

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

April 23, 2018

Meeting held at Town Hall, 139 Main Street, Rowley, MA

5:45 p.m.

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

**PUBLIC ATTENDEES:** Joel Favazza; Larry Berger; Brent Baeslack; Vanessa Johnson-Hall; Tom Corben; Ursula Corben; Nancy Liebe; Susan Leach; Barbara Blanchard; Mark Emery; Benjamin Dei; Brian Forget; Bryan DiPersia; Kirk Baker; William Mehaffey; Sean McFadden; George Gallant; Barbara Berry; Tina Tzortz; Jill Chouvelon; Richard Hydren; Sharon Hydre; Bradley Maravalli; Katherine Chattan; Barbara Stanley

### **CALL MEETING TO ORDER**

Chairman Perry called the meeting to order at 5:47 p.m. Perry announced that the meeting is being video and audio recorded by Rowley Community Media.

### **PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE**

The Pledge of Allegiance was recited.

### **EXECUTIVE SESSION**

- To discuss strategy with respect to collective bargaining with the Massachusetts Coalition of Police (MCOP) Local 360 pursuant to State Open Meeting Law, G.L. c. 30A, Section 21(a)(3)

Chairman Perry called for a motion to go into Executive Session for the following purpose:

- 1) To discuss collective bargaining strategy pursuant to the State Open Meeting Law, G.L. c.30A section 21(a) (3) - Massachusetts Coalition of Police (MCOP) Local 360 because an open meeting may have a detrimental effect on the bargaining position of the Board of Selectmen; and to return to open session.

Bob Snow so moved, Cliff Pierce second, all in favor roll call vote: Joe Perry – aye; Bob Snow – aye; Cliff Pierce – aye; Dave Petersen – aye; Bob Merry – aye.

Executive Session opened at 5:49 p.m. and Open Session resumed at 5:57 p.m.

## **NEW BUSINESS**

1. Memorandum of Agreement Between the Massachusetts Coalition of Police, Local 360

Bob Snow made a motion to approve the Memorandum of Agreement Between the Massachusetts Coalition of Police, Local 360, and the Town of Rowley, Cliff Pierce second, all in favor - aye (5-0).

**6:00 p.m. PUBLIC HEARING** on a Liquor License Application for a Wine and Malt Beverages Package Store for 21 Main Street filed by Andy Sunny, Inc., Principals Amardeep V. Patel and Varshaben J. Patel

Chairman Perry read the Public Hearing Notice.

Chairman Perry called for a motion to open the hearing. Perry states that the hearing was advertised in the April 13, 2018 edition of The Daily News. Perry called the applicants forward.

Joel Favassa said he is an attorney here on behalf of Andy Sunny, and the Principals should be here shortly. He said the application is for a transfer of an existing Wine and Malt Beverages Package Store license from EZEE, which has closed. He said the license would be used at a location about a half mile away in a smoke shop. He said the manager of the shop, Mr. Salvalia, has experience at convenience stores from Cape Ann to Athol. He said the family is hard-working and makes a clean, reputable convenience store. He said they will be using the coolers from the EZEE location, and are one to two weeks away from completion in being retro-fitted into the new location. He said there is one main entrance/exit for customers, and emergency exits in the back. He said the large cigar cases are being moved back so that there is a clear line of sight to the alcohol cases and the exit.

Chairman Perry read comments from the Health Department and the Town Planner into the record.

Favassa said he was not aware of the issues reported by the Health Department with the business selling tobacco to minors, and the Board can rest assured that this won't happen since they are bringing in Mr. Salvalia who has experience with liquor sales in convenience stores. He apologized for his clients not being present, but said he would speak with them and if the vote hinges on this item, he will ask his clients to provide assurance that what happened in the past with the tobacco sales will not happen in the future with alcohol sales.

Snow asked if there have been any problems with any other establishments that they own that sell tobacco and alcohol. Favassa said he has been involved with the family for their Gloucester and Essex locations and to his knowledge there have been no issues with those locations. He said he wouldn't know about any other locations owned by the family.

Chairman Perry asked if there is anyone present at the meeting who would like to speak on the application. Chairman Perry called upon the members of the Board of Selectmen to see if they had any further questions or comments.

Chairman Perry called for a motion to close the public hearing.

Bob Snow made a motion to close the Public Hearing, Cliff Pierce second, all in favor - aye (5-0).

Public Hearing closed at 6:08 p.m.

