

*Select Board Meeting Minutes*

*Monday, July 29, 2024 meeting held at Hinsdale Town Hall*

Present: Chairman Steve Diorio, Selectman Richard Johnson, Selectman Bernie Rideout, Selectman William Hodgman, and Selectman Mike Carrier. Also present were Kim Worden, Town Administrator Kathryn Lynch, Finance Director Jodie Holmquist, Frances and Allen Boucher, and Deborah George.

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

Selectman Carrier made a **motion to approve** the manifests of July 22, 2024 and July 29, 2024; and the public minutes of July 15, 2024, second by Rideout. The vote was as follows: Rideout-aye; Hodgman-aye; Johnson-aye; Diorio-aye; and Carrier-aye. Motion passes unanimously.

*New Business:*

First presented were letters of Intent to be signed by the Board to: Alfonza and Carla Monk; Margo Perry; Floyd Remick; and Alberto and Joaquelena Colon. Selectman Carrier **made a motion** to approve and sign the four letters as a slate, second by Hodgman. Motion passes unanimously.

An Application for Open Container/Alcohol Permit for Seth Stafford for a reunion at the Pavilion on 8/2/24 was presented. Selectman Hodgman **made a motion** to approve and for Chair to sign the permit for Stafford, second by Carrier. Motion passes unanimously.

A Sewer Abatement was submitted in the amount of \$1068.05 re: 2<sup>nd</sup> quarter 2024 for *In Good We Trust* for outside watering on a separate meter. Selectman Hodgman **made a motion** to approve the sewer abatement, second by Johnson. Motion passes unanimously.

Water Asset Grant Reimbursement paperwork was presented to be signed by Chair of the Select Board. Selectman Rideout **made a motion** for the Chair to sign the grant reimbursement paperwork, second by Hodgman. Motion passes unanimously.

Next, a Cemetery Deed to Charles Kernan for Lot 27 Section H (3) at Pine Grove Cemetery was forwarded. Selectman Johnson **made a motion** to approve the Cemetery Deed for Kernan, second by Hodgman. Motion passes unanimously.

The following Appointments for Tax Increment Finance District (TIF) were mentioned: for Robert Harcke, for Jack White, for Robert Truesdell, for Ernest Smalley, for Edwin Smith (Alternate) and for Mike Renaud (Alternate). Selectman Johnson **made a motion** to approve all as a slate for TIF Appointments, second by Hodgman. Motion passes unanimously.

Appointments were presented for Karen Hammond, Ann Diorio, and Amanda Sweetser for the Millstream Community Recreation Center. Selectman Rideout **made a motion** to approve the slate of three for the Millstream Community Recreation Center, second by Hodgman. Motion passes unanimously. The 2<sup>nd</sup> Quarter 2024 Water Commitment in the amount of \$124,261.49 and 2<sup>nd</sup> Quarter 2024 Sewer Commitment in the amount of \$102,999.40 were presented. Selectman Johnson **made a motion** to approve the 2<sup>nd</sup> quarter Water and Sewer Commitments, second by Carrier. Motion passes unanimously.

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An Engineering Report Phase for Wastewater Asset Management Plan was presented. There was discussion as to why all the strikeouts. T.A. Lynch reported that this is what they want to be signed to move forward as the state needs it changed. Jodie shared her experience with school documents and working with the state. Selectman Johnson **made a motion** to sign, second by Carrier. Motion passes unanimously.

Following discussion on whether or not an appointment was needed, it was signed and Selectman Johnson **made a motion** to approve Katherine Savory as Library Trustee, second by Hodgman. Motion passes unanimously.

All were forwarded a copy of a letter from Resident Blancato. Discussion followed. T.A. Lynch discussed her email response sent. She will respond again.

*T.A. Reports/Requests:*

T.A. Lynch will have a non-public on hiring and personnel.

She informed everyone that the doors are in and looking great. They should be fully functional by the end of the week. Brandon has coordinated the meeting with the electrician regarding the doors and also with Portland Glass on replacement of glass on a window. He is working with Bob on basement windows (grates) and has been scraping and painting and doing a great job.

T.A. Lynch has been working with the Town Attorney on a P&S Refundable Deposit of \$8000 for 59 Plain Road. Paperwork for a Special Town Meeting was filed by Town Attorney on July 19<sup>th</sup>. Court has been in contact and she is waiting to hear on a date from Julie. Discussion followed and a Saturday was suggested. She will check on that.

