

Meeting Minutes of the Special Meeting of Hanover Select Board held in a hybrid format with both in person attendees in the First Floor Hearing Room of Hanover Town Hall and remote attendees via Zoom videoconference on Monday, February 28th, 2022 @ 7:00 P.M.

Call meeting to order

At 7:00pm the Chair called the meeting to order in the First Floor Hearing Room of Hanover Town Hall.

Present were Chairman Delaney, Vice Chair Nyman, Selectman Tuzik, Selectwoman O'Connor and Selectman Steve Louko.

Public Comment

The Chair asked for any public comments, seeing none.

TM introduced the Board to Theo Flannagan who is going to be interning in the Town Manager's office this Summer.

Meeting Minutes

The Chair asked for any questions or comments regarding the Meeting Minutes of February 7, 2022, seeing none. The Board voted to approve the Meeting Minutes of February 7, 2022.

The Chair asked for any questions or comments regarding the Meeting Minutes of February 14, 2022, seeing none. The Board voted to approve the Meeting Minutes of February 14, 2022.

Presentation from Dan Jones of the North River Commission

Dan Jones appeared before Board as Hanover's Representative to the North River Commission, and provided the Board with an overview of the work the North River Commission performs.

Introduction to the FY2023 Water Enterprise Budget

Director of Public Works Victor Diniak and Deputy Superintendent of Public Works (Water Operations) Neal Merritt appeared before the Board and presented the Introduction to the FY2023 Water Enterprise Budget, [attached](#), and discussed the presentation with the Board.

Hanover Veterans Services Behavioral Health Initiative (BHI) Program

The Director of Community Services Tammy Murray (DCS) appeared before the Board and launched the new [Veterans Services Behavioral Health Initiative Program \(BHI\)](#). She thanked Veterans Service Officer James Crosby (VSO) for his work on the project and announced that information regarding the program is available on the Town website. TM commented that this program is being funded by a small amount of the Town's ARPA allocation and that he is happy with what DCS and VSO have been able to do to put this grass roots community-based program together to help local Veterans and their families.

Traffic Safety - Discussion of the Concept of a Rte. 139 Action Committee

Selectman Louko presented the proposal of forming a new "Route 139 Action Committee", [presentation attached](#). He commented that this proposal is a product of a meeting he had with Vice Chair Nyman, TM and the Director of Public Works Victor Diniak during which issues with

the traffic and dangerous intersections along Route 139 were discussed. The Board discussed the proposal. TM stated that he agreed that this is an important enough and complex enough project to make a stand-alone committee a good idea. The Chair asked for any questions or comments, seeing none. The Chair directed that this topic be put on the next meeting's agenda.

Reorganization - Consideration of the Merger of Town Recreation Programs with FACE (Office of Family and Community Engagement) under Hanover Public Schools pursuant to the Town Manager Act.

The Chair noted that the Board has been discussing this topic over the past two meetings. TM informed the Board that the School Committee discussed this at their last meeting and are fine with the merger, and furthermore, Parks and Rec Committee have discussed this merger and are favorable towards it. TM informed the Board that according to the Town Manager Act this merger would need to be approved by the Select Board as a reorganization, which would take the Recreation function which is under the Town and move it under the FACE program which is part of the School. DSC and Kelly Lawrence Director of FACE appeared before the Board via Zoom and discussed the merger with the Board.

The Board voted to approve the Merger of the Town Recreation Program with FACE (Office of Family and Community Engagement) as proposed by the Town Manager.

Annual & Special Town Meeting

TM stated there is one proposed change to the Annual Town Meeting Warrant this evening, in particular to Article 20 Mandate of video recording of all public meetings. As an outcome of last Bylaw review Committee there is amended proposed language for article 20 which is better than the original proposed language.

The Board voted to open the Annual Town Meeting Warrant. The Chair confirmed that there were no questions or comments, and read the proposed amended language into the record, [attached](#). The Board voted to approve the amendment to Article 20 as stated.