Dave Petersen made a motion to approve the Liquor License Application for a Wine and Malt Beverages Package Store for 21 Main Street filed by Andy Sunny, Inc., Principals Amardeep V. Patel and Varshaben J. Patel, Bob Snow second, all in favor - aye (5-0).

## **GENERAL BUSINESS**

1. Request from Jane White of the Rowley Girl Scouts to hold Annual Bridging and Awards Ceremony on the Town Common on June 15, 2018 from 7:00 p.m. to 8:00 p.m.

Chairman Perry read the following:

*The Fire Chief and Police Chief both raised questions regarding the number of attendees and the parking plan for the Bridging Ceremony. Assistant Town Administrator Amy Lydon has reached out to Jane White asking for a response to their questions, however a response was not received in time for tonight's meeting.*

*This agenda item will be discussed at a future meeting once more information regarding the event is available.*

2. Revised request from the Parks and Recreation Committee to hold T-Ball practices and games on the Town Common

Chairman Perry read the following:

*At the April 9, 2018 meeting, the Board of Selectmen voted to grant permission for the Town Common to be used for T-Ball Mondays thru Thursdays beginning on April 10<sup>th</sup> and ending on June 24<sup>th</sup>.*

*T-Ball practice and games will also take place on Fridays during that period of time (April 10<sup>th</sup> – June 24<sup>th</sup>).*

*The Board of Selectmen should vote to amend its previous vote to include permission to use the Town Common for T-Ball on Fridays.*

Dave Petersen made a motion to amend the Board's previous vote to include permission to use the Town Common for T-Ball on Fridays, Cliff Pierce second, all in favor - aye (5-0).

3. Request from Parks and Recreation Committee Vice Chairman Tim Southall to accept a donation from Dan Lyons of Riverfront Landscaping to clean out poison sumac and poison ivy undergrowth at Eiras Park

Chairman Perry read the following:

*Dan Lyons, of Riverfront Landscaping, contacted Tim Southall offering to donate his time to help clean out poison sumac and poison ivy undergrowth around the playing fields at Eiras Park. The Town requires that any volunteers sign a Consent and Release form. Tim Southall has a copy of this form and will ensure that it is signed by Mr. Lyons and any other volunteers.*

*The Board needs to vote to accept this donation.*

Dave Petersen made a motion to accept this donation, Cliff Pierce second, all in favor - aye (5-0).

4. Request to lift hiring freeze for Cemetery Seasonal Laborer positions

Chairman Perry read the following:

*The Board of Cemetery Commissioners is requesting the Board of Selectmen to lift the freeze for the two seasonal laborer positions. This is an annual request.*

Bob Snow made a motion to lift the hiring freeze for this position, Cliff Pierce second, all in favor - aye (5-0).

5. Request from the Friends of the Library to place signs promoting the Annual Book Sale on Town property and a banner on the Town Common backstop

Chairman Perry read the following:

*The Friends of the Rowley Public Library are holding a book sale in May to raise funds for the library. They are requesting permission to put several signs on various town properties and a banner at the Town Common.*

*The signs will be the same signs as used last year. They are 24" x 18", red with white print. They would be located:*

- *In front of the Library on Main St*
- *In front of the Town Annex on Central Street*
- *In front of the Water Department on Central Street*
- *On the island at Rt. 133 and Bradford Street*
- *On the island at the beginning of Railroad Ave*
- *On the island in the driveway at Eiras Park*

*The Friends of the Rowley Public Library are asking to be granted permission to put up the signs and banner this year from April 29 to May 6. They are also asking for blanket permission to post the signs every year the Sunday before the book sale.*

Bob Snow made a motion to approve this request, Cliff Pierce second, all in favor - aye (5-0).

6. Review Road Opening Permit from Twin Hills Farm LLC, John Sullivan to open 42 Newbury Road to install a new water main extension

Chairman Perry read the following:

*A Road Opening Permit was signed off on by the staff for the location listed above. A copy of the permit is in the Chairman's folder.*

7. Letter of resignation from Planning Board Associate Member Jean Pietrillo

Chairman Perry read the following:

*Town Planner Kirk Baker forwarded a letter from Jean Pietrillo resigning from the Planning Board effective May 18, 2018.*

*The Board of Selectmen needs to vote to accept her resignation.*

Perry read Pietrillo's resignation letter.

Bob Snow made a motion to accept this resignation with regrets, Cliff Pierce second, all in favor - aye (5-0).

Pierce said Pietrillo was a great Planning Board Member, and it is a shame to see her go.

