

**BOARD OF SELECTMEN
MINUTES OF MEETING
MARCH 19, 2019**

Meeting called to order at 5:00 P.M. by Chairman Michael Cioper, Selectman Roger Cabral, Selectman Gaspar was not in attendance –No Minutes Approved

MEETING MAIL

LETTER FROM LES DAKIN REQUESTING THE AIRING OF A DOCUMENTARY REGARDING THE TRANSMISSION OF LNG DVD ON CHANNEL 18-Former Selectmen Les Dakin petitioned the Selectmen to air a documentary regarding the transmission of LNG as a public service announcement on channel 18 our local government channel. Selectman Cabral was in favor of airing the documentary as it has been shown in the past and Selectman Cabral also voiced opinion that maybe there should be another option for things like this to be aired. Selectman Cabral motioned to table airing the LNG documentary on Channel 18 for reconsideration, Chairman Cioper seconded and all were in favor. Motion Passes.

APPOINTMENTS

PRESENTATION OF AWARD FOR THE TOWN OF ACUSHNET TO THE WORLD HEALTH ORGANIZATION'S GLOBAL NETWORK OF AGE FRIENDLY COMMUNITIES BY AARP STATE DIRECTOR MICHAEL FESTA-Heather Sylvia our COA Director worked with AARP for the Town of Acushnet's assessment during the summer of 2018 and the Council on Aging is now rated as an AARP/WHO Network of Age-Friendly Community. Acushnet has become part of a global network of communities that are committed to giving their older residents the opportunity to live rewarding, productive and safe lives. Well-designed, livable communities promote health and sustain economic growth, and they make for happier, healthier residents. All Selectman thanks Heather for taking the effort and bringing this program to Acushnet. No votes taken.

CHRIS OLIVER, TECHNOLOGY BUDGET-Mr. Oliver spoke about the projects that have been taking place at Town Hall thanks to the last Town Meeting vote to add money to the Technology Budget. Some of the updates include key fobs for the staff to enter the building without the use of keys, implementation of technology policies and replacement of older computers and software updates. He stated the IT budget remains mostly level funded with exception of adding \$5,600 for network technology. The Town of Leominster was held at ransom for \$10,000 they best way to avoid this is to be proactive and keeping software up to date and making sure passwords are changed. No votes taken.

CAROL HARRIS WOODARD & CURRAN, PHASE III INFILTRATION & INFLOW INVESTIGATION- The phase III of the I/I investigation will inspect additional segments of pipes and manholes in order to continue with the town's ongoing I/I program this is done every two years. This is a DEP requirement. The Phase III program will allow the Town to identify additional sources of extraneous flow from the municipal sewer system. Woodard & Curran will use this data to provide recommendations to abate said sources. We have this article on the

town meeting warrant for \$57,000. Woodard & Curran was asked to give an estimate to do a feasibility study in needs area #5 for use of the pumping station at the school with grinder pumps. No votes taken.

DPW Superintendent Dan Menard- Mr. Menard presented the articles that he would like placed on the town meeting warrant. The DPW could use a lift gate for the back of one of the trucks this would help when lifting heavier items into the truck such as generators, pumps & compactors. He is also requested a Mohawk lift for the barn so he can continue to do maintenance on town vehicles. Another article would be more funding for road work chapter 90 funding is not keeping up with road issues we have in town. The Water Division requested a pick-up truck do to the fact while getting the inspection stickers done the truck would not pass and was taken out of the fleet.

OLD BUSINESS

TOWN ADMINISTRATOR PERFORMANCE REVIEW-Chairman Cioper commended the Town Administrator for his job knowledge, leadership, and role in keeping the town financially sound. The Board is pleased with the improvements in the budget process and the completeness of the Town Meeting Warrant. The Chairman did bring attention that Mr. Noble may be handling too many issues all at once and the Board feels that they hopefully could help aid in prioritizing which issues they would like to focus on. The Board was pleased in the effort to bring in a new Treasurer/Collector and they expressed confidence in the changes that have been brought forward for operational efficiency. Selectman Cabral followed with he found that using the ratings he came up with most exceeds expectations and is very happy with the work Mr. Noble is doing. Selectman Cabral motioned to finalize & approve the Town Administrator's performance review as presented, Chairman Cioper seconded and all were in favor. Motion Passes.

OLD COLONY CHARTER AGREEMENT APPROVAL FOR PLACEMENT ON TOWN MEETING WARRANT- The Old Colony Regional School is proposing updates to their charter, also known as the "District Agreement". The intent of the update is ensure up-to-date language that accurately identifies current operation of the district. All member towns were asked to have their municipal counsel review the proposed changes. Selectman Cabral motioned to table at this time as he would have liked to see a red lined version of the proposed changes before he endorses the changes. Chairman Cioper seconded and all were in favor. Motion Passes.

NEW BUSINESS

MEMO FROM TOWN CLERK REQUESTING AN APPOINTMENT OF ELECTION INSPECTORS- The Town Clerk requested the Board appoint Linda Blais, Christine Brown & Frances Motyl as an Election Inspectors to assist in future elections. Selectman Cabral motioned to appoint Linda Blais, Christine Brown & Frances Motyl as an Election Inspectors as presented until May 1, 2019, Chairman Cioper seconded and all were in favor. Motion Passes.

RESERVE FUND TRANSFER REQUEST FROM FIRE/EMS FOR \$1,692.00 FOR RENTAL OF FIRE TURNOUT GEAR-The Fire Chief requested \$1,692.00 for the rental of Fire Fighting turnout gear for 3 recruits who are attending the Massachusetts Firefighting Academy Recruit Training Program as there is not enough money in his budget to cover this expense. Selectman Cabral motioned to approve the Request for Transfer from the Reserve Account as presented and forward to the Finance Committee for their approval, Chairman Cioper seconded and all were in favor. Motion Passes.

DEPARTMENT OF PUBLIC WORKS

TOWN ADMINISTRATORS REPORT

Town Administrator reported to the Board that a draft of the Town Meeting warrant should be ready at the April 2nd meeting, there are 39 articles this year as last year there were 47. There are a lot of articles that are necessary housekeeping and then there are the articles for purchases as you looked at some tonight. This year we have to add an article for receipts reserved used for the use of Comcast cable funds which we have not had to do in the past, this is a DOR request. No votes taken.

ANNOUNCEMENTS

INFORMATION ONLY

EXECUTIVE SESSION

Chairman Cioper asked for a motion to go into Executive Session under G.L. c30A§21(a)(2) to conduct a strategy session in preparation for negotiations with non-union personnel (Wage & Classification) as an open meeting may have a detrimental effect on the bargaining position of the public body as he so declared and they did not to return to public session.

ADJOURNED REGULAR SESSION AT 6:30 P.M.

Michael Cioper

Roger A. Cabral

Kevin Gaspar, Sr.
Board of Selectmen