

**HOLDEN BOARD OF SELECTMEN
MEETING MINUTES
August 29, 2022**

6:30PM

Senior Center

Present: Antony Renzoni, Geri Herlihy, Stephanie Mulroy, Richard Bates

Others Present: Peter Lukes, Town Manager
Stephanie King, Assistant Town Manager
Stephan 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

None

2. Town Managers Update

See Attached

3. Citizens Address

Susan Sullivan, 53 Blossom Square, Chair of Holden Council on Aging. She welcomed the new director and said they were pleased to have her on board. She stated she saw there was an agenda item for the naming of public buildings. She stated this was near and dear to the heart of the Council on Aging. In May 2021, the Council on Aging approached the Board to rename the Senior Center for Cynthia Beck. She developed a sickness and greatly contributed until she passed away and they wanted to do this in her honor. In December of 2021 she heard that everyone was on board but they wanted to develop a process. She stated it was not on the warrant this past year and they explained that the need was bought up but did not come through. She stated that she was using citizen's address at this time to address the Board on this matter.

She stated that the Town of Holden has a history of naming buildings for important people. She went through a number of buildings and stated that all these happened without a process and the Council was getting very frustrated at the hold up. She stated she was anxiously awaiting what the Board came up with so she could bring the results back to meeting in September.

Town Manager Update Cont.

4. Vote to Accept the Easements and other interests in Danielle Lane

Mr. Madaus stated that this was the completion of the process as to what was voted at Town Meeting. He stated the process to convert the way is statutory. The Board votes to accept the way, then Town Meeting accepts the way and then the Board has 120 days to vote interest in accepting the way. The deed of easement was prepared but there was a separate conveyance that was needed. He stated that it was good practice for corporate acceptant. So the two easements in front of the Board were the road way easement and the drainage easements. He stated this document will go to record and that will complete the process.

Motion by Sel. Bates, seconded by Sel. Mulroy, it was **UNANIMOSULY VOTED TO ACCEPT DANIELLE LANE AS PRESENTED.**

Motion by Sel. Mulroy, seconded by Sel. Bates, it was **UNANIMSOULY VOTED TO APPROVE THE DRAINAGE EASMENT / DANIELLE LANE AS PRESENTED.**

5. Vote Regarding Confirmation of Easement Rights-Damon Road

Mr. Madaus stated he highlighted a parcel of interest for the Board. He stated that they received an email from the attorney on this property. He stated the property owners were looking for confirmation that they had rights to travel on this parcel owned by the town. That parcel is maintained by the Department of Works as a way but if the town wished to convert it that would be in the future. He stated neither the Building Inspector nor the DPW objected.

Motion by Sel. Mulroy, seconded by Sel. Herlihy, it was **UNANIMOUSLY VOTED TO CONFIRM THE EASEMENT RIGHTS FOR DAMON ROAD AS PRESENTED.**

6. Vote to Approve Acquisition of Conservation Restriction

Motion by Sel. Mulroy, seconded by Sel. Herlihy, it was **UNANIMOUSLY VOTED TO APPROVE THE ACQUISITION OF INTEREST IN REAL PROPERTY BY THE HOLDEN CONSERVATION COMMISSION AS PRESENTED.**

7. Childhood Cancer Awareness Month

Chairman Renzoni asked if the Board would be kind enough to declare September as Childhood Cancer Awareness Month in Holden.

Motion by Sel. Bates, seconded by Sel. Herlihy, it was **UNANIMOUSLY VOTED TO DECLARE SEPTEMBER AS CHILDHOOD CANCER AWARENESS MONTH IN HOLDEN AND TO AUTHORIZE THE CHAIR TO SIGN THE PROCLIMATION.**

8. Municipal Naming Policy

Chairman Renzoni stated that Ms. Sullivan did accurately reflect the timeline on this matter. He stated this was originally spearheaded by Sel. Lavigne prior to leaving the Board and they were getting back to some of those matters currently. He stated that he was working on this with the Town Manager and that is the draft they were working on tonight.

Chairman Renzoni stated that moving forward they needed a process in place to name municipal property. He stated the way it is proposed, the Board is solicited for a naming, it gets brought to Town Meeting for a non binding article, and then goes back to the Board of Selectmen for a formal vote using public hearings throughout the process. He stated that he does think the process should be long and thought out.

Sel. Bates agreed and stated the public needs to weigh in because it is public property.

Sel. Mulroy agreed and she stated she thinks there needs to be time to allow people to bring to light things that may not be public knowledge in light of the environment we find ourselves in currently.

Sel. Herlihy agreed and stated that this would give the public the opportunity to voice any concerns or support.

