**Town of Hollis Select Board Meeting Minutes**

**March 16, 2016, 5:00 PM**

***(Not televised discussion, public welcome)***

Present: Select Board Members: David McCubrey, River Payne, Roger Hicks; Code Enforcement Officer: Bob Cyr; Town Clerk: Martha Huff; Administrative Assistant: Bennet Flinner

1. 366 Hollis Road: Per unanimous decision of the Select Board and CEO, the town will not refund the applicant’s conditional use permit fee for this property but will waive said fee if Mr. Guimond decides to reapply within 6 months. This decision was made based on the excessive amount of time spent on this application by the Planning Board members and the CEO.

2. Select Board Workshop: To be held prior to Budget Committee meeting on Monday, March 21, 2016 from 5-7PM with CEO to address Fire Marshal’s statement.

3. Salmon Falls project – CEO reports that the project is coming along. Bob will be making an inspection next week and once he receives e-mail from the Fire Marshal and Fire Chief, he will issue building permit.

4. ACO Search: Roger will set up time with Limington to arrange for interviews. Tentative for 3.23.16.

5. Martha Huff/Elections: Would like to look into hiring a police officer due to possible safety concerns from 4-9PM on 6/14/16. SB not in total agreement with need of this, but Roger will look into it and get back to the SB and TC.

6. FOAA Policy Update: Approved by the SB and signed. Original given to TC and copies kept in SB Admin office.

7. Affidavit for 170 Cape Rd: Forwarding file to Dave for review and will work with Bennet to draft required paperwork for the title company.

8. Contract Deputy: Roger is discussing possible sharing of deputy with the town of Limington for $46K/year. Will discuss further next week.

9. Community Building: Dave would like to pay Carl Littlefield up to $2,000 to complete sheet rock work in community building. Approved by the SB and PO will be completed this week.

**Town of Hollis Select Board Meeting Minutes**

**March 16, 2016, 7:00 PM**

***(Televised discussion, public welcome)***

Present: Select Board Members: David McCubrey, River Payne, Roger Hicks; Town Clerk: Martha Huff; CEO: Bob Cyr; Fire Chief: Jason Johnson; Fire Captain: Chris Young; Rec Dept. Director Debbie Tefft; County Commissioner: Marston Lovell; Chief Deputy York County Sherriff’s Office: Thomas Baran; Administrative Assistant: Bennet Flinner.

Hollis Residents: Rita Anderson, Rebecca Bowley, Sibyl Curtis, Kathy Harriman, Beverly Harris, Doris Hicks, Muriel “Tootsie” Johnson, Kathleen Kendrick, Barbara Lawson, Marcia Lawson, Vera Littlefield, Mike Meserve, Whitey Meserve, Barb Miller, Faith Plummer, Jack Rogala, Leonard Van Gaasbeek, Jr., Leonard Van Gaasbeek III,

1. OLD BUSINESS
2. Presentation of the Boston Post Cane to Marcia Lawson, oldest resident in Hollis at age 95.
3. NEW BUSINESS
4. Public Announcement: On Wednesday, March 30, 2016 the Tax Collector’s office including registration for motor vehicles, boats and ATV’s will be opening at 5:00PM. (Not 12:00PM). Office hours are 5-8PM.
5. Important Dates Hollis citizens should know by Martha Huff, Town Clerk.

On Tuesday, March 22, 2016, Municipal Nomination Papers will be available at the Town Hall at 9:00AM. Open offices: (1) Select Board member for 3 year term, (1) Tax Collector for 3 year term, (1) Road Commissioner for 2 years, (2) Budget Committee members for 3 year terms.

Absentee Ballot requests are being accepted now and will be mailed to or available for pick up some time in May.

To date, there are no referendums for the June 14, 2016 election.

Budget Meeting for MSAD 6 will be May 26, 2016 at Bonny Eagle Middle School at 7P.M.

1. Public Hearing on proposed secret ballot warrant articles and ordinance changes to be held on 6.14.16. Select Board Meeting suspended and PH was opened at 7:12PM by Martha Huff.

Discussion opened by SB Chairman Dave McCubrey stating that the warrant articles presented this evening is only a draft and can be changed. The numbers presented this evening were changed recently per request from the Budget Committee the week prior to have all budgets within the tax levy limit. The total can be increased by $62,000.00 and article 11 may not be required.

