

## **MINUTES OF THE BOARD OF SELECTMEN MEETING**

October 2, 2017

Meeting held at Town Hall, 139 Main Street, Rowley, MA  
7:00 p.m.

**MEMBERS PRESENT:** Chairman Joseph Perry, Vice Chairman Robert Snow, David Petersen (Town Administrator Deborah Eagan, Assistant Town Administrator Amy Lydon) Clerk Cliff Pierce- ABSENT Robert Merry - ABSENT

**PUBLIC ATTENDEES:** Bernard Cullen – 283 Wethersfield Street; Jena Haag – 179 Hillside Street; Police Captain David Sedgwick; Henry Rolfe

### **CALL MEETING TO ORDER**

Chairman Perry called the meeting to order at 7:00 p.m. He said the meeting is being audio and video recorded digitally and broadcast live through Rowley Community Media.

### **PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE**

Bob Snow led the Pledge of Allegiance.

Chairman Perry said the Friends of the Rowley Public Library held the Chili Cookoff on Saturday, they did a fantastic job and there was a good crowd. He said the music was good, there were activities for the kids, and it was a lot of fun. He congratulated the Friends on a successful event.

### **GENERAL BUSINESS**

1. Review Road Opening Permits from National Grid for the following:
  - To open 5 Walnut Drive to install cathodic protection on steel gas main
  - To open 5 Burke Avenue to install to install cathodic protection on steel gas main
  - To open 18 Burke Avenue to install to install cathodic protection on steel gas main
  - To open 279 Central Street to install new gas service
  - To open 37 Bennett Hill Road to install new gas service

Chairman Perry said, "Road Opening Permits were signed off on by the staff for the locations listed above."

## **NEW BUSINESS**

1. Notice from Historic District Commission that a public hearing will be held on October 5, 2017 at 7:00 p.m. at the Town Hall Annex on an application from the Rowley Grange located at 29 Central to install a fence

Chairman Perry read the notice. The Board did not have any questions or concerns.

2. Request from Frank DeLisi to be appointed to the Rowley Cultural Council

Chairman Perry read the request from Frank DeLisi to be appointed to the Rowley Cultural Council.

Dave Petersen made a motion to appoint Frank DeLisi to the Rowley Cultural Council, Bob Snow second, all in favor - aye (3-0). Cliff Pierce – ABSENT Bob Merry - ABSENT

## **OLD BUSINESS**

1. Update on Pine Grove School Project

Chairman Perry read the following:

*Chairman Perry will update the Board.*

- 1) *The MSBA Project Funding Agreements have been signed by Chairman Joe Perry. Pinck and Company will forward them to the MSBA for signatures.*
- 2) *The civil engineering firm working on the project, Nitsch Engineering, has started the permit application process. Nitsch Engineering has filed for two Conservation Commission permits:*
  - *Notice of Intent*
  - *Stormwater Management Permit*

*The hearings on these applications are scheduled for tomorrow evening with the Conservation Commission starting at 7:45 p.m.*

- 3) *Chairman Perry has been working with the architect and contractor on establishing the construction start date. The Building Committee will be meeting next week and will finalize the list of alternates.*

Perry said the contractor has told the working group that the proposed schedule of starting in June and finishing a year from next September is too ambitious, and asked if the work could start during April vacation. He said the proposal is that they would start with the front door, the All Purpose Room and the kitchen. He said the kitchen would be

inoperable for the rest of the school year, and bagged lunches would be made available to the kids. He said if we proceed with this accelerated schedule, arrangements would need to be made for the location of Town Meeting. He said Superintendent Forget said we could use the gymnasium, which is larger than the All Purpose Room. Eagan said if the meeting was held at Triton, we won't have a live feed of Town Meeting. Perry said another possibility is Saint Mary's Hall, and the possibilities will need to be reviewed. Bernie Cullen asked for the project start date and Town Meeting date. Perry said Town Meeting will be held on April 30<sup>th</sup>, and the work will start the week of Patriot's Day. Eagan said contractors can be creative, and the Town could ask them to start their work in the kitchen, but to keep the All Purpose Room free until after Town Meeting. Perry said the Committee will discuss this next week.

### **7:10 – 7:15 p.m. CITIZEN QUERY**

There were no Citizen queries.

### **OLD BUSINESS**

2. Authorize Town Administrator Deborah Eagan to sign Community Compact grant forms

Chairman Perry read the following:

*The Town has received good news on the Community Compact grant. The State has approved the bridges and culverts grant. We've received a \$25,000 grant to have the bridges and culverts assessed by a professional firm. The firm will make recommendations on preventative maintenance, repairs, and on the development of a maintenance program.*

*The Department of Revenue has designated Debbie as the grant manager and she is listed on the paperwork.*

*We need the Board of Selectmen to vote Town Administrator Deborah Eagan as an authorized signatory on the grant paperwork. Chairman Perry needs to sign on the Contractor Authorized Signatory sheet in the designated area.*

Dave Petersen made a motion to approve Town Administrator Deborah Eagan as an authorized signatory on the grant paperwork and for Chairman Perry to sign on the Contractor Authorized Signatory sheet in the designated area, Bob Snow second, all in favor - aye (3-0). Cliff Pierce – ABSENT Bob Merry - ABSENT

Petersen said we can really use these grant funds as there are a number of bridges and culverts in the Town. Eagan said we were very pleased to learn of this grant award.

