

Selectmen's Meeting Minutes

Monday, May 4, 2020 Remote Meeting

Present: Chairman Steve Diorio, Selectman Bernie Rideout, Selectman Mike Carrier, Selectman Megan Kondrat, and Selectman Richard Johnson; T.A. Jill Collins and Kim Worden (all via Zoom). Police Chief Rataj, Sean Leary, Mike Darcy, and James MacDonell also participated via Zoom. Jack White and one other listened via Zoom.

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

Chair Diorio began with a moment of silence in honor of Lewis Major, who recently passed away.

Chair Diorio opened by noting that this is the second remote meeting via Zoom and he has reviewed helpful information sent along by Sean. Today we will identify who we are, where we are, and if anyone is with us: Chair Diorio identified that he is in a room, solely; Selectmen Carrier in a room solely; Selectman Rideout in sunroom solely; Selectman Kondrat in a room, solely; Selectman Johnson in his home office, solely; T.A. Collins in her family room, solely; Mike Darcy in his office, solely; Sean Leary in home office, solely; James MacDonell, on his porch, solely; Kim Worden in her office at Town Hall, solely. There was also Chief Rataj, Jack White, and an anonymous listener.

Selectman Carrier made a **motion to approve** the manifests of 4/27/20 and 5/4/20 and the public minutes of 4/20/20 and the non-public minutes for both 4/6/20 and 4/20/20, second by Kondrat. Selectman Johnson noted that he had forwarded to the Board an update to propose (for the motion he made on the minutes of 4/20/20). After discussion, and noting possible further suggestion(s), he will make a new motion during a future meeting. A vote was taken and motion passes unanimously.

New Business:

An abatement was presented for 1st quarter water for Beverly Bernier in the amount of \$43.90 re: right-of-way for the well. Selectman Kondrat made a **motion to have the Chair sign and approve** the abatement in the amount of \$43.90, second by Carrier. Motion passes unanimously.

Water and Sewer Commitments for 1st quarter 2020 (Water \$108,908.46 and Sewer \$87,064.66) were presented. Selectman Rideout made a **motion to have the Chair sign the 1st Quarter 2020 Commitments**, second by Kondrat. Motion passes unanimously.

Next presented were Notice of Intent to Cut Wood or Timber (April 1, 2020 to March 31, 2021); and Report of Wood or Timber Cut (April 1, 2019 – March 31, 2020) for Troy and Rachael Benedict re: Map 30, Lot 93 (Plain Road). After a question from Selectman Rideout and clarification that this is not the property discussed a couple of weeks ago, Selectman Carrier made a **motion to approve and have the Chair sign** the Notice of Intent to Cut and Report of Cut, second by Kondrat. Motion passes unanimously.

Chief Rataj and Craig Winkler were present via Zoom for the Appointment of Craig as Detective for the Town of Hinsdale. Chair Diorio read the Appointment and conducted the oath. The Board agreed that Craig and Chair Diorio will stop in at Town Hall tomorrow to sign the original Appointment document.

Mike Darcy and Sean Leary were present representing Hinsdale Economic Development Corporation (HEDC) for a presentation. Mike explained that their mission is to further economic development in Hinsdale. They would like to assist the Town in marketing the Town. They have a new website; a video series has been done with information provided. Tonight they are here to share results of what they have been working on over the last number of months.

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They would like to integrate the HEDC design with the Town's site in order to create a cohesive experience. The HEDC website is found at: www.hinsdaleadvantage.com. The marketing video is linked in. There are four supplemental supporting videos: Land, Location, People, Potential. A portion of the video was played. It was noted that each video supports various selling points and they will also have a marketing piece. This is part of a much bigger plan. They will be working with property owners to help market their lots as well by pointing out highlights, contact info. and video view of the property. The HEDC website wants to tie in to the Town website in order to be consistent and informative. Sean helped to design graphic elements of the Town site. There were two spaces purposely left undone, knowing they would want to expand upon, with placeholders: The *Community* section and the *Business* section. Ideas were described for the *Business* section to include: mirroring what is on the HEDC site, link a Welcome video, summarize selling points, add Planning information, Copy of the Masterplan, links, etc. The *Community* page ideas would mirror on the HEDC site, list areas, parks, events available in Hinsdale for community awareness as well as from the outside looking in. They want to have a responsive website and discussed ideas in accomplishing that.

