

**BOARD OF SELECTMEN  
MINUTES OF MEETING  
MARCH 23, 2015**

Meeting called to order at 4:00 P.M. by Chairman Kevin Gaspar, Sr., Selectman David E. Wojnar and Selectman Garry L. Rawcliffe- Meeting Minutes approved:

**MEETING MAIL**

FINANCE DIRECTOR MEMO GOVERNORS FY16 BUDGET- the 2016 local aid estimates based on Governor Baker's budget proposal were released. The local aid estimates are preliminary and are subject to change as the legislative process unfolds. We usually don't receive the final numbers until the end of June. State Aid Chapter 70 \$6,193,054 is up for FY16, State Aid local \$1,641,584 up \$20,587, State Assessments are down \$41,916 Selectman Rawcliffe motioned to place on file, Selectman Wojnar seconded and all were in favor. Motion Passes.

**APPOINTMENTS**

**OLD BUSINESS**

FRIENDS OF THE LIBRARY-John Tavares could not be here today So Ms. Connie Preston has agreed to come in to speak on the Friends of the Library project the Acushnet 100 that began last spring as of January 1 we have raised over \$50,000 and not just from Acushnet residents. We are very excited about the amount of money we have collected. The project has been successful with many thanks to Jim Marot our Building Inspector, Scott Alexander and the students from Old Colony. We are hopefully looking for the Library to open in mid -June.

SNOWPLOW REMOVAL INVOICES- the FY2015 snow removal appropriation of \$25,000 has been exhausted. The Finance Department has confirmed that all invoices related to repairs and maintenance has been performed on equipment used for the snow removal process. The current deficit is \$228,090.49. Selectman Rawcliffe motioned to approve the invoices for payment, Selectman Wojnar seconded and all were in favor. Motion Passes.

MUNICIPAL AGGREGATION DOCUMENTS-Municipalities are authorized by Massachusetts General Law Chapter 164, Section 134(a) to aggregate the electric load of its residents and businesses.

At a Town Meeting on October 27, 2014 the residents of Acushnet voted to authorize the Board of Selectmen to research, develop and implement an aggregation plan and enter into a contract with a competitive supplier of electricity.

The objectives of the aggregation plan are to:

- ☐ lower the cost of electricity;
- ☐ gain longer term price stability; and
- ☐ offer more renewable energy options.

The Board of Selectmen has selected an aggregation consultant, Good Energy, L.P., to: develop the aggregation plan;

- ☐ formulate and implement a public outreach and education program;
- ☐ guide the aggregation plan through a very strict and comprehensive review and

approval process with the Department of Energy Resources (DOER) and the Department of Public Utilities (DPU);

- ☐ develop a Request for Proposals for a competitive electricity supplier;
- ☐ monitor and manage the aggregation plan during the term of the competitive supplier contract; and
- ☐ develop and submit all required reports to the Board of Selectmen and DOER.

An important element of the process leading to approval of the aggregation plan of a municipality by the DPU is to allow for review of the aggregation plan by its citizens. The aggregation plan is available for review at our municipal offices and on our website.

In order to comply with the law, citizens will have a time period to submit written comments and a public meeting to offer oral comments.

The two (2) week period to submit written comments will be from March 24, 2015 to April 7, 2015.

The public meeting to offer oral comments will be at a meeting of the Board of Selectmen on April 13, 2015.

This review by citizens will be completed before the aggregation plan is submitted to the DPU for their review and approval. This review by citizens will be completed before the aggregation plan is submitted to the DPU for their review and approval.

**COUNSELS FOLLOW-UP ON THE BENEFIT RECOVERY PROGRAM-** we have not received the Ethics Committee response to Town Counsel as of this time Selectman Rawcliffe motioned to table until another meeting, Selectman Wojnar seconded and all were in favor. Motion Passes.

