

FINAL

BOARD OF SELECTMEN'S MEETING

December 17, 2007

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; Bill Baschnagel, Selectman; Athos Rassias, Selectman and Julia Griffin, Town Manager.

1. PUBLIC COMMENT.

Chairman Walsh asked for any comments from the public. There were no comments from the public.

2. PUBLIC HEARING FOR CONSIDERATION AND APPROVAL OF A REQUEST FOR PRIVATE CONSTRUCTION ON A CLASS VI HIGHWAY TO CLEAR TREE DEBRIS ON OLD SPENCER ROAD.

Ms. Griffin reviewed the proposal for the viewing public. She noted that Old Spencer Road connects Old Lyme Road to Dogford Road. Ms. Griffin reported that there was significant damage from a microburst that struck the area in April and the proposal is to move many of the downed trees to make it more passable for walking traffic. No changes to the road itself are proposed. The Trails Committee came up with the proposal to remove the trees and brush and due to the fact that an objection was brought forth for this project, a public hearing was scheduled.

Chairman Walsh read a letter that was received by Margaret Nutt Mitchell who voiced her concern over maintenance of the Class VI road and recommended that the application be denied. Chairman Walsh announced that Bill Nutt would like to have a face-to-face meeting with the Conservation Commission prior to a decision being made by the Selectmen.

Chairman Walsh pointed out that Helen LaCoss submitted a letter to the Select Board. Ms. LaCoss was present and stated that the questions she raised in her letter were irrelevant as long as the Town was not going to upgrade the roadway.

Chairman Walsh advised that he has given some thought to the issue and it is his sense that the Board could approve this action and that by approving it, the status of the road would remain as a Class VI road and not a Class V road. He feels that the Conservation Commission and the Trails Committee could meet with the Nutt's, John O'Brien and Vicky Smith and come to the Board with a plan which is acceptable to the landowners in order to make it passable and not maintained as a Class V road. He feels that this is a

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more appropriate way to move and he would like to see similar issues in the Town resolved in this matter.

Selectman Baschnagel noted that he is comfortable with the proposal as it is only proposing to make it passable for skiers and walkers. Vice Chairman Connolly noted that no trees will be cut down; this will be clearing the area that was closed due to felled trees from a storm.

Chairman Walsh would like something in writing when the plan is worked out.

Ms. LaCoss asked how much of a trail is going to be available and she is questioning whether the Town is permitted or required to keep an open passage way on each right of way on a Class VI highway.

Selectman Baschnagel advised that he didn't feel that the Town was required to keep an open passage way on a Class VI road. Ms. Griffin noted that the goal is to restore the passage way to no greater than an 8' width. Ms. LaCoss felt that if a trail was being made out of it, the Town would be required to deal with the landowner.

Doug McIlroy arrived and Selectman Baschnagel advised him of the recommendation to meet with the Nutt's, John O'Brien and Vicki Smith to come up with an acceptable plan for all parties.

Hugh Mellert noted that he has led hikes through Slade Brook and Old Spencer Road is well used. People ski on that trail and having a wide area to ski is much better than a small narrow area. There are rock walls on both sides and it is used as a trail but historically, it's an old highway road and it has that look and that appeal. The historical appeal is lost if it is not cleared well enough.

Chairman Walsh noted that this is something that passes over private land and he feels that there is common ground where the Trails Committee and the landowners can come to an agreement. The road is not meant to be changed to be traveled by vehicles. He would like a design that has the minimum work required to fix the mess caused by last spring's storm.

Chairman Walsh closed the public hearing.

Selectman Baschnagel MOVED that the Board proceed as discussed. Ms. Griffin will arrange a meeting between the landowners, the Trails Committee and the Town and that a plan be prepared to document the work that will be done on the Old Spencer Road. Vice Chairman Connolly SECONDED the motion.

THE BOARD VOTED UNANIMOUSLY IN FAVOR TO HAVE MS. GRIFFIN ARRANGE A MEETING BETWEEN THE LANDOWNERS, THE TRAILS COMMITTEE AND THE TOWN AND THAT A PLAN BE PREPARED TO DOCUMENT THE WORK THAT WILL BE DONE ON OLD SPENCER ROAD.

3. HANOVER CHAMBER OF COMMERCE PRESENTATION REGARDING PROPOSED FARMER'S MARKET.

Janet Rebman, Executive Director, made a presentation before the Board (with the assistance of Doug Wise) regarding a proposed Farmer's Market. The Hanover Chamber of Commerce would be looking for input from the Select Board. The goal for a Farmer's Market in Hanover is to promote locally grown food.

Ms. Rebman stated that the idea is driven by encouraging traffic coming into the downtown area which will increase exposure of the downtown businesses area and to bring the Dartmouth community into the Town of Hanover. If this goes forward, they will be looking to hire a professional market manager which will handle various tasks such as overseeing the set-up, operation and shut down of the market in addition to many other tasks that would benefit the program.

The proposal is to have the Farmer's Market at the top level of the Hanover Parking Garage. Ms. Rebman reviewed a map with the Board to elaborate on the proposal. The proposal is to have the market from June to September, every Wednesday from 3:00 – 6:00 p.m. There are currently about 16 vendors interested in participating in a local farmer's market.

Ms. Rebman noted that they have received a lot of support from the Norwich Farmer's Market and this will not compete with their hours or their operation.

Selectman Baschnagel noted that the PTB observed the presentation and there were concerns early on but the timing actually works well since people are leaving the garage at that time. Vice Chairman Connolly wondered if it was possible to empty the garage. Lt. O'Neill felt that this would be possible with signage in the areas affected notifying people that they would need to remove their vehicles by 1:30. Selectman Baschnagel noted that there were previous discussions about having people working on Lebanon Street to assist with directing people that wish to use the garage.

Chairman Walsh didn't want this to become a crafts market instead of a Farmer's Market and wants to ensure that this is a local produce market with just a handful of other vendors. Ms. Rebman would like to keep the produce at 65% of the Market or more and to keep the crafts at a minimum.

Chairman Walsh would like to see this start next year and would like to have a report in October as to who participated in the market.

Ms. Griffin noted that formal approval isn't needed from the Board but they are looking for the Board's blessing and wanted to answer any questions the Board may have. The Select Board gave their informal approval of the project.

Chairman Walsh suggested having the Farmer's Market start the Wednesday after Dartmouth commencement and end the Wednesday before Dartmouth resumes classes.

- 4. BANNER REQUESTS:**
- Upper Valley Presents
 - Lions Club/Auto Show

Chairman Walsh invited Bruce Genereaux to speak to the Board about the banner request for Upper Valley Presents.

Bruce Genereaux, Executive Director, advised that Upper Valley Presents is a new Non-Profit which brings performers into the area. The banner would be used to promote the Open Air Summer Family Concert series and they would like to take advantage of the fact that they are non-profit and the chance to promote this with a banner hanging over Main Street in Hanover.

Vice Chairman Connolly expressed concern over the frequency that the banners would need to be put up and then taken down. Selectman Baschnagel had concerns about promoting events that take place in other towns. Selectman Christie noted that the Special Olympics have banners and they take place in Lyme. Ms. Griffin noted that the July request is a little tricky because there are other requests that usually come in for that particular time. There was general discussion regarding the events that usually come into play during the summertime.

THE BOARD UNANIMOUSLY APPROVED THE BANNER REQUEST OF UPPER VALLEY PRESENTS PROVIDED THAT THE DATES ARE WORKED OUT WITH MS. GRIFFIN.

THE BOARD UNANIMOUSLY APPROVED THE BANNER REQUEST OF THE HANOVER LION'S CLUB.

- 5. APPROVAL OF MINUTES:**
- December 3, 2007

Selectman Baschnagel MOVED to accept the Minutes of December 3, 2007 with minor changes. Vice Chairman Connolly SECONDED the motion.

THE BOARD VOTED UNANIMOUSLY TO ACCEPT THE MINUTES OF DECEMBER 3, 2007 WITH MINOR CHANGES.

- 6. ADMINISTRATIVE REPORTS.**

Ms. Griffin noted that they now know the CPI and it is worse than she feared.

Ms. Griffin advised that they are finished with the internal budget review and now she is waiting to hear from Ms. McClain as to how much will need to be cut to reach the tax rate target.

Ms. Griffin noted that she participated in a drill to test the Emergency Operations Center/Regional Hazards Plan with the scenario of a meningitis outbreak. It appeared to go very well.

7. SELECTMEN'S REPORTS.

Peter Christie

Selectman Christie advised that the Dresden Finance Committee met to look at the SAU 70 budget for the next coming year and they support that budget. The cost and the rate of increase have been reviewed and also the need to correlate that with metrics for measuring quality. Over the past 10 years, the core budget has gone up twice the CPI rate. The costs have been increasing at greater rates than increases in income and expenses. This appears to be an unsustainable trend. The criterion for the upcoming school budget is no more than 2.75% over last year's budget which will be tough. There will be some educational material to inform the public and encourage them to become involved.

