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MINUTES
SELECT BOARD
HARWICH TOWN HALL
732 MAIN STREET, HARWICH MA
MONDAY, JUNE 16, 2025
5:00 P.M. EXECUTIVE SESSION
6:00 P.M. - REGULAR MEETING

SELECTMEN PARTICIPATING: Chair Donald Howell, Vice Chair Peter Piekarski, Clerk Mark Kelleher, Member Anita Doucette & Member Jeffrey Handler

ALSO PARTICIPATING: Town Administrator Joseph Powers & Executive Assistant Jennifer Clarke

CALL TO ORDER

Mr. Howell called the meeting to order at 5:00 p.m.

Mr. Kelleher moved that the Select Board enter into Executive Session to discuss the items as outlined below, 2nd by Mr. Handler. The vote was 5-0-0 with Mr. Howell, Mr. Piekarski, Mr. Kelleher, Ms. Doucette & Mr. Handler all voting aye by roll call.

EXECUTIVE SESSION

A. Pursuant to MGL c.30A section 21 (a)(3) to discuss strategy with respect to collective bargaining for all town unions and non-union personnel and or contract negotiations with non-union personnel and the Chair has determined that open session would have a detrimental effect on the town's bargaining position
B. Pursuant to G.L. c. 30A, sec. 21(a)(2) to conduct strategy sessions in preparation for negotiations with non-union personnel and to conduct contract negotiations with non-union personnel: Finance Director

Mr. Howell reported that regarding item B, the Town has broken off negotiations with Brittany Iacaponi as Finance Director. Ms. Iacaponi has accepted another job, and the Town wishes her the best and down the road we will need to recruit again.

No action was taken on item A.

PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

Mr. Howell invited all attendees to join in the Pledge of Allegiance.

STAFF COMMENTS/ANNOUNCEMENTS

Kevin Considine, Chief of Police was present and wanted to bring the Select Board up to date on their 4th of July planning. He met today with his command staff, sergeants and officers in charge and a robust plan is in place to cover the beaches and Harwich Port from July 3rd through July 6th. Historically, Harwich has been ahead of the curve on any issues.

Mr. Handler said that he will be holding his office hours on June 17th at the Community Center from 4:30 p.m. to 5:45 p.m. He invited other Select Board members to join if they would like.

WEEKLY BRIEFING

Mr. Powers gave the Phase 3 sewer extension update, and a two week look ahead, highlighting the areas of work.

A. Update from Town Administrator on status of Phase 3A Sewer Project

Mr. Powers said that readiness to proceed is an important criterion for State Revolving Fund financial assistance. Borrowers must secure local borrowing authorization of the total cost of the project by June 30, 2025. This was completed on Monday, June 9, 2025. Borrowers must submit a complete construction application that includes plans and specifications that are bid-ready, along with the plans and specification checklist by October 3, 2025. Borrowers must have fully executed construction contracts by June 30, 2026. Mr. Howell added that we do have milestones to achieve and that we are on target and the intended use plan is being followed. Everything is going as planned.

PUBLIC COMMENTS/ANNOUNCEMENTS

Dave Nixon, Community Preservation Committee Chair was present by direction of his committee to ask the Select Board for a joint meeting to discuss the grant agreements. Mr. Nixon said that July 1st is coming up quickly and that is when the monies will start to be released. Mr. Nixon told the Board that he has had a couple of inquiries and that he would like to set up this meeting at the Board's convenience.

Julie Kavanagh was present and asked how the Board wanted to handle her questions relating to new business item E and new business item A and if she should wait to ask during the agenda items. Mr. Howell responded that she could ask questions during the agenda items, as public comment is not designed for the Board to respond.

Anne Frechette was present and announced that they had their Harwich Ponds Coalition meeting on Saturday. Conservation Agent Amy Usowski, Health Director Carrie Schoener, Mike Lach from Harwich Conservation Trust, Select Board member Mark Kelleher and a representative from the Association to Preserve Cape Cod attended the meeting, which was noted as productive. There werea lot of great questions from the audience.