She spoke on the recent Department Head meeting. The Community Center is working with Cheshire Medical Senior Sneakers program to bring exercise for seniors back to the Center. There has been work to update the MOU between Highway, Athletic Director and Cal Ripken for finalization and signatures. There is a Community Center Senior Lunch scheduled for August 7<sup>th</sup>. The Kiddie Pool is up and running, costing \$1800 for repairs to fix sealant and paint, which will come out of Capital Reserve. They are working on a timeline with the contractor for closure of the Community Center during the remodel project. Heather and Maggie are a great team, working well and very efficiently. The PD has one officer out and another out in a few weeks for a time. Community Development is working hard on the HOP Grant Informational Meeting which is tomorrow at the Community Center. Josh is also working on a Solar Grant for the old landfill, along with all regular business.

The Community Power Public Hearing will be held on August 26<sup>th</sup> at Town Hall at 6:30. This is the final step before they send out the flyer to residents.

T.A. Lynch has been working with NH DOT pertaining to River Road and has submitted a Letter of Intent for the HMA Program that will provide them as administering agency with what the Town as a Community intends to do. This allows the State to provide technical assistance and direct the Town as a community in the most appropriate direction to seek funding assistance (if and when possible). The Letter of Intent was submitted

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today. Selectman Johnson added that he appreciates that this is moving forward and feels the town was short-changed and it's also a safety issue.

T.A. Lynch mentioned that we were approved for \$100,000 Grant from CWSRF for a feasibility study for the infrastructure within Indian Acres and Spring Street. Once complete, the next step will be to apply for grants to make recommended changes resulting from the study. The last step would be to apply for grants to increase the sewer lines in Town.

She is still waiting for approval from Invest NH on the extension for the demolition grant to 6/30/2025.

Senator Ricciardi would like to schedule a time in September or October to come before the Board and give an update. The Board was fine with that.

T.A. Lynch had a letter for signatures addressed to Governor Sununu and Commissioner Cass pertaining to the signalized light at George's Field. Deborah George added that she thinks the word "hopeful" (in the letter) regarding putting the lights back in is too soft and would like it changed to "expect". After brief discussion, Selectman Johnson **made a motion** to sign the letter as amended (on first page), second by Hodgman. Motion passes unanimously.

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*Board Comments:*

Selectman Hodgman mentioned work on the MOU and it should come back to the Board in a few weeks.

Selectman Carrier was asked to be the PD Rep on the Safety Committee.

Selectman Rideout attended an HEDC Meeting which was very informational.

*Public Comment:*

Frances and Allen Boucher were in to address an issue which they came in for on May 6<sup>th</sup> re: Monument, Hastings Circle, and Rosemont Drive areas. Frances asked the Board how they were going to resolve some of the issues as it was the first time in 50 years they had flooding in their basement following heavy rains and spoke of their belief of culverts being removed off Monument Road. She indicated that they are expecting the town to at least look into these matters and perhaps get the State involved. Following a question as to what she did following the basement flooding, she responded that she pumped it out and ran a dehumidifier. She also added that she had a plumber come and doesn't expect it to happen again. Selectman Hodgman added that he spoke with Highway personnel and they were not aware of culverts being removed. Discussion included that that area has always been wetlands, having a high-water table, zoning didn't come in until the early 80's, and the town doesn't have responsibility for private residences. Allen Boucher added that the idea is to have an engineer study done to move the water. The response to that was that it is not town practice to hire professionals to evaluate private properties and if the town has caused a problem, that's the extent to which it could be looked at. Chair Diorio invited them to get on the Agenda once they've done more research and gathered expert testimony.

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Deborah George mentioned that, according to the DOT, she is holding up the bridge project and spoke at length of history of asking the DOT to please *not* remove the signal light yet it has been removed. She has spent about six years and just hired a third attorney on this matter. She added that they pledged to have a stop light on the NH side of the bridge, were given funding, were to trench utility lines, and she was here to give an update. This went to Supreme Court; they gave a Stay order; and tried to work it out. She spoke of federally mandated guidelines for every state as "MUTCA". She feels their plan was to take the money, use equipment elsewhere, take the light that was there (that they removed signal controller from-to use in another town) and then come after her to put in a new signal light. She is in discussions with a national food chain who requires fully signalized intersection. She would love the town to join her in her effort, beyond this third letter to the Governor. She fears if there is not a way to calm traffic, there is going to be a problem. She suggests a letter also to come from the Police Chief. She spoke of the tremendous lights on the Vermont side of the bridge. Her concerns included that with no flashing light, there will be no slowing down and to be impossible to turn left.

All members of public left.

7:28 p.m. Selectman Carrier **made a motion to enter into non-public** session under RSA 91:A-3, II (b) hiring, second by Hodgman. The vote was as follows: Rideout-aye; Carrier-aye; Hodgman-aye, Johnson-aye and Diorio-aye. Motion passes unanimously.

7:30 p.m. Meeting reconvened.

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

7:40 p.m. Meeting reconvened.

7:40 p.m. Selectman Hodgman **made a motion to adjourn**, second by Johnson. Motion passes unanimously.

Respectfully Submitted,

Kim P. Worden,  
Secretary