



Town of Hopkinton, NH

Office of the Select Board

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SELECT BOARD PUBLIC MEETING MINUTES MONDAY, MARCH 20, 2017 APPROVED APRIL 3, 2017

CALL TO ORDER

Town Administrator Neal Cass called this regular meeting of the Select Board to order at 5:30 p.m. on Monday, March 20, 2017, in the large meeting room in the Town Hall. Mr. Cass introduced the members of the Board. Jim O'Brien led those assembled in the Pledge of Allegiance.

Members Present: Steve Lux, Jr., Bob Gerseny, Ken Traum, Sabrina Dunlap, Jim O'Brien

Staff Present: Neal Cass (Town Administrator) and Robin Buchanan (Administrative Assessing Assistant)

Public Present: Ken Wilkens

POINTS OF PRIDE

Mr. Cass thanked everyone involved with Town Meeting and all the preparation that goes into it.

ADMINISTRATIVE

Election of Board Chair and Vice Chair:

Mr. Gerseny made a motion to nominate Jim O'Brien as Board Chair. Mr. Traum seconded the motion.

VOTE: Lux, Gerseny, Traum and Dunlap voting in favor of the motion; no votes against. O'Brien abstained. MOTION APPROVED 4-0-1.

Mr. Gerseny made a motion to nominate Ken Traum as Vice Chair. Mr. Lux seconded the motion.

VOTE: Lux, Gerseny, Dunlap and O'Brien voting in favor of the motion; no votes against. Traum abstained. MOTION APPROVED 4-0-1.

Consent Agenda

The Board members reviewed documents for signature and approved unanimously (5-0) the Consent Agenda taking the following action on motion made by Mr. Traum and seconded by Mr. Lux.

CONSENT AGENDA 03-20-17

ACCOUNTS PAYABLE MANIFEST	\$43,911.43
	\$16,246.66
PAYROLL	\$67,011.20

BUILDING PERMITS

Built Solid Homes blg Wildwood Map 205 Lot 2 new residence

Randy Duquette 523 Stickney Hill Map 266 Lot 4.1 24x25 detached garage

Morrill 46 Buzwell Rd Map 252 Lot 3 46 x 48 barn to replace one destroyed by fire

Wireless Asset Management replace 6 existing antennas for 3 Map 218 Lot 12

Stuart Nelson Map 208 Lot 14 40 x 48 detached garage with finish space above

Report of Appropriations Actually Voted**Veteran's Credit**

Edward & Carol Beaudoin Map 225 Lot 47

ABATEMENT

Debra Peterson interest only	\$54.82
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The Board reviewed the Select Board Meeting Minutes of Monday, March 6, 2017. Mr. Gerseny made a motion, seconded by Mr. Traum, to approve the Public Meeting Minutes of March 6, 2017, with corrections. Chair O'Brien called for a vote.

VOTE: O'Brien, Traum, Lux and Gerseny voting in favor of the motion; no votes against. Dunlap abstained. MOTION APPROVED 4-0-1.

The Board reviewed the Select Board Non-Public Minutes of Monday, March 6, 2017, Session I. Mr. Lux made a motion, seconded by Mr. Traum, to approve the Non-Public Meeting Minutes of March 6, 2017, Session I. Chair O'Brien called for a vote.

VOTE: O'Brien, Traum, Lux and Gerseny voting in favor of the motion; no votes against. Dunlap abstained. MOTION APPROVED 4-0-1.

The Board reviewed the Select Board Non-Public Minutes of Monday, March 6, 2017, Session II. Mr. Traum made a motion, seconded by Mr. Lux, to approve the Non-Public Meeting Minutes of March 6, 2017, Session II. Chair O'Brien called for a vote.

VOTE: O'Brien, Traum, Lux and Gerseny voting in favor of the motion; no votes against. Dunlap abstained. MOTION APPROVED 4-0-1.

OLD BUSINESS: Town Meeting Review:

Mr. Gerseny stated that we have debated Pay by Bag several times and he would like the Recycling Committee Chair to come in to speak to the Board. Chairman O'Brien would also like to invite George Dockman to come in and discuss his issues with the Pay by Bag Program. Mr. Gerseny suggested that Meredith Astles and a couple of EDC members meet with Mr. Dockman before he comes to the Board. Discussion ensued, with regards to enforcement and the best way to handle it.