Patrick Otton was present and wanted to offer a different look of the housing crisis that everyone is paying attention to and trying to address. He asked where in the world isn't there a housing crisis, adding that we have seen a 60% decline in nature. We have seen the human population go from 2 billion to 8 billion. Mr. Otton feels that trying to solve the housing problem by build, build, build might not be the best approach. He suggested maybe a change of zoning requirements and would love to know how to change zoning so that we can better achieve housing equity for everyone.

CONSENT AGENDA

A. Approve the Select Board Meeting Minutes from June 9, 2025

Mr. Howell noted that there was a comment made during the Local Comprehensive Plan presentation about software needed to access the interactive document, that he would like included in the minutes.

Mr. Kelleher moved to approve the Select Board Meeting Minutes from June 9, 2025, as amended, 2nd by Mr. Handler and approved 5-0-0.

B. Approve the resignation of Tim Bailey from the Board of Appeals effective immediately

Mr. Kelleher moved to approve the resignation of Tim Bailey from the Board of Appeals effective immediately, 2nd by Mr. Handler and approved 5-0-0.

PRESENTATIONS

A. Pennrose, LLC to present on 456 Queen Anne Road with Larry Ballantine, Chair of the Affordable Housing Trust

Larry Ballantine, Chair of the Affordable Housing Trust was present. Trust member Brendan Lowney was present in the audience as well as former Trust member Julie Kavanagh. Mr. Ballantine thanked Town Administrator Joseph Powers and Housing Advocate Brianna Powell for their roles as staff. He said that another valuable resource has been Laura Shufelt from the Massachusetts Housing Partnership that came to the Trust with a conceptual plan. That plan and information was used to formulate the request for proposals (RFP). Part of the criteria for the RFP was to build up to 90 bedrooms, 42 of which would be an 80% average median income (AMI), 10 would be less than 30% AMI and 8 units up to 100% AMI. They are looking at 36 1-bedroom units, 18 2-bedroom units and 6 3-bedroom units to provide a range of housing. There were 3 firms that responded to the RFP, all of which met the RFP criteria, and all came with strong experience and financial backgrounds. There was a subcommittee formed to review the proposals and then the information was brought back to the Trust for a full vote. Pennrose caught the attention of the Trust and a contract was officially signed about a month ago.

Present were Karmen Cheung, Ryan Kiracofe, Michelle Crowley and Angela Botto. Present remotely was Paul Atteman.

Ms. Cheung said that they responded to the RFP last fall and that they are thankful for the Trust for putting their trust in them. Their goal is to help communities create a community that meets their vision. This is really just the start and they know that there is excitement to move forward.

Mr. Kiracofe said that Pennrose is privileged to be working with Harwich and the Trust on this parcel. He said that Pennrose is a soup to nuts developer all the way through design, financing, permitting, construction process and leasing. Pennrose Management Company manages the buildings in the long term. The team presented a map of the Pennrose projects from Connecticut to Cape Cod. The Pennrose process is to engage the community to determine their needs and desires and to work with the stakeholders to turn that vision into a reality.

Mr. Atteman talked about Union Studio Architecture and Community Design, whose mission is to use the power to design to enrich lives and strengthen communities. Mr. Atteman presented pictures of various building examples that they have done on Cape Cod, as well as designs for the 456 Queen Anne Road property.

Ms. Crowley who is a landscape architect said that they have done a lot of work on the Cape as well as in other parts of Massachusetts, adding that she is always very excited to work with Pennrose and that they are really one of the only firms that bring in landscape architecture as part of the project, working with the site rather than completely clear cutting it. Ms. Crowley reviewed the proposed site layouts for open space and site features as well as the native trees and shrubs that are proposed for planting.

Mr. Atteman reviewed an artistic rendering of the vision plan, adding that they have not looked at colors yet. They have looked to Cape Cod traditional architecture to bring the buildings to life, while also looking at the Cape Cod Commission design technical bulletin. Mr. Atteman briefly reviewed the building floor plans and elevation plans, commenting that most of the buildings will have a maximum height of 30', but most likely less than.

Mr. Kiracofe said that they are now in the due diligence period and there will be a fresh survey, fresh environmental site assessment and soil testing which will all feed into the first round of drawings beyond the conceptual drawings. The goal here is to get on the path to go into the zoning process this year and move towards applying for the tax credits that the state offers for this kind of housing. The tax credits are given on an annual basis in January or February. There is a pre-application process where the state will deem that you are ready, which happens in November. Public outreach will run in tandem with these application processes.