Selectman Christie reported that the Hanover Finance Committee did meet and supported the Select Board's approach to the budget. Options were discussed for financing the WWTP upgrades and the Committee was supportive of that as well.

Kate Connolly

Vice Chairman Connolly reported that the Planning Board met on December 4th and approved the development on Curtiss Road. The original plan was to have a U shape facing Lyme Road but the plan was revised and would now face Curtiss Road.

Vice Chairman Connolly advised that the Planning Board had another meeting on December 11th where they reviewed proposed zoning amendments. There is another meeting scheduled for tomorrow night with discussions focusing on a Rural Overlay District. There will be a meeting in January at Trumbull Hall in Etna for the benefit of rural property owners to see the restrictions of the plan.

Bill Baschnagel

Selectman Baschnagel reported that the Conservation Commission met and will be reaching out to the Lebanon Conservation Commission to discuss the RT 120 Corridor Study to understand aspects from both sides of the project.

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Selectman Baschnagel noted that the Parking & Transportation Board (PTB) met and had a quick discussion of the budget and viewed the presentation regarding the proposed Farmer's Market.

Selectman Baschnagel attended the Upper Valley Transportation Advisory Commission (TAC) meeting and part of the discussion focused on review of the Charter for the TAC with a focus on how they support the Regional Planning Commission (RPC). There was some interesting discussion regarding the TAC and although they typically make recommendations to the 10 year plan, it is really the RPC that has the authority to make the recommendations so there were on-going discussions about this with an effort to sort everything out.

Selectman Baschnagel reported that the Planning Board reviewed two Dartmouth projects with regard to the addition of a stairway to a fraternity for safety purposes and to make it handicap accessible. The renovation to New Hampshire Hall will be starting and will go on for about 6 to 8 months where they will replace the old fashioned fire escapes.

Athos Rassias

The Howe Library Board met last Thursday and they were presented with the Select Board's goals for the budget. There was a free form discussion about what happens in the library between 3:00 and 5:00 p.m. when there is a huge surge of after school activities; a lot of students arrive to do things from computer work, socializing, studying, etc. The influx of middle school and young high school students and the impact of other users of the library were discussed. There were a few proposals which will show up in later discussions ranging from a monitor to ensure the kids are doing what they are supposed to and then later on developing programs and getting kids involved in library related activities.

Vice Chairman Connolly asked whether there had been a monitor at the library in the past. Ms. Griffin noted it has been an idea that appeared on the wish list but fell victim to budget cuts.

Selectman Christie was impressed with the fun atmosphere during the time when the kids are there. He could find a quiet place to read if he wanted to.

Brian Walsh

Chairman Walsh missed the Recreation Board meeting and had nothing else to report.

8. OTHER BUSINESS.

Ms. Griffin asked that the Board re-appoint Carolyn Murray as the Deputy Health Officer and re-appoint Ed Chamberlain to the Conservation Commission.

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Chairman Walsh MOVED to re-appoint Carolyn Murray as the Deputy Health Officer and re-appoint Ed Chamberlain to the Conservation Commission. Selectman Baschnagel SECONDED the motion.

THE BOARD VOTED UNANIMOUSLY TO RE-APPOINT CAROLYN MURRAY AS THE DEPUTY HEALTH OFFICER AND RE-APPOINT ED CHAMBERLAIN TO THE CONSERVATION COMMISSION.

9. ADJOURNMENT.

Vice Chairman Connolly MOVED to adjourn. Selectman Baschnagel SECONDED the motion.

THE BOARD VOTED UNANIMOUSLY TO ADJOURN AT 8:45 P.M.

Respectfully Submitted,

Athos Rassias, Secretary

Minutes prepared by Elizabeth S. Rathburn.

SUMMARY

1. **Selectman Baschnagel MOVED that the Board proceed as discussed. Ms. Griffin will arrange a meeting between the landowners, the Trails Committee and the Town and that a plan be prepared to document the work that will be done on the Old Spencer Road. Vice Chairman Connolly SECONDED the motion.**

THE BOARD VOTED UNANIMOUSLY IN FAVOR TO HAVE MS. GRIFFIN ARRANGE A MEETING BETWEEN THE LANDOWNERS, THE TRAILS COMMITTEE AND THE TOWN AND THAT A PLAN BE PREPARED TO DOCUMENT THE WORK THAT WILL BE DONE ON OLD SPENCER ROAD.

2. **THE BOARD UNANIMOUSLY APPROVED THE BANNER REQUEST OF UPPER VALLEY PRESENTS PROVIDED THAT THE DATES ARE WORKED OUT WITH MS. GRIFFIN.**
3. **THE BOARD UNANIMOUSLY AGREED TO THE BANNER REQUEST OF THE HANOVER LION'S CLUB.**
4. **Selectman Baschnagel MOVED to accept the Minutes of December 3, 2007 with minor changes. Vice Chairman Connolly SECONDED the motion.**

THE BOARD VOTED UNANIMOUSLY TO ACCEPT THE MINUTES OF DECEMBER 3, 2007 WITH MINOR CHANGES.

5. **Chairman Walsh MOVED to re-appoint Carolyn Murray as the Deputy Health Officer and re-appoint Ed Chamberlain to the Conservation Commission. Selectman Baschnagel SECONDED the motion.**

THE BOARD VOTED UNANIMOUSLY TO RE-APPOINT CAROLYN MURRAY AS THE DEPUTY HEALTH OFFICER AND RE-APPOINT ED CHAMBERLAIN TO THE CONSERVATION COMMISSION.

6. **Vice Chairman Connolly MOVED to adjourn. Selectman Baschnagel SECONDED the motion.**

THE BOARD VOTED UNANIMOUSLY TO ADJOURN AT 8:45 P.M.

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December 3, 2007

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

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1. PUBLIC COMMENT.

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

2. RECOMMENDATION TO SET A PUBLIC HEARING ON DECEMBER 17, 2007 TO CONSIDER A REQUEST FOR PRIVATE CONSTRUCTION ON A CLASS VI HIGHWAY TO CLEAR TREE DEBRIS ON OLD SPENCER ROAD.

Chairman Walsh asked Ms. Griffin to brief the Board on this item. Ms. Griffin advised that this request requires a public hearing based on Ordinance #4. There are two abutters and an interested party who expressed their objections to the clearing of the road.

Selectman Baschnagel asked for copies of the notice that was sent. Ms. Griffin advised that she would provide the Board with all of the information including the objections by the abutters.

Vice Chairman Connolly MOVED to set a public hearing on December 17, 2007 to consider a request for private construction on a Class VI highway to clear tree debris on Old Spencer Road. Selectman Baschnagel SECONDED the motion.

There was general discussion between the Board members regarding the classification of Class VI and Class V roads and the current condition of Old Spencer Road. Ms. Griffin also noted that the Ordinance requires written notification to those who have raised a concern in addition to the notice that will appear in the newspaper and bulletin boards. Chairman Walsh would like to have clear guidance from legal counsel prior to the public hearing.

THE BOARD VOTED UNANIMOUSLY TO SET A PUBLIC HEARING ON DECEMBER 17, 2007 TO CONSIDER A REQUEST FOR PRIVATE CONSTRUCTION ON A CLASS VI HIGHWAY TO CLEAR TREE DEBRIS ON OLD SPENCER ROAD.

**3. PRELIMINARY DISCUSSION OF DRAFT ORDINANCE
REGARDING MINIMUM STANDARDS OF HEALTH AND
SAFETY OF RENTAL HOUSING.**

Chairman Walsh advised that the Board received a copy of the draft in their Friday packets and noted that the Board brought a draft ordinance to a public hearing a couple of years ago. One of the issues that came up was whether the ordinance would allow for the Town to act upon a complaint.

Ms. Griffin pointed out that this draft is really complaint driven. The feeling at the time was that the Ordinance might be overkill for some small scale problems. The draft ordinance does require a written complaint be presented to the Board and it prescribes that the task be handled by a rental housing enforcement officer but she wanted to make it clear that she is not proposing adding additional staff for this. Ms. Griffin wanted to confirm the direction that the Board wanted to proceed with for this ordinance before getting legal review.

Selectman Christie questioned why this ordinance would be complaint driven. Ms. Griffin noted that this came from previous discussions and the Fire Chief has authority to enter any premises if there are any suspected fire safety code violations but the thought was to make this ordinance complaint driven initially and create a safe environment to receive complaints.

Selectman Christie would want the right to act under the ordinance if something is brought to the Board's attention and would not want to limit the ordinance to complaints received. Selectman Baschnagel agreed and felt that there might be a situation where there might be reason to believe that there is an issue and therefore grounds to investigate.

Vice Chairman Connolly appreciated an ordinance where things are handled in this manner and there are a few repeat offenders in Town which are difficult but this will not punish all property owners for a few violators. She didn't feel that the complaints necessarily had to be in writing.

