

Selectmen's Meeting Minutes

Monday, November 4, 2019 at Town Hall

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

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

New Business:

Selectman Diorio made a **motion** to approve the manifests of November 4, 2019 and the public and non-public minutes of October 28, 2019, second by Rideout. 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 sign the Appointment for Melissa Evans to be promoted from Detective to Lieutenant, second by Kondrat. Motion passes unanimously.

Selectman Kondrat made a **motion** to approve the water abatement for Bernier at 532 Plain Road for 3rd quarter 2019 due to right-of-way for well, second by Carrier. Motion passes unanimously.

A Memo from the Beautification Committee was read re: recent damage of flower barrels due to vandalism. Selectman Rideout made a **motion** to accept donations up to \$1000 for replacement barrels, plaques, soil and flowers, second by Diorio. Motion passes unanimously. Selectman Diorio thanked the clean-up crew.

A second Memo was read re: a call from NH DOT to discuss plans for the boat launch on Prospect Street and meeting in Hinsdale with the TA and a member of the Select Board to be followed up with another meeting in Concord with NH Fish & Game and NH DERC. T.A. Collins discussed this with Selectman Carrier and the two of them will attend. Selectman Diorio made a **motion** for T.A. Collins and Selectman Carrier to attend these meetings, second by Rideout. Motion passes unanimously.

T.A. Reports/Requests:

T.A. Collins reported that she had copies of draft MS-535 received from the Auditors which need the Board's signatures. She discussed this and gave suggestions to put more away for the overlay. It was noted that in setting the tax rate, the Tax Collector would like to get this done ASAP. Chair Darcy may call a quick meeting next Tuesday to discuss and sign in order to set tax rate. Selectman Carrier made a **motion** to sign the MS-535, second by Rideout. Motion passes unanimously.

Chair Darcy read from Chapter 654:1 of the Voters Checklist re: domicile. He would like this a part of the minutes (Title LXIII Elections, Chapter 654 Voters and Checklists, Eligibility, Section 654:1 Voter; Office Holder).

Lisa Prince was present to go over the form (sample employee earnings and cost analysis) she previously presented and to have general discussion on practices. She thought it was something the Board might consider. There was discussion on total compensation packages. She asked for an explanation on the process re: health benefits. T.A. Collins explained that she and the finance person investigated costs and met with Health Trust who came up with an array of offerings

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which included additional contributions. An Excel Spreadsheet was created, they met with employees, employees wanted to meet with Selectmen. Lisa asked if the Board received the Spreadsheet the night of the meeting and if the subcommittee previously mentioned ever happened. Discussion followed. Selectman Diorio felt that the dollars were so little on the tax consequences. Selectman Kondrat noted that the decision was made on the night the info. was received. She had more questions following the meeting and feels there is a pattern where there isn't a significant amount of time to make a decision. Questions and discussion followed. T.A. Collins noted that HealthTrust came out with rates in October for December time limit for the January contract. Selectman Kondrat recalled a meeting where there was discussion to create a committee and felt there shouldn't have been a discussion into decision in a public forum. She suggested that going forward, having a different process on making these decisions. Chair Darcy noted the challenges faced in finding the ability to pay enough to get and retain quality employees. He cautioned that we can cut and hardline a lot of things, however when it comes to employees, we will get what we are willing to pay for. He described his recent interviews finding the health insurance benefits offered were equal to or better. It was agreed that going forward, for all non-time-sensitive issues, there was no problem with taking information, having discussion, and tabling for the next meeting.

Tax Anticipation Note (TAN) was discussed and how our billing cycle works. We are hit in December with many bills and money hasn't come in yet. By getting the tax bill out early, we may be able to get payments earlier and avoid this note and related expenses. The county tax bill is mandated by December 17th.

Board Comments:

Selectman Diorio mentioned a quick marketing concern noticed and made a suggestion.

Selectman Carrier has a Conservation Committee Meeting this Wednesday.

Chair Darcy noted some non-publics.

Sean Leary asked for clarification of the overlay figures for the MS-535. TA Collins explained that \$300,000 from last year's overlay would remain with an additional \$200,000 placed into overlay from the unassigned fund balance. This money could be returned to the unassigned fund balance pending decisions from current abatement proceedings.

Police Chief Todd Faulkner was in to offer and read his resignation letter outlining his career in Hinsdale starting in 1997, and his advancements, training, experience, and opportunities, to include becoming Chief in 2012. He will be taking a position as State Supervisor the New Hampshire Internet Crimes Against Children Task Force in partnership with Cheshire County Sheriff's Office. Chief Faulkner indicated that his resignation was effective January 6, 2020 and thanked the Board for the opportunity to serve as Chief of Police. Chair Darcy noted that the Board accepted his resignation with regret and wished him the best in his future endeavors.

6:42 p.m. Selectman Diorio made a **motion** to enter into non-public under RSA 91-A:3, II (e) negotiation with the Tax Collector, second by Rideout. The vote is as follows: Darcy-I; Diorio-I; Rideout-I; Carrier-I; and Kondrat-I; Motion passes unanimously.

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7:12 p.m. Regular meeting reconvened.

Selectman Diorio made a **motion not to seal** the minutes. There was no second. Motion fails.

Selectman Carrier made a motion to seal the minutes, second by Kondrat. The vote was as follows: Darcy-I; Diorio-No; Rideout-I; Carrier-I; and Kondrat-I; Motion passes.

7:17 p.m. Selectman Diorio made a **motion** to enter into non-public under RSA 91-A:3, II (e) negotiation with Chief Faulkner and members of law enforcement, second by Kondrat. The vote is as follows: Darcy-I; Diorio-I; Rideout-I; Carrier-I; and Kondrat-I; Motion passes unanimously.

8:05 p.m. Regular meeting reconvened.

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

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

9:07 p.m. Regular meeting reconvened.

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

Selectman Diorio made a **motion** to accept the resignation of Officer Paul Samataro as of 11/6/19, second by Rideout. The vote was as follows: Darcy-I; Diorio-I; Rideout-I; Carrier-I; and Kondrat-I; Motion passes unanimously.

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

9:23 p.m. Regular meeting reconvened.

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

9:24 p.m. Selectman Diorio made a motion to adjourn, second by Rideout. Motion passes unanimously.

Respectfully Submitted,

Kim P. Worden
Secretary