

**HOLDEN BOARD OF SELECTMEN
MEETING MINUTES
November 28, 2022**

6:30PM

Memorial Hall

Present: Anthony Renzoni, Stephanie Mulroy, Geri Herlihy Richard Bates, Thomas Curran

Others Present: Peter Lukes, Town Manager
Steven Madaus, Town Counsel
Liz Fotos, Town Recorder (Participating remotely)

Chairman Renzoni called the meeting to order. The Board stood to recite the Pledge of Allegiance.

1. Appointments, Licenses, and Permits

Motion by Sel. Mulroy, seconded by Sel. Herlihy, it was, **UNANIMOUSLY VOTED TO APPOINT CATHERINE MCDONAGH AS AN ELECTION WORKER WITH A TERM TO EXPIRE 8/31/23.**

2. Town Building Name Policy Discussion

Chairman Renzoni opened the Naming Policy for discussion. He asked on Criteria # 3 who would do the work to verify the evidence being presented to the Board. He asked for the Boards thoughts.

Sel. Mulroy stated that she thought that it was the responsibility of the nominating parties to provide evidence.

Sel. Bates replied that the nominating parties would provide the evidence but someone outside of that would need to verify it.

Chairman Renzoni stated that he did not want to adopt a policy that would create more work for a future Board.

Sel. Bates asked if anything similar was currently used.

Chairman Renzoni replied that they Board did sometimes use groups of two as a working group and he felt it would be appropriate in this situation.

Chairman Renzoni paused the conversation for Citizens Address.

3. Citizens Address

None

Town Building Name Policy Discussion Cont.

Sel. Bates asked how the Board would accomplish Criteria #7.

Sel. Herlihy asked if it would be done at Town Meeting.

Chairman Renzoni replied that he thought it would be done at a Board of Selectmen Meeting.

Sel. Mulroy asked if the nominee should be held to a higher standard than just a long time resident or elected official.

Sel. Bates replied that there was a footnote that made it clear that the person needed to be exceptional.

Chairman Renzoni suggested removing that criteria or defining what it was. He stated he was more in favor of striking it as it excluded town employees that lived outside of town.

Mr. Madaus stated that he felt this conversation was appropriate. He stated he had some minor clean ups that he wanted to suggest and did wonder if they wanted to add only posthumous honorees could be considered. He stated that as criteria would limit any future activity of the honoree that would cause the board to have to revoke the honor.

Mr. Madaus asked if the Board would want a recommendation from Management added as well.

Chairman Renzoni replied that he felt that would be appropriate. He stated that he also felt as though if the vote failed for some reason there should be a waiting period before someone could be nominated again.

Sel. Mulroy agreed and encouraged a slow process with gravity.

4. Public Hearing: Holden Discount Liquors, Inc: Issuance/ Transfer of Stock/ New Stockholder

Chairman Renzoni read the Public Hearing Notice into record.

Motion by Sel. Bates, seconded by Sel. Mulroy, it was, **UNANIMOUSLY VOTED TO OPEN THE PUBLIC HEARING FOR HOLEN DISCOUNT LIQUORS, INC ISSUANCE / TRANSFER OF STOCK/ NEW STOCKHOLDER.**

Chairman Renzoni invited the Leonard's up to the podium to speak on the matter as owners.

Chairman Renzoni asked if any member of the public wished to speak on the matter. No members stepped forward.

Motion by Sel. Mulroy, seconded by Sel. Herlihy, it was **UNANIMOUSLY VOTED TO CLOSE THE PUBLIC HEARING FOR HOLEN DISCOUNT LIQUORS, INC ISSUANCE / TRANSFER OF STOCK/ NEW STOCKHOLDER.**

Motion by Sel. Mulroy, seconded by Sel. Herlihy, it was **UNANIMOUSLY VOTED TO APPROVE THE PUBLIC HEARING FOR HOLEN DISCOUNT LIQUORS, INC ISSUANCE / TRANSFER OF STOCK/ NEW STOCKHOLDER AS PRESENTED.**

Town Building Naming Policy Cont.

Sel. Mulroy stated that she felt they were in a good place with this matter.

The Chairman thanked Sel. Bates for his work on this matter.

5. Discussion/Vote Re: Appointment for WRSC Vacancy

Chairman Renzoni stated the first thing they needed to answer was do they want to fill it or sit on it for general election. He stated they can either have discussion or move a question.

Sel. Herlihy stated my first thought was to leave vacant until May because it was a huge learning curve but they have gotten more applicants then ever before and all that interest made her think maybe there should be people in for interviews and appointments.

Sel. Curran stated that they could leave it empty because the town was going from 4 to 2 but that would leave Holden with out representation because the weighted voting does not start until May. He stated that it would mean that the town was losing a seat at the table which may not be a good thing

Sel. Mulroy stated it was the Boards duty to do these things even if it was uncomfortable. She stated that it was important to choose the right person and it is a grave undertaking to make the right decision.

Sel. Bates agreed and stated that they want to fill the seat.

