

Meeting Minutes of the Regular Meeting of Hanover Board of Selectmen held via teleconference on Monday, October 19, 2020 @ 7:00 PM.

Present at Town Hall, Chairman David Delaney. Present via Zoom video conference were Vice Chair Rhonda Nyman, Selectmen John Tuzik and John Barry and Selectwoman Vanessa O'Connor. Also present, Town Manager (TM) Joseph Colangelo, Executive Assistant Janet Tierney, Assistant Town Manager (ATM) Ann Lee, and Finance Director (FD) Lincoln Heineman.

Call Meeting to Order

The Chair called the meeting to order and asked for any public commentary. Representative Dave DeCoste raised his virtual hand to speak. Representative DeCoste informed the Board that he has forwarded the analysis regarding the governor's budget and asked that the Board reach out to him with any questions. Representative DeCoste also discussed the need for funding for the North River Commission and informed the Board that it is a priority within the Plymouth County Caucus to obtain that funding.

Selectman Barry expressed a hope to get more attention from upper level management at DEP regarding Phase III of the Fireworks Site Clean up and in particular to have the Commissioner come and visit the site.

The Chair mentioned that he had been contacted by residents regarding the traffic on Broadway and he would like to get this issue on the Agenda in the near future and invite Landers to be part of the discussion and address the current issues.

The Chair asked for any other public comments. Seeing none the board moved on to the next agenda item.

Meeting Minutes

The Board voted to approve the meeting minutes of September 18, 2020 and September 21st. Selectman Barry excused himself from the meeting and asked to be updated after the meeting.

Presentations

TM and FD presented the Preliminary FY2022 + 5 Year Capital Plan Presentation to the Board. TM requested guidance from the Board with regards to parameters and principles TM and FD can use to formulate the final version of the plan. The Board discussed the preliminary FY2022 + 5 Year Capital Plan with TM and FD. TM requested that the Board weigh in, over the next month to month and a half, from a policy perspective, their willingness to entertain concept of issuing debt for projects, and also whether or not they are interested in pursuing specific larger desired projects. The Board discussed the concept of debt with TM and FD.

Hanover resident Harold Thomas, resident and Co-Chair of the Open Space Committee, raised his virtual hand and spoke with the Board regarding Sylvester Field, the land on Washington Street. Mr. Thomas mentioned that it is significant from an Open Space standpoint and Historical standpoint. He informed the Board that the Open Space Committee is in the process of filing an application for a CPC grant to fund the purchase of a Conservation Restriction in the amount of \$250,000.00 on the property as requested by the Wildlands Trust, who will be making an offer on the property. and would be the owner of the property going forward.

Approved
11/2/2020

Bill Scarpelli resident and Chair of CPC joined the meeting and discussed the Sylvester and Salmond school project with the Board, and asked for a commitment from the Board of Selectmen on the idea of renovating Sylvester School, placing the School Department in it and then in a second phase sell the school as affordable housing. The Chair offered background on the project as a former member of the Sylvester School redevelopment Committee and stated that it is something for the Board to discuss moving forward. Mr. Scarpelli also questioned the Board and TM about plans to fill the position of Town Planner. TM informed the Board that the Town does not have the amount budgeted to fill the position this year, and the earliest funding would be available would be July 1, 2021 and soonest could possibly have a Town Planner would be 10 months from now. TM informed the Board that in the meantime there are consulting firms the Town can use in the absence of a Town Planner to help projects move forward.

Ted Hickey, resident and Chair of the Advisory committee joined the meeting and discussed the Budget with the Board.

The Chair asked for questions or comments.

Hanover resident and Fire Station Planning Committee member Roger Leslie raised his virtual hand and spoke with the Board regarding the Town's need for a new fire station in order to shorten the emergency response time to the North side of Town to within the recommended limits. Selectwoman O'Connor, who serves as the Board of Selectmen Liaison on the Fire Station Planning Committee, mentioned that the Board should consider allocating some initial funds to enable the project to become shovel ready should grant money become available.

TM discussed a preliminary list of Annual Town Meeting Warrant Articles and requested feedback from the Board on what the Board would like to focus on and include.

The Chair requested that the Board members take this under consideration and the topic be added to a future Agenda.

Policies:

The Board voted to adopt the amended Temporary Outdoor Dining Policy.

The Board discussed Selectwoman Nyman's appointment as one of the Board of Selectman Liaisons to the Fireworks Site Focus Committee. Selectwoman Nyman informed the Board that she has spoken with Assistant Attorney General of the Environmental Protection Division regarding a potential conflict of interest with her serving on the Fireworks Site Focus Committee as a family member of Selectwoman Nyman owns a business located near the site. The Assistant Attorney General has cleared Selectwoman Nyman to serve on the Committee as she does not have any ownership or financial interest in the business and therefore there is no conflict of interest. Selectwoman Nyman informed the Board that the Assistant Attorney General cautioned the Board that at most, they may have two members of the Board of Selectmen present at the Fireworks Site Focus Committee meetings in order to avoid giving the appearance of an open meeting violation.

The Board voted to appoint Selectwoman Nyman and Selectman Barry as the Liaisons to the Fireworks Committee and also appoint Selectwoman O'Connor as the alternate Liaison to the Fireworks Committee noting that all are fully aware of the disclosures that have been made. Selectman Tuzik, aye, Chairman Delaney, aye, Vice Chair Nyman, aye. Selectwoman O'Connor abstained from voting.

Approved
11/2/2020

The Board voted to appoint Tom Burke as the Affordable Housing Trust Representative to the Community Preservation Committee.

The Board voted to approve the Warrant for the November 3rd, 2020 State Election as provided by the Town Clerk.

The Board voted to approve the Memorandum of Understanding

FD informed the Board that the vote would authorize school superintendent to enter into an MOU with three state agencies to work towards getting some reimbursement for the amounts the Town Spends for transportation costs the Town incurs in providing transport foster children who had been Hanover students and have moved to a different foster home. The law allows those foster children to continue to attend Hanover Schools and requires the school district to pay for the transportation. This vote, if approved, would allow the School Superintendent to enter into an MOU with state agencies to in an attempt to get some reimbursement for those costs that the school district is realizing.

The Board voted to approve the MOU for transportation through Every Student Succeeds Act per the vote at the Special 2020 Town Meeting.

In accordance with MGL Chapter 30A Section 21(a)2, the Chair made a motion 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 HMEL, AFSME and Police Unions as the Chair had determined that a discussion in open session would have a detrimental effect on the negotiations. The Board will not be returning to open session.

Roll call vote: Vice Chair Nyman, aye, Selectwoman O'Connor, aye, Selectman Tuzik, aye, Chairman Delaney, aye. At 8:54pm the Board moved into Executive Session.

The meeting ended and adjourned at 10:09 p.m.

Approved
11/2/2020