

SELECT BOARD OPEN SESSION MINUTES OF WEDNESDAY, FEBRUARY 2, 2022

In attendance: Chair Lindsay Vayda, Clerk William F. Watkins, Associate Daniel Lee, Associate, Gregory M. Hanley, Town Administrator, Emily R. Martin, Assistant to the Town Administrator, Absent: Vice Chair Pamela Campanella

1. Chair Lindsay Vayda called the meeting to order at 7:00 p.m. in the Noel C. King Conference Room and via Zoom.
2. William Watkins moved, David Reilly seconded, and the Board voted 4-0-1, with Daniel Lee abstaining, William Watkins voting yes, David Reilly voting yes, and Lindsay Vayda voting yes, to approve the meeting minutes from the Select Board meeting on January 26, 2022 as presented.

William Watkins moved, David Reilly seconded, and the Board voted 4-0-1, with Daniel Lee abstaining, William Watkins voting yes, David Reilly voting yes, and Lindsay Vayda voting yes, to approve the meeting minutes from the Select Board meeting as the Personnel Board on January 26, 2022 as presented.

3. The Board confirmed future meeting dates of Wednesday, February 16, 2022, and Tuesday, March 1, 2022, prior to the Special town Meeting.
4. Town Administrator Gregory Hanley reported to the Board that Public Works Superintendent Keith Nastasia had informed him that as of January 21, 2022, the Town is spending in a deficit for snow and ice, which is allowed by the State. Finance Committee Chair Patrick Duggan attended the meeting and stated he believed that Public Works needs the Select Board and FinCom to vote to deficit spend for snow and ice. He recommended putting a dollar amount on the approval, noting that Mr. Nastasia could return and ask for more in the future if warranted.

Daniel Lee moved, David Reilly seconded, and the Board voted unanimously, with Daniel Lee voting yes, William Watkins voting yes, David Reilly voting yes, and Lindsay Vayda voting yes, to approve Public Works to deficit spend under Massachusetts General Laws with a cap of \$200,000, and to come back for more funding if need be.

Mr. Hanley reported on a Community Development Block Grant awarded by the State in the amount of \$746,500, and thanked Holbrook's representatives for helping to secure that grant.

William Watkins moved, David Reilly seconded, and the board voted unanimously, with Daniel Lee voting yes, William Watkins voting yes, David Reilly voting yes, and Lindsay Vayda voting yes, to accept funds from the State for the Community Development Block Grant award of \$746,500.

Mr. Hanley also reported on several Open Meeting Law violation complaints that had been filed against the Board and the remediation steps he had taken to address the

complaints, as well as on a visit he had to the Holbrook Housing Authority and the guidelines for the Board to appoint members to the two vacancies until the next Annual Town Election in April 2022.

5. Council on Aging Building Advisory Committee Chair Elaine Hyland attended the meeting to inform the Board that, after some administrative delays, her Committee's survey had been mailed out to every residence in Holbrook. The purpose of the survey is to determine what residents want to see in a future Senior Center and help guide her Committee's work. She noted that the initial deadline for submission had been Monday, January 31, 2022, but due to the delay, it was being extended to Monday, February 28, 2022. She also informed the Board that the survey can be mailed back in the return envelope provided, dropped off in a collection box in the Town Hall lobby, and is also available online. The Board thanked Ms. Hyland and her Committee for their work.
6. William Watkins moved, David Reilly seconded, and the Board voted unanimously, with Daniel Lee voting yes, William Watkins voting yes, David Reilly voting yes, and Lindsay Vayda voting yes, to open the March 1, 2022 Special Town Meeting warrant for the inclusion of the following articles: Finance Committee Reserve Fund Article, Town Clerk Funding Request Article, Public Works Generator Procurement Article.

