

**FINAL**

**BOARD OF SELECTMEN'S MEETING**

**May 6, 2013**

**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; Bill Geraghty, Selectman; Nancy Carter, Selectman; Jay Buckey, Selectman; and Julia Griffin, Town Manager (via speaker phone). Absent: Athos Rassias, Vice Chairman.

**1. PUBLIC COMMENT.**

Chairman Christie asked for Public Comment. There were no comments from the public.

Chairman Christie noted that Julia Griffin was present by speaker phone.

**2. PUBLIC HEARING TO CONSIDER AND ACCEPT TWO NH DEPARTMENT OF HOMELAND SECURITY AND EMERGENCY MANAGEMENT GRANTS PROVIDING ENHANCED ACCESS CONTROL TO THE HANOVER PUBLIC SAFETY BUILDING, PURCHASE OF ADDITIONAL PORTABLE RADIOS AND UPDATING THE TOWN'S EMERGENCY MANAGEMENT PLAN.**

Chairman Christie opened the Public Hearing and noted that Paul Hatch from the NH Department of Homeland Security and Emergency Management, and Doug Hackett, Hanover Communications Coordinator were present to speak to the Board.

Paul Hatch, NH Department of Safety Field Representative, introduced himself and noted that he serves as the Grafton County Field Representative for all communities working with the Emergency Management Director and other safety officials to promote emergency preparedness. He stated that he has worked closely with Doug Hackett on the two grant proposals which require a public hearing in accordance with RSA 31:95-b for amounts over \$5,000 to be accepted by the community. Mr. Hatch stated that he was present to discuss the grants and answer any questions that the Board may have.

Doug Hackett outlined the grant projects for the Board:

- 1) Security enhancements at the public safety building: The building serves as the Town's Emergency Operations Center (EOC) for any natural or human made disaster. This project will replace all of the locking mechanisms throughout the police, fire and dispatch building as well as documenting who gains access and when. The project cost is \$26,506 and Mr. Hackett noted that the rear door to the police station is made of non-safety glass and is scheduled to be reinforced and replaced. The entire portion to be paid by the Town is \$13,253 which was budgeted in the 2013-14 operating budget.

2) The second grant has two components:

- a) Update of the local emergency operations plan - which was last addressed in 2005. This needs to be re-written and updated and this would include a \$2,500 in-kind match from Hanover with \$2,500 cash from the grant program. The in-kind match would cover the cost of the Town's time to work with the consultant.
- b) Dual band portable update – Hanover has roughly 25 portable radios for the police department and so far the Town has received grants for 11 of them at no cost to the Town. This grant would replace the other 9 and each portable costs approximately \$4,700 each. The total value of the portables is \$44,200 and the local match is \$22,100 which was included in the 2013-14 budget.

Chairman Christie noted that the Board has reviewed the grant and this was discussed during the budget hearings so they are familiar with this expenditure.

**Selectman Geraghty MOVED that the Town of Hanover Accept the EMPG Grant Agreement Terms as Presented. The Grant is for the Hanover LEOP Update and Dual Band Radios. The Total Project Cost being \$49,200 with a 50% Town Match of \$24,600. The Board also Authorizes Town Manager, Julia Griffin, to Execute the Grant. Selectman Carter SECONDED the Motion.**

**THE BOARD VOTED 4 IN FAVOR, 0 OPPOSED, 1 ABSENT TO ACCEPT THE EMPG GRANT AGREEMENT TERMS AS PRESENTED.**

**Selectman Carter MOVED that the Town of Hanover Accept the EMPG Grant Agreement Terms as Presented for the EOC Security Update. The Total Project Cost being \$26,506 and the Amount of the Local Match is \$13,253. The Board also Authorizes Town Manager, Julia Griffin, to Execute the Grant. Selectman Buckey SECONDED the Motion.**

**THE BOARD VOTED 4 IN FAVOR, 0 OPPOSED, 1 ABSENT TO ACCEPT THE EMPG GRANT AGREEMENT TERMS AS PRESENTED.**

Chairman Christie closed the public hearing.