## **OLD BUSINESS**

### 1. Update on Fire Station and Police Station Addition Project

Chairman Perry read the following:

*The guardrails are up on the roadway to the ballfields. This week, the contractor will continue working on the following:*

- *excavation of the stormwater infiltration basis;*
- *excavating the foundations;*
- *pouring concrete foundations for both buildings;*
- *installing the underground plumbing; and*
- *installing the underground electrical*

Petersen said parking is extremely tight, and asked people to park as close to the other cars as possible. He said the playground is open, but people cannot let children climb into the fenced off areas.

### 2. Award engineering services contract to Meridian Associates for design services for the development of the expansion of Veterans Fields at the rear 221 Main Street

Chairman Perry read the following:

*We revised the scope of work and solicited four new quotes for engineering services to design of the expansion of the playing fields at rear 221 Main Street.*

*One response was received from Meridian Associates, for \$31,500. The scope of their work will be to complete:*

1. *Schematic design of two (2) Little League fields, including dugouts, portable bleachers, and backstops, with two (2) full size youth soccer fields in the Little League outfields. The schematic design will also include an expansion of the*

*existing gravel parking lot located at 215R Main Street, adjacent to the Pine Grove School.*

- 2. Design and engineering for one (1) of the Little League fields for Phase 1 of the project.*
- 3. Specifications for the procurement of irrigation and well installation companies*
- 4. Wetlands delineation, and*
- 5. Permitting*

*We are asking the Board of Selectmen to award the engineering services contract for the expansion of Veterans Field to Meridian Associates in the amount of \$31,500.*

Petersen said the \$31,500 is from CPA funds, which has an account balance of about \$220,000. He said he hopes there is enough money to design and build one field.

Dave Petersen made a motion to award the engineering services contract for the expansion of Veterans Field to Meridian Associates in the amount of \$31,500, Cliff Pierce second, all in favor - aye (5-0).

## **NEW BUSINESS**

2. Approve assignment of contract from Cracksealing, Inc. to Sealcoating, Inc.

Chairman Perry read the following:

*Last year, Cracksealing, Inc. was awarded the Highway Roadway Materials & Services Contract for Item 6 – Fiber Reinforced Crack Seal. We received a letter that Crack-sealing, Inc. has entered into an asset purchase agreement with Sealcoating, Inc. of Braintree. As part of the terms of the agreement, all Crack-Sealing, Inc. active customer contracts are being assigned to Sealcoating, Inc.*

*Highway Supervisor Patrick Snow has reviewed the letter from Crack-sealing and has recommended that the Selectmen approve the assignment of this contract to Sealcoating, Inc.*

*The Selectmen must vote on whether to accept the assignment of the Highway contract to Sealcoating, Inc and authorize Chairman Perry to sign the enclosed letter. If approved, a contract extension also will be sent to Sealcoating, Inc for work to be completed in 2018.*

Dave Petersen made a motion to accept the assignment of the Highway contract to Sealcoating, Inc and authorize Chairman Perry to sign the enclosed letter, Bob Snow second, all in favor - aye (5-0).

3. Discuss scheduling a date for a continued April 30, 2018 Town Meeting or for a second Town Meeting if needed

Chairman Perry read the following:

*Depending upon how the votes on the Annual Town Meeting Budget are approved we may need to either continue the Annual Town Meeting or hold a new Town Meeting. The suggested dates for a continued or "back up date" for a second Town Meeting is either June 11, 2018 or June 18, 2018.*

*If for some reason, we don't have an approved and "balanced" budget at the end of the Annual Town Meeting, we will need to continue the Town Meeting.*

*If two of the three Towns don't pass the current Triton budget, the School Committee will be re-submitting a revised budget after their scheduled May 16<sup>th</sup> meeting. If we don't have the revised budget amount appropriated, then we need to schedule a new Town Meeting. The Triton School Committee has a meeting scheduled for May 16.*

*In either case, we will need time to work on balancing the Town's budget.*

Eagan said both days are Mondays, but the Town Accountant is away on the 11<sup>th</sup>, so the 18<sup>th</sup> is the preferred date.

Dave Petersen made a motion to set the date for the second Town Meeting on June 18, 2018, Cliff Pierce second, all in favor - aye (5-0).

4. Assign motions for April 30, 2018 Annual and Special Town Meetings

Chairman Perry read the following:

*The Board needs to divide up the motions for all of the "Board of Selectmen" articles on the Annual and Special Town Meeting Warrants.*

*Attached are copies of the ATM and STM Warrants.*

*Not on the Warrant but must be moved are:*

*Special Town Meeting*

- 1) *Suspend the Reading of the Warrant*

- 2) *Authorizing non-resident Town Department Heads to speak*
- 3) *Adjourning the Town Meeting*

#### *Annual Town Meeting*

- 1) *Suspend the Reading of the Warrant*
- 2) *Authorizing non-resident Town Department Heads to speak*
- 3) *Adjourning the Town Meeting*

Perry said he will handle 1-3. The Board decided to wait until later in the meeting to assign the rest of the motions.

