

PLYMOUTH COUNTY COMMISSIONERS
MEETING

October 22, 2020

A regular meeting of the Plymouth County Commissioners was called to order at 6:03 p.m. at the County of Plymouth Administration Building, 44 Obery Street, Plymouth, MA. Present were Chairman Daniel A. Pallotta, and Commissioner Gregory M. Hanley.

Also, in attendance were Treasurer Thomas O'Brien, Deputy Treasurer Jeff Welch, Register of Deeds John Buckley, 4-H Director Molly Lipper, County Attorney Shannon Resnick, County Administrator Frank Basler and Executive Assistant Nancy O'Rourke.

Chairman Pallotta requested the agenda be taken out of order to accommodate Attorney Resnick's schedule.

Pleasant Street, Plympton easement actions

Attorney Resnick discussed a request received by the Plympton Board of Selectmen to release an easement previously approved that has never been used. After some discussion, Chairman Pallotta voiced his concerns regarding the cost of the original taking for the county. Attorney Resnick will conduct additional research and the board will discuss at their next meeting.

Executive Session

In Accordance with MGL, Chapter 30A, Section 21, Paragraph 3; to discuss strategy with respect to litigation if an open meeting may have a detrimental effect on the bargaining or litigation position of the public body and the chair so declares re: Kingstown contract.

The Board voted to enter Executive Session and to return to open public session at 6:10 p.m. Chairman Pallotta called the roll: Commissioner Hanley-Yes. Chairman Pallotta-Yes.

At 6:30 p.m. Commissioner Hanley made a motion to enter back into open public session. Chairman Pallotta seconded. Chairman Pallotta called the roll: Commissioner Hanley-Yes. Chairman Pallotta-Yes.

Vote Meeting Minutes – October 8, 2020 and October 9, 2020

Commissioner Hanley made a motion to approve the meeting minutes of October 8, 2020 and October 9, 2020. Chairman Pallotta seconded.

Vote: The motion passed unanimously.

Vote to accept and approve CPS Forms

Irlanda Monteiro-anniversary step increase to 2-2; Heidi Harkins-Retirement, Index Comparer effective 11/2; Edmund Toomey-promotion from Land Records Assistant to Index Comparer 11-1; and Joan Barove-new hire Land Records Assistant 9-1.

Commissioner Hanley made a motion to accept and approve the personnel status forms listed. Chairman Pallotta seconded.

Vote: The motion passed unanimously.

Sick time buy back vote for Heidi Harkins

Commissioner Hanley made a motion to order that the County Treasurer pay to Heidi Harkins, 33 Little Bay Lane, Buzzards Bay, MA 02532, the sum of Three Thousand, One Hundred Twenty-One Dollars and Seventy-Three Cents (**\$3,121.73**) to be paid from the Plymouth County FY21 Budget. As said, Heidi Harkins retired from the position of Index Comparer at the Plymouth County Registry of Deeds, on November 2, 2020 with 697.75 hours to her sick leave credit. The amount of sick leave buy back is 20% or 139.55 hours at the rate of compensation of \$22.37 per hour. Chairman Pallotta seconded.

Vote: The motion passed unanimously.

Vote to accept and approve payroll voucher

Commissioner Hanley made a motion to approve the payroll voucher as recommended by the Treasurer. Chairman Pallotta seconded.

Vote: The motion passed unanimously

Vote to accept and approve vendor vouchers

Commissioner Hanley made a motion to approve vendor vouchers as recommended by the Treasurer. Chairman Pallotta seconded.

Vote: The motion passed unanimously.

CARES Act: distribution votes

Commissioner Hanley made a motion to approve reimbursements in the amount of \$227,084.85 to the Town of Abington. Chairman Pallotta seconded.

Vote: The motion passed unanimously.

Commissioner Hanley made a motion to approve reimbursements in the amount of \$84,179.25 to the Town of Bridgewater. Chairman Pallotta seconded.

Vote: The motion passed unanimously.

Commissioner Hanley made a motion to approve reimbursements in the amount of \$62,962.65 to the Town of East Bridgewater. Chairman Pallotta seconded.

Vote: The motion passed unanimously.

Commissioner Hanley made a motion to approve reimbursements in the amount of \$473,014.33 to the Town of Kingston. Chairman Pallotta seconded.

Vote: The motion passed unanimously.

