

**HOLDEN BOARD OF SELECTMEN  
MEETING MINUTES  
March 2, 2020**

**6:30PM**

**Memorial Hall**

Present: Tyler Gibbs, Geri Herlihy, Chiara Barnes, Robert Lavigne

Not Present: Anthony Renzoni

Others Present: Peter Lukes, Town Manager  
Stephan Madaus, Town Counsel  
Stephanie King, Assistant Town Manager  
Liz Fotos, Town Recorder

Chairman Renzoni called the meeting to order and the Board stood for the Pledge of Allegiance

**1. Appointments, Licenses, and Permits**

Mr. Lukes stated that all of Mr. Gately's fees have been paid.

Motion by Sel. Barnes, seconded by Sel. Herlihy, it was **UNANIMOUSLY VOTED TO APPROVE CONSTABLE DAN GATELY FOR THE REAPPOINTMENT FOR A TERM OF THREE YEARS AS PRESENTED.**

Motion by Sel. Herlihy, seconded by Sel. Gibbs, it was **UNANIMOUSLY VOTED TO APPROVE CAROL DAVIS TO SERVE AS AN ELECTION WORKERS TO AUGUST 15, 2020 AS PRESENTED.**

Motion by Sel. Herlihy, seconded by Sel. Gibbs, it was **UNANIMOUSLY VOTED TO APPROVE ELIZABETH LAVERGNE TO SERVE AS AN ELECTION WORKER TO AUGUST 15, 2020 AS PRESENTED.**

**2. Citizens Address**

Dan Marinone, 37 Village Way, Jefferson, was present at the meeting. He stated that he wanted to thank the Board of Selectmen and Mr. Lukes on behalf of the Friends of Eagle Lake. He stated that they had allowed them to post events on the Towns website and had waived facility fees in addition to other things they have done to support Eagle Lake. He stated the next things that they have coming up is the third annual flat water race on Saturday, May 2 and they will ask for support again once they get closer to the event. He stated that they have had a hand in replacing the Eagle Lake sign and had it hung with DPW's help. He stated that they have been monitoring the beaver dam as well. He stated that they were hopeful for the future and they hope to find a cooperative way that allows

residents to enjoy Eagle Lake for the future. He stated that the improvements that they have made have been remarkable and he thanks the Town for their support.

### **3. Evan Parker- Promotion to Sergeant Swearing In**

Chief Sherblom stated that to start off he wanted to tell everyone about a phone call he received today. He stated that there was an individual that resided in Holden that was on a wait list for a liver. He stated that unbeknownst to him, there was an hour time frame in order to move towards getting the operation. Chief stated that on February 20<sup>th</sup> this gentleman's phone was not working, and the hospital called the Holden Police and Officer Parker responded, woke up the individual and he ended up having a successful liver transplant. He stated that he is home recovering now and very grateful to Officer Parker. Chief stated that this was a life saving operation.

Chief Sherblom stated that Officer Parker has been in the Army National Guard since 2017 in the infantry platoon. He stated that he was deployed several times to Iran and Afghanistan and most recently to Egypt. He stated that Officer Parker began as a corrections officer before coming to Holden and that Evan had demonstrated leadership in many ways. He stated that he has field officer training and the promotional process is a very tough road. He stated that it is a great pleasure to present Officer Parker to be sworn in as Sergeant.

Jeanne Survell, Town Clerk swore Evan Parker in as Sergeant.

The Board thanked Sergeant Parker for his service and stated that the Town was lucky to have him.

### **4. Town Manager's Update**

See Attached Town Manager Update dated February 27, 2020.

Additional Town Manager:

Mr. Lukes stated that Rob Lowell was resigning from his role in the Con Com. He thanked him for his service and stated that they had posted the opening.

Sel. Lavigne asked if there was a list of openings for the Boards and Commissions in Town.

Mr. Lukes stated that he can get a list but that the website is updated.

Mr. Lukes stated that this morning he had a conference call with MEMA and Superintendent McCall to discuss the Corona Virus. He stated that this was a state wide call and that although we are low risk we are trying to coordinate at this time. He stated that thankfully we have a small number of infections as of right now; and 6 deaths in the

US. He stated that the main message was to express to the people that there should not be a level of hysteria and that they were working diligently to mitigate the spread. He stated that this is a virus/cold like any other so using basic hygiene; washing hands etc. He stated that there is no real concern for schools and that Dr. McCall had a numbers of sprays that had gone through and cleaned the schools and the buses. He stated that they were doing what they can and were coordinating with state officials as well.

