

Meeting Minutes of the Regular Meeting of Hanover Board of Selectmen held via teleconference on Monday, November 2, 2020 @ 7:00 PM.

Present at Town Hall, Chairman David Delaney. Present via Zoom video conference were Vice Chair Rhonda Nyman, Selectman John Tuzik and Selectwoman Vanessa O'Connor. Selectman Barry was unable to attend. 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 read Governor Charlie Baker's Veterans Day Proclamation, attached. The Chair opened the meeting up for public comment, noting that he had had several people reach out to him regarding traffic concerns on Broadway. Resident Lee Spinale Rea raised her virtual hand and spoke with the Board regarding her concerns with the number of 18 Wheelers traveling in the Broadway area. The Chair informed Ms. Rea that he is working on setting up a Traffic Safety Committee Meeting and hopes the meeting will help to identify and address the issues. TM informed the Board that the DPW Director and Deputy Superintendent of Public Works are also currently looking into traffic plans for that area.

Meeting Minutes

The Board voted to approve the meeting minutes of October 19, 2020.

The Board postponed the approval of the Executive Session minutes from July 20, 2020 and August 10, 2020 to a future meeting.

Public Hearing

The Chair read the Public Hearing notice into the record, attached, for the Hearing on the Webster Street Utility Pole Installation Petition. DPW Director Victor Diniak joined the meeting and informed the Board that in his opinion the request was reasonable. The Chair asked for any comments or questions. Seeing none. The Board voted to approve the petition from National Grid and Verizon New England Inc. for Massachusetts Electric Company and Verizon New England, Inc. to install and maintain a new jointly owned pole on a public way, namely mid-spnn pole P180-50, between P180 and P181 Webster Street, Hanover, MA 02339.

Appointment

Diane Sawin joined the meeting and informed the board she is quite impressed with work of the Cultural Council and would like to be involved.

The Board voted to appoint Diane Sawin to the Hanover Cultural Council.

Presentation(s)

Roger Leslie Chair of the Fire Station Planning Committee joined the meeting, thanked the Board for forming the Committee and presented the Fire Station Planning Committee Presentation to the Board.

Fire Chief Jeff Blanchard joined the meeting and discussed emergency response times to the North side of Town which are outside of the preferred response time.

The Chief introduced Mark Saccocciao of Saccocciao Associate Architects who developed the Fire Station Space Needs Program Evaluation. Mr. Saccocciao presented the evaluation to the Board.

Resident Ruth Lynch joined the meeting and highlighted the fact that the construction of a new fire substation would not in and of itself result in the need to purchase new equipment and or hire additional staff to man it.

Selectwoman O'Connor, who serves on the Fire Station Planning Committee, stated that there is a clear and demonstrated need for a second fire substation in Hanover. She informed the Board that it would be prudent to allocate some money to have the location plan ready in order to benefit from grant money, should grant money become available due to the current economic hardship. TM inquired as to the amount that would be requested from the voters. Mr. Saccocciao estimated it would be in the \$500,000 to \$700,000 range including the hiring of a project manager.

The Community Preservation Committee, (CPC), Chairman Bill Scarpelli joined the meeting and asked the Board to provide any questions CPC could answer with regards to their proposed plan of bringing Sylvester School up to code for School Administration use. Mr. Scarpelli also asked for the Board's thoughts on whether or not it is a viable plan since the building is under the Board of Selectmen's control. The Chair shared that he had served on the Sylvester School Redevelopment Committee and the Committee had deemed that the costs associated with bringing the building back up to code were prohibitive and the building was not necessary for the Town.

TM requested that Mr. Scarpelli run through the projects that CPC is currently looking at with the Board. CPC member Mary Dunn joined the meeting and informed the Board that CPC had received two applications for funding. One is for \$250,000 to purchase a conservation restriction for Sylvester Field and the other is for \$100,000 to be put towards the Rails to Trails Feasibility Study and to put away funds to match any grants received for that project.

CPC Member Steve Louko joined the meeting and also discussed the two applications with the Board.

TM instructed the CPC members to have any agreements with regards to the sale of Sylvester Field reviewed by Town Counsel. Mary Dunn informed the Board that Sylvester Field is 10.51 acres, and agreed to speak with Town Counsel regarding the proposal.

Brian McLoone, the Chair of the Conservation Commission, joined the meeting and informed the Board that the Conservation Commission had voted in favor of the Rails to Trails project last week and agreed to work closely with CPC on the proposed project with regards to any conservation or wetland issues that may arise.

TM informed the Board that the Town Hall elevator which had been high on the list of capital projects is now downgraded to medium on the list, as parts had been found to repair the current elevator. TM cautioned however that it will eventually need to be replaced and should be in the forefront of people's minds, as it will be a \$750,000 project which he believes would be eligible for CPC funding.

DPW Director Victor Diniak joined meeting and presented the Draft of the Transfer Station Proposed Improvements which would involve an initial funding request of roughly \$200,000. The Board discussed their thoughts on the draft proposal.

Tm informed the Board that the next step would be for the Board to decide over the next few months, if they want to leave the Transfer Station as is, or make it a capital item in order to do some or all of the improvements Mr. Diniak had included in the proposal. Also, the Board will need to develop a fee structure, and amend the Bylaws to allow for more enforcement at the Transfer Station should the changes be adopted.

Mr. Diniak confirmed that bringing C&D back would be possible with this proposal, but there would be a necessity for a fee associated with that. Mr. Diniak shared the updated brush pile hours and informed the Board they will be posted on the website.

Discussion

TM discussed the Draft Annual Town Meeting Warrant with the Board and encouraged the Board to take a look at the plans and draft warrant articles and determine what is important to them and what is not. The Chair requested that the Board members look over the list on their own time and send their ideas and thoughts to TM.

CPC Members Mary Dunn and Steve Louko returned to the meeting to discuss CPC funded projects. Selectmen Tuzik cautioned that CPC funds are not free money but mostly funded by taxpayer contributions, therefore all should be mindful that spending those funds is ultimately the taxpayer's decision.

Executive Session

In accordance with MGL Chapter 30A Section 21(a)2

The Chair took 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 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 Chair announced that 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 9:00 p.m. The Board moved into Executive Session.

Adjourn Meeting

The meeting ended and adjourned at 9:30 p.m.