



# **Town of Hopkinton, NH**

## **Office of the Select Board**

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### **SELECT BOARD PUBLIC MEETING MINUTES MONDAY, APRIL 24, 2017 APPROVED MAY 1, 2017**

#### **CALL TO ORDER**

Chairman Jim O'Brien called this special meeting of the Select Board to order at 5:30 p.m. on Monday, April 24, 2017, in the large meeting room in the Town Hall. Chairman O'Brien introduced the members of the Board. Sabrina Dunlap led those assembled in the Pledge of Allegiance.

**Members Present:** Jim O'Brien, Chair, Ken Traum, Vice Chair, Steve Lux, Jr, and Sabrina Dunlap. Absent: Bob Gerseny

**Staff Present:** Robin Buchanan (Administrative Assessing Assistant)

**Public Present:** Ken Wilkens, Matt Lane, Rebecca Whitley, Kevin Davis, Linda Paquette, and several other Hopkinton residents

#### **ADMINISTRATIVE**

##### **Consent Agenda**

The Board members reviewed documents for signature and approved unanimously (4-0) the Consent Agenda, taking the following action on a motion made by Mr. Lux and seconded by Mr. Traum.

##### **CONSENT AGENDA 04-24-17**

##### **ACCOUNTS PAYABLE MANIFEST**

\$1,290,448.39

##### **PAYROLL**

##### **PERSONNEL ACTION FORMS (PAF)**

Madison Bergethon Recreation rehire pt lifeguard

Allan Faulkner Recreation rehire pt lifeguard

##### **Timber Tax and Warrant**

Camelo Ferrango Map 224 Lot 56

\$38.65

**Veteran's Credit**

Michael Carr Map 102 Lot 8

**Building Permits**

Revision Energy 246 Hopkins Green Rd Solar Map 251 Lot 23

Yankee Pools 431 Dolly Road pool Map 239 Lot 2

Big Sky Solar 280 Rollins Rd solar Map 250 Lot 60

Zachary Bishop 533 Hopkinton Rd deck Map 264 Lot 8

**APPOINTMENTS:**

**Matt Lane and Rebecca Whitley:** Chairman O'Brien explained this special meeting was called to determine what action, if any, to take concerning the Town of Hopkinton's role as an abutter, due to the Warner Planning Board's Regional Impact determination, to the proposed gun range in Warner. This meeting is not to hear public comment.

Matt Lane spoke to the potential economic impact that an indoor range in Warner, such as the one being proposed by Dragonfly Holdings, LLC could have on Hopkinton, with possible lower home values and driving businesses away. He noted that MadgeTech, a business which abuts the proposed location of the indoor gun range also has concerns. He noted many residents view this type of establishment with the feeling of "not in my backyard". He is concerned that it may be more difficult to attract businesses here. He also stated, however, that he is aware that it may be a positive impact with more people venturing into town. He did conclude that it is all speculative. He also stated it is not about gun rights. He does feel, however, that the Warner Board erred in not notifying the Town of Hopkinton.

Rebecca Whitley spoke to the environmental and health concerns of an indoor firing range. She stated the location of the proposed range is troubling. Its location is within a mile of the Middle/High School, making it closer to the Hopkinton schools than the Warner schools. She also stated it would be Hopkinton first responders that would be called to the range should something happen. Ms. Whitley asked that the Hopkinton Select Board go to the Warner Planning Board meeting and ask that they deny the application of Dragonfly. Ms. Whitley also stated that she had heard there will be gun rentals, as well as a restaurant with a liquor license.

Kevin Davis stated he is a gun owner; however, his concern is the possible rental of guns. It was noted that the rentals were to be used only at the range and not taken off site. His concern is with those that are unfamiliar with a weapon being given a brief lesson and then sent out on the range. He did share a story of one incident, of a gun not firing and the user not acting in a safe manner.

Linda Paquette spoke about her concerns for lead contamination and is also concerned that it will not be regulated. She has personal experience with lead poisoning, which can cause physical problems. She also noted concern for an increase in traffic, parking and property values.

Chairman O'Brien inquired if the Board had any questions. Mr. Traum directing his question to Ms. Paquette, inquired if Dragonfly's proposed reclamation program was audited by a 3<sup>rd</sup> independent party, if that would meet her concerns. It was noted that the reclamation program included the air circulation.

Mr. Lux, in response to an article at realtor.com mentioned by Mr. Lane, stated that the article spoke mostly about outdoor ranges. Mr. Lux also responded to Ms. Whitley claims that this proposed range is closer to Hopkinton schools than any other range. Mr. Lux stated that Warner has an outdoor range that is less than a mile from their elementary school. Mr. Lux also noted that Hopkinton has a mutual aid contract with Warner, and Hopkinton would be automatically called to any incident that occurred in Warner.

Mr. Traum inquired if there were similar facilities in New Hampshire. There is a Sig Sauer in Exeter; there is also a similar operation in Manchester and Belmont.

Mr. Traum stated he is concerned that businesses will look at this issue and get the wrong message. If Hopkinton is fighting against a business in Warner, how will Hopkinton treat businesses want to come to Hopkinton.

Sara Persechino stated that the realtor.com article mentions indoor and outdoor ranges.

Paul Alfano, Attorney for MadgeTech stated that MadgeTech has filed paperwork appealing the Warner ZBA decision to grant Dragonfly Holdings a special exception to the zoning rules. A hearing has been scheduled for June.

Chairman O'Brien inquired how the Select Board would like to proceed and do we want to be present at the Warner Planning Board meeting. Mr. Traum would like some input from the Planning Board, the Zoning Board of Adjustment as well as Town Counsel. Chairman O'Brien stated he has been in touch with Bruce Ellsworth, Planning Board Chair and has spoken with him about someone from the Planning Board attending the Warner Planning Board meeting.

Discussion ensued, regarding to whether or not to join MadgeTech, and the statutory time limits.

There being no further business, a motion by Mr. Lux, and seconded by Mr. Traum to adjourn the meeting. Vote 4-0 in favor of the motion. The meeting adjourned at 7:25 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Robin Buchanan, Administrative Assessing Assistant