

Meeting Minutes of the Regular Meeting of Hanover Board of Selectmen held in a hybrid format via teleconference as well as in person in the First Floor Hearing Room of Hanover Town Hall on Monday, June 21, 2021 @ 6:30 PM.

Executive Session (6:30pm)

In accordance with MGL Chapter 30A Sections 21(a)2, and 21(a)6, the Chair requested a roll call vote to enter into Executive Session to conduct a strategy session related to the ongoing negotiations being conducted between the Town Manager, Assistant Town Manager and Finance Director who are representing the Town of Hanover/Board of Selectmen in the collective bargaining agreement negotiations with the Police Union, and also contract negotiations with non-union personnel, namely the Community Services Director, and to discuss the value of real property with regards to the extension of the 70 Legion Drive 121A Agreement, as he had determined that a discussion in Open Session would have a detrimental effect on the negotiations. The Chair announced that the Board will be returning to Open Session.

Roll Call Vote: Selectman Louko, aye, Selectwoman O'Connor, aye, Vice Chair Nyman, aye, Selectman Tuzik, aye, Chairman Delaney, aye.

The Board moved into Executive Session at 6:30 p.m.

Call Meeting to Order

At 7:31 p.m., the Board returned to Open Session. The Chair arranged for the inclusion of Open Session remote participants and called the meeting to order at 7:35 p.m.

Present at Town Hall, Chairman David Delaney, Vice Chair Rhonda Nyman, Selectmen John Tuzik and Steve Louko, and via Zoom Selectwoman Vanessa O'Connor.

Also present at Town Hall, Town Manager (TM) Joseph Colangelo, and Executive Assistant Janet Tierney.

Public Comments

The Chair reminded those listening that the First Annual Hanover Pride Event is taking place this Thursday at 6pm at Forge Pond Park in conjunction with the Food Truck Festival. He further mentioned that the event is free to attend, and there will be music and refreshments for sale.

The Chair requested public comments on anything not on the agenda this evening, seeing none. Vice Chair Nyman thanked her fellow Board Members for stepping up and issuing the Reaffirmation of the Board's Statement on Community Inclusiveness. She stated that due to a family commitment, she was unable to attend the meeting, however she is in full support of the Reaffirmation and has signed the statement this evening.

The Vice Chair also mentioned that it is Elder Abuse month as evidenced by the purple and white signs out on people's lawns. She stressed the importance of treating everyone with kindness.

Minutes

The Chair asked for any questions or concerns regarding the minutes, seeing none.

The Board voted to approve the Meeting Minutes of June 7, 2021 and June 16, 2021.

Approved
7/19/2021

Appointments

TM requested the Board's ratification of his appointment of David Sawin as an Associate Member of the Conservation Commission for a 2-year term. Mr. Sawin appeared before the Board, provided his background and expressed his interest in serving on the Commission. The Board voted to ratify TM's appointment of David Sawin to the Conservation Commission as Associate Member for a 2-year term.

The Board voted to approve the Board of Selectmen and Town Manager Board and Committee Reappointments, attached.

The Board voted to accept the Board of Selectmen Board and Committee Liaison Reorganization List.

Donation

Maureen Cooke, President of the VNA Community Foundation Inc., appeared before the Board and presented the 2021 \$5,000.00 Parks and Recreation Campership Donation which will cover approximately 25 to 30 camperships. The Board thanked Maureen and the VNA Community Foundation Inc for all the work they do.

Presentation from Finance Director and Board of Registrars on (Re)Precincting

Finance Director (FD) Chelsea Stevens provided a presentation to the Board regarding (Re)Precincting, attached. FD invited the Board to reach out to her or Carol Mattes with any feedback or questions, and informed the Board that the (Re)Precincting map will be coming back before the Board in October for approval.

FD informed the board that possible changes in the Legislation may trigger changes to the facts within tonight's presentation and affirmed that if the population in Town were to go over 60,000, the Town would need to reform the precincting to include a new 5th precinct.

Review of 8th Grade Civics Class Letters

The Board and TM discussed letters they had received from the 8th Grade Civics Class. The topics raised in the letters included a later start time for school days, how best to deal with the lack of a home run fence at the Sylvester Baseball Field, better air quality assessments and air conditioning in the schools, town wide sidewalks, the use of plastic bags in town and changing the name of the Board of Selectmen to a more gender-neutral title. The Board asked that the student who had proposed changing the name of the Board of Selectmen be invited to a future meeting to discuss the topic, and thanked all the students for getting involved and sharing their input and ideas.

