

Select Board Meeting Minutes

Monday, **November 25, 2024** meeting held at Hinsdale Town Hall

Present: Chairman Steve Diorio, Selectman Bernie Rideout, Selectman Richard Johnson and Selectman Mike Carrier. Selectman William Hodgman was excused. Also present were Kim Worden, Town Administrator Kathryn Lynch, Finance Director Jodie Holmquist, Bob Truesdell and Marc Sprague.

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

Selectman Carrier **made a motion** to approve the manifests of November 25, 2024 and public minutes of November 18, 2024, second by Rideout. The vote was as follows: Diorio-aye; Rideout-aye; Johnson-aye; and Carrier-aye. Motion passes unanimously.

New Business:

First presented were:

- 1) Application for Open Container/Alcohol Permit for Roxann Leclaire for Holiday Party on Thursday, December 19, 2024 at Community Center from 3:30 to 5:30 p.m.
- 2) Application for Open Container/Alcohol Permit for Emily Clever for Community Event: Christmas Wreath Decorating at Community Center on Thursday, December 5, 2024 from 6:30 to 8:00 p.m.

Selectman Carrier **made a motion** to approve both Open Container Applications for Leclaire and Clever, second by Johnson. The vote was as follows: Diorio-aye; Rideout-aye; Johnson-aye; and Carrier-aye. Motion passes unanimously.

A Tax Abatement for Eugene Cerone for 60 High Street for 2023 in the amount of \$996.13 was presented. Discussion followed that the assessed value wasn't changed. Selectman Carrier **made a motion** to approve the Tax Abatement for Cerone, second by Rideout. The vote was as follows: Diorio-aye; Rideout-aye; Johnson-aye; and Carrier-aye. Motion passes unanimously.

Sewer Abatements were presented for *In Good We Trust*, 11 Creampot Hill for 2024 3rd quarter in the amount of \$1149.12 and 2024 4th quarter in the amount of \$847.88. This was due to outside watering metered separately. Selectman Rideout **made a motion** to approve the two sewer abatements for *In Good We Trust*, second by Johnson. The vote was as follows: Diorio-aye; Rideout-aye; Johnson-aye; and Carrier-aye. Motion passes unanimously.

T.A. Reports/Requests:

T.A. Lynch reported that there was a Department Head meeting today and handed out a list of what was discussed.

She is waiting for the tax rate from the state and is hoping to hear back by tomorrow. Once received, an emergency meeting may need to be scheduled in order to finalize the rate so a commitment can be run and bills can be mailed by first week of December.

She mentioned that a few budgets are being adjusted: Prop Liab., Cemetery, and Building Inspector. These will need to be reopened for Board of Selectmen approval and are small adjustments.

T.A. Lynch posed questions to the Board re: NHDOT's final design rehabilitation of the Anna Hunt Marsh and Charles Dana Bridges. Currently they have the conceptual plan created by the existing bridge committee with

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the aide of SWRPC and also a conceptual plan of Paul Belagour. Either plan or a mix of the two is likely to have an impact on how their engineer consultants put together a final design. NH DOT's goal is to hold open public hearings with both towns to discuss final design. They are prepared to begin work as soon as the new bridge is open. She asked if the Board would like to initially meet with the Brattleboro Select Board to discuss community goals and objectives before meeting with NH DOT. The state will maintain ownership of the existing bridges. Discussion followed. She stressed the need for a plan to be in place or it could be detrimental to both communities.

T.A. Lynch discussed the upcoming ribbon cutting ceremony on December 3rd and preparation of question which may come up on the future of the two existing bridges. Discussion followed.

She asked if the Board wants to meet on December 3rd as the Fire Department Christmas Party is at Town Hall on December 2 and parking will be a concern. The Board decided to see if something comes up. If so, they can decide to schedule then.

T.A. Lynch discussed the Bridge Ceremony further. It begins at 12:30 on December 3rd. Plans are being finalized tomorrow with DOT by phone. Representatives from both states will be present. She believes the ceremony will conclude in an hour. Following the ceremony, Paul Belagour has invited staff and representatives to the former Whetstone. She asked if Chair Diorio would like to speak and he agreed to do so.

T.A. Lynch informed everyone that with Bob's assistance, they have contacted Todd Kilanski of Winchester Metal Works to do the metal grate repair on the outside of the Town Hall. Casey Burke of Bulldog Masonry was also contacted for repair work on the backside of the Town Hall. He will also provide a quote for full masonry repair work.

T.A. Lynch again asked the Board if they were willing to meet with the Brattleboro Select Board. They are willing to meet and the meeting should take place in Hinsdale.

Board Comments:

Selectman Rideout thanked Selectman Carrier for sitting in for him at the Planning Board Meeting.

Selectman Carrier wished all a Happy Thanksgiving.

Chair Diorio sat in for Selectman Hodgman at the recent Rec Committee Meeting and it was a really good meeting.

Citizen Comments:

Bob Truesdell mentioned the Town Trash Bags to be sold after the first of the year as regular trash bags at cost. He brought up that it was mentioned about possibly sharing with the school and wondered if that was anything the Board is interested in or sell them outright. The Board would like to go with the original plan for now (using for town buildings, perhaps Earth Day, and selling at cost) and see how that goes.

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The Board announced they would be going into non-public. All others left the meeting.

6:30 p.m. Selectman Rideout **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: Diorio-aye; Rideout-aye; Johnson-aye; and Carrier-aye. Motion passes unanimously.

6:40 p.m. Meeting reconvened.

6:40 p.m. Selectman Johnson **made a motion to adjourn**, second by Carrier. Motion passes unanimously.

Respectfully Submitted,

Kim P. Worden, Secretary