

FINAL

BOARD OF SELECTMEN'S MEETING

October 3, 2011

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 Brian Walsh. Present were: Brian Walsh, Chairman; Katherine Connolly, Vice Chairman; Peter Christie, Selectman; Athos Rassias, Selectman; Julia Griffin, Town Manager and Jessie Levine, Assistant Town Manager/Human Resources Director. Absent: Judy Doherty, Selectman.

1. PUBLIC COMMENT.

Chairman Walsh asked for Public Comment and invited Martha Solow to approach the Board to speak.

Martha Solow introduced herself and thanked the Board for the opportunity to speak. She stated that she wanted to address Chairman Walsh and stated that generally speaking he has made a very strong effort to make sure that people understand what the Select Board does and why. Ms. Solow noted that last week Chairman Walsh spoke directly to students in the audience to explain what was going on and suggested that if they had any questions, they were welcome to ask the Board. She congratulated Chairman Walsh for that but the substance of last week's meeting left her confused so she had questions of the Board and hoped that the Board would address these questions.

Ms. Solow stated that her first question was regarding the procedure that was followed with regard to the Friends of Hanover Crew dock application. There was no opportunity for any response from the Board to any of the issues raised under Public Comment last week. She understands that the Select Board has an agenda and time commitments but it would have been nice to get some kind of feedback from the Board indicating whether they would even be addressing the issues brought forward; whether the Board agreed with anything that was said or not; whether the Board would even be addressing the issues at a future meeting. This would have been helpful to her and the general public.

Ms. Solow stated that there is another issue that she wanted to bring forward. She was still unclear about how the Town itself as an authority became not only the applicant for the Friends of Hanover Crew's (FOHC) proposal but how was it that the FOHC was given authority to speak for the Town on behalf of the Town when it presented its applications to the Town Boards.

Chairman Walsh stated that he spent 10 years or more on the Planning Board and his memory from that time is that if anyone is going to apply for consideration from the Planning Board or the Zoning Board of Adjustment, they needed to have the right to apply. So, to go forward with this, the FOHC either needs to be the landowner or have permission from the landowner or be the agent of the landowner. His understanding in

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this case is that the Town has given the Friends of Hanover Crew the right to make their case on land that is owned by the Town, either through the Town being the applicant if that was required, (for example with some of the State applications) or through the FOHC being an agent. Chairman Walsh stated that this is a normal procedure that happens all the time and it's about the Zoning and Planning laws in the State of New Hampshire. Chairman Walsh stated that this is how the Town became the applicant or the Friends of Hanover Crew became the agent of the Town.

Ms. Solow asked if this has changed from the days when she served on the Planning Board and the Board of Selectmen. She stated that in the past, applications would go through the Town Office and Planning Boards and not to the Board of Selectmen. Chairman Walsh stated that the application did not come to the Select Board in this case either.

Ms. Solow stated that she reviewed the newly submitted application of FOHC to develop their rowing club on Fullington Farm in conjunction with the request to use Hanover's property at Wilson's Landing for a dock. Her understanding was that the Select Board dealt with that when the original application was submitted and since the Select Board did not want to be an obstacle, agreed to allow them to go forward. The Select Board would then look at the application and make decisions about the use of the dock after all of the other approvals were met.

Chairman Walsh recalled that the Select Board stated that they were not going to stand in the way at the beginning of the application process and they also stated clearly that if there were not another suitable place for the High School Crew program, it could be accommodated by Fullington Farm under terms and conditions yet to be set.

Ms. Solow stated that this was the base of understanding at the time and then the Town of Hanover applied to DES (Department of Environmental Services) for approval of the dock which was pretty straightforward. This meant that the Town would have the authority to install a dock at the landing.

Chairman Walsh stated that his sense is that procedurally, the Select Board has met the test of the way that the Town has done business for the past 30 years.

