

**HOLDEN BOARD OF SELECTMEN
MEETING MINUTES
January 8, 2024**

6:30PM

Memorial Hall

Present: Anthony Renzoni, Stephanie Mulroy, Thomas Curran, Geri Herlihy Richard Bates

Others Present: Peter Lukes, Town Manager
Stephanie King, Assistant Town Manager
Steven Madaus, Town Counsel
Liz Fotos, Town Recorder (Participating remotely)

Chairman Mulroy called the Board of Selectmen meeting to order. The Board stood to recite the Pledge of Allegiance.

1. Citizens Address

Howard Podash was present at the meeting. He is the representative of Holden Pizza and stated that they were changing the ownership from father to son.

Sel. Renzoni suggests holding off on this until the Public Hearing.

2. Appointments, Licenses, Permits

Motion by Sel. Renzoni, seconded by Sel. Herlihy, it was **UNANIMOUSLY VOTED TO APPROVE NANCY KIELINEN FROM ALTERNATE TO VOTING MEMBER ON THE ZONING BOARD OF APPEALS TO EXPIRE 8/21/26 AND TO APPROVE BRYAN DIEHL, 2ND ALTERATE TO 1ST ALTERNATE ON THE ZONING BOARD OF APPEALS TO EXPIRE 11/6/2026 AS PRESENTED.**

Sel. Renzoni asks to formally recognize Silvio Annunziata from the Board of Selectmen for his years of service.

Chairman Mulroy recuses herself from this matter.

Motion by Sel. Renzoni, seconded by Sel. Herlihy, it was **VOTED 4-0-1 TO APPROVE A PUBLIC ENTERTAINMENT LICENSE FOR THE FARM AT SUMMIT WYNDY, INC FOR THE LAVENDAR FARM FEST 6/21-6/23 & 6/28-6/30 AS PRESENTED.** (Mulroy: abstain).

Motion by Sel. Renzoni, seconded by Sel. Curran, it was **VOTED 4-0-1 TO APPROVE A ONE DAY LIQUOR LICENSE FOR WINE AND MALT LIQUOR FOR THE FARM AT SUMIT WYNDY, INC FOR THE LAVENDAR FARM FEST 6/21-6/23 & 6/28-6/30 AS PRESENTED.** (Mulroy: abstain).

3. Salisbury Hill Conservation Restriction

Colin Novack stated that this was regarding the Cooks Brook Headwaters, the 15.5 Acre property that is on the Worcester/ Holden line. He stated that because it was a conservation restriction both towns would need to approve it for it to move forward. He stated there is just under an acre of land in Holden. He stated it is an important parcel of land it abuts preserved land in Holden. He stated it is one big continuous network and they are ensuring that people in all four communities it abuts can navigate and appreciate this land. He stated that in order to move forward with this project they needed permission from the Board of Selectmen.

Mr. Lukes stated that we are approving conservation restriction for less than one acre in Holden.

Mr. Novack stated that they were trying to preserve this because there are critical wetlands and habitats in this space.

Sel. Curran asked if the City of Worcester had already done their part in this matter. Mr. Novack confirmed they had.

Motion by Sel. Renzoni, seconded by Sel. Curran, it was **UNANIMOUSLY VOTED TO APPROVE THE FORGOING CONSERVATION/ RECREATION FROM SALISBURY HOLDINGS LLC TO GREATER WORCESTER LAND TRUST INC IN PUBLIC INTEREST PURSUIT TO SECTION 32 CHAPTER 184 OF MGL.**

4. Assignment of Police Officers at Holden's Polling Locations for the 2024 Annual Town Election and Town Meeting

Mr. Lukes stated this has to do with a recently pass legislation that requires the BOS to assign sufficient police to polling location.

Motion by Sel. Renzoni, seconded by Sel. Curran, **UNANIMOUSLY VOTED PER SECTION 72 OF CHAPTER 54 OF MGL TO ASSIGN SUFFICIENT POLICE OFFICERS ASSIGNED TO THE POLLING LOCATIONS ON MAY 13, 2024 TO PRESERVE ORDER AND TO AID IN ENFORCING THE LAWS RELATING TO THE ELECTIONS AND FURTHER TO ASSIGN THE POLICE CHIEF AND HIS DESIGNEES AS AUTHORIZED ASSIGNERS OF POLICE DETAILS FOR ALL FUTURE ELECTIONS TO ASSIGN POLICE OFFICERS TO BUILDING AND MAINTAIN POLLING LOCATIONS ACCORDING TO POLICIES OF THE HOLDEN POLICE DEPARTMENT.**

5. Public Hearing: Transfer of License, Holden Pizza LLC

Howard Podash was present at the meeting as an attorney representing Holden Pizza.

Motion by Sel. Herlihy, seconded by Sel. Curran, it was **UNANIMOUSLY VOTED TO OPEN THE PUBLIC HEARING FOR TRANSFER OF LICENSES, HOLDEN PIZZA LLC.**

Chairman Mulroy asked if there were any members of the public that wished to speak on this matter; no members of the public stepped forward.

Motion by Sel. Herlihy, seconded by Sel. Curran, it was **UNANIMOUSLY VOTED TO CLOSE THE PUBLIC HEARING FOR TRANSFER OF LICENSE, HOLDEN PIZZA, LLC**

Motion by Sel. Renzoni, seconded Sel. Herlihy, it was, **UNANIMOUSLY VOTED TO APPROVE THE PUBLIC HEARING FOR TRANSFER OF LICENSE, HOLDEN PIZZA, LLC.**

6. Town Manager Update

Mr. Lukes stated no update but there are many employees out sick and that they were working diligently on the budget at this point.

7. Acceptance of Donations for Purposes of Supporting Historic Walking Tour

Chairman Mulroy stated that this was something close to her heart.

Mr. Lukes stated that this was an Eagle Project that was done by Ethan Lavigne. He stated that it has provided the Town with a magnificent opportunity to walk through and learn about the history of Holden. He stated in doing the project they raised funds and in doing this they had some funds left over in about the amount of \$100 and they wanted to donate that back to the town so we can maintain anything needed. He stated in order to accept these funds it needed to be accepted by the BOS.

Motion by Sel. Renzoni, seconded by Sel. Curran, it was **UNANIMOUSLY VOTED TO ACCEPT THE DONATION OF ABOUT \$100 FOR PURPOSES OF SUPPORTING THE HISTORIC WALKING TOUR, AS PRESENTED.**

8. Response to Citizens Address

None

9. Selectmen Minutes

None

10. Selectmen Miscellaneous

Sel. Bates asked about the new sewer bylaw being added to the next meeting

Chairman Mulroy stated that she was approached by a resident that was notified by the HERO's Act for property tax rebates for Veterans and if we are willing to opt in. She stated she thinks it begins with the Town Manager and then opting in. She asked the Town Manager to look into this so they could discuss it.

Mr. Lukes stated that he would look into the matter.

Sel. Herlihy thanked DPW for the work they did with the storm. She asked about the discrepancy with the sidewalks not being plowed but the schools being opened.

Sel. Renzoni stated that the district communicates with the school and then it is the schools decision to make.

Sel. Renzoni asked for some analysis on the snow storm equipment for the budget process.

11. Selectmen Subcommittee

None

Motion by Sel. Renzoni, seconded by Sel. Curran, it was **UNANIMOUSLY VOTED TO ADJOURN THE JANUARY 8, 2024 BOARD OF SELECTMEN MEETING.**

APPROVED: 4/1/24 As Corrected