Mr. Lukes stated that the vandalism at the Gale Free Library was also addressed and three juveniles were charged. He commended Officer Gibbons and Detective Consiglio in their great job with this matter.

Mr. Lukes thanked Ms. Johnson for hosting him today for Community Day. He stated it was a great day and he got to answer some great questions.

#### 5. Selectmen Minutes

Motion by Sel. Gibbs, seconded by Sel. Barnes, it was **VOTED TO APPROVE THE JANUARY 21, 2020 BOARD OF SELECTMEN MEETING MINUTES BY A VOTE OF 2-0-2 AS PRESENTED.** (Gibbs: yes; Barnes: yes; Herlihy: abstain; Lavigne: abstain).

Motion by Sel. Gibbs, seconded by Sel. Barnes, it was **VOTED TO APPROVE THE FEBRUARY 3, 2020 BOARD OF SELECTMEN MEETING MINUTES AS AMENDED BY A VOTE OF 2-0-2.** (Gibbs: yes; Barnes: yes; Herlihy: abstain; Lavigne: abstain).

#### 6. Selectmen Miscellaneous

Sel. Gibbs asked for further information about the Green Community Program. He asked what Holden's history with it was and if we had worked to meet the criteria for it.

Mr. Lukes stated that it had come up in the past but there was not a ton of support from the Board or elsewhere. He stated that it doesn't necessarily work for Holden and there is a concern with it as we have been burned in the past with Regional Transportation. He stated that it is a difficult part of budgeting to use monies from promises from the state.

Sel. Lavigne stated that he thinks there was also an impact on the Light Department as well because if the Town had an increase in the green portfolio the rates could rise as well.

Sel. Herlihy asked if there was a different caveat with municipal light departments.

Sel. Lavigne stated that when you do this the expensive portions (wind and water) go up so the portfolio goes up.

Sel. Gibbs stated that it would be interesting to talk to the community representative for the area.

Sel. Herlihy stated that they had done that in the past and they have a report.

Sel. Gibbs asked for them to share that report with him.

Sel. Gibbs also encouraged people to get out and vote tomorrow.

Sel. Herlihy: none

Sel. Barnes: none

Sel. Lavigne encouraged people to go vote.

#### **7. Selectmen Subcommittee**

Sel. Gibbs asked if there was any more information from the Master Plan Implementation Committee.

Mr. Lukes stated that they were looking for one more volunteer.

Sel. Herlihy stated that the DPW Building Committee was basically done with their planning and were now working on their documents.

Sel. Barnes: none

Sel. Lavigne stated that the Friends of Eagle Lake were doing a great job of being the go between for the Friends and ELC and getting their followers pertinent information. He stated that he knew that there had been a push by some people to move forward with a Citizen Petition in case the Board did not approve a Warrant Article but all that does is create chaos.

#### **8. Citizen Address – 2**

None

#### **9. Follow Up to Citizens Address**

None

Motion by Sel. Gibbs, seconded by Sel. Herlihy, it was **UNANIMOUSLY VOTED TO ADJOURN THE MARCH 2, 2020 BOARD OF SELECTMEN MEETING AT 7:05PM.**

**APPROVED:** APRIL 6, 2020



TOWN OF HOLDEN  
MASSACHUSETTS  
OFFICE OF THE TOWN MANAGER

Peter M. Lukes  
Town Manager

February 27, 2020

**TO:** Board of Selectmen

**FROM:** Peter M. Lukes,  
Town Manager

**SUBJECT:** *Town Manager Update*

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1. **Town Hall Boiler/Burner** – The boiler that failed at Town Hall last month has been replaced and the installation was approved by the State Fire Marshal a couple of weeks ago. The expense was approved in a reserve fund transfer at the Finance Committee meeting on February 19, and the final costs of the entire project was about \$65,000. The new boiler and accompanying burner will be more efficient and provide more consistent temps throughout the building. Many thanks to the FinCom for voting the reserve fund transfer and also kudos to the Department of Public Works for their focus on getting this completed in a timely fashion.

Information ☒ [X]

Vote ☐ [ ]

Signature ☐ [ ]

2. **HMLD Monthly Report** – Enclosed is the monthly activity report for November 2019, prepared by Jane Parenteau, General Manager.

Information ☒ [X]

Vote ☐ [ ]

Signature ☐ [ ]

3. **Year-to-Date Revenue and Expenditure Reports** – Attached are the Year-to-Date Revenue and Expenditure reports for the period ending January 2020, prepared by Lori Rose, Town Accountant.

