

The Board of Selectmen met on Tuesday, May 10, 2016 beginning at 7:00pm in the Main Meeting Room of the Town Hall. The following members were present.

Clifton Snuffer, Chairman  
James Stanton, Vice Chairman  
David Salvatore, Clerk  
Mark Gallivan  
Eric Kraus

Also present  
James Johnson, Town Administrator  
Cindy Berube, Executive Assistant

Mr. Snuffer called the meeting to order followed by the Pledge of Allegiance.

## **ANNOUNCEMENTS AND PROCLAMATIONS**

## **SPONSORED AGENDA ITEMS**

7:00pm Emergency preparedness partnership

Ms. Chapell, Health Director wanted to recognize Siemens. They have been working on partnership for almost a year, helping in case there is a public health emergency. The Health Dept. has to have a plan that we dispense medication within 48 hours. We test it, our plan has been audited, CDC audited once. Looking to make our plan better, partnership with industries, they can dispense for their employees and families. We went to a training, close point of dispensing, worked with Gary and Nancy, they went to the training, we signed an agreement. We are lucky to have Siemens.

Mr. Walsh, I thank Robin for inviting us to partner with us, I have been on the LEPC for 10 years. Very important to have a relationship with town, fire and health, great pleasure to join in this organization to do these pods.

Nancy Malloy- occupational health nurse, pandemic in 2009 I partnered with Dept. of Public health. We are joining the same group with Robin but including the Town of Walpole. They will handle Employees and family members; it takes the responsibility off the Town. Great to work with Robin.

Discussion about a potential of problem. Such as, how to you get the vaccine, how much is shelf life. It could pop up on my last meeting. Nancy pointed out the vaccines could take some time.

The CDC provided the vaccine last time. Situations need antibiotics, the state would disseminate to the town, and you have to have a plan and your connections made. Test it so the plan works.

It was explained that certain areas that the Federal Government has already have kits, once they hear about that they dispense to the community. They will give us as well to Siemens.

Mr. Snuffer thought this provides them with a priority nature. It was explained when other companies have to shut down, they can stay open. Mr. Snuffer would like you to take the initiative, commendable letter of thanks and gratitude, for the corporate partnership. No better example than this. Hopefully never need it.

#### 5-2 Pedestrian Crosswalk sign, Common Street

Mr. Leblanc, Supt of Highways, Parks and Recreation explained they are working on a project with police to install a solar power, button activated crosswalk, two beacons and painted sidewalk at the High School. New approaches with ADC accessibility. Deputy police chief Mackenzie explained when the downtown project is finished, started looking at the Cross Walks, both on either side of Mass Ave, not very safe, move to a better view area. Numerous complaints, better for everyone, worked with schools, and engineering.

Officer Songin is going to work with the schools, starting next year making sure the kids are crossing there. Try to corral them to the front door; we will be there for the first few weeks. Mr. Kraus felt it was a great idea, the volume of residents of all ages is significant, anything we can do to slow down traffic.

MOTION moved by Mr. Salvatore to approve the installation of a Pedestrian Crosswalk Sign approximately in front of 274 Common Street, seconded by Mr. Kraus VOTED 5-0-0

#### 5-3 Exemptions-Conflict of Interest Law

Danielle Sicard, Town Clerk regards to education and training program. The State Ethics allows us to exempt certain rules. Make more sense to make that list, these positions are always exempt. They are not decision makers in the town. Mr. Snuffer, one of the things is we are responsible to take the online test. He wanted to know if the Selectmen were up to date. She explained there are two requirements, done within 30 days of appointment. It is an annually summary of State ethics law. I found several files we have purchased some software, 9 month project for us to implement the information. I can't tell you where you are.

MOTION moved by Mr. Kraus to exempt those listed in the memo of March 24, 2016 from Danielle Sicard Town Clerk the mandatory training course for Conflict of Interest Law and Education requirements for employees seconded Mr. Gallivan, VOTED 5-0-0

#### 5-4 Award of Bid, 2016-33, New Electronic tabulators

This will be paid for from the Reserve Fund. This matter came up and we put this out to bid. The Reserve Fund is healthy. We are saving money for police and fire overtime. The Fin Com is satisfied. The use of these would start in September. Ms. Sicard explained the Sec of State sent out guidelines. You need to have a vote of the BOS to make a change and discontinue. I would recommend we use it one time prior to the Presidential. The equipment you have is 20years old, seen its life, the company is going to discontinue replacement parts. This is more user friendly with some optical scanning mechanisms. We have had some failures already. She expects this will be better and more efficient.

