

Selectmen's Meeting Minutes

Monday, April 29, 2019 at Town Hall

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

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

Selectman Diorio made a **motion** to approve the manifests of April 29, 2019 and the public and non-public minutes of April 22, 2019, second by Rideout. It was noted that the printing date on the manifest was changed (corrected) from 1949 to 2019. Motion passes unanimously.

Selectman Rideout made a **motion** to accept and sign 2019 first quarter Water Commitment in the amount of \$104,547.82 and Sewer Commitment in the amount of \$85,549.93, second by Diorio. Motion passes unanimously.

Selectman Rideout made a **motion** to have the Chair sign and approve the application for Open Container/Alcohol Permit for James MacDonell at the Community Center on August 3, 2019, second by Diorio. Motion passes unanimously.

Selectman Diorio made a **motion** to approve the 2019 1st quarter Water Abatement for Beverly Bernier, second by Rideout. Motion passes unanimously.

Next presented was an appointment for Lisa Borst as an alternate on the Planning Board. It was skipped over as Lisa indicated she would be unable to fulfill that appointment.

Selectman Kondrat made a **motion** to approve the Appointment of Beth Nadeau as an alternate on the Hinsdale Planning Board, second by Rideout. Motion passes unanimously.

Selectman Rideout made a **motion** to approve the Appointment of Rick Carrier as an alternate on the Hinsdale Zoning Board of Adjustment, second by Carrier. Motion passes unanimously.

Selectman Kondrat made a **motion** to approve Sandra Golden as a member of the Hinsdale Planning Board, second by Diorio. Motion passes unanimously.

Selectman Rideout made a motion to table the appointment of Peter Zavorotny as Deputy Treasurer, second by Carrier. His thoughts were to have a non-public and then come back. It was discussed that this is regarding an unpaid position and it did not involve an employee. Selectman Rideout withdrew his Motion to Table, second was withdrawn by Carrier. Selectman Diorio made a **motion to appoint** Peter Zavorotny as Deputy Treasurer, second by Kondrat. Discussion followed with members. The need to look at our policy and make sure things were worded appropriately was pointed out. It was clarified that the Board is taking the recommendation of the elected official. Motion passes unanimously.

Selectman Diorio made a **motion** to approve the Appointment of Maria Shaw as Deputy Tax Collector, second by Carrier. Motion passes unanimously.

Three abatements were presented due to having moved out of park/campground.

Selectman Rideout made a **motion** to approve the abatement for Ron & Barbara Reed, 50 Gunner Way for \$3.00 plus interest, second by Kondrat. Motion passes unanimously.

Selectman Diorio made a **motion** to approve the abatement for Michael Perkins, 49 Gunner Way for \$362.41 plus interest, second by Carrier. Motion passes unanimously.

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Selectman Kondrat made a **motion** to approve the abatement for Joyce Lucken, 55 Gunner Way, in the amount of \$75.98 plus interest, second by Rideout. Motion passes unanimously.

Selectman Kondrat made a **motion** to approve the Land Use Change Tax for Lesley and Andrew Parkinson, 40 Northfield Road, second by Carrier. Motion passes unanimously.

T.A. Reports/Requests:

T.A. Collins received a letter from OVB Realty, LLC requesting an abatement of water and sewer bills for 17 Pleasant Street in the amount of \$1788.83. Discussion followed re: that property. Selectman Rideout made a **motion to deny** the abatement request of OVB Realty, LLC, second by Diorio. Motion passes unanimously.

T.A. Collins asked the Board to table the Memorandum of Understanding between the Hinsdale School District and the Town of Hinsdale as there is a meeting tomorrow on this. Selectman Diorio made a **motion to table** this discussion until after the meeting to finalize the MOU between the school and town, second by Rideout. Motion passes unanimously.

T.A. Collins updated the Board on her attendance at the L-Chip grant application workshop. She indicated that it could be a useful tool in looking at our historic buildings. She will be meeting with Andrew Cushing in June to look at properties. She noted upcoming maintenance projects and the need to have an assessment plan put in place.

