

Office of
SELECTMEN
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**BOARD OF SELECTMEN
MONDAY, MARCH 25, 2024
MEETING MINUTES
FRANCIS FARM - FRANCIS HALL - 27 FRANCIS FARM ROAD**

Present: Selectman Frederick "Skip" Vadnais, Jr., Selectman Leonard Mills, Jr., Selectman George Solas, Sr., Selectman Robert Johnson II, Selectman David Pereira II and Town Administrator Deborah Arruda

Call to Order at 7:07 PM: The meeting opened with the Board and the public participating in the Pledge of Allegiance to the Flag.

Consent Agenda

Warrant:

G. Solas- Warrant for the week of March 25, 2024: 24-38B Payroll \$165,768.92; 24-37A Withholdings \$34,280.22; 24-37 Warrant \$189,033.29; 24-37R Veterans Warrant \$4,940.50; motion to approve. Second by R. Johnson. Vote 3-0. Selectman Mills abstained.

Minutes: Regular Minutes: 3/11/2024 and 3/18/2024

G. Solas- motion to approve the Regular Minutes for March 11, 2024 and March 18, 2024. Second by R. Johnson. Vote 4-0.

Announcements:

The next scheduled meeting will be on **Monday, April 1, 2024 at 7:00 PM**, at Francis Farm, in the Francis Hall Building.

TOWN ADMINISTRATOR'S REPORT

Personnel Board, Finance Committee and Town Events are all in need of volunteers. If anyone is interested, please submit a Talent Bank form to the BOS' office.

Administrative positions will be posted soon: Planning Board/Conservation Commission/ZBA and Facility Maintenance/Highway/Forestry – both are Union positions. We are working on one, or two, additional positions as a result of retirements.

The Highway Crew Chief Position internal posting resulted in one application. We will be working with the Highway Superintendent to review the application, before moving on to external applications.

Treasurer Lisa Cabral-Dias and I attended the MEGA Annual Meeting-Marlborough; the meeting was well attended and informative.

Anawan Fire Association is sponsoring a New England Clam Boil, on Friday, May 10th at 7PM at the Seekonk Rod & Gun Club. For more information or to purchase tickets please call 508-226-2914.

We would like to wish Kathy Amaral, from our Building Department, and Linda McKenna, from the Fire Department, best wishes as they begin a new chapter in retirement.

Town Offices will be closed on Friday, March 29th, Good Friday. We wish you all a Happy Easter!

NEW BUSINESS:

Action Item (1) Vote to Approve and Sign the Warrant for the April 2, 2024 Town Election

G. Solas- motion to sign the Warrant for the April 2nd, 2024 Annual Town Election, as submitted by the Town Clerk. Second by R. Johnson. Vote 4-0.

Action Item (2) Vote to Approve and Sign the MOA Extension Between TOR and Rehoboth Ambulance Committee for a Month-to-Month Contract

G. Solas – motion to approve and sign the Memorandum of Agreement (MOA) Extension between TOR and Rehoboth Ambulance Committee, month to month, contract. Second by R. Johnson. Vote 4-0.

Discussion:

The Chair thanked Reuben Fischman and Sue Pimental for their diligence working towards this new agreement. The Chair also thanked Reuben Fischman for all the effort put into helping come to a resolution so that the Town has a quality ambulance service.

Action Item (3) Vote to Approve Park Commission Request To Use the Pavilion at Francis Farm

R. Johnson- motion to approve the request from the Park Commission for the use of the pavilion at Francis Farm, in the event of rain during their summer concerts. Second by G. Solas. Vote 4-0.

Action Item (4) Vote to Accept and Sign Retreat Lot Restriction for "Brown Property"- Hillside Avenue; Map 43, Lot 25B And Map 44, Lots 70 and 115

Selectman Solas read the background: The Planning Board is requesting the approval of the BOS for the Restriction on the Retreat Lot on Hillside Ave-Map 43, Lot 25B and Map 44 Lots 70 and 115 - Brown Property. The language for the Restriction was provided by counsel. After all approvals and signatures are received, the plan will be registered and recorded at the Registry.

G. Solas- to accept and endorse a Restriction on further subdivisions of the so-called Brown Property. Second by R. Johnson. Vote 4-0.

Discussion:

L. Mills- Town counsel recommends these types of Retreat Lot Restrictions come before the Board of Selectmen for approval before it can be recorded – this is procedure to comply with the law, as advised by Town counsel

The Chair affirmed that it's the restrictions of the plan, and not the plan itself, i.e. a prevention of further subdivision of a retreat lot, along with any/all other restrictions necessary to protect the zoning regulations.

Action Item (5) Vote to Correct Board of Health Members Appointment Dates, Tom Carcieri and Patrick Thibeault

G. Solas- motion to correct the appointment dates for Tom Carcieri, effective 3/11/2024 to 6/30/2025. Second by R. Johnson. Vote 4-0.

