

Selectmen's Meeting Minutes

Monday, June 15, 2020 remote meeting held at Hinsdale Middle/High School Library

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 in person). Police Chief Rataj, Sarah Hudon, and Kathryn Lynch, (all in person). Sean Leary, Rick Carrier, James MacDonell, Jocelyn Frain, Theresa Diorio, "Mary Johnson", "Sara", and Karyn Hammond, connected/participated via Zoom.

6:00 p.m. Chairman Diorio called the meeting to order. He noted the meeting was being held live at the Middle/High School Library and that the Governor releases reopening to include guidelines for more than nine to gather and referred all to the state website. He indicated that he will have a non-public re: personnel.

Selectman Rideout made a **motion to approve** the manifests of 6/8/20 and 6/15/20 and public and non-public minutes of 6/1/20, second by Kondrat. Selectman Johnson had a question re: annual lease payments and T.A. Collins responded that these were a one-time payment. Motion passes unanimously.

New Business:

First presented were two Applications from Boisvert Construction to Connect to the Municipal Water System and to Connect to the Municipal Sewer System at 53 Brattleboro Road (Map 46 Lot 42). Selectman Rideout made a **motion to approve** the Water & Sewer hookups for Boisvert Construction at 53 Brattleboro Road, second by Kondrat. Motion passes unanimously.

Next presented was a Vendor's Permit Application #00120V for Mary's Kitchen LLC to be located at 897 Brattleboro Road, Hinsdale from July 1, 2020 through November 30, 2020. This is in the Sandri location. Selectman Carrier made a **motion to approve** the Vendor's Permit for Mary's Kitchen LLC from 7/1/20-11/30/20, second by Rideout. Selectman Johnson asked if it passed all codes and T.A. Collins indicated that it did. Motion passes unanimously.

T.A. Reports/Requests:

T.A. Collins presented a letter for signatures re: Mary's Bar & Grill for serving liquor outside at A-1. She indicated that this is a letter for the State saying that the Town had no problem, it is a formality for the State. Selectman Kondrat made a **motion to approve** the letter re: Mary's Bar & Grill, second by Carrier. Motion passes unanimously.

T.A. Collins informed the Board that she is looking at reopening Town Hall. She presented them with what was described as basically a draft policy ("*Hinsdale Town Hall Plan To Reopen To The Public*", June 15, 2020) to begin to try and come up with a way to reopen Town Hall. She indicated that foot traffic will go in one direction, keeping socially distant, having alternate-day appointments, entrance and exit directions, waiting spots in foyers, etc. Chair Diorio asked if there was concern of roaming throughout the building. She suggested putting up election-type barriers. She is looking at July 1st reopening. After a question from Chair Diorio, T.A. Collins stated that this is guidelines, not a policy. Discussion included that the Board will email comments and suggestions for this to T.A. Collins. The draft has to be flexible. Chair Diorio asked if T.A. Collins will be talking with Town Clerk, Julie Seymour. T.A. Collins indicated she has been and we will continue working as we are now, except adding scheduled appointments.

T.A. Collins has done *Invitations to Bid* for Fuel Oil and for Garbage Pickup. Bids will be in towards the end of the month. She indicated that Triple T plans to bid but price will go up. She indicated that Waste Management and Casella are interested in bidding.

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Kathryn Lynch, Community Development Coordinator was present to present and discuss abatements. She had four abatements: two utility and two residential. M&N Assessors made recommendations on the residential.

The first was re: George Wright at 108 Indian Acres. The house was in very poor condition and Mr. Wright remodeled the entire home. The assessors suggested abating the taxable value of \$35,300 for 2019 only. Discussion followed. Selectman Rideout **made a motion to approve** the abatement for George Wright for one tax year only, 2019, in the amount of \$1202.67, second by Kondrat. Motion passes unanimously.

Next discussed was Herbert and Melissa Stephens at 9 Tara Hill Lane. The assessor looked at comparables and didn't see a reason to lower the assessment and recommended to deny. Discussion followed. Selectman Carrier made a **motion to deny** the abatement for Herbert & Melissa Stephens, second by Rideout. Motion passes unanimously.