MOTION moved by Mr. Kraus to award Bid 2016-33 to LHS Associates, Inc., of Salem, NH in the amount of \$59,000 for the purchase of new vote tabulators, seconded by Mr. Stanton  
VOTED 5-0-0

5-5 Vote to discontinue current voting equipment

MOTION moved by Mr. Salvatore to discontinue the use of the Accuvote voting equipment beginning with the state primary on Thursday September 8, 2016 and to begin using the ImageCast Precinct Tabulator at all eight of the towns precincts for all future elections beginning at the State Primary on Thursday, September 8, 2016 seconded by Mr. Kraus,

Ms. Sicard explained they take the machine and pay us for that. The memory cards are ours.

VOTED 5-0-0

5-6 Reserve Fund Transfer, Voting Equipment

MOTOIN moved by Mr. Stanton to approve the request of a Reserve Fund Transfer in the amount of \$59,000 for the purchase of new ImageCast Precinct voting equipment, Seconded by Mr. Gallivan VOTED

With this we will have \$159,000 left in the Reserve Fund. Mr. O'Leary, RTM precinct 3, why was this not part of the STM? Mr. Snuffer explained it is coming out of the RFT; there would be no need for that to happen.

VOTED 5-0-0

5-7 Ethics Exemptions, Personnel

The town clerk has been working with her to be certain we are in compliance. This is for the employees that hold two positions and work less than 500 hours at one of the positions.

MOTION moved to exempt from MGL268A §20 under exemption (B) posted position for less than 500 hours a year the employees listed in the memo dated March 24, 2016 from Human Resources, seconded by Mr. Stanton, VOTED 5-0-0

**OPEN FORUM** No one present

5-9 Norfolk County Advisory Board

MOTION moved by Mr. Salvatore to appoint Richard Pilla as the Regular member William Maloney Jr. as the Alternate member to the Norfolk County Advisory Board until 4/1/2017, seconded by Mr. Kraus, VOTED 5-0-0

5-10 Re-appointment, Town Forest

MOTION moved by Mr. Salvatore to re appoint Paul Hunchard to the Town Forest Committee as a Regular member until 4/1/2019, seconded by Mr. Gallivan VOTED 5-0-0

5-11 Registrar of Voters

MOTION moved by Mr. Salvatore to reappoint Sara Olson to the position of the Registrar of voters, seconded by Mr. Stanton, VOTED 5-0-0

MOTION moved by Mr. Salvatore to appoint Robert Damish to the position of Registrar of Voters, seconded by Mr. Kraus, VOTED 5-0-0

Mr. Damish looking forward to serving.

5-12 Annual Election Warrant

MOTION moved by Mr. Salvatore to open, close and sign the Annual Election Warrant for June 4, 2016, seconded by Mr. Gallivan, VOTED 5-0-0

5-13 Memorial Day observance

MOTION moved by Mr. Salvatore to grant permission to the Veterans Service officer for use of the Town Commons on May 30, 2016 from 9am to 2pm and to block off streets as requested for Memorial Day, seconded by Mr. Kraus VOTED 5-0-0

5-14 Gift Acceptances

MOTION moved by Mr. Salvatore to accept a gift in the amount of \$310.00 from numerous donors in memory of Maureen McKenna, seconded by Mr. Gallivan, VOTED 5-0-0

5-15 Use of Adams Farm

MOTION moved by Mr. Salvatore to approve the use of Adams farm on June 9<sup>th</sup>, for a nuisance weed identification program from 4-6pm, seconded by Mr. Kraus, VOTED 5-0-0

5-16 Bid Award 2016-15, Council on Aging Design

Mr. Johnson noted this was on the agenda a few months ago, we have a contract that has been reviewed by our counsel and their counsel. I recommend Favorable Action on this contract. Mr. Snuffer questioned what is the status of the land hotspots. Mr. Johnson is waiting for EPA to sign off on the plan.

