



Town of Hopkinton, NH

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**SELECTMEN
PUBLIC MEETING MINUTES
MONDAY, JANUARY 28, 2013
Approved February 11, 2013**

Chairman Jim O'Brien called a regularly scheduled business meeting of the Board of Selectmen to order at 5:45 PM on Monday, January 28, 2013.

Present:

Jim O'Brien, Chairman

Tom Congoran, Selectman (arriving at 5:40 pm)

George Langwasser, Selectman

Bryan Pellerin, Selectman (arriving at 6:00pm)

Neal Cass, Town Administrator

Robin Buchanan, Administrative Assessing Assistant

Absent: Denis Goddard

Public present: Janet Krzyzaniak, Chuck Gangel, Lester Cressy

I. SWEARING IN OF FIRE CHIEF

Chairmen O'Brien stated that Town has experienced a hard, troubling 6 months. He further stated the Fire Department has responded well to the tragedy of losing Fire Chief Schaefer. He further stated he wanted to thank the Fire Department and is proud of the work they have done. Chairmen O'Brien stated he wanted to thank Interim Fire Chief Jeff Yale, who did an excellent job during very difficult period. He further explained the selection process in choosing a new fire chief, noting we received approximately 30 resumes from all over the country. Selectmen Langwasser and Congoran agreed with Chairmen O'Brien. Selectmen Langwasser noted that both finalists were from Hopkinton and it was one of the more difficult decisions that he has made.

Chairmen O'Brien asked Doug Mumford to come forward to take the oath of office.

Janet Krzyzaniak asked for a round of applause for Interim Fire Chief Jeff Yale. A short break was taken. The meeting reconvened at 6:05 pm.

II. ADMINISTRATIVE

Selectmen Congoran made a motion to accept the Consent Agenda as written. Selectmen Langwasser seconded the motion.

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

III. APPROVAL OF MINUTES

The Board reviewed the minutes of the Public Meeting of January 14, 2013. Selectman Pellerin made a motion, seconded by Selectman Langwasser to approve the minutes of the Public Meeting.

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

The Board reviewed the minutes of the Non Public Meeting of January 14, 2013, Session I. Selectman Congoran made a motion, seconded by Selectman Pellerin to approve the minutes of the Non Public Meeting.

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

The Board reviewed the minutes of the Non Public Meeting of January 14, 2013, Session II. Selectman Langwasser made a motion, seconded by Selectman Congoran to approve the minutes of the Non Public Meeting.

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

The Board reviewed the minutes of the Public Meeting of January 21, 2013. Selectman Pellerin made a motion, seconded by Selectman Langwasser to approve the minutes of the Public Meeting.

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

The Board reviewed the minutes of the Non Public Meeting of January 21, 2013. Selectman Congoran made a motion, seconded by Selectman Pellerin to approve the minutes of the Non Public Meeting.

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

IV. PUBLIC APPOINTMENTS

Members of the Open Space Committee, Lucia Kittredge, Ron Klemarczyk, Dijit Taylor, Mark Zankel and Rob Knight are in to talk to the Board about "connecting" all the green spaces in town. It would be a connection of hiking trails and connectors that would go around Hopkinton Village. They have a web site: HopkintonConservationLands.org. Ms. Kittredge went on to explain that Trail Agreements will be signed; they will hold a community meeting to let people know about the trails. Discussion ensued with regards to outstanding easements. Selectmen Pellerin inquired if Open Space would be doing something at Town Meeting with regards to the hiking trails. Ms. Kittredge stated they would like to have all the Trail Agreements signed before going to the public with the information.

Discussion ensued with regards to a town owned piece of property located near the Bohanan Farm.

V. PUBLIC FORUM

VI. OLD BUSINESS

LGC Settlement-The Board has been in negotiations with LGC since the Highway garage was destroyed. There have been offers and counter offers. The Board has agreed to accept LGC's latest offer of \$769,433.92. The cost of going to arbitration would be more expensive.

The Bond Hearing for the Highway Garage will be held on February 11, 2013 at 6:30 pm at the Town Hall. A presentation will be given.

Budget Committee Update-The Budget Committee Public Hearing will be February 6, 2013.

Year End Fund Balance Review-Discussion ensued with regards to the advantages and the consequences of the article with regards to the Community Center Fund.

Approval of Warrant-After some discussion the Board will be voting on the Warrant on February 11, 2013. Selectmen Congoran will be phoning in his votes at 6:00 pm as he will be unable to attend.

VII. NEW BUSINESS

Tax Collector Chuck Gangel was in to speak with the Board about a presentation that he, Neal Cass, and Deb Gallant attended. This presentation was in regards to the possibility of collecting taxes with on-line payments. After much discussion the Board asked for more information regarding liability if the system is hacked and personal information is released. Mr. Gangel will get more information.

Resignation and Appointment: Chairmen O'Brien stated that Denis Goddard has given his resignation, effectively immediately, citing work and family obligations. The Board has officially appointed Mr. Goddard to fill the vacancy until Town Meeting. Chairmen O'Brien also stated the sign-up sheet for positions will be open until Friday, February 1, 2013 at 5:00 pm.

VIII. OTHER BUSINESS

Mr. Cass stated they are still working on the skating rink.

There being no further business, motion by Selectman Pellerin, seconded by Selectman Congoran to adjourn the meeting.

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

The meeting adjourned at 7:50 PM.

Respectfully submitted,

Robin Buchanan
Administrative Assessing Assistant

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