Ms. Griffin stated that the Town still has the ability to act but this creates a standard procedure to follow. Selectman Baschnagel noted that the section relating to Housing Standards seems to prescribe that a Board be created and the complaints to be handled a certain way. Ms. Griffin advised that she spoke with Walter Mitchell about this and they would need to look into whether they need to create a Rental Housing Standards Board.

Selectman Christie noted that the procedure in case of an emergency has a long list of requirements including a month's notice before anyone enters the building. Ms. Griffin referred to page 6 of the draft which provides the Town with the ability to act in an expeditious manner.

Chairman Walsh would like to see a simpler and more flexible ordinance. Selectman Baschnagel felt that there was some restrictive wording in the area of acting upon a written complaint from a Hanover resident or property owner which could exclude a tenant. He would like to see some clarification and would like anyone who has observed an issue of concern to be able to complain to the Town and have it investigated.

Selectman Baschnagel would like to add wording to the ordinance listing the ability to post a building as uninhabitable.

Chairman Walsh asked for clarification on the penalties and whether they vary. Ms. Griffin noted that State law has different fine amounts applicable depending on the nature of the violation. The wording allows for fines to be set 'by the appropriate authority according to law' on page 8. Ms. Griffin noted that she could certainly post the fine amounts for the corresponding violations.

Chairman Walsh felt that a fine would not be as effective as having the ability to shut a building down. Selectman Baschnagel noted that the proposal is to notify of a violation, ask for a plan to resolve, the Town reviews the plan, if the plan is not acceptable, the Town can ask for another plan to resolve and it isn't clear where that ends, but, in the meantime it would be good to be able to place a property under investigation. If the Town does not receive an answer to a request he can foresee months passing by before a response is received or a problem is resolved.

Ms. Griffin noted that for serious violations, Fire Chief Bradley has not been shy about using his ability to shut a property down within 24 hours if the requirements are not met.

Chairman Walsh would like to know the potential penalties in the public health section prior to the public hearing.

4. APPROVAL OF MINUTES:
- November 19, 2007

Selectman Baschnagel MOVED to approve the Minutes of November 19, 2007 with minor changes. Vice Chairman Connolly SECONDED the motion.

THE BOARD VOTED UNANIMOUSLY TO APPROVE THE MINUTES OF NOVEMBER 19, 2007 WITH MINOR CHANGES.

5. ADMINISTRATIVE REPORTS.

Ms. Griffin advised that she has been working on budget review with each department. She doesn't see the ability to add staff at all within this budget. She continues to be concerned with the economic outlook and will be interested to see the CPI numbers for November.

Ms. Griffin advised that there is anticipation of some hardening with the municipal bond market and feels that there will be more impacts from the sub prime fallout.

Ms. Griffin noted that she spoke with Dennis Logue who gave an update on the NH Retirement System Working Group which he participates in. He told Ms. Griffin that they may have the draft report for review this week so the Town should have the report fairly soon. He felt that the Legislature will take up some of the issues in January.

Chairman Walsh asked about bond issues and the sewage treatment plant and would like to ask the Municipal Association about other communities in the same situation. Ms. Griffin noted that this information is being collected and part of it is used for anticipating revolving loan funds. Chairman Walsh doesn't want to miss out on funding opportunities if other Towns need the same work done and Hanover handles the issue first.

6. SELECTMEN'S REPORTS.

Peter Christie

Selectman Christie advised that he, Tom Blinkhorn and Betsy McClain have been working on ways to finance the improvements and renovations at the Wastewater Treatment Plant. They are working on better ways to assess use and capacity fees.

Kate Connolly

Vice Chairman Connolly reported that there was one Planning Board meeting where they discussed rural zoning and a handful of zoning amendments. They also heard a report from the Rural Committee which she attends occasionally. The Committee is working on a Rural Overlay Zone which will probably be completed in the next couple of weeks.

Vice Chairman Connolly advised the Curtiss Road development will be presented to the Planning Board tomorrow night. The project was altered from having the housing face Lyme Road to having it face Curtiss Road which will be an interesting change. Selectman Baschnagel noted that this change was encouraged by the neighbors.

Vice Chairman Connolly suggested setting the polling hours now versus waiting the next meeting. The Board discussed their availability and set times in which each member would be attending the polling hours.

Bill Baschnagel

Selectman Baschnagel had nothing to report.

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Athos Rassias

Selectman Rassias had nothing to report.

Brian Walsh

Chairman Walsh reported that a Sheriff served him papers for two lawsuits against the Town of Hanover by the Occom Pond Neighbor Association which he forwarded to Ms. Griffin.

7. OTHER BUSINESS.

There as no other business.

8. ADJOURNMENT.

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

THE BOARD VOTED UNANIMOUSLY TO ADJOURN THE MEETING AT 8:15 P.M.

Respectfully Submitted,

Athos Rassias, Secretary

Minutes prepared by Elizabeth S. Rathburn.

SUMMARY

- 1. Vice Chairman Connolly MOVED to set a public hearing on December 17, 2007 to consider a request for private construction on a Class VI highway to clear tree debris on Old Spencer Road. Selectman Baschnagel SECONDED the motion.**

THE BOARD VOTED UNANIMOUSLY TO SET A PUBLIC HEARING ON DECEMBER 17, 2007 TO CONSIDER A REQUEST FOR PRIVATE CONSTRUCTION ON A CLASS VI HIGHWAY TO CLEAR TREE DEBRIS ON OLD SPENCER ROAD.

- 2. Selectman Baschnagel MOVED to approve the Minutes of November 19, 2007 with minor changes. Vice Chairman Connolly SECONDED the motion.**

THE BOARD VOTED UNANIMOUSLY TO APPROVE THE MINUTES OF NOVEMBER 19, 2007 WITH MINOR CHANGES.

- 3. Selectman Baschnagel MOVED to adjourn the meeting. Vice Chairman Connolly SECONDED the motion.**

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November 19, 2007

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

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Chairman Walsh made the following proclamation presentation to Larry Draper on behalf of the Board of Selectmen:

**A PROCLAMATION RECOGNIZING THE SERVICE AND
DEDICATION OF LAWRENCE (Larry) R. DRAPER**

WHEREAS, Larry Draper was initially appointed to the Town of Hanover Trustee of the Trust Funds in 1991 to serve out a vacated position; and

WHEREAS, he was subsequently elected to serve no less than five three-year terms as a Trustee of the Trust Funds, during which time he served as chairman for the final nine years of his tenure ; and

WHEREAS, while he was in office, he was instrumental in streamlining the reporting and investment procedures to best safeguard and steward Town of Hanover assets; and

WHEREAS, his calm demeanor, his commitment to the intentions and wishes of donors and to Town Meeting, and his able leadership of the Trustees of Trust Funds all combined to insure the ongoing proper handling of Town Trust Funds; and

WHEREAS, he was invariably impeccably groomed for 7:30 a.m. Trustees meetings, far outshining his rumpled and bleary-eyed fellow Trustees and Town staff;

WHEREAS, he has served in a variety of civic positions including School District Auditor, Hanover Improvement Society Board Member, and

WHEREAS, he possesses the type of tireless energy and concern for his neighbors and the Town as a whole, which contributes to the true spirit of community; and

WHEREAS, the Town of Hanover has benefited from his involvement in a variety of civic affairs and appreciates his service, dedication and commitment to furthering the quality of life for the residents of our community.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT PROCLAIMED by the Town of Hanover Board of Selectmen that Larry Draper be commemorated and remembered for his valuable contributions to the administration of Town affairs and safeguarding of Town assets.

Through these contributions, he has helped to preserve the underpinnings of what makes Hanover such a wonderful and special place.

Proclaimed this 1st day of October, 2007.

Chairman Walsh introduced trustees Paul Gardent and Jay Pierson.

1. PUBLIC COMMENT.

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

2. DISCUSSION REGARDING RECYCLING COMMITTEE'S PROPOSED STATEMENT OF PRINCIPLES REGARDING SUSTAINABILITY.

Chairman Walsh invited Lyn Swett-Miller of the Recycling Committee to speak to the Board. Ms. Swett-Miller brought forth the Recycling Committee's concerns regarding growth, sustainability and ecological responsibility. The Committee is proposing to create a Sustainability Committee in Town and to have a long term and not a short term view with regard to budgeting and other processes in order to ensure ecological sustainability.

Ms. Swett-Miller read the following statement to the Board:

The Hanover Recycling Committee (HRC) has worked for many years to promote a more sustainable environment for citizens of this community. The HRC manages the current curbside recycling program and educates citizens about the importance of reusing and reducing solid waste.

Tonight, the Committee comes to you, the Select Board and all of you out there, to assure continued financial support for our important work, especially given the dual challenges of continual growth and the ecologic realities of our time. The central statement that we have in question is in charting the future of the Town, we hope the Select Board will take leadership; indeed being ecologically responsible is being financially responsible.

