

Meeting Minutes of Regular Meeting of Hanover Board of Selectmen held at Town Hall on Monday, February 3, 2020 @ 7:00 PM.

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

At 7:00 p.m. Chairman Tuzik opened the meeting and asked if any member of the audience had any comment or discussion item for the Open Forum portion of the meeting; no response.

Meeting Minutes

The Board voted to approve the Board of Selectmen Meeting Minutes of January 21, 2020.

Class I License DBA Name Change

Selectman Delaney recused himself from this matter as he is in the business.

The Board voted to allow the requested dba name change from DMO Hanover LLC dba Dan O'Brien Infiniti to DMO Hanover LLC dba Infiniti of Hanover on the DMO Hanover LLC Class I Auto License.

Fiscal Year 2021 Budget Presentation

TM presented the Town Manager's FY2021 Proposed Budget. TM asked that people buy into the process because it has long term benefits that go along with it, and disclosed that a team approach was taken in formulating this budget with everyone working towards the same goal. He further expressed that this budget hedges for good times and bad times.

TM informed the Board that the estimates for certified free cash had been \$3.5 Million dollars however last Wednesday the State certified \$4.3 Million dollars free cash.

The Board requested more information on what the Town has seen in ambulance receipts and what the Town expects to see.

The Board expressed the need to address the policy decision of how to run the transfer station in the next couple of meetings.

The Chair asked if there were any questions or concerns regarding TM's presentation

Mr. Mike Cianciola appeared before the Board to offer comment. He expressed a desire for the Town to either offer the alternative of the residents paying to discard their C&D debris or provide information for residents on how and where residents can get rid of it themselves.

The Board disclosed that the costs associated with hauling the C&D away from the transfer station have gone up 30% in the last fiscal year. The Board is working with the DPW Director to try to figure out how to deal with the transfer station from a policy standpoint. The Board offered a few alternative locations where people can dispose of C&D debris namely Whitman and Plymouth and acknowledged that they plan to make sure information is provided to the residents of Hanover.

TM informed the Board that the Advisory Committee will begin reviewing the budget a week from Wednesday and all of those meetings are posted. TM further expressed that he will be sure to keep the budget as an item for discussion

Approved
2/24/20

Annual and Special Town Meeting Warrants

TM and Finance Director stepped through the current version of the Draft Annual and Special Town Meeting Warrants.

The Board requested that the Finance Director provide a sample tax bill or post one so that they could see the check box section of the bill.

The Board requested to use track changes on the Draft Warrants showing the differences from meeting to meeting.

The Chair asked if there are any questions or comments on the Warrant.

Mrs. Joan Port-Farwell appeared before the Board and requested that the Finance Department set up a seminar to educate the seniors on what they are entitled to on their tax bills.

The Finance Director agreed to partner with Mrs. Port-Farwell on setting this up.

Review of Senior Tax Work-Off Program Policy

The Finance Director presented a Draft Policy to the Board and identified the primary policy issues for the Board to consider as whether or not to limit the overall number of participants and also whether or not the Board has any desire, from a policy perspective, to have some sort of income or asset limit for the program.

The Finance Director informed the Board that previously the program had a limit of \$1,000. The decision to raise the limit to 125 *hours* was voted at the last Special Town Meeting. TM asked for guidance from the Board of Selectmen on how to use this program going forward. The Finance Director informed the Board that in calendar year 2019 there were 18 participants in the program, and explained that historically it was a need based program.

Selectman Delaney informed the Board that there had previously been a something in writing regarding this program which indicated that a preference would be given to people in need over people not in need. The Board expressed an interest in developing a policy, and possibly having that policy kick in if the Town received more applications than the number of available positions. The Finance Director informed the Board that this program is federally taxable but not subject to state tax.

The Board expressed an interest in making it easier for seniors to participate in this program and getting the word out about the program.

The Board further expressed an interest in having some sort of controls in place to be sure the Town is getting the appropriate amount of participation for the amount of tax relief given, creating a benefit for both sides.

Ambulance Rate Setting Process Policy

The Board voted to approve the Amended Ambulance Rate Setting policy.

Appointments

The Board voted to appoint Assistant Town Manager Ann Lee as Hanover's Representative to the Metropolitan Area Planning Counsel.

Other

Due to the holiday on February 17th, the Board tentatively scheduled their next meeting on Monday, February 24th at 7:00 p.m.

TM gave an update on the status of the Traffic Calming Policy. TM informed the Board that the Traffic Safety Committee Meeting is taking place tomorrow night at 7:00 p.m. and they will have a solid draft of the policy for that Committee to then present to this Board.

Selectwoman Keegan informed the Board that the Historical Commission has chosen not to put someone forward as a designee for appointment to the Fire Station Planning Study Committee.

The Chair acknowledged the Hanover Fire Department, Hanover Police Department and Hanover DPW mentioning how impressed he was with the level of cooperation between the departments while responding to the recent five alarm fire on Winter Street. He also thanked the surrounding towns that came to help out as part of the mutual aid package.

The Chair asked for a roll call vote to enter into executive session to conduct a strategy session related to the on-going negotiations being conducted between the Town Manager, Assistant Town Manager, and Finance Director who are representing the Town of Hanover/Board of Selectmen with the collective bargaining agreements with HMEL, AFSCME, Fire and Police Unions and also to discuss the Board of Selectmen's consideration of the purchase, exchange, lease or value of Real Property, as the Chair had determined that an open session discussion would have a detrimental impact on both.

Roll Call Vote: Selectwoman Keegan, aye, Selectman Barry, aye, Chairman Tuzik, aye, Vice Chairman Dockter, aye, Selectman Delaney, aye.

At 8:21 p.m. the Board moved into Executive Session.

At 8:41 p.m. the meeting ended and adjourned.

Approved
2/24/20