### **3. PRESENTATION BY RICHMOND MIDDLE SCHOOL STUDENTS.**

Chairman Christie invited John Lacrosse, Guidance Counselor at the Richmond Middle School (RMS), and a few of his students to speak to the Board. The students present were Ben Sobel, Adam Mendelsohn, Jensen Dodge and Harry Olszewski.

Mr. Lacrosse reported that he teaches a leadership class at the Richmond Middle School and he spoke with Julia Griffin about making a presentation to the Board. Ms. Griffin asked for the group to provide feedback about the students' reaction to the possibility of a new gym with the possible purchase of the Lebanon Street property.

Mr. Lacrosse stated that the group met and they would like to talk to the Board about the proposed gym and about safety. Since there has been a lot of talk about safety in schools, they thought it would be a good idea to hear from the students with their thoughts about safety at their school and community.

Ben Sobel, student at the Richmond Middle School, introduced himself and wanted to talk about safety in Hanover and at the Richmond Middle School. He reported that Hanover is a very safe community and they feel that there is almost no crime but safety in school can be a very different story. He stated that they polled students to determine if they felt safe in the school and although they were only able to connect with 17 students, all of them stated that they felt very safe at the school.

Mr. Sobel reported that the media can affect how students feel in school such as the reporting of the Newtown school shooting. Some students may be somewhat afraid to be in school and in towns surrounding the shooting. Some may only find this information on the news which exposes students to horrific displays from the incident. Mr. Sobel asked whether people were more affected by the situation or how the media portrays it as it can affect anyone's point of view on the subject. He stated that one person may have a very differing opinion from another. He noted that all in all they feel that Hanover and the school district are very safe.

Selectman Carter agreed with Mr. Sobel that Hanover feels like a safe community and her question as a parent of former RMS students was whether they feel that graduates have a sense of what personal safety means once they leave Hanover. For example: when going out of Hanover to different cities, are they prepared to take themselves out of the safe situation in Hanover and know how to conduct themselves in an unsafe location.

Mr. Sobel felt that most RMS graduates know how to handle themselves because they do discuss this in school and by knowing what goes on in the world and knowing the dangers; most people know how to handle that. He stated that it was a very good question; it's hard to know what to do.

Mr. Lacrosse asked for thoughts about what safety measures they take at the school.

Harry Olszewski, student at Richmond Middle School, stated that they conduct lock down drills and fire drills for safety purposes which is really important; he noted that back at his elementary school, the principal's school burned down so fire drills were conducted very often.

Selectman Geraghty asked about the concept of bullying and whether this is an issue that they talked about.

Mr. Sobel stated that they did consider discussing safety and bullying but they focused on safety because they feel that there isn't a lot of bullying going on at their school. Mr. Lacrosse asked if the students felt that most everyone at the school would say that or if

people would have differing opinions about this. One student stated that there might be one kid that might say he was bullied by otherwise no.

Mr. Lacrosse asked the students how effective they have been at addressing bullying. Adam Mendelsohn stated that other students step in to stop bullying at the school. At the beginning of the year, there is a quote that says “we don’t do that here” so if there is bullying, others step in to get it to stop.

Mr. Lacrosse stated that they have targeted bystanders to encourage them to step in and support kids that may be getting teased and to let adults know. He loves to hear that the students feel that they don’t have bullying but they do have some.

Selectman Carter stated that she knows the faculty and they are excellent but she questioned whether there is enough support from fellow classmates and people in the neighborhood with regard to bullying, for example during bus rides, little league practice, etc. and whether these efforts extend outside of the school. Mr. Sobel stated that it does happen frequently outside of school but it’s at a really low level; they do have a great faculty and their ways rub off on the students and they are able to take the values of what’s right and what’s wrong outside of school.

Mr. Lacrosse noted that it is an interesting point that they talk about bullying inside the school but not necessarily outside of the school other than social media.