Agreements

Consider Approving Extension of 121A Agreement with 70 Legion Drive

The Board informed those listening that the 40-year agreement for affordable housing with the Hanover Legion Elderly Housing Corporation was coming to an end and the Board, having had discussed this topic during tonight's Executive Session, hopes to work with that group to extend the agreement. The Board voted to direct the Town Manager and Town Counsel to draft a six (6) month extension to the Section 6A Agreement as it pertains to the Hanover Legion Elderly Housing Corporation, so that Hanover Legion Elderly Housing Corporation may accomplish some housekeeping items in order to extend the agreement further.

Consider Approving a Work Agreement for the Community Services Director

The Chair informed those listening, that the Board had briefly discussed the topic of the Community Service Director's Work Agreement during tonight's Executive Session, however as Executive Session had run late, the Board did not wish to keep people waiting for Open Session. Therefore, the Board cut the discussion short and may return to Executive Session once this evening's meeting is over in order to have a proper discussion of the topic.

Policies

Proposed Policy for the Disposition of Town Owned Land

TM discussed the proposed policy for the Disposition of Town Owned Land with the Board. Resident Ken Greene joined the discussion.

The Board requested to see the list of vacant parcels under the control of the Board of Selectmen. The Board further directed that this topic be put on a future agenda to allow time for the Board to review the Draft Policy.

TM agreed if the list wasn't already posted on the website, he would make sure it gets posted, and welcomed feedback on the Draft Policy.

Consider Amending Policy for Cash Receipts and Turnover [Board of Selectmen Policy 7-10]

The Chair requested any questions, concerns or input regarding the proposed amendments to the Policy for Cash Receipts and Turnovers presented to the Board by FD at the last meeting, seeing none. The Board voted to adopt FD's proposed amendments to Policy 7-10 Cash Receipts and Turnovers.

Water Rates

Consider Adopting Water Rates for Fiscal Year 2022 [Board of Selectmen Policy 7-17]

DPW Director Victor Diniak discussed the attached Water Rate Presentation with the Board. He suggested moving from a quarterly bill to a monthly bill so that people could consider their usage.

The Board voted to adopt the Water Rates for Fiscal Year 2022 as described in Scenario 2 of the Presentation.

The Board discussed the second piece of the presentation regarding sprinkler connection charges with Mr. Diniak. The Board requested comparative data on this from surrounding towns before making a decision. Mr. Diniak agreed to provide the information.

Town Manager Report

Tm gave a shout out for a job well done to Firefighter Sebastian Rivas and Firefighter Jonathan Pelletier, who on Father's Day, delivered a baby on way to hospital in the back of an ambulance. He also recognized Fire Captain Freeman who was driving the ambulance.

Selectmen Forum

Selectwoman O'Connor called attention to resident Greg Satterwhite who had emailed to say he had been waiting to speak on the Disposition of Town Owned Land Policy. The Chair welcomed him to speak. Greg discussed a potential informational checklist for these parcels with the purpose of giving people a better idea of what the parcels are, what they may be best used for and which parcels may be best suited for disposition by the Town. The Board thanked Mr. Satterwhite.

The Chair reminded those listening about the Pride event Thursday night at 6pm at Forge Pond Park, noting that the weather is looking good.

The Chair discussed input he had received from Ken Greene regarding decommissioning the Wind Turbine, and suggested that the Board look further into doing that.

Selectwoman O'Connor informed the Board that she is working with TM and Summer Intern Joe Clinton to put together a handbook/guide for new volunteers on the various Town Committees, in order to encourage new and existing volunteers to get involved and feel more comfortable in that volunteer role.

Executive Session

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The Chair announced that the Board may, if necessary to conduct further business, return to Open Session. If not, this discussion will carry forward to the next Board of Selectmen meeting.

Roll call vote: Selectman Louko, aye, Selectwoman O'Connor, aye, Vice Chair Nyman, aye, Selectman Tuzik, aye, Chairman Delaney, aye.

At 8:46 p.m. the Board moved into Executive Session.

At 9:28 p.m. the Board returned to Open Session.

The meeting ended and adjourned at 9:29 p.m.