Ms. Solow stated that what surprises her with the new application was to see an authorization signed by Julia Griffin as the Select Board's agent to have FOHC representing the Town. She stated that this is like telling the Wolf to take care of the Three Little Pigs. Chairman Walsh stated that it is common for an applicant to have the right to represent the landowner but not the right to dictate whatever terms comes afterwards. Chairman Walsh stated that FOHC was never able to represent that the Town was behind the application. Ms. Solow stated that this is the implication. Chairman Walsh stated that this is not the Board's position. Ms. Solow stated that she is pleased to hear this and it is now her understanding that the Town will not be an obstacle to the High School rowing program to use a dock on public property provided that the Board agrees to the terms on which this will happen. Chairman Walsh stated that the Select

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Board may be an obstacle at the end of the process when it comes to terms and restrictions.

Chairman Walsh stated that as they do with all applications, the Zoning Board and Planning Board makes their own decisions. For example, the Parking Garage and the Black Center went through Town Meeting before heading to the Zoning Board and Planning Board. The Select Board made it clear that the Zoning and Planning Boards have specific responsibilities under the laws of the State and it's not the Select Board's job to second guess them.

Ms. Solow stated that she is glad that Chairman Walsh was able to clear up the misunderstanding by some members of the public. She did not disagree with the terms that he laid out as the appropriate process. Ms. Solow clarified that when putting this into practice, when FOHC comes to the Planning Board or any other regulatory Board, it will be speaking for itself when it talks about the development to Fullington Farm and not on behalf of the Town. Chairman Walsh confirmed that this was true. Ms. Solow thanked the Board for clarifying this.

Ms. Solow stated that she had a list of issues that she hopes the Board will consider when it is time for the Board to consider terms and restrictions for use of the dock. Ms. Solow distributed the list to the Board for future consideration.

Chairman Walsh welcomed the students who were present and gave an overview of the Selectmen's responsibilities.

2. REVIEW OF PROPOSED GOALS AND OBJECTIVES FOR FY 2011-2012.

The Select Board reviewed the revised Goals and Objectives for FY2011-2012.

Selectmen

- Request the Town Manager bring to the Board a base budget proposal which would require a town budget tax rate increase not to exceed a target to be established by the Board in November.
- Consider and adopt a comprehensive Capital Improvements Program for adoption in FY 2011-12, in preparation for development of an Impact Fee Ordinance.
- Adopt formal Board and Commission Code of Ethical Conduct to be developed by Town staff.
- Continue to support the efforts of Dartmouth College to reduce excess alcohol consumption and sexual assault on campus.
- Meet with each Board and Commission to discuss their needs and challenges.
- Review the Town volunteer cultivation and engagement process to assure adequate volunteer recruitment and succession and to optimize volunteer participation on Town committees.

Administration

- Embed the Total Compensation policy statement, crafted and adopted by the Board in 2010 and utilized in FY 2010-11, within the organization to insure that the approach is commonly understood by Town staff.

Chairman Walsh stated in the last few years the Select Board has moved the conversations regarding employees' wages with cost of living and merit to looking at the total compensation that employees receive including healthcare, contributions to the retirement programs, vacation, social security, etc. Town staff has done a great job putting this in place and this goal keeps this process going.

- As part of the budget process, challenge departments to identify one new initiative that could be funded by reducing costs beyond what would be required to meet budget objectives.

Selectman Christie stated that in the past few years, the Board has developed budget guidelines and this year the Select Board will be asking the Department Heads to consider options to create savings and come up with new initiatives for their departments after they reach their budget objectives.

- Finalize a plan for expansion of the Etna Library to create a handicap accessible entrance and restrooms along with accompanying parking area, work with Library Trustees to identify fundraising strategy for Library improvements, host community forum to receive additional input, and secure appropriate approvals.
- Complete bicycle lane work on North Park Street in summer of 2012, mirroring improvements to be constructed on South Park Street in the fall of 2011.

