

Selectmen's Meeting Minutes

Monday, January 23, 2017

Present: Chairman Gallagher, Selectmen Diorio, Darcy, McCosker and Rideout; and T.A. Collins.

6:00 p.m. Chairman Gallagher called the meeting to order.

Selectman Diorio made a motion to approve the 1/16/2017 and 1/23/17 manifests and the minutes of 1/11/17 and 1/16/17 and non-public minutes of 1/11/17 and non-public minutes of 1/16/17 as amended, second by McCosker. Motion passes unanimously.

T.A. Collins stated that members of the School Board were present to join the meeting. Holly Kennedy noted that she has been hearing that both the town and the school would like to go first at the Town Meeting. She indicated that the School Board would like to continue going first and gave reasons including there was no evidence of alternating going first; they had childcare provided until noon to encourage parental turnout. Holly Kennedy, Wayne Woolridge, Sean Leary, Jeanna Woodbury, and Jim O'Malley were included in discussion. Historically the meetings were held on two Saturdays. Selectman Darcy brought up that in 2011 there was discussion that it was unfair to taxpayers to give up two Saturdays for these meetings and it was decided to alternate going first. School Board members' concerns of the Town going first included that their portion of the meeting could be lengthy which could discourage parental turnout. Selectman Darcy noted that he was speaking for himself and the original agreement was to alternate, the Town has always deferred, the Town is asking one time to go first and the meeting would still be held at the school, and they are seeing pushback. Selectman Rideout noted that he hears what the School Board is saying but he can't see where their (meeting) will be short this year. Selectman Diorio's comments included that there may or may not be a vote on the bond, there is no question on alternating, however he thinks they will lose people depending on the length of the meeting. Wayne Woolridge noted that in his experience he has never had an abutted meeting as this isn't typically what you'd find in Cheshire County, that the ability to attract a 2/3 vote is extremely difficult. He asked the Board to think about waiting and to consider the whole picture. The possible school addition concerns included failure to achieve this year would mean it would be more costly if building aid is reduced. Various scenarios and possibly changing the hours of childcare coverage were discussed. T.A. Collins noted that procedure is up to the Moderator. The School Board indicated they would take this under advisement to discuss tomorrow and make a decision.

Megan Basset of the Beautification Committee spoke next. She was joined by Karen Atkins and Alycia Phengchanh. Megan felt there have been miscommunications and she had some questions. She brought By-Laws for the board (in email form due to printer problems). T.A. Collins indicated that we're a municipality and there are things we can and cannot do, based on RSAs. She has talked to DRA and legal as to what we are allowed to do by law. There cannot be fundraising, unless it is a 501c, like the PTA. Money can be raised to offset a budget if collected as a fee. Monies can be accepted as a gift by Selectmen if under \$5000. If over \$5000, there would need to be a public hearing. Raffles are frowned upon because we are a municipality. Megan wondered why this hasn't come up until now as she said their goals have always been to plant flowers, host events, and fundraise. Selectman Darcy stated that if this is a town committee, we have to follow RSAs. If they follow the 501c3 route, they can do raffles as a non-profit organization, and raise money. They would have more leeway if it were not a town account. Discussion followed that it seemed no one knew of the full impact of what they wanted to be done and hoped to be done, however we need to follow laws if this is the Town of Hinsdale Beautification Committee. Questions and discussion followed including if they remain a town committee, there could

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be a line item to allow them to accept gifts (to take effect July 1st). T.A. Collins noted that if the committee is to stay with the town, they need to be very careful. They may be able to work with them with liability coverage on a case-by-case basis. There was more discussion on Community Center Program involvement, possibility of working together on co-sponsoring events, and maintaining communication. General discussion was on a gala that Megan would like to have in March and whether or not they could become a 501c by then and what the requirements are to become a 501c. The plans for the gala are to have a DJ, raffles, and merge with the chili cook-off. Jill had property liability concerns. A third party would need to come in with certificate of insurance in the case of alcohol being at the event. There was discussion of being covered under town insurance (umbrella), like the Farmer's Market, if they became a 501c. They will pursue a 501c3 and will submit the rental form and open container application once they are established.

Selectman Darcy made a Motion to accept the fees from paint night in the amount of \$370.00, second by McCosker. Motion passes unanimously.

James MacDonell stated that he did not have this month's tax report yet.

T.A. Collins had a Letter of Credit from Yankee Farm Credit that was rescinded and needed reapproval on behalf of Wayne C. Corse. Selectman Darcy made a **motion** to sign the Letter of Credit, second by McCosker. Motion passed unanimously.

T.A. Collins mentioned a Memo re: Mutual Aid and the meeting on February 6th to include Fire Chief, Police Chief, Rescue and possibly others for an understanding of how mutual aid works.

There was a facility rental request for use of the Town Hall on February 11th for the semi-formal. Selectman Darcy made a **motion** to have the chair sign the rental request for the HHS Senior Class on 2/11/17 for the Semi-formal, second by McCosker. Motion passes unanimously.

T.A. Collins had a proposed agreement with Skip Sansoucy for assessing utilities, Walmart, and Hinsdale Real Estate LLC. Discussion followed. This is a 5 year full reevaluation and cyclical. Selectman Darcy made a **motion** to enter into contract with Skip Sansoucy for the period of April 1, 2017 – April 1, 2021, second by McCosker. Motion passes unanimously.

T.A. Collins mentioned that they have reclassified Kilburn Brook dam.

T.A. Collins read a letter addressed to the Science, Technology and Energy Committee regarding HB 324. There was discussion that basically the bill wants to use DRA rates to assess utilities which result in about a twelve million dollar loss of tax revenue for Hinsdale per year. T.A. Collins read a draft letter to be signed by Selectmen. Selectman Darcy made a **motion** to sign the letter re: HB 324, second by McCosker. Motion passes unanimously.

Selectman Diorio noted the Budget Meeting on Wednesday with this group. There will be a public hearing on the school bond on the 24th. There is a Bridge Advisory meeting on 2/1 at the police department at 3 p.m.

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Selectman Darcy noted that Tuesday is a rescheduled Planning Board hearing, Library Trustees meet on Wednesday, and HDIC meeting is Thursday. There are many bills at the State House and if we have opinion(s), now is the time to write letters.

There is a ZBA meeting tomorrow re: our letter. T.A. Collins informed all that there is a ZBA meeting in Keene at the Library on February 14th at 5:30.

Sean Leary received an invitation letter to a Brownfields meeting on the 21st.

7:42 p.m. Selectman Darcy made a motion to enter into non-public meeting under RSA 91-A:3, II (a) personnel, second by McCosker. The vote is as follows: Gallagher-I, Darcy-I, Diorio-I, McCosker-I, and Rideout-I. Motion passes unanimously.

7:52 p.m. Regular meeting reconvened.

Selectman Darcy made a motion to seal the minutes of the non-public meeting, second by McCosker. The vote is as follows: Gallagher-I, Darcy-I, Diorio-I, McCosker-I, and Rideout-I. Motion passes unanimously.

7:52 p.m. Selectman Darcy made a motion to adjourn, second by McCosker. Motion passes unanimously.

Respectfully Submitted,

Kim P. Worden
Secretary