

**HOLDEN BOARD OF SELECTMEN  
MEETING MINUTES  
November 14, 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. Bates, seconded by Sel. Mulroy it was, **UNANIMOUSLY VOTED TO APPROVE THE ROAD RACE FOR HOLDEN POLICE K9 PROGRAM 11/20/22 AS PRESENTED.**

Motion by Sel. Mulroy, seconded by Sel. Herlihy, it was **UNANIMOUSLY VOTED TO APPROVE THE ROAD RACE, BE LIKE BRIT FOUNDATION ON 11/24/22 AS PRESENTED.**

Motion by Sel. Curran, seconded by Sel. Mulroy, it was **UNANIMOUSLY VOTED TO APPROVE THE APPOINTMENT OF ELECTION WORKERS, WENDY RICCIARDI AND MOLLY POTTS FOR A TERM 10/7/22-8/31/23 AS PRESENTED.**

Chairman Renzoni asked to hold off on the appointments for Ag Com until the next meeting without objection.

**2. Citizens Address**

None

**3. Police Accreditation Award**

Mr. Lukes stated that we were one of four other towns in Worcester County to receive this honor. He stated that this means that the police force had a number of policies and protocols approved by the state board. He stated that it raised the level of professionalism by Holden Police and he was proud of the work they did to receive this prestigious award.

Chief Sherblom was present at the meeting. He said he was so proud of his Department especially Lieutenant Chris Noyes and Sgt Sculthorpe who assisted in the process. He

stated that it was essentially an audit of the department that they volunteered to go through. A team of assessors come in to review 362 standards.

Sgt Sculthorpe stated they were the only ones in Central MA with this accreditation. He stated they worked on this and bought all policies up to date which also reduces the liabilities of the town as well.

Chief Sherblom stated he was very proud of this accreditation.

Sel. Bates stated that he was an accreditation officer this is a huge accomplishment and everyone should be very proud.

#### **4. Acceptance of Donation, Ice Rink**

Mr. Lukes there was some conversation about bringing back the rink that was privately donated years ago. He stated they began the conversation in line with the expansion of the Recreation Department and went out to price a rink that could be used over and over. He stated that they priced it at \$5,000 and through the generous donation of Robert Jacobson. He stated it was purchased and they would have it up for the winter months this year. The only thing he asked was that acknowledgement that he was doing this in honor of Eric Johansson who maintained the rink for many years.

The Board of Selectmen needs to accept the donation.

Motion by Sel. Mulroy, seconded by Sel. Bates, it was **UNANIMOUSLY VOTED TO ACCEPT THE DONATION IN ITS ENTIRETY FOR THE PURPOSE OF PURCHASING AN ICE RINK FOR THE TOWN OF HOLDEN IN THE AMOUNT OF \$5,000.**

Chairman Renzoni asked to at least have a letter sent to Mr. Jacobson thanking him from the Board. He also asked if there was any sort of ribbon cutting that would occur on opening day.

Mr. Lukes agreed.

#### **5. Selectmen Subcommittee**

Sel. Mulroy stated that she went to a Council on Aging. They were asking on status of naming and procedure so just wanted to update the Board that they were still looking for that communication.

She stated they had a fantastic event to PA to Amish Country which sounded successful.

Chairman Renzoni asked on the update for the naming policy.

Sel. Bates asked to add it to the next agenda.

## **6. Selectmen Miscellaneous**

Sel. Bates stated he was contacted with Highland/ Wachusett Street intersection he stated it was a terrible intersection and the site lines were not good. He asked if there was a safety traffic study done at that intersection

Mr. Lukes stated that they tried to get rid of the overgrowth. He stated he would speak to Chief about speed there as well.

## **7. Annual Tax Classification Public Hearing**

Motion by Sel. Bates, seconded by Sel. Mulroy, it was **UNANIMOUSLY VOTED TO OPEN THE ANNUAL TAX CLASSIFICATION HEARING.**

Rosemary Scully was present at the meeting. She handed out a presentation to the Board.

Ms. Scully stated that the recommendation from the Board of Assessors was to select the residential factor of one which resulted in a single tax rate for all the classes. She stated the proposed tax rate would be \$14.99/ thousand.

Chairman Renzoni asked if any member of the public that wished to comment.

Gordon McPhee, 428 Salisbury Street was present at the meeting. He stated he supported the single tax rate for all classes and property.

Motion by Sel. Bates, seconded by Sel. Mulroy, it was **UNANIMOUSLY VOTED TO CLOSE THE PUBLIC HEARING FOR THE TAX CLASSIFICATION PUBLIC HEARING.**

Motion by Sel. Bates, seconded by Sel. Mulroy, it was **UNANIMOSLY VOTED TO ADOPT THE RESIDENTIAL TAX RATE FOR THE FACTOR OF ONE AS PRESENTED.**

Mr. Madaus stated the Board did not have to vote on the rate as it was based on the levy.

## **Selectmen Misc. Cont.**

Sel. Mulroy stated that we recently celebrated Veterans Day and she remembered residents reaching out over the spring regarding doing a tribute to our service members with banners hanging from street lights. She stated essentially family's purchase a six year lease to have a banner up for their service men and woman. Sel. Mulroy sated we are great at honoring military and service and maybe we could benefit this in our historic district.

Chairman Renzoni said without objection she could take this and look into it.

Mr. Lukes stated that they had looked into it and there was not a great response but he loves the idea.

Sel. Mulroy stated that she would love to take this idea and move it forward.

Sel. Herlihy the Wachusett Chamber of Commerce salute breakfast is Wednesday Morning at the Senior Center in Sterling at 7:00AM.

#### **8. Town Manager Update**

See Attached.

#### **Selectmen Misc. Cont.**

Sel. Curran asked what it meant to have the ECC site declared a brownfield site.

Mr. Lukes replied they would need to work with the EPA in terms of how far they can take. He stated what they essentially need to see was that the site is workable and to see what remained for hazardous materials. He stated the building itself was hazardous. He stated a lot of lead in topsoil was removed. He stated they wanted to make sure the Federal Government needed to be involved.

Sel. Curran asked about how paid it.

Mr. Lukes stated that it would be paid for by the property owner.

Chairman Renzoni stated there were some goals that were sent that they wanted to address and set for the next meeting. He stated Adams Road, ECC Clean up were both on there with consensus. He stated that Sel. Bates asked about officially becoming Water/ Sewer Advisory Boards. Chairman Renzoni stated that Mr. Lukes had also added explore and develop recreation facility at the Mayo Fields.

Chairman Renzoni stated he also suggested a security package for public property. He stated he would work with the Town Manager and come to a consensus and vote on goals next meeting.

Motion by Sel. Bates, seconded by Sel. Mulroy, it was **UNANIMOUSLY VOTED TO ADJOURN THE NOVEMBER 14, 2022 BOARD OF SELECTMEN MEETING AT 7:20PM.**

**APPROVED:** 1/9/23