

**BOARD OF SELECTMEN
MINUTES OF MEETING
FEBRUARY 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: None

MEETING MAIL

RESERVE FUND TRANSFER-received a Reserve Fund Transfer in the amount of \$600.00 from the Finance Department this transfer will be used to replenish the budgeted travel expenses for schooling in March of 2015. Selectman Rawcliffe motioned to approve, Selectman Wojnar seconded and all were in favor. Motion Passes.

SOUTH COAST RAIL TASK FORCE-received correspondence regarding South Coast Rail requesting to renew the appointment of Henry Young to the task Force. Selectman Rawcliffe motioned to appoint Henry Young as the liaison to South Coast Rail, Selectman Gaspar seconded and all were in favor. Motion Passes.

PATRIOT HALF TRIATHLON-received correspondence regarding the Patriot Half Triathlon is scheduled for Saturday, June 20, 2015. As in the past the athletes will utilize selected roads in Acushnet. The Police Chief and Fire Chief have both signed off on the event. Selectman Rawcliffe motioned to approve, Selectman Wojnar seconded and all were in favor. Motion Passes.

COMMENDATION LETTERS OF THANKS- the Fire Chief and the School Superintendent both sent in letters thanking the DPW for the job well done during all the storms. The Fire Chief explained he has never experienced the level of interdepartmental cooperation as he has this year. Every request made by my department was attended to quickly and professionally. The School Superintendent also expressed his gratitude for the assistance provided to them helping clear the snow without the DPW's help the school would have never been able to clear the lots with the equipment we have. Selectman Rawcliffe motioned to place on file, Selectman Wojnar seconded and all were in favor. Motion Passes.

HARLEM WIZARDS- received correspondence regarding the Acushnet Teachers Association will be holding a fundraising event. The Acushnet Teachers against the Harlem Wizards at the Vocational School in New Bedford on March 10, 2015 and they would like to request that the Acushnet Cable film the game. Selectman Rawcliffe motioned to approve, Selectman Wojnar seconded and all were in favor. Motion Passes.

APPOINTMENTS

WOODARD & CURRAN- here with us today is Rosemary Blacquier and Jim Rivard they are here to discuss the CWMP for Acushnet. Being on the MassDEP funding list provides Acushnet with a financial opportunity to move forward with the required CWMP. The first deadline in the funding process is Town Meeting approval by June 30. The state gave the town a waiver back in 2004. Chairman Gaspar states that without the CWMP the town can no longer move forward with sewer in Acushnet. The Town's people voted it down twice at Town Meeting. Woodard & Curran have an estimate of \$375,000 for the plan. There could be a 20 year loan @ 2% for this

project. Ms. Blacquier states that public outreach could be done to explain the CWMP so that it would not fail at town meeting again. Selectman Wojnar says we have had a long relationship with Woodward & Curran and I think the town should go out to bid for this or see if the city would like to share services with us. Mr. Gaspar thanks them for coming in and all their time put into the presentation. Selectman Rawcliffe motioned to place on file, Selectman Wojnar seconded and all were in favor. Motion Passes.

OLD BUSINESS

SNOW 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 \$100,348.23. Selectman Rawcliffe motioned to approve the invoices for payment, Selectman Wojnar seconded and all were in favor. Motion Passes.

PLASTER PROJECT CONTRACT AWARD-the Library is coming along nicely and most of the work is being done in house the Selectmen went out to bid for an area of plastering that was just too much work for Scott to do. There were three bidders and the lowest bid came from Cape Cod Builders at \$17,323.00. Selectman Rawcliffe motioned to award to Cape Cod Builders, Selectman Wojnar seconded and all were in favor. Motion Passes.

RENE STREET-there has been numerous complaints from the residents of Rene Street. In 2002 it was Town Meeting approved but not recorded properly. In order to straighten things out and make it a public way, I believe we need to send letters to residents on that street, discuss the issues and put it back on Town Meeting for approval. Selectman Rawcliffe motioned to contact Mr. Fredette and all interested parties, Selectman Wojnar seconded and all were in favor. Motion Passes.

