

*Selectmen's Meeting Minutes*

*Monday, March 15, 2021 meeting held at Police Department Training Room, Hinsdale*

Present: Chair Diorio, Selectman Bernie Rideout, Selectman Mike Carrier, Selectman Megan Kondrat, Selectman Richard Johnson; T.A. Collins and Kim Worden (all attended in-person). Chief Rataj, Sean Leary, and Sarah Hudon also attended in-person. There were no attendees via Zoom.

6:00 p.m. Chair Diorio called the meeting to order. The meeting was also held via zoom pursuant to the Governor's Emergency Orders.

Selectman Carrier **made a motion** to have Chair and Vice Chair remain the same and for committee representatives to remain the same, second by Rideout. Motion passes unanimously. It was noted by T.A. Collins that this takes effect after Town Meeting, not that it makes a difference in this instance.

Chair Diorio offered congratulations to the Lady Pacers for winning the State Championship and thanked the Police Department and Fire Department for organizing and providing a nice escort.

Selectman Carrier made a **motion to approve** the manifests of 3/15/21; and public and non-public minutes of 3/8/2021, second by Rideout. The vote is as follows: Diorio-aye; Rideout-aye; Carrier-aye; Johnson-aye; and Kondrat-aye; Motion passes unanimously.

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*T.A. Reports/Requests:*

T.A. Collins informed the Board that she had the letter for the Chair to sign re: The School Street Project promoting safety on School Street. She is expecting letters of support for the project this week. She also mentioned that the price of the project has dropped and she will be amending the Warrant Article.

T.A. Collins discussed the web service agreement re: taking credit cards. She suggested starting with online and adding to that later. Costs were questioned. She will need to look at the difference between the \$500 and the \$350 per unit cost. Chair Diorio was in favor of testing the unit with the Town Clerk and see how that works. T.A. Collins noted an option of use without a terminal, being done by signing in and entering info manually. She will execute a contract tomorrow. Selectman Kondrat questioned fees to be charged to customers. ACH is \$1.50 per transaction, .95 for online charge and .35 for e-checks. Credit Card charge is 2.79%.

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*Board Comments:*

Chair Diorio reminded all of the Zoom Meeting Wednesday with Don Lyford.

Selectman Carrier mentioned the Library Trustee meeting on Wednesday. He will miss this due to the Zoom Meeting conflict on Wednesday.

Selectman Kondrat asked if there would be a goals meeting. It was decided that this would take place next week.

Chair Diorio reminded all that he would like to stay on track with Town-Owned Properties discussions. Discussion included, with input by T.A. Collins, that the property off Monument Road shouldn't be sold as it is a possible future well site. Property on Jackson Drive can be included.

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Selectman Rideout noted that there are two people potentially interested in the vacant lot on Canal Street. It was suggested that T.A. Collins bring in tax cards for the Board to look at.

Selectman Johnson added that he also wants to keep on track with Delinquent Taxes (as well as Town-Owned Property). He noted that he mentioned before and his opinion is that the Town Hall should be opened 5 days a week.

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Steve Gassett was present as well as other F.D. Members to give a Fire Department Building update:

He noted that they've explored a couple of options, since the Plain Road property is out of the picture now. This included renovating the current building and/or building a substation in North Hinsdale. They would like to see a new Fire Station that houses all their needs and equipment. They are wondering about any town-owned property up near the soccer fields. They acknowledge that Stafford's Field is feasible but would add cost. Discussion followed. T.A. Collins cautioned that federal grant money was used in the Heritage Park Area and once invested with federal funds we are stifled as to what can develop. Chair Diorio had thoughts on the former Ebbighausen property that is now town-owned. Selectman Rideout asked if they had looked at the town-owned property near Sandri. The Fire Department members indicated they had and the response time to the downtown area and insurance rates were a concern.

Mike McCosker added that even if they build a substation and renovate, the cost is significantly more than if they had town-owned property and build. Two million was quoted to renovate and bring the existing building to ADA compliance without adding space. The consensus of the department is that they would like everything under one building. The basic area of interest is where the old pool was. T.A. Collins noted that, in the past, the building committee for the PD hit a big barricade on that issue. Public safety vs. site lines were discussed, as well as possible issues and thoughts. Mike McCosker also expressed concerns of the Fire Department exiting from the Plain Road intersection.

Steve Gassett noted that they will be meeting with Peter Tennant on Wednesday, that they need to figure out what direction they are going. T.A. Collins added that they need to figure out the dimensions that they want in a building. They could go up to the fields and measure. She will research existing grants that we have and make sure not interfering. She will need to look at deeds as some land was donated and there might be stipulations in deeds. They need to know the footprint.

