

Select Board Meeting Minutes

Monday, September 30, 2024 meeting held at Hinsdale Town Hall

Present: Chairman Steve Diorio, Selectman Bernie Rideout, Selectman William Hodgman, Selectman Richard Johnson and Selectman Mike Carrier. Also present were Kim Worden, Town Administrator Kathryn Lynch, and Finance Director Jodie Holmquist. Others in attendance were Chief Evans, Bob & Casey Truesdell, and Sean Leary (at 6:07 p.m.).

6:00 p.m. Chair Diorio called the meeting to order and asked for a moment of silence in memory of Peter Zavorotny. A moment of silence was observed.

Selectman Carrier **made a motion** to approve the manifests of September 30, 2024 and public minutes of September 23, 2024, second by Rideout. The vote was as follows: Diorio-aye; Rideout-aye; Hodgman-aye; Johnson-aye; and Carrier-aye. Motion passes unanimously.

An Application for Open Container/Alcohol Permit was presented for Patricia Thayer for a Bridal Shower at the Community Center on 4/26/2025. Selectman Carrier **made a motion** to approve and for the Chair to sign the Application, second by Rideout. Motion passes unanimously.

T.A. Reports/Requests:

T.A. Lynch received an email requesting permission for signage of weight limit from State of NH for Kilburn Bridge and Canal Street Bridge. These will be installed no later than 9/12/2025. There is no cost to the Town. The Board was fine with this.

She has applied to the Holt Grant for fire resistant filing cabinets to hold personnel paperwork, tables and coverings for the auditorium, new chairs for the auditorium, new meeting tables for Community Room, and new chairs for the Community Room. The Application is due 10/1. In May, she will move forward with an application on further work on the clock and tower.

The New Hampshire Municipal Association (NHMA) Conference will be held October 30th and 31st. She requested permission to close Town Hall offices for one day for staff to attend. Discussion followed and she will choose which day to attend.

T.A. Lynch informed the Board that the Mormon Church is working with legal and willing to release all of the deed restrictions 1-3 and the mineral rights. They are currently working on the closing documents which should be ready within the next two weeks.

NH DOT would like to give us time to organize an opening ceremony of the new bridge which will be paved soon. They are currently working on culvert work on the Brattleboro end. She will share information once she has a date and would like to plan an event, likely in November or December. Chair Diorio would like to make sure that Smokey Smith and Mike Abbott are included in plans for an opening ceremony.

She informed the Board that Department Heads met today and shared a lot of information.

Select Board Meeting Minutes

Monday, September 30, 2024 meeting held at Hinsdale Town Hall

Board Comments:

Selectman Carrier will have a Conservation Meeting on Wednesday.

Selectman Johnson thanked Selectman Hodgman for covering for him at the recent Cemetery Meeting. Selectman Hodgman responded that, unfortunately he was unable to cover that meeting, and his reasons. Jodie added that they need to schedule the next Cemetery meeting.

Selectman Hodgman mentioned that during the recent Parks and Rec Meeting there was ongoing discussion related to fees.

Selectman Hodgman asked about the upcoming water rate increases. T.A. Lynch is waiting for figures from Sean Osborne and will need to schedule a public hearing. Selectman Hodgman was asking due to his concern of school budgets going from 7.3 million (taxpayer obligation) to 9.2 million and of concerns of the increase in the tax rate. Paperwork submitted for the school budget did not include any listing of their anticipated revenues and it was not in the Town Report. Discussion followed to include asking that question at the next opportunity, estimated buy-down, and setting the rate. There was also discussion on tax rate timeframe vs. payment timeframe.

Bob Truesdell spoke of a retired couple on fixed income having recent difficulty paying for their trash disposal. He conveyed an idea of possibly offering a welfare option for seniors, disabled, and fixed income residents to apply for some type of assistance in these instances. Discussion followed. T.A. Lynch spoke of other programs along that line and thinks some type of program could be set up to offer approved applicants some help.

Bob also mentioned the new baler at the Transfer Station baled 420 pounds. Revenue was \$250 per bale (as long as we get the current rate). We will haul to a local yard. He added that we are doing well and generating some revenue.

Sean Leary shared in Selectman Hodgman's concern of potential 1.9 million increase in school budget with the current values. He felt the increased amount would be lower but remained concerned.

6:19 p.m. Selectman Johnson **made a motion** to adjourn, second by Carrier. Motion passes unanimously.

Respectfully Submitted,

Kim P. Worden,
Secretary