

Selectmen's Meeting Minutes
Monday, August 12, 2013

Present: Chairman Mike Darcy; Selectman Gallagher; Selectman Morel and Selectman Rideout; TA Collins. Selectman Ebbighausen was absent.

6:00 p.m. Chairman Mike Darcy called the meeting to order.

Selectmen reviewed the Manifest.

Selectman Morel made a motion to approve Manifest of August 5, 2013, Selectman Rideout second. Motion passes unanimously.

Selectman Morel made a motion to approve Manifest of August 12, 2013, Selectman Gallagher second. Motion passes unanimously.

The Selectmen briefly discussed the Tax Collector's audit and when it would be performed. Audit needs to be performed due to change in office. TA Collins informed the Selectmen that the Audit would be performed in November 2013 and the auditors would go back to March 2013 when change in office was made.

Selectman Morel made a motion to accept Selectmen's Meeting Minutes of July 29, 2013, as corrected, Selectman Gallagher second. Motion passes unanimously.

Selectman Gallagher made a motion to accept Public Hearing Minutes of July 29, 2013, as corrected, Selectman Rideout second. Motion passes unanimously.

Selectman Gallagher made a motion to accept Selectmen Non-Public Meeting Minutes of July 29, 2013, Selectman Rideout second. Motion passes unanimously.

Selectman Rideout made a motion to approve Tax Abatement for Hinsdale Real Estate Development, LLC, in the amount of \$46.29 plus interest, charged interest for 2012, property located on Brattleboro Road, Selectman Gallagher second. Motion passes unanimously.

Selectman Rideout made a motion to approve Tax Abatement for Tracy Wetherby, in the amount of \$122.29 plus interest to date, for 1st and 2nd quarter 2013, property located at 17 Pack Drive, corrected owned with Warranty Deed, supplemental bill to be sent to owner, Selectman Gallagher second. Motion passes unanimously.

Selectman Rideout made a motion to approve Water Abatement for Mark Reffi, in the amount of \$699.84, 2nd quarter 2013, property located at 49 Brattleboro Road, meter reading wrapped around, only 1,000 gallons were used, Selectman Gallagher second. Motion passes unanimously.

Selectman Rideout made a motion to approve Water Abatement for Beverly Bernier, in the amount of \$39.17 for 2nd quarter 2013, well right of way, Selectman Gallagher second. Motion passes unanimously.

Selectman Rideout made a motion for Chairman Darcy to sign an Open Container/Alcohol Permit for a Wedding Reception at the Heritage Park Pavilion on August 25, 2013, 11:30am to 8:00pm, Selectman Gallagher second. Motion passes unanimously.

Selectmen signed the Environment Assessment letter for the Brattleboro/Hinsdale Bridges.

Selectman Morel made a motion to sign the MS1 extension request, which is due by September 1, 2013, Selectman Rideout second. Motion passes unanimously.

Selectman Gallagher made a motion to have Chairman Darcy sign a letter to Underwood Engineers, Selectman Rideout second. Motion passes unanimously.

TA Collins discussed with the Selectmen proposed changes to Water & Sewer Ordinance:

- Dennis inserted 8 ft. for materials other than parking (ex: building materials; snow piles; garbage). The Parking Ordinance covers 15 ft. for parking.
- The connection fee was a typo – it should be 2,750.00. Also should consider changing the connection fee in the sewer ordinance to equal the fee in the water ordinance.

Chairman Darcy made a motion to adopt the changes to Water and Sewer Ordinance, with clarity of the connection fee of water and/or sewer hookup, if it is a onetime fee for both water and sewer hookup or a fee for each hook up and adopt rate changes in effect as of July 1, 2013, Selectman Morel second. Motion passes unanimously.

TA Collins informed the Selectmen there was a disgruntle camper, who requested a tax abatement. The owner thought the wrong camper was assessed, because the color of the camper was wrong on the tax card. It was the correct camper assessed and the color adjusted on the tax card. The owner is happy now and will be paying his taxes.

6:30 p.m. Chairman Darcy welcomed Donna Cole to join the Selectmen to discuss her water bill.

Donna Cole and the Selectmen discussed her outstanding water bill. Ms. Cole requested an extended payment arrangement. The Selectmen discussed a possible payment arrangement for a period of 6 months and then would re-address the arrangement April 2014.

Selectman Rideout made a motion to approve a 6 month payment arrangement of \$100.00 per month, beginning October 1, 2013 and the revisiting the arrangement in April 2014, Selectman Gallagher second. Motion passes unanimously.

6:40 p.m. Chairman Darcy welcomed Edwin Smith to join the Selectmen to further discuss abatement of properties.

