

Meeting Minutes of a Special Meeting of Hanover Board of Selectmen held at Town Hall on Monday, December 16, 2019 @ 8:00 AM.

Present were Chairman John Tuzik, Vice-Chair, Emmanuel Dockter, Selectwoman Jocelyn Keegan and Selectman John Barry. Selectman Delaney was unable to attend. Also present: Town Manager (TM) Joe Colangelo and Administrative Assistant/Licensing Coordinator Janet Tierney.

At 8:00 a.m. Chairman Tuzik opened the meeting and asked if any member of the audience had any general commentary for the Open Forum portion of the meeting; no response.

The approval of previous meeting minutes was postponed to a future meeting.

Water Rates

Resident Joe Zavalia appeared before the Board to discuss his concerns with water quality, and in particular health concerns that may stem from high contaminate levels in his home's water. He informed the Board that he is at the end of the Town system and as he understood it, the longer the water is in the pipes the higher the contamination levels will be. He requested assistance from the Town in installing a water filtration system in his home. The Board thanked Mr. Zavalia for coming in and discussing his concerns. They assured him that water quality is at the forefront of the Board's priorities and while they are working on the quality issues, they were meeting today to deal with the revenue portion. The Board recommended that Mr. Zavalia speak with DPW Director Victor Diniak and TM after the meeting. Furthermore, the Board expressed an interest in hearing any advice Mr. Zavalia's Dr. may offer concerning the water quality levels and matching the levels up with health concerns. The Board then discussed the possibility of working offline with local physicians in order to gather more information on this topic.

The Board clarified that they cannot fund the water enterprise expenses through property taxes on the town side of the budget as it is a completely separate fund and expenses, therefore user fees have to fund the water enterprise expenses. The Board acknowledged the reason for Mr. Zavalia's frustration. The Town has been working on this issue for years, has been approved through town meeting many millions of dollars to change out the treatment systems. The Town is planning to flip the switch on the new system soon, possibly next month, and this is expected to address the issues Mr. Zavalia raised.

Set Water Rates

DPW Director Victor Diniak and Finance Director Lincoln Heineman appeared before the Board to discuss the three proposals for setting the water usage rates.

The Board clarified that the reason the Board is making this adjustment now is because the Town of Hanover received notice from Department of Revenue and the Town is in a quasi-emergency fiscal situation with a need to make a quick short term change. Beginning next year the Board will be meeting to make a more long term change.

Vice Chairman Dockter made a motion to accept Proposal #3, attached. The motion was not seconded and therefore failed.

The Board requested a report back on the efforts and exact steps we need from the State in order to increase the Town's permit. In a vote of 3 to 1 the Board voted to set the Water

APPROVED

1/21/20

Rate as proposed in Proposal #1, attached. Chairman Tuzik, aye, Selectman Barry, aye, Selectwoman Keegan, aye, Vice Chairman Dockter, nay.

The DPW Director informed the Board that the notices were due to go out today and be posted on the website. They will also be blasting them out on social media. The Board requested the date or a range of dates that the new system will be online so that information can be given out to the public as well.

Class I Automobile License Renewal

Licensing Coordinator Janet Tierney appeared before the Board and disclosed that although Infiniti of Hanover had originally declined to renew their Class I Auto license, their business circumstances had changed. They now believe they will be doing business into the month of January 2020, and respectfully requested that they be allowed to renew their Class I Auto license for 2020.

The Board voted to renew the Class I Auto License for Grubbs Automotive MA, LLC doing business as Infiniti of Hanover, located at 2060 Washington Street.

Meeting ended and adjourned at 8:40 a.m.