#### **6:15 – 6:20 p.m. PUBLIC COMMENT**

There were no Public Comments.

**6:30 p.m. APPOINTMENT** Larry Berger of Pinck & Company to discuss the following Pine Grove School Building Project Items

- Letter of Recommendation #12 - signs
- Letter of Recommendation #13 – landscape
- Storing Pine Grove School teachers' summer deliveries in the Town Hall Auditorium
- Placing approximately 10 40-foot storage containers on Town property near the school
- Update on the project

#### **Storing Pine Grove School teachers' summer deliveries in the Town Hall Auditorium**

Perry said the Pine Grove School Principal and teachers will have deliveries made to the Town Hall Auditorium during construction.

#### **Letter of Recommendation #12 - signs**

Larry Berger said they are continuing the non-trade buyouts, and this LOR is regarding signage. He said budgeted amount for this item is \$39,789, and the buyout amount is \$30,991, so there is a savings.

Dave Petersen made a motion to approve LOR #12, Cliff Pierce second, all in favor - aye (5-0).

#### **Letter of Recommendation #13 – landscape**

Berger said budgeted amount for this item is \$842,537, and the buyout amount is \$802,250, so there is a savings of \$40,287.

Dave Petersen made a motion to approve LOR #13, Cliff Pierce second, all in favor - aye (5-0).

### **Placing approximately 10 40-foot storage containers on Town property near the school**

Berger said the contractor would like to place ten forty foot long storage containers offsite, but contiguous to the site, so that items such as the window packs are readily available and they don't have to wait for deliveries. He said they were hoping to use the adjacent fields, but understands that they are going under construction, and he is not sure if there are other options. He said the storage containers would be removed as they are emptied. Petersen asked if it would be acceptable to put the storage units at the Bradstreet Farm affordable housing parcel. Berger said he hasn't seen that site yet, but will look at it tomorrow. Eagan asked for the timeframe for this. Berger said it would be from mid-July until the summer of 2019. Brent Baeslack said the affordable housing parcel is the emergency snow storage site and said it would need to be clear for the construction vehicles to access it, and for the storage container door to be able to swing open. Petersen said if the contractor is agreeable to this location, Eagan can set up a meeting with the Highway Surveyor to review where the containers would be placed.

### **Update on the project**

Berger said they had a good first week, and the underground utility runs to the new pole is underway. He said inside the building the asbestos contaminated materials have been abated in the All Purpose Room. He said the pavement in the rear has been installed for the new bus loop, and can be used for Town Meeting and cold school lunch deliveries.

Chairman Perry announced that the meeting was being recorded by Rowley Community Media and will be shown at a later date.

### **6:45 p.m. APPOINTMENT Conservation Agent Brent Baeslack to discuss draft Mehaffey Farm Conservation Restriction**

Chairman Perry read Brent Baeslack's email. Baeslack said he has provided the full document, but will focus on the parking and trails, which sections have been highlighted in the document. He said Town Counsel has reviewed the document and agrees it can be submitted to the EEA. He said the request has been forwarded on to get comments from the State.

Perry said the parking area is on page 8, and he read the blurbs about the parking area. Petersen said under #13, it says the grantee may develop the parking area. He said he

would like it to say that the Greenbelt will develop the area. Baeslack said this is addressed in the MOA, which will be incorporated in the Conservation Restriction. He read the blurb from the MOA. Petersen said the grant is for \$5,000, and if the Town does the work, we will need to pay prevailing wages. He said he doesn't want this to fall onto the Town to do, and he wants to make it clear that this is the responsibility of Greenbelt. Baeslack said the language is meant to be undesirable to the Greenbelt, and puts the onus on the Greenbelt to do the work. Eagan said the next step is the State's review.

Cliff Pierce made a motion to submit this to the State for review and approval, Bob Snow second, all in favor - aye (5-0).