The next abatements were from Eversource and Northern New England Telephone (Fairpoint). George E. Sansoucy, PE, LLC Engineers and Appraisers recommended denying both. It was noted that both currently have active cases. Selectman Kondrat made a **motion to deny both** Eversource and New England Telephone abatements, second by Rideout. Motion passes unanimously. Selectman Johnson was impressed by the work and thought that went into the utility recommendations.

Board Comments:

Selectman Carrier asked if it was still possible to continue with Zoom meetings. T.A. Collins indicated that It is, noting that she ordered webcams months ago and is still waiting. She suggests using Town Hall in order to social distance when group numbers can increase.

Chair Diorio responded to a prior question of Selectman Johnson noting that a joint meeting with the School Board is planned for some time in September.

Selectman Rideout discussed his thought for a letter of release for incoming campers. T.A. Collins noted that in the State of New Hampshire, waivers don't matter. Most agreed it was better to have some type of waiver of liability, than not to.

Selectman Carrier noted that Carl Britt needs appointment papers for the Conservation Commission.

Selectman Kondrat will comment later re: Taryn Lane.

Chair Diorio will have a non-public re: personnel later.

Citizen Comments: Chair Diorio asked for comments:

Sean Leary will cancel the Planning Board Meeting for tomorrow as there is nothing on the Agenda and Emergency Order #23 is still on.

James MacDonell noted he is still having trouble hearing the Board (via Zoom).

Rick Carrier was on mute. Did not comment.

Jocelyn Frain will comment later.

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Mary Johnson did not respond.

Theresa Diorio had no comment.

Kathryn Lynch had no comment.

Chief Rataj asked Selectman Carrier if he could participate in the next hiring process on Sunday 6/21 for three highly qualified applicants. Selectman Carrier was unable to participate on Sunday. Chair Diorio offered to participate.

Chief Rataj noted that they have been getting a large number of calls for service at Taryn Lane (access to trails) with heavy activity, Plain Road traffic and speeding on Carpenter Drive, Monteiro, and Taryn Lane. There have been many complaints (including from other riders) of 60 or 70 trucks, bonfires, barbeques, trash dumping, drinking, etc. Fish and Game have been on scene and issued \$2000 in tickets in a day. There is travel from MA, CT, and VT to use trails as well as use from some of our residents. Thicket Hill Campground has reported negative interactions with campers. Chief Rataj has spoken with park management. The road agent has assisted in blocking off an entrance. There have been no problems since Taryn was blocked off and Chief Rataj did not feel there was any negative economic impact. Selectman Kondrat felt there could be some loss of revenue (registering in NH).

This is a temporary blocking of the trail with 3 or 4 concrete blocks. Chief Rataj has spoken with the Road Agent and Fire Department and a fence and lock will be installed for Fire Department access.

Selectman Kondrat noted that she would have preferred to know the trail was being blocked beforehand as she has had questions from residents. She added that as long as there was no cost and that the property owners are okay; she was glad it helped.

Chief Rataj's decision for blocking the trail resulted from high call volume, the cost of overtime and paying Chesterfield to assist; the bottom line being the property owner didn't want them there anymore.

Members of Rec Committee were present (via Zoom) and Program Director, Sarah Hudon was present in person. Chair Diorio recognized Sean Leary, Chair and Karyn Hammond. Jocelyn Frain was also present via Zoom and Chair Diorio read a letter she had sent to the Board via email.

Sarah was present as Program Director and to present the recommendation from Parks and Rec for camp. They went through guidelines to see how this could work. Sixteen counselors were budgeted for and only five are returning. She has met with Tammy Stebbins and Mary Ann O'Malley.

There are three options: No Camp, Traditional Camp (which is not a reality this year), or a ½-day Modified Program.

They can have no more than 8 kids with 2 counselors (4 kids per 1 adult), resulting in 20 to possibly 24 kids. The answer for June was no camp. They could tentatively open for July 6th and have been trying to figure out what is workable with the guidelines. The thoughts are to stagger drop offs traveling one way with parents remaining in their car, being masked and providing their own pens to complete paperwork. Temperatures need to be taken. Answers to question need to be logged. Hands need to be washed. Supplies cannot be shared and staff needs to be available to clean (bathrooms to be cleaned each time). There can be no playground use and need to determine whether pool can/will be used. She discussed whether or not camps were open in nearby towns. They have tried to determine how to have camp and suggestion is to have 1st and 2nd grade for 2 weeks; 3rd and 4th grade for two weeks; and 5th and 6th grade for 2

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weeks. Discussion on counselors returning, certifications, and training were discussed. Also discussed was sending a letter out to parents re: orientation and expectations. Also mentioned lunches to be provided, keeping campers and counselors safe, whether there is a way to gauge the number interested and cost. The usual cost is \$200 for 6 weeks. Parks & Rec recommended \$30 per week for the 1/2 Day Program. If there is an evening workshop, the cost would be \$5.00. They support the ½ day program and her ability to make restrictions work.

