

Hanover Advisory Committee
550 Hanover Street
Hanover, MA 02339
Meeting Minutes
Wednesday, April 15, 2015 7:00pm

Opening:

The meeting was opened at 7:00 p.m. by Chris Martin, Chairman.

Committee Attendees:

Chris Martin	Helen Graves
Donald White	Sandra Hayes
Jerry O’Hearn	Angela Blanchard
Joan Port-Farwell	Edward Hickey
Wayne Moores	

Other Attendees:

Ms. Janine Smith, Director of Municipal Finance
Ms. Nancy Devlin, Petitioner – Hanover Dog Park
Ms. Donna Pineau, Petitioner – Hanover Dog Park
Mr. Stephen Tucker, Chairman – Hanover Bylaw Committee
Ms. Barbara Itz, Clerk – Hanover Bylaw Committee
Mr. Eric Grund, Hanover Bylaw Committee
Mr. Robert Quirk, Hanover Bylaw Committee
Ms. Susan Setterland, Vice Chairman – Board of Selectman

Review of Meeting Minutes:

Wednesday, April 8, 2015

Approval of the minutes was postponed until edits could be made.

General Discussion

A brief discussion was had regarding Hanover Youth Athletic Association (HYAA) fees that need to be paid to the Hanover Parks and Recreation Committee. Chris Martin stated he will look into the status of the fees.

Chris Martin asked the Advisory Committee for any comments regarding the tour taken the previous Saturday to view capitol requests. A brief discussion was had regarding the projects seen. Chris Martin stated that the video taken would be edited and available soon.

Discussion with Nancy Devlin and Donna Pineau, Hanover Dog Park

Nancy Devlin and Donna Pineau met with the Advisory Committee regarding Article 50 – Dog Park – Land/Committee. They are looking for a suitable parcel of land within Hanover for this purpose. Ms. Devlin and Ms. Pineau gave an overview of requirements for the Dog Park. The land would need to be donated. They would have fund raisers for the cost of building the park including fencing, leveling/ground cover, one trash barrel and a water spigot. The cost of building a dog park in the Town of Randolph was \$100,000 and the Town of Falmouth spent \$70,000. Donald White asked how many parking spaces Ms. Devlin and Ms. Pineau believe would be necessary. Ms. Devlin stated that not many would be required since not everyone goes to the dog park at the same time; however, Randolph's dog park has 15 to 20 spaces. Chris Martin asked what it would cost to maintain the park. After inquiring with other Town departments, he believes that cost of maintenance is one of the major issues with the Dog Park article. Ms. Pineau detailed the maintenance figures that she received from the Town of Falmouth. They have a 20,000 square foot area. 16,700 square feet is for large dogs. The remaining 3,300 square feet is for small dogs. The total cost of maintaining the park annually is roughly \$5000.00. \$2,200 is insurance. \$1500 for trash removal and providing mutt mitts. \$1000 for replenishing ground cover. The remainder for possible plowing during the winter. Chris Martin asked about rules for the park. Ms. Devlin stated that the Town of Falmouth requires the people using the dog park to sort out their own issues. In four years of use, only one issue with a dog has occurred. Chris Martin explained the Advisory Committees concerns regarding maintenance of the park such as cleaning up and mowing. Volunteers only work for a short period of time usually, and then the maintenance falls to the Town. The Hanover Department of Public Works (DPW) is already stretched thin, and would be resistant to having more work added to their department. Donald White suggested the Ms. Devlin and Ms. Pineau look into the possibility of Hanover High School students fulfilling their required community service by cleaning a proposed dog park. A brief discussion was had regarding location ideas for Ms. Devlin and Ms. Pineau to look into. Chris Martin stated that having very firm cost figures would help their case for the proposed dog park. The Advisory Committee thanked Ms. Devlin and Ms. Pineau and they departed at 7:37 pm.

Discussion with the Hanover Bylaw Committee

Members of the Hanover Bylaw Committee met with the Advisory Committee regarding articles on the warrant for bylaw changes. Steve Tucker, Chairman of the Hanover Bylaw Committee gave a brief overview of the articles below. There were questions from the Advisory Committee for some of the articles.

Article 51 – Amend General Bylaw 4-19 – Community Preservation Committee.

Changes a member of the CPC from a Hanover Housing Authority member to an Affordable Housing Trust Board of Trustees member. Helen Graves asked who makes the appointment. Steve Tucker stated the Board of Selectman.

Article 52 – Amend General Bylaw 4-24 – Affordable Housing Trust Board of Trustees

Changes the composition of members required for the Affordable Housing Trust Board of Trustees.

Article 53 – Dissolution of the Hanover Housing Authority

Dissolves the Hanover Housing Authority. Chris Martin made note of the lack of affordable housing in Hanover.

