

**MINUTES OF THE SELECTMEN'S MEETING
DECEMBER 17, 2018**

PRESENT: Matthew J. Furlong (Chairman), Arthur P. Boyle, Jr. (Vice-Chairman), John G. Brown, Jr. (Selectman), Daniel W. Trabucco (Selectman), Edwin J. Thorne (Town Administrator), Michael Buckley (Town Accountant), Richard Wall (Police Chief), Julie Thompson, Dan Rodriguez, Stephen Curley, Maria Karas, Elizabeth Monks, Matthew Norton, Linda Peterson, Stephen Walsh, Donna Badger, Charles Mathewson (WATD), Brooke Young, Sabrina Chilcott (Assistant to the Town Administrator), and others.
NOTE PRESENT: Willard J. Boulter, Jr. (Clerk)

At 7:00 pm, Mr. Furlong opened the meeting and 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 also being recorded for airing on the channel at future dates. Comments made in open session will be recorded.

7:00 DAN RODRIGUEZ, JULIE THOMPSON: PACTV AGREEMENT RENEWAL (2018-2028)

Julie Thompson and Dan Rodriguez of PACTV were present to review the proposed agreement extension from 2018 through 2028 between the Town of Pembroke and PACTV. Discussion ensued on the few changes or updates to the new agreement; the majority focus on the new terms of the contract negotiated with Comcast and addressing the new Educational offerings on the TitanTV, channel 14 regarding programming and education. Mr. Brown asked if the agreement includes covering community events such as the Tree Lighting; Mr. Rodriguez stated that PACTV will cover any event request by the Board, and the Pembroke Community News team prepares packages, or composites of each event for airing. Further discussion ensued on the plan to invest capital funding committed to in the Comcast agreement by funding the equipment necessary to create a pop up studio at the Pembroke Public Library and improvements to the Veterans Hall meeting space. Mr. Rodriguez advised that additional capital was committed to by Comcast to upgrade the service and transmission grade and quality to a digital format. Mr. Trabucco inquired as to the language that indicates that the two members of the Board of Directors would be appointed by PACTV; Ms. Thompson explained that the Board may recommend any candidate and, if qualified, the PACTV Board would approve them; Mr. Thompson states that Pembroke two representatives are Gary Gumpwright and Deborah Wall since 2012. Ms. Thompson concluded by requesting Pembroke's support as PACTV, the towns they represent and others work to defeat a proposal by the Chairman of the FCC to allow companies like Comcast to charge back to each town the costs incurred to transmit the signal to the town; as the word "cost" is undefined, it would include the costs of erecting or replacing poles, cables, installation, cable connections and more, resulting in the 5% subscriber fee being virtually negated and rendering it financially impossible to support cable access television in Massachusetts communities. Mr. Trabucco moved to accept the agreement between Plymouth Area Community Access Television, Inc. and the Town of Pembroke as presented; Mr. Brown seconded the motion. The vote was unanimously in favor (4/0).

At 7:15, the Advisory Committee entered the meeting.

7:15 POLICE CHIEF RICHARD WALL: DISCUSSION OF THE EFFECTS OF OVERTIME REDUCTION ON STAFFING LEVELS

Chief Wall was present before the Board to advise that he has implemented some of the overtime staffing to balance the departmental line item by the end of the fiscal year; the result of that decision has cut every outside item the department has including training, community outreach, overtime for the issuance of pistol permits, overtime for the School Resource officer and more. The Chief stated that he cannot get \$8,000 as recommended by the Board on November 26th, and cutting back to three man shifts still results in approximately \$11,400 per week in overtime costs. The Chief stated that there have been ten opioid deaths and more than sixty resuscitations and work done by the department with Pembroke Titans Against Drugs and Plymouth County Outreach are on hold. The Chief stated that he has had to limit or eliminate outreach officers at the Middle School thereby reducing officers presence at the Schools and eliminate the after school programs. The Chief stated that he had two officers as members of the SWAT team and SEMLEC negotiators, K9 officers and RAD training officers, all services on hold at present. The Chief concluded by stating that he has thirty-four years of service to the town and his experience shows that doing nothing doesn't work; he feels that the funding he had was overcoming many of the obstacles preventing proactive

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policing, and eliminating it has affected morale. The Chief requested that the Board support his FY20 budget as submitted.

At 7:25 pm, Mr. Boyle entered the meeting.

Mr. Trabucco requested that the Town Administrator and Town Accountant sit down with the Chief to go over the numbers, and stated that the Board supports the Chief but there is a need to balance the numbers. Advisory Chairman Stephen Curley stated that the Advisory Committee was present to evaluate where the Board of Selectmen's support lies; he described the budget as a pie, where every slice affects every other. Mr. Curley stated that the Board's support of increases to the payroll of the Police Department will require the Board to cut the Fire Department or the School Department to sustain a balance in the pie. Mr. Brown objected to this characterization as the Board has a responsibility to all departments and takes their job seriously; he asked for everyone to work together to be more successful in this process. Advisory member Matthew Norton asked if the Department Head meeting held that morning identified a \$2.4million budget gap, and asked if the Town Administrator will work with each department to close the gap; Mr. Thorne confirmed this to be so, and stated he is confident that all parties will work together to establish a balanced budget.

At 7:35 pm. the Advisory Committee exited the meeting.

