

**MINUTES OF THE SELECTMEN'S MEETING  
NOVEMBER 6, 2017**

**PRESENT:** Willard J. Boulter, Jr. (Chairman), Lewis W. Stone (Clerk), Arthur P. Boyle, Jr. (Selectman), Daniel Trabucco (Selectman), Edwin J. Thorne (Town Administrator), MaryAnn Smith (Town Clerk), Robin Kernan (Veteran's Agent), Linda Osborne, Bonnie Pajik, Sabrina Chilcott (Executive Assistant), and others.  
**NOT PRESENT:** Matthew J. Furlong (Vice-Chairman)

At 7:00 pm Mr. Boulter opened the meeting.

**7:00 TOWN MEMORIAL COMMITTEE: UPDATE ON VETERANS' DAY ACTIVITIES**

Chairman Linda Osborne was present before the Board to announce that the annual Veteran's Day celebration will be held Saturday, November 11<sup>th</sup> at 11:00 am at the Pembroke Community Middle School with the High School chorus and several speakers. Refreshments will follow provided by the American Legion Post 143 Arthur Briggs Church Post. Veteran's Agent Robin Kernan read the Governor's proclamation.

Mr. Boulter advised that this meeting is being made available to the public through a live video and audio broadcast on Comcast Government Access channel 15 and is being recorded for broadcast at future dates. Comments made in open session will be recorded. -

**VOTE TO DISCONTINUE USE OF ACCUVOTE SYSTEM AND AUTHORIZE USE OF IMAGECAST DIGITAL SYSTEM**

Town Clerk MaryAnn Smith was present before the Board to request that they formalize their votes of September 19, 2016, September 26, 2016 and October 3, 2016 to purchase and use the new voting machines. Mr. Stone moved, pursuant to G.L. c.54, §34, that the Board confirm that its September 19, 2016, September 26, 2016 and October 3, 2016 votes to authorize inclusion on the warrant for the October 18, 2016 Special Town Meeting of a transfer of free cash for the purpose of purchasing new voting equipment, clarify that such vote was intended to authorize and direct the Town Clerk to purchase and utilize new voting equipment, specifically called "ImageCast" at future elections, and to discontinue use of Accuvote voting equipment at all such future elections, and further to direct the Town Clerk to provide the State Elections Division with notice of this vote. Mr. Boyle seconded the motion. The vote was unanimously in favor.

**DISCUSSION OF MUNICIPAL AGGREGATION PROGRAM**

Mr. Thorne updated the Board on the status of the Municipal Aggregation Program, and its implementation to date in other towns. Mr. Thorne stated that the Board viewed a presentation from Colonial Power, and he and Nick Zechello, Jr. of the Energy Committee speak with them regularly and at length. Discussions to date with the various municipalities have led some to enter the program and others to wait. Mr. Thorne presented exhibits to the Board that include his current electric bill showing his usage (Plymouth), Colonial Power's analysis chart of National Grid's service rate charges which show fluctuation every six months, a breakdown of the rate charges, the Colonial Power chart provided to the town when rates are quoted, an analysis of the cost differences between National Grid's rates and the Colonial Power rates determined using Mr. Thorne's usage, and the materials mailed to residents in Plymouth. Discussion ensued on the Colonial Power rate of \$.10877 from Nextra versus National Grid's proposed winter rate of \$.12673 and the savings Mr. Thorne would have seen of \$198 over twelve months. Mr. Stone advised that his usage with the rate he currently receives would have seen a saving of only ten cents per month. Further discussion ensued on the fact that the letter mailed to residents offering them an opportunity to opt-out could easily be overlooked. Mr. Thorne confirmed that residents can opt in and opt out at will using the website. Mr. Boulter asked if residents get notified annually when the Municipal Aggregation rates change; Mr. Thorne stated that they don't. Mr. Thorne recommended that the town wait to consider entering the program, and he will share the rates as they become available.

