

*Selectmen's Meeting Minutes*

Monday, September 21, 2020 meeting held at Millstream Community Center

Present: Chairman Steve Diorio, Selectman Bernie Rideout, Selectman Mike Carrier, Selectman Megan Kondrat, Selectman Richard Johnson; T.A. Collins and Kim Worden. Sarah Hudon, Program Director also attended.

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

Selectman Rideout made a **motion to approve** the manifests of 9/21/20 and public and non-public minutes of 9/14/20, second by Carrier. Motion passes unanimously.

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*New Business:*

The following permits were noted and it was asked if the entire slate could be approved.

1. Application for Open Container/Alcohol Permit for Juscen Family for 7/31/21 at Heritage Park for Family Reunion (rescheduled from last July due to Covid-19)
2. Application for Open Container/Alcohol Permit for Nadeau Family for 6/26/21 at Heritage Park for Family Reunion (rescheduled from last June due to Covid-19)
3. Application for Open Container/Alcohol Permit for Hinsdale Fireman's Association for Ladies Night at Fire Station on 9/25/20

Selectman Carrier made a **motion to approve** all three alcohol permits (Juscen Reunion, Nadeau Reunion, Ladies Night), second by Rideout. Motion passes unanimously. Selectman Rideout asked if the alcohol permit for town property for Ladies Night is covered by insurance. T.A. Collins indicated there is Primex coverage on town property for a town department.

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*T.A. Reports/Requests:*

T.A. Collins noted that the cost of living is 1.3%. Budgets are coming in so she will need to change them. The second week of October she will receive figures from Health Trust and there is a chance credits will be coming to buy down rates. In returning from vacation, she's had numerous emails, had to do payroll as Rick is on vacation and has had problems with scanning deposits. She will need to call the bank tomorrow and fix the issue. She also had to get insurance on properties that were deeded. She will have a related letter for Selectmen to sign next week and described the 30-day opportunity to purchase back the property and the related inspections.

Chair Diorio asked about the COLA figure. T.A. Collins gave past COLA information and indicated that this year, it is at 1.3% based on northeast price index (July to July as is our budget). She recommended at least a COLA of 1.3% and for the Board to decide whether or not to give merit increases. She has asked Department Heads to do flat rate as last year for budgets and that any one-time purchases be explained. There was discussion and suggestions on the Review Process and in order to streamline this, it was agreed that the Board would like information ahead of time with the numbers suggested, bullet points as to why, the recommended pay increase, number of years with the Town, where they fall on pay range and the bottom line. Selectman Johnson asked if there was any type of format. T.A. Collins responded that there was. Selectman Kondrat would like to know, based on the Supervisor's recommendation, what will this do to their budget. She would like to know totals by Department. T.A. Collins indicated that up to 3% merit increase has been built into each budget.

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Jeff Sutton was present to discuss a proposed new road off Oxbow Road. He noted that he expected to see Kathryn and Frank at this meeting. He handed out a sketch of the property. He had met with the Planning Board last Tuesday for a concept meeting. He introduced himself and introduced Carol Gandolfo, as landowner and fiancée. He mentioned having built two roads in New Hampshire in the past. Carol has a 72-acre parcel with 50' frontage on Plain and 50' frontage on Oxbow. Jeff gave history on Carol's daughter's attempt to access a building lot coming in from Plain Road four to five years ago and issues re: a 50' rear lot requirement from 2005. They are now looking at coming in off Oxbow Road for a building lot for her son. They have exhausted options. They would like to do road construction to access four lots, with road built to Town specifications. The road would be about 1200 feet, certified by an engineer and once built to specs and paved, would be turned over to Hinsdale. There would be 200 feet of frontage. He indicated the Town would just need to plow it. Once built, he thought the properties would each bring in \$7,000 to \$8000 per year in taxes. His opinion is there are materials on site to build the road. Cost would be \$2000-3000 a year to maintain. He indicated that he would sell them so he can control the quality of homes going in: building them affordable, yet custom, yet quality. Chair Diorio asked if he intended to work hand-in-hand with the Highway Department. He responded that he would and indicated that the State wouldn't be involved if natural contours are followed.

T.A. Collins added that in the past, we adopted a process to accept roads and that there is an application and procedure to be met before the Board can accept roads. This also includes a punch list to be met, a Bond or Letter of Credit, and a certification process.

Jeff added that he just wanted this information. Selectman Kondrat thinks the intent is: simply do we want to take on another road? Chair Diorio asked if this is visible to anyone driving by. Jeff would clear minimally, with a driveway path and room for home placement. He described how he intends to have control of lots and clearings. Chair Diorio added that he, as one member, likes the idea of new homes and tax revenue for the Town. He is personally in favor of moving forward and the next step. Selectman Carrier was fine with this as long as the road is built to town specs. Selectman Johnson indicated that he was good as long as process is followed. Jeff indicated that he will soon be a town resident and Carol added that she looks forward to her son living in Hinsdale.

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### *Board Comments:*

Selectman Carrier will have a non-public re: personnel. He had a Library Trustees Meeting on Wednesday and there were budget questions. Jill will get the information to Karen. He asked who updated the website. Jill indicated it was either her or Rick. She indicated she can't update information that is not provided.

Selectman Kondrat wanted to talk about Trick or Treat. T.A. Collins indicated that the Chief is advising against it and they are coming up with a plan. There may be some type of parade and maybe the Fire Department will get involved. They may have treat boxes handed out by Police and Fire Departments. Halloween falls on a Saturday this year. It was suggested to do an announcement that officially there is no Trick-or-Treating and that we are coming up with an alternative.