Mr. Lacrosse asked Harry Olszewski, Adam Mendelsohn and Jensen Dodge to talk about the possibility of the new gym.

Jensen Dodge stated that they were there to speak about the new gym and the different uses for the gym. He stated that they would like to see a place to do homework. He noted that most kids go to The Howe Library but it can be crowded and distracting.

Mr. Dodge noted that this would be a great place to play some pick-up basketball, have a party or dance or a place to go for X period. He stated that it could be used afterschool sports. He noted that there are many practices that end up being held really late and sometimes teams have to share courts.

Harry Olszewski stated that the High School Recreation basketball team has a lot of kids and they have had to share courts with other people so they move around to the Ray School, Marion Cross School, and sometimes the High School team has to practice at Tracey Hall, so the addition of another gym would help.

Mr. Olszewski stated that they also thought about the possibility of getting some roll-out turf that could be used on a rainy day for soccer and field hockey practice.

Mr. Olszewski asked the Board for any questions. Selectman Carter stated that the conversations about the new gym have been very preliminary and one of the things that

have been discussed is making this a very “bare bones” type of facility with a gym and restrooms and asked for the students’ reactions.

Mr. Olszewski felt that there should be a bathroom and a place to change and noted that coaches rooms wouldn’t be necessary. He felt that this type of facility would be fine and noted that the R.W. Black Center is located nearby.

Chairman Christie asked how often the students use the R.W. Black Center and in what ways. Mr. Dodge stated that he doesn’t usually go to the Recreation Center but does go to the Howe Library a lot; he felt that with a basketball court it would be used more often.

Mr. Mendelsohn noted that he lives in Norwich so he doesn’t spend a lot of his time in Hanover.

Mr. Sobel stated that the Recreation Center is sometimes used for dances for the RMS; they have a semi-formal in 8<sup>th</sup> Grade. He noted that they are able to open up the back part of the gym to have tables and snacks but it can get a little crowded. He stated that it would be nicer to have a bigger facility to accommodate more people.

Mr. Lacrosse stated that he found it interesting that there have been comments about finding a place to do homework. He was part of the group involved in planning the Recreation building and this was one of the goals for that facility yet the students still feel like it would be nice to have homework space. Ultimately, they may not be able to create the perfect space for homework.

Mr. Lacrosse noted that with regard to the portable turf, he has no idea how this would be done but for soccer practice that gets rained out, this would be a great thing. He stated that even if it is a “bare bones” building, they will at least need some stands. It wouldn’t need to be a lot but maybe something similar to RMS. They also talked about supervision because they question whether it would be okay for high school students to hang out there without anyone there.

Selectman Geraghty asked the group how they might get parents there more often to utilize the building.

Mr. Dodge noted that there are adult leagues that could use it for their pick-up games.

Mr. Sobel stated that there are a lot of college students that create their own league including local parents and their gym is sometimes really crowded as there are only 4 half-court courts; this new building would open up another opportunity for the team to come and play if the Dartmouth gym is too crowded.

Mr. Olszewski stated that kids go home and do their homework and spend the rest of the afternoon playing video games or watching TV so it would be nice to have a place to go play soccer or basketball.

Mr. Dodge noted that there are sometimes exercise classes at the Recreation Center so there could be more exercise classes or karate classes. Mr. Sobel noted that their friend Owen who could not attend tonight's meeting was interested in the building to accommodate Tai Kwan Do classes.

Selectman Carter asked the students what a homework space might look like. She noted that The Howe Library has some great spaces when it's not crowded with as many people.

Mr. Dodge stated that The Howe would be a better homework space with less people but he had his backpack stolen there so he is hesitant about doing his homework there. If there was a homework space including a few tables at the gym where they could keep their backpacks closer to themselves, this wouldn't happen.