Mr. Howell said that none of this would have been possible without the Community Preservation Committee agreeing to an article of faith of number of years ago. Mr. Howell commented that Jimmy Marceline was his own affordable housing trust person in a way and that he always knew that this was a property that would be valuable to be developed. Mr. Howell would like there to try and be a focused workshop with the Cape Verdean population because without them and without Mr. Marceline, there is no this.

Mr. Handler thanked everyone for being present at the meeting and all of the parties that were involved to get us to this point tonight. He is also thankful that Pennrose is part of the project. He sat in on a meeting a while back and was very impressed with how Pennrose operates and how the continue to impress through their presentation tonight. Mr. Handler asked if this is a local initiative program with Harwich. Ms. Cheung responded that it is. Mr. Handler said that it shows the partnership that Harwich can work with a developer and have something that will truly move the housing needle, adding that he is looking forward to the next steps.

Ms. Doucette asked how many units are proposed for this development. Mr. Kiracofe responded that there are 60 units proposed with 90 bedrooms.

Mr. Howell said that this project is being designed specifically to max out affordability.

Mr. Kelleher said that he loves the common green area as well as the community building. He asked how many parking spaces are proposed. Mr. Kiracofe responded that off the top of his head he believes that there will be 75 spaces. Mr. Kiracofe reviewed the proposed parking areas adding that most of the parking will be parallel parking around the interior road. Parallel parking also adds a calming effect for traffic.

Mr. Kelleher asked if the buildings will be stick built or modular. Ms. Cheung responded that they have not ventured into modular, and that they will most likely be stick built. Another project is doing modular, but they are not seeing the time or cost benefits yet.

Mr. Kelleher asked if there is an estimated groundbreaking date. Ms. Cheung responded that because there is such a housing crisis across the state, and there are a lot of projects that complete for these resources at the state level. She added that most projects have to apply more than once. If they have to apply a 2nd time, that would be in 2027, and the awards would be made by the state in the Summer. They would be looking at groundbreaking at the end of 2027. A lot of this process is to hurry up and show the state that your project is shovel ready and then you wait in line for resources. Something that the state will see is how the town and the trust worked together to get to this point and showing that the town is supporting the project will help tell the story at the state level to help get it pushed towards the front of the line. Pennrose will do their best to get this pushed forward as quickly as possible.

Mr. Piekarski asked if the state resources are money. Ms. Cheung responded yes, that the are low-income tax credits. Mr. Piekarski asked if approval is typically given in the 2nd year. Ms. Cheung responded that they have seen a variety of timelines, but 2 on average is reasonable.

Mr. Piekarski asked if Pennrose has a dedicated construction crew or if they bid out. Ms. Cheung responded that they have a general contractor that bids out to sub-contractors. Mr. Piekarski asked how many of their projects are active right now. Ms. Cheung responded that they have 1 other project that is actively applying for resources. Mr. Kiracofe added that there are 9-12 projects currently under construction.

Mr. Piekarski asked what the typical timeline is for construction. Ms. Cheung responded that most of the projects are well on their way. Some are closing now and others are 6 months out. Every construction project really varies.

Mr. Piekarski asked if when the general contractor puts the project out to bid, if there is any say on who is hired as a sub-contractor. Ms. Cheung responded that they let the general contractor choose the subs. The trust would not have any input on that either.

Mr. Piekarski noted that we hear all the time that the trades are stretched. He asked what Pennrose is seeing as far as availability. Ms. Cheung responded that people are busy but that there is more attention to some of their projects and more availability.

Mr. Piekarski commented on the traffic that backs up on Queen Anne Road, adding that having the development access on Queen Anne Road will not help the traffic situation. He asked if there is any potential for when the Northside of the project gets developed, that there will be an access on Route 124. He also asked if Pennrose has worked with the Commonwealth on some of these road conditions to make improvements, something along the lines of a traffic light. Ms. Cheung responded that it is hard to push DOT. There are certain recommendations that they can make, and they can apply for funding to help, but she doesn't know of places where DOT has made improvements where they haven't already been made a priority. She added that Pennrose is happy to work with the Select Board to see if a conversation can be had. Pennrose will be engaging with a traffic engineer who works on the Cape and knows that DOT likes and doesn't like. With respect to the traffic, Mr. Howell commented that they will have about 6 weeks to get real data, adding that the traffic on Queen Anne Road frequently passes beyond Oak Street.