She said the Town hasn't heard back yet about the Community Compact Program. She said this is Patrick Snow's best management practice, and this grant was fast-tracked through the Department of Revenue.

### 3. Update on the Fire Station and Police Station Addition Project

Chairman Perry read the following:

*The architect has been working with Debbie on finalizing the bid documents. Town Counsel Tom Mullen recommends the Board of Selectmen vote on the liquidated damages provision in the Supplementary General Conditions. Attorney Mullen is ok with the amount of \$2,500, which Architect Greg Carell believes to be sufficient, but he feels the Board of Selectmen should vote to set the amount of liquidated damages.*

*(See attached)*

*The bid documents are scheduled to be released on October 12, 2017.*

Petersen asked what liquidated damages are. Eagan said if there is a breach of contract setting back the completion of the project resulting in damages to the Town, liquidated damages would be assessed.

Dave Petersen made a motion to approve the liquidated damages provision in the Supplementary General Conditions in the amount of \$2,500, Bob Snow second, all in favor - aye (3-0). Cliff Pierce – ABSENT Bob Merry - ABSENT

**7:15 p.m. APPOINTMENT** Jena Haag and Police Captain David Sedgwick to discuss safety concerns with aggressive speeders, on Hillside Street, Glen Street, Weldon Farm Road and Wethersfield Street

Chairman Perry read the following:

*Jena Haag submitted the attached letter outlining her concerns about aggressive speeders on Hillside Street, Glen Street, Weldon Farm Road and Wethersfield Street.*

*Police Chief Dumas was asked to look into Ms. Haag's concerns, and his response is also attached.*

Ms. Haag thanked the Board for giving her an audience to address the situation she continuously finds herself in as a resident of Hillside Street. She said the street is becoming increasingly dangerous where you turn left onto Glen Street. She said she has been verbally accosted by a number of drivers, and so have her neighbors. She

said she has spoken with Chief Dumas and Captain Sedgwick to explore what can be done. She said maybe more signage or a mirror to increase visibility would help. She said she has taken it upon herself to do something about this, the area has become a raceway and people are not comfortable walking or jogging. She said she realizes that the Police Department is maxed out, and she is coming to the Selectmen to see what can be done.

Snow said there was a fatal accident there fourteen years ago. Perry said he lives on Bennett Hill Road and has the same concerns there, but this location has a dangerous turn as well. He said Central Street has also become a raceway. He said people are speeding all over and there are not enough officers to place all around town to control this. Captain Sedgwick said he had a pleasant conversation with Ms. Haag in July and they have a fairly good plan to address this. He said Hillside Street has been on a patrol advisory since July. He said this is one of 15 patrol advisories in Town, the majority of which are for speed enforcements. He said the officers are making stops, and they have asked the officers to lower their thresholds for stopping vehicles. He said the speeding is specific to the times of arrivals and departures from Triton. He said they are patrolling the location and are trying their best.

Haag asked if more signage could help. She said there is just one sign that says "Children" from Route 1 to Glen Street. She said there is a sign that says "Dangerous Curve" but that is somewhat obscured by growth. She said the radar signs have been effective, but are expensive. Snow said a few years ago we had this situation on Newbury Road and signs were put up. Sedgwick said he isn't sure if the signs helped that issue, or if it was the enforcement. Haag asked if speedbumps could be installed. Petersen said they can't be because they interfere with plowing. Snow said the Police are out there using radar, and signage and aggressive patrolling helps. Haag said there are different types of signage, some that appeal to community spirit, such as "We love our children" or pictures of people walking their dogs. Sedgwick said new signage would have to be a cooperative effort with Highway Surveyor Patrick Snow. Petersen said signage just becomes part of the landscape. He said Chief Dumas' email said that verbal warnings will move to written warnings, and he thinks that could help. Sedgwick said they have been encouraging the officers to issue the written warning, and to also issue a citation if an individual is stopped more than once. Petersen said he is not in favor of signage as they aren't noticed by drivers after a while and become sign clutter. Sedgwick said a few more signs could be added to Hillside since they are lacking, as well as stricter enforcement with penalties.

Petersen suggested putting a stop sign on Glen Street on the corner of Hillside Street when you are heading from Triton. He said this would slow traffic down, and it might not be a solution, but it may help if we are able to put a stop sign there. Sedgwick said it is

his understanding that MASSDot would need to do a traffic survey since this would create a change in the traffic pattern. Haag said she likes the idea of the stop sign. Petersen said the stop sign if possible, and a couple more signs should help the problem. Sedgwick said he will look into the stop sign and report back about what is required to install it. Petersen said we could also look into installing a three way stop sign in that location. Snow said these streets are being used as a cut through to Cape Ann. Petersen said there should be money for signs in the Highway Department budget. Perry said with tougher enforcement, the situation should improve.