Dave read draft article 3, River Payne read draft articles 4,5,6,7, and 8, Roger Hicks read draft articles 9 and 10, Dave read draft article 11 and reiterated that this may not be required.

Question from resident, Rita Anderson: Did the Select Board and the Administrative Assistant receive raises in this proposed budget? What is their current pay scale? Dave answered that the Administrative budget numbers presented include salary and office supplies. The SB proposed a 2% increase in each department for compensation. Currently the SB receives $17.43 per hour and the Administrative Assistant receives $14.00 per hour. The 2% increase for SB would be $17.79.

Question from resident, Rita Anderson: How come the record preservation presented in article 17 is not in the Administration budget? Martha Huff answered this question. Up to $40,000 needs to be used from the undesignated fund because of lack of preservation done in the time period of 2009-2014. The job to be done is a very large one and requires professional resources that would properly preserve very old records that have been stored in the town vault.

Question from resident, Rita Anderson: What is the Undesignated Funds, how much is there and does using this fund affect our property taxes? Dave answered this question. It is a saving account of approximately $150,000 to $200,000 that was used to pay taxes in the past but is now recommended to the town to pay bills with. No, using this fund does not affect property taxes.

Question from resident, Rita Anderson: Who is the Assessor listed on the budget, when was she hired and what are her credentials? Dave answered this question. Debra Stitson is the town’s Tax Assessor that was hired over 3 years ago. She is a Certified Maine Tax Assessor and worked prior with the town of Limington as a Selectman. The Assessor’s budget does not include a 2% raise—she declined it to help keep the Administrative Assistant for the Select Board and additional office support. Her budget does include administrative costs such as maps, software, and other office supplies.

Question from resident, Rita Anderson: Why is the town’s insurance increased and are they going to pay for the community building damage? Dave answered this question. The increase of insurance applies to the medical, liability, and buildings. The insurance company is not paying for the community building damages because the prior problems were not reported properly in the past. If they were, they may have paid for the remediation.

Question from resident, Rita Anderson: Why is there an increase to the Sports Complex budget? Dave answered this question. There is not much of an increase, but the slight increase is for upkeep on the fields and edging. The revenues coming in for Parks and Rec will likely offset this.

Question from resident, Rita Anderson: How come there is a $15,000 increase for the Snow and Sanding budget? Roger and Dave answered this question. It was over budgeted so that the town is not under budget. For the past few years, the town has under budgeted this item, so we used a maximum budget for the proposal. Becky Bowley also provided some information regarding the budget, explaining that they are no longer a town employee. They have a contract for approximately $192,000 but above and beyond that, the town will pay. In prior years the Budget Committee

Question from resident, Rita Anderson: What does the $510,000 budget for the FD/EMS what does that include? Roger answered that the funds cover operational costs for the Fire Department and Emergency Services. Does not include new ambulance--that is a separate article.

Question from resident, Rita Anderson: Does Article 8 include repairs to the Libraries? She recalls painting and seals were needed in the last few years. River and Dave answered that yes, these repairs were completed and the Friends of Salmon Falls/Libraries, a non-profit organization completed the painting.

Question from resident, Rita Anderson: Why was Leavitt Mills funding reduced in Article 9? Dave answered that question. The Budget Committee asked the SB to stay within $20,000 funding for non-profit organizations. Therefore, some organizations were given a little less so that we could still support these direct services for our citizens while staying within the budget.

Question from resident, Rita Anderson: What is Southern Maine Regional Planning? Dave answered that they are used by the Planning Board for advisement.

Question from resident, Rita Anderson: What is the 12-Town Group? Dave answered this question. They are a group of municipal workers that represent 12 towns in York County. They collaborate with each other and learn information and best practices through guest speakers at their meetings. The group pays for a secretary to take minutes at their meetings, which accounts for the cost of that item in the budget.

Question from resident, Rita Anderson: What is La Dawn Therapeutic Riding? Dave answered this question. It is located in Dayton at routes 35 and 5. Special needs children obtain therapy there through horseback riding and exposure to animals. The organization requested $1,500 and the SB approved $200.00.

Question from resident, Rita Anderson: What is the Miscellaneous Returns and Reimbursements? Dave suggested we review that and get back to her on the items involved.

Question from resident, Rita Anderson: What is BETE? Dave answered this question. It is like a homestead exemption for property taxes, but is for businesses.