She will have a non-public re: personnel.

Selectman Rideout indicated there was a good Rec. meeting on Thursday. Letters for returning employees should've gone out earlier. He said Sean Leary asked to speak with Jill or Matt to share information on the Wahlberg grant to pursue a 501(3)c separately from Parks and Rec for separate fundraising.

Selectman Carrier has a Conservation Committee meeting on Wednesday. He reminded all of the Social Media Policy Workshop tomorrow evening.

Chair Darcy expressed the need to find out about reconvening the TIF District Committee and the need to redefine who the members are.

The public was reminded to limit comments to 3 minutes.

Citizens Comments included:

Joe Hammond spoke on the pool issue. He asked how it came about and what is the reasoning behind taking away 3 weeks of pool time. He felt it was hurting families and college students. Chair Darcy addressed this adding that this budget cycle, the pool budget was reduced. Rates came from Parks and Rec. recommendations. There was no discussion of time being changed and as far as the August 9th date, that was not something heard about before this came up.

Karyn Hammond indicated she was Parks and Rec secretary for 4 years and never once heard any discussion of the pool ending when day camp ended; this was never discussed as a committee.

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Chris Roberts asked who made the decision of the 8/9 date. He felt the letter to prospective returning employees was poorly written. Chair Darcy believes there is a way to approach having the pool open longer.

Liz Boggio felt it was in poor taste of a town employee to put notice on Facebook re: delinquent taxes. (It was clarified that this was an elected official's post, not a town employee). Further concerns were of the poorly written letter asking for kids' social security numbers, the indication of only allowing two days off, and no specification as to where to return the letter. Chair Darcy asked her if she could leave a copy of the letter with the Board. She also voiced concerns of working within the law regarding the number of life guards for every 10-12 kids. She stated that usually the pool is open until right before Labor Day and by closing 8/9, they are losing nearly 3 full weeks.

Tim Girroir also had pool concerns. He gave history of how the camp, pool and community center all worked and indicated he thought it was running fine just the way it was. His opinion was that the Board needs to look at that. He felt that the Parks and Rec Director needs to go if they are cutting back. He also stated that roof guards were mentioned in discussion of upcoming maintenance and he noted that roof guards can be a snow load concern and suggested getting an engineer's opinion on that.

Mike Mulligan had questions on what are trends in crime in Hinsdale re: our police department and how has funding been in the last five years. Chair Darcy addressed this and noted that the police and county have more information on this. We are second only to Keene on crime in the county. Discussion included that larger communities like Keene and State Police only hire trained applicants. Smaller communities struggle to stay competitive and retain officers. He was give a copy of the Town Report re: statistics.

Teri Sauter supported pool efforts indicating that her daughter used the pool daily and she would like to see it extended.

Kim Saunders asked if the Director has ever done a shift there to see how many people were there and to see if there were a problem with lifeguards. She also asked about bring Jr. Lifeguards back. She felt kids don't have much to do but we are continually taking away.

Lisa Borst asked who we pay for the generation (not supply) of our electricity. Discussion followed. She also asked if there are any plans for solar development on property at school. There was indication that that is a school board question but the understanding was that the structure was prohibitive.

Kathy Quaasdorf would like to see the pool availability extended to the original plan.

Lisa Prince indicated that the summer program and pool have been a whole process (in budget discussions) and cautioned all that the budget is going to start getting a lot tighter.

Amanda Sweetser supported the pool too and stressed its importance for children, life guards, and positive influences.

Kelly Savory reiterated concern of the Facebook comment made by the Tax Collector.

Julie Seymour was happy that the information on the nepotism policy will be discussed and will be fair across the board.

Sandy Golden hopes everyone will stay involved, stay engaged and would love to see more ideas. She felt it was a good idea to get involved.

Jaime Hammond supports the pool and was concerned that she can't take vacation time with her son.