Selectman Buckey asked about indoor turf and whether this has been done elsewhere. Mr. Dodge stated that he plays at Grantham Indoor during the winter. Mr. Lacrosse stated that he was curious as to whether there was some kind of temporary covering or rolling carpet that could be used as the general consensus is that this would be wonderful for the community. He felt that there would be an interest and others in the community might come forward to pay for this. He knows that storage would be an issue depending on the material.

Chairman Christie thanked the group for speaking to the Board.

**4. RENEWAL OF MEMORANDUM OF UNDERSTANDING BETWEEN THE TOWN OF HANOVER AND THE HANOVER GARDEN CLUB.**

Ms. Griffin stated that the Town renews the Memorandum of Understanding with the Hanover Garden Club every 5 years. The only change that has been made is on page 2 in the very last paragraph where it outlines to the Garden Club that should the Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) or the Department of Environmental Services (DES) require any kind of addition to the Water Reclamation Facility which would require relocation of the greenhouse, the Town would give the Garden Club a minimum of 2 years notice. The Town benefits greatly from the Garden Club's work.

**Selectman Buckey MOVED to Renew the Memorandum of Understanding Between the Town of Hanover and the Hanover Garden Club. Selectman Geraghty SECONDED the Motion.**

**THE BOARD VOTED 4 IN FAVOR, 0 OPPOSED, 1 ABSENT TO RENEW THE MEMORANDUM OF UNDERSTANDING BETWEEN THE TOWN OF HANOVER AND THE HANOVER GARDEN CLUB.**

**5. RECOMMENDATION TO AUTHORIZE PLACEMENT OF THOMPSON ATHLETIC FIELD DIRECTIONAL SIGNAGE ON CORNER OF SOUTH MAIN STREET AND BROOK ROAD.**

Ms. Griffin stated that they have seen heavily utilization of the Thompson Athletic field now that the Town has taken over the operation from the School District. There needs to be proper signage at South Main Street and Brook Road and because the sign would be installed in the right-of-way, it requires the Board's approval.

**Selectman Geraghty MOVED to Authorize Placement of Thompson Athletic Field Directional Signage on the Corner of South Main Street and Brook Road. Selectman Buckley SECONDED the Motion.**

Chairman Christie suggested that they attempt to find two signs that could be taken down and repurposed. He noted he has a personal pet peeve about the amount of signage. Ms. Griffin noted that the Town continually deals with requests for additional signage but they typically say no.

Selectman Carter asked if this would be placed on the existing street sign and not so low that it would impede motorists. Ms. Griffin stated that Peter Kulbacki and Michael Evans reviewed this for sight line obstacle issues and they determined that the proposal is fine.

Selectman Carter would like to ask that the Town become active in asking the Recreation Department at the beginning of each season where the fields are used, that either through publicity material and the coaches that people are reminded that they are driving through a community. She noted that people in the area are being run off the road by people running late trying to get to the fields. The residents are very close to leafletting the cars that are parked there with sentiments regarding the fact that they are driving through a community and that they should treat it as if it were their own community.

Ms. Griffin noted that they do try to get the word out prior to each season for both football and baseball. She noted that the police department conducts directed patrol at the start of football season as well as Rip Road and Reservoir Road during the first week of school. She noted that it's a point that they can't make often enough.

Selectman Carter stated that she just wanted to give Ms. Griffin a heads up that the neighbors are going to get more and more proactive as kids are in the neighborhood learning how to ride bicycles, etc.

**THE BOARD VOTED 4 IN FAVOR, 0 OPPOSED, 1 ABSENT TO AUTHORIZE PLACEMENT OF THOMPSON ATHLETIC FIELD DIRECTIONAL SIGNAGE ON THE CORNER OF SOUTH MAIN STREET AND BROOK ROAD.**

**6. TOWN MEETING UPDATE.**

Ms. Griffin stated that they did mail out a condensed copy of the Warrant to the residents with the background information. Ms. Griffin noted that the Town Reports have been distributed at pick up locations.