Selectman Kondrat was impressed with the presentation and asked if Sean would be willing to work on the Town's site. Sean agreed that they could count him as a resource and was happy to help with consulting and providing design elements if asked. Mike indicated that they are asking permission to revamp the Business Page and Community Page of the Town's site in order to provide a similar experience and the same quality with a cohesive message. Discussion followed.

Selectman Rideout made a motion to allow Sean Leary and Mike Darcy temporary access to the website, second by Kondrat. Discussion followed. T.A. Collins asked if this would be access to the Community and Business page. Chair Diorio would like this to be a joint effort with Rick and Jill for this project. Sean is happy to work with them however it works best and that all are comfortable. Selectman Kondrat suggested that if they are revamping and designing those two areas, that that look at other areas too to make the site user-friendly. Mike Darcy thinks that if they work with Jill and/or Rick, they can show them what they are doing (use collaborative approach). Selectman Rideout withdrew his original motion, second by Kondrat.

Selectman Kondrat made a **motion to allow** Sean Leary and Mike Darcy to collaborate with Jill and Rick to enhance or restructure the Town Website and for work on the HEDC portion, second by Carrier. Motion passes unanimously.

Chair Diorio attended a recent remote Bridge Meeting and will forward information and ideas to Sean and Mike. Sean and Mike indicated that they will have an Update area for current projects and sidewalk project. They thanked the Board for their time.

T.A. Collins had a letter to be signed addressed to State Hazard Mitigation, Homeland Security re: update for hazardous mitigation (working with Southwest Regional Planning Commission), fully funded by Homeland Security. She indicated that they would like to move forward. Selectman Kondrat **made a motion to have the Chair sign the letter** to the State Mitigation Planner, second by Carrier. Motion passes unanimously.

T.A. Collins presented the Summer Schedule for Meetings noting that the next meeting is on May 18th and starting June 1st they will meet every other week until Labor Day (and then meet weekly again). All agreed.

T.A. Collins indicated that she received something to start discussion on opening up workplaces and preparing to take steps forward. She also met with Sarah and Tammy re: camp. She indicated that they are planning and working on it with a few ideas but it remains a total unknown (as to what may take place).

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Chief Rataj noted the following:

Staffing: Craig Winkler was hired today. Regarding hiring, they have had a minor setback where a recent candidate that committed to Hinsdale has decided to stay where they were. They had a meeting on April 25th with the hiring board and the board did not feel there were any good fits for full-time, however they have agreed on a part-time employee. They are waiting on the final process for another candidate. On Thursday, May 7th the hiring board would like to again have Selectman Carrier assist. There were no objections and Selectman Carrier agreed.

He updated the Board on the computer database costs which he believes will be around \$15,000 before some rebates and costs of \$5000-6000 per year after that. He continues to work on IT concerns.

Board Comments:

Selectman Johnson noted that Town Financials was on the Agenda. It was determined that it was left on there from the last meeting. Going forward he would like them. T.A. Collins indicated that they were not ready until after the 15th. He requested GL as backup and he was fine with digital form.

Chair Diorio participated in an existing Bridge Meeting. They are still on target for August/September bid process.

Chair Diorio mentioned that Lewis Major recently passed away, noting his involvement with the town, community and school over many years including Selectmen, Fire Department, Budget Committee, donation of land that the PD is situated on, and Lions Club, to name a few. The family is setting up a Scholarship in his name and discussion followed on contributing to the Scholarship or to the Hinsdale Volunteer Fire Department. Selectman Kondrat made a **motion to donate** \$500 to the Lewis Major Scholarship Fund to support graduating seniors from Hinsdale High, second by Johnson. The vote is as follows: Diorio-I; Rideout-I; Kondrat-I; and Johnson-I. Carrier abstained. Motion passes.

Citizen Comments:

Mike Darcy told the Board he has reached out to Mike Bentley re: the Thomas property which is covered in trash and he is trying to get permission to clean it up. He wondered if the Board would be willing to contribute bags and the pickup of the bags. Discussion followed. All agreed it was a good idea to supply bags and to leave bags along the road for pickup. He will move forward on that and be back in touch. Selectman Carrier suggested involving the Conservation Commission as they had planned a cleanup day earlier which had to be canceled.

Sean Leary had nothing definite to report on yet.

7:18 p.m. Selectman Carrier made a **motion** to adjourn, second by Kondrat. Motion passes unanimously.

Respectfully Submitted,

Kim P. Worden
Secretary