MOTION moved by Mr. Kraus to award of Contract 2016-15 for Architectural design for Council on Aging to Catlin & Petrovick, Pc, Keene NH in the amount of \$332,500, seconded by Mr. Gallivan

Mr. Snuffer questioned what is square footage. Mr. Johnson explained he is looking at the bottom line. Maybe 12-14,000 sf. Mr. Salvatore, so the design and size is based on how much you have. He recalled at town meeting when this came up, Alzheimer's care was mentioned. So we don't need the space. Mr. Johnson explained this would be feted by PBC. Mr. Salvatore, do we know the needs for functioning or whatever we can get for 5 million dollars. Mr. Gallivan thinks that is the first thing they will do. It was explained this will be the fourth bldg. they have done for the town. Mr. Gallivan does not think they were committing to Alzheimer's care. One of the bullet points they talked about adult day care. That was a list of things that can be done. Mr. Johnson, there is no plan for adult day care. Once I have the schematic design I will present to you. Mr. Salvatore the people voted at Town meeting the seniors need space, need to decide whether that is a service we will provide. I do not want to build a space and lease it out to someone for daycare. I hope that is what we are talking about. The police had definitive needs, we should come in now what type of program space. He does not want to see adult day care added. He wants to see it as Space for the seniors, not overbuilt for others to use. Mr. Johnson explained the schematic design should take 2-3 months.

VOTED 5-0-0

5-17 Agreement with Catlin & Petrovick, Contract for Design Services

MOTION moved by Mr. Kraus to sign the agreement with Catlin & Petrovick, PC for designer services for the Council on Aging facility seconded by Mr. Sinton VOTED 5-0-0

5-18 Bid Award, 2016-23, Electrical Service & Maintenance of Town Bldgs.

MOTION moved by Mr. Kraus to award contract no. 2016-23 to Andy Ramos Electric LLC, Holyoke, MA, seconded by Mr. Gallivan, VOTED 5-0-0

8:00PM Discussion with residents regarding the Temporary Operations of the Fire Station

Mr. Johnson explained the plan that was presented at STM, approached by some business owners and has received one negative and several positive. Nothing is set in stone. Open to your Board's questions. Mr. Snuffer asked if there were any questions from the Board.

Mr. Stanton noted the issue has been raised the DPW yard was a location for a temp fire operations, I understand the Fire Chief . Why not the DPW yard? , Mr. Johnson explained it was his preference, I thought we would get a building down there. He is concerned with response time he said about 5 minutes, the PBC agrees and so do I. The Stone Field was looked at for a building and it is too wet. The DPW site based upon our estimate is additional \$400,000. The max we can go on this station is 15 million.

Mr. Kraus recalled the last time they talked about this, some confusion, parking spots lost, showed a net loss on the sheet, go back and make sure there is a loss of zero. We are at 187 and with this plan we are at 190. We are trying to gain spaces. In the end we will have 237 spaces. We met with a parking consultant and it will cost between \$5,000-7,000 to do a study. I am working to get it down to \$4,000.

Mr. Snuffer the board took a vote in public safety and that vote is going to stand. The discussion is about spaces. I went over to the parking lot various times, and the average open spaces were 30 spaces. Mr. Johnson went there at 2 pm there were 64 spaces and tonight over 90. Mr. Snuffer noted there could be use by commuter parkers, will put in place ways to prohibit. I will try to conduct this as a little public hearing. We were approached by Mr. Pilla, gave us a PowerPoint document he is a professional.

Richard Pilla Thank you for allowing me to do this. The title of the document is Creating a True Town Center. Mr. Pilla explained this is a discussion document, present in the content, and overall plan for the Downtown. Such plan would maximize efficiency and convenience .He suggested that Walpole has a unique potential for dynamic to a vital downtown. Has in the middle of the town is the track of land for parking for municipal purposes and local businesses. I encourage by presenting there would be an ongoing discussion of the downtown, which includes the parking but goes beyond that. We can make this available to anyone, benefits, how can the center of town not only benefit the merchants, also make the Center more marketable for other uses. Showing an alternative plan, rather spending resources on a temporary plan. Showed a plan outlined in yellow, nine property owners. This could attract greater investment interest that could increase property values. Everything in yellow owned by the town.

This is the plan once construction is complete, we should look further to increase the parking, along off East St. Could create additional spaces. He showed on the plan a (circled area) more spaces could be added. This area could be grated and more spaces could be added. There should be parking designed on the private property for an overall parking scheme.

If we are interested in creating something special, open that parking area. All should be looked at together. If planned correctly, it can be a new downtown experience. Make the area more inviting. You can see ,the idea is to open this up more. Suggested eliminating the blue bldg. in back.