Finance Committee Chair Patrick Duggan provided the Board with an explanation of the articles that had been submitted, noting that the Town Clerk's article was a carryover from the November 2021 Special town Meeting, that the Finance Committee article is to address the fact that free cash is not certified, but funds are needed now for certain expenditures, so his Committee is authorizing Reserve Fund Transfers now that will be returned to the Reserve Fund using free cash, once certified, using this article. He also noted that the Public Works Superintendent had come before his Committee on the generator issue, which was being handled with an RFT and the funding being replenished to the Reserve Fund through the same FinCom article. The other portion of money being requested for that article is the appropriation being requested for Holbrook's 150th birthday celebration. Tom Benvie, former Veterans' Agent who has been working to help plan the celebrations, addressed the Board to discuss what the Committee current ideas are for events.

Daniel Lee left the meeting at 8:05 p.m.

William Watkins moved, David Reilly seconded, and the Board voted unanimously, with William Watkins voting yes, David Reilly voting yes, and Lindsay Vayda voting yes, to accept the articles as written to the March 1, 2022 Special Town Meeting warrant.

William Watkins moved, David Reilly seconded, and the Board voted unanimously, with William Watkins voting yes, David Reilly voting yes, and Lindsay Vayda voting yes, to close the March 1, 2022 Special Town Meeting warrant.

7. Fire Chief Luke McFadden attended the meeting to present a grant he had been awarded by the Executive Office of Public Safety and Security and Department of Fire Services.

William Watkins moved, David Reilly seconded, and the Board voted unanimously, with William Watkins voting yes, David Reilly voting yes, and Lindsay Vayda voting yes, to accept a grant from the Massachusetts Executive Office of Public Safety and Security & the Department of Fire Services to the Holbrook Fire Department in the amount of \$6,000.00 for the procurement of equipment, consisting of accountability board/mobile command console(s), personnel accountability system(s) through a Firefighter Safety Equipment Grant for the 2022 fiscal year.

8. As Vice Chair Campanella was absent from the meeting, Chair Vayda postponed the items on reviewing the Diversity & Inclusion charge and a Social Media Policy.
9. Board of Health Chair Katie Goldrick attended the meeting to report on her research into intermediary mitigation options for the presence of PFAS in Holbrook's water source. She informed the Board she had encountered a company called Cyclopure in Illinois that has products and is willing to work with Holbrook to help gain footing in Massachusetts as a water filter provider. Ms. Goldrick noted that the household filter she would like to recommend is in for its final approval from the Federal government, and is composed of a corn base that can filter out PFAS particulates. Her proposal is that these filters would be purchased in tandem with generic plastic pitchers and provided to residents, one pitcher and 1-2 filters per household. The filters can last 4-8 months, and when used up, Cyclopure has a recycling program so that the PFAS collected in the filters does not end up in a landfill and back into the environment. She noted that collection of used filters could be included in the Board of Health's annual Hazard Waste Collection Day. Ms. Goldrick also informed the Board that while doing her research, she was able to speak directly with the CEO, who had offered to do a retrofitting of a filter at the Joint Water Treatment Plant free of charge, in order to help build a good reputation and make business connections in MA. They are not currently on the approved list of MA State vendors, but they are in the approval process.

Daniel Lee returned to the meeting at 8:38 p.m.

Board of Health member Allison Pinkhover attended the meeting via Zoom and voiced her support of the retrofitted filter from a public health perspective. She said that the current mitigation methods the Town is employing are bound to be missing or excluding some residents, but removing PFAS at its source can guarantee the same access to clean water for all. Clerk Watkins stated that he is very interested in a free retrofitted filter and wants to help the BOH in this process, but also noted that the Select Board needs to be taking the correct steps and speaking to the right people to do the project successfully. Chair Vayda asked Ms. Goldrick to contact MA DEP and the Town of Randolph, and meet with the Select Board, Board of Health, and Cyclopure to determine if there is a want and ability to move forward in this process.

10. Lindsay Vayda moved, David Reilly seconded, and at 9:15 p.m. the Board voted unanimously, with Daniel Lee voting yes, William Watkins voting yes, David Reilly voting yes, and Lindsay Vayda voting yes, to enter into Executive Session Pursuant to

M.G.L. c. 30A, Section 21(a)(2) To conduct strategy sessions in preparation for negotiations with nonunion personnel or to conduct collective bargaining sessions or contract negotiations with nonunion personnel (Assistant to the Town Administrator)