Article 54 – Amend General Bylaw 6-10 Section 8

Amends the time period for the late fee for dog licenses as well as who has authority to set the late fee amount. There has been some confusion in the past regarding whether the Board of Selectman or the Town Clerk sets the fee. The Board of Selectman and Town Clerk have agreed to the proposed changes.

Article 55 – Dog License Late Fee

Reduces the late fee from \$35 to \$10 for dog licenses

Article 56 – Amend General Bylaw 4-18

Simple language changes to better reflect the Town Manager form of government.

Article 57 – Noise Control Bylaw

Gives the Town power to enforce rules regarding excessive noise that result in complaints from residents of the Town of Hanover. Currently the Town has little recourse to enforce common sense rules. Donald White expressed concern that the representative responding to noise complaints should be a police officer. Chris Martin and Steve Tucker clarified that responding personnel will always be in a Town of Hanover marked vehicle and have visible Town of Hanover identification. Helen Graves asked if flexibly was given within the proposed bylaw for equipment needed in emergency situations such as snow blowers and generators. Steve Tucker stated that yes there was. Joan Port-Farwell asked if the enforcing official can issue a warning versus a fee. Robert Quirk stated that yes they can per Section 3, Section D.

The Advisory Committee thanked the Bylaw Review Committee and they departed at 8:20 pm.

Warrant for Annual Town Meeting Motion and Commentary Review:

Article 11 – Revolving Fund Authorizations: Edward Hickey made a motion to accept the motion. This was seconded by Donald White. All were in favor and the motion passed. Joan Port-Farwell made a motion to accept the commentary as written. This was seconded by Jerry O’Hearn. All were in favor and the motion passed.

Article 20 – Purchase Police Department Vehicles: Edward Hickey made a motion to accept the motion. This was seconded by Donald White. All were in favor and the motion passed. The sentence “We note that one of the existing marked vehicles will be retained to be used by the school resource officer.” was added to the commentary. Edward Hickey made a motion to accept the commentary as amended. This was seconded by Joan Port-Farwell. All were in favor and the motion passed.

Article 21 – Purchase Police Department Radios: Angela Blanchard made a motion to accept the motion. This was seconded by Sandra Hayes. All were in favor and the motion passed. Joan Port-Farwell made a motion to accept the commentary as written. This was seconded by Edward Hickey. All were in favor and the motion passed.

Article 22 – Purchase a 4x4 Pickup Truck with Plow: Joan Port-Farwell made a motion to accept the motion. This was seconded by Angela Blanchard. All were in favor and the motion passed. Angela Blanchard made a motion to accept the commentary as written. This was seconded by Sandra Hayes. All were in favor and the motion passed.

Article 23 – Purchase a 4x4 One-Ton Dump Truck with Plow: Angela Blanchard made a motion to accept the motion. This was seconded by Edward Hickey. All were in favor and the motion passed. Jerry O’Hearn made a motion to accept the commentary as written. This was seconded by Donald White. All were in favor and the motion passed.

Article 24 – Purchase a Large Dump Truck: Helen Graves made a motion to accept the motion. This was seconded by Sandra Hayes. All were in favor and the motion passed. Jerry O’Hearn made a motion to accept the commentary as written. This was seconded by Donald White. All were in favor and the motion passed.

Article 25– Purchase a Multi-Tool Tractor with Mowing Deck: Angela Blanchard made a motion to accept the motion. This was seconded by Sandra. All were in favor and the motion passed. The sentence “In addition, there are attachments available for spreading salt on pathways, cold planning asphalt, infrared repairs to asphalt and leaf loading.” was deleted from the commentary. Edward Hickey made a motion to accept the commentary as amended. This was seconded by Angela Blanchard. All were in favor and the motion passed.

Article 26 – Purchase a Four Wheel Drive Backhoe: Sandra Hayes made a motion to accept the motion. This was seconded by Donald White. All were in favor and the motion passed. Everything after the phrase “and 21 years.” was deleted from the commentary. Angela Blanchard made a motion to accept the commentary as amended. This was seconded by Sandra Hayes. All were in favor and the motion passed.

Article 27 – Appropriate Funds – Cedar School Roof: After a brief discussion, the Advisory Committee would like further information regarding this article and did not take a vote. Robert Murray, Hanover Facilities Manager, will be invited to the next meeting to provide information.

Article 28 – Appropriate Funds – Install Safety Bollards Middle School: Joan Port-Farwell made a motion to accept the motion. After a brief discussion, the Advisory Committee would like further information regarding this article. Robert Murray, Hanover Facilities Manager, will be invited to the next meeting to provide information. Joan Port-Farwell withdrew her motion. Donald White made a motion to accept the withdrawal. This was seconded by Edward Hickey. All were in favor and the motion passed.