Selectman Rideout asked about the pool. Discussion followed to include guidelines finalized on 6/11. Sarah indicated that we can open, however, it would be by appointment only keeping 6 ft. distance on deck and in the pool. It is a small pool. Two of the ten allowed would be lifeguards. Changing rooms cannot be used, they would need to come ready to swim, and entire facility must be cleaned. Other area pools and challenges were discussed. Also, among challenges are temperature checks, questions for all using pool, excessive pool cleaning, and bottleneck issues. Selectman Carrier asked if we *should open*, even though we *can*. Selectman Kondrat added that it may be the perfect year to get the maintenance and painting done. That was discussed. T.A. Collins noted that draining, painting, and filling the pool is already budgeted for. Selectman Johnson asked if that included the small kiddie pool. Discussion followed on that to include there were chemical issues due to its closure. Selectman Johnson noted that people voted to have a pool, the need to maintain it, and if we can attain that this year, great. T.A. Collins added that there is an expendable trust for the pool.

Sean from Parks & Rec noted that they were not being acknowledged (on Zoom). He noted that Parks & Rec voted at last meeting on the following:

1. Go with the ½ day Morning Camp Program and evening workshops. The Board has full confidence in and supports Sarah on this.
2. Fees associated with it. They recommend \$30 per week per child and \$5 per child per workshop.

Theresa Diorio thanked Sarah. She wanted to see some type of program. She asked Sarah about ability to hire others who have applied and asked if they were able to hire prior volunteers at HASP. Discussion followed. She acknowledged there is a lot going on and it is hard to plan. T.A. Collins added that only if they are CPR and First-Aid trained and there is an issue as to whether or not we can do background checks. Chair Diorio noted that this could be looked at case-by-case. Sean Leary suggested that Sarah needs to be able to get moving on this, hoping there can be a decision tonight. They have talked about it over and over; kids need to be able to do something (realizing they can't reach all) and she needs a go-ahead. He felt we will be seeing a lot of this regulated behavior, that Sarah has great ideas and has worked hard with the counselors.

Selectman Carrier made a **motion** to go with the recommendation for 2 weeks per age group program for Camp (½ day Morning Camp Program), second by Kondrat. Motion passes unanimously.

Selectman Johnson asked about camp having counselor and jr. counselor as in years past. Sarah noted that last summer that was re-vamped to Counselors-In-Training where they were asked to pay and no one applied. Discussion followed. Sarah indicated that she would love to see something like that again and is working on a binder for that. She wants to get camp accreditation done and would like to present something for next summer.

After discussion, Selectman Rideout made a **motion** that the Pool won't be open this year, that pool maintenance will be performed with money saved, and the bid to go to Falvey to perform needed maintenance to bring the pool up to performance level, second by Kondrat. Motion passes unanimously.

Public portion of the meeting ended.

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7:29 p.m. Selectman Carrier made a **motion** to enter into non-public under RSA 91-A:3, II (b) hiring, with Chief Rataj, second by Rideout. The vote is as follows: Diorio-I; Rideout-I; Carrier-I; Kondrat-I; and Johnson-I; Motion passes unanimously.

7:32 p.m. Regular meeting reconvened. Chief Rataj left.

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

7:41 p.m. Regular meeting reconvened.

Discussion followed on sealing the minutes. Selectman Kondrat commented that she had no problem with it being in open meeting. No motion was made.

T.A. Collins asked for direct deposit applications from anyone that doesn't currently use it and gave reasons. She intends to ask the Fire Department to do the same.

7:44 p.m. Selectman Carrier made a **motion** to adjourn, second by Rideout. Motion passes unanimously.

Respectfully Submitted,

Kim P. Worden
Secretary