The Fire Department was thanked for coming in.

*Citizen Comments:*

Mike McCosker asked if anything was going on with the solar fields. Chair Diorio indicated that they are showing interest again; however, the Board has had no update from them for over a year.

Chief Rataj noted that Michelle saved them \$400 in computer licenses. They are doing firearms testing and will change to 9mm ammunition due to lower cost. They will receive brand new firearms for essentially no cost.

Sean Leary stated that graduation is scheduled for June 12<sup>th</sup> and they will try to make it as normal as possible but will need to see what the restrictions are. He noted a recent protocol change re: guidelines for High School and Elementary School Covid case responses and deep cleaning.

Chair Diorio asked Chief Zavorotny about assistance with getting radios. Chief indicated that there is a \$76000 cost and there is now a lease program. \$7600 for this year and just over \$15,000 a year for 5 years at 3 ½ % interest. Discussion

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followed on this and the possibility of amending articles on the floor. T.A. Collins cautioned amending articles on the floor and noted that the DRA may reject. There is a need to keep the purpose and intent of the articles in order to raise them up or down. It is too late to amend an article now and you can't say you're going into a lease now as you would be rewording a Warrant Article and changing its purpose. Selectman Johnson suggested that we need not buy 35 radios now, we could look into grant money to buy the balance. T.A. Collins added that grant could be applied for at any time, have a public hearing, and selectmen could accept grant. Selectman Johnson suggested adding wording: to raise and appropriate \$60,000 (could raise up to \$76000) and if a grant was received (to offset) it reduces tax burden. The question was can this be amended on the floor? Jill suggested that she could run it by the DRA about possibly changing wording and find out.

Chief Zavorotny noted that the new brush truck is now in service. \$30,000 from USDA was received on that.

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Discussion on opening the Pavilion and Community Center was held. T.A. Collins noted her thoughts on keeping a 6-foot distance with masks in place (3 feet if vaccinated) and opening up but keeping the numbers down. She felt the maximum number at the Community Center should be 25 (capacity is 150). Meals on Wheels was discussed. Currently over 100 meals are being delivered. In-person, when that happens again, is about 10 to 15 people at the center. Sarah agreed that 25 is good. She had concerns about policing it. She noted that people want to book as they want to plan. The governor says 50% capacity for weddings now. Sarah suggested skipping the ½ rental for now in order to distance properly. T.A. Collins felt the pavilion could permit 50 people. Chair Diorio felt 25 was a good start for the Community Center and we can always expand on that number. Jill added concerns of the cost to sanitize. Selectman Kondrat added that at some point, there is a need to allow adults to have and use their best judgement. Have guidelines and sign a waiver; if the State is okay at 50% capacity and since we are in an area not as dangerous as larger areas, we need to allow people to use their best judgement under our waiver and our guidelines.

After further discussion, Selectman Carrier **made a motion to limit rentals** at the Community Center to 25 people and rentals at the Pavilion to 50 people, at this time, second by Rideout. Motion passes unanimously.

Chair Diorio pointed out that he thinks there is a need for outside storage at the Community Center and noted his reasons. T.A. Collins agreed and added that a furnace needs to be put on the CIP (for 5 or 6 years down the road). She added that if that furnace area was reduced, there could be more storage if they consider changing equipment out.

Chair Diorio announced the Board would be going into non-public session. Attendees were thanked for coming in.

7:03 p.m. Selectman Kondrat made a **motion to enter into non-public session** under RSA 91:A-3, II, (a)- personnel, second by Carrier. The vote was as follows: Carrier –aye; Diorio – aye; Johnson – aye; Kondrat – aye; Rideout – aye. Motion passes unanimously.

7:12 p.m. regular meeting reconvened.

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

Selectman Kondrat made a **motion to promote** Sarah Hudon and Colleen Hayes to Welfare Team directors, second by Carrier. The vote was as follows: Carrier –aye; Diorio – aye; Johnson – aye; Kondrat – aye; Rideout – aye. Motion passes unanimously.

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7:13 p.m. Selectman Carrier made a **motion to enter into non-public session** under RSA 91:A-3, II, (c)- reputation, second by Kondrat. The vote was as follows: Carrier –aye; Diorio – aye; Johnson – aye; Kondrat – aye; Rideout – aye. Motion passes unanimously.

7:32 p.m. regular meeting reconvened.

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

7:33 p.m. Selectman Kondrat made a **motion to adjourn**, second by Rideout. Motion passes unanimously.

Respectfully Submitted,

Kim P. Worden  
Secretary