### **NEW BUSINESS**

**BULK ITEM PICK-UP-** the Town of Acushnet will be holding a bulk item pick-up on Saturday, April 18, 2015, the Town will expect all items to be curbside by 7:00 a.m. We are sending a flyer to all residents letting them know about the pick-up and also will do a reverse 911. Selectman Rawcliffe motioned to place on file, Selectman Wojnar seconded and all were in favor. Motion Passes.

**SOIL REMOVAL PERMITS-** the Soil Board has approved applications for 2 soil removal permits located at 588 Middle Rd. & 72 South Main St., both residents have their bond in place. Selectman Wojnar motioned to approve both permits, Selectman Rawcliffe seconded and all were in favor. Motion Passes.

**NOMINATION OF INSPECTOR OF ANIMALS-**please find the nomination form for the Inspector of Animals for Acushnet. The appointment will run from May 1, 2015 until April 30, 2016. There should be a separate form provided for each inspector. This form should be returned to the Division of Animal Health before April 1, 2015. Selectman Wojnar motioned to appoint both Inspectors Rebekah Tomlinson & Kelly Massey, Selectman Rawcliffe seconded and all were in favor. Motion Passes.

**OLD COLONY SCHOOL REPRESENTATIVE-**received correspondence from Old Colony regarding the appointment to the School Committee as a representative from Acushnet. This appointment must be made by May 1, 2015, and the letters for interest should be in the Selectmen's office by noon on April 22, 2015. The meeting will take place on April 27, 2015 to

make the Appointment. Selectman Wojnar motioned to place the notice on file and send a notice to the school committee and Moderator Bob Francis, Selectman Rawcliffe seconded and all were in favor. Motion Passes.

### **DEPARTMENT OF PUBLIC WORKS**

WATER SHUT-OFF POLICY DISCUSSION-it has been brought to the Boards attention that we still pay NB water bills even though the water is in a shut-off manner for the town resident. This causes issues as the Town is paying the city for water it is not collecting money for. I think we need to come up with a policy for residents with water shut-off voluntarily or involuntarily. Motion was made for Mr. Coutinho to come up with a water shut-off policy for our next meeting, Selectman Wojnar seconded and all were in favor. Motion Passes.

### **TOWN ADMINISTRATOR'S REPORT**

Town Admin. informed the Board that the Council on Aging Director's contract is going to expire on May 1, 2015, and at this time she does not want to renew her contract. We need to have a plan in place for the seniors, we will have to place an ad. I wanted to give the Board ample time to ponder this situation.

### **INFORMATION ONLY**

OLD COLONY BUDGET HEARING- received correspondence regarding Old Colony's Budget Hearing date and invite anyone interested to the hearing-the meeting will be held on Wednesday, March 25, 2015 at 6:00 p.m. File

MASS DOT- Mass DOT is issuing a one-time contract allowing the Town of Acushnet to be reimbursed for up to \$47,042 of road way repairs resulting from this year's harsh winter. This contract requires all work to be completed prior to June 20, 2015 and requests for reimbursements must be submitted prior to July 31, 2015. File

FINANCE DIRECTOR BACK CHARGES- including the estimated back charges your FY16 preliminary budget is \$759,598 over the minimum net school spending requirement currently published by the Dept. of Education. File

ADJOURNED REGULAR SESSION AT 5:30 P.M.


5:30 P.M. Chairman Gaspar asked for a motion to go into Executive Session. Selectman Wojnar made a motion to go into Executive Session for the purpose of Contract Negotiations. The motion was seconded by Selectman Rawcliffe and all were in favor. Motion passes. Chairman Gaspar asked for a roll call vote.


Chairman Gaspar –

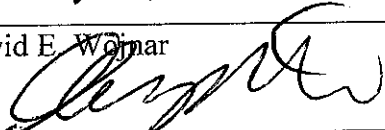
Selectman Wojnar?- Yes

Selectman Rawcliffe?- Yes

Chairman Gaspar – and I am a yes. We are now in Executive Session.

  
Kevin Gaspar, Sr., Chairman

  
David E. Wojnar

  
Garry L. Rawcliffe  
BOARD OF SELECTMEN