The Selectmen gave Mr. Smith the Assessor's write up for his review.

Mr. Smith did not agree with the first sentence in the write up, regarding walls being replaced. Only the bathroom walls were replaced, with sheetrock. The rest of the apartment walls are plaster and have not been replaced.

The Selectmen and Mr. Smith discussed regarding comparable, fair market value and income from rental properties.

The Selectmen reviewed the Vision's paperwork regarding Mr. Smith's two properties.

Assessors use the value if the property is on the market and income of property in their valuation.

Selectman Morel made a motion to adopt Vision's abatement recommendation, on 6 Main Street, of a \$275,100.00 assessment, Selectman Gallagher second. Vote was as follows: 2- II 2- No. Motion does not pass.

Chairman Darcy made a motion to grant an abatement of a \$250,000.00 assessment, on 6 Main Street, Selectman Rideout second. Motion was made as to compromise. Motion passes unanimously.

Selectman Morel made a motion to adopt Vision's abatement recommendation, on 13 Main Street, of a \$301,208.00 assessment, Selectman Rideout second. Vote was as follows: 2-II 2-No. Motion does not pass.

Discussion regarding lower the square footage close to \$40.00 per sq. ft. and deterioration of the building, as the building is 200 years old.

Selectman Rideout made a motion to grant an abatement of a \$290,000.00 assessment, on 13 Main Street, Selectman Gallagher second. Vote was as follows: 3- III 1-No. Motion passes.

7:08 p.m. Selectmen returned to regular session.

The Selectmen had a brief discussion regarding valuation and depreciation of Main Street properties.

The Selectmen had a discussion regarding an elected official having a combined job and the positions were supposed to be kept in two separate offices and the money coming in from the public were supposed to be kept in two separate offices for internal control purposes. This needs to be enforced.

Selectman Morel mentioned the review of job description needs to be finished. TA Collins mentioned possibly scheduling a workshop the third Monday of every month, so the Selectmen could address projects. August 26, 2013 at 7:00pm will be a Selectmen's workshop. Manifest and Minutes will be reviewed between 6:00pm-6:30pm.

TA Collins mention the engineer would be coming down on August 26, 2013 regarding the New Police Station Project.

Selectman Morel mentioned there will be a School Board Meeting on August 21, 2013. Police Chief Faulkner will be attending to discuss the Truancy Officer.

Selectman Gallagher attended the Conservation Committee Meeting. Pet and Grow would like a meeting with the committee. Sarah Bomba was sworn in.

Chairman Darcy mentioned possibly discussing reviews on August 26, 2013 workshop. Also, a reminder come budget season, a discussion regarding "on call pay" and "longevity pay" needs to be part of the budget process.

Chairman Darcy asked the public if there were any comments. It was mentioned to update the website on the approved Selectmen's Meeting Minutes.

7:23 p.m. Selectman Gallagher made a motion to go into Non-Public Meeting, RSA 91A-3, II (a) Personnel, Selectman Rideout second.

Vote was as follows: Darcy-I; Gallagher – I; Morel-I; Rideout-I. Motion passed unanimously.

8:00 p.m. Selectman Gallagher made a motion to come out of Non-Public Meeting, Selectman Rideout second. Motion passes unanimously.

Selectman Gallagher made a motion to seal the Non-Public Meeting Minutes, Selectman Rideout second. Motion passes unanimously.

Selectman Morel discussed whether it was worth it to send out letters to companies regarding the importance of the Hinsdale/Brattleboro bridges to their companies. The letters would request their signatures and ask to be returned to the Selectmen's Office, so when attending the Hinsdale/Brattleboro bridge meetings the letters could be presented. Selectman Morel also discussed the possibility of having a petition signed by local public regarding the importance of the bridges being back on the ten year waiting list.

Chairman Darcy suggested posting on Town of Hinsdale Selectman's Facebook regarding the petition.

The Selectmen discussed the status of closing on 12 Main Street and that a boundary line adjustment between the adjoining property owner has been agreed upon.

Selectman Rideout discussed additional items that should go into the informational binders that Selectman Gallagher brought into the Selectmen's office. Items mentioned were as follows:

- Quality of life
- Small school system and programs within the school
- Accomplishments and goals of the Town
- Demographics
- Housing
- Activities that go on in the Town

Selectman Gallagher discussed the new Police cruiser. It is all wheel drive and very roomie.

8:15 p.m. Selectman Rideout made a motion to adjourn, Selectman Gallagher second. Motion passes unanimously.

Respectfully Submitted,
Alicia A. Marshall
Secretary