ENERGY AGGREGATION- the following actions are necessary at the municipality level. A cursory review of the municipal aggregation documents, make the documents available for public review, approve the municipal aggregation documents at a meeting of the Board of Selectmen. The documents have been sent to Town Counsel for approval.

NEW BUSINESS

JEAN STREET PARKING AND POLICE TOW LIST-Jean Street has been an issue with tow companies holding cars at the end of the street. The Police Chief suggests that we place no parking signs on the fire hydrant side of the street. Selectman Rawcliffe motioned to approve, Selectman Wojnar seconded and all were in favor. Motion Passes.

SUBDIVISION TIME FRAME COMPLETION-the completion date for subdivisions is eight years, but there are a lot of subdivisions that have not been completed in a timely manner. There are subdivisions out there that are over 15 years old or older that are not approved roads. The Board would like to bring in the Planning Board into our meeting and discuss these issues. Michael Cioper and Pam Labonte are here as residents of Thomas Hill Road whose subdivision has never been properly finished. They believe water from the subdivision is going into the wetlands and not the detention pond. We need to come to a resolution on the issue. Selectman

Rawcliffe motioned to table until we can bring the Planning Board into our meeting, Selectman Wojnar seconded and all were in favor. Motion Passes.

GREEN ENERGY UPDATE- the Energy Committee has taken measures and received proposals from RISE to do much needed lighting and energy projects in town owned buildings. Unfortunately the library doesn't get any other upgrades at this time. The total funding expected is about \$227,142.86. The Town Hall, Parting Ways and EMS buildings would be getting condensing boilers and lighting upgrades. Selectman Rawcliffe motioned to support all projects proposed by the Energy Committee, Chairman Gaspar seconded and all were in favor. Motion Passes.

CHANGE IN HOURS- the liquor license we have in front of us was approved at a previous meeting pending ABCC approval. The ABCC approved their application for a transfer of liquor license from Patel to Silveira Company. The new owners would like to make the change of Sunday hours from noon to 10:00 a.m. as this is now allowed by ABCC. Selectman Rawcliffe motioned to approve, Selectman Wojnar seconded and all were in favor. Motion Passes.

FIREFIGHTERS UNION & LABORERS UNION- received correspondence in regard to the Firefighters Union & Laborers Union would like to enter into negotiations for the purpose of extending the Agreement presently in effect and proposing certain changes and amendments thereto. They are requesting two or three dates and times for a meeting. Selectman Rawcliffe will be the liaison for the Laborers Union he thinks dates in early March would be good. Selectman Wojnar will negotiate with the Firefighters. Selectman Rawcliffe motioned to place the letters on file, Selectman Wojnar seconded and all were in favor. Motion Passes.

SPECIAL & ANNUAL TOWN MEETING-as the budget season is upon us we need to pick a date for Town Meeting. June 1, 2015 at 7:00 p.m. Ford Middle School. The Town Clerk and the Moderator are available. We will get the letters out to the Boards and Committees letting them know the deadline to send articles in. That date will be April 29th in order for us to have the warrant approved at our meeting in May. Selectman Rawcliffe motioned to approve, Selectman Wojnar seconded and all were in favor. Motion Passes.

ANNUAL TOWN ELECTION WARRANT-the Town Election will be held on April 6th this time around there are not many contested races. The School Committee has two seats open and 4 people are running. The Selectmen's race is unopposed. Selectman Rawcliffe motioned to approve, Selectman Wojnar seconded and all were in favor. Motion Passes.

FY16 BUDGET PROPOSAL-I have met with the Department Heads and all have been level funded except for a few items. We have to add the sick time buy-back to the budget since you can no longer carry it on the town meeting warrant. The EMA budget Chairman Gaspar would like to add \$1,000 in case we have volunteers that open the shelter. Selectman Rawcliffe motioned to add the \$1,000 to the EMA budget only for shelter openings, Selectman Wojnar seconded and all were in favor. Motion Passes. Question about upping the snow removal budget to \$50,000 this year was so significant that it probably wouldn't matter anyway. The meters account line item is being increased with the water debt service charge. Here are a few of the articles we will be looking at to approve \$20,000 to upgrade the gas system, this will help track employees, fuel. Selectman Rawcliffe motioned to support, Selectman Wojnar seconded and all were in favor. Motion Passes. The DPW really needs to purchase an excavator, we would need to ask for \$169,000 or lease. We rented an excavator for projects around town and it costs

\$6,000 a month. Selectman Rawcliffe motioned to support, Selectman Wojnar seconded and all were in favor. Motion Passes. The Town Hall could also use a short pick-up truck as with all the projects we have going on it would be a good idea. Selectman Rawcliffe motioned to support, Selectman Wojnar seconded and all were in favor. Motion Passes. Selectman Wojnar proposes a presentation to show the residents what projects have been done and what is still in progress and commend Scott & Jim for all their hard work.