G. Solas- motion to correct the appointment dates for Patrick Thibeault, effective 3/18/2024 to 6/30/2026. Second by R. Johnson. Vote 4-0.

Selectmen's Reports:

Solas: COA Easter luncheon served over 135 meals. The Police were present to help serve, there was music. Kudos, to the Chef and the volunteers! Again, reminder to all that anyone who needs transportation should contact Linna Sherman, at the COA, to arrange for a ride.

Johnson: The Firemen's Ball – attended by all the Selectmen; Ciara, Media Manager, attended and filmed the event - It was a great time and a great showing for the Fire Department!

At the Events Committee meeting, next Tuesday, April 2nd, at 6 PM in the Arcade, there will be a presentation for anyone interested to go over what the committee does and will be doing.

This event pulls all 3 stations together; helps build morale; helps promote the Fire Department; brings in new members.

Mills: A letter was received from a citizen regarding speeding on New Street, a few weeks ago. Acting Chief DiBacco had the area surveyed during all 3 shifts and provided a very thorough report. A report of survey results was shared with me and it shows nothing of concern. I've reviewed this report and Acting Chief DiBacco will be calling the resident.

Selectman Johnson added that the Forestry Department has cut back the brush so, when coming out of Regional Road there's now better visibility.

Vadnais: There are very good reasons why the Board no longer allows for a public forum- once someone is recognized to speak, there is no control as to how long or, to what - this was through a court decision. The Board is very accessible. The way to access the Board of Selectmen is to call the Selectmen's office and speak with the Town Administrator or the designee, who will take the nature of the complaint. The complaint is given to the Chair, who then assigns it out to the Selectman who will best remedy the

situation. Or, an email/letter can be sent to the town office, include name and contact information must be on the email/letter and the assigned Selectman will respond.

Selectman Mills added that the new procedure works better - we get the information from the office and can work on it right away - we bring the results back to the Board and to the public – it's much more efficient.

Deignan: Absent.

At 7:30 PM

Action Item (6) 7:30 PM Public Hearing-Public Ways/Layout Hearing for Dublin Road and O'Hern Way- Trinity Estate

On a motion made by Selectman G. Solas and, seconded by Selectman R. Johnson, the Public Ways/Layout Hearing for Dublin Road and O'Hern Way, Trinity Estates was opened. **Roll call**: Solas, aye; Johnson, aye; Mills, aye; Vadnais, aye. Vote 4-0.

The Chair seeing no member of the public with interest in the subject before the Board, accepted a motion to close the public hearing.

On a motion made by Selectman G. Solas and, seconded by Selectman R. Johnson, the public hearing was closed. **Roll call**: Solas, aye; Johnson, aye; Mills, aye; Vadnais, aye. Vote 4-0.

G. Solas- motion to approve the roadway layout for Dublin Road and O'Hern Way at Trinity Estates subdivision as recommended by the Planning Board, Fire Department, Highway Department and Fuss & O'Neil Engineers, and to place the roadway acceptance on the upcoming Annual Town Meeting Warrant for final approval. Second by R. Johnson. Vote 4-0.

Per Selectman Mills, the Planning Board has submitted this recommendation the Board- it has gone through all the proper channels, including the Police & Fire and the Town engineers Fuss & O'Neil.

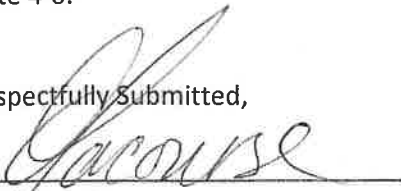
OLD BUSINESS:

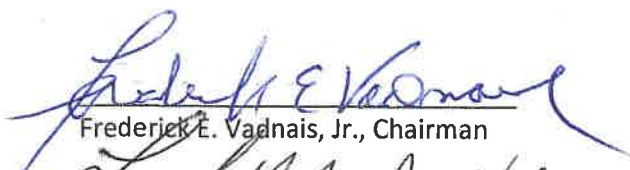
Other Business:

ADJOURNMENT:

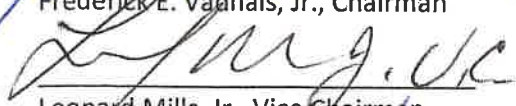
Selectman G. Solas motioned to adjourn the Regular Session at 7:35 PM. Second by Selectman R. Johnson. Vote 4-0.

Respectfully Submitted,


Odete Lacourse




Frederick E. Vadnais, Jr., Chairman



Leonard Mills, Jr., Vice Chairman



George M. Solas, Clerk



Robert Johnson II, Member



David J. Pereira II, Member

BOARD OF SELECTMEN

Approve: 4/8/2024