

**HOLDEN BOARD OF SELECTMEN
MEETING MINUTES
June 17, 2019**

6:33PM

Memorial Hall

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

Not Present: Anthony Renzoni

Others Present: Peter Lukes, Town Manager
Stephanie Bacon, Assistant Town Manager
Stephen Madaus, Town Counsel
Liz Fotos, Town Recorder

Sel. Lavigne called the meeting to order at 6:33. The Board stood to recite the Pledge of Allegiance.

1. Appointments, Licenses, and Permits

Sel. Lavigne stated that he had the opportunity to speak with Mr. Benjamin Gold prior to the meeting. He invited him up to the podium to speak about his background and why the Housing Authority would be a good fit for him.

Mr. Gold stated that he moved to Holden about two years ago. He stated that he is an attorney and is the Executive Director of the Leominster Housing Authority. He stated that he wants to be involved in the community and thought this was a great way to share his knowledge.

Sel. Lavigne stated that he appreciated Mr. Gold stepping up and for his expertise.

Motion by Sel. Herlihy, seconded by Sel. Gibbs, it was **UNANIMOUSLY VOTED TO APPROVE MR. BENJAMIN GOLD TO THE HOLDEN HOUSING AUTHORITY FOR A THREE YEAR TERM AS PRESENTED.**

Motion by Sel. Herlihy, seconded by Sel. Gibbs, it was **UNANIMOUSLY VOTED TO APPROVE THE CENTRAL MASS STRIDERS FOR A ROAD RACE PERMIT FOR THE 56TH RUNNING OF FRED WARREN 5.5 RACE ON JULY 28TH FROM 6:30-8:30 AS PRESENTED.**

2. Selectmen's Meeting Schedule

Sel. Lavigne suggested that the Board would meet July 15th and August 19th. He also suggested that they have the September meetings set for September 16th and September 23rd.

Sel. Gibbs replied that he was not available on September 23rd.

Sel. Lavigne stated that they should also have the July 15th and August 19th meetings moved to the Senior Center.

Motion by Sel. Herlihy, seconded by Sel. Gibbs, it was **UNANIMOUSLY VOTED TO APPROVE THE AMENDED BOARD OF SELECTMEN SCHEDULE FOR 2019 AS PRESENTED.**

3. Town Manager Update

Recreation Department updates: The Holden Recreation Department is accepting applications for employment for the Before and After School Programs in the elementary schools. If you have any questions, or would like to apply please call the Recreation Office at 508-829-0263.

Recreation is also starting the “Impress” Teen Fitness Program. This is a summer program designed for teens looking to Improve their Performance, Resistance, Endurance, Speed and Strength. This class incorporates everything from speed and agility drills, to balance, strength, and flexibility training. This class is for teens in grades 6-12. The summer session will be held Tuesdays, from 4:00-5:00pm starting June 18th. The cost of this 4 weeks session is \$40.00. Another session on Tuesdays will begin July 23rd from 4:00 to 5:00PM and runs for 5 weeks. The cost is \$50.00. Both sessions will be held at Trout Brook Reservation, Located at 320 Manning Street, for more information or to sign up, log onto holdenrec.com or call the Recreation office at 508-829-0263.

The Recreation Department is also pleased to announce that a tennis practice backboard has been installed on the 3rd tennis court at the Dawson Recreation Area, 200 Salisbury Street, Holden. This hitting wall provides users with a great way to practice without the need of a partner.

Bandstand Concerts: The Holden Bandstand Committee has released their schedule of Summer Concerts. Concerts run Sundays, from 6:00-8:00 PM, beginning July 7th and concluding August 18th. For information on the concert series residents can find the full schedule on our website at www.holdenma.gov under “News and Announcements”

HMLD Monthly Report: Attached is the HMLD Monthly financial report for April 2019 prepared by Light Dept General Manager Jane Parenteau.

Employee Appreciation Cookout: Our annual Employee Appreciation Cookout was held on Thursday, June 13 at Trout Brook. Sel. Renzoni, Sel. Herlihy and Sel. Barnes attended and employees were honored for their years of service individually for those who have been employed by the town for 5, 10, 15, 20, 25, and 30 years. It was a very rainy and cold afternoon so outdoor activities were impossible but we had a trivia contest, great barbecue food and the employees expressed many thanks for the expression of appreciation by the Town.