Question from resident, Whitey Meserve: What are the Budget Committee recommendations for these articles? Dave answered that every budget was pre-approved by the Budget Committee but at the last meeting, the members decided that they wanted all budgets to come in under the tax levy. This is a public hearing to announce these initial budget proposals but they can be changed by the Budget Committee.

Question from resident, Whitey Meserve: Why did the ACO get a raise? Dave indicated that the past budget was off by $2-$3K so the hourly rate wasn’t increased, the budget was just corrected.

Comment from resident, Whitey Meserve: All of the articles should include a brief explanation on the report. Especially the increase in budget, he doesn’t require them for budgets that have decreased. Dave responded by explaining that some increases to the budgets were for wage increases, the code officer’s for example did not increase. Other reasons for increases are for fees, postage, operations and maintenance costs.

Question from resident, Faith Plummer: Regarding Article 3- What were the wage increases for town employees? Why are the increases not the same for each position? Dave and Martha explained that the figures represent wages, postage, insurance, training, equipment and maintenance plus other supplies. The state also required that some of the positions have locked desks, which were also included in the costs.

Question from resident, Kathy Harriman: What are the salary increases for the employees? Dave answered each employee that did receive a raise received no more than 2% increase.  Kathy asked why was there an increase in salary for the town when over half of the people who live in Hollis are retired and Social Security had no cost of living increase this year.  Dave indicated that the state indicated up to a 2.67% for increase of salary within the tax levy limit, so the town employees for Hollis are below the tax levy for the state at 2%.

Question from resident, Kathy Kendrick: Why did Hollis Center Library get less funds than they received last year?  Dave and River explained that the librarian has training every other year, and it reflected no training this year. It was decreased also due to lowered fuel costs.

Question from Debbie Tefft, Parks & Rec. Director: Regarding Article 4 - How was it decided to cut her budget was cut by $6,000. Stated that it disturbs her that she had to find out in a public forum when she works next door to the Select Board. Was this decrease decided by a cut in percentage across the board? Dave answered that the year prior was taken into consideration. Last year the Parks and Rec budget was $218K and this year $232K was approved, so it was an increase of $13,000. Deb responded that she was under the impression that the SB and budget committee were agreeable with her current budget, but it has changed now so what does she have to work with this year? Dave responded that won’t be determined until it is voted on and approved. It is also due to be reviewed again by the Budget Committee and could be changed by the outcome of that meeting. Deb asked why this couldn't have been discussed with the department heads. Dave responded that time was a huge factor with the Budget Committee requesting the change last week to numbers reflect under the tax levy limit, in addition all the budgets were due December 15 and the SB was lucky to get any in by the end of January. River added that she was very frustrated with the process and would like to make it much more transparent for next year. Including setting clear expectations of department heads of when to have budgets ready and to present 2 budgets- one falling within LD1 and one stating what is needed.  Dave reiterated that the Budget Committee preapproved all of the department head’s budgets and then at the last minute, last BC meeting asked that all budgets fall within LD1 tax levy.

Question from resident, Mike Meserve: Why is the target budget not within LD1? The SB is aware of this so why not start there?  Dave answered that the department heads present their budgets. Mike asked who is in charge of the department heads. Dave answered we are. Mike said I rest my case. Dave corrected his answer and said he is not in charge of elected officials and what they put in their budgets. Mike argued that LD1 is state law and it should be limit for the town. Dave responded not necessarily if the residents agrees it is not what is best for the town.

Comments from resident, Becky Bowley: She attended some Budget Committee meetings and what she has is a preliminary record of what the BC preapproved for 2016-17 budgets: Municipal Administration, Broadcasting, Town Records, Treasurer, Town Clerk, Elections, Tax Collector, Assessor, Legal Fees, Emergency Services, Operations and Maintenance, Public Works Snow, Public Works Highway, Paving, Hollis Center Library, Salmon Falls Library, Health and Sanitation, Parks and Rec, Sports, Insurance, FICA, Animal Control, Street Lights, Budget Committee, Appeals, and Veterans Flags, Conservation Commission, 12 Town Group and Code Enforcement Officer.  At the last meeting she attended, BC advised at the SB to take last year’s funds and disperse across all non-profits how SB feels it should be spent.  Becky also brought to SB attention an e-mail from Dana Gray, Chair of the BC, stating that there were some articles on the warrant that they recommended, some not recommended and some they have not yet reviewed.  She also read the BC ordinance regarding the requirement that BC recommendations must be printed on all town meeting ballots.  There is going to be another public hearing and the official warrant will be presented at that time with any changes made.

