



Town of Hopkinton, NH

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SELECTMEN PUBLIC MEETING MINUTES MONDAY, AUGUST 30, 2010 5:30 PM

Chairman Jim O'Brien called a regularly scheduled business meeting of the Board of Selectmen to order at 5:30 PM on Monday, August 30, 2010.

Present:

Jim O'Brien, Chairman
George Langwasser, Selectman
Chris Lawless, Selectman
Neal Cass, Town Administrator
Robin Buchanan, Administrative Assessing Assistant

Bryan Pellerin arriving at 5:35 pm
Tom Congoran arriving at 5:37 pm

Public present: Merle Dustin, Janet Krzyzaniak, Bonnie & Lester Cressy, Dan Fritz, Bob LaPree, Lewis M. Corson, Martin Kashulines; Deb Augustine

I. ADMINISTRATIVE

The Board approved the following:

Vendor Disbursement and Payroll Manifests
Building/Use Permit
For Review – Selectmen's Notes and Correspondence
For Signature- Timber Warrant: \$465.30; Timber Warrant \$2,056.99; MS-1 Extension (requested
By George Sansoucy)

II. APPROVAL OF MINUTES

The Board reviewed the minutes of the Public Meeting, August 16, 2010. Selectman Langwasser made a motion, seconded by Selectman Lawless to approve the minutes of the Public Meeting. Selectmen Lawless noted the vote on Page 2 & 3 should read 3-0-2. A discussion ensued with regards to when the express lane was to open. Mr. Cass will review the tape. The Board will table the Minutes until the next regular business meeting.

The Board reviewed the minutes of the Non public Meeting, August 16, 2010 Session I. Selectmen Langwasser made a motion, seconded by Selectmen Pellerin to approve the minutes of the Non public Meeting, Session I.

VOTE: O'Brien, Lawless, Langwasser and Pellerin voting
in favor of the motion; no votes against, Motion passes. 4-0.

The Board reviewed the minutes of the Non public Meeting, August 16, 2010 Session II. Selectmen Lawless made a motion, seconded by Selectmen Langwasser to approve the minutes of the Non public Meeting, Session II.

VOTE: O'Brien, Lawless, Langwasser and Pellerin
voting in favor of the motion; no votes against;
Motion passes; 4-0.

Chairmen O'Brien announced he was going take items on the agenda out of order.

Selectmen Lawless made a motion to enter into a Non-Public Session with regards to RSA 91-a:3 II, (e). Selectmen Langwasser seconded the motion. Roll call: O'Brien: yes, Congoran: yes, Lawless: yes; Pellerin: yes; Langwasser: yes. The Board entered Non-Public at 5:38 pm. The Board returned from Non-Public at 6:05 pm. Selectmen Congoran made a motion to come out of non public, seconded by Selectmen Lawless. Selectmen Congoran made a motion to seal the minutes of the Non Public Session for 30 days. Selectmen Langwasser seconded the motion.

VOTE: O'Brien, Lawless, Langwasser, Congoran
and Pellerin voting in favor of the motion; no votes
against, Motion passes; 5-0.

III. PUBLIC HEARING-REFUSE DISPOSAL ORDINANCE

Selectmen O'Brien opened the Public Hearing at 6:06 pm. Selectmen O'Brien stated that a few changes were made to the Ordinance, which he asked Mr. Cass to go over for the audience. Selectmen O'Brien asked if there was any public comment.

Bob LaPree inquired as to changes in fees and if the shipping is now included in the tipping fees as previously it was not. Mr. Cass stated it is now.

Martin Kashulines inquired about the Removal of Objects section. Selectmen O'Brien stated this section was not changed.

A brief discussion of a swap shop ensued, which again brought up the section about Removal of Objects again.

It was announced that stickers could be obtained from the Town Clerk's Office. Selectmen Congoran explained to those present why Market Basket would not be selling the Hopkinton bags.

Selectmen O'Brien inquired if there was anymore public comment. There being none, Selectmen O'Brien closed the Public Hearing at 6:26 pm.

Selectmen Congoran made a motion to adopt the Rules & Regulations, Refuse Disposal Ordinance No. 05-06, dated 08/16/2010. Selectmen Pellerin seconded the motion.

VOTE: O'Brien, Lawless, Langwasser, Congoran
and Pellerin voting in favor of the motion; no votes
against, Motion passes;5-0.

IV. PUBLIC FORUM

Selectmen O'Brien opened the public forum. Merle Dustin stated the concert on Sunday at the bandstand was great. But the lawn still needs to be fixed. Discussion ensued with regards to a limb hanging that Mrs. Dustin reported last time. Mrs. Dustin also stated the new sign at Houston Field looks great and she further noted it was donations and private funds that funded the project.

Deb Augustine inquired about the express lane and if it will be ready for Saturday. A discussion of signage ensued. Ms. Augustine also stated that she had been to the Transfer Station and that the brochures were from 2008. She has replaced them with the new one.

Janet Krzyzaniak stated the Human Services Director, Marilyn Bresaw will need a guideline as to how many bags she can give to those that are unable to afford them. Selectmen O'Brien also stated that bags for roadside clean up will be available at the Town Hall.

Selectmen Langwasser stated he was at the Transfer Station on Saturday and noted that it is very important to keep the people who run the Transfer Station in the loop of everything so that they can give out good information and not take the burden of people's anger.