Water Main Construction: Beginning the end of June, the Town of Holden's Contractor; Revoi Construction, will be installing new water main, hydrants, and water services in Laurelwood Road, Holt Road, Williams Street, Bancroft Road and Oak Street. Work is expected to begin the last week in June and is currently scheduled to be completed in September of this year. During the course of construction, access may be limited in the area the Contractor is working, but the road will remain open to residents at all times. Work hours will generally be between 7:00AM and 4:00PM except for some work on Main Street which will be completed at night. As part of the construction, there may be instances when water service is temporally shut off to facilitate connections of new water services. For large scale shutdowns, we will use the Town's Code RED system, the Town's website and the official Town of Holden Facebook Page to provide advance notice. Also, hand notices will be delivered in advance of all planned water shutoffs that may occur for a significant period of time.

July 5: Independence Day falls on Thursday and therefore town offices would be open only until noon on the Friday after per normal office hours. We are experiencing a large number of requests for time off on that Friday because most employees will try to go away starting on the holiday and through the weekend, and I expect minimal if any public business on that day. In the past, the Board has voted to close town offices under similar situations and I am requesting that we close town offices on Friday, July 5th.

Motion by Sel. Herlihy, seconded by Sel. Gibbs, it was **UNANIMOUSLY VOTED TO CLOSED THE TOWN OFFICE ON JULY 5, 2019 AS PRESENTED.**

Sel. Lavigne stated that he was looking over the Light Department information and the reports show that about 40% of the energy was purchased at market and that felt high from the years past. He asked if the Light Department Manager could look at it and get back to them.

Mr. Lukes replied he would reach out to her.

Major Award: We are happy to announce that Pamela Harding, Holden's Director of Planning and Development, received the Community Development and Planning Award from the Central Mass Regional Planning Council last week at their annual meeting. Holden was well represented at the event, with several members of Holden's Planning Department attending, along with Mr. Lukes, the Assistant Town Manager and Selectmen Herlihy and Sel. Barnes. Pam does a great job every day for the town and it was great to see her recognized for her efforts.

CRA Overhaul: The proposed additional baseball field and new layout at the CRA property has moved through the last approvals that are needed at the town level and is moving on to seeking approvals from state agencies. The Planning Board and Conservation Commission both approved the final layout over the last few weeks. The CRA representatives and leadership worked with sportsmen groups to reconfigure their designs so that access to the nearby water would be maintained and all interest in the

community can be served. I'd like to thank them for their efforts and wish them well in their coming work which will once again expand the recreational resources in Holden.

Truck Day: Truck Day is on July 18th from 10:00AM until 12:00PM across from the library.

Pool: The pool opened for the season on Friday. The first weekend there was about 900 people, Sunday it closed for weather and attendance was impacted.

DPW: The Capital Asset study was completed and there were several large projects that need to be done. He stated that as the Board knows, the library closed for a little more than a week to do some HVAC work and it was completed and done well.

4. **Selectmen Minutes**

None

5. **Selectmen Miscellaneous**

Sel. Gibbs: none

Sel. Herlihy: none

Sel. Banes: none

Sel. Lavigne stated that the Garden Club had done a great job with the window boxes walking into Memorial Hall.

6. **Selectmen Subcommittee**

Sel. Gibbs: none

Sel. Herlihy stated that the DPW Building Committee meets tonight.

Sel. Barnes: none

Sel. Lavigne called a ten minute recess at 6:50PM.

Sel. Herlihy left the meeting at 6:52PM.

Sel. Lavigne called the meeting back to order at 7:00PM.

7. **Citizens Address**

None

Motion by Sel. Gibbs, seconded by Sel. Barnes, it was **UNANIMOUSLY VOTED BY A ROLL CALL VOTE TO ENTER INTO EXECUTIVE SESSION SECTION 30A, §21(a) 2. TO DISCUSS PENDING LITIGATION AND TO RETURN TO REGULAR SESSION FOR THE SOLE PURPOSE OF ADJORNMENT AND THE CHAIR DO SO DECLARES.** (Gibbs: aye; Barnes: aye; Lavigne: aye).

The Board returned to regular session at 7:26PM.

Motion by Sel. Gibbs, seconded by Sel. Barnes, it was **UNANIMOUSLY VOTED TO ADJOURN THE JUNE 17, 2019 BOARD OF SELECTMEN MEETING AT 7:26PM.**

APPROVED: _____ **6/15/19** _____