Mr. Handler said that he has a level of comfort knowing that Pennrose will be managing the project after its completion. Ms. Cheung added that their properties always have a full-time property manager and a full time maintenance person.

Mr. Powers noted that Pennrose would be looking to the local initiative program (LIP) and asked that their time is for that, adding that the town has some experience with a prior potential LIP that did not pan out. Mr. Kiracofe responded that the first step would be to put in a project eligibility letter to the state, which they would try to do in the next month or 2. Assuming that comes back from the state, they would make an application to the Zoning Board of Appeals for the comprehensive permit process.

Mr. Powers recognized that this is meant to be a town supported project, and that the Select Board and town departments would be weighing in on project eligibility. The Select Board will be meeting on a weekly schedule and Mr. Powers asked where Pennrose sees a PEI coming in. Ms. Cheung responded that in their experience with a PEI letter, they will provide a draft of it and if the Select Board wants to see the letter before it is submitted, they can do that. The materials in the letter would be largely similar to what was presented today. Mr. Kiracofe confirmed that they would be happy to present a draft letter and accept comments on it, which can be done relatively soon in late summer more likely than fall. Mr. Howell confirmed that the Select Board would have an expectation that Pennrose would come back. Ms. Cheung said asked if the Select Board would make Pennrose aware of any groups that should engage with. Mr. Powers added that Harwich has a Community Development team which includes representatives from regulatory departments and that Administration could help facilitate a meeting with them.

Richard Waystack was present and said that a previous speaker tonight had talked about the housing crisis. He commented that in the last 5 years, the average sale price of a house was $550,000 and that this past year it was $1.1 million. The income to price ratio right now is approximately 6.5. Mr. Waystack congradulated the Select Board, the Affordable Housing Trust and the Community Preservation Committee for picking Pennrose. He feels that this project will help solve the housing crisis and that this is a great spot for the project. Mr. Howell added that this parcel is not only positioned correctly for this project but that there is no way that this property could have been purchased for almost twice as much as what we paid for it.

Mr. Ballantine said that he has brought up the discussion on the Community Development team and suggested that we schedule that meeting at some point. The Affordable Housing Trust did talk about traffic. On the plot diagram, there is a paper road that could potentially give the opportunity to get onto Route 124. Internally, they would try to keep that available as they look at conceptual designs.

Mr. Ballantine closed by saying that as a trust, they are committed to keeping the Select Board fully informed.

NEW BUSINESS

A. Discussion and vote on the Miscellaneous Reappointments

Mr. Powers reviewed the lists of 2025 miscellaneous reappointments for approval. The ex-officio members have been identified and serve in external public bodies.

Mr. Piekarski moved to affirm the list of 2025 miscellaneous reappointments for approval for ex-officio external public bodies as printed, 2nd by Mr. Handler and approved 5-0-0.

Mr. Piekarski moved to affirm the list of 2025 miscellaneous reappointments for approval for ex-officio internal roles as printed, 2nd by Mr. Handler.

Mr. Powers said that a vote for the ex-officio internal roles is not needed as they are Town Administrator appointments.

Mr. Piekarski removed his motion and Mr. Handler removed his second.

Mr. Powers said that the Select Board would be updated if there are any changes to any of the public bodies.

B. Discussion on the Select Board Committee Liaison assignments

Mr. Howell said that the Select Board will not be acting on this tonight. He is trying to work the list so that everyone gets at least 1 or 2 high profile boards or committees. Being a liaison is a telephone line so that the board or committee can have someone they can talk to. Mr. Howell said that if Board members want to trade liaison assignments, that it be done in the next couple of days and brought to his attention so that a composite list can be provided for the next meeting agenda.

C. Discussion on Harwich Town Band Proclamation to designate July 1 as Harwich Town Band Day

Mr. Howell said that this is a tremendous conjunction in time with the Harwich Town Band celebrating its 50th birthday. What is being presented tonight is a draft proclamation and the final will be voted on next week. He asked if any members wanted to present the proclamation at the event. Mr. Kelleher said that he would like to present.