First, we must decide how to accommodate the growth prescribed by the 2003 Master Plan with a view to a sustainable future. The realities of the Master Plan imply increased pressures on town services. Hanover has signed an agreement with the City of Lebanon requiring a recycling program as a prerequisite for using their landfill. The Town's anticipated growth will exceed the current recycling program's capacity. How can we assure reliability and quality of the recycling program in the face of Hanover's anticipated growth.

Second, we must continue to collaborate with Dartmouth College and the Medical Center in planning for a sustainable future, especially in the context of the new developments proposed by both. There is a cost to growth. The anticipated growth will push our current recycling program and other town services beyond their present limits. How can these institutions partner with the Town to meet these financial obligations?

We propose, thirdly, to work together as a community to begin a collective conversation about creating a sustainable environment for us all. At present, the Recycling Committee is the only permanent Town committee addressing this issue. We know, however, that reducing, reusing and recycling solid waste is just the tip of an enormous iceberg, though maybe that is no longer an appropriate metaphor, that addresses the sustainability issue. Should the Town of Hanover have a Sustainability Committee to help manage a collective conversation about the complicated, interdependent and long-term fiscal and environmental challenges the community faces?

Finally, if we, the citizens of Hanover, want to maintain our quality of life in a sustainable community, we must make changes in our behavior and expect to see commensurate changes in our Town's regulations and financial policies. Sustainability is not about short term savings but about continued long-term investment. How do we best present the true costs of sustainable growth so that citizen's can make decisions based not on short-term self interest, but on long-term community responsibility.

In closing, we are here, I have to admit, out of some level of self interest. We want to assure that during our conversations about growth in the context of ecological instability, the community continues to support the work of the Recycling Committee at an appropriate level given the Town's anticipated growth. But we also must consider the larger issues that we face as a community, a nation and a world. As we enter the budgeting season for the coming year, I return to our original question, in charting the future of the Town, how can the Select Board take leadership? Indeed, being financially responsible is ecologically responsible.

Ms. Swett-Miller introduced other members Peter Kulbacki, Willy Black and Maryann Cadwallader and Larry Litten. Chairman Walsh invited everyone on the Recycling Committee to join the Board for a discussion.

Selectman Christie asked for insight into how the Recycling program will meet its limits due to growth. Mr. Kulbacki noted that currently the recycling program picks up 4 days a week and they are just about at capacity. There will come a point where more time will be needed and more costs expended to add more service. Mr. Kulbacki advised that when there are additional dwellings coming forth such as Gile Community and possibly Rivercrest and they need to determine how to meet those challenges. In the past, there have been conversations with Dartmouth where there is a fine line where the Town is responsible for recycling in certain areas and where Dartmouth is responsible.

Ms. Swett-Miller noted that her concern was the undefined policy and wanted to make sure that it is managed appropriately. Selectman Baschnagel felt that it was fairly clear

that the Town handles residential recycling. Mr. Kulbacki noted that there are some Dartmouth owned properties including residential areas where the Town is not responsible for pick-up. Ms. Swett-Miller noted that when they consider the potential increase in costs, it is not just the cost of adding a truck or a day of recycling, there is a potential that the program could be hampered if it's not defined.

Selectman Rassias asked about sustainability and how the Committee defines this with regard to having a Sustainability Committee. Ms. Swett-Miller stated that there are connections with the College and recycling is not just about picking up recycling and taking care of the waste so they are limited by being called the Recycling Committee and they are not very well coordinated with some of the other on-going efforts.

Larry Litten stated that there are other communities that have Sustainability Committees or initiatives. Recycling is a small part of it, energy conservation is another part of it and how everyone's behavior may contribute to climate changes is another area in which they could be working.

Willy Black noted that there was a bus that brought a team to Dartmouth who kept the bus running for hours and she mentioned to the bus driver that he should shut off the bus and the driver felt that he didn't need to. She suggested that the Town create an ordinance or something to encourage change in this area.

Ms. Swett-Miller noted that there is an underlying concern that the Committee is a fairly small group and if they want to involve more people they could expand the nature of their mission to expand the appeal for potential members. By having a Sustainability Committee it adds to the sense that there is more work to be done and bring more people in the community into these conversations.

Ms. Cadwallader stated that the country is focusing on the issues and it is hard to find and keep members so they don't want their work to be diminished in any way especially since their use of the Lebanon Landfill is dependent on recycling.

Selectman Christie felt that this was an exciting and encouraging step forward. Selectman Baschnagel agreed that things have changed over the years and sustainability has been better defined over time.

Vice Chairman Connolly confirmed that with an increase in days between recycling pick-ups, there is an increase in recycling volume. She noted that she attended a Regional Planning Commission meeting last week and there was a person from the Sierra Club who used Hanover as an example of progress and there are on-going efforts to conserve energy within the whole region. Willy Black noted that her energy use went down 12% by changing her lightbulbs.

Chairman Walsh would like the Committee to make specific recommendations to the Town as to areas in which the Town could save energy and an idea of what these initiatives would cost. Chairman Walsh would also encourage the Committee to present

a list of things that residents can do to make a difference. Chairman Walsh felt that there would be support by Town Meeting on these issues. He supports the Committee with the areas in which they want to expand and he is ready to re-write a charge that would expand the Recycling Committee.

Ms. Griffin noted that the CPC (Cool Cities Committee) is also struggling to find people who can help with their initiatives. Ms. Griffin encouraged the group to have discussions with this Committee and see where the two groups could work together.

Mr. Litten felt that the next step would be to conceive of the charge and a structure in which to relate to the various initiatives that are currently in town. He didn't want to undercut the vitality of the other groups and they have said that they see this as an opportunity to work with the new committee.

Chairman Walsh advised that he had received a letter regarding a conference in Hartford, CT from the ICLEI, Local Government for Sustainability and suggested that there may be someone from the Committee that might wish to attend.

Selectman Christie confirmed that the next step would be for the committee to come forth with a revised Charter and name change. Ms. Griffin added that to the extent that the Committee would like staff assistance, they should let her know.

Vice Chairman Connolly offered to provide the Committee with information that she received at the recent RPC meeting that she attended.

Chairman Walsh would like to see the Committee as a Committee of the Town with the focus on the Town and the allegiance of the Town with cooperation to the other outside groups. Selectman Baschnagel felt that when writing the Charter, they should think about noting who is appointed by the Town and who is from other committees or coalitions.

Report from Joigny, France

Willy Black reported that the Hanover-Joigny Festival Band went to a 5 city band festival in Joigny in September. There were bands from Italy, England, Germany and France. Ms. Black gave an overview of their trip and thanked the Board for their support. She provided the Board with a CD including performances from all 5 bands. There will be a video made and it will be broadcast on CATV in the future. Vice Chairman Connolly noted that she was in Joigny a couple weeks later and they were still talking about it.

3. RECOMMENDATIONS TO ADOPT PRELIMINARY FEMA MAPS AND TO AUTHORIZE REPLACEMENT WITH FINAL MAPS UPON RECEIPT.

Chairman Walsh asked Ms. Griffin to speak to the recommendations regarding the FEMA maps.

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Ms. Griffin had the preliminary maps and noted that she received a letter from FEMA stating that there will be no changes between the preliminary maps and the final maps which will be provided in February. She noted that Town staff has reviewed the maps and adoption is key for those who want to qualify for flood insurance in the flood plain.

Selectman Baschnagel confirmed that at some point these maps would be available on the Town website.

Chairman Walsh asked what kind of changes would be made to the maps when the topography has not changed since he first viewed the maps years ago. Ms. Griffin noted that items including a better understanding of how land functions as a flood zone or a flood way. There are number of things that have redefined the map. Places along Mink Brook have changed and there may be subtle shifts in other areas. Ms. Griffin noted that these maps had not been updated in over 20 years.

Vice Chairman Connolly MOVED to adopt the preliminary FEMA maps and to authorize replacement with final maps upon receipt. Selectman Baschnagel SECONDED the motion.

THE BOARD VOTED UNANIMOUSLY IN FAVOR OF ADOPTING THE PRELIMINARY FEMA MAPS AND TO AUTHORIZE REPLACEMENT WITH FINAL MAPS UPON RECEIPT.

4. RECOMMENDATION TO CONSIDER AND APPROVE NATIONAL GRID EASEMENT.

Ms. Griffin noted that the easement was slightly modified and was reviewed by Peter Kulbacki, Jonathan Edwards and Walter Mitchell.

Selectman Baschnagel asked about the actual location for the easement. Ms. Griffin noted that it connects the area of Buck Road and Medical Center Drive. Selectman Baschnagel expressed concern that any poles were being used in this area and confirmed that the poles were coming from the substation and not into the Gile Community itself and that it was consistent with the site plan approval.

Vice Chairman Connolly MOVED to accept the recommendation to consider and approve the National Grid Easement. Selectman Baschnagel SECONDED the motion.

