

FINAL

BOARD OF SELECTMEN'S MEETING

May 5, 2014

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; Nancy Carter, Selectman; Jay Buckey, Selectman; and Julia Griffin, Town Manager. Absent: Athos Rassias, Vice Chairman; and Bill Geraghty, Selectman.

1. PUBLIC COMMENT.

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

2. RECOMMENDATION TO ADOPT RESOLUTION DECLARING THE TOWN OF HANOVER'S INTENTION TO APPLY TO BECOME A PARTICIPANT IN THE NEW ENGLAND POWER POOL AND AUTHORIZING THE TOWN MANAGER TO NEGOTIATE AND EXECUTE ALL REQUIRED DOCUMENTS.

Ms. Griffin stated that this Resolution is based on previous discussions with the Board to have the Town participate in the New England Power Pool. She noted that nothing has changed since they last looked at this. The documents have all been reviewed by the attorneys and the Board would need to authorize Ms. Griffin to sign them.

Ms. Griffin reported that Hanover is now a Green Power Partner. She stated that this is the first step in becoming a Green Power Community and the Town was able to purchase 10% renewable energy certificates for \$400. She reported that Kendal at Hanover agreed to purchase 100% of their power in renewable energy certificates and the Co-op agreed to purchase 20%. She stated that with Hypertherm purchasing 100% of their power, the Town already has enough energy purchased to qualify as a Green Power Community. There is still more work to be done before they can make this official. She noted that Yolanda Baumgartner has done a fabulous job in leading this Committee. Ms. Griffin stated that they will be working toward providing a community package for residents who might like to buy renewable energy certificates.

Marjorie Rogalski, Sustainability Committee member, was present and stated that she endorses joining the New England Power pool. She also liked the idea of moving on to become NH's first EPA Green Power Community.

Selectman Carter MOVED to Adopt the Resolution Declaring the Town of Hanover's Intention to Apply to Become a Participant in the New England Power Pool and Authorizing the Town Manager to Negotiate and Execute all Required Documents. Selectman Buckey SECONDED the Motion.

Selectman Buckey stated that based on past financial experience this should be a win but asked whether it was possible for the wholesale price to exceed the retail price. Ms. Griffin stated that it could but then the Town would purchase a sleeve which would protect them from upward spikes. She noted that it costs a little bit more to have the sleeve in place but this would save them money in the long run. Ms. Griffin stated that they are looking at a contract in which they will purchase with the sleeve so that when the price goes up above a certain amount, the Town would be protected. The contract is annually renewable but the membership is permanent. Selectman Buckey clarified with Ms. Griffin that if it turns out to not be financially feasible, the Town is only committed for a year.

Selectman Carter clarified with Ms. Griffin that she will advise them when they can roll this out for residents to participate. Ms. Griffin stated that they will be working with Renewable Choice to launch the program which will enable individual property owners to purchase renewable energy certificates. She noted that they continue to receive mailings from North American Power who only serve the PSNH customers. Liberty Utilities abandoned their green power package offerings.

THE BOARD VOTED 3 IN FAVOR, 0 OPPOSED, 2 ABSENT TO ADOPT THE RESOLUTION DECLARING THE TOWN OF HANOVER'S INTENTION TO APPLY TO BECOME A PARTICIPANT IN THE NEW ENGLAND POWER POOL AND AUTHORIZING THE TOWN MANAGER TO NEGOTIATE AND EXECUTE ALL REQUIRED DOCUMENTS.

3. TOWN MEETING PREPARATION.

Ms. Griffin noted that she prepared the motions in large print for the Board. She also reviewed everything with Moderator Steve Fowler. Selectman Carter and Vice Chairman Rassias will work out scheduling to cover Town Meeting.

4. GREEN POWER UPDATE.

Ms. Griffin covered the Green Power update under item #2.

5. BANNER REQUEST:

- Hanover Lions Club – Oktoberfest Banner

Selectman Buckey MOVED to Approve the Banner Request of the Hanover Lions Club. Selectman Carter SECONDED the Motion.

THE BOARD VOTED 3 IN FAVOR, 0 OPPOSED, 2 ABSENT TO APPROVE THE BANNER REQUEST OF THE HANOVER LIONS CLUB.