Haag thanked the Board for the opportunity to speak. Bernie Cullen asked what type of people are being stopped for speeding. Sedgwick said it is across the Board. Haag said there are also large delivery trucks traveling on Wethersfield Street. Petersen said these roads are not pedestrian friendly.

## **MINUTES**

- September 18, 2017

A quorum was not present to approve these minutes.

- September 25, 2017

Bob Snow made a motion to approve the September 25, 2017 minutes, Dave Petersen second, all in favor - aye (3-0). Cliff Pierce – ABSENT Bob Merry - ABSENT

## **ANNOUNCEMENTS**

- Halloween Trick or Treat Hours of 5:00 p.m. to 7:00 p.m. on Tuesday, October 31, 2017
- The Eastern Essex Veterans Services District is holding a ceremony on Friday October 20, 2017 at 4:00 p.m. at the Performing Arts Center at Ipswich High School, in which the Korean Consulate will be presenting the Korean Ambassador for Peace Medal to the Korean War Veterans or next-of-kin. For more information please contact the Veterans Office at 978-356-3915.
- Information on the Pine Grove School project is available on the Town's website at [www.townofrowley.net](http://www.townofrowley.net).
- The Town has the following vacancies:
  - a. **Council on Aging** – one seat
  - b. **Cultural Council**- one seat
  - c. **Open Space Committee** – one seat
  - d. **Fence Viewer** – three positions;
  - e. **Wood, Lumber & Bark Inspector**;
  - f. **Zoning Board of Appeals Associate** – three seats
  - g. **Parks and Recreation Committee** – one seat;

**h. Deputy Shellfish Constables – two positions**

For more information on these positions, please contact the Selectmen's Office at 948-2372.

- The Rowley Food Pantry is in need of donations. Donations can be left at the Rowley Public Library. The Food Pantry is open on Tuesdays from 10:00 a.m. to 12:00 p.m. and on Thursdays from 5:30 p.m. to 7:00 p.m.

**ADJOURN**

There being no further business before the Board, Chairman Perry called for a motion to adjourn. Bob Snow so moved, Dave Petersen second, all in favor - (3-0). Cliff Pierce – ABSENT Bob Merry – ABSENT

Open meeting adjourned at 7:38 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,  
Amy Lydon  
Assistant Town Administrator

**ATTACHMENTS:**

1. Meeting memo regarding General Business #1: Review Road Opening Permits from National Grid for the following:
  - To open 5 Walnut Drive to install cathodic protection on steel gas main
  - To open 5 Burke Avenue to install to install cathodic protection on steel gas main
  - To open 18 Burke Avenue to install to install cathodic protection on steel gas main
  - To open 279 Central Street to install new gas service
  - To open 37 Bennett Hill Road to install new gas service
2. Road Opening Permit issued to National Grid for 5 Walnut Drive
3. Road Opening Permit issued to National Grid for 5 Burke Avenue
4. Road Opening Permit issued to National Grid for 18 Burke Avenue
5. Road Opening Permit issued to National Grid for 279 Central Street
6. Road Opening Permit issued to National Grid for 37 Bennett Hill Road
7. Notice from Historic District Commission that a public hearing will be held on October 5, 2017 at 7:00 p.m. at the Town Hall Annex on an application from the Rowley Grange located at 29 Central to install a fence
8. Email correspondence regarding request from Frank DeLisi to be appointed to the Rowley Cultural Council
9. Meeting memo regarding Old Business #1: Update on Pine Grove School Project
10. Letter from Nitsch Engineering regarding NOI filed for the Pine Grove School Project, including enclosure

11. Meeting memo regarding Old Business #2: Authorize Town Administrator Deborah Eagan to sign Community Compact grant forms
12. Community Compact grant forms (four pages)
13. Meeting memo regarding Old Business #3: Update on the Fire Station and Police Station Addition Project
14. Excerpt from Supplementary General Conditions for the Fire Station and Police Station Addition Project bid documents
15. Meeting memo regarding 7:15 p.m. Appointment: Jena Haag and Police Captain David Sedgwick to discuss safety concerns with aggressive speeders, on Hillside Street, Glen Street, Weldon Farm Road and Wethersfield Street
16. Letter from Jena Haag regarding safety concerns with aggressive speeders, on Hillside Street, Glen Street, Weldon Farm Road and Wethersfield Street
17. Email from Chief Dumas regarding request to have streets reviewed for speeders and Aggressive Drivers
18. Four photos submitted by Jena Haag during 7:15 p.m. appointment
19. Draft Meeting Minutes of September 18, 2017
20. Draft Meeting Minutes of September 25, 2017