SB continued to read the remaining articles on the draft. Dave read articles 12, 13, 14. River read articles 15, 16, 17, 18, 19, 20, 21, 22, 23. Roger read articles 24, 25, 26.

Comment from resident, Rita Anderson: Article 26 reads peculiar, not particular.  Question regarding article 14, Do we need a re-evaluation and why?  Dave answered yes it should be completed every 10 years and it has been 16 years.  Rita went on to ask if $300,000 enough or will we need more money?  Dave answers that it is uncertain at this time, bids are coming in for reevaluation and all are due by 3.18.16 and SB is hopeful that it can be completed for under that amount. The auditors recommended that the town put away up to $50K a year for the last 4 years to build up money for this project, which the town has been doing. The assessor Deb Stitson realized that the town still needed permission to spend it-- that is why the article is on the ballot. A commercial assessor is required for the Poland Springs plant, so TIF funds will be used for that assessment.

Question from resident, Rita Anderson: What is the undesignated fund balance/UFB? Dave believes it is $2.3M. Rita asked if the repairs for this building (community building) come from the UFB? Dave is unsure because of the Fire Marshal's recommendations for the community center.

Question from resident, Rita Anderson: Regarding article 15 – what is the up to $10,000 for? Dave indicated that the building has some holes in the walls, busted windows and painting that needs to be completed. Rita asked why it hasn’t been done in the past and is the building worth preserving? Dave indicated that some people have expressed that it should be preserved for historical purposes, and it also serves practical use for the custodian and storage.

Question from resident, Rita Anderson: Regarding article 16 - Can we add to the current Town Hall or Community Center buildings? SB indicated that the future is uncertain for the town buildings due to the inspection completed by the state Fire Marshal. This article is to get a starting point of design and cost if and when the buildings will have to be replaced.

Question from resident, Rita Anderson: Regarding article 18 – Why did the FD not use their budget money to repair their buildings and does it come out of the TIF fund? Roger answered that the money will be under the FD budget which is under the TIF.

Question from resident, Rita Anderson: Regarding article 18 – Why does the town need a new ambulance? If they need a new one, why don’t they get rid of the old one if it needs updating? If I need to go to the hospital, I don’t want to go in the old ambulance. Roger replied it is normal operation in FD/EMS to use old equipment for back up, and that is its only intended use.

Question from resident, Rita Anderson: Regarding article 20 – Expressed that she does not agree with this article at all, why is this in the warrant draft? The town had one once from a grant and it didn’t work out well. It costed the town money because of a vehicle that got wrecked and it had to be replaced. Roger indicated that the car wreck happened after the contract deputy’s contract had ended. Rita asked who put this article in the draft. Roger answered that he did. Rita asked why do you think we need this? Roger answered that citizens have expressed concern about public safety and that society has changed a lot over the years. There will be a presentation from the Sherriff’s department that will go into greater detail later in the meeting.

Question from resident, Rita Anderson: Regarding article 21 – what is the $41,200 for? The SB stated that the FD/EMS utility truck died, so a new one was purchased. The amount would cover the cost of the truck, trailer with emergency detour equipment such as cones, barricades and signs. When asked who gave the rights of expenditure the SB said they did because it was written into the emergency vehicle of the FD/EMS budget. This year it should be removed and put in as a capital item in the budget. The town clerk, Martha Huff stated that capital items are not part of a current policy or ordinance of Hollis. Rita indicated that it is too bad that the town no longer has town meetings because people will be unaware of what they are voting for until they see the ballot. Rita graciously thanked the SB for their time.

Comment from resident, Kathleen Kendrick: She is upset that a $42K truck got approved without anyone in town knowing about it. Question: What will happen if this article gets voted down, will the truck be returned? If so what is the cost to return the truck? Roger indicated the SB is asking the town to approve this article although the truck can be paid for without it. If the town votes down the article, it can be paid out of the TIF or stay on the lease plan until it ends. Kathleen indicates that she is disappointed that the clothing closet may get kicked out of the fire department garage because of this new rescue vehicle being purchased. She indicated that she hears that the response time has decreased since she was a first responder from 4 minutes and has heard people are disappointed with the service they are receiving from the EMS/FD and if there are 2 rescues, how much is that going to cost the town for maintenance and insurance?