THE BOARD VOTED UNANIMOUSLY TO ACCEPT THE RECOMMENDATION TO CONSIDER AND APPROVE THE NATIONAL GRID EASEMENT.

5. RECOMMENDATION TO THE HANOVER HOUSING AUTHORITY REGARDING ADOPTION OF REVISED LEASE AS REQUIRED BY HUD.

Chairman Walsh authorized the Board to convene as the Hanover Housing Authority.

Ms. Griffin noted that there were minor changes to the lease. The only significant changes were the access by the landlord and notice of termination of tenancy.

THE HANOVER HOUSING AUTHORITY UNANIMOUSLY APPROVED THE RECOMMENDATION TO ADOPT THE REVISED LEASE AS REQUIRED BY HUD.

Chairman Walsh changed authority back over to the Board of Selectmen.

6. RECOMMENDATION TO ADOPT RESOLUTIONS AUTHORIZING PARTICIPATION IN THE MULTI-YEAR PROPERTY-LIABILITY TRUST 2011 PROGRAM AND THE MULTI-YEAR WORKER'S COMPENSATION 2011 PROGRAM AND RESOLUTION AUTHORIZING TOWN MANAGER TO EXECUTE RELATED DOCUMENTS.

Ms. Griffin noted that the Board has seen resolutions like this in the past where there are multi-year property-liability coverage and worker's compensation coverage agreements with the Local Government Center. Ms. Griffin needs authorization to sign on behalf of the Town.

Selectman Baschnagel MOVED to accept the recommendation to adopt resolutions authorizing participation in the multi-year property-liability trust 2011 program and the multi-year worker's compensation 2011 program and to authorize the Town Manager to execute the related documents. Vice Chairman Connolly SECONDED the motion.

Chairman Walsh asked what the advantage is when the guaranteed maximum is 9 %. Ms. Griffin noted that this is all based on what happens in the property and liability market in terms of hardening of rates. The Town has no way of knowing year-to-year what they are looking at and it depends on what is happening in the property-liability market. Ms. Griffin explained that this provides a guaranteed maximum with the hope that the Town will experience a smaller amount than the guaranteed maximum. They have had good service from them and they get the savings resulting from bidding.

Chairman Walsh asked how far under the guaranteed maximum has the Town been and his concern is that this is an amount that the rate will be brought up to. Ms. Griffin stated that rarely had they seen an increase of more than 2 or 3% in the last 10 – 11 years.

THE BOARD VOTED UNANIMOUSLY TO ACCEPT THE RECOMMENDATION TO ADOPT RESOLUTIONS AUTHORIZING PARTICIPATION IN THE MULTI-YEAR PROPERTY-LIABILITY TRUST 2011 PROGRAM AND THE MULTI-YEAR WORKER'S COMPENSATION 2011 PROGRAM AND TO AUTHORIZE THE TOWN MANAGER TO EXECUTE THE RELATED DOCUMENTS.

7. APPROVAL OF MINUTES:

- October 22, 2007
- November 5, 2007

Selectman Baschnagel MOVED to approve the Minutes of October 22, 2007 and November 5, 2007. Vice Chairman Connolly SECONDED the motion.

THE BOARD VOTED UNANIMOUSLY TO APPROVE THE MINUTES OF OCTOBER 22, 2007 AND NOVEMBER 5, 2007 WITH CHAIRMAN WALSH ABSTAINING FROM THE VOTE.

8. ADMINISTRATIVE REPORTS.

Ms. Griffin noted that there is not much to report but she is preparing to work more with the staff on the budget. They are two meetings into their negotiations with two of the unions. The CPI is up another 3% since October and it is climbing more rapidly than it has in recent years. They will need to wait and see how the November/December CPI performs.

Ms. Griffin reported that they are now awaiting recommendations from the NH Retirement System Task Force. It is the second largest impact concerning the Board.

9. SELECTMEN'S REPORTS.

Peter Christie

Selectman Christie reported that the Affordable Housing Committee met and received an update on the marketing for Gile Hill. Twin Pines is also working to reach out to Town employees, school employees, college, hospital employees, etc. and so far the response has been positive. The plan is that two of the buildings will be built by the spring. Bob Straus has the group looking into other areas where affordable housing may be possible. The Committee also brought forth a potential zoning amendment to the Planning Board to extend the density bonus to open space subdivisions and multi family residential development areas in addition to the PRDs as it is currently written and the Planning Board is considering this for inclusion at Town Meeting.

Selectman Christie advised that the Dresden Finance Committee met and they continue to look at historical trends in terms of school costs, the impact of the loss of Dartmouth funding, progress relative to this year's budget and right now they are focusing on how to

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provide educational materials to the Town in order to help frame a constructive debate about the various committees that were called for by the last school contract. There will be some educational opportunities as they try to encourage people to become involved in the budgeting process.

Kate Connolly

Vice Chairman Connolly reported that the Planning Board examined the performance of the new high school field. The thought was to wait a year before evaluating the field's performance but they are working on finalizing conditions for use of the field.

Vice Chairman Connolly advised that the Planning Board discussed the RT 120 Corridor Study and decided to adapt the goals and strategies to Hanover to see how they fit. There were discussions over the proposed storm water regulations for subdivision and it was determined that they should be extended to site plan review as well.

Vice Chairman Connolly attended the energy lecture in Grantham for the Upper Valley Lake Sunapee Regional Planning Commission (UVLSRPC). Bob Varney of the EPA was in attendance in addition to representatives from the Sierra Club, Cool Cities and another person in charge of a coalition in southern NH. She noted that she has returned with materials from the meetings which she will provide to Ms. Griffin for distribution to the Board.

Bill Baschnagel

Selectman Baschnagel attended a Planning Board meeting for the Life Sciences building and he is hopeful that it sets a pattern for the future because the College worked hard and went beyond the requirements of zoning to reduce light and noise and was a good example of what could be done by developers.

Selectman Baschnagel reported that the PTAB met and they are looking for additional members. Janet Rebman, Hanover Chamber, attended the meeting and would be recruiting members from the downtown business community.

Selectman Baschnagel advised that the Conservation Commission met last week. There was a house design proposal to replace the old 'bicycle man' house on Etna Road and it is all wetlands and it will be interesting to see how the ZBA handles the proposal. The Conservation Commission has some budgeting challenges; Ron Bailey has been helping the Commission for a very long time and he is retiring. It will be difficult to replace his service.

Selectman Baschnagel noted that the TMA (Upper Valley Transportatoin Management Association) met and they endorsed a proposal that the TMA become an active proponent of an educator, community outreach educator for transportation demand management activities. It was clear that the Board felt that this kind of thing fell right in the middle of the charter for the TMA.

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Athos Rassias

Selectman Rassias had nothing to report. The Howe Library meeting for November was put off for the month.

Brian Walsh

Chairman Walsh advised that the Chamber of Commerce had a wonderful dinner honoring Hypertherm, King Arthur Flour, Upper Valley Event Center and Trumbull Nelson.

10. OTHER BUSINESS.

There was no other business.

11. ADJOURNMENT.

Selectman Baschnagel MOVED to adjourn. Selectman Christie SECONDED the motion.

THE BOARD VOTED UNANIMOUSLY TO ADJOURN AT 8:40 P.M.

Respectfully Submitted,

Athos Rassias, Secretary

Minutes prepared by Elizabeth S. Rathburn.

SUMMARY

1. **Vice Chairman Connolly MOVED to adopt the preliminary FEMA maps and to authorize replacement with final maps upon receipt. Selectman Baschnagel SECONDED the motion.**

THE BOARD VOTED UNANIMOUSLY IN FAVOR OF ADOPTING THE PRELIMINARY FEMA MAPS AND TO AUTHORIZE REPLACEMENT WITH FINAL MAPS UPON RECEIPT.

2. **Vice Chairman Connolly MOVED to accept the recommendation to consider and approve the National Grid Easement. Selectman Baschnagel SECONDED the motion.**

THE BOARD VOTED UNANIMOUSLY TO ACCEPT THE RECOMMENDATION TO CONSIDER AND APPROVE THE NATIONAL GRID EASEMENT.

3. **THE HANOVER HOUSING AUTHORITY UNANIMOUSLY APPROVED THE RECOMMENDATION TO ADOPT THE REVISED LEASE AS REQUIRED BY HUD.**

4. **Selectman Baschnagel MOVED to accept the recommendation to adopt resolutions authorizing participation in the multi-year property-liability trust 2011 program and the multi-year worker's compensation 2011 program and to authorize the Town Manager to execute the related documents. Vice Chairman Connolly SECONDED the motion.**

THE BOARD VOTED UNANIMOUSLY TO ACCEPT THE RECOMMENDATION TO ADOPT RESOLUTIONS AUTHORIZING PARTICIPATION IN THE MULTI-YEAR PROPERTY-LIABILITY TRUST 2011 PROGRAM AND THE MULTI-YEAR WORKER'S COMPENSATION 2011 PROGRAM AND TO AUTHORIZE THE TOWN MANAGER TO EXECUTE THE RELATED DOCUMENTS.