### **7:00 p.m. JOINT MEETING WITH FINANCE COMMITTEE AND BOARD OF WATER COMMISSIONERS**

- Informational Hearing on the April 30, 2018 Annual Town Meeting Warrant and the April 30, 2018 Special Town Meeting Warrant

Chairman Perry called for a motion to open the Joint Meeting of the Board of Selectmen, Finance Committee and Board of Water Commissioners. Bob Snow so moved, Cliff Pierce second, all in favor roll call – Joe Perry –aye; Bob Snow – aye; Cliff Pierce – aye; Dave Petersen – aye; Bob Merry – aye.

Chairman White called the Finance Committee Meeting to order. Chairman White called for a motion to open the Joint Meeting of the Finance Committee, Board of Selectmen and Board of Water Commissioners. Sharon Emery so moved, Paul Jalbert second, all in favor roll call – Sharon Emery – aye; Larry White – aye; Paul Jalbert – aye; Dennis Roy – aye. Peter Censullo – ABSENT. Jami Snow – ABSENT.

Chairman Emery called the Board of Water Commissioners meeting to order. Chairman Emery called for a motion to open the Joint Meeting of the Board of Water Commissioners, Board of Selectmen and Finance Committee. John Manning so moved, Bernie Cullen second, all in favor roll call – Mark Emery – aye; John Manning – aye; Bernie Cullen – aye.

Joint meeting opened at 6:58 p.m.

Perry said if anyone wishes to speak, they need to use the microphone, and to state their name and address. He said if someone agrees with a previous speaker to say that they agree and not repeat what was already said. He said this meeting is being video and audio recorded and will be shown at a later date.

Perry read the articles on the Special Town Meeting warrant. There were the following comments:

Article 17: A resident named Carol said the way the Town spends money is ridiculous. She said the carpet for the Selectmen's Office costs \$9,000 and she did her whole house for \$7,000. She asked if estimates were received as this seems excessive. Petersen said this is part of the Capital budget. He said this amount covers tearing the carpet up, installing the new carpet and moving the office furniture. He said we need to pay prevailing wages, and this work will go out to bid. Carol said this seems excessive.

Article 21: Bob Petrillo of Haverhill Street said he recommending insulating the pipes at the Water Treatment Plant two years ago, and it is about time something happened. He said this is a lot cheaper than a big hvac job.

Perry read the articles on the Annual Town Meeting warrant. There were the following comments:

Article 2: Perry said we are required under Massachusetts General Laws to have a balanced budget at the end of Town Meeting. He said if we are not balanced, we may need to continue the meeting to another night.

Article 4: Larry White said to keep it simple for the Triton budget, if you are for the full Triton budget, vote yes on Article 4, yes on Article 5, and yes on the override question on the ballot. He said if you are for the limited Triton budget, vote yes on Article 4, yes on Article 5, and no on the override question on the ballot. He said the Town of Rowley is allowed to increase taxes by 2.5% each year, and there is some new tax revenue. He said in December of 2017, the Rowley Board of Selectmen sent a letter to the School Committee offering half of the Town's new tax revenue, estimated at \$200,000. He said the Triton final budget is requesting a \$732,640 increase, which is 3.5 times Rowley's proposal. He said Article 4 has a \$200,000 increase for Triton, and approving this is a \$532,000 shortfall from Triton's requested amount. He said Article 5 appropriates and sets aside the spending for the override, should it pass on the ballot after Town Meeting. He said fully funding Triton has two parts: Article 5 and the override vote. He said the override will be a permanent tax increase if it passes. He said if it fails Triton will need to reconsider its budget.

- Line 71: Ben Dei of 34 Pleasant Street asked why this line is nearly doubling. Fire Chief Broderick said there are 25 Call Firefighters and 3 full-time Firefighters. He said all three full-time firefighters are nearing retirement age, and information needs to be transferred to new people so that the Rowley Fire Department can continue. He said the Call Firefighters have their own lives, jobs and families and do not know the ins and outs of the Department. He said they are looking to hire two additional full-time firefighters, as Rowley is the only Town in the area with only 3 full-time firefighters and with a Fire Chief who is on the fire truck every day. Petersen said at night, sometimes only two call firefighters show up, which is unsafe for them and the residents. He said we need to increase the number of firefighters, the Chief has been requesting this for the past five years

and the Town keeps putting it off. Barbara of Farnham Road asked if this would reduce the budget for call firefighters. Broderick said no, they get paid when they respond to a call.

- Line 131: Richard Ziemelick from 26 Hammond Street asked why the Field Maintenance line is increasing by \$10,000. Petersen said they are working on developing fields on the newly purchased Gwynn property, which will add to maintenance costs. He said maintenance costs in general along with the electricity costs for the concession stand are increasing, and plumbing work is also needed. He said the budgets have been level funded for so long, and we now need more money for maintenance.
- Line 125: Kathy Chattan from Wethersfield Street asked what the \$190 budget for ADA Compliancy is used for. Eagan said it is used for miscellaneous items such as replacing signs or adding new signs. Chattan asked if more than \$190 could be funded for ADA Compliancy. Eagan said large items are capital expenditures that are funded through articles, and this line is only for small general expenses.

