

*Select Board Meeting Minutes*

*Monday, May 20, 2024 meeting held at Hinsdale Town Hall - Auditorium*

Present: Vice Chairman Richard Johnson as acting Chair, Selectman Bernie Rideout, Selectman William Hodgman, and Selectman Mike Carrier. Also present were Kim Worden, Town Administrator Kathryn Lynch, Finance Director Jodie Holmquist, Sean Leary, Bob Truesdell, Kaylee Howe, Josh Green, Jessica Green, Todd Page, Fire Department members, Hinsdale Police Department members, Brattleboro Police Chief and Police Department Members, Chief Melissa Evans, and others. Chairman Steve Diorio was excused.

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

Hinsdale's new Police Chief, Melissa Evans, was sworn in by Acting Chair Johnson. Many were in attendance in support of Chief Evans. Congratulations were extended.

Selectman Carrier made a **motion to approve** the manifest of May 20, 2024 and the public and non-public minutes of May 13, 2024 second by Rideout. The vote was as follows: Johnson-aye; Rideout-aye; Hodgman-aye; and Carrier-aye. Motion passes unanimously.

*New Business:*

First presented was a Water Abatement for Cynthia Wagner of 200 Meetinghouse Road in the amount of \$242.20 for 1<sup>st</sup> quarter water (due to 1<sup>st</sup> quarter flat rate charge, agreeing to new meter, resulting in rate 1 charge). Selectman Carrier **made a motion** to approve the water abatement for Wagner, second by Rideout. The vote was as follows: Johnson-aye; Rideout-aye; Hodgman-aye; and Carrier-aye. Motion passes unanimously.

Next presented was an Application for Open Container/Alcohol Permit for Pam Nelson, Birthday Party at Community Center on 11/2/2024. Selectman Hodgman **made a motion** for acting Chair to sign Permit for Nelson, second by Carrier. Motion passes unanimously.

The Tax Collector's Warrant for 1<sup>st</sup> and 2<sup>nd</sup> quarter 2024 was presented. 1<sup>st</sup> quarter payment of 2024 in the amount of 3,034,403.32 and 2<sup>nd</sup> quarter payment of 2024 in the amount of \$3,034,394.05. Selectman Carrier **made a motion** to approve the Tax Collector's Warrant, second by Rideout. Motion passes unanimously.

*T.A. Reports/Requests:*

T.A. Lynch brought the Hinsdale Fund Balance Policy in for approval following discussion last week. She made changes discussed on decisions being made annually as to amount set for undesignated fund balance. Selectman Hodgman **made a motion** to have the Board sign the Fund Balance Policy, second by Carrier. Motion passes unanimously.

The CDFA gave final approval today on the Community Center grant. She sent notice for bids out today to four contractors.

T.A. Lynch received three applications and will be interviewing for the Program and Welfare Director position.

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Josh Green, Community Development Coordinator, informed the Board that we have been awarded the Housing Opportunity Planning (HOP) Grant program through InvestNH. The Hinsdale housing group has been collaborating with the Community Housing Navigator. With this grant, in the amount of \$53,750.00, the community housing navigator will conduct needs assessment, update or modify zoning ordinances and land use regulations, assist in updating the master plan, and continue community engagement. The main objective is to increase housing opportunities for Hinsdale residents of all income levels. They will need approval of authorized person for spending this grant.

Selectman Carrier **made a motion** to give Town Administrator Kathryn Lynch, permission and authority to sign all necessary documentation regarding the HOP Grant received, second by Hodgman. The vote was as follows: Johnson-aye; Rideout-aye; Hodgman-aye; and Carrier-aye. Motion passes unanimously.

*Board Comments:*

Selectman Rideout mentioned a Planning Board Meeting tomorrow.

Selectman Hodgman mentioned that the Parks and Rec Meeting has been rescheduled for about two weeks.

There were no comments from public.

Chelsea Leveille came in, introduced herself as a real estate agent with Keller-Williams, and having a property listing at 59 Plain Road that she felt is a good candidate for a new fire station. Discussion followed with Selectmen Hodgman and Johnson pointing out that that property has been looked at before for the Fire Department and issues identified made it less than ideal. It was also pointed out that there is a Fire Department Building Committee. Taran Benedict, Chair, spoke that the intersection of Route 119 and Plain Road was the biggest issue. They do have an engineer, Mike Petrovick, doing a feasibility study and will make him aware of this property. Chelsea left the Building Committee some information on the listing. They noted that the next meeting with Mike will be tomorrow at 3.

From 6:20 to 6:30 p.m. a recess was taken before the public hearing scheduled at 6:30. Many police officers and staff from Brattleboro, Cheshire County, Hinsdale, family, neighbors and friends were in attendance in support of Chief Melissa Evans at her swearing-in this evening.

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6:30 p.m. Acting Chair Johnson opened the Public Hearing:

**Public Hearing on Mt. Pisgah ATV Club, P.O. Box 234, Winchester, NH 03470**  
**Invitation to discuss ATV shared access from Monument Road to TBird/Citgo:**  
Hinsdale Town Hall, 11 Main Street, Hinsdale, NH  
May20, 2024, 6:30 p.m.

Acting Chair Johnson opened the public meeting at 6:30 p.m.

Todd Page informed everyone that the Mt. Pisgah ATV Club would like access granted from the bottom of Streeter Hill on Monument Road (across from Oxbow Road), continuing down Monument Road, left on Old Brattleboro Road, and across Route 119 in order to go to T-Bird. He indicated that the state is dragging their heels on sending their written approval. Supporters attending and attending abutters Jadi Flynn and Larry Palomba indicated that they were in favor. Abutters were notified of this Public Hearing and no one spoke against this.

6:33 p.m. public portion closed.

Selectman Hodgman **made a motion** to grant ATV access as mentioned above, pending NH DOT's written approval, second by Carrier. The vote was as follows: Rideout-aye; Hodgman-aye; Carrier-aye; and Johnson-aye. Motion passes unanimously.

Todd was asked to bring in the written DOT approval upon receipt.

*6:34 Public Hearing Closed.*

6:34 p.m. Selectman Carrier **made a motion to adjourn**, second by Hodgman. Motion passes unanimously.

Respectfully Submitted,

Kim P. Worden,  
Secretary