VOTE BOARD OF SELECTMEN'S 2019 CALENDAR – NOTE MEETING CHANGE TO TUESDAYS AT 7:30 PM

Mr. Furlong stated that he will have a Monday night conflict for a few months in the beginning of 2019; discussion ensued on the advantages of moving the Selectmen's meetings to Tuesday evening for the first six months of 2019 as a pilot program, freeing up much needed meeting space in an overcrowded Town Hall on Monday nights. Mr. Brown, Mr. Boyle and Mr. Trabucco voiced support for the temporary change. The proposed 2019 calendar with aforementioned amendments was discussed; meetings, summer schedule and winter break mirror those schedules from the past eight years. ATM is set by bylaw (May 14) and there is an accelerated timeline for the opening date and closing date of the warrant due to an expectation of higher than usual volume and need for counsel and Advisory review. The tentative date currently highlighted for a fall Special Town Meeting, if necessary, is October 22nd determined by coordinated agreement of The Town Administrator, Town Accountant, Chief Assessor and Town Clerk. Mr. Trabucco moved to approve the Board of Selectmen's 2019 calendar as presented; Mr. Boyle seconded the motion. The vote was unanimously in favor.

VOTE TO AMEND THE SELECTMENS WINTER BREAK SCHEDULE

Mr. Brown moved to accept the winter break schedule of December 17th, January 8th and January 15th as presented; Mr. Boyle seconded the motion. The vote was unanimously in favor.

VOTE TO APPROVE THE MINUTES OF DECEMBER 3 AND DECEMBER 10, 2018

Mr. Brown moved to accept the minutes of December 3rd as printed; Mr. Boyle seconded the motion. The vote was unanimously in favor. Mr. Brown moved to accept the minutes of December 10th as printed; Mr. Trabucco seconded the motion. The vote was unanimously in favor.

VOTE TO EXECUTE AMENDED CABLE TELEVISION LICENSING AGREEMENT WITH COMCAST

On November 19, 2018 the Board of Selectmen voted to execute a Cable Licensing Agreement as negotiated by the Compact Cable Negotiation Committee and recommended by Town Counsel; Comcast has requested a few changes, the majority of which are housekeeping items (i.e. modifying incorrect date references, table of contents references) and capital reference moved from section 6.5 to section 6.4 (c) "Peg Access Support". Mr. Thorne advised that all changes were approved by town counsel. Mr. Trabucco moved that the Town of Pembroke Board of Selectmen grant the ten-year cable television renewal license to Comcast of Connecticut/Georgia/Massachusetts, Etc., dated December 14, 2018, a copy of which has been reviewed and approved by the Town's cable negotiators and the Town's Cable Counsel, as amended December 17, 2018. Mr. Boyle seconded the motion. The vote was unanimously in favor.

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CONSIDER RECOMMENDATION TO APPOINT JOEL SUGARMAN TO COMMUNITY CENTER TASK FORCE

Mr. Boyle moved to appoint Joel Sugarman of 263 Edgewater Drive to the Community Center Task Force; Mr. Trabucco seconded the motion. The vote was unanimously in favor.

CONSIDER USE OF THE TOWNS WATERWAYS - OLDHAM POND: SPECIAL PERMIT NEBASSIN KAYAK FISHING

The Board is in receipt of an application for a Special Use Permit, (Summer Events) for Tournament Director Joseph Russell of "Nebassin" kayak bass fishing club for their catch and release fishing tournament on Saturday, August 3, 2019. The town beaches will still be open, so the Town Landing aquatics director, Amy Hill, has recommended that approval be conditional upon the vehicles parking across the street with any trailers they may have and she recommends that more trash receptacles be placed near the boat ramp. The applicant has requested use by 20 participants in kayaks; they have received approval from the Conservation Commission who have imposed their standard conditions. Mr. Boyle moved to deny the application as it is the height of the summer season and residents require the limited available parking. Mr. Trabucco seconded the motion for the purposes of discussion. Mr. Boyle voiced his objection to a Saturday in August while the beach is open to residents with children's swimming lessons scheduled and limited parking. Discussion ensued; a recommendation was made to consider restricting the applicant to shuttling in the participants thus avoiding the parking issue, Mr. Trabucco moved to table this item to the next public meeting; Mr. Brown seconded the motion. The vote was unanimously in favor. Mr. Trabucco instructed the Town Administrator's staff to reach out to the applicant to discuss the issues surrounding the date.

TOWN ADMINISTRATOR'S REPORT

Department Head Meeting

Mr. Thorne advised that he held a department head meeting this morning with a presentation of the overall budget and report of revenue projections for FY20. Mr. Thorne stated that he will be meeting individually with each department to review each line item and close the gap of \$2.4million that exists at this time. Mr. Thorne stated that he is not in favor of reducing staff; however, future vacancies may not be filled.

Tax Possession Property Auction

Mr. Thorne advised that the Treasurer oversaw the Tax Possession Property Auction on Friday, December 14th and he will report the results to the Board once she has finished with the auctioneer.

At 7:55 pm, Mr. Furlong read the upcoming issues from the agenda. At 7:55 pm, Mr. Brown moved to adjourn; Mr. Trabucco seconded the motion. The vote was unanimously in favor.

MATERIALS & EXHIBITS

PACTV Agreement 2018 to 2028 (BOS/TA Office)

2019 Draft Calendar (BOS/TA Office)

Daft Minutes of December 3 and December 10, 2018 (BOS/TA Office)

Amended Cable Licensing Agreement, Comcast (BOS/TA Office)

Email, A. Sullivan and Application, J. Sugarman RE: Appointment to CCTF (BOS/TA Office)