Peter de Bakker, President of the Harwich Town Band was present. The Harwich Town Band was created in the Spring of 1975 with its first concert being preformed on Independence Day, on a hay wagon, drawn by two Clydesdale horses. The current band has 57 members providing musical enrichment to its volunteer members and in return offering performances in Harwich on numerous occasions, including musical tributes at all Veterans and Memorial Day ceremonies, the Cape Cod Regional Technical High School graduation, holiday concerts at the Harwich Community Center and weekly Tuesday night concerts in the summer at Brooks Park. Its 50-year success is the result of its dedicated musicians, the driving enthusiasm of its three previous conductors; Anthony W. Stevens, John P. Hagon, Peter H. Cobb and its current conductor Thomas Jahnke.

D. Approve the Special Permit Application for the Harwich Chamber of Commerce, 1 Schoolhouse Road for Wednesday Night Music, 5:00 p.m. to 8:00 p.m., Wednesdays from July 2, 2025, through August 27, 2025. Entertainment: amplification

Mr. Powers stated that Police Chief Kevin Considine was present but had to step out. Harwich Chamber of Commerce Executive Director Cyndi Williams was present remotely. Mr. Powers said that while there may be road closures, the Police Department has endorsed this application as they have done in the past.

Mr. Handler moved to approve the special permit application for the Harwich Chamber of Commerce, 1 Schoolhouse Road for Wednesday Night Music, 5:00 p.m. to 8:00 p.m., Wednesdays from July 2, 2025, through August 27, 2025. Entertainment: amplification, 2nd by Mr. Piekarski and approved 5-0-0.

E. Discussion on legal counsel review process

Mr. Howell said that the Board has not had this conversation in a long time and that we may or may not want to affirm our legal counsel. There will not be a vote taken tonight, but just a discussion to invite KP Law in and any other firms to ask questions to see what is available and what the firms have to offer.

Mr. Powers said that this is a standard Massachusetts General Law 30B and that his recommendation to the Select Board is that they establish through the Administration Office a request for proposal (RFP) for legal services indicating to the marketplace that we are looking to engage in legal services. The firms would then come before the Select Board and present how they operate. He would expect the cost to be more than $10,000 and it would give the protection of a process.

Mr. Howell asked when the last time an RFP was done to this effect. Mr. Powers responded that it has not been done in the last 6 years.

Mr. Howell said that it is not just the law firm, but who you get to talk through in the process. The Board needs to be able to have this discussion or they are going to end up rolling into another year as default legal counsel. He feels that it is the desire of the Board to see what is out there.

Mr. Powers said that on one hand, the Board could invite in current Town Counsel for a discussion. If the Board is going to look at other firms, they need to do it with the procurement framework. Mr. Howell said that he would like to work through the process instead of just calling in current counsel.

Mr. Handler said that he sees this as a greater conversation than just going forward with the RFP. He would like to have an agenda item to discuss what the Board feels and if we want to send out an RFP or have existing Town Counsel come in for a discussion.

Mr. Howell said that the Charter calls for the Select Board to do this yearly, and it has not been done. Mr. Handler said that he thinks the Board should have a discussion prior to putting an RFP on the table.

Mr. Kelleher said that his only concern is that Harwich has a lot on our plate with the Town Administrator and Finance Director search. He wondered if this could be put off a little while until we can get running in regards of what we need to accomplish. Mr. Howell responded that he would put it on a future agenda for a fuller discussion and a possible vote.

Julie Kavanagh from Old Carriage Drive was present and said that near the end of her term on the Select Board, they had conversations about legal counsel. She thinks that the Board needs to be careful and analyze how they are going to move forward and also look at what this will do to the budget. She recommended that the Board do a thorough vetting of how they proceed with legal counsel. Mr. Howell responded that it is always good to look and see what is out there.

Mr. Piekarski said that he is under no allusion that potentially changing firms will save the board a penny. From the numbers that he is looking at, it looks like we will exceed the legal budget by about $50,000.