Roger indicates that the last couple of years the snow storms have been horrible. Members of the EMS/FD and SB members are out in their personal vehicles clearing hydrants, fire stations and resident's driveways during snow storms so rescue services can be provided and it upsets him that he got complaints about a plow being added to the new utility truck. He felt it was the right thing to do for the townspeople. Even if people are upset for him voting on something to support the residents, he'll still do it. Kathleen indicated that she understands and she used to be on the rescue and they had to pay for uniforms with their personal funds. She is just sad that the town didn't know anything about this. Dave and Roger clarified that there will be no extra man/woman power to run the other rescue vehicle, it is just for back up purposes. Jason will give more detail later in the meeting.

Comments/questions from resident, Whitey Meserve: He said that no one was upset that the town bought a utility truck for FD/EMS it was the way it was "back-doored" and no one knew about it. River indicated that the vehicle has been a line item on the FD/EMS budget for 3 years. After discussing the budget with the auditor, she was told that the town could not have budgeted their money for that utility truck any better, it was a good deal for the town. River also indicated that it may have worked better for the town to be informed that they lease the truck for 7 months then put it on the June warrant, however it would have cost the town thousands of dollars. This experience has taught the town that capital items are to be reported differently of the department’s budgets and a policy will be put in place moving forward. Whitey said he would have supported the cost for the truck but indicated that the SB came up with the idea of buying the service truck. The SB indicated that the FD chief approached them with the proposal after the truck died, and that is how it came about. The SB does not want town employees to use their personal vehicles to complete town work, it is a liability for the town. Whitey indicated that he was just upset at how the truck was purchased first without the town approving it that a special town meeting could've been used to solve the issue.

Comments from Fire Chief Jason Johnson: Jason said that his budget, like Deb Tefft, was pre-approved last week was 523K and it is 510K on the warrant draft, without the BC seeing the lowered budget. Although he is unsure if the original budget will be approved, but he will work with whatever he is given. The same can be said for the roof not being fixed immediately, he works with what he is given for a budget and it is what it is. Jason said that regarding the use of a back-up ambulance once a new one is purchased, the town has never had the luxury of 2 ambulances, so this will be a new practice for the FD/EMS. It is common for FD/EMS to keep older emergency vehicles on standby in case the other breaks down or is being maintained. Jason said that regarding the utility truck, it has been used for basic calls: basement flooding, traffic control, trees in roadway, and other service calls. The town of Limington had donated the truck to Hollis, the town had paid a $1.00 for it. FD/EMS used it for 10 years until the motor blew at 460K miles. For the last 3 years he has put in his budget a line item $7,000 for a lease/chief's vehicle. Once this happened to the utility truck, Jason felt it was more important to have a utility vehicle with a plow for the town instead of a chief's vehicle. He approached the SB with the lease proposal for the vehicle and plow, they agreed with it, moved forward and put in a bid for $37K for the truck and plow. The lease agreement is not a traditional lease in the sense that you do not own the vehicle, it is a lease/purchase agreement like a mortgage that is available to municipalities. A lump sum of $7,800-$7,900 is paid yearly for 5 years. He apologized for the misconception that the purchase was a "back-doored" idea, it wasn't the intent. He has been setting up his budget as requested by leadership, but it’s not what some townspeople think should be done.

Question to Chief Johnson- Do you have a Chief's car and a pick-up truck? Answer by Jason, no. What happened to the car? Before you were chief, didn't the chief have a car? Answer by Jason, no, the car was my personal vehicle. From what Jason understood, the last contract deputy that the town had a vehicle that was destroyed in an accident during a snow storm for driver training by two town employees that are no longer working for the town. The insurance paid for the car, the money was put into the general fund and the town never bought another car with it.

SB/Dave question regarding fixing the roof at the FD1, do you feel the building is salvageable? Jason Johnson -The building is an asset for the town as cold storage, but not living quarters. To fix the roof is pennies on the dollar as far as what it is worth to house storage items.

Comment from resident Becky Bowley, (also known as the new Rita Anderson or Ansel Hanson :) She asked that people in the meeting look around the room, Mrs. Flinner, River Payne, Mr. Young, Mrs. Plummer, Mr. VanGaasBeek, Chief Johnson - those are the only people in this room under 50 years old. These are the people we need to encourage to run our town. As a life-long resident of Hollis, for the first time last year, a Fire Chief walked through the door at Hollis Animal Clinic and made recommendation for fire preparedness. Up until that point, she had never seen the Fire Chief. What Whitey Meserve just spoke about earlier, she is able to communicate with the Fire Chief on the dispatch radio what is required to assist the FD/EMS. That is a huge asset to Hollis. These 6 people have stepped up to the plate to help run the town, and Becky says we need young people to be involved. When a young person steps up in any role and the townspeople picks them apart, they're not going to stay and not be encouraged to help. Becky commented that regarding the utility truck that the SB should have mentioned the issue during a televised SB meeting and signed a PO. She feels that townspeople rise to judge too quickly and needlessly. Nothing is perfect but don't turn off the younger generation to municipal services. She approves the purchase of a new ambulance.