Article 5: Perry read the article and said passage of this article needs to be followed up with the override vote on May 8<sup>th</sup>. The following comments were made on this article:

- Danby Whitmore asked what will happen to the school if the override fails. Perry said all we can do is vote yes or no. He said if it doesn't pass in Rowley and it doesn't pass in one of the other Towns, then the School Committee needs to vote on a revised budget. Whitmore asked where the Selectmen see that the increases are needed. Perry said people have to go the School Committee meetings as he doesn't want to give a second hand interpretation, and Superintendent Forget is here. Whitmore asked if the sales tax or meals tax can be used to fund this. Perry said the sales tax goes to the State and the Town is requesting the meals tax. White said the meals tax and marijuana tax are not yet approved, and are not part of this budget. He said the final budget is posted on the Triton website, and people can look at it to see the priorities. He said he urges people to start attending the School Committee meetings and to ask specific questions. He said the Town doesn't tell Triton how to run, but is saying that we can't afford how it is running now.
- Barbara Stanley of 21 Country Club Road asked what the tax impact is if the override passes. Treasurer/Collector Karen Summit said for a \$532,640 override on the average house value of \$429,749, the annual tax increase would be \$227.77 per year, and this is a permanent override.
- Superintendent Brian Forget said the entire budget would be reconsidered if two out of the three towns don't approve the budget. He said they haven't determined the cuts yet, but to cut to the \$200,000 increase for Triton, would mean \$1,500,000 in total cuts, which is the equivalent of 51 individuals. He said another scenario has 20 to 25 individuals cut. He said the School Committee meeting is scheduled for May 16<sup>th</sup> to address this if needed.

- John Manning asked what happens if it passes in the other two towns, but not in Rowley. Petersen said \$532,000 will be cut out of the Town budget to fund Triton, which is an amount that is difficult to cut. He said the Fire Department would not get the two additional firefighters. He said this is a difficult situation and there is only so much money. Manning said the teachers raises are an enormous amount of money and their contract is up in another year. Forget said the teacher increases for FY 19 are 2.75%, which is larger than the historical 2.5% because there were additions to their basic job requirements. He said the teacher's pay is in the middle of the pack and they aren't overly paid in the region. He said they aim for average salaries and benefits, and the teacher's pay is not the cause for the override. He said the increases are \$900,000 to \$1,000,000 each year for 435 employees, and in a normal this this can be handled, but this year Special Education increased by \$1,200,000. He said the employer payment percentage for health insurance is higher for Triton employees than for Rowley employees, but are spot on with the other Triton communities and other school districts. He said the health care is being negotiated next year, and the teacher's contract is being negotiated in two years.
- Bernie Cullen said he has a different view on Triton's finances. He said the raises are substantially higher than 2.75% when you factor in the steps for the first 10 to 11 years of a teacher's career. He said Triton increases are significantly higher than increases given to Town employees. He said the Triton increases are significantly higher than what the Town can manage. He said the school needs to abide to Proposition 2.5%, otherwise the school will become a larger and larger part of the Town's tax levy. He said people need to look carefully at the Triton budget documents.
- Ben Dei said we have one shot to fund the schools for the kids, and the Town is saying they can't fund the schools, but has money in reserves, is increasing staff and is doing capital improvement projects.
- Forget said it is standard for teacher's pay to start low and to get step raises for the first 11 years. He said at 12 years, they only get a COLA. He said 65% of the teachers are at the top step and to move columns, they need to get advanced degrees.
- Jill Chouvelon of Homestead Lane asked what the impact of school choice is on Triton's budget. Forget said this is a State program and \$5,000 is received for students choicing in, and \$5,000 is paid per student choicing out. He said now Triton choices out 273 students, and choices in 140 students, so we are paying out more than we are receiving in. He said Triton needs to balance the costs of students coming in and going out.
- Bob Snow said the Fire Station, Police Station and Pine Grove School projects are debt exclusion overrides, and once they are paid off, the tax money goes back to the taxpayers. He said this override would be forever. Karen Summit said 30% of the money has been borrowed for these projects, these are fixed costs, and are not negotiable. She said the taxes will continue to rise as the projects are fully funded. Town Accountant Sue Bailey said these funds are not available to fund the general budget. Summit said the borrowing for these

projects will continue over the next two to three years and the tax impact will be 2.05 for the next 20 years.