Mr. Handler asked to see the last 5 years of counsel's annual totals for a reference. He added that he would not be present at next weeks meeting.

Ms. Doucette said that as a former Town Clerk, she remembers a policy that was put in place regarding the use of counsel and that it was adhered to. Mr. Powers responded that outside of the Select Board and land use, all requests for Town Counsel go through Administration, so the policy is still adhered to per se.

Mr. Powers commented that on the 30B process, that if you are looking to bring in counsel, that it should be a 3-year contract and that the Board should expect the process to take about 6 months and that they may want to time it for fiscal year 2027.

F. Discussion on date and time for non-resident taxpayers meeting; votes may be taken

Mr. Howell said that he would like to come out of tonight's meeting with a date and time for the meeting and then the Board can work on a mechanism. He assumes that we can possibly do 4- or 5-minute podcasts with department heads to launch on the Harwich YouTube Channel.

The Board agreed to plan for August 4th and could use August 11th as a fallback date.

Mr. Kelleher said that he has heard in the past that the meeting was poorly attended and wants to make sure we give it publicity.

<u>OLD BUSINESS</u>

A. Discussion on Acting Town Administrator; votes may be taken

Mr. Howell commented that the Board needs to have something that they feel comfortable with, noting that he has a couple of names in mind. He encouraged the Select Board to think about possibilities so they can move expeditiously, adding that he does not want to go into August and September without someone steadying the ship and being in charge.

Mr. Piekarski agreed that the clock is ticking and thinks that the Charter says that the Board has 10 days to take action after that the Town Administrator seat is vacant.

Mr. Handler said that June 30th is tough because on July 1st, someone has to do to the work. Mr. Handler knows who he would like to have in that seat. In past meetings there has been some discussion about having the Town Administrator search firm make recommendations or suggestions. Given the timeline of July 7th, where the Board was told that is when interviews for search firms would begin, the Board would be looking at late July into August even getting a search firm hired. Mr. Handler feels that this is an opportunity for the Select Board to state publicly that they believe in this person and the person is on the team and can get the town through the time where we do not have a Town Administrator. This person is not interested in being a part of the Town Administrator search. He hopes that the Select Board doesn't miss the opportunity once again to do what is in the best interest of the town. The Assistant Town Administrator has been in many difficult public conversations where she has handled herself in what he considers to be the most respectful manner with dignity and grace. He would like to put on the record that this would come with a commensurate pay increase. Mr. Handler said that he would not support anything else.

Mr. Howell said that we have no Finance Director and no Town Administrator. If the Assistant Town Administrator were to act in the position of Acting Town Administrator, then we would not have an Assistant. He understands the loyalty to the Assistant and commented that he likes her but is looking at the town and what the town needs right now. The Assistant has a job to do as well and it Mr. Howell feels that it would not be possible to do both positions.

Mr. Piekarski stated that he appreciates Mr. Handler's comments and that he would not be looking to a search firm for the Acting Town Administrator position. His request of the search firms was to get a better handle on the time frame. We clearly heard from Town Counsel that it would realistically be an 8-month window and because we are on the Cape, that time frame could be easily extended. Mr. Piekarski feels that having that seat open for a long period of time could create internal issues.

Ms. Doucette said that she has thought about this quite a bit and with no disrespect to Ms. Eldredge, she does have a job to do and if she is in 2 jobs, how can she preform both efficiently. She added that now we do not have a Finance Director, which will put an extra burden on staff. Someone needs to be brought in that can help her in the government process that we are in right now.

Mr. Kelleher said that he has nothing but the highest respect for Ms. Eldredge. If she were to be Acting Town Administrator, someone would need to fill her position. He feels that especially with all that we have going on, it would be best to have someone come in from the outside and captain the ship.

Mr. Handler agreed that there is no question that Ms. Eldredge would need help and that whoever steps into that role will need help. He would rather see someone at the helm who knows the town and then backfill that position to help with procurement and other Assistant Town Administrator duties.

Mr. Howell responded that he is trying to look for someone that doesn't want the job permanently and who is looking to make sure that the town is running well.

