

**HOLDEN BOARD OF SELECTMEN
MEETING MINUTES
January 23, 2023**

6:30PM

Memorial Hall

Present: Anthony Renzoni, Stephanie Mulroy, Geri Herlihy Richard Bates, Thomas Curran (participating remotely).

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

Chairman Renzoni called the Board of Selectmen meeting to order. The Board stood to recite the Pledge of Allegiance. Chairman Renzoni announced that Selectmen Curran would be participating remotely and therefore all votes would be a roll call vote.

1. Appointments, License, Permits

None

2. Approve the Terms of Sale and Other Matters Relating to the Towns' General Obligation Municipal Purpose Loan of 2023 Bonds

Motion by Sel. Bates, seconded by Sel. Mulroy, it was **VOTED TO APPROVE THE TERMS OF THE SALE OF THE BONDS AS PRESENTED BY A UNANIMOUS ROLL CALL VOTE.** (Curran: yes; Bates: yes; Mulroy: yes; Herlihy: yes; Renzoni: yes).

3. Citizens Address

Lars Adams, 361 Main Street, was present at the meeting. He stated that he was present at the last meeting to highlight some issues he had with various departments in town. He stated that the Sel. Renzoni stated that he was going to be involved in legal proceedings however he is unaware of any of this and there are no lawsuits against him. He stated if the Board is aware of any, please let him know.

Mr. Adams stated that he had sent members of the Board emails and did not receive any response. He stated the issues he had were about a physical assault against him by a former Planning Department employee, inappropriate language by Mr. Lindberg while gender shaming him and a lack of response by HMLD by not addressing an issue with power lines and poles that resolved in 361A still not having power. He again asked for any information the Selectboard had regarding a law suit.

Scott Lindquist, 78 Kendall Road, was present at the meeting. He stated that on December 22, 2022 the Building Commissioner came into LA Automotive on 359 Main

Street to serve Mr. Adams. He stated that there was some back and forth about why they were being served and upon exiting he said, "have a nice day ladies." Mr. Lindquist stated that he has two daughters and he can not see anything positive coming away from that statement. He stated that as a tax payer and resident he felt that it was inappropriate and that something should be done about it. He stated that he has written a letter to the Town Manager's office and that he is hopeful that there is resolution about this matter.

Jim Carlson, 1818 Main Street, was present at the meeting. He stated that he had some questions about the Golf Club.

Sel. Renzoni stated that there would be a public hearing this evening and there would be a time for the public to ask questions and gather information.

Closed citizen address

4. Assignment of Police Officers for Polling Locations

Sel. Renzoni stated that the vote was that they desired to have police present at polling locations.

Motion by Sel. Bates, seconded by Sel. Herlihy, it was **VOTED BY A UNANIMOUS ROLL CALL VOTE THAT PER THE RECENTLY PASSED VOTES ACT, SECTION 72 OF CHAPTER 92 OF THE ACTS OF 2022, TO ASSIGN A SUFFICIENT NUMBER OF POLICE OFFICERS AT THE POLLING LOCATIONS FOR MAY 8, 2023 TO PRESERVE ORDER AND TO AID IN ENFORCING THE LAWS RELATING TO ELECTIONS,**

AND FURTHER,

TO VOTE TO DESIGNATE THE POLICE CHIEF AND HIS/ HER DESIGNEE AS THE APPOINTING AUTHORITY OF POLICE DETAILS FOR ALL FUTURE ELECTIONS, ASSIGNING SPECIFIC POLICE OFFICERS ACCORDING TO SCHEDULING AND AVAILABILITY. (Curran: yes; Herlihy: yes; Mulroy: yes; Bates: yes; Renzoni: yes).

5. Lovell Road HMLD Agreement

Sel. Renzoni stated that he was contacted by a resident with regards to a HMLD billing question. The resident realized that he was being charged for a neighbor's bill and the neighbor was being charged for theirs. He stated that it was the town's responsibility to correct it for three years but anything further would require a vote by the Light Commissioners. He stated that he suggested that with the numbers in question that they should correct it and make it right for the residents. Sel. Renzoni stated that the over charged amount was \$4656.24 and the under charged amount was \$517.82. He stated that this amount ended up being about \$5000 in a \$12 Million dollar account and that he feels

as though the Board should make this right. He stated that the language would be to pay back the full amount and to abate the amount under collected.

A motion is made by Sel. Renzoni and seconded by Sel. Bates for discussion.

Mr. Lukes stated that he has spoken with the Light Department and that it was an unfortunate mistake and that the law lets them go back three years but that in this case it is felt as though they should go back and correct it all.

Mr. Bates asked if both parties were aware of the issue.

Mr. Lukes replied that they were.

Motion by Sel. Renzoni, seconded by Sel. Bates, it was **VOTED BY A UNANIMOUS ROLL CALL VOTE TO PAY BACK THE AMOUNT OF \$4656.24 TO THE OVERCHARGED HMLD CUSTOMER AND ABATE THE AMOUNT OF \$517.82 AS PRESENTED.** (Curran: yes; Herlihy: yes; Mulroy: yes; Bates: yes; Renzoni: yes).

6. Town Manager Contract Sub Committee

Sel. Renzoni stated that traditionally they would send two selectmen to meet with the Town Manager and get a feel for his intent and build framework on extension. He stated that the manager's contract was up in about a year and they needed to get a better start date and evaluation on contract. Sel. Renzoni suggested that it would make sense to change the manager's evaluations to a fiscal year as it is after Town Meeting and most of the Managers goals have financial implications. Sel. Renzoni stated that they need to decide as a board if we want to send a working group to approach the manager or if they did not wish to do that then they would need to use executive sessions. He stated that it was his thought that it was an expedited process to send people but he knows there are 3 new Selectboard members that have not been in the process yet.