Mr. Lukes stated the work that was done prior was with regards to the Board of Selectmen Handbook and this draft was much more comprehensive.

Chairman Renzoni suggested giving this to Mr. Bates, an attorney, to review this and to revisit this at the second meeting in September.

The Board agreed.

9. Water and Sewer Exception to Policy

Chairman Renzoni stated that he knows they have already discussed this but the question as to where do the residents of Holden go to challenge the opinions of the professionals in Town. He stated that he believes there should be an appeals process to do this.

Mr. Madaus stated that in Holden the Board of Selectmen is the Water/Sewer Commissioners. He stated in this role the Board has the ability and did adopt sewer regulations about connections. He stated there is no appeal process in these rules and regulations which is not uncommon. He stated that he made an effort to draft an appeals process. He stated they need standards about time, who can file an appeal, and more. He stated under the rules and regulation the designated person made the decisions. He stated as sewer commissioners they can adopt regulations.

Mr. Lukes stated that he thinks the Water Sewer Advisory Board was also involved. He stated that it is a secondary professional opinion and he thinks that they can give that

level of review and expertise. He stated that the point is to question the in house specialist then maybe outside specialists.

Chairman Renzoni asked if there was any objection to Mr. Madaus sharing the draft.

There was no objection made.

Chairman Renzoni suggested taking some time with this policy and coming back in a future vote.

10. Response to Citizens Address

None

11. Selectmen Minutes

Motion by Sel. Bates, seconded by Sel. Renzoni, it was **VOTED TO APPROVE THE MARCH 14, 2022 BOARD OF SELECTMEN MEETING MINUTES BY A VOTE OF 2-0-2.** (Herlihy: abstain; Mulroy: abstain).

Motion by Sel. Herlihy, seconded by Sel. Bates, it was **VOTED TO APPROVE THE MARCH 28, 2022 BOARD OF SELECTMEN MEETING MINUTES BY A VOTE OF 3-0-1.** (Mulroy: abstain).

Motion by Sel. Herlihy, seconded by Sel. Bates, it was **VOTED TO APPROVE THE APRIL 11, 2022 BOARD OF SELECTMEN MEETING MINUTES BY A VOTE OF 3-0-1.** (Mulroy: abstain).

Motion by Sel. Herlihy, seconded by Sel. Bates, it was **VOTED TO APPROVE THE APRIL 22, 2022 BOARD OF SELECTMEN MEETING MINUTES BY A VOTE OF 3-0-1.** (Mulroy: abstain).

Motion by Sel. Herlihy, seconded by Sel. Bates, it was **VOTED TO APPROVE THE APRIL 25, 2022 BOARD OF SELECTMEN MEETING MINUTES BY A VOTE OF 3-0-1.** (Mulroy: abstain).

Motion by Sel. Herlihy, seconded by Sel. Bates, it was **UNANIMOUSLY VOTED TO APPROVE THE MAY 10, 2022 BOARD OF SELECTMEN MEETING MINUTES.**

Motion by Sel. Herlihy, seconded by Sel. Mulroy, it was **UNANIMOUSLY VOTED TO APPROVE THE MAY 16, 2022 BOARD OF SELECTMEN MEETING MINUTES.**

Motion by Sel. Herlihy, seconded by Sel. Mulroy, it was **VOTED TO APPROVE THE JUNE 13, 2022 BOARD OF SELECTMEN MEETING MINUTES BY A VOTE OF 3-0-1.** (Bates: abstain).

Motion by Sel. Mulroy, seconded by Sel. Herlihy, it was **UNANIMOUSLY VOTED TO APPROVE THE JULY 25, 2022 BOARD OF SELECTMEN MEETING MINUTES.**

Motion by Sel. Herlihy, seconded by Sel. Bates, it was **VOTED TO APPROVE THE OCTOBER 4, 2021 BOARD OF SELECTMEN MEETING MINUTES BY A VOTE OF 3-0-1.** (Mulroy: abstain).

12. Selectmen Miscellaneous

Sel. Mulroy: none

Sel. Herlihy: none

Sel. Bates: none

Chairman Renzoni: Stated Holden Days was unbelievable. He thanked Mr. Lukes and his office and the Chamber for the event. He additionally stated that the Playground Committee was working hard and moving forward.

13. Selectmen Subcommittee

None

Motion by Sel. Bates, seconded by Sel. Mulroy, it was **UNANIMOUSLY VOTED TO ADJOURN THE AUGUST 29, 2022 BOARD OF SELECTMEN MEETING.**

APPROVED: November 28, 2022