**DISCUSSION OF MISSION, COMPOSITION AND NUMBER OF MEMBERS, CAPITAL BUILDING FUND STUDY COMMITTEE**

## **MINUTES OF THE SELECTMEN'S MEETING**

Mr. Trabucco stated that he would like the Town Accountant's opinion of who would be beneficial on this committee, and recommended that the committee maintain a seven member presence. Discussion ensued on groups to be represented; consensus was achieved on asking for representatives from the Police Department, Fire Department, DPW, Board of Selectmen, Advisory Committee, School Committee, Planning Board, Community Center Committee and a member of the general public for a total of nine members. Mr. Trabucco stated that input from other departments can be solicited as needed; the goal is to research avenues of supplementing the tax payer's burden to finance future necessary building projects. Mr. Trabucco moved to create a nine member committee seated from the Police Department, Fire Department, DPW, Board of Selectmen, Advisory Committee, School Committee, Planning Board, Community Center Committee and a member of the general public; Mr. Boyle seconded the motion. The vote was unanimously in favor.

### **VOTE TO ACCEPT THE MINUTES OF OCTOBER 30, 2017**

Mr. Stone moved to accept the minutes of October 30, 2017 as written; Mr. Boyle seconded the motion. The vote was unanimously in favor.

### **OLD BUSINESS**

Mr. Stone asked for an update of the Community Center Committee; Mr. Thorne stated that Andrew Sullivan will be present next week to discuss this further. Mr. Stone inquired into an update on the solar farm; Mr. Thorne stated that he will report back at the next meeting. Mr. Boyle stated that he attended a meeting of the Water Street neighborhood association formed to oppose the proposed 40B project on Water Street and heard many informed speakers maintaining strong opposition to this project due to the vulnerability of the parcel. Mr. Boyle reminded the Board that this project was denied by MassHousing in 2005 and the parcel has not changed since then. Mr. Trabucco and Mr. Stone shared Mr. Boyle's opposition to the proposed site of this project. Mr. Boulter referred this update of October 16<sup>th</sup> when he advised that the Board sent a letter sent to the City of Brockton demanding that they cease diverting water into Silver Lake until the necessary repairs are made to the diversion pipe. There has been no response from the City of Brockton. Mr. Boulter asked that this be scheduled on next week's agenda for discussion of the next steps that the Board could take regarding this issue, and he shared the letter from October 12<sup>th</sup> from the Mass Division of Marine Fisheries while investigating the fish kill at Silver Lake.

### **TOWN ADMINISTRATOR'S REPORT**

Mr. Thorne announced that the Recycling Center is open on both Saturdays and Sundays for the first three weeks in November, and stated that the Center saw over 300 cars on Saturday alone this weekend.

Mr. Boulter read the upcoming issues from the agenda.

At 8:00 pm, Mr. Stone moved to enter executive session under M.G.L. c.30A, Sec. 21(3) to discuss strategy with respect to collective bargaining if an open meeting may have a detrimental effect on the bargaining or litigating position of the public body and the chair so declares: AFSCME DPW Unit Amendment #1 to the MOA. Mr. Boyle seconded the motion, and Mr. Boulter stated that he declared it so, and further the Board will not return to open session. The vote by roll call: Boyle – yes, Stone – yes, Trabucco – yes, Boulter – yes.

### **MATERIALS & EXHIBITS**

Six Exhibits Regarding Municipal Aggregation Program:

- E. Thorne, National Grid bill
- Colonial Power, analysis chart of National Grid's Residential Service Rate Charges
- Colonial Power, analysis chart of National Grid's RSRC breakdown of rate charges
- Colonial Power chart of quoted rates
- E. Thorne, analysis of cost differences, National Grid's rates and Nexus rates
- E. Thorne, letter with envelope mailed to residents in Plymouth (BOS/TA Office)

Draft Minutes of October 30, 2017 (BOS/TA Office)

Email, A. Mansfield Jones River Assoc., J. Shepard Mass DMF Memo dated 10/12/17 (BOS/TA Office)