Sel. Mulroy stated that in her background it made the most sense to do the legwork outside of executive session.

Sel. Renzoni paused this conversation to call the public hearing to order.

7. Public Hearing: Alternation of Licenses Premises, Stow Acres Golf Properties, Inc.

Chairman Renzoni read the Public Hearing Notice into record.

Motion by Sel. Mulroy, seconded by Sel. Herlihy, it was **VOTED BY A UNANIMOUS ROLL CALL VOTE TO OPEN THE PUBLIC HEARING: ALTERNATION OF LICENSES PREMISES, STOW ACRES GOLF PROPERTIES INC.** (Curran: yes; Herlihy: yes; Mulroy: yes; Bates: yes; Renzoni: yes).

The Public Hearing was open.

Sel. Renzoni invited the party up to speak on the matter.

William O'Neil, attorney for Stow Acres was present at the meeting. He stated that this matter was to amend the license however this was more of correcting an existing problem. He stated that Stow Acres bought Holden Hills and there was a license that was issued for the club house and a 40 x 60 tent. He stated that since then they were taxed on this structure. There was no bar in there no storing of alcohol and the license kept getting reissued. He stated that the tent had been there about 10 years and that this correction would have no change of operation and no issue of traffic whatsoever. He stated it had been there for 10 years. Mr. O'Neil said that he understood that it would have to go to ABCC for review as well. He stated when they were previously here Mr. Cain was present but he was not available this evening so Michael Quinn was present to answer any questions.

Sel. Renzoni opened it up for public comment.

Jim Carlson, 1818 Main Street was present. He stated that he believes his questions were clarified. He stated that his concern was about traffic and parking but that if it was staying the same then they were not anticipating an increase. He stated that he also had some question about lighting but that those were clarified as well.

Motion by Sel. Mulroy, seconded by Sel. Herlihy, it was **VOTED BY A UNANIMOUS ROLL CALL VOTE TO CLOSE THE PUBLIC HEARING: ALTERATION OF LICENSES PREMISES, STOW ACRES GOLF PROPERTIES INC.** (Curran: yes; Herlihy: yes; Mulroy: yes; Bates: yes; Renzoni: yes).

Chairman Renzoni stated that they would be looking to certify the alteration of the license to the premises.

Motion by Sel. Mulroy, seconded by Sel. Herlihy, it was **VOTED BY A UNANIMOUS ROLL CALL VOTE TO CERTIFY THE ALTERATION OF THE LICENSE TO THE PREMISES.** (Curran: yes; Herlihy: yes; Mulroy: yes; Bates: yes; Renzoni: yes).

Town Manager Contract Subcommittee Cont.

Chairman Renzoni stated he was interested in being involved in the working group to work on this.

Sel. Herlihy stated that she understood that this is how they previously negotiated the contract but asked if the Chair was suggesting to not do the evaluation of the manager.

Chairman Renzoni replied that he was not suggesting that, he was proposing a different time frame so that it could be better tied into the fiscal year and Town Meeting budget conversations. He stated that he thinks the majority of the legwork should be done before

they, the Board, comes together and then once the legwork is done they can vote to offer the contract.

Mr. Madaus, Town Counsel, was present at the meeting. He stated that historically there have been two members that have gone to meet the Town Manager in preparation for negotiations. He stated that those members did not have authority to negotiate the contract they simply facilitate the conversation. He stated doing it this way is less cumbersome then doing it all through executive session and it allows them to identify any potential issues and put in parameters so negotiations through executive session are more meaningful. He stated that this has been the tradition of the Board and does not bind the Board in any way.

Mr. Curran asked about how the full board was able to communicate their concerns and thoughts with regards to the contract.

Mr. Madaus replied that was done through executive session.

Sel. Mulroy indicated her interest in joining the working group.

Sel. Renzoni stated that in the past the motion was to authorize the chair to form a working group to work with the Town Manager with regards to negotiating his contract.

Motion by Sel. Bates, seconded by Sel. Mulroy, it was **UNANIMOUSLY VOTED BY A ROLL CALL VOTE TO AUTHORIZE THE CHAIR TO FORM A WORKING GROUP TO WORK WITH THE TOWN MANAGER WITH REGARDS TO CONTRACT NEGOTIATIONS.** (Curran: yes; Herlihy: yes; Mulroy: yes; Bates; yes; Renzoni: yes).

Sel. Renzoni asked if anyone else was interested in being on this group; all members indicated they were interested.

8. Inclusive Access Playground Committee

The Board passed over this item and indicated it would be addressed at a future meeting.

9. Town Manager Update

None

10. Revision of Selectmen Handbook Policies

The Board passed over this item and indicated it would be addressed at a future meeting.

11. Selectmen Minutes

None

12. Selectmen Miscellaneous

Chairman Renzoni stated that the Senior Center was open as a warming center for anyone that needed it.

Chairman Renzoni stated that the Board would be passing over the Executive Session tonight as well.

13. Response to Citizens Address

None

Motion by Sel. Mulroy, seconded by Sel. Bates, it was **UNANIMOSLY VOTED BY A ROLL CALL VOTE TO ADJOURN THE JANUARY 23, 2023 BOARD OF SELECTMEN MEETING AT 7:02PM.** (Curran: yes; Herlihy: yes; Mulroy: yes; Bates: yes; Renzoni: yes).

APPROVED: 6/5/23 AS CORRECTED