Selectman Rassias stated that the improvements for North Park Street and South Park Street came as the result of recommendations made by the Bike & Pedestrian Committee and were taken to Town Meeting for approval. The work on South Park Street is being done now and the North Park Street improvements will be made next summer. This is part of a larger project to make the Town of Hanover more bicycle and pedestrian friendly and to make public transportation more accessible. The project in front of the Hanover Inn will enhance bus service in town.

- With the City of Lebanon and the Board of Selectmen, review the draft Inter-municipal Agreement for Provision of Wastewater Services by the Town of Hanover to the City of Lebanon with the goal of adopting a revised agreement in 2012.

Chairman Walsh noted that part of the City of Lebanon is served by the Town's Wastewater Treatment Plant so there is a draft Inter-Municipal Agreement for Provision of the Wastewater Services which hasn't been updated in many years.

- Provide Board of Selectmen with simple, complaint driven rental housing inspection and licensing program ordinance for review within a sufficient timeframe to enable consideration and public input well in advance of Town Meeting, along with the modifications which Town Meeting would need to adopt in 2012 if the Board chooses to move forward with implementation of such an ordinance.
- Continue to support regional efforts to foster build-out of middle mile and last mile broadband networks in West Central and Southwest New Hampshire.
- Work with Town Attorney to update Town Ordinances to reflect recent changes in state legislation.
- Update Personnel Rules and Regulations to reflect recent changes in state and federal regulations.

The Board agreed with the items on the Goals and Objectives list with no additions.

Vice Chairman Connolly MOVED to approve the Goals and Objectives for FY2011-12. Selectman Rassias SECONDED the motion.

THE BOARD VOTED 4 IN FAVOR, 0 OPPOSED TO APPROVE THE GOALS AND OBJECTIVES FOR FY2011-12.

- 3. BOARD & COMMITTEE APPOINTMENTS:**
- Planning Board
 - Sustainable Hanover Committee
 - ZBA

Chairman Walsh MOVED to appoint the following people to the following Board and Commissions:

Planning Board

Bill Dietrich – Transition from Full to Alternate Member - Current term ends September, 2013.

Sustainable Hanover Committee

Yolanda Baumgartner – Full Member – September, 2014 (new appointment)

Zoning Board of Adjustment

Sheila Buckley – Alternate Member – September, 2014 (reappointment)

Vice Chairman Connolly SECONDED the motion.

THE BOARD VOTED 4 IN FAVOR, 0 OPPOSED TO APPOINT THE AFOREMENTIONED PEOPLE TO THE RESPECTIVE BOARD AND COMMISSIONS.

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4. BANNER REQUESTS:
- Special Olympics

Chairman Walsh confirmed with Ms. Griffin that the request can be accommodated.

Chairman Walsh MOVED to approve the Banner Request for the Special Olympics. Selectman Rassias SECONDED the motion.

THE BOARD VOTED 4 IN FAVOR, 0 OPPOSED TO APPROVE THE BANNER REQUEST FOR THE SPECIAL OLYMPICS.

5. APPROVAL OF MINUTES:
- September 12 & 26, 2011

Vice Chairman Connolly requested a change to the Minutes of September 12th.

Vice Chairman Connolly MOVED to approve the Minutes of September 12th, as amended. Selectman Rassias SECONDED the motion.

THE BOARD VOTED 4 IN FAVOR, 0 OPPOSED TO APPROVE THE MINUTES OF SEPTEMBER 12th AS AMENDED.

Elizabeth Rathburn noted one correction to the Minutes of September 26th.

Selectman Rassias MOVED to approve the Minutes of September 26th, as amended. Vice Chairman Connolly SECONDED the motion.

THE BOARD VOTED 4 IN FAVOR, 0 OPPOSED TO APPROVE THE MINUTES OF SEPTEMBER 26th, AS AMENDED.