The Board discussed Article 11 setting limits on revolving funds with Finance Director Chelsea Stevens (FD) and TM. FD agreed to look into renaming the Parks and Rec Revolving fund to only include the Parks Fund now that the merger has been approved. FD also agreed to look into lowering that revolving fund limit now that it no longer includes the recreation fund. The Chair confirmed with TM that this will be put on a future agenda to make those changes.

The Chair confirmed that there were no other questions or comments on the Annual Town Meeting Warrant. The Board voted to close the Annual Town Meeting Warrant.

TM and FD presented the Special Town Meeting Warrant Articles to the Board.

The Board agreed to open and approve the articles in the Special Town Meeting Warrant at a future date. FD agreed to work to provide more detail on Article 3 of the Special Town Meeting Warrant.

Work Agreements & Legal - Consider approving Work Agreements for the Police and Fire Chiefs

The Board thanked Chief Cavallaro and Chief Kane for working as Interim Fire and Police Chiefs respectively during the time that TM prepared contract proposals and the Board considered them. The Board thanked the for accepting the positions and the additional responsibilities and hours that go with it.

TM ran through a few changes that should be made to the current Draft of the Fire Chief Work Agreement for Jason Cavallaro which is posted online.

In the first line of the contract, “through June 30th 2024”, should change to “through December 31, 2024”.

Also, paragraph one of Chief Cavallaro’s contract, in particular the third sentence, should be amended to match paragraph one of Police Chief Kane’s contract.

TM stated for the record that there are protections written in the General Bylaws for the Police and Fire Chief positions, in particular Section 4-14 for the Police Chief and Section 4-15 for the Fire Chief. Once the Chief’s contracts are approved and the Police and Fire Chief appointments are approved by the Board as required, then per the bylaws each is on a 6-month probationary period, which, if approved tonight, would run out on September 1st. Once the probationary period expires, then any new contract is not a re-appointment to Police and/or Fire Chief. Any new contract would be an outline of updated compensation and benefits, however each would continue on as Police and Fire Chief respectively. The appointment is no longer up for debate.

TM agreed at the Board’s request to add clarifying language to both contracts that vacation time cannot be carried over from one year to the next, noting that all including Tim Kane and Jason Cavallaro are on the same page on that.

The Board voted to approve the Work Agreements for [Police Chief Tim Kane](#) and [Fire Chief Jason Cavallaro](#) as presented with the changes discussed.

TM announced that the first 30 minutes of the next Select Board meeting will be A Pinning Ceremony for Chief Kane and Chief Cavallaro.

Consider approving Hanover’s participation in a Multi-District PFAS Litigation and Authorize the Town Manager to execute required documents on behalf of the Select Board with Napoli Shkolnik PLLC for the purpose of representing the Town of Hanover in this litigation.

The Board discussed taking part in the Class Action lawsuit involving PFAS and noted that in Town Counsel’s opinion the Town did not have anything to lose in taking part, and if successful it could be of benefit to the Town. The Chair further noted that this is a contingency case so if there were a victory the law firm would take a percentage and the Town would receive the balance of a determined amount.

The Board voted to approve Hanover's participation a Multi-District PFAS Litigation and authorize the Town Manager to execute required documents on behalf of the Select Board with Napoli Shkolnik PLLC for the purpose of representing the Town of Hanover in this litigation.

Town Manager Report

TM mentioned that there have been a lot of emails recently regarding field use. TM mentioned that the Park and Rec Committee has the responsibility per the Bylaws for permitting the use of all rec fields and staff has been offering them guidance on how to accommodate the various uses while keeping it safe for the kids. The Board discussed this with TM.

Select Board Forum

The Chair mentioned that this is the time of year that the 8th Grade students, one of which is his son this year, bring forth their ideas regarding changes in Town and learn about how the Town operates. The ideas are starting to come in and the Chair requested that the Board address them at an upcoming meeting.

The Vice Chair asked that we all keep the people of Ukraine in our thoughts and prayers and stated that she hopes that the situation over there will come to an end really soon.

Adjourn

The meeting ended and adjourned at:9:08pm