5. **Selectman Baschnagel MOVED to approve the Minutes of October 22, 2007 and November 5, 2007. Vice Chairman Connolly SECONDED the motion.**

THE BOARD VOTED UNANIMOUSLY TO APPROVE THE MINUTES OF OCTOBER 22, 2007 AND NOVEMBER 5, 2007 WITH CHAIRMAN WALSH ABSTAINING FROM THE VOTE.

6. **Selectman Baschnagel MOVED to adjourn. Selectman Christie SECONDED the motion.**

THE BOARD VOTED UNANIMOUSLY TO ADJOURN AT 8:40 P.M.

FINAL

BOARD OF SELECTMEN'S MEETING

November 5, 2007

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; Bill Baschnagel, Selectman; Athos Rassias, Selectman and Julia Griffin, Town Manager.

1. PUBLIC COMMENT.

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

2. CATV UPDATE.

Bob Franzoni, CATV, gave a handout to the Board. Mr. Franzoni reported that the high school and the high school gym is wired so Town Meeting can be live at the high school which will also be easier for CATV.

Mr. Franzoni reported that the CATV Board had decided to do more with Government needs. The Hanover Selectmen's Meeting of September 24th is being podcasted on the CATV website. CATV will be investing \$25,000 into downstreaming all government meetings so that people can download it and watch it as many times as they would like. There will be the ability to downstream everything on their website in December. The last 2 hour meeting took 8 hours to get it on the web, but with this new system the meeting will be sent automatically to the website. The host website is free of charge for non-profits. The website is www.catv.org and he suggested that the Town website reference this website. The CATV website has a link to the Town of Hanover website.

Chairman Walsh asked if would be possible to get a report as to how many people downstream the meetings. Bob Franzoni stated that he is able to see if the site is streaming from the Hanover website. Mr. Franzoni reported that there have been 18 people from Singapore checking out the website. The first report would come in January and he can contact Ms. Griffin with a number. They are still working on a number for the amount of time that something is put up on their website and right now they are thinking of using 1 month as a guideline.

Mr. Franzoni will deliver DVD's to the library in about a month to eliminate using VHS tapes.

Chairman Walsh would like to know how long the Howe Library keeps the recording of the meetings since it is at their discretion. Ms. Griffin thought that perhaps the Town should take possession of the recording after the Howe is done with it. Chairman Walsh

felt that there was value of retaining them and then again to destroy them but they should think about the whole process.

Chairman Walsh asked about open channel space. Mr. Franzoni reported that if Lebanon came on board, it would be tight with just 2 channels. Ms. Griffin noted that there are occasional requests from residents asking to broadcast Hanover Planning Board meetings.

Ms. Griffin asked if it was possible to get the auditorium wired. Mr. Franzoni reported that the auditorium, gymnasium and library are currently wired.

3. DISCUSSION REGARDING TAX RATE TARGET FOR FY 2007-2008.

Selectman Christie asked the Board to consider his idea to ask Town staff to develop a budget which he would call a 'steady state budget' which would appropriate all of the known expenses and using the CPI, MNS target for the MNS material that they don't know about, and use that as a base; no growth but no reduction as well in terms of the services that they provide. He would recommend that staff provide a normal wish list and then come up with a list of activities or expenses that would reduce spending over time to bring the budget back to the CPI.

Selectman Christie reported that Betsy McClain did some numbers for this proposal and the steady State budget would have an increase of 5.29%; if you eliminate the Reservoir Road project, it would turn out to be less than a 1% increase.

Ms. McClain noted that \$336,000+ was budgeted for the Reservoir Road rebuild. To come up with a practical budget-to-budget, she left that in and that budget would go up 5.29% and although this won't be seen in taxpayers tax bill, the goal was to see what the relationship to CPI would be if they just inflated compensation, materials and supplies. They will be saving money because they will be taking the one year's expense out.

Chairman Walsh stated that his vision is to have a set of numbers or a graph that shows the money prior to the large expense and then after and how this increase is annualized. Selectman Christie stated that the real increase would be 5.3% but there would be a one time offset which would bring it down to less than 1%. Chairman Walsh wanted to be able to show the taxpayers that they put this expense in and where it was taken back out.

Selectman Baschnagel noted that the taxpayers are expecting their tax rate to go down but there has been an increase in the budget in other areas over time.

Selectman Christie advised that a steady state budget proposal would come to an increase year-to-year of 5.3%. He also would like to see the departments come back to the Board with program cuts which, if the Board chose to implement them, would come to a 2.4% increase. Selectman Christie would like to have sufficient time to discuss these issues at Town Meeting.

Vice Chairman Connolly asked about the undesignated fund balance and whether this needs to be raised this year. Ms. McClain noted that in FY 2009, there is \$52,500 expense with a 0% increase change in that line item.

Ms. Griffin suggested that they present the budget document as they have in the past but what they should talk about is how to present their conversations to have a more meaningful and strategic discussion. Chairman Walsh suggested that in their conversations it should be at more of a strategic level versus reviewing small line items. Selectman Baschnagel wanted to talk about all of the content for example, the cost around 1 more officer or sending out personnel for 3 inches of snow versus 1 inch. Selectman Christie wanted a time allocation and felt that there could be a faster way to go through the budget review process. Chairman Walsh would like to do the hard discussions first; here's the baseline, here's where it might go up or down, rather than going over each line item and doing the hard conversations at the end.

Chairman Walsh stated that it sounds like a constructive approach but he feels that the CPI does not relate to the Town budget this year.

Ms. Griffin will forward to the Board the sentiment that will be brought forward to the Department Heads.

Selectman Rassias asked if the Municipal Cost Index would be a better benchmark. Ms. McClain didn't pursue that avenue because she did not have the information for the Board when questions were raised. Selectman Christie felt that they should be using the more commodity specific data. Ms. Griffin was surprised to see the change in the CPI within the last month.

Chairman Walsh doesn't want to be in a place that removes any initiatives that provide a more efficient way to get things done. Ms. McClain noted that the challenge will be for the Department Heads to be creative in making service oriented changes in a broad approach.

4. RECOMMENDATION TO CONSIDER AND APPROVE 2008 MEETING SCHEDULE.

Chairman Walsh and the Board went over scheduling conflicts in the proposed 2008 schedule and made some minor changes.

THE BOARD UNANIMOUSLY APPROVED THE 2008 BOARD OF SELECTMEN'S MEETING SCHEDULE.

**5. BANNER REQUEST.
- Hood Museum**

Vice Chairman Connolly MOVED to approve the banner request from the Hood Museum. Selectman Baschnagel SECONDED the motion.

THE BOARD VOTED UNANIMOUSLY TO APPROVE THE BANNER REQUEST FROM THE HOOD MUSEUM.

**6. BOARD AND COMMISSION APPOINTMENTS:
- Zoning Board of Adjustment Revised Appointments**

Vice Chairman Connolly MOVED to appoint Ruth Lappin as a regular member, Bernie Waugh as an alternate member and Carolyn Radisch as a regular member of the Zoning Board of Adjustment. Selectman Baschnagel SECONDED the motion.

THE BOARD VOTED UNANIMOUSLY IN FAVOR OF APPOINTING RUTH LAPPIN AS A REGULAR MEMBER, BERNIE WAUGH AS AN ALTERNATE MEMBER AND CAROLYN RADISCH AS A REGULAR MEMBER OF THE ZONING BOARD OF ADJUSTMENT.

7. ADMINISTRATIVE REPORTS.

Ms. Griffin noted that staff is busy getting ready to send out support documents for the budget to the department heads. They are waiting for the tax rate target from the Board. The budget review will be done before the Christmas holiday. The first two or three weeks in December will be busy with these discussions allowing for more time to consider options in January. Ms. Griffin noted that it is their goal to get the Capital Improvement Projects in front of the Board after December.

Ms. Griffin reported that she is awaiting an update on the NH Retirement System and that the Governor's Task Force has been meeting over the last two months to review the issues facing the Retirement System. She hopes to have a sense as to what the Task Force will be recommending before they finish their work on the budget.

Ms. Griffin stated that the Local Government Center Conference is this week on Wednesday and Thursday.

Chairman Walsh announced that on Wednesday night, November 7th there will be a discussion regarding the proposed new jail for Grafton County held at the Lebanon Senior Center. Ms. Griffin reported that the estimated cost is over \$40 million. Vice Chairman Connolly would like to see exactly what is included in the project and how the price is generated. Ms. Griffin noted that the first price was \$44.5 million but it was reduced to \$40 million when they removed the proposal for a new Sheriff's office.

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Chairman Walsh would like to know how this money converts to dollar figures for the taxpayers in Hanover. Ms. Griffin noted that the principal and interest impact would be a 15% increase per year, over 20 years for the bond for the Grafton County Tax. This cost does not reflect any additional operating costs.