Ms. Griffin stated that additional copies can be picked up at the Town Hall, Etna Library, Howe Library, R.W. Black Community Center, Hanover Co-op Foodstore, and the Etna Store. Selectman Buckey noted that it is available on-line as well. Ms. Griffin stated that they have delivered boxes to Kendal and they have mailed some as requested.

Ms. Griffin will e-mail the Selectmen's presentation assignments for Town Meeting on Tuesday. Chairman Christie will work the 7 a.m. to 11 a.m. shift; Selectman Geraghty will work the 11 a.m. to 3 p.m. shift; and Selectman Buckey will work the 3p-7p shift at Town Meeting.

Selectman Buckey fielded a question from a citizen regarding Article Four and wanted to know what their options were to change the language. Ms. Griffin stated that the only option for Article 4 would be to vote against it. Selectman Buckey stated that it sounded like they were looking for some clarification but noted that there is a lot of background information on the website.

Ms. Griffin stated that Articles Two through Five were subject to two Public Hearings by the Planning Board in February and March. If a resident is concerned about it, they should vote against it during the day. The wording for the Article was set by State Law. Ms. Griffin stated that there is very detailed background information on the website in the yellow pages on the Town Report. Ms. Griffin also encouraged residents to speak to Vicki Smith in the Planning Office.

- 7. BANNER REQUEST:**
  - ILEAD Summer Lecture Series
  - Opera North

**Selectman Buckey MOVED to Approve the Banner Requests of ILEAD and Opera North. Selectman Geraghty SECONDED the Motion.**

**THE BOARD VOTED 4 IN FAVOR, 0 OPPOSED, 1 ABSENT TO APPROVE THE BANNER REQUESTS OF ILEAD AND OPERA NORTH.**

- 8. APPOINTMENT: Advance Transit Board**

Carolyn Radish has been serving as the Town's Representative on the Advance Transit Board but her term expired in February and she would like to continue serving.

**Chairman Christie MOVED to Appoint Carolyn Radish to the Advance Transit Board for a 3 year term through May of 2016. Selectman Carter SECONDED the Motion.**



**THE BOARD VOTED 4 IN FAVOR, 0 OPPOSED, 1 ABSENT TO APPOINT CAROLYN RADISH FOR A 3 YEAR TERM THROUGH MAY OF 2016.**

**9. APPROVAL OF MINUTES:**

- April 8, 2013
- April 22, 2013

**Selectman Carter MOVED to Approve the Minutes of April 8, 2013. Chairman Christie SECONDED the Motion.**

**THE BOARD 2 IN FAVOR, 0 OPPOSED, 1 ABSENT, 2 ABSTAINED TO APPROVE THE MINUTES OF APRIL 8, 2013.** (Selectman Geraghty and Selectman Buckey abstained from the vote).

**Selectman Geraghty MOVED to Approve the Minutes of April 22, 2013. Selectman Buckey SECONDED the Motion.**

**THE BOARD VOTED 3 IN FAVOR, 0 OPPOSED, 1 ABSENT, 1 ABSTAINED TO APPROVE THE MINUTES OF APRIL 22, 2013.** (Chairman Christie abstained from the vote).

**10. ADMINISTRATIVE REPORTS.**

Ms. Griffin had nothing new to report.

**11. SELECTMEN'S REPORTS.**

**Bill Geraghty**

Selectman Geraghty had nothing new to report.

**Nancy Carter**

Selectman Carter reported that the Planning Board has their May meeting tomorrow night in the Board of Selectmen's Room at 7:30 p.m.

**Jay Buckey**

Selectman Buckey had nothing new to report.

**Peter Christie**

Chairman Christie had nothing new to report.

**12. OTHER BUSINESS.**

There was no Other Business reported.

**13. ADJOURNMENT.**

**Selectman Geraghty MOVED to Adjourn the Meeting. Selectman Buckey SECONDED the Motion.**

**THE BOARD VOTED UNANIMOUSLY TO ADJOURN THE MEETING AT 8:22 P.M.**

Respectfully Submitted,

Nancy A. Carter, Secretary

Minutes prepared by Elizabeth S. Rathburn.