Commissioner Hanley made a motion to approve reimbursements in the amount of \$102,447.86 to the Town of Middleborough. Chairman Pallotta seconded.

Vote: The motion passed unanimously.

Commissioner Hanley made a motion to approve reimbursements in the amount of \$193,971.21 to the Town of Plymouth. Chairman Pallotta seconded.

Vote: The motion passed unanimously.

Commissioner Hanley made a motion to approve reimbursements in the amount of \$69,788.96 to the Town of Scituate. Chairman Pallotta seconded.

Vote: The motion passed unanimously.

Commissioner Hanley made a motion to approve reimbursements in the amount of \$32,879.00 to the Town of Scituate. Chairman Pallotta seconded.

Vote: The motion passed unanimously.

Commissioner Hanley made a motion to approve reimbursements in the amount of \$58,479.60 to the Town of Scituate. Chairman Pallotta seconded.

Vote: The motion passed unanimously.

Commissioner Hanley made a motion to approve reimbursements in the amount of \$326,551.41 to the Town of Scituate. Chairman Pallotta seconded.

Vote: The motion passed unanimously.

Commissioner Hanley made a motion to approve reimbursements in the amount of \$174,054.67 to the Town of West Bridgewater. Chairman Pallotta seconded.

Vote: The motion passed unanimously.

Treasurer O'Brien reports currently 143 applications have been received for reimbursement and approximately 63 have been approved totally approximately \$33,000,000.00.

Town of Plymouth Hazard Pay Request

Administrator Basler briefed the board on a request the Town of Plymouth submitted to obtain reimbursement of CARES Act funds for hazard pay for town employees. Federal Guidelines do not approve reimbursement for town employees unless the employee performed substantially COVID-19 related tasks. Town Manager Arrighi submitted a report to the Board of Selectmen that outlined the request and the response from Treasurer O'Brien. Additional discussion was held on the Town Manager's report.

County Fire Plane update and insurance claim

Administrator Basler discussed the recent accident with the County Fire Plane and that the plane is totaled. The County insurance policy with deductible is \$42,000. The Plymouth County Fire Chief's will be holding a meeting to discuss a request for a replacement plane.

Commissioner Hanley made a motion to have Chairman Pallotta sign the Sworn Statement in Proof of Loss and complete the Aircraft Bill of Sale. Chairman Pallotta seconded.

Vote: The motion passed unanimously.

Register's Report

Register Buckley reports deeds excise figures for the first three months of the fiscal year are up due to an abundance of refinancing.

Treasurer's Report

Treasurer O'Brien briefed the board on the recent correspondence received from Beth Israel Deaconess Hospital in Plymouth to be considered for CARES Act relief funds.

Extension Director's Report

4-H Director Molly Lipper briefed the board on the recent National 4-H Conference attended by Molly and 4-H Educator Valerie Schell.

Administrator's Report

Time Clock installation

Administrator Basler reported on the current installation of time clocks at all 3 county courthouses. Training will begin next week.

Vacation Policy Update-SEIU/Custodial Contract

With the approval of Joan Caruso, SEIU representative, the vacation policy on the contract for SEIU/Custodial will be updated to address last minute use of vacation and personal time. All team members must request use of Vacation Time or Comp Time from the Superintendent in writing via an email (to DWedge@PlymouthCountyMA.gov) at least 2 work days ahead of the time requested off. If an emergency arises that does not allow for the two days' notice, please discuss this with Superintendent Wedge. Use of Sick Time and Personal Time should be requested from the Superintendent as soon as the need is evident via the County issued Superintendent's phone number at 508.942.6689.

Commissioner's New Business

Commissioner Hanley requests permission of the Chair to research a regional animal shelter. Chairman Pallotta granted permission and requested Treasurer O'Brien be involved in the process.

Administrator Basler discussed a letter received from a Hingham resident requesting assistance with pruning of trees on her street. Chairman Pallotta requested a letter be sent from the County to the Hingham Board of Selectmen.

The next meeting will be held Thursday, October 29, 2020 at 6:00 p.m.

At 7:07 p.m. the meeting adjourned.

Documents and/or exhibits

- Meeting Minutes-October 8, 2020 and October 9, 2020
- Letter-Town of Plymouth Town Managers Report-Hazardous Pay
- Letter-Town of Plympton-Pleasant Street Right of Way
- Letter-Beth Israel Deaconess Hospital-CARES Act

Respectfully submitted,
Nancy O'Rourke
Executive Assistant