

The following Meeting was video recorded for cable broadcast.

BOARD OF SELECTMEN

Wednesday, September 28, 2016, 7:30 p.m.

Regular Meeting

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

Chairman Cronin called the meeting to order at 7:35 p.m.

The pledge of allegiance was recited.

There was a moment of silence for James Bush.

Minutes

Selectman Goulart motioned, Selectman Zografos seconded and it was **VOTED** unanimously to approve the minutes of the Executive Session of March 29, 2016, the minutes of the Executive Session of May 10, 2016, the minutes of the Executive Session May 17, 2016 and the minutes of the Executive Session of February 23, 2016.

Warrants

Selectman Goulart motioned, Selectman Zografos seconded and it was **VOTED** unanimously to approve Warrant #13A-17 in the amount of \$85,708.67, Warrant #13B-17 in the amount of \$20,031.18, Warrant #13C-17 in the amount of \$91,311.96 all dated September 28, 2016.

Correspondence

Correspondence from Pro Homes regarding programs and services that they provide was read by Chairman Cronin. Three Dighton families were assisted with the first-time purchase of homes.

Announcements

The schedule for early voting and the regular weekly announcements were read by Chairman Cronin.

Old Business

Sean Blanchette's Eagle Scout Project update.

Sean said that three trees have been planted at the tennis courts and he was awaiting the arrival of two picnic tables. He added that he has mulch and stone left to do and he gave pictures to the board for review.

Chairman Cronin asked when the project would be finished and Sean said within the next month.

New Business

Recommendation from Sewer Commissioners to appoint a new member to the Sewer Commission

There were two applications received. The board of sewer commissioners said both applicants were equally qualified and requested that each candidate get a letter from the ethics commission stating that they would not be in violation. Selectman Goulart said the board of selectmen and the commissioners will have to meet and agree on an appointee and then whoever is appointed will then have to go to ethics commission for approval.

Earned Sick Time Leave

Sharon Rapoza came forward to say that last year the state enacted a law that would allow seven employees of Prime Time to accumulate up to forty hours of sick time per year. She stated that those seven people receive no other benefits. Sharon said that they would have to work 40 hours to accrue one hour of sick time. Sharon added that the town would have to accept this law so they could start accruing time.

Selectman Goulart said that if the town accepted this law, it would affect every part time employee in the town. Every person in the Town of Dighton who works similar hours would be entitled to it. The people need to know how many are involved and how much it will cost. Selectman Goulart said that if this group wanted to bring to town meeting, they need get an accurate figure of what it would cost.

Selectman Goulart advised Sharon that in order for this matter to be placed on the town meeting warrant, detailed information would have to be provided, including the total number of employees, the total cost and the source of funding.

Administrative Assistant Request for 40 Hours per Week

Chairman Cronin said the board of selectmen's administrative assistant had requested to place an article on the special town meeting warrant in the amount \$4600.00 to cover the cost for her work week being extended to 40 hours.

Chairman Cronin said this will be in part to do some of the work of the town administrator.

Selectman Goulart motioned, Selectman Zografos seconded and it was **VOTED** unanimously to approve the article.

South Coast Rail

Selectman Goulart explained the two route options that Mass DOT is considering for South Coast Rail. One would be a direct route north to Stoughton, while the other proposed option would bring trains to Cotley Junction from Fall River and New Bedford and then take a right and go 7 ½ miles to Middleboro resulting in a longer commute.

Selectman Goulart said she attended the meeting in Taunton last night and spoke in favor of the Stoughton route.

Selectman Zografos agreed. He felt that this would help the town and the Middleboro route was not in the best interest of the people.

Selectman Zografos motioned that the board vote to support the South Coast Rail Stoughton option.

Selectman Goulart said the board should notify our senator and representative that this board supports the Stoughton option. Selectman Goulart seconded with that friendly amendment and it was **VOTED** unanimously.

Nomination of the Inspector of Animals

Selectman Goulart explained that the Department of Agriculture appoints the Inspector of Animals based on the recommendation of the selectmen.

Selectman Goulart motioned, Selectman Zografos seconded and it was **VOTED** unanimously to nominate Stacy Ferry as the Inspector of Animals and send the form to the Department of Agriculture.

Food Permit Waiver Request from the Dighton Lions

Selectman Goulart motioned, Selectman Zografos seconded and it was **VOTED** unanimously to approve the request to waive the food permit fees for "Pink it Up Dighton" on October 2, 2016.

Reports

Selectman Goulart updated the board on the Center Street project. Selectman Goulart recently met with Roy Delano; Chief Roderick; Tom Ferry; Dighton Water Superintendent, Cathal O'Brien; Greg Olsen; George Moitoza and Superintendent Dempsey of the Bristol County Agricultural School to review the locations of the hydrants on Center Street. The consensus was that one of the hydrants not connected to asbestos pipes can be moved. The other one, connected to asbestos will not be disturbed. The proposed sidewalk will pass south of this hydrant. Selectman Goulart said that once the plans are received, residents on the south side of Center Street will be contacted regarding the easements needed for the project. The easements will be drawn up and filed with the Registry of Deeds. The construction of the sidewalk will probably take place in the spring. The water district will begin its work as soon as possible, prior to the sidewalk construction.

Acknowledgements

Selectman Goulart motioned, Selectman Zografos seconded and it was **VOTED** unanimously to acknowledge an anonymous donation to Prime Time in the amount of \$100.00

Selectman Goulart motioned, Selectman Zografos seconded and it was **VOTED** unanimously to acknowledge bereavement donations (6 total) in the amount of \$455.00.

Public Input

Robert Woods said he recently heard the police station would be going up another 2 million dollars and he did not think that was fair to the taxpayers.

Selectman Goulart mentioned that there would be a presentation by the Dighton Police Station Building Committee on Tuesday, October 4, 2016.

Mr. Woods said he would also like to know the condition of the boat being purchased by the harbormaster and Selectman Goulart said that this boat had a brand new engine. Mr. Woods did not see the need and said the harbormaster's boat worked just fine.

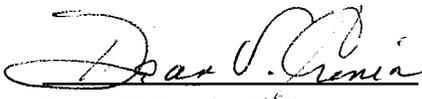
Mr. Woods also mentioned that he thought there should be a forty hour work week for everyone in town hall.

Lastly, he asked the board to stop counting the people at the podium. He thought it was childish.

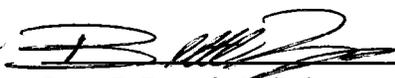
Selectman Goulart wished Chairman Cronin a happy birthday.

Selectman Goulart motioned, Selectman Zografos seconded and it was **VOTED** unanimously to adjourn at 8:40 p.m.

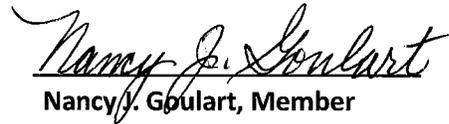
Karin L. Brady
Administrative Assistant
Board of Selectmen



Dean. V. Cronin, Chairman



Brett R. Zografos, Clerk



Nancy J. Goulart, Member

TOWN CLERK
DIGHTON, MA
BY _____

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RECEIVED