

**BOARD OF SELECTMEN
MINUTES OF MEETING
SEPTEMBER 5, 2017**

Meeting called to order at 5:00 P.M. by Chairman Kevin Gaspar, Sr., Selectman Michael Cioper- and Selectman Roger Cabral Meeting Minutes Approved- August 15, 2017, June 20, 2016 Regular & Executive Sessions, and August 22, 2016 Executive Session

MEETING MAIL

RESIGNATION LETTER- the Board of Selectmen received a letter of resignation from Joyce Reynolds resigning from the Historical Comm. & Community Preservation effective August 15, 2017. Chairman Gaspar thanks Ms. Reynolds for her dedication and years of service to Acushnet.

LETTER OF INTEREST-the Board has received a Letter of Interest for appointment to the Council on Aging Board of Directors from Mr. Maurice Samson. Mr. Samson attends the Center almost daily and enjoys the contact he has with the seniors. He asks that the Board consider him for a vacant position. Selectman Cabral motioned to appoint Mr. Samson to the Council on Aging Board of Directors, Selectman Cioper seconded and all were in favor. Motion Passes.

APPOINTMENTS

Therese Ledoux-The Selectmen celebrated centenarian Therese M. Ledoux
Chairperson Kevin Gaspar said that Ms. Ledoux was a retired Kindergarten Teacher and the first Kindergarten Teacher in Acushnet. Selectman Gaspar attended Ms. Ledoux's party and she was highly recognized in the community as a wonderful, loving woman; and wished her the best. Selectman Cabral read the citation given to Ms. Ledoux on behalf of the Selectmen and then she was presented with the Boston Post Cane. The cane is a tradition begun in 1909 by the publisher of the Boston Post newspaper, Edwin A. Grozier. He forwarded 700 New England towns a gold-headed ebony cane with the request that it be presented with the compliments of the Boston Post to the oldest citizen of the town (women were later included in the tradition), to be used by him/her as long as he/she lives or moves from the town, and at his/her death handed down to the next-oldest citizen of the town. The cane would belong to the town and not the person who received it. Laughter erupted when Ms. Ledoux said, "Now can I get a reduction on my taxes!"

Jeff Helm, the town's Insurance Advisor who reviewed the town's insurance coverage and savings of almost \$79,000 over FY'17 costs. Please see attached list of savings and new coverage.

OLD BUSINESS

NEW BUSINESS

SURPLUS EQUIPMENT-When disposing of surplus equipment, the department, Board, Commission, or Committee shall determine and document the approximate value of the surplus

equipment, either by quotes, formal or informal or by the Department's Board's, Commission's expertise. Emergency Management has a 1975 Dodge Ram Pickup that is considered surplus property. The Fire Department has a 1980 Class A Pumper that is also considered surplus property.

Selectman Cioper motioned to declare the 1975 Dodge Ram Pickup and the 1980 Class A Pumper surplus property, Selectman Cabral seconded and all were in favor. Motion Passes.

DEPARTMENT OF PUBLIC WORKS

Dan Menard, Superintendent of the DPW, told the board that the Recycling Collection Center for bulky items has opened. He said that residents will be able to pay with a check or cash at the Collector's office and then bring their receipt to the recycling center to dump their stuff. Town Administrator Brian Noble stated that very soon, residents will be able to pay with a credit card right on the Acushnet website and have their receipt on their phone to show at the center.

Mr. Menard discussed a failed septic system at Wamsutta Avenue and Main Street. He said approximately 15 houses will be affected and would then be able to tie into the sewer line. He said the work will be done in-house, saving the town a lot of money. Chairman Gaspar expressed that his biggest concern with the situation was to make sure the residents in that area are well informed of the betterment that will be added to their property taxes to tie in.

Mr. Noble stated that after the meeting, the 15 homes will receive a letter both by mail and certified mail, and will be invited to a public hearing at the next Selectmen's meeting on September 19th. Mr. Noble also said that they will probably call the residents as well to remind them of the meeting. In his own report, Mr. Noble gave kudos to the DPW team and to Dan Menard. "It is a staggering amount of money that Mr. Menard has saved the Town and he does everything with a smile," said Mr. Noble. "It amazes me every time I ask him to do something he says, 'yes.'"

TOWN ADMINISTRATOR'S REPORT

Mr. Noble reported that the Town has adopted the Code Red Emergency Notification. Residents can now log onto the Acushnet website if they want to sign up their cell numbers or email to receive general notifications as well.

Mr. Noble also informed the board that the Assessors Property cards are now available on-line for the public. He thanked Assessor Kelly Koska for all her hard work in making it happen.

The Town hired HRS (Human Resources Services) to do the compensation and classification study for non-union positions. This will be a complete comprehensive study; position analysis, interviews, job descriptions, market review, FLSA, ADA, compensation plan, and classification plan.