Information ☒ [X]

Vote ☐ [ ]

Signature ☐ [ ]

4. **Recreation Department Summer Brochure** – Enclosed in your packet is the 2020 Summer Recreation Brochure. Residents can find it online on the Town of Holden website [www.Holdenma.gov](http://www.Holdenma.gov), or through a link on our Facebook page.

Information ☒ [X]

Vote ☐ [ ]

Signature ☐ [ ]

5. **Pool/Summer Registration** - Registration for all activities being offered at the pool this summer will be available ON-LINE ONLY at [Holdenrec.com](http://Holdenrec.com). Registration for residents will begin on Monday, March 30, 2020 at 9 a.m. Registration for non-residents will begin Tuesday, March 31, 2020 at 9 a.m.

Recreation passes MUST be purchased in order to register for any classes. Recreation passes go on sale Monday, March 2. Resident passes can be purchased on-line or at the Recreation office (Monday-Friday from 8:00 a.m. – 4:00 p.m)

Information ☒ [X]

Vote ☐ [ ]

Signature ☐ [ ]

6. **Presidential Primary Election** – Absentee ballots are no longer available registered Holden voters who will be absent from Town on Tuesday, March 3<sup>rd</sup> for the Presidential Primary. Absentee ballot requests had to be made by end of day today, March 2<sup>nd</sup>.

Early Voting has concluded as well. It was held in Town Hall from Monday, February 24<sup>th</sup> to Friday, February 28<sup>th</sup>.

On Tuesday, March 3<sup>rd</sup> the Presidential Primary polls are open from 7:00 am until 8:00 pm. Residents who have questions about their registration or voting location can call the Town Clerk's office at (508) 210-5530.

Information ☒ [X]

Vote ☐ [ ]

Signature ☐ [ ]

7. **Finance Committee Hearings** – The annual meetings with myself, Department Heads, and members of the Finance Committee began on February 11 with my delivery of the Resource Profile for the Fiscal Year 2021 Budget. We met again on February 19<sup>th</sup> and 26<sup>th</sup> to discuss Public Safety budgets, and General Government respectively. We will meet every Wednesday at 7:00 PM in the HMLD public meeting room through March and into April. The hearings are open to the public although public comment is not a part of the meeting.

Information ☒ [X]

Vote ☐ [ ]

Signature ☐ [ ]

8. **Town Moderator** – I had a meeting with Town Moderator George Balko last week in which he shared with me that he will not be seeking another term as Moderator in this May's election. I want to take a moment to thank George for all of his dedication to the Town of Holden. We have been extremely lucky to have such a knowledgeable and personable person as our Moderator, and I know that I speak for everyone when I say that he will be greatly missed at the podium at Town Meetings. We send him our very best wishes in retirement and we know that his heart will always be in Holden.

Information ☒

Vote ☐

Signature ☐

9. **Garden Committee** - We also bid a fond farewell to Marcia Hastbacka, the Chairman of the Community Garden Committee. She has served the committee and the town very well in building the Community Garden and Marcia will be missed as well. I'd also like to congratulate Jess Cosenza on her election as the new Chair, and wish the committee well on the next growing season.

Information ☒

Vote ☐

Signature ☐

10. **Town Elections**— Nomination papers for local offices that will be on the ballot for the May 11 Annual Local Election are available in the Town Clerk's office. The deadline for taking out nomination papers is March 19<sup>th</sup> and the last date to submit papers is March 23. Positions up for election this year are: Town Moderator for a one year term, One seat on the Board of Selectmen for a three year term, two seats on the Damon Memorial Library Trustees for three year terms, and four seats on the Wachusett Regional School District Board for three year terms.

Information ☒

Vote ☐

Signature ☐

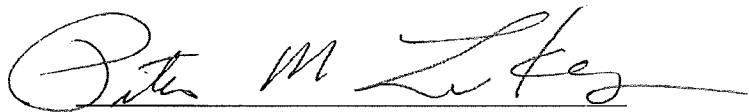
11. **ECC Site Assessment/Remediation**- Our work toward assessment and remediation of brownfields at the former ECC property at 156 Princeton Street continues to progress. Last week we received an endorsed site access agreement from the former President of ECC for the CMRPC/EPA Brownfields program. CMRPC is contracting with Tighe and Bond to begin the site assessment. DEP will be starting work shortly toward remediation of certain ground contaminants. Pam Harding, our Planning and Development Director has been working with all parties and is helping to coordinate the actions between CMRPC and DEP as well. I will keep you informed as we reach milestones and when we have definitive results from the site assessment.

Information ☒

Vote ☐

Signature ☐

Should you have any questions regarding these matters, please feel free to contact my office.



Peter M. Lukes  
Town Manager

Cc: Department Heads