Chairman Renzoni stated it felt like it is without objection to fill the seat. He stated now they needed to address how they were going to do it. He suggested a 15 minutes / person to speak.

The Board discussed and decided to limit the applicants to individuals that have already (as of the November 28, 2022) sent in their resumes, cover letters, and applications.

The Board temporarily suspended their guidelines without objection to hear from Ms. O'Brien from the School Committee. She stated that the next School Committee meeting was set for 12/12/22 so if the appointment was made prior to that date the appointed individual could attend that meeting.

The Board discussed whether they wished to interview all five candidates or if they wished to limit the amount of candidates they invited in for interviews. It was decided to conduct these interviews in a formal process and that the Board wished to see all five individuals that had applied.

The Board discussed and it was decided to keep the next meeting of the Board of Selectmen on 12/12/22.

Mr. Lukes stated that in the past the Board had met earlier in order to have sufficient time to conduct the interviews.

The Board indicated they had no time constraints on that Monday and Chairman Renzoni stated he would work with the Town Manager to set a time for the interviews to be conducted in a formal and televised manner.

6. Town Manager Update

None

7. Wachusett St. and Highland St. Intersection

Sel. Bates stated that there was an accident at this intersection this past weekend. He stated that he felt it was critical that they address the safety and do a traffic study to see what if anything can be done.

Mr. Lukes stated that he spoke to the Chief of Police and the DPW Director and to the best of his knowledge there has not been a traffic study done at that location in at least 10 years. He stated there is a limited amount of action that can be taken in terms of property but they can look at it and see what can be done.

8. Town Manager Goals

Chairman Renzoni stated that the Town Manager sent out note regarding this matter. He asked Sel. Bates to highlight the six goals that were highlighted.

Sel. Bates stated the following:

Number 1: fund and prepare a feasibility study for fire substation at Adams Road.

Number 2: seek and secure grant funding or propose plan for hazmat remediation at Adams Road property and demo of Adams Road DPW Building

Number 3: seek grant funding for the inclusive playground at HMLD/ Dawson Rec Complex.

Number 4: work with DEP and EPA to advance the fields for 168 Princeton Street and present a plan for this property (ECC redevelopment)

Number 5: work with stakeholders to redevelop Adams Road and surrounding property with a full plan submitted by 12/31/23.

Sel. Bates stated he had also emailed the Board with regards to adding one additional goal; he stated that he wondered if the Board should bring to ATM a warrant article for MGL Chapter 31, section 21 to properly enable the Board to work as Water/ Sewer Commissioners and Light Commissioners.

Chairman Renzoni asked if anyone objected to the goals presented.

Sel. Curran asked if it made sense to push the Mayo School goal off for another year.

Mr. Lukes replied that he did not feel as though this was as intense as the other goals. He said it would not be a feasibility study it would be more of how it would be physically possible because it is a difficult spot and what it would entail. I think it is on there because I have gotten so much interest in that spot so we wanted to look into it so we could give them a solid answer as to if it was possible.

Chairman Renzoni stated he did agree with Sel. Curran that it was a large list but that he did think it was attainable.

Mr. Madaus stated that with regards to the Board as Commissioners he could get a memo to the Board about the matter.

Chairman Renzoni stated he did not believe the last goal was a goal but it was the Boards' business that should be handled just not as a goal.

Motion by Sel. Mulroy, seconded by Sel. Bates, it was **UNANIMOUSLY VOTED TO APPROVE THE SIX GOALS SET FOR THE TOWN MANAGER AS PRESENTED.**

9. Citizens Address

None

10. Board of Selectmen Minutes

Motion by Sel. Herlihy, seconded by Sel. Mulroy, it was **UNANIMOUSLY VOTED TO APPROVE THE OCTOBER 17, 2022 BOARD OF SELECTMEN MEETING MINUTES AS CORRECTED TO REFLECT SEL. HERLIHY AS LATE BUT PRESENT.**

Motion by Sel. Mulroy, seconded by Sel. Herlihy, it was **VOTED TO APPROVE THE AUGUST 29, 2022 BOARD OF SELECTMEN MEETING MINUTES AS PRESENTED BY A VOTE OF 4-0-1** (Curran: abstain).

Motion by Sel. Bates, seconded by Sel. Herlihy, it was **VOTED TO APPROVE THE MAY 2, 2022 BOARD OF SELECTMEN MEETING MINUTES AS PRESENTED BY A VOTE OF 3-0-2.** (Mulroy: abstain; Curran: abstain).

11. Selectmen Miscellaneous

Sel. Curran asked to confirm the date and time of the December 12, 2022 Meeting.

Chairman Renzoni stated that they were trying to make it earlier possibly 5:00/5:30 to allow for the interviews to happen.

12. Selectmen Subcommittee

None

Motion by Sel. Mulroy, seconded by Sel. Bates, it was **UNANIMOUSLY VOTED TO ADJOURN THE NOVEMBER 28, 2022 BOARD OF SELECTMEN MEETING AT 7:36PM.**

APPROVED: 1/9/23