

Selectmen's Meeting Minutes

Monday, March 25, 2019 at Town Hall

Present: Chairman Mike Darcy, Selectman Steve Diorio, Selectman Mike Carrier and Selectman Megan Kondrat; T.A. Jill Collins and Kim Worden. Selectman Bernie Rideout was excused.

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

Selectman Diorio made a **motion** to approve the manifests of March 25, 2019 and the public and non-public minutes of March 18, 2019, second by Carrier. Motion passes unanimously.

A Planning Board Appointment was presented. Selectman Diorio made a **motion** to approve William "Bill" Hodgman's appointment to the Planning Board, second by Kondrat. Motion passes unanimously. Selectman Diorio felt he had good background, knowledge and would be a good addition to that Board. All agreed.

T.A. Reports/Requests:

T.A. Collins informed the Board that she sent an email re: Attorney John Ratigan coming down for a Right To Know and Social Media workshop on April 30th at 6:00 p.m. She has been busy scheduling workshops on Budget Law; Knowing your Territory; and there is also a Delegation Meeting on April 2nd. She will have a non-public on personnel.

She has been looking at the Personnel Policy. It will go to the Town Attorney and then there will be a meeting with employees.

T.A. Collins brought up LED lighting and indicated that Rick will be helping to get LED lighting information and should have more information on that including prices. She noted that if lights are LED and any repair is needed, they charge \$95 per hour to repair. We now have a listing of lights in town.

T.A. Collins had a conversation with Andrew Cushing of New Hampshire Preservation Alliance re: Hope Engine Co. No. 1. NH Preservation Alliance is acting on behalf of 501c for Hope Engine and hold monies re: donations. There was question of who the *Memorandum of Understanding* (MOU) would be with. Andrew is to find out.

Chair Darcy indicated there are two pieces to this being talked about tonight: one is location and the other is to move forward; the Town has to enter into a MOU. Discussion followed on where the Selectmen would like to see it go, what location – possibly either Jackman Park or down in the river park. Discussion followed. Noted was that a grant was received for the river park and if the purpose was changed, there was a chance of having to return some money. There was also concern of safety, drainage, and the ground being essentially capped. Jackman Park concerns were visibility with the Fire Department, no easy access parking, and close proximity to the side property and Zavorotny property. Selectman Diorio asked if a foundation would be involved and the answer was yes. He liked that the park had more space but hears the issues. Selectman Kondrat noted that the river park could flood if we had a lot of rain. She thought Jackman Park being next to the fire station was nice. Selectman Carrier asked what was (formerly) at the river park site. T.A. Collins noted that they had hit oil in the past when putting drainage in as it was the property of the old mill and tannery. Three alternative town-owned sites were then discussed. Chair Darcy mentioned that currently the town owns 45 Canal Street (currently a cellar hole) however if there is an interest in it, the town may not own it for long. The next alternative is half of a field between the Church on Main Street and the Pelkey property. This is on the other side of river park, is downtown, visible, and has parking. The third possibility is the "Boy Scout Hall property" (with similar age building) in North Hinsdale.

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Selectman Kondrat felt that we should try to sell the Canal Street property if we could make money and to keep it on Main Street would be nice. Selectman Diorio felt the best option would be the property next to Pelkey or in North Hinsdale near the Boy Scout building. He likes both options. Selectman Carrier likes the property near Pelkey and keeping it on Main Street. Consensus was to plan on the Main Street location. Information is needed for who to set up the MOU with and to be in touch with the Church contact person.

Board Comments/Selectmen Discussion:

Selectman Diorio will sit in on the Parks & Rec Meeting on Thursday for Selectman Rideout.

Selectman Kondrat stated that Matt Palmer had approached her with ideas to meet with him and brainstorm. She wanted to be sure this was okay. Discussion followed including questions and opinions as to what this meeting was about. Chair Darcy noted that it seems like this should be discussed here when we are setting goals.

Chair Darcy reminded everyone that next week we are working on CIT (Counselors In Training) and finalizing that so that the following week there can be a final vote. Procedures, guidelines and goal setting will also be discussed.

Citizens Comments:

James MacDonell informed everyone that a neighboring town has a new Tax Collector that he will be mentoring over the next few months.

Matt Palmer stated that he has been approached re: parking spaces in front of the Community Center on either side and visibility issues entering and exiting the parking lot. He thinks the Board should look at this.

Lisa Borst has been checking the website and would like to urge putting a full description in the minutes of certain things, using an example of CIT. She would like it spelled out the first time. She encouraged the Board to reconsider the proposed site for the Hope Engine Building to be in North Hinsdale. In reviewing minutes of Budget, Cemetery and Select Board, she also would like clarification and/or consistency as some things were referred to in different ways.

6:30 p.m. PUBLIC HEARING opened.

6:38 p.m. PUBLIC HEARING closed.

Selectman Diorio made a **motion** to sign the Comcast Franchise Agreement, second by Carrier. Motion passes unanimously.

Lisa Borst asked if there was a program for people in need, who only heated with wood, to get wood if the Highway Department pulls up trees or limbs. Liability concerns were mentioned. Chair Darcy indicated that there is no set procedure but it doesn't go to waste.

Sandy Golden feels the website is not as functional as it could be for ease of navigation and transparency. She also had a concern with a sign at the sandpit on 119. It was pointed out that this is the property owner's matter.

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Donna Suskawicz responded to the earlier suggestion of putting the Hope Engine Building in N. Hinsdale. She stated that all mills were on Main Street and Canal Street and she wanted to keep it as close to the location of the (former) mills and as close to its original location as possible.

Ken Rooney said he had done a quick search of the website, a traffic analysis, and during January and February there were 200-odd unique IP's hitting the site.

Doug Pryor asked if alternatives to Comcast had been explored. Discussion followed including lack of options in this area. He also liked the location (between the Church and Pelkey property) for the Hope Engine building.

6:46 p.m. Selectman Diorio made a **motion** to enter into non-public under RSA 91-A:3, II (a) personnel, second by Kondrat. The vote is as follows: Darcy-I; Diorio-I; Carrier-I and Kondrat-I; Motion passes unanimously.

7:00 p.m. Regular Meeting reconvened.

7:00 p.m. Selectman Carrier made a **motion** to adjourn, second by Kondrat. Motion passes unanimously.

Respectfully Submitted,

Kim P. Worden
Secretary