

FINAL

BOARD OF SELECTMEN'S MEETING

January 30, 2012

7:30 P.M. – MUNICIPAL OFFICE BUILDING – HANOVER, NH

The meeting of the Board of Selectmen was called to order at 7:30 p.m. by Chairman Peter Christie. Present were: Peter Christie, Chairman; Katherine Connolly, Vice Chairman; Judith Doherty, Selectman; Bill Geraghty, Selectman; Julia Griffin, Town Manager and Jessie Levine, Assistant Town Manager/Human Resources Director. Absent: Athos Rassias, Selectman.

1. PUBLIC COMMENT.

Chairman Christie called the meeting to order and asked for any Public Comment. There were no comments from the public.

2. RECOMMENDATION TO SET A PUBLIC HEARING ON FEBRUARY 13, 2012 TO AUTHORIZE ACCEPTANCE OF \$34,263 IN NH EMERGENCY MANAGEMENT PERFORMANCE GRANT FUNDS FOR EMERGENCY COMMUNICATIONS EQUIPMENT AND ENABLE TOWN MANAGER TO EXECUTE RELATED DOCUMENTS.

Ms. Griffin stated that Doug Hackett (Communications Coordinator) and Mike Hinsley (Hanover Fire Captain) are the Town's two grant writers seeking Emergency Management Performance Grant Funds (EMPG) from the State of NH. Ms. Griffin stated that the State has EMPG Funds to allocate every year and this year Doug Hackett identified 3 projects that he deemed to be important from the emergency communications standpoint. Ms. Griffin reported that they have learned in the last couple of weeks that the funds have been allocated to Hanover but in order to receive them, the Town is required to hold a public hearing. The Board will also need to grant the Town Manager the authority to execute the grant documents after the public hearing. The grant is a 50/50 match so the Town needed to identify funds in the budget that can serve as the match for the grant and the police department has done this.

Ms. Griffin reported that Doug Hackett has identified three projects that the funds could be used for: 1) to upgrade the radio system for Public Works. There is a narrow band requirement per the FCC that the Town migrate to the narrow band system by the beginning of 2013. This comes at a cost of around \$56,000 so the grant will fund \$28,000 which will be matched by \$28,000 from the dispatch budget. 2) Attempt to fix the "dead zones" for vehicles by placing mobile repeaters in the two ambulances at a cost of \$5,525. 3) The last project would be fiber modems. The fiber modems would be used as a backup for times when the Town loses Fairpoint service in the connection between downtown and dispatch. The backup modems cost \$6,000. Ms. Griffin stated that Doug Hackett would be present at the meeting on February 13th to answer any questions.

Vice Chairman Connolly MOVED to set a Public Hearing on February 13, 2012 to Authorize Acceptance of \$34,263 in NH Emergency Management Performance Grant Funds for Emergency Communications Equipment and Enable the Town Manager to Execute Related Documents. Selectman Doherty SECONDED the motion.

THE BOARD VOTED 4 IN FAVOR, 0 OPPOSED TO SET A PUBLIC HEARING ON FEBRUARY 13, 2012 TO AUTHORIZE ACCEPTANCE OF \$34,263 IN NH EMERGENCY MANAGEMENT PERFORMANCE GRANT FUNDS FOR EMERGENCY COMMUNICATIONS EQUIPMENT AND ENABLE THE TOWN MANAGER TO EXECUTE RELATED DOCUMENTS.

3. PROPOSED BUDGET REVIEW SCHEDULE.

Ms. Griffin stated that this proposed schedule is similar to last year except the Social Service Agencies will be presenting to the Board at the meeting on February 13th. It may be possible to get through the budget in 3 meetings but there will be four nights scheduled.

Ms. Griffin noted that the budget hearings for Human Resources, Administrative Services, Town Manager and the Select Board budgets could be moved to an earlier hearing if the Board finds that they are getting through the budget fairly quickly. Chairman Christie wanted attendees to be aware that they may be bumped up to an earlier time if things progress quickly.

The Board reviewed the schedule and agreed it was good.

4. TREASURER'S REPORT.

Patricia Coutermarsh, Town Treasurer, was present to speak to the Board. Ms. Griffin stated that in finalizing the budget this week she noted that they are down a lot of money in interest income compared to a few years ago. Ms. Coutermarsh noted that the Town has been investing more in the last few years but unfortunately not making much in interest.

Chairman Christie noted that the Board receives reports every quarter about the Town's cash flow and they have a chance to review everything.

Selectman Geraghty asked if there was anything that deviated from the norm that caused Ms. Coutermarsh any kind of anxiety. Ms. Coutermarsh stated that she has been doing this for a couple of years and there was nothing that jumped out at her.

5. APPROVAL OF MINUTES:

- January 16, 2012

Vice Chairman Connolly MOVED to approve the Minutes of January 16, 2012. Selectman Doherty SECONDED the motion.

THE BOARD VOTED 4 IN FAVOR, 0 OPPOSED TO APPROVE THE MINUTES OF JANUARY 16, 2012.

6. ADMINISTRATIVE REPORTS.

Ms. Griffin reported that the budget is essentially complete and they should be done with the General Fund by Wednesday. She is working on the piece involving the Etna Library project. Staff will then start working on the text for each department.

Ms. Griffin stated that there are a number of legislative sessions that she feels she should attend but it is not a good time of year for her to be away from the office.

7. SELECTMEN'S REPORTS.

Judy Doherty

Selectman Doherty reported that the Affordable Housing Commission and the Planning Board met and continued to have good dialogue. There were good questions posed by the Planning Board which enabled the Affordable Housing Commission to dig a little deeper and it was a good opportunity to work together.

