



TOWN OF HANOVER
550 HANOVER STREET
HANOVER, MASSACHUSETTS 02339

Advisory Committee

Hanover Advisory Committee
550 Hanover Street
Hanover, MA 02339
Meeting Minutes
Wednesday, March 30, 2022 – 6:00 PM
In-Person & Virtual Meeting

Committee Attendees

Emmanuel Dockter	Steve Freedman
Sandy Hayes	Joan Port-Farwell
Greg Satterwhite	Gavin Little-Gill
Gerry O’Hearn	

Residents At Large

Mike Cianciola	Doug MacLellan
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Absent

Jim Hoyes

Other Attendees

Joe Colangelo, Town Mgr.	Chelsea Stevens, Finance Dir.
Matt Ferron, Supt. of Schools	Mike Perrone,
Jason Cavallaro, Fire Chief	Tim Kane, Police Chief
Victor Diniak, Dir. of DPW	Steve Louko, Select Board
Maryann Brugnoli, Chair, Planning Board	

Chairman Dockter called the meeting to order at 6:03 PM. There were 7 members present.

There were no public comments.

Chair Dockter asked if the committee was ready to approve minutes. A motion was made to accept minutes for the 3/2/22 meeting. The motion was seconded. The minutes passed, with a roll call vote.

A motion was made to accept minutes for the 3/9/22 meeting. The motion was seconded. The minutes passed with a roll call vote.

A motion was made to accept minutes for the 3/16/22 meeting. The motion was seconded. The minutes passed with a roll call vote.

Chair Dockter asked Adam Hill from Park & Rec to discuss Article 42 – Forge Pond Park Lighting Investigative Study. Adam talked about the hours the lights would be on until 10:30. The lighting

would be for all six fields over a period of time. He addressed the way the lights won't reflect up. The bulbs have a 20-25 year life span. Adam shared that the community will benefit from having the lights. Chief Kane answered the question on the impact on police patrol. The Chief doesn't see any changes to what they are already doing. Christine Stickney, Town Planner, shared that they need to come before ZBA with stamped lighting plans. **Question** - What would the \$12,000 be spent on? The committee wants to review the ZBA docs. Chair Dockter asked if there were any additional questions. There were none. Chair Dockter thanked Adam for coming to the meeting and sharing information from Park & Rec.

Chair Dockter welcomed Maryann Brugnoli, Planning Board Chair. Maryann came to review with the committee Article 19 – Amend/Eliminate Zoning Bylaw 6.11 – VPUD. Maryann shared that the committee has spent 6 months reviewing this article. The committee reviewed the ratio of commercial to residential and for housing type. They met with Department Heads to determine impact for their departments. It was agreed that any VPUD development would, by its nature, have an impact on Police, Fire, DPW and the School System. As the committee continued to look at existing sites, utilizing the criteria specific in the VPUD for acreage, upland area, open space, and access to Rte. 53, they hit a roadblock. Parcels large enough were found to have Title V issues; large wetland areas identified by Hanover Conservation Commission, as well as the DEP, Flood Plain issues and lacked direct access onto Rte. 53. The Planning Board determined that it would be extremely unlikely that a VPUD could be constructed on Rte. 53.

Governor Baker has added a new section to the Zoning Act that requires MBTA Communities, of which Hanover is one, to adopt a Zoning District where multi-family zoning is permitted as a Right. On December 15, 2021, the Department of Housing and Community Development issued draft guidelines for MBTA Communities to begin to formulate zoning. The Planning Board and staff will be working this initiative throughout the remainder of 2022 and 2023.

The Planning Board asked that Advisory Committee vote in favor of Article 19 as presented in the Warrant.

Chair Dockter thanked Maryann for her presentation.

Chair Dockter welcomed Supt. Ferron and Mike Perrone for the schools. Matt shared that they are still in a state of flux. He is hopeful that monies from the state will be positive increases. Matt shared that expenses have jumped. ESER and the IDEA Grant are going away. Matt shared they are going to take a shift in strategy to be more transparent. District placements are the concern and considering this strategy going forward. We need the reserve fund. Rather than go through funding sources we could spend down the SPED Reserve and that would be the number we request for the SPED Reserve, targeting SPED Reserve specifically. Matt felt strongly about doing it this way and it will help us and help the Advisory Committee. It allows us for FY23 how much Circuit Breaker we can roll forward. In eight months we will have a better view of where things are (Circuit Breaker and SPED. We should be able to hedge operating costs.

Question – 6.5 is an overwhelming number, have you given consideration to outside counseling services that could use insurance benefits to help defray costs? Ed Plans have these built into them and that requires we build into the day. It is a gray area bringing them into the schools.

Chair Dockter asked if there were any more questions. There were none. Chair Dockter thanked Matt and Mike for coming to the meeting to discuss their budget further.