6. ADMINISTRATIVE REPORTS.

Ms. Griffin stated that she has been asked to mention a fundraiser "You've been briefed." The Haven is in desperate need of underwear and socks to help the victims of Hurricane Irene. The Senior Citizens Advisory Committee decided to launch a fundraiser with the residents of Summer Park and the Senior Center to help in this effort. Dan & Whit's agreed to order packages of underwear at cost for \$5.00. The Committee is soliciting donations to help and anyone interested can drop off money to the Richard Black Community Center or write a check to the Town of Hanover and make a note indicating that it is for "Irene" or "Undies." The goal is to purchase 500 packages of underwear toward this effort.

Ms. Griffin also reported that there is a fundraiser taking place at the Richard Black Center on October 15th. There will be a yard sale with half of the funds raised going to assist with the Thompson Terrace ball field and the Etna outdoor ice skating rink and the other half of the funds raised will go toward Hurricane Irene assistance. Anyone who has

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gently used items that could be sold for this event are encouraged to bring them to the Richard Black Center.

Ms. Levine reported that Human Resources is actively working on filling 5 full time and 1 part time position for the Town which has been taking a lot of time.

7. SELECTMEN'S REPORTS.

Peter Christie

Selectman Christie stated that the Finance Committee has been interviewing candidates and should be up to full strength soon.

Kate Connolly

Vice Chairman Connolly had nothing new to report.

Athos Rassias

Selectman Rassias had nothing new to report.

Brian Walsh

Chairman Walsh had nothing new to report.

8. OTHER BUSINESS.

There was no Other Business reported.

9. ADJOURNMENT.

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

THE BOARD VOTED 4 IN FAVOR, 0 OPPOSED TO ADJOURN THE MEETING AT 8:05 P.M.

Respectfully Submitted,

Athos Rassias, Secretary

Minutes prepared by Elizabeth S. Rathburn.

SUMMARY

1. **Vice Chairman Connolly MOVED to approve the Goals and Objectives for FY2011-12. Selectman Rassias SECONDED the motion.**

THE BOARD VOTED 4 IN FAVOR, 0 OPPOSED TO APPROVE THE GOALS AND OBJECTIVES FOR FY2011-12.

2. **Chairman Walsh MOVED to appoint the following people to the following Board and Commissions:**

Planning Board

Bill Dietrich – Transition from Full to Alternate Member-Current term ends September, 2013.

Sustainable Hanover Committee

Yolanda Baumgartner – Full Member – September, 2014 (new appointment)

Zoning Board of Adjustment

Sheila Buckley – Alternate Member – September, 2014 (reappointment)

Vice Chairman Connolly SECONDED the motion.

THE BOARD VOTED 4 IN FAVOR, 0 OPPOSED TO APPOINT THE AFOREMENTIONED PEOPLE TO THE RESPECTIVE BOARD AND COMMISSIONS.

3. **Chairman Walsh MOVED to approve the Banner Request for the Special Olympics. Selectman Rassias SECONDED the motion.**

THE BOARD VOTED 4 IN FAVOR, 0 OPPOSED TO APPROVE THE BANNER REQUEST FOR THE SPECIAL OLYMPICS.

4. **Vice Chairman Connolly MOVED to approve the Minutes of September 12th, as amended. Selectman Rassias SECONDED the motion.**

THE BOARD VOTED 4 IN FAVOR, 0 OPPOSED TO APPROVE THE MINUTES OF SEPTEMBER 12th AS AMENDED.

5. **Selectman Rassias MOVED to approve the Minutes of September 26th, as amended. Vice Chairman Connolly SECONDED the motion.**

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THE BOARD VOTED 4 IN FAVOR, 0 OPPOSED TO APPROVE THE MINUTES OF SEPTEMBER 26th, AS AMENDED.

- 6. Vice Chairman Connolly MOVED to adjourn the meeting. Selectman Rassias SECONDED the motion.**

THE BOARD VOTED 4 IN FAVOR, 0 OPPOSED TO ADJOURN THE MEETING AT 8:05 P.M.