ENERGY AGGREGATION-Working with SRPEDD 23 communities succeeded in using their combined purchasing power to establish new power rates that will bring savings to area residents and businesses this winter.

NEW TOWN MEETING WARRANT FORMAT-Mr. Noble brought to Acushnet a new warrant format, that detailed what the articles were for and what the Finance Committee's original vote was and also explained parliamentary procedures.

PARTING WAYS IMPROVEMENTS-Improvements continue at the Parting Ways so far there are two offices completed and a third that is almost done. This is being done with current staff and utilizing the Vocational students.

PUBLIC RECORDS COMPLIANCE POLICY-by adopting this document, the Town of Acushnet sets out its policy and procedures for receiving, processing, and responding to public records requests and complies with the new law and regulations.

STREET LIGHT PURCHASE-Since the Town became a Green Community there are grants available to insure that we comply with updating to LED lighting throughout the town. By purchasing the street lights we can use the grant funding to upgrade the bulbs to LED using RISE Engineering.

TECHNOLOGY UPGRADE-An article placed on Town Meeting for technology to be updated was passed and we have started installing new network and fiber cables, giving each workstation three new network wires. This will be helpful once we install the new phone system and new servers.

WEBSITE REVISION-worked with VTS to update and redesign the look and navigation of the website, also add on-line sessions for new users.

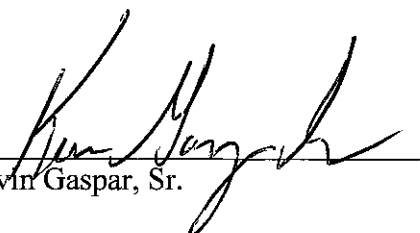
Chairman Gaspar ended the meeting with heartfelt thanks to all the employees and Mr. Noble. He said all the work that has been done in such a short eight months is "commendable." "It's definitely been a group effort," said Mr. Gaspar.

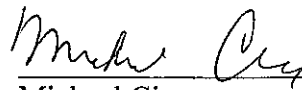
Chairman Gaspar also thanked everyone who was part of the Car Cruise Night. "From the DPW crew, to EMA and Matt Lopes, we couldn't do it without you," he said, adding that the event was very successful with approximately 150 cars.

INFORMATION ONLY

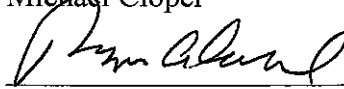
RESERVE FUND TRANSFER-the Historical Commission is asking the Finance Committee for \$3,480.65 for a new fire alarm system. The old system is not up to code.

ADJOURNED REGULAR SESSION AT 6:40 P.M.


Kevin Gaspar, Sr.



Michael Cioper



Roger A. Cabral
BOARD OF SELECTMEN



GORDON ATLANTIC INSURANCE
— MAKING INSURANCE MAKE SENSE —

September 5, 2017

Brian S. Noble, Town Administrator
Town of Acushnet – **Executive Summary**
Board of Selectmen Presentation of results FY18

Dear Brian:

I'm pleased to off the following items as highlights of the FY18 Insurance Program elements review and changes to that program. The most important change is migrating coverage to MIIA effective 7-1-2017.

- Property insurance limits, buildings, physical inspections with loss control
- New 1% Wind Ded. (\$25,000 min/\$100,000 max) from \$25,000 per building with \$620,000 max
- Increased Property deductible from \$1,000 to \$2,500 for cost savings of \$4800
- Uninsured Vacant buildings now separately to protect the Town (Old Library and Perry Hill)
- Liquor Liability – separately insured for Golf
- Property at Acushnet River Valley Golf equipment increased to \$1,350,000 from \$239,390
- Automobiles – Town equipment listing reviewed
- Law Enforcement and School Board deductibles reduced to \$5,000 from \$7,500
- Public Officials remains at \$7,500
- Worker Compensation – Voluntary Coverage – previously in Worker Comp Pool
- Umbrella Liability – limit increased to \$2,000,000
- Police and Fire Accident Policy reviewed with options for 10-1-2017 renewal for additional savings
- MIIA REWARDS, MIIA Dividends, and MIIA Risk Control
- MIIA Membership Agreement support with strong financial support MIIA Dividends

Summary of Cost Savings:

	<u>FY18</u>	<u>FY17</u>
Property/Casualty Program	\$173,145	\$208,815
Worker Compensation	\$ 86,892	\$137,496
Liquor Liability	\$ 2,120	
Vacant Buildings (2)	<u>\$ 4,990</u>	
IIIA Program Cost	\$ 267,147	<u>\$346,311</u>
 FY18 Cost Savings	 \$ 79,164	

The Town's Police and Fire Accident Policy will be migrated to Chubb Insurance through MIIA/Cabot Risk, from VFIS, effective 10-1-2017, creating additional savings and enhanced coverage.

It continues to be a pleasure to work with you and the Town of Acushnet.

Sincerely,


W. Jeffrey Helm LIA