6. ACCEPTANCE OF DONATION TO HOWE AND ETNA LIBRARIES.

Ms. Griffin stated that they received a \$500 donation for the libraries from the Barbara and Thomas Hall Fund which needs to be approved by the Board.

Selectman Carter MOVED to Accept the Donation to the Howe and Etna Libraries. Selectman Buckey SECONDED the Motion.

THE BOARD VOTED 3 IN FAVOR, 0 OPPOSED, 2 ABSENT TO ACCEPT THE DONATION TO THE HOWE AND ETNA LIBRARIES.

7. APPROVAL OF MINUTES:
- April 21, 2014

Selectman Buckey MOVED to Accept the Minutes of April 21, 2014. Selectman Carter SECONDED the Motion.

THE BOARD VOTED 3 IN FAVOR, 0 OPPOSED, 2 ABSENT TO APPROVE THE MINUTES OF APRIL 21, 2014.

8. ADMINISTRATIVE REPORTS.

Ms. Griffin reported that Fire Chief Martin McMillan started today and the Fire Department was very busy with back-to-back calls. She noted that Police Chief Charlie Dennis and his wife Barbara will be coming to town to look at housing this week. They are hoping his first day will be June 2nd.

Ms. Griffin stated that they will have a swearing in ceremony for Chief Dennis and then an open house for both Chiefs will be scheduled for sometime in June.

Ms. Griffin reported that the Cable Franchise Agreement will expire at the end of this year. She noted that they are typically 10 year terms. She stated that the last time they negotiated the Cable Franchise Agreement was in 2003. There is a public process required for the renewal of franchise agreements. She is hoping that Comcast will do more for the Town in the upcoming agreement than they do in the current agreement. She stated that Comcast will not extend service to household densities of any less than 20 households per mile. She reported to the Board that she will be negotiating the contract with their attorney and Comcast; they will then hold a couple of public hearings in the fall leading up to a renewal. She stated that it is not exclusive but current cable television does not compete with each other's territories. Ms. Griffin stated that at some point in the future it may become obsolete with technology changes.

Selectman Buckey asked if Comcast provides internet service to the Town buildings. Ms. Griffin stated that the Town has a free drop for the municipal buildings and the schools. She noted that Howe Library had a public terminal access on the Comcast cable modem service which was pretty slow. They now are part of the G4 service through FastRoads which is much faster. They have the cable connections for back-up purposes for each town office.

Selectman Carter asked Ms. Griffin when the FastRoads network will be available to all residents. Ms. Griffin reported that they need to get enough initial customers on the FastRoads network to be more financially stable before expanding out. She stated that Design 9 which is

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the engineering firm that designed the network for FastRoads is now working on a feasibility study. There is a Bonding for Broadband bill that is before the Senate and it is unclear whether this will come out with a positive vote. This would allow municipalities to bond if they want to but they would not be obligated to do this. Ms. Griffin stated that they have to figure out a way to pay for build-out; currently the Town can't bond for this effort.

Chairman Christie clarified with Ms. Griffin that she is hearing from residents who do not have cable. Ms. Griffin stated that Comcast has not done any extensions of service in the area in 10 years because the density in the area has not changed. Selectman Carter pointed out that technology has changed as well as people's dependency on it.

Chairman Christie asked if they have a sense for how many households are in need. Ms. Griffin stated that DPW will be looking at the households per mile calculations.

Selectman Carter noted that they would need to determine why they would go back to Comcast when they could work with FastRoads. Ms. Griffin stated that FastRoads does not have an IPTV provider which is what they really need to provide competition. Selectman Buckley noted that the only thing that's really unique with Comcast is their sports package. Ms. Griffin and Selectman Buckley noted that in a lot of places people choose to stream shows versus using cable and the time will come when this technology is obsolete.

Ms. Griffin reported that the Senate and House are trying to get all of their bills passed through committee by the end of next week. She stated that they are not tracking too much of the activity other than the broadband bill.

9. SELECTMEN'S REPORTS.

Jay Buckley

Selectman Buckley reported that the Finance Committee met earlier in the day where they heard about the plans for bonding for the Ray School. He noted that they had some discussion about whether it's better to have the level premium which costs more initially but then goes down over time versus a level payment which ultimately costs more. The Finance Committee will make a presentation at Town Meeting.