Mr. Snuffer is impressed with your vision. I am trying to get back to where we are now. Space behind each of the bldgs. Mr. Pilla talked about the dumpsters that are on town property that are owned by Businesses and areas in front of the building. We have the post office, is there a reason why they are parking there.

Talked about the old town hall and how it is an anchor for the downtown. There is an opportunity, I know money has been allocated for temporary parking and look at what needs to be done but do the temporary work in an overall plan, and so we can use these dollars. This is to throw out ideas. This idea can be accomplished. Lived in Milton and saw what happened there. The merchants suffered. Poor planning. Would like to see the downtown of Walpole vibrant.

Mr. Kraus thanked him for the time and effort. Much appreciated, we have failed with a master plan of making the downtown as vibrant as other towns. Your ideas are welcome. The energy you spent is powerful, if you have the time the ideas are tremendous. We have to figure out what we are going to do with temporary parking now.

There are 319 spaces including library, Blackburn, town hall and municipal. If a parking management plan was designed.

Mr. Salvatore noted the new parking spaces behind Mr. Tracey. The guardrail will remain. Mr. Salvatore noted the river runs under here, is there restrictions why parking cannot exist. Why does that exist? Mr. Johnson is not aware of anything. Mr. Salvatore getting in and out of the area, it is not part of the traffic flow. Need to look for a good traffic flow. Concerned about that. I think Mr. Pilla's points are good. If we were talking about emptying the old town hall we should have a discussion on what we are doing with it. We failed to be creative, we should have talked about why we did not consider locating this somewhere else. By putting the Fire station back here, there are also other options, modern addition, the Fire station location may impede on that. We should have looked at the Fire Station as master plan for the parking lot. We should be look at all of these businesses. Try to encourage a place. People don't look back there for parking. We need to know who was using these areas. How many spaces do we need for business owners. Time limited spaces. This is a moving target, resolve this for the business owners, there are not restrictions for commuters using the space. I should not have voted to place the temp ops there. I will not move to undo it. Look at the plans and maybe we will be satisfied. Make the area user friendly.

Mr. Kraus when you did your walkthrough. What are the busiest times? Where the parking is at a maximum. Mr. Johnson noted Jalapenos is busier at night. Ken Tracey-I have been there 46 years, I was at Vero. There are times when that parking lot is packed. When there is pop warner it is very busy. Talked about the danger of the temp ops there with the kids. I do not believe you called me a liar. Mr. Tracey stated it is not right what is going on. I talked to several business owners and they do not want to come to this meeting. They said why go, they are going to do what they are going to do. I am not here to battle with you. It is not right you did not communicate this. You will not listen, I came to this meeting. Lack of transparency, you left us out of this deal. Mr. Snuffer I will suggest you is the site of the new Fire station. Mr. Tracey, you forced this on us. Mr. Snuffer stated these people were notified. Memo dated April 19<sup>th</sup>. I got the message loud and clear. You had the information prior to Town Meeting. Mr. Tracey you gave me a map prior to Town meeting. Can you recommend another location. There are other options in this town to put this. You could put it up near the Johnson Middle

School. I spoke to the assistant and he said there is no other location, what happened at South Street?

Ricardo owner of Jalapeno's knows the Fire station belongs here, by taking the parking spaces, we have a baseball field here, the biggest concern . It is the location of the temporary fire station that is what everyone is looking at.

Mr. Brousaides president of Chamber praised the hard work you are doing. Hard work and dedication of the Firefighters. I sit on the EDC, as things have come across our desk we continue to talk about the downtown. What we can do for the future of the Downtown. I think the future of the parking is important, long range action committee, local business, owners, EDC, Planning , Zoning, A lot of towns are getting away from towns master plan. I suggest that everything filter through his Down Town action committee.

Mr. Lorrusso I have a very good Italian restaurant. People are not going to park that far. He would offer the Daltons space for the temporary use by the Fire Dept. He would be willing to bring the stone over to the field to help out.

Mr. Scena, RTM Prec 8, looking at the master plan town paid for, it said the Fire department did not belong on stone street, alternate site on South St, it is only  $\frac{3}{4}$  mile, the response from there to North Walpole, put the fire dept. on South St, eliminate the Station where it is now and open up for parking. I would recommend the Fire Station goes on South Street and eliminate the temporary bldgs.. For sake of argument, I live on construction sites. One thing they will not allow is pedestrians, I think you cannot have pedestrians on the site. People trying to enter and leave the parking area. All of a sudden a call comes in. Expressed concern for children and adults.