8. SELECTMEN'S REPORTS.

Peter Christie

Selectman Christie reported that the Gile Hill groundbreaking took place with the Governor. He noted that there were members from Twin Pines, The Hartland Group, members of the Planning Board, Zoning Board and Town staff present and it was very much a community event. He also noted that Bob Strauss was recognized at the event for making this happen.

Kate Connolly

Vice Chairman Connolly had nothing new to report.

Bill Baschnagel

Selectman Baschnagel participated in two parking discussions in the last couple of weeks. One with the Chamber group and one with Town staff and Dartmouth College. There should be upcoming reports from both groups in the near future.

Athos Rassias

Selectman Rassias had nothing to report.

Brian Walsh

Chairman Walsh reported that the Upper Valley Land Trust will be having a slide show at the Howe Library at noon on Thursday which will highlight the good work that they have done over the years.

9. OTHER BUSINESS.

There was no other business.

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10. ADJOURNMENT.

Vice Chairman Connolly MOVED to adjourn. Selectman Baschnagel SECONDED the motion.

THE BOARD VOTED UNANIMOUSLY TO ADJOURN THE MEETING AT 8:35 P.M.

Respectfully Submitted,

Athos Rassias, Secretary

Minutes prepared by Elizabeth S. Rathburn.

SUMMARY

1. **THE BOARD UNANIMOUSLY APPROVED THE 2008 BOARD OF SELECTMEN'S MEETING SCHEDULE.**

2. **Vice Chairman Connolly MOVED to approve the banner request from the Hood Museum. Selectman Baschnagel SECONDED the motion.**

THE BOARD VOTED UNANIMOUSLY TO APPROVE THE BANNER REQUEST FROM THE HOOD MUSEUM.

3. **Vice Chairman Connolly MOVED to appoint Ruth Lappin as a regular member, Bernie Waugh as an alternate member and Carolyn Radisch as a regular member of the Zoning Board of Adjustment. Selectman Baschnagel SECONDED the motion.**

THE BOARD VOTED UNANIMOUSLY IN FAVOR OF APPOINTING RUTH LAPPIN AS A REGULAR MEMBER, BERNIE WAUGH AS AN ALTERNATE MEMBER AND CAROLYN RADISCH AS A REGULAR MEMBER OF THE ZONING BOARD OF ADJUSTMENT.

4. **Vice Chairman Connolly MOVED to adjourn. Selectman Baschnagel SECONDED the motion.**

THE BOARD VOTED UNANIMOUSLY TO ADJOURN THE MEETING AT 8:35 P.M.

FINAL

BOARD OF SELECTMEN'S MEETING

October 22, 2007

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; Bill Baschnagel, Selectman; Athos Rassias, Selectman and Julia Griffin, Town Manager.

Chairman Walsh invited the Director of Fire Training and Medical Services to make a special presentation.

Rick Mason, NH Director of Fire Training and Medical Services, made a presentation to Fire Chief Roger Bradley for his designation as Chief Fire Officer. The certificate presented to Chief Bradley stated the following:

The Commission on the Professional Credentialing has conferred upon Roger E. Bradley, Chief Fire Officer designated since May 18, 2004, redesignated July 11, 2007, for demonstrating a high level of competence, as witnessed by your peers, by documenting professional, educational, technical, and community service achievements and fulfilling prescribed standards of performance, ethics, and conduct required for CFO. Signed by Randy Bruegman, President, Board of Directors, Center for Public Safety Excellence, Inc. who is also the Fresno, CA Fire Chief and by F. Patrick Marlatt, Chairman of the Commission on Professional Credentialing.

1. PUBLIC COMMENT.

Chairman Walsh asked for Public Comment. There were no comments from the public. Chairman Walsh decided to take the agenda items out of order to give the students in the audience the ability to observe the functions of the Board of Selectmen.

2. DISCUSSION REGARDING FIVE YEAR PROJECTIONS.

Chairman Walsh invited Betsy McClain, Administrative Services Director, to speak to the Board and explain to the students in the audience the services that the Town provides.

Ms. McClain gave an overview of the services provided in the Town such as police and fire services in addition to the services provided in Town Hall, the Recreation Department, Planning and Zoning, Wastewater, Howe Library, and Etna Library, etc.

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Chairman Walsh noted that the Town currently has about 140 employees and the Board is now trying to look at the future increases in expense for the next 5 years.

Ms. McClain noted that the Board is getting ready to set a tax rate target and the Board is trying to keep the tax rate as low as possible while providing the services that they currently provide and project future buildings or improvements within the next 5 years.

Ms. McClain noted that they projected \$20 million in annual growth from the Grand List. The State shared revenues are assumed to be held constant. Building Permit revenues are projected to go forward in 2.0% increments. Police Special Detail, Dispatch and Recreation user fees are assumed to increase to cover increased salary costs. Motor Vehicle Registration Fees are projected to increase .50%.

Ms. McClain advised that salaries and benefits accounts for nearly 70% of the Town's operating budget. For the last 5 years the increase in compensation costs range from 3.15% to 10.84%. She provided the Board with a report of the year to year increase from FY 2003 to FY 2008 with projected appropriations through 2013. Ms. McClain noted that there are anticipated increases in Health insurance premiums, retirement and additional full time employees. She noted that the projection for the next 5 years range between 5.00% - 6.19%.

Ms. McClain gave an overview of the major assumptions used to prepare the 5 year projected budget. These items included heating oil, electricity, materials and supplies, road maintenance and vehicles. There were two scenarios provided to the Board. If all non-compensation lines remained flat, the tax rate increase for 2009 could be .35% but when putting in the commodity detail lines, the tax rate would be increases to 1.05%. Ms. McClain noted that there are significant increases in 2010 and 2012 due to retirement increases.

Ms. McClain gave a projected tax rate increase for the Fire Fund and the hypothetical tax rate increase for a single district showing an increase of 1.05% for 2009 and then a jump to 5.22% in 2010. The Ambulance Fund is looking at a projected in community contribution increase of 9.89% for 2009, 9.73% in 2010 and then in 1.93% in 2011.

Ms. Griffin wanted the Board to be comfortable with the assumptions and requested feedback. She noted that she and Ms. McClain spent a lot of time looking at the assumptions and it is their goal to make a 5 year moving target to be updated regularly. This information is also important as they are starting negotiations with their bargaining units.

Vice Chairman Connolly asked how the heating inflator was kept down and she commented that the Town needs to become aggressively green. Ms. McClain noted that the fuel oil was based on the average of the last few years. Conservation measures should help reduce heating expense. They continue to look at reducing the

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fuel oil expense. Vice Chairman Connolly asked if the Town buildings could be more insulated than they are currently. Ms. Griffin noted that the Cool Cities Chapter is looking at giving the Town money for their first 'building envelope audit' which would be making recommendations for buildings to increase energy utilization. Ms. Griffin noted that there was sufficient money budgeted to replace the windows in the Town Office and this will be the start of some energy saving efforts.

Selectman Baschnagel noted that Ms. McClain did not inflate the charges to other departments so the increases in compensation were not passed on to funds outside the General Fund. He assumed that was because it was not going to make a big difference. Ms. McClain noted that she did increment them by the same increase to all departments in Scenario 2. Ms. Griffin noted that the only reason that Ms. McClain did Scenario 1 was to demonstrate to the Board the difference without the compensation increases.

Selectman Christie asked if the \$20 million was historically driven. Ms. McClain noted that it was and that Mike Ryan encouraged her to continue with that trend.

Chairman Walsh noted that there is 2% inflation, 2% increase in compensation, 1% in materials and there is 1% increase in the tax base so there is a built in tax rate before they add anything and he doesn't feel that this is what the taxpayers want. He feels that they have managed to keep the tax rate near the rate of inflation but he doesn't think that a budget that is always 2, 3 or 4% ahead of inflation without an increase in services is what the taxpayers are looking for. Ms. Griffin noted that this was why the comparisons are compelling when just dealing with the General Fund.

Ms. Griffin noted that one area that they have not considered is taking money out of other funds to offset the General Fund but she does not recommend this. Selectman Baschnagel wants to be able to speak clearly to the taxpayers about the challenges that the Board is faced with.

Selectman Christie would challenge the assumption that the Board has lived within the CPI in the past 5 years. In the past years the Town has taken advantage of reserve balances and they have lowered services by delaying paving and other long-term maintenance items that eventually caught up to them. Chairman Walsh stated that the Town has tried to meet the CPI although they may not have always been successful in doing that.

Selectman Baschnagel felt that the Board needed to better understand what potential actions relative to compensation might lead to. He also felt that they ought to work their way to make this a topic of discussion in the community. It is important to take this to the community and get feedback.

Selectman Christie agreed and wanted to figure out how to get that feedback. To solve some very specific quality of life decisions that has \$50,000 associated with them which may add up to a 1% decrease on the tax rate.