Selectman Kondrat made a **motion to cancel** Trick-or-Treating for this year and seek other alternatives for the kids, second by Rideout. Motion passes unanimously.

Selectman Kondrat brought up the upcoming election and that it sounds like the school is not an option. It has been suggested and asked if it is possible to have it in two different locations. The Community Center and Boy Scout Hall were suggested. T.A. Collins felt the Boy Scout Hall was too small. Chair Diorio has spoken with the Moderator and he is

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working on something. They will discuss further in a week or so. There was discussion on the need to let people know in advance and there will also need to be extra people available for counting. Selectman Kondrat noted that all Selectmen need to attend or have a substitute. T.A. Collins suggested encouraging use of absentee ballots. Selectman Carrier had a question resulting in discussion of ballot machine counters. T.A. Collins felt that with COVID related reimbursements, now would be the time. Chair Diorio noted that Supervisors of the Checklist are strategizing on how voting will look and how to set up. Selectmen Kondrat felt the Primary voting flow went well. Selectman Rideout likes the concept of the voting machine counter and Jill will look into that for the future, noting that it will take a different type ballot.

Chair Diorio attended the Budget Committee Meeting. Dennis Nadeau was elected Chair and Ken Howe was elected Vice Chair. A question arose re: who will take Minutes if Jill isn't available and the suggestion was Kim Worden. Jill pointed out that the Budget Committee had a secretary in the past and did away with that. There was a stipend of \$300 a year and it stopped. She added that Kim would get a 2-hour call back time and they should have someone on their Board who is willing to take minutes. Chair Diorio noted they don't need an answer tonight.

Chair Diorio was approached by a member of the Historical Society who asked if Frank would be able to mow, when he has time, one swath of the outline of fields. Discussion followed. Selectman Carrier **made a motion** that Frank will make a mow around two fields at the Historical Society when he has time, second by Kondrat. Motion passes unanimously.

Chair Diorio indicated that he will also have a non-public re: personnel.

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Sarah Hudon, Program Director informed the Board that she will be meeting with Kathryn on Thursday to go over ideas. Rec Soccer started on Saturday and she's had positive feedback. There were 52 kids total with K-6<sup>th</sup> age range. Brett did a pre-season workout and next time will split up by age group. Numbers are down from last season but they are doing it safely. The Rec group approved a decreased price. They will not be playing other towns. They will do their own skill drills.

Sarah informed the Board that the Keyless Entry System is in but the main power board came damaged. Everything is in place and ready to go once the replacement board arrives. Following a question for Chair Diorio, T.A. Collins stated that keycards can be programmed for both buildings.

Selectman Kondrat asked about the Community Center reopening. Sarah had concerns with the Governor's order being so vague, as well as concern as to whether staff would need to be there to make sure groups follow recommendations and restrictions. T.A. Collins noted that Nashua recently closed municipal buildings to quarantine for 14 days and also mentioned the concerns re: the Millinocket wedding case. Sarah added comment re: limited hours her staff is there. She said fee rental is so low that they are not going to make money if only at half capacity. Chair Diorio commented that it has never been intended to be a profit but sees her point and the Town should begin at some point to open slowly. Sarah informed the Board that the Meals Program will not be gathering there until at least November. Discussion included that the WIC program will not be doing in-person at this time and rental groups are assessing. Selectman Kondrat brought up that Krystal Gaffney would like to hold meetings there (for the ATV Club being formed). Sarah would like it to be clear on which groups can use the center. T.A. Collins added that we need to know who, the number of people, and if they are wearing masks, and who will clean. It was noted that the Lions Club uses the center. T.A. Collins suggests they do Zoom meetings. Selectman Kondrat added that this group needs a location for their By-Laws; and they will have a landowner's meeting on Thursday at the PD. T.A. Collins noted that all are Town organizations that

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hold meetings at the Community Center. Selectman Kondrat's opinion is that this is a Community Center to be used by groups, even if there is a fee for use by a non-profit. Discussion followed on further concerns and thoughts re: exceptions or a contract with precautions. Selectman Kondrat clarified that generally, if no COVID concerns, the Community Center is open to groups (other than Town committees) for a fee to hold meetings or events. T.A. Collins noted that the Lion's Club is currently charged \$25.00 and they are a non-profit. Clubs have to be a non-profit. T.A. Collins added that \$25.00 per meeting is the minimal price for use of the place.

Chair Diorio received a signed Petition to revisit the Shooting Range. The Town Clerk will be asked to verify signatures of residents and it can be discussed at a future meeting.

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Public portion of the meeting ended.

7:17 p.m. Selectman Carrier made a **motion to enter into non-public** under RSA 91-A:3, II (a) personnel, second by Kondrat. The vote is as follows: Diorio-I; Rideout-I; Carrier-I; Kondrat-I; and Johnson-I; Motion passes unanimously.

7:28 p.m. Regular meeting reconvened.

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

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7:29 p.m. Chair Diorio noted that they would be going into another non-public under personnel. T.A. Collins and Kim Worden were excused.

7:30 p.m. Selectman Carrier made a **motion to enter into non-public** under RSA 91-A:3, II (a) personnel, second by Kondrat. The vote is as follows: Diorio-I; Rideout-I; Carrier-I; Kondrat-I; and Johnson-I; Motion passes unanimously.

7:54 p.m. Regular meeting reconvened.

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

7:55 p.m. Selectman Carrier made a **motion to adjourn**, second by Kondrat. Motion passes unanimously.

Respectfully Submitted,

Kim P. Worden  
Secretary