Julie Kavanagh was present and asked the Select Board why they are making this change now. She commented that Mr. Powers was Assistant Town Administrator for 4-6 months when the previous Town Administrator left. Mr. Powers went right into that position. Why is the line being moved now for the person who has been in the job for 4-5 years at this point and has ultimately done a phenomenal job with no issues. She asked if the board thinks it is a good look to for the town to move the line and say that the person who is currently the assistant, who takes on the role of Town Administrator when they are out of the office, suddenly isn't qualified to do the job while the Board searches for a Town Administrator. Ms. Kavanagh said that when she was on the Board, there was talk about Harwich being the employer of choice. She feels that this does not give that look. Ms. Kavanagh also commented that the Town Administrator is not doing the job of the Finance Director, that there is a contractor in that position. Lumping in Ms. Eldredge with that does not make sense. Ms. Kavanagh asked the Board to proceed carefully and do what is best for the town and look at the person in the seat who has done a great job with the town.

Mr. Howell said that there is no discussion tonight of hiring a search firm in looking for an Acting Town Administrator.

Mr. Handler commented that Mr. Howell mentioned that he has 2 people that he has already spoke with and asked if he could share their names. Mr. Howell responded that he is not sure that they would want their names mentioned at this point.

CONTRACTS

A. Approve a Memorandum of Agreement (MOA) with the Town of Orleans Council on Aging Supportive Day "Rock Harbor Respite" program and vote to authorize the Chair to sign

Mr. Kelleher moved to approve a Memorandum of Agreement (MOA) with the Town of Orleans Council on Aging Supportive Day "Rock Harbor Respite" program and vote to authorize the Chair to sign, 2nd by Mr. Handler and approved 5-0-0.

B. Approve a Memorandum of Agreement (MOA) with Barnstable County through the Cape Cod Commission for the 2025 Orthoimagery and Planimetrics project and vote to authorize the Town Administrator to sign

Mr. Kelleher moved to approve a Memorandum of Agreement (MOA) with Barnstable County through the Cape Cod Commission for the 2025 Orthoimagery and Planimetrics project and vote to authorize the Town Administrator to sign, 2nd by Mr. Handler and approved 5-0-0.

TOWN ADMINISTRATOR'S REPORT

Mr. Powers announced 2 contracts. The first is a contract with Robert Childs, Inc., for a Toro Dingo in the amount of $39,190.00. The second contract is with Morrison's Power Mowers in the amount of $13,799.20.

Mr. Powers announced that Town buildings will be closed on Thursday, June 19th in observance of the Juneteenth Holiday.

SELECT BOARD MEMBER REPORT

Mr. Piekarski said that the Board has recently received the finance reports for May's month end and he would like a breakdown from the Finance Director relating to any areas of concern as we head towards the end of the fiscal year. He sees the balances in the document, but would like a breakdown for items related to Article # 4.

Mr. Piekarski informed the Board that meeting times starting at 5:00 p.m. are difficult for him and that he probably will not be making the 5:00 p.m. start time. 5:15 p.m. is likely the earliest that he could start. Mr. Howell responded that there is no reason why Executive Session couldn't start at 6:00 p.m.

Ms. Doucette said that she would not be at the June 30th meeting.

Mr. Howell said that the contract that the Select Board has with the Finance Director will be expiring in 2 weeks. He would like a sense of the Board that we want to extend the contractors services for the time being. Mr. Piekarski asked if there is any interest from the current provider. Mr. Powers responded that Eric Kinsherf did reach out to him. Mr. Powers reminded the Board that the contract is between the Select Board and the firm itself.

Mr. Kelleher announced a new business in town that opened called Bagel Hound which is in the former A & W location. He also said that he attended the Harwich Ponds Coalition Meeting that information can be found at www.harwichwaters.org

Mr. Handler said that with respect to the finance reports that Mr. Piekarski is looking for, he would be ok with those coming forward at the next meeting in his absence. Additionally, Mr. Handler would like to follow up on an email that he sent regarding the Monomoy Regional School Agreement. He would prefer that this discussion be continued until the June 30th meeting. Mr. Howell agreed.

CORRESPONDENCE

ADJOURNMENT

Mr. Piekarski moved to adjourn the meeting of the Select Board at 8:24 p.m., 2nd by Mr. Handler and approved 5-0-0.

Respectfully submitted,

Jennifer Clarke
Executive Assistant