Discussion ensued with regards to written ballots and the procedure to request a written ballot at Town Meeting.

Ms. Dunlap inquired what the vote was on the Veteran's Credit. Mr. Cass stated that it passed.

Mr. Traum, who presented the Budget at the Town Meeting inquired if the presentation was too long, too short or any other comments. Chairman O'Brien stated that he has received good feedback, with regards to the Budget presentation.

Discussion ensued with regards to the storm that occurred on voting day, Tuesday, March 14, 2017. Mr. Cass stated he believes that the Moderator has the authority to postpone the vote, however, Bruce Ellsworth, Moderator chose to continue as scheduled. It was noted that almost 100 more people voted this time than at the last Town Election.

NEW BUSINESS: Hazardous Tree on Hatfield Road

Mr. Cass projected a picture of the tree that is on Hatfield Road. From the picture, you can see that the tree is hollow on the inside. The tree is in the town's right of way. Dan Blanchette, Director of Public Works, is requesting that the tree be declared a hazardous tree, so that it can be removed, before it falls down.

Mr. Traum made a motion to declare the tree, identified by Dan Blanchette, on Hatfield Road as hazardous. Mr. Lux seconded the motion.

VOTE: O'Brien, Traum, Lux, Gerseny and Dunlap voting in favor of the motion; no votes against. MOTION APPROVED 5-0.

APPOINTMENTS: Sue Strickford, Tax Abatement

Mrs. Strickford appeared before the Board requesting a hardship abatement for a resident of Hopkinton. Mrs. Strickford explained that this resident was behind in mortgage and taxes; however, through donations from several other residents, they have enough funds to pay the

mortgage and to pay the back taxes. However, Mrs. Strickford is requesting that the Board abate the interest accumulated in the current amount of \$3,642.22. Discussion ensued.

Mr. Traum made a motion to abate up to \$3,700.00 in interest. Mr. Gerseny seconded the motion.

VOTE: O'Brien, Traum, Lux, Gerseny and Dunlap voting in favor of the motion; no votes against. **MOTION APPROVED 5-0.**

NEW BUSINESS: 2017 Select Board Assignments:

The Select Board Assignments are as follows:

Chair:	Jim O'Brien
Vice Chair:	Ken Traum
Budget Committee:	Ken Traum
Planning Board	Jim O'Brien
EDC Representative:	Bob Gerseny & Sabrina Dunlap
Open Space:	Steve Lux
Sewer Committee:	Steve Lux
Road Committee:	Ken Traum

Appointment List for Committees for 2017:

The Board went over the list of those committee members whose terms expire in 2017. It was decided to contact those members to see if they wish to be reappointed. Several Board members and Mr. Cass agreed to contact those members.

NHMA Local Officials Training:

Mr. Cass informed the Board of a NHMA Local Officials Training, which will be held in various locations and dates.

Chairman O'Brien inquired if Mr. Cass would request that Sharon Somers, Town Counsel, to come to the office for a Right to Know training. Mr. Cass agreed to schedule a training.

PUBLIC FORUM:

There was no comment from the public.

TOWN ADMINISTRATOR UPDATES:

Mr. Cass stated that a full time Paramedic/Fire Fighter position is open in the Fire Department.

On April 10th, there will be a joint meeting to be held in Henniker to discuss the Intersection of Rt. 127 and 202 at Dunkin Donuts. Mr. Cass stated that Central NH Regional Planning will be hosting the meeting.

The Board discussed visiting the Department Buildings since they have not done that in the last few years.

Mr. Traum inquired if Mr. Cass has heard from the Hopkinton Fair Board. Mr. Cass replied no; he will contact them.

Mr. Lux informed the Board that Henniker is forming an OHRV Committee to work with the ATV Club as Henniker has opened up many of its roads for OHRV use.

Ken Wilkens announced that Justine Lavigne (former Recreation Director) will be giving a talk at the Library with regards to his recent travels on June 4, 2017.

Chairman O'Brien inquired if the Town had an ordinance with regards to abandoned houses. Discussion ensued.

ADJOURNMENT:

There being no further business, motion by Mr. Traum, seconded by Mr. Gerseny to adjourn the meeting. Vote 5-0 in favor of the motion. The meeting adjourned at 7:15 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Robin Buchanan, Administrative Assessing Assistant