

*Selectmen's Meeting Minutes*

Monday, June 3, 2019 at Town Hall

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

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

All interested went outside with Kathryn Lynch, Community Development Coordinator to discuss Complete Streets. Kathryn gave the Board a copy of Downtown Crosswalk Improvement Project and showed everyone where the bump outs in Phase I would be located (near Town Hall at the widest and most dangerous spot). There will also be a bump out across the street. This will calm traffic and give a clear view. She indicated that drainage would need to happen across the street. There will be rapidly reflecting solar beacons near the crosswalk. The cost is \$60,000 with \$46,000 coming from a grant received. \$7000 is out of pocket and the balance in-kind.

Discussion followed. There will be a survey done tomorrow and RFP in a few weeks.

Chair Darcy noted an opportunity to possibly be awarded some blight resistant American Chestnut trees for public spaces.

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Selectman Diorio made a **motion** to approve the manifests of May 28, 2019 and June 4, 2019 and the public and non-public minutes of May 21, 2019, second by Rideout. Motion passes unanimously.

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Selectman Diorio made a **motion** for the Chair to sign and approve an Application for Permit for the display of Display Fireworks for July 3, 2019, second by Rideout. Motion passes unanimously.

Next presented was an abatement for NH Housing Finance Authority for \$941.60 for 2019 1st quarter taxes on 20 River Road. It was clarified that this is by statute. Selectman Diorio made a **motion** to approve the Abatement in the amount of \$941.60 for 20 River Road, second by Carrier. Motion passes unanimously.

Applications for Open Container/Alcohol Permits were presented for Allen Johnson at Pavilion on 8/7/19, Jessica or Candy Sparks for Community Center on 7/20/19, and Cassandra Barry at Community Center on 6/9/19. Selectman Rideout made a **motion** to have the Chair sign and approve all three applications, second by Kondrat. Motion passes unanimously.

Selectman Kondrat made a **motion** to have the Chair sign and approve a Town Hall Facility Rental Request for Class of 2020 for Homecoming Dance on 9/14/19, second by Diorio. Motion passes unanimously.

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*T.A. Reports/Requests:*

In Jill's absence, Kim Worden presented a Representation Letter to Roberts & Greene, PLLC Auditors for the Board's signature. Selectman Diorio made a **motion** to sign and continue to use (the firm), second by Rideout. Motion passes unanimously.

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6:15 Rick Carrier was on the Agenda to speak about street lights. He has been looking into conversion to LED's which would be a savings in the long run. He indicated that he has mapped out 70 of 167 street lights and he and Jill have

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spoken with representatives. To switch over, the Town recoups the cost of install within 2 ½ to 3 years. There is a 10-year warranty on LED bulbs (for the fixture, we cover the install). The cost would be around \$25,000 to replace all 167 and Jill thought she could find money in this budget to replace 1/3 (or 50 – 60). Rick asked if the Board was interested in pursuing this. Discussion and questions followed. Selectman Carrier asked about the cost savings. For 70 bulbs and labor it would cost around \$10,000 (and \$13,000 to run annually) saving about \$7200 in the first year on a \$10,000 expenditure. Chair Darcy attended a Planning Conference this weekend in New London where energy was discussed. Selectman Kondrat asked how long the bulbs last. Rick thought maybe 15 years, depending on hours. Selectman Diorio asked if this was an opportunity to add a few if the Board would like to see more action to light up areas. Chair Darcy voiced concerns including that we aren't at the 5% we're trying to keep and we are questioned yearly at Town Meeting if there is anything \$10,000 or over in the budget. This is at that threshold. He suggested and the Board agreed to move forward, put a plan together for the whole project, and put in an Article for \$25,000 for Town Meeting. Kathryn suggested starting a capital reserve fund for the ability to plan for the future on this.

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6:30 Sheri Green, Community Manager from Thicket Hill was present. Following discussion as to why she was asked to be present tonight, there was discussion on the problem of some campers asking to be taxable (vs. registered) and then moving out without telling anyone. This is a misdemeanor and related concerns were discussed. It was explained that this is a nuisance and costs a lot in labor. Sheri will be happy to let us know if she notices that or if properties change ownership. Selectman Diorio suggested perhaps giving campers an info packet. Kathryn Lynch, Community Development Coordinator noted that she has had a lot more communication and help from Sheri than in the past with prior management.

Selectman Rideout asked if a lot of campers bring ATVs. Sheri indicated the majority who do are not seasonal campers. Selectman Rideout noted an issue where landowners' properties are being abused.

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In Jill's absence, Kim Worden presented a request for transfer of \$1216.00 from the CDBG account to the general fund. Discussion followed with Rick Carrier. Selectman Diorio made a **motion** to request to close account and transfer funds, second by Carrier. Motion passes unanimously.

*Board Comments:*

Selectman Rideout attended the Rec Committee Meeting and indicated that it went well, it was a good meeting.

Selectman Diorio noted there is a Bridge Committee Meeting Wednesday afternoon and there is a School Board Meeting Wednesday night. Next week is a Fire Department Building Committee Meeting. He learned today that one site they're looking at, that was not to be marketed for some time, is to be marketed this week.