- Larry White said the Triton budget is presented as level funded, but includes \$450,000 of increases. He said the \$45,000 per individual used for Triton's layoff calculation equates to 12 people in Rowley. He said people need to go the School Committee meetings and voice their concerns.

#### Article 6:

- Barbara of Farnham Road asked why the wages increased by \$156,000 between FY 17 and FY 18. Mark Emery said due to a lack of employees, and Pennichuck is now handling the billing for the Department. Bernie Cullen said the budget projects filling positions that are required by the State, but we are having a difficult time finding qualified personnel.

#### Article 5:

- Jeanne Masher said Bachelor's degrees are required for teachers; State funding is \$100,000 lower in 2019 than it was in 2002, and asked when the last educational override passed in Rowley. Petersen said in 2007 for \$590,000; in 2011 an override for \$130,000 failed. Snow said Town budgets were cut 2% across the board in 2011.

Petersen said there is a lot of talk that the Selectmen conspired to do these large projects all at once. He said funds for the Police Station were requested in 1999, 2002 and 2004, and these overrides failed. He said in 2002 the cost was \$4,600,000, and in 2017 the cost grew to \$12,000,000. He said time is money, and if the station was built in 2002, it would be paid off. He said these projects are desperately needed and we cannot afford to wait on them.

Chairman Perry called for a motion to close the Joint Meeting of the Board of Selectmen, Finance Committee and Board of Water Commissioners. Dave Petersen so moved, Bob Snow second, all in favor roll call – Joe Perry –aye; Bob Snow – aye; Cliff Pierce – aye; Dave Petersen – aye; Bob Merry – aye.

Chairman White called for a motion to close the Joint Meeting of the Finance Committee, Board of Selectmen and Board of Water Commissioners. Sharon Emery so moved, Paul Jalbert second, all in favor roll call – Sharon Emery – aye; Larry White – aye; Paul Jalbert – aye; Dennis Roy – aye. Peter Censullo – ABSENT. Jami Snow – ABSENT.

Chairman Emery called for a motion to close the Joint Meeting of the Board of Water Commissioners, Board of Selectmen and Finance Committee. Mark Emery so moved, Bernie Cullen second, all in favor roll call – Mark Emery – aye; Bernie Cullen – aye. John Manning – ABSENT

Joint meeting closed at 9:22 p.m.

## **NEW BUSINESS**

4. Assign motions for April 30, 2018 Annual and Special Town Meetings

The Board asked Eagan to assign the motions.

## **MINUTES**

- February 26, 2018

Dave Petersen made a motion to approve the February 26, 2018 minutes, Bob Snow second, all in favor - aye (5-0).

Bob Snow made a motion to rescind the previous vote, Cliff Pierce second, all in favor - aye (5-0).

Dave Petersen made a motion to approve the February 26, 2018 minutes, Cliff Pierce second, all in favor - aye (5-0).

## **ANNOUNCEMENTS**

- White Goods/Light Metal Household Recycling Event for Rowley residents on Saturday, April 28, 2018 from 8:30 a.m. to 11:30 a.m. at the Highway Department, 40 Independent Street. For more information check out the Town's website at [www.townofrowley.net](http://www.townofrowley.net) or call the Health Department at 948-2231
- Town Meeting is scheduled for Monday, April 30, 2018 at 7:00 p.m. in the Pine Grove School Gymnasium.
- Town Election is scheduled for Tuesday, May 8, 2018 from noon to 8:00 p.m. at St. Mary's Church Hall
- The Friends of the Council on Aging is sponsoring a Shoe Drive from mid-April to mid-May at the Town Hall Annex, 39 Central Street. Paired footwear, such as the following may be deposited in the container at the Annex Parking lot: shoes, boots, work boots, sandals, slippers, flip flops, heels, sneakers, pocket books, purses, backpacks and belts.
- Friends of the Council on Aging to hold Annual Bake Sale and Craft Fair at the Town Hall Annex parking lot on May 19, 2018
- 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. **Fence Viewer** – three positions;

- b. **Wood, Lumber & Bark Inspector;**
- c. **Zoning Board of Appeals Associate** – three seats;
- d. **Parks and Recreation Committee** – one seat; and
- e. **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**

Cliff Pierce made a motion to adjourn, Bob Snow second, all in favor - aye (5-0).