Mr. Snuffer asked Mr. Johnson to explain the South St issues. Mr. Johnson explained that moving the fire operations to South St, added response time. Went back to the parking lot. The area in gray will be fenced off. Require the construction people to park within the fence if not they will park at the pool parking lot or on the field.

Putting a fire station in the middle of a parking lot. The Station needs to be on South Street.

Jim Taylor, what is going on with the Tanks behind the station. Mr. Johnson stated the tanks are being removed. Has anyone ever looked at the money that was spent in E. Walpole. That is not being used. All the money wasted down there.

Tim Bailey-when we open station 2, in 2006 that was open running a staff of 8, we do not do that, we are staffed at 8 but drop to 7. Has talked to the Board on numerous locations. Have talked about reopened the station it is a staffing issue. Housing of the temp operations is response time. We looked at the DPW site and this. Have looked at other locations, had an issue with School children at the South Street site. When we looked at the DT area. The DPW is 1.8 miles from the downtown. It would take three minutes to get here. We have issue with High School during the year. South St, we did 3300 runs all originate out of the house. Coming out of South Street, one thing limiting is the curve on South Street being a problem. One EPA



superfund site report stated it is not for habitable use, expressed concern for habitable use, the Firefighters live there, and I consider that. I want to work on a solution that will work for everyone. There are some issues with children. I have concerns going out to East Street. There are some issues.

Mark Romeo- member of the EDC, is there a possibility that we can minimize the temp operations, by splitting up certain location., put an EMS in E. Walpole, how often the ladder gets used. I am speaking as someone that looked at this 3 days ago. Chief Bailey talked about the ambulance runs, we cross train on everything. It becomes problematic to have everything split up. We staff to the call. One thing with Fire Equipment is the fire stations cannot accommodate parking.

Mr. Pilla asked about from a response you were at Aggie, is it favorable, not favorable.

Mr. Kraus read letter from Henry Baker and Turco Insurance into the record.

Attorney Philip Macchi jr. counsel for Walpole Cooperative bank, met with TA, the Bank is concerned as long as the town is agreeable to work on any unforeseen problems. The bank is supportive of the DT business owners and takes that into consideration.

Mr. Johnson, I have heard the message large and clear. The possibility to putting in front of Blackburn, problem of trees and bunks. I do not think that is enough space. It is very tight there. Robbins Rd site, the challenge is it is very small. He is open to ideas.

Ended at 9:30pm

5-8 William Buckley, Recreation

Mr. Buckley lives on Cobb Terrace, RTM precinct 7, and school Committee member, graduate of Walpole Schools Of my experience with S. Committee the Recreation provides structure and enrichment to children, with positive activities.

Mr. Kraus thanked him for volunteering his time to many causes in this town.

MOTION moved by Mr. Salvatore to appoint William Buckley Jr. to the Recreation Com for a term to expire 4.1.19, seconded by Mr. Kraus, VOTED 5-0-0

5-19 & 5-20 Paving program, Bid Contracts

Based on town meeting vote of May 4<sup>th</sup> and because the scope changed we request no action on these contracts as we have to rebid for correct scopes. Mr. Johnson is looking permission to go forward to re bid. He does not need a vote of the Board. He does not know how much money will be left after hitching post.

9:40pm

MOTION moved by Mr. Snuffer to take everything into consideration when going forward with the bids, JS 5-0-0

Mr. Gallivan asked if they are going to be able to start Hitching post during construction season. Mr. Johnson does not know.

### **TOWN ADMINISTRATOR'S UPDATE**

Town Meeting- ended last week, article #2, addresses some of the questions that were asked of me. Better if we have a PowerPoint.

Walpole Day-He talked about the Agenda for the Day's events.

Walpole TIP-Went in last week, more of a public comment session. This was added on in 1997. It is currently programmed on the TIP for FY2020. We are doing what we can to keep it on that schedule and let them know if there is an opening in 2019 we are ready to go.

Memorial Day-May 30<sup>th</sup> and he believes the event starts at noon.

### **OLD BUSINESS**

### **NEW BUSINESS**

MOTION moved by Mr. Kraus to adjourn at 9:50pm, seconded by Mr. Stanton, VOTED 5-0-0