

**ACUSHNET BOARD OF SELECTMEN
REGULAR MEETING**

**Thursday, December 30, 2021
11:00 AM**

I. CALL TO ORDER

I call the December 30, 2021, regular meeting of the Board of Selectmen to order. I want to remind all present that this meeting is being audio and video recorded. Those present were Chairman David Desroches, Selectman Kevin Gaspar, Sr., Selectman David Wojnar.

Please rise for the Pledge of Allegiance.

II. MEETING MINUTES

III. MEETING MAIL

1. BUILDING COMMISSIONER LETTER TO REVOKE RESIGNATION

IV. APPOINTMENTS

V. OLD BUSINESS

1. ARPA CONSULTANTS AGREEMENT APPROVAL

Chief Desroches mentions that Capitol Strategic Solutions recently presented information about consulting the Board of Selectmen on the \$3.2M that the Town will be receiving in ARPA funding. Chair Desroches states that the Town will need help with the accounting and paperwork with this project, and that the consulting firm will be very helpful with this. Selectman Gaspar discusses the possibility of using some of the ARPA funding for infrastructure project with the DPW. Selectmen Wojnar makes a motion to hire Capitol Strategic Solutions (CSS) and to have the Chair of the Board of Selectmen, as well as whoever is appointed as Interim Town Administrator work on negotiation of the contract. Selectman Gaspar second the motion. All in favor, motion passes.

**2. DISCUSS/APPOINT: INTERIM TOWN ADMINISTRATOR,
TREASURER/COLLECTOR, INTERIM IT DIRECTOR, BUILDING INSPECTOR**
Chair Desroches states that there have been a number of applicants for Treasurer/Collector. The Board has decided to promote from within, the current Assistant Treasurer/Collector, Jasmine Benfeito, pending successful contract negotiations.

VI. NEW BUSINESS

1. JT'S PUB KENO APPROVAL

Chair Desroches states that recently, JT's Pub put forth an application with the state lottery to have Keno. Selectman Gaspar motions to approve the use of Keno for JT's Pub. Selectmen Wojnar seconds the motion. All are in favor, motion passes.

2. RESERVE FUND TRANSFER (TOWER INSTALLATION) EMA (\$11,003.75)

Selectman Gaspar has reached out to the Director of EMA for information about this project. The communications tower was donated to the Town of Acushnet, but there are costs associated with installation of the tower. Selectman Wojnar stated he would like to chance to discuss this project with Jerry Bergeron, the Director of EMA, before voting on the reserve fund transfer. Chair Desroches states that the Board will table this discussion until the next meeting, at which they will vote on the request for the reserve fund transfer.

3. MASSDOT PROJECT #600645 PRELIMINARY ROW PLANS; TEMP OCCUPANCY CONCURRENCE; HAMLIN STREET BRIDGE

Chair Desroches states that for the Hamlin Street Bridge project, there needs to be an additional temporary easement of approximately 654 square feet. Selectman Wojnar moves to approve the temporary easement on the Hamlin Street Bridge project. Selectmen Gaspar seconds the motion. All are in favor, motion passes.

4. GOLF SALARY DISCUSSION

Chair Desroches states that he would like to table this discussion until he can get more information. Selectman Wojnar moves to table this discussion. Selectman Gaspar seconds the motion. All are in favor, motion passes.

VII. DEPARTMENT OF PUBLIC WORKS

1. SNOW PLOW DISCUSSIONS

Chair Desroches states that the DPW wants to buy a new plow for the new loader that was recently purchased. The DPW Director, Dan Menard, is not present at the meeting to discuss this purchase. Selectmen Wojnar moves to table this discussion until next meeting. Selectman Gaspar seconds the motion. All are in favor, motion passes.

VIII. SELECTMEN ANNOUNCEMENTS

Selectman Wojnar discusses a letter he received from a resident on Allison Drive, a new subdivision that is going up in Acushnet. There is an issue with cluster mailboxes; because of the classification of the town as rural, the post office is not picking up or delivering mail to the cluster mailboxes. Selectman Wojnar would like the Board to consider suspending the use of cluster

mailboxes for their next meeting, so that the resident on Allison Drive can have their mail delivered.

IX. INFORMATION ONLY

1. The following boards/commissions have vacancies. Please consider serving your community by submitting a letter of interest to the Board of Selectmen:
Agricultural Commission – 2 Alternate Vacancies
Beautification Committee – 7 Vacancies
Community Preservation Committee – 1 Housing Authority Vacancy
Cultural Council – 13 Vacancies
Open Space Committee – 1 Vacancy
*Town Moderator for May Town Meeting Needed

X. FUTURE BUSINESS

1. NEXT SELECTMEN'S MEETING: Tuesday, January 11, 2022 @ 4:00 PM

XI. EXECUTIVE SESSION

1. "Executive Session under G.L.ch.30A§21(a)(2) to discuss strategy sessions in preparation for negotiations with non-union personnel or to conduct negotiations with non-union personnel if an open meeting may have a detrimental effect on the position of the public body and the chair so declares and the Board will not return to public session, review of matters presented; votes may be taken."

REGULAR SESSION ADJOURNED AT 11:30 AM

Approved:

David Desroches,
Chairman

Kevin Gaspar, Sr.,
Member

David Wojnar,
Member