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Adam Belville, Corporal on Hinsdale Police Department was present. He indicated the reason was the department is facing a crisis re: recruiting and retention and it is to a boiling point at this time. They are currently short staffed by 4 fulltime positions. During a recent recruitment, they received 30-40 resumes and of the 10 or so who showed, they couldn't pass the fitness exam or there were other reasons they weren't hired. They are in crisis mode re: staffing. Officers are required to work more hours, there are numerous calls, added stress, safety issues and backup at times comes from surrounding towns. Even though health insurance is great, starting pay is significantly less here than other towns. We are unable to compete. He expressed his concerns, including not being able to attract any precertified officers, as he read from a statement. Chair Darcy thanked him for coming in and starting the dialogue, noting that if

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they are looking at anything re: money, this is the time (before budgets). Officer Belville supplied a copy of the letter he read from for the record.

### *Board Comments (continued):*

Selectman Kondrat had questions for Selectman Rideout re: the Parks and Rec Meeting and playground discussion. Sean offered to give an update during citizen comments.

Selectman Kondrat suggested that perhaps it is a good time/opportunity for the Board to look at the Personnel Policy. It was suggested to have a workshop in three weeks. Kim was asked to email copies of the Personnel Policy to all Select Board members.

Selectman Carrier has a Conservation Committee meeting this Wednesday. He thanked other members for participation in the recent Memorial Day Parade.

Chair Darcy noted that Eversource sent a notice re: their intention to increase revenue rates. Discussion followed. Chair Darcy also attended a Planning and Zoning – Land Use conference and noted the differences in views of various communities.

### *Citizen Comments:*

Kathryn Lynch attended an Existing Bridge Committee Meeting and noted that communication needs to begin between the State and Town about responsibility for the existing bridges after construction. A lot of discussion is being put on hold. The State would use bollards/abutments. The Committee is working on this and there needs to be communication. Kathryn also noted that Beautification put on a well-attended Art in the Park event this past weekend. Around 350 people attended and a local author, John Steven Gurney set up a caricature booth.

Lisa Borst noted improvements being done in Chesterfield and wondered if similar changes could be made near junction of 63 and 119. Discussion followed to include that this is a State matter. She also asked if we have a Scout Troop (Eagle project) or 4-H that may be able to assist with playground concerns. Discussion followed.

Matt Palmer also noted the well-attended Art in the Park event recently.

Lisa Borst would like to see bright lights downtown.

Rick Carrier asked if the Board has thought of making the park non-smoking and cited a recent circumstance. Discussion followed. Chair Darcy indicated that they haven't found a way to eliminate smoking without interfering with public space. This could be revisited, however.

Sean Leary reminded all of the joint meeting with the School Board on the 17<sup>th</sup> at the PD. He also attended the Land Use conference. Sean reminded all that several meetings ago, Chair Darcy asked Jill to get together the TIF Committee. Sean asked if there has been any progress on that. He indicated, responding to Megan's earlier inquiry, that the Planning Board voted to open up the Master Plan for edits. For the recreation part, they will look at all recreational areas in town. Part of the process will be how to do this within a reasonable timeframe and plan. Kathryn, Sean, Amanda Sweetser and Matt Palmer will be working on this. There will be a public survey for input and they will be planning some forums. They have also looked at programs that can help out similar programs for sustainability and not relying on taxpayer money as much. They have fundraised for Summer Camp Scholarships.

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7:34 p.m. Selectman Kondrat made a **motion** to enter into non-public under RSA 91-A:3, II (a) personnel with Rick Carrier, Finance Director, second by Carrier. The vote is as follows: Darcy-I; Diorio-I; Rideout-I; Carrier-I and Kondrat-I; Motion passes unanimously.

7:45 p.m. Regular Meeting reconvened. The Board will discuss and respond to this matter before 7/1. The vote will be in public.

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

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7:46 p.m. Selectman Kondrat made a **motion** to enter into non-public under RSA 91-A:3, II (e ) negotiation and (c ) reputation with James MacDonell, Tax Collector, second by Diorio. The vote is as follows: Darcy-I; Diorio-I; Rideout-I; Carrier-I and Kondrat-I; Motion passes unanimously.

8:39 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.

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8:40 p.m. Selectman Diorio made a **motion** to enter into non-public under RSA 91-A:3, II (b) hiring with Kim Worden on behalf of T.A. Collins, second by Carrier. The vote is as follows: Darcy-I; Diorio-I; Rideout-I; Carrier-I and Kondrat-I; Motion passes unanimously.

Selectman Diorio made a **motion** to approve the slate of rehires to the camp and pool, second by Kondrat. Motion passes unanimously.

8:44 p.m. Regular Meeting reconvened.

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

Chair Darcy indicated that he had a non-public re: personnel.

8:45 p.m. Selectman Carrier made a **motion** to enter into non-public under RSA 91-A:3, II (a) personnel, second by Rideout. The vote is as follows: Darcy-I; Diorio-I; Rideout-I; Carrier-I and Kondrat-I; Motion passes unanimously.

9:05 p.m. Regular Meeting reconvened.

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

9:06 p.m. Selectman Rideout made a **motion** to adjourn, second by Diorio. Motion passes unanimously.

Respectfully Submitted,

Kim P. Worden  
Secretary