

**Special Selectmen's Meeting Minutes**  
**January 25, 2017**  
**Harpswell Town Office**  
**Approved February 10, 2017**

The meeting was called to order at 11:38am.

**Selectmen Present:** Richard A. Daniel and Elinor Multer

**Staff Present:** Kristi Eiane, Town Administrator; Terri Sawyer, Deputy Town Administrator; Ronald Ponziani, Road Commissioner

Chairman Daniel stated he asked for a special meeting to be called as today is the deadline to submit articles to the Town Clerk for secret ballot. Unfortunately Selectman Johnson is away this week. Chairman Daniel stated at last Thursday's meeting, the Board voted to place an article on secret ballot regarding changing the Road Commissioner position from elected to appointed. Chairman Daniel stated he agreed as there are more votes by secret ballot. However, he has been thinking about it and considering how long this position has been an elected position, he believes it warrants a discussion at Town Meeting. Chairman Daniel asked his colleagues to rescind the prior vote. Selectman Multer moved, seconded by Chairman Daniel to reconsider the vote taken last Thursday; motion passed 2-0. Administrator Eiane noted that Selectman Johnson wanted the article on secret ballot and has informed her that he will call in about 20 minutes. The Board recessed at 11:40am.

At 11:44 am, Selectman Johnson joined the meeting by phone. Chairman Daniel explained that since Thursday he has come to believe the article should be on the floor for discussion. Selectman Johnson stated there is adequate time between now and Town Meeting to reach out to the public regarding the reasons for the change. There will be a public hearing and an article could be placed in the Anchor. Chairman Daniel stated hearings have low participation and this proposed change warrants discussion. Chairman Daniel moved, seconded by Selectman Multer to place the article on the floor; motion passed 2-0.

Ronald Ponziani, Road Commissioner, stated he has no preference as to the position being elected or appointed, and he just wants to make sure he can continue to be available at all times.

Chairman Daniel stated he appreciates Mr. Ponziani's work and the position will be extended to him if voters change it to appointed.

The Chair adjourned the meeting at 11:45am.

Respectfully Submitted,

Terri-Lynn Sawyer  
Deputy Town Administrator