Open meeting adjourned at 9:26 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Amy Lydon  
Assistant Town Administrator

## **ATTACHMENTS**

1. Written Executive Session motion
2. Meeting memo regarding New Business #1: Memorandum of Agreement Between the Massachusetts Coalition of Police, Local 360
3. Memorandum of Agreement Between the Massachusetts Coalition of Police, Local 360
4. Meeting memo regarding 6:00 p.m. Public Hearing on a Liquor License Application for a Wine and Malt Beverages Package Store for 21 Main Street filed by Andy Sunny, Inc., Principals Amardeep V. Patel and Varshaben J. Patel
5. Public Hearing Notice for 6:00 p.m. Public Hearing
6. Liquor License Application package for a Wine and Malt Beverages Package Store for 21 Main Street filed by Andy Sunny, Inc., Principals Amardeep V. Patel and Varshaben J. Patel
7. Board of Selectmen Public Comment Policy for Public Meetings
8. Meeting memo regarding General Business #1: Request from Jane White of the Rowley Girl Scouts to hold Annual Bridging and Awards Ceremony on the Town Common on June 15, 2018 from 7:00 p.m. to 8:00 p.m.
9. Meeting memo regarding General Business #2: Revised request from the Parks and Recreation Committee to hold T-Ball practices and games on the Town Common
10. Meeting memo regarding General Business #3: Request from Parks and Recreation Committee Vice Chairman Tim Southall to accept a donation from

- Dan Lyons of Riverfront Landscaping to clean out poison sumac and poison ivy undergrowth at Eiras Park
11. Email request from Parks and Recreation Committee Vice Chairman Tim Southall to accept a donation from Dan Lyons of Riverfront Landscaping to clean out poison sumac and poison ivy undergrowth at Eiras Park
  12. Meeting memo regarding General Business #4: Request to lift hiring freeze for Cemetery Seasonal Laborer positions
  13. Meeting memo regarding General Business #5: Request from the Friends of the Library to place signs promoting the Annual Book Sale on Town property and a banner on the Town Common backstop
  14. Request from the Friends of the Library to place signs promoting the Annual Book Sale on Town property and a banner on the Town Common backstop
  15. Meeting memo regarding General Business #6: Review Road Opening Permit from Twin Hills Farm LLC, John Sullivan to open 42 Newbury Road to install a new water main extension
  16. Road Opening Permit from Twin Hills Farm LLC, John Sullivan to open 42 Newbury Road to install a new water main extension
  17. Meeting memo regarding General Business #7: Letter of resignation from Planning Board Associate Member Jean Pietrillo
  18. Letter of resignation from Planning Board Associate Member Jean Pietrillo
  19. Meeting memo regarding Old Business #1: Update on Fire Station and Police Station Addition Project
  20. Meeting memo regarding Old Business #2: Award engineering services contract to Meridian Associates for design services for the development of the expansion of Veterans Fields at the rear 221 Main Street
  21. Request for Price Quote for Expansion of Veterans Field
  22. Proposal submitted by Meridian Associates for Expansion of Veterans Field
  23. Draft engineering services contract to Meridian Associates for design services for the development of the expansion of Veterans Fields at the rear 221 Main Street
  24. Meeting memo regarding New Business #2: Approve assignment of contract from Cracksealing, Inc. to Sealcoating, Inc.
  25. Assignment of contract form from Cracksealing, Inc. to Sealcoating, Inc.
  26. Meeting memo regarding New Business #3: Discuss scheduling a date for a continued April 30, 2018 Town Meeting or for a second Town Meeting if needed
  27. Meeting memo regarding New Business #4: Assign motions for April 30, 2018 Annual and Special Town Meetings
  28. Meeting memo regarding 6:30 p.m. Appointment: Larry Berger of Pinck & Company to discuss the following Pine Grove School Building Project Items: Letter of Recommendation #12 – signs; Letter of Recommendation #13 – landscape; Storing Pine Grove School teachers' summer deliveries in the Town Hall Auditorium; Placing approximately 10 40-foot storage containers on Town property near the school; Update on the project
  29. Letter of Recommendation #12 – signs
  30. Letter of Recommendation #13 – landscape

31. Email from Conservation Agent Brent Baeslack regarding Mehaffey Farm Conservation Restriction
32. Draft Mehaffey Farm Conservation Restriction
33. Meeting memo regarding 7:00 p.m. Joint Meeting with Finance Committee and Board of Water Commissioners
34. April 30, 2018 Special Town Meeting Warrant
35. April 30, 2018 Annual Town Meeting Warrant
36. Draft February 26, 2018 minutes