Comments from resident and member of Budget Committee, Lenny Van Gaas Beek- Indicated that regarding article 14, the BC listened to the presentation but didn't know the final figure, BD had pre-approved and recommended passing. Regarding article 15 and town barn repairs and painting, the BC hopes that this article will be less than $10K. The barn is used for storage, rec and maintenance. Per Roger, up to 10K is for materials, and community service people from York County Jail may be used for painting. Regarding article 16 - BC declined as they felt it was not a sufficient scope of what was to be done, they wanted more specifics. As part of Long Range Planning, they thought it would be better to bring that up next year. Regarding article 17 - BC hadn't seen this article but will likely be approved by BC at next meeting. Regarding article 18- BC approved to repair the building as needed. Regarding article 20 - he likes the thought of a back-up ambulance, especially with the senior citizens in the room. Regarding article 21 - with the information given to the BC at the time it was presented, it was recommended not to pass. Although it may change at the next meeting. Regarding article 22 - BC recommends passing. Regarding article 23 - BC will discuss at next meeting. Question of did that include carry forwards?

Comments from resident and member of Budget Committee, Jack Rogala - The BC recommends articles: 14, 18, 19, 22, and 23. BC does not recommend articles: 11, 16, 20, and 21. BC did not see or discuss articles: 15, 17. Comments: TIF money needs to be spent wisely and Long Range Planning will determine how the money will be used. Regarding article 21 - he feels the SB should have been up front with the purchase and it would have eliminated a lot of scuttlebutt. He would also like to know how many of each item will be purchased: cones, barricades, signs. These should be broken down into how many items and cost per item, so they know how the money is getting spent. Regarding article 20 - BC did not recommend this. He doesn't agree with investing $300,000 for 40 hours per week. Roger indicated that the ordinances that are written for the town can't be enforced if we don't have local law enforcement. Jack feels that if the town needs that coverage, why don't we have our own officer? A police cruiser is $100,000 plus a yearly salary that is so much more less than what we would pay for a contract deputy.

Comments from Chief Deputy, Tom Barron - 34 years experience. Sherriff's office currently has 6 contracts: Arundel, Waterboro, Limington, Parsonsfield, Acton, Shapleigh, and school resource officers paid through RSU 57. All contracts are running very well. The York County Sheriff helps to give these towns a good quality of life with dedicated service with contract deputy. The contract deputy works 40 hours weekly within Hollis and when he/she is not in Hollis, another deputy will respond to calls, so it is a 24/hr. service. The deputies get to know the community and what is happening within it. Crime is increasing in the area, times are changing, what is the quality of life do you want? Ordinances can $20,000 grant was written for speed issues, this is for speed enforcement.

Question from resident Whitey Meserve: What benefits does town receive from County Taxes? Answer: District attorney office, EMA office, Sheriff's office. 2013 there was a MOU with the state police that they will be the primary handler of calls for Hollis, Dayton and Lyman. Last May the State police's response time for one call was 2.5 hours. 14 towns do not have their own police force so the state police cover those towns, Sheriff's department provides back up for the state police when needed.