Mrs. Krzyzaniak stated she takes responsibility for not informing Jolene about the bags. Selectmen Congoran commended the job that Mrs. Krzyzaniak has done for the Implementation Committee.

There being no further comments, Selectmen O'Brien closed Public Forum.

V. OLD BUSINESS

Ambulance Billing Formula-Selectmen O'Brien inquired if anyone had a problem with moving it to the next meeting.

VI. NEW BUSINESS

Boston Post Cane-Mr. Cass stated the original cane is currently in Sue Strickford's office. Mr. Cass gave a short history of the Boston Post Cane. Mr. Cass was approached by a gentleman inquiring where the cane was and who he thought to be the oldest person in Hopkinton. Mr. Cass is looking in to the details of how it should be presented.

Restripping and resurfacing of NH Rt 9-Selectmen O'Brien explained that it was proposed to give those on bicycles more room, however, he noted that Police Chief Pecora has some concerns on this matter. It was also noted that DOT has final say in the matter as it is a state road.

VII. OTHER BUSINESS

Town Administrator Updates-Mr. Cass stated the oil contract has been signed. The company is Rymes Heating. The cost per gallon is \$2.41. It was noted that the Library has decreased its heating costs.

Selectmen O'Brien announced that Governor Lynch signed a bill to name the bridge on Route 127 over the spillway in honor of Sean Powers.

At 7:10 pm, Selectmen O'Brien called for a short recess.

VIII. PUBLIC APPOINTMENTS

Selectmen O'Brien called the meeting back to order at 7:20 pm.

Marilyn Bresaw, Human Services Director is in tonight to discuss the decision by the Town Administrator to move her office from the Slusser Senior Center to the Town Hall in Hopkinton. Mrs. Bresaw thanked the Board for the opportunity to speak with them. Mrs. Bresaw had provided in writing to the Selectmen the reasons why her office should be retained at the Slusser Senior Center. She has not received any complaints and believes the Slusser Center is the perfect place for her office.

Selectmen O'Brien stated the Board hired a Town Administrator to manage the day to day business of the town and that includes managing the staff and the location of its offices. He continued stating the Board makes policy it does not make management decisions. Selectmen Congoran added this was discussed at length with the Town Administrator and the Board in non public. The office was originally to be downstairs next to the Food Pantry. He has had complaints from two very reliable sources, further noting those sources were not present tonight.

Mrs. Bresaw noted that she inquires if clients have an issue with entering the Slusser Center at the main door. If they do, she will meet them downstairs and go to the office from there. Selectmen O'Brien asked Mrs. Bresaw what her concerns were with moving the office to the Town Hall. Mrs. Bresaw stated confidentiality. She noted clients would have to go through either Robin's or Bob's office. She further stated she would not have quick access to the Food Pantry.

Mrs. Dustin stated it would be inconvenient to have Marilyn at the Town Hall. She also stated parking would be a problem.

Louise Carr asked why the decision was made and further stated there would be privacy issues.

Mr. Cass stated when one enters the Slusser Center there are usually people in the lobby. None of those people are under any obligation of confidentiality. However, at the Town Hall all employees understand about confidential matters and in fact deal with those matters on a daily basis.

Mrs. Carr inquired as to where the office would be. Mr. Cass stated it would be the room between Robin and Bob's office.

Justin LaVigne, Recreation Director, stated he has not received any complaints about Human Services being at the Slusser Senior Center.

Lewis Corson stated he had to go to the Slusser Senior to meet with Marilyn because he needed help. He thanked Marilyn for that help but further noted he felt as if he was being stripped searched as he entered the building.

Sara Derby stated she spends time at the Senior Center, thinks Marilyn does an excellent job and has a great relationship with clients and she goes above and beyond for those clients. She further stated it is very private.

Mrs. Carr inquired if Mr. Cass still felt comfortable with his decision to move the office to the Town Hall. Mr. Cass replied it is the best decision. Further discussion ensued regarding handicap accessibility. Selectmen O'Brien noted the Board fully expects there to be a transition period. Mrs. Carr wanted to know what about the office at the Senior Center. Selectmen O'Brien stated Marilyn would be at the Senior Center one day a week, most likely Wednesday as that is Senior Luncheon Day.

Selectmen Langwasser stated he wanted to make it clear that there were 5 members on this Board and they are not criticizing Marilyn or the work she is doing. Moving the office is the “best decision for the entire town.” He emphasized the move has nothing to do with job performance.

Selectmen Congoran stated things were discussed in non public and the Board backs Mr. Cass’s decision to move the Human Services Office to the Town Hall.

Mrs. Bresaw stated she does not think she can do her job efficiently from the Town Hall. She did not realize the Board had already made a decision. She apologized for wasting their time. Mr. Cass stated it was not a waste of time as she had the right to appeal his decision to the Board.

Selectmen O’Brien thanked Mrs. Bresaw for coming in and sharing her opinions with the Board.

Selectmen Langwasser stated he hopes the Transfer Station staff will have some training prior to the beginning of Pay by Bag, in order for them to be fully prepared. It was noted that some Board members will be at the Transfer Station on Saturday.

There being no further business, motion by Selectman Lawless, seconded by Selectman Congoran to adjourn the meeting. Vote 5-0 in favor of the motion. The meeting adjourned at 8:05 PM.

Respectfully submitted,

Robin Buchanan
Administrative Assessing Assistant

These minutes are not official until approved by the Board of Selectmen at their meeting.