The Fire Dept. is looking for \$50,000 to replace the vision 21 radio system to be on par with the police station. They are also looking for 12 new pagers at the cost of \$5,000. Selectman Rawcliffe motioned to support, Selectman Wojnar seconded and all were in favor. Motion Passes.

We really should fund the OPEB Liability Fund with the Retirement account even if we don't fund every year. It's a start. This is the first time in a number of years that we have been actively replacing meters and in 6 months have a seen 20% less water loss.

DEPARTMENT OF PUBLIC WORKS

SEWER COMMITMENTS- the final sewer charges due the Town of Acushnet as posted in the sewer department accounts receivable for the month of January 2015, amounting in the aggregate to \$61.60. Selectman Rawcliffe motioned to approve, Selectman Wojnar seconded and all were in favor. Motion Passes.

WATER COMMITMENTS- the final water due the Town of Acushnet as posted in the water department accounts receivable for the month of January 2015, amounting in the aggregate to \$385.60. Selectman Rawcliffe motioned to approve, Selectman Wojnar seconded and all were in favor. Motion Passes.

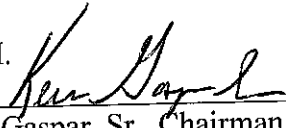
ABATEMENTS-the Board has 4 abatements in front of us tonight amounting to \$140.50 due to errors in the final bill run, Selectman Rawcliffe motioned to abate the 4 bills, Selectman Wojnar seconded and all were in favor. Motion Passes.

TOWN ADMINISTRATOR'S REPORT

I want to inform the Board that Selectman Rawcliffe and myself have completed Labor Negotiations with the DPW. We met with the City of New Bedford I think we had a very accomplished meeting, we spoke of the water bills being sent out by them, spoke about improving reads system. We should be meeting again in another 30-45 days.

INFORMATION ONLY

ADJOURNED REGULAR SESSION AT 6:00 P.M.


Kevin Gaspar, Sr., Chairman


David E. Wojnar

Garry L. Rawcliffe
BOARD OF SELECTMEN

February 23, 2015

EXECUTIVE SESSION MEETING MINUTES

6:00 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.

Those present were: Chairman Kevin Gaspar Sr., Selectman David E. Wojnar, Selectman Garry L. Rawcliffe, Town Admin. Alan G. Coutinho, Assistant Lisa Leonard

Discussion ensued

A motion was made by Selectman Rawcliffe to adjust the Building Commissioner's salary to \$10,000 from the \$5,601.00, Selectman Wojnar seconded and all were in favor. Motion Passes.

7:00 P.M. Chairman Gaspar asked for a motion to adjourn Executive Session. Selectman Wojnar made a motion to adjourn Executive Session. The motion was seconded by Selectman Rawcliffe.

Chairman Gaspar asked for a roll call vote.

Chairman Gaspar –

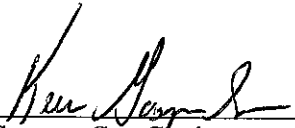
Selectman Wojnar?- Yes

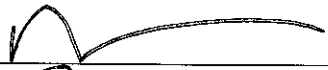
Selectman Rawcliffe?- Yes

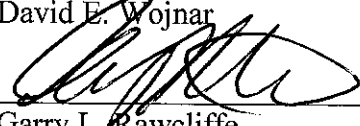
Chairman Gaspar – and I am a yes.

Adjourned Executive Session at 7:00 P.M.

Approved:


Kevin Gaspar, Sr., Chairman


David E. Wojnar


Garry L. Rawcliffe
Acushnet Board of Selectman