Response from Becky Bowley regarding this article: Hollis has 4,281 residents, last year there were 1156 calls for assistance, .2 % call rate. Based on the amount of calls and residents in Hollis, Becky estimates the crime rate in Hollis is 1.34%. Reasons why we should have a deputy – more apt to enforce an ordinance. Animal control, fireworks, flea market, dumping, no parking, sex offenders, special amusements, traffic crosswalks, Truck traffic Killick Pond road, other Posted Roads. Question: Hollis has major problems with trailer trucks not using correct roads. If your Sheriff Deputy pulls over a tractor trailer truck, will that deputy contact the state police or DOT to issue right citations? Answer: Yes, they would have to call state police or DOT unless it is only speed related. Becky: Hollis may need our own town deputy. Has anyone contacted Buxton to partner with them? Why is the state police not represented tonight, we only have one side to listen to? Roger: Talked to Lt. Ross and the officer that was supposed to go over the statistics and numbers was out on medical leave. He was told that the state police does not provide contract numbers and honors the agreement that they have in place with Sherriff's dept. Troop A patrols Lyman, Alfred, Hollis, Lebanon, Dayton, and now responsible from 295 up to Freeport. The state police officers can now be in the Portland corridor. It was just changed, Roger found out tonight it changed from Troop B to Troop A. Becky: said she will not support this article and feels confident that she will be taken care of in an emergency when she calls 911. She is concerned that the TIF money is being spent at a fast rate and once it's gone, it is gone. Becky asked how much $100K for tax payer that has property worth $100K. Dave believes taxes would go up 1%. So having a sheriff deputy, after three years, the increase to your local taxes approximately $120 a year. Becky suggests that if this is seriously considered, there should be a candidate’s night. Dave: TIF is at 2M. That can't build a new community center with that money. The TIF was planned out to use for law enforcement, fire department. If we don't use this money, we lose it. We've got to use this money for something. The SB has received phone calls asking for more police services. I'm concerned for what is going to happen to that TIF fund. We are using it for roads, ambulances, etc. We need more ideas on how to use this money.

Question from resident Jack Rogala: Can the TIF be used to build municipal building? Answer from Dave: We need to do some planning, we cannot build a new town hall with this money.

Jack: Can we add to a facility if one is built? Dave: If there is education offered in a new facility that is a possibility to put some TIF money in part of the building. $210K used in TIF to buy ambulance this year. If the town had to buy it outright, we would have a 4% tax increase. Use taxation money to use on other things in town. We have a lot of money and we do not want to lose it. If we don't use our vacation time, we lose it. We are putting back 1M a year in the TIF. The article is put on the warrant so the people can decide since citizens are asking for more service.

Comments from resident LennyVanGaasBeek: When Hollis had a sheriff deputy a number of years ago, I might wait up to 30 minutes for him to show up. When I call the state police, I would wait maybe 15 minutes. Regarding the state police report, burglary calls have gone down from 9 to 7. Troop A arrested 2 people who burglarized many homes in Hollis, Buxton, and Dayton. The services they provide they are comparable or greater than the Sherriff's department. He finds state police is parked more for trucks by Poland Springs. He cannot support this article and justify spending extra money.

Response from Chief Deputy: Sheriff's department is not in competition with state police. 6 communities and school decided that the SD is what they needed for service. They have a lot of the same services as state police. When we provide data, we report on every call made so you can see exactly what the CD is doing.

Comments from resident Kathy Harriman: Saw on local news that the state police were down officers, they have hard time to find officers trained for their force. I had an occasion when I needed police, both sheriff and state police arrived and helped. I run to the post office daily using Rt 117, she has to speed up when tractor trailers are on her tail, but she's afraid to get a speeding ticket. The traffic north towards Limington comes very fast and they often pass her as she is driving the speed limit, so it is disappointing there is not a police officer there to catch speeders. She would love to see an officer on Rt. 117 speeders are really dangerous.

Roger: reiterated stats on the news- State police is down 30 officers and plan to be down more once people qualify for retirement this year. 60 open slots. Chief Deputy: There are currently 25 deputies. 1 opening. Opening is because one deputy went to DEA.

Storytime with Rita Anderson and her run-in with the Sheriff's department four years ago. My notes would not do justice for her story. Please go to the Src-tv website and watch it or ask Rita about it next time you see her. Begins around 3:24:00!

Comments from resident, Rita Anderson: $210K we don't have to spend tax money for the ambulance. We have money in undesignated fund. My question is why can't we take that money or add to the building to the fire department for the clothing closet? If it comes out of the undesignated fund, we can build a separate building, why haven't we considered it or put in the warrant? You know the clothing closet is going to get kicked out of the building eventually. Answer from SB/Dave: Not necessarily true, they wouldn't be kicked out unless the SB says it. We can't say it will never happen since SB can change members. We don't have a proposal of a building, no one has gotten a quote. The SB has made many changes to budgets due to the community building remediation. Something of this nature has to be planned and sent to the BC. The fire chief and SB has supported the clothing closet, we are currently talking with the Hollis Center Baptist church to see if an arrangement can be made with them. No one has run with this idea and it won't get done unless someone owns it.