**SUMMARY**

- 1. Selectman Geraghty MOVED that the Town of Hanover Accept the EMPG Grant Agreement Terms as Presented. The Grant is for the Hanover LEOP Update and Dual Band Radios. The Total Project Cost being \$49,200 with a 50% Town Match of \$24,600. The Board also Authorizes Town Manager, Julia Griffin, to Execute the Grant. Selectman Carter SECONDED the Motion.**

**THE BOARD VOTED 4 IN FAVOR, 0 OPPOSED, 1 ABSENT TO ACCEPT THE EMPG GRANT AGREEMENT TERMS AS PRESENTED.**

- 2. Selectman Carter MOVED that the Town of Hanover Accept the EMPG Grant Agreement Terms as Presented for the EOC Security Update. The Total Project Cost being \$26,506 and the Amount of the Local Match is \$13,253. The Board also Authorizes Town Manager, Julia Griffin, to Execute the Grant. Selectman Buckey SECONDED the Motion.**

**THE BOARD VOTED 4 IN FAVOR, 0 OPPOSED, 1 ABSENT TO ACCEPT THE EMPG GRANT AGREEMENT TERMS AS PRESENTED.**

- 3. Selectman Buckey MOVED to Renew the Memorandum of Understanding Between the Town of Hanover and the Hanover Garden Club. Selectman Geraghty SECONDED the Motion.**

**THE BOARD VOTED 4 IN FAVOR, 0 OPPOSED, 1 ABSENT TO RENEW THE MEMORANDUM OF UNDERSTANDING BETWEEN THE TOWN OF HANOVER AND THE HANOVER GARDEN CLUB.**

4. **Selectman Geraghty MOVED to Authorize Placement of Thompson Athletic Field Directional Signage on the Corner of South Main Street and Brook Road. Selectman Buckey SECONDED the Motion.**

**THE BOARD VOTED 4 IN FAVOR, 0 OPPOSED, 1 ABSENT TO AUTHORIZE PLACEMENT OF THOMPSON ATHLETIC FIELD DIRECTIONAL SIGNAGE ON THE CORNER OF SOUTH MAIN STREET AND BROOK ROAD.**

5. **Selectman Buckey MOVED to Approve the Banner Requests of ILEAD and Opera North. Selectman Geraghty SECONDED the Motion.**

**THE BOARD VOTED 4 IN FAVOR, 0 OPPOSED, 1 ABSENT TO APPROVE THE BANNER REQUESTS OF ILEAD AND OPERA NORTH.**

6. **Chairman Christie MOVED to Appoint Carolyn Radish to the Advance Transit Board for a 3 year term through May of 2016. Selectman Carter SECONDED the Motion.**

**THE BOARD VOTED 4 IN FAVOR, 0 OPPOSED, 1 ABSENT TO APPOINT CAROLYN RADISH FOR A 3 YEAR TERM THROUGH MAY OF 2016.**

7. **Selectman Carter MOVED to Approve the Minutes of April 8, 2013. Chairman Christie SECONDED the Motion.**

**THE BOARD 2 IN FAVOR, 0 OPPOSED, 1 ABSENT, 2 ABSTAINED TO APPROVE THE MINUTES OF APRIL 8, 2013. (Selectman Geraghty and Selectman Buckey abstained from the vote).**

8. **Selectman Geraghty MOVED to Approve the Minutes of April 22, 2013. Selectman Buckey SECONDED the Motion.**

**THE BOARD VOTED 3 IN FAVOR, 0 OPPOSED, 1 ABSENT, 1 ABSTAINED TO APPROVE THE MINUTES OF APRIL 22, 2013. (Chairman Christie abstained from the vote).**

9. **Selectman Geraghty MOVED to Adjourn the Meeting. Selectman Buckey SECONDED the Motion.**

**THE BOARD VOTED UNANIMOUSLY TO ADJOURN THE MEETING AT 8:22 P.M.**