Nancy Carter

Selectman Carter reported that there will be a Planning Board meeting tomorrow night at 7:30 at the Town Hall Boardroom and they will review the Ray School application. The Planning Board will also be looking at a proposal from Dartmouth College for replacement of the west stand bleachers on Memorial Field with a lot of upgrades in facilities.

Selectman Carter reported that tomorrow from 8:00 a.m. until 9:30 a.m. there will be Breakfast with the Howe which is an opportunity to meet with members of the Howe Library Board of Directors. This will be held at the lower level of the Howe Library and people are encouraged to park and enter at the lower level entrance.

Peter Christie

Chairman Christie had nothing new to report.

10. OTHER BUSINESS.

Chairman Christie MOVED to Follow the Request for a Non-Public Session to Discuss Items Pursuant to RSA 91-a: 3, II (c), (d) & (e).

SELECTMAN BUCKEY VOTED YES; SELECTMAN CARTER VOTED YES; AND CHAIRMAN CHRISTIE VOTED YES. THE BOARD WENT INTO NON-PUBLIC SESSION AT 7:35 P.M.

Selectman Buckey MOVED to Exit the Non-Public Session. Selectman Carter SECONDED the Motion.

THE BOARD VOTED UNANIMOUSLY TO EXIT THE NON-PUBLIC SESSION AT 8:30 P.M.

11. ADJOURNMENT.

Selectman Buckey MOVED to Adjourn the Meeting. Selectman Carter SECONDED the Motion.

THE BOARD VOTED UNANIMOUSLY TO ADJOURN THE MEETING AT 8:31 P.M.

Respectfully Submitted,

Nancy A. Carter, Secretary

Minutes prepared by Elizabeth S. Rathburn.

SUMMARY

- 1. Selectman Carter MOVED to Adopt the Resolution Declaring the Town of Hanover's Intention to Apply to Become a Participant in the New England Power Pool and Authorizing the Town Manager to Negotiate and Execute all Required Documents. Selectman Buckey SECONDED the Motion.**

THE BOARD VOTED 3 IN FAVOR, 0 OPPOSED, 2 ABSENT TO ADOPT THE RESOLUTION DECLARING THE TOWN OF HANOVER'S INTENTION TO

APPLY TO BECOME A PARTICIPANT IN THE NEW ENGLAND POWER POOL AND AUTHORIZING THE TOWN MANAGER TO NEGOTIATE AND EXECUTE ALL REQUIRED DOCUMENTS.

2. **Selectman Buckey MOVED to Approve the Banner Request of the Hanover Lions Club. Selectman Carter SECONDED the Motion.**

THE BOARD VOTED 3 IN FAVOR, 0 OPPOSED, 2 ABSENT TO APPROVE THE BANNER REQUEST OF THE HANOVER LIONS CLUB.

3. **Selectman Carter MOVED to Accept the Donation to the Howe and Etna Libraries. Selectman Buckey SECONDED the Motion.**

THE BOARD VOTED 3 IN FAVOR, 0 OPPOSED, 2 ABSENT TO ACCEPT THE DONATION TO THE HOWE AND ETNA LIBRARIES.

4. **Selectman Buckey MOVED to Accept the Minutes of April 21, 2014. Selectman Carter SECONDED the Motion.**

THE BOARD VOTED 3 IN FAVOR, 0 OPPOSED, 2 ABSENT TO APPROVE THE MINUTES OF APRIL 21, 2014.

5. **Chairman Christie MOVED to Follow the Request for a Non-Public Session to Discuss Items Pursuant to RSA 91-a: 3, II (c), (d) & (e).**

SELECTMAN BUCKEY VOTED YES; SELECTMAN CARTER VOTED YES; AND CHAIRMAN CHRISTIE VOTED YES. THE BOARD WENT INTO NON-PUBLIC SESSION AT 7:35 P.M.

6. **Selectman Buckey MOVED to Exit the Non-Public Session. Selectman Carter SECONDED the Motion.**

THE BOARD VOTED UNANIMOUSLY TO EXIT THE NON-PUBLIC SESSION AT 8:30 P.M.

7. **Selectman Buckey MOVED to Adjourn the Meeting. Selectman Carter SECONDED the Motion.**

THE BOARD VOTED UNANIMOUSLY TO ADJOURN THE MEETING AT 8:31 P.M.