collaborative relationship the Town has tried to develop and maintain with Comcast outside of the license which is a significant part of the work. Mr. Pacheco wanted to acknowledge the improvements the Board has seen over the years with Cathy's help. He also wanted to comment on the letter from the senior citizen. He would like to see further discounts given to seniors as well. Mr. Pacheco, as Trustee of the Library, had a question pertaining to wifi hot spots, as seniors can't afford to have cable and internet. He would like to see these services as well as discounts made available to the seniors in the community. Mr. Pacheco made a motion to adjourn the Hearing at 7:50 p.m. Mrs. Smith seconded and Mrs. Roberts made it unanimous. Attorney August had a procedural note: although the meeting is adjourned, the ascertainment process is still open for additional comments.

Town Administrator's Report

Mr. Buckner reviewed the Town Administrator's Report. The Capital Planning Committee will help finalize the articles in the next week as the deadline is approaching. The Fall Town Meeting is scheduled to be held on Monday, November 14th. Which means the articles will need to be submitted by Thursday, October 6th. Mr. Buckner will have a draft warrant ready by Tuesday, October 11th and a final warrant by October 18th. Mr. Buckner expects the warrant will be pretty short.

The SMHG Health Insurance meeting will meet on Wednesday, October 12th at 9:00 a.m. in Mansfield to focus on cost saving measures the group can take.

Negotiations for the Patrolmen's Union will be held on Friday October 7th.

Monday, October 10th the Town Hall will be closed in observance of Columbus Day.

Selectmen's Report

Ms. Roberts and Mrs. Smith said the Comedy Night was a success. Mr. Pacheco had spoken with the Town Clerk and, with early voting, they will need a location to facilitate it and she has requested the use of the meeting room. For about two weeks, the Selectmen would have to seek an alternative place to meet. Mrs. Smith made a motion to seek an alternative space to meet,

Mrs. Roberts seconded and Mr. Pacheco made it unanimous. Mr. Buckner will find an alternative spot to for the Selectmen to meet.

Adjournment

7:55 p.m. Mrs. Roberts motioned and Mrs. Smith seconded to adjourn for the performance of administrative duties, signing of Bills and Warrants, with no business to be conducted afterwards. Mr. Pacheco made it unanimous.

Respectively submitted,
Janet Murphy
Recording Secretary