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Jen Matuszewski's concerns included the letter received asking for their social security number, the fact that she is a college student and cutting three weeks of the pool being opened affects ability to help pay for college.

Kyle Rideout noted that he is a pool employee and also teaches swim lessons. Kyle also runs to Falvey's on his own time to pick up chemicals. The Director has not once been there for a shift during the day. He felt if it's not broken, don't fix it.

Ann Diorio read a statement from Parks and Rec and gave the Board the Statement of Purpose. Within 2 months what was agreed upon is already not working. There were concerns that changes should've been discussed and concerns of counterproductivity.

Kathy Venice supports the pool and used it on a daily basis.

Judy Zebrowski felt the tax bill message was very unprofessional and she supports the pool.

Ken Rooney supported this and urged citizens to talk to the Select Board.

Matt Palmer wanted to make it clear that nobody is anti-pool and nobody is anti-kid. He noted when the pool generally opens and that August 9th was chosen because when the budget was put forth in November August 9th was the tentative closing date. He discussed staffing numbers to reach a total of 10 lifeguards. The form letter that went out predated him. As far as costs, he did a rough estimate including 3 life guards and water aerobics for a week figuring \$1654.35. Income based on last year was \$155 and \$253 if concessions. Roughly the savings would be \$1200. The rationale to it was it would be easier to open back up for Labor Day weekend.

Selectman Rideout noted that for the budget year coming up, there are going to be hard decisions to be made. This includes the school, not just the municipality.

Heather Girroir commended the two young adults for speaking so well in public tonight.

Kathryn Lynch noted that she was speaking as a parent. This summer job was the only way to make money for students. The letter received this year is completely different than ever received in the past, noting the request for social security numbers. Her taxes are up too, she understands. She noted that the (August 9th pool closing date) is the first the Board heard of it; it was admitted. The Rec Committee had not heard of it. The Budget was passed for this year; think about it next year.

FURTHER COMMENTS:

Tim Girroir noted that they were told way back that this was a luxury item, the townspeople not only voted for it, they amended the request and built it bigger. For 50 years it's been open all summer and the town felt it was well worth the money. If there are going to be cuts, it needs to be brought up in advance.

Joe Hammond felt that if the pool is shutting down for 3 weeks then opened back up, the pool will be stagnant. There will be continued costs for chemicals and maintenance.

Kyle Rideout noted that he regulates the chemicals. 100-pound buckets are not cheap. This is 3 weeks of chlorine, shock, algaecide, tablets, brushes to open the pool. You'll be using chemicals for no reason.

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Ann Diorio thanked all for coming. She thinks more may attend and suggested getting rid of a few tables and putting up more chairs.

Chair Darcy discussed options and the need to determine how to best meet the requests. All agreed to work with Parks and Rec. Selectman Diorio mentioned that as a Rep. to the Budget Committee, there was never discussion to shorten the duration of the pool, that the first he heard of closing August 9th was today. He asked if all letters have been sent out to prospective potential returnees and are there some that are not being asked to come back. The answer was yes and that would be addressed in non-public. Selectman Rideout noted that he will abstain from voting as he has two grandchildren working there. It was agreed to meet with Parks & Rec next Monday night at 6:15 and this will be put on the Agenda.

All were thanked for coming in. Chair Darcy noted that during the budget process there was a period of time where there was no Parks & Rec program. He doesn't think anyone is taking this lightly, that it's serious for all and they work hard to try and maintain services and what the community wants while also keeping rates from going up.

7:35 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; Rideout-I; Carrier-I and Kondrat-I; Motion passes unanimously.

8:51 p.m. Regular Meeting reconvened.

Selectman Diorio made a **motion to seal** the non-public minutes, second by Kondrat. The vote is as follows: Darcy-I; Diorio-I; Rideout-I; Carrier-I and Kondrat-I; Motion passes unanimously.

8:52 p.m. Selectman Diorio made a **motion** to adjourn, second by Kondrat. Motion passes unanimously.

Respectfully Submitted,

Kim P. Worden
Secretary