Question from resident, Jack Rogala: If FD/EMS gets revenue from ambulance service and it goes into general fund, how is it appropriated? I looked at Jason's budget, it shows $120,000 for a year. Can that money be retained? Dave answer: No, because "it washes." Martha Huff also added that the tax rate is set and budgeted by figuring out your anticipated revenues and anticipated expenses. Dave explained further that the town is proposing 2.5 million in the budget but will only bring in 1.6 million in revenue. No matter where the money goes, we don't appropriate revenue. River added that the auditor's view of Hollis' budget, in particular EMS/FD not having to place revenue in a separate account is because of the TIF and the good financial position the town is in. Jack thanked the SB for the opportunity to discuss the budget and answer questions. His only complaint was that the BC recommendations were not presented this evening. River reiterated that was because of the last minute changes to final numbers requested by the BC the week prior to the Public Hearing.

Question from resident, Whitey Meserve: When does the TIF end? SB Answer: Scheduled for 2025, however the SB plans to extend it to 2030. Whitey suggests that the EMS/FD begin to save their revenue in their own fund so that when the TIF ends there will be surplus.

Public hearing closed at 10:50PM by Town Clerk, Martha Huff.

1. WARRANTS, PAYROLLS, AND P.O.’s
2. Treasurer’s Warrant: 3.7.16: $337,733 3.14.16: $39,175
3. Payroll: 3.7.16: $10,102 3.14.16: missed
4. P.O.’s: Up to $2,000 for Littlefield Construction Community Ctr's furnace room repairs; $650.00 to Black Bear Signs for lettering on FD utility truck; Up to $2,000 to US Alert for 4 new pagers for FD/EMS; Up to $3,600 to Northeast Emergency for 4 new CVA bottles for FD/EMS; $1,700 to Dell for new laptop for FD.
5. CORRESPONDENCE
6. The Bar Mills bridge sidewalk will be CLOSED until further notice. Please avoid using the bridge sidewalk.
7. Leavitt’s Mill Free Health Center will be having a Spring Fun Run/Walk 5K on May 7, 2016. Register as an individual or a team at [www.active.com](http://www.active.com). Prizes will be awarded for the highest fundraiser, first three males & females for walkers and runners. Kids Fun Run too! Registration begins at 7:30AM, Race Start at 9:00AM.
8. Free tax preparation to qualified filers during the tax season – To make an appointment, visit [www.cashmaine.org](http://www.cashmaine.org) or call 1-800-965-5762 ext. 2718 or 207-324-5762 ext. 2718.
9. Goodwill Workforce Solutions (Job Assistance) meet Tuesdays 1pm-4pm at Adult Ed/Parker Farm Road 929.9185
10. Waterboro Transfer Station – REMINDER - Hollis permits for $25. Cash and Checks only accepted. No credit or debit cards.
11. Reminder to please have your trash and recycling curbside by 6:00am on your designated pick-up day. 96 gallons total trash is acceptable for weekly pick up. (3 - 32 gallon bags or 6 - 13 gallon bags).
12. New members are needed for MSAD 6 Budget Advisory Committee and Hollis Pirate Fest! Please visit the town website [www.Hollismaine.org](http://www.Hollismaine.org) for additional information.
13. Don’t forget to E-Subscribe on the Hollismaine.org website to receive notifications of all new info posted on the website!
14. Posted Roads – Orange signs have been posted on some roads limiting heavy loads. If you have a delivery scheduled to your residence, please call road commissioner Rob Hanson at 727-3242 to obtain a permit.
15. OTHER BUSINESS: Per River, FOAA policies are up to date with current laws and will be signed shortly with the town clerk, Martha Huff.

Nomination papers will be available at town hall on March 22.

This Friday, March 18, 2016 the Select Board has a meeting in executive session at 3:00PM

1. No other public comments or questions. Meeting Adjourned at 10:50PM.

**Next Meeting of the Board**

**March 21st** 5:00 PM Select Board Workshop at the Town Hall

**March 21st** 7:00PM Budget Committee Meeting upstairs at the Community Center

**March 22nd** 6:30PM Hollis Pirate Fest Meeting upstairs at the Community Center

**March 23rd** 5:00PM Select Board Meeting at Town Hall

**March 29th** 6:30PM Long Range Planning Committee Meeting upstairs at the Community Center

**March 31st** 6:00PM MSAD 6 Budget Advisory & District Budget Committees at District Office

**April 4th** 7:00PM MSAD 6 Board of Directors Meeting at District Office