Vice Chairman Connolly stated it was an interesting conversation because both groups brought different aspects to the conversation; they were able to go over a lot of material and it was a very good meeting.

Selectman Doherty reported that the Howel Classic date at the Howe Library has been set for March 24th & 25th. Selectman Doherty also reported that the Howe has welcomed a New Development Coordinator, Michelle Schembri, and good work continues at the Howe Library.

Kate Connolly

Vice Chairman Connolly reported that the Planning Board met last week and the problem with Goss Road and National Grid has yet to be resolved so that has been put off for another meeting. The Planning Board discussed zoning amendments, some new and some that had previously been considered in preparation for the first zoning hearing on amendments coming up in February. The hearing is scheduled for February 28th which conflicts with the Select Board budget hearings so it will take place at an alternate location and without a Select Board member present.

Bill Geraghty

Selectman Geraghty reported that he attended the Sustainable Hanover Committee meeting and there are a lot of good things going on which will have a positive impact on the community. The Hanover Area Chamber of Commerce had their annual meeting with 160 attending and this was another example of a positive community event. Brian Walsh was recognized for all of his

efforts in the town. There were 35 businesses listed that have been in business for more than 50 years in Hanover and notably the Hanover Inn is 225 years old.

Selectman Doherty noted that she was in one of the downtown businesses and picked up the Chamber of Commerce's brochure about parking in town and the business expressed appreciation for this new approach to addressing the parking problem.

Peter Christie

Selectman Christie reported that the Hanover and Dresden Finance Committees have been working diligently with regard to the School Budget. The budget presentations will be appearing in separate Warrant Articles: one for the budget itself and one for the Teacher's Contract in addition to other smaller articles. The Hanover Finance Committee voted to support the Hanover School Budget and they were split 3 to 3 on the terms for the Teacher's Contract. For the Dresden Finance Committee, there was a vote of 7 to 1 to support the budget and a vote of 5 to 3 to not support the Teacher's Contract.

Ms. Griffin asked what the concerns were with regard to the budget and whether it was a cost of living adjustment issue or a combination of things. Chairman Christie stated that the Finance Committee had focused on total compensation and that the guidelines recommended by the Finance Committee at the beginning of the process were to have a zero change in compensation. Some voted against supporting the Teacher's Contract that because they felt it did not accomplish the guidelines. The budget itself has moderate increases but the Teacher's Contract caused the most discussion. Selectman Christie reported that the Ray School population has decreased significantly and it is anticipated that it will go down again next year. Vice Chairman Connolly stated that it must have happened within the past two years and Chairman Christie stated that it did indeed decrease quickly.

In Selectman Rassias' absence, Jessie Levine reported that she, Jonathan Edwards and Vicki Smith continue to staff the Conservation Commission and they have been working on a visioning plan. She reported that they have developed a survey that Ed Chamberlain, Chairman, will take back to the Commission. The new Commission is working very well together.

Ms. Levine also reported that there will be a presentation at the Howe Library; "Reading the Forested Landscape" with author Tom Wessels who will be speaking tomorrow night at the Howe Library (January 31st).

8. OTHER BUSINESS.

There was no Other Business reported.

Chairman Christie MOVED that the Board go into a non-public session to discuss items pursuant to RSA 91-a: 3, II, (a), (c), (e).

Board of Selectmen
January 30, 2012

Selectman Doherty voted yes. Chairman Christie voted yes. Vice Chairman Connolly voted yes. Bill Geraghty voted yes.

The Select Board went into non-public session at 7:50 p.m. Selectman Rassias joined the non-public session by phone but signed off before the vote to come out of non-public session.

Selectman Doherty MOVED to come out of non-public session. Selectman Geraghty SECONDED the motion.

THE BOARD VOTED 4 IN FAVOR, 0 OPPOSED TO COME OUT OF NON-PUBLIC SESSION AT 9:29 P.M.

9. ADJOURNMENT.

Vice Chairman Connolly MOVED to adjourn the meeting. Selectman Doherty SECONDED the motion.

THE BOARD VOTED 4 IN FAVOR, 0 OPPOSED TO ADJOURN THE MEETING AT 9:29 P.M.

Respectfully Submitted,

Judith A. Doherty, Secretary

Minutes prepared by Elizabeth S. Rathburn.

SUMMARY

- 1. Vice Chairman Connolly MOVED to set a Public Hearing on February 13, 2012 to Authorize Acceptance of \$34,263 in NH Emergency Management Performance Grant Funds for Emergency Communications Equipment and Enable the Town Manager to Execute Related Documents. Selectman Doherty SECONDED the motion.**

THE BOARD VOTED 4 IN FAVOR, 0 OPPOSED TO SET A PUBLIC HEARING ON FEBRUARY 13, 2012 TO AUTHORIZE ACCEPTANCE OF \$34,263 IN NH EMERGENCY MANAGEMENT PERFORMANCE GRANT FUNDS FOR EMERGENCY COMMUNICATIONS EQUIPMENT AND ENABLE THE TOWN MANAGER TO EXECUTE RELATED DOCUMENTS.

- 2. Vice Chairman Connolly MOVED to approve the Minutes of January 16, 2012. Selectman Doherty SECONDED the motion.**

THE BOARD VOTED 4 IN FAVOR, 0 OPPOSED TO APPROVE THE MINUTES OF JANUARY 16, 2012.

- 3. Chairman Christie MOVED that the Board go into a non-public session to discuss items pursuant to RSA 91-a: 3, II, (a), (c), (e).**

Selectman Doherty voted yes. Chairman Christie voted yes. Vice Chairman Connolly voted yes. Bill Geraghty voted yes.

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