Article 29 – Appropriate Funds – Stetson House – Upgrade Electric Service: After a brief discussion, the Advisory Committee would like further information regarding this article and did not take a vote. Robert Murray, Hanover Facilities Manager, will be invited to the next meeting to provide information.

Article 30 – Purchase a Transit Cargo Van: Edward Hickey made a motion to accept the motion. This was seconded by Sandra Hayes. All were in favor and the motion passed. Everything after the phrase “To perform that work,” was deleted from the commentary. The sentence “This vehicle will save time and resources on a daily basis.” was added to the commentary. Angela Blanchard made a motion to accept the commentary as amended. This was seconded by Jerry O’Hearn. All were in favor and the motion passed.

Article 31 – Appropriate Funds – Town Hall Security System: Angela Blanchard made a motion to accept the motion. This was seconded by Edward Hickey. All were in favor and the motion passed. The commentary was deleted in its entirety and replaced with “For the safety of the Town employees and the security of the Town Hall, we recommend these upgrades.” Angela Blanchard made a motion to accept the commentary as amended. This was seconded by Wayne Moores. All were in favor and the motion passed.

Article 32 – Purchase a 4x4 Rack Body Truck: Sandra Hayes made a motion to accept the motion. This was seconded by Joan Port-Farwell. All were in favor and the motion passed. The commentary was deleted in its entirety and replaced with “The vehicle will be used by Facilities Department for a broad range of tasks. The current vehicle is 15 years old and is at the end of its useful life.” Sandra Hayes made a motion to accept the commentary as amended. This was seconded by Wayne Moores. All were in favor and the motion passed.

Article 33 - Appropriate Funds – John Curtis Library – Repair Window Curtain Wall: After a brief discussion, the Advisory Committee would like further information regarding this article and did not take a vote. Robert Murray, Hanover Facilities Manager, will be invited to the next meeting to provide information.

Article 34 - Appropriate Funds – Upgrade Door Locks – Town Buildings: After a brief discussion, the Advisory Committee would like further information regarding this article and did not take a vote. Robert Murray, Hanover Facilities Manager, will be invited to the next meeting to provide information.

Article 35 – Purchase an Ambulance: Sandra Hayes made a motion to accept the motion. This was seconded by Donald White. All were in favor and the motion passed. Edward Hickey made a motion to accept the commentary as written. This was seconded by Donald White. All were in favor and the motion passed. Angela Blanchard recused herself from both votes on this article.

Article 36 – Purchase a Fire Truck – Pumping Apparatus: Edward Hickey made a motion to accept the motion. This was seconded by Wayne Moores. All were in favor and the motion passed. The \$ symbol before “136,000 miles” was deleted from the commentary. Sandra Hayes made a motion to accept the commentary as amended. This was seconded by Donald White. All were in favor and the motion passed. Angela Blanchard recused herself from both votes on this article.

Article 37 – Fire Sub-Station Architectural Design: Commas were added to the motion. Donald White made a motion to accept the motion as amended. This was seconded by Sandra Hayes. All were in favor and the motion passed. The following commentary was added: This appropriation will allow the Town to move forward with a new fire station in North Hanover. Sandra Hayes made a motion to accept the commentary as written. This was seconded by Jerry O’Hearn. All were in favor and the motion passed. Angela Blanchard recused herself from both votes on this article.

Article 38 – Appropriate Funds – Technology Upgrades: Angela Blanchard made a motion to accept the motion. After a brief discussion, the Advisory Committee would like further information regarding this article. Brian Ciccolo, Director of Technology – Hanover Schools, will be invited to the next meeting to provide information. Angela Blanchard withdrew her motion. Donald White made a motion to accept the withdrawal. This was seconded by Sandra Hayes. All were in favor and the motion passed.

Article 50 - Dog Park - Land/Committee: The following commentary was added: “The Advisory Committee met with the petitioners and outlined our concerns relative to cost and sustainability. We ask that they do more research and return at a future town meeting.” Donald White made a motion to accept the commentary as written. This was seconded by Wayne Moores. All were in favor and the motion passed.

Community Preservation Committee – Commentary for Articles

A brief discussion was had regarding commentary for the Community Preservation Committee (CPC) articles on the warrant. Edward Hickey proposed some commentary. The Advisory Committee will continue to work on the commentary. The same commentary will be proposed for all CPC articles.

Schedule for next Wednesday, April 22th meeting

Robert Murray will be invited to attend. Brian Ciccolo will be invited to attend. The Advisory Committee will review remaining articles and commentary, as well as review the Special Warrant.

Adjournment

Joan Port-Farwell made a motion to adjourn. The motion was seconded by Jerry O’Hearn. All were in favor, and the meeting adjourned at 9:51 pm.