

Selectmen's Meeting Minutes

Monday, November 15, 2021 meeting held at Hinsdale Town Hall Community Room

Present: Chairman Steve Diorio, Selectman Bernie Rideout, Selectman Mike Carrier, and Selectman Richard Johnson; T.A. Collins and Kim Worden. Bob Truesdell, Jim O'Malley and Chief Rataj also attended.

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

The need to appoint a Vice Chair was discussed. Selectman Carrier **made a motion to appoint** Selectman Johnson to become Vice Chair, second by Rideout. Motion passes unanimously.

Selectman Rideout made a **motion to approve** the manifests of 11/15/2021; and public and non-public minutes of 11/08/21 second by Carrier. The vote is as follows: Diorio-aye; Rideout-aye; Carrier-aye; Johnson-aye; Motion passes unanimously.

New Business:

First presented was an Application for Open Container/Alcohol Permit for Nicole Moore for Baby Shower at Community Center on January 16, 2022. Selectman Johnson **made a motion** to approve the Open Container/Alcohol Permit for Nicole Moore, second by Carrier. Motion passes unanimously.

Next, a Tax Abatement for Alessandro Flauzino re: 45 Gunner Way in the amount of \$198.74 + interest for 2021 (RV is registered-not taxable) was presented. Selectman Rideout **made a motion** to approve and for the Board to sign the Tax Abatement for Flauzino at 45 Gunner Way, second by Carrier. Motion passes unanimously.

Finally presented was a Permit Application for Retail Sales of Permissible Fireworks for Phantom Fireworks, 939 Brattleboro Road. Selectman Johnson **made a motion** to approve the Permit Application for Phantom Fireworks, second by Carrier. Motion passes unanimously.

T.A. Reports/Requests:

T.A. Collins noted that she would need the vote on the MS-535. Selectman Johnson **made a motion** to approve the MS-535, second by Rideout. Motion passes unanimously.

All were invited to the Selectmen's Office while T.A. Collins entered figures for the portal to DRA re: the tax rate. She told them local School rate was \$19.72 last year and \$19.70 this year. State school rate was 2.11 last year and 2.18 this year. County was 4.17 last year and \$3.80 this year. We have \$100,000 in overlay. It is suggested to retain 5% at minimum, which would be nearly \$675,000. Selectman Johnson felt if nearly \$675,000 was put aside, he didn't feel the need to keep \$100,000 in overlay. Discussion followed. T.A. Collins warned that the tax rate could spike in the future and he noted that TANIF (tax anticipation notice) could be used if there was a need. He feels the taxpayers have stepped up to the plate and he would like to have the \$100,000 to pay down the rate. Going with no overlay, 7.06 would be the municipal portion with a \$32.74 tax rate for final DRA approval. Prior tax rate was \$34.15.

Selectman Johnson **made a motion** to make \$32.74 the tax rate, second by Rideout. Motion passes unanimously. T.A. Collins noted that this is not official yet. Figures were finalized into the portal.

T.A. Collins mentioned extra funds received from State of New Hampshire: Rooms and Meals and Highway Block Grant.

T.A. Collins needs to draft the letter to the State of NH with copy to Deborah George. She added that the Tessier matter is moving forward and they are getting funding. Budgets are done and they will meet Wednesday night. The next two Monday meetings will be joint meetings with the Budget Committee.

Selectmen's Meeting Minutes

Monday, November 15, 2021 meeting held at Hinsdale Town Hall Community Room

T.A. Collins will be out from December 1 through December 14th. The following Wednesday will be the Employee Christmas Party/Retirement Party.

Following a question from Selectman Rideout on a response from MRI, T.A. Collins indicated that she will do some advertising for the WWTP Superintendent position and also noted the option of contracting it out. Chair Diorio requested that she follow up with MRI.

Chair Diorio asked about voicemails being forwarded, mail being opened, and whether Rick will have additional hours in her absence. She responded that he will work Wednesdays (and he is here until 3:30). She added that she checks her own emails and responds accordingly. She will change her voice message and give direction. He asked if Rick would be opening her mail due to concerns of budget season, this being a busy time, and MRI being currently involved.

Board Comments:

Selectman Rideout will be away but expects to be back by the next meeting.

Selectman Carrier has a Planning Board Meeting tomorrow and a Library Trustee Meeting on Wednesday.

Chair Diorio will have a Budget Committee Meeting on Wednesday. He attended a Fire Department Building Committee Meeting last Tuesday. He added that Mike Vignale was there and it went well.

Selectman Johnson attended the School Board meeting last week and felt it was nice to attend. He asked where we are with FEMA on River Road. T.A. Collins responded that there is a webinar meeting on the 22nd. He also asked who takes point. T.A. Collins responded that we do and the timeframe is probably Spring. He asked if it is stabilized. Bob Truesdell responded the need to add more materials and Jersey Barriers are put up.

Citizen Comments:

James O'Malley noted that the school will be going into the Budget Workshop on Wednesday. He and Holly will split attendance at the Select Board Meetings.

Chief Rataj noted that T.A. Collins had provided some grant funding options to him re: computer database/information management of up to \$50,000 with a 10% match. He has completed the application and hopes to have it in tomorrow. They are currently working with the Sheriff's Office and there should be significant savings over the next year and going forward. He also made note that their telephone system is out of date and will need to be looked at in the future. He believes they got it from the school about 20 years ago.

Chair Diorio mentioned that he would have a brief non-public (personnel). Members of the public left the meeting.

6:46 p.m. Selectman Carrier **made a motion to enter into non-public session** under RSA 91: A-3, II, (a)- personnel, second by Rideout. The vote was as follows: Carrier-aye; Diorio-aye; Johnson-aye; and Rideout-aye. Motion passes unanimously.

6:50 p.m. regular meeting reconvened.

8:50 p.m. Selectman Johnson made a **motion to adjourn**, second by Rideout. Motion passes unanimously.

Respectfully Submitted,

Kim P. Worden
Secretary