Chair Dockter welcomed Fire Chief Jason Cavallaro to discuss Special Town Meeting Articles #4 – 10 Year Service Agreement with Global Traffic Technologies, LLC for service deployment of an Opticom EVP system consisting of hardware and software for intersections, and vehicles or take any other action relative thereto. Jason had a short PowerPoint presentation where he shared with the Committee what EVP is and why it is important for traffic control for emergency vehicles. This system is where an emergency vehicle as it approaches an intersection with a working Opticom system can change the light to allow the vehicle to proceed with vehicles being notified in sufficient time to pull - over and allow the emergency vehicle(s) to proceed. The major question was do they have less than a 10 year contracts. Town Manager Joe Colangelo shared that he doesn't foresee this having any impact of the operating budget. Chair Dockter thanked Chief Cavallaro for his presentation.

Chair Dockter welcomed Select Board Member Steve Louko to discuss Article 28 – Appropriate Funds – School Campus Planning Design and/or Engineering (\$125,000 Free Cash). There was discussion on if the Select Board has created commentary for this article. The committee had questions on options other than the proposed location for the new connector road between the Middle School and the High School. The current path is used as a path to and from the Middle and High School along with being a cross country route. There are maps online for review.

Question – A member had a question about athletics and Chair Dockter asked the member to follow-up with Scott Hutchinson.

Chair Dockter asked Select Board member Steve Louko to discuss Article 33 – Appropriate Funds – Improvements Route 139/Town Center (\$250,000 Free Cash). Steve shared that there was a 139 Study Committee. The committee was not only concerned about the Center of Town, but also the intersections of Grove St and Plain St. Steve shared that the \$250,000 was to work within the state guidelines to have a shovel ready plan for the Center of Town. Victor Diniak, Director of DPW was asked to come forward and discuss this article with Steve. Victor shared that Rt. 139 is a state highway and they control the process! They will be looking at the corridor and not just the center of town, but we have to follow the state requirements in order to be eligible for funds as they become available. There may be a need for additional funds to continue the project, but if we don't take action we will miss opportunities that become available from the state. Chair Dockter thanked Steve for his presentations.

Chair Dockter asked Victor to stay so he could review several articles. The first article that Chair Dockter asked Victor to discuss was – Water Enterprise Budget Appropriate \$4,354,328 from Water Enterprise receipts to defray Water Enterprise direct costs and that \$463,395 as appropriated in the General Fund Operating Budget be used for Water indirect costs, all to fund the total cost of operations of the Water Enterprise as stated in the detail of the article.

Personnel Services	\$1,794,135
Other Expenses	\$1,650,960
Debt Service	\$909,233
Appropriate for Direct Costs	\$4,354,328
Indirect Costs – Reimburse General Fund for Shared Expenses	\$463,395

Total Cost – Water Enterprise	\$4,817,723
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Victor shared that PFAS are under control. All the information is available on the DPW website.

Victor continued with to– Article 31 – Appropriate Funds – Transfer Station Capital (Main Compactor Upgrades (\$500,000 debt). The question from the committee was can this be delayed. Victor shared that it can be delayed, but he is trying to increase tonnage so he can utilize rail and our compactor cannot be put on a rail car. In his opinion he thinks we could pay a penalty on waiting. We will have to do this because the current compactor has and will continue to have metal fatigue.

Victor continued to Article 34 – Appropriate Funds – Roadway Improvements Broadway and Elm Street (\$500,000 Free Cash). There are safety concerns for this intersection. Police Chief Tim Kane joined Victor in the discussion on this article. Chief Kane shared that this intersection has increased accidents. The sight lines are bad at this intersection. There were questions relating to the power company taking down limbs and/or trees on the south west side of this intersection. There is a picture available on the town website with the design plan. Chair Dockter thanked Victor for his updated information for the above articles for the committee.

Chair Dockter asked Chief Kane about the body camera article. Chief Kane shared that it is not on the warrant because they are looking at the possibility of using grant money.

Chair Dockter asked if there was anyone presented to discuss Article 48 – Council on Aging Henry S. Newcomb Hall – Rental Fee Change to \$250 for a 4-hour period and \$500 for an 8-hour period. With said fund to be applied to the Council on Aging Revolving Fund. There wasn't anyone present to talk about this article. Chair Dockter asked if Joe could get information on what the current fees and reason for this change.

Chair Dockter asked the committee to go through the articles that were in question.

Special Town Meeting Articles

4- 10 Year Service Agreement - Committee is OK with this article.

5 – Transfer Funds – Snow & Ice Expenses – Committee is OK with this article.

Annual Town Meeting Articles

9 – PEG Sources of Funds – Verizon - Ok

19 - VPUD Article –

22 – Ballistic Gear - \$60,000 –OK

23 - Ambulance debt from ambulance receipts

28 – School Campus Engineering Plan

31 – Transfer Station Main Compactor

33 – Rte. 139/Town Center Roadway Improvements

42 – Forge Pond Lighting

48 – COA Rental Fee Change – Need more information

6 – Town Clerk salary – The committee talked through a couple of options. They will review the options at the next meeting.

The next meetings will be on 4/6 and 4/13.

Chair Dockter asked for a motion to adjourn. The motion was seconded. The motion passed unanimously with a roll-call vote... The meeting adjourned at 9:01 pm.