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Selectman Baschnagel suggested getting a survey out to the residents which would allow for multiple questions and answers from different perspectives. It's harder for people to answer what service they are willing to limit than what they are willing to pay.

Ms. Griffin wanted the Board to have this information in the back of their mind as they set the tax rate target. She is not opposed to sending out a survey to inform the residents what the challenges are and her hope is that by providing the 5 year projection to the Board twice a year, it will help in refining the process and by doing this, it will help her pace some of the projects and reconfigure services.

Chairman Walsh stated that this information has been extremely helpful and it will continue to guide the Board and the Finance Committee. He is concerned about how to get a survey out there and receive useful information.

Winnie Stearns noted that there are 3 major projects that were not considered in the projections: Gile Tract, Grasse Road and Rivercrest will be subsidized by the taxpayers of Hanover. Every citizen in the Town has the right to the services and this should be a big consideration for Fire, Police, etc. Also, she questioned the Green feeling about getting the buildings upgraded and it will cost additional money to keep the air healthy. She feels that the new dorms are just a disaster.

3. UPDATE REGARDING GRAFTON COUNTY MUNICIPAL ASSOCIATION.

Chairman Walsh asked for a briefing. Ms. Griffin noted that the Grafton County is made up of 39 towns and the county provides a number of services for its member communities including the County Jail. There is a proposal to build a significantly larger jail and a number of communities in the northern part of the County are trying to organize the Grafton County Municipal Association to encourage member communities to pay closer attention to budget proposals and county expenditures. The group is concerned about the impact on the County Tax Rate. Ms. Griffin stated that it will be the State Representatives that will vote on the issues and they are not always well informed about the County Budget. Timing has been an issue and some Representatives do not make it to the final public hearing and vote.

Chairman Walsh spoke to the audience to discuss the workings of Town Government.

Town	\$4.58/\$1,000 valuation
County	\$1.57/\$1,000 valuation
Local	\$9.35/\$1,000 valuation
State School	\$2.80/\$1,000 valuation

Total tax = \$18.30/\$1,000 valuation

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Ms. Griffin stated that she feels that the Town should support the concept of an updated jail but monitor the spending and look at different ways to reduce the operating expense, etc. She would support the Town playing a lower key role.

Chairman Walsh felt that since the County tax rate is about 1/3 of the current Town tax rate, there needs to be a group separate from the legislators watching the expenses rise. Chairman Walsh wouldn't feel comfortable joining a group that has a general name with a specific objective.

Ms. Griffin feels that the group is forming around a very specific issue and she feels Hanover's challenge is to get a stronger connection between the State Representatives and their role in the County budget process. She would urge that the Town instead encourage their representatives to energize the County delegation to get the input and take it to the Commissioners.

Selectman Baschnagel felt that it was important to emphasize that the County taxes have gone up significantly and they are beginning to assume a meaningful part of the total tax base. The jail should be put forth as options and there may be a forecast for future capacity and capital investments and he has not seen any information on that.

Selectman Christie asked if there are any benchmarks being considered in these discussions. Ms. Griffin noted that they have seen tax rate increases in the 10 – 15% range and she is not aware of any specific benchmarks being used. One of the recommendations Ms. Griffin made was to look at the CIP and stagger the projects over a longer period of time. More nursing home related expenses were shifted from the State. With the County Jail proposal, the amount could go up significantly.

Selectman Baschnagel didn't feel that they were going to get the State Reps to spend a lot of time on the County budget. Ms. Griffin noted that she is not hearing a groundswell of support in other parts of the State to change the way the County budget is adopted.

Vice Chairman Connolly felt that there should be a group looking closely at the proposals. She feels that the proposals need to be torn apart for rationale and execution. Ms. Griffin felt that the County budget has appeared to be a low priority out of necessity.

Selectman Baschnagel backed the idea of there being some kind of Finance Committee with regards to the proposals.

Ms. Griffin noted that she will continue to distribute the information she is receiving from the County with regard to these projects.

Chairman Walsh would like to find a thoughtful way to convey their concerns and not be confrontational about it.

4. ISO UPDATE – PUBLIC PROTECTION SUMMARY REPORT.

Ms. Griffin wanted the Board to know that the final report came through and she made notes in the margin of the report that she provided to the Board. There are some things that can be done for little or no expense that will help raise the rating without expending additional resources for staff and equipment. There are a number of decisions that can be appealed and the Town will do that but it is an on-going process. The assumption is that it will take less than 15 years for this to be done again. There will continue to be dialogue with ISO.

Chairman Walsh noted that there are 2 numbers that made him furious. One was the credit for company personnel, which was 3.2 out of 15 which was after increasing personnel by 25% and credit for training was 2.5 out of 9 after spending so much time on training. He wanted to know if this group was so unreasonable that everyone in the town needed to be a paid firefighter in order to get a score of 15.

Chief Bradley noted that the narrative for page 23 was pre-increase for staffing and the numbers were taken early on when the Fire Department was running short. The terminology is for 'first alarm structure fires' and in recent conversations, this is a difference in interpretation of the wording.

Chairman Walsh feels that this is irresponsible on the part of ISO. The Town will take issue with this. Selectman Baschnagel noted that this report doesn't reflect the actions taken to address the issues in the report.

Selectman Baschnagel stated that his question would be why this report doesn't reflect the current status with the actions taken. To the extent that the Town took action in the first budget year after the discussion should be reflected in the report. Ms. Griffin noted that they are pursuing the issues that are outlined in the margins of the report.

Vice Chairman Connolly noted that the requirement for Firefighter training is 20 hours a month which she feels is too high.

Chairman Walsh felt that this report makes no sense and he would like to know who receives this report with all these errors.

Ms. Griffin noted that she went to ICMA conference in Pittsburgh and there was a presentation about ISO and fire staffing. There were over 300 managers that shared a common frustration with ISO's rigidity in comparing fire services and the panel was made up of either representatives from ISO or deal with ISO related issues and they were given an earful. It was clear the ISO has some PR problems with professional managers.

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Vice Chairman Connolly noted that ISO is not accountable to anyone. Selectman Baschnagel found it interesting how many ratings are given in each category. Ms. Griffin noted that it's been 15 years since ISO had been to evaluate Hanover.

5. BANNER REQUEST:

- Special Olympics

Ms. Griffin noted that the date of the event is January 19th and the schedule is clear.

Vice Chairman Connolly MOVED to approve the banner request for the Special Olympics. Selectman Baschnagel SECONDED the motion.

THE BOARD UNANIMOUSLY APPROVED THE BANNER REQUEST OF SPECIAL OLYMPICS.

6. BOARD AND COMMISSION APPOINTMENTS:

- Affordable Housing Commission
- Recycling Committee
- Senior Citizen Advisory Committee
- Health Officer

Selectman Christie nominated Joan Collison to the Affordable Housing Commission. Chairman Walsh SECONDED the nomination.

THE BOARD VOTED UNANIMOUSLY TO APPOINT JOAN COLLISON TO THE AFFORDABLE HOUSING COMMISSION.

Selectman Christie noted that the Governor will be attending a groundbreaking ceremony for the Gile Tract tomorrow. Ms. Griffin noted that the ceremony will be at 11:30.

Selectman Christie nominated Lynn Miller to the Recycling Committee. Vice Chairman Connolly SECONDED the nomination.

THE BOARD VOTED UNANIMOUSLY TO APPOINT LYNN MILLER TO THE RECYCLING COMMITTEE.

Selectman Christie nominated Sue Mattless to the Senior Citizen Advisory Committee. Vice Chairman Connolly SECONDED the nomination.

THE BOARD VOTED UNANIMOUSLY TO APPOINT SUE MATTLESS TO THE SENIOR CITIZEN ADVISORY COMMITTEE.

Vice Chairman Connolly MOVED to reappoint Bill Boyle as the Town Health Officer. Selectman Baschnagel SECONDED the motion.

THE BOARD VOTED UNANIMOUSLY TO REAPPOINT BILL BOYLE AS THE TOWN HEALTH OFFICER.

7. APPROVAL OF MINUTES.
- September 24, 2007

Selectman Baschnagel MOVED to accept with minor changes. Vice Chairman Connolly SECONDED the motion.

THE BOARD UNANIMOUSLY APPROVED THE MINUTES OF SEPTEMBER 24, 2007 WITH MINOR CHANGES.

8. ADMINISTRATIVE REPORTS.

Ms. Griffin reported that staff is busy preparing for the budget process. Ms. McClain will be providing goals for the staff. Ms. Griffin noted that she will be looking for some guidance from the Board at the next meeting.

Ms. Griffin noted that she is attending the Recreation Board meetings so that she can relay the sentiment for the need to increase revenues. She is attending the meetings to walk them through the projections and help them understand the big picture regarding budget discussions between the operating departments. She is also hoping to do this with the Howe Trustees.

Ms. Griffin updated the Board of the work being done at the State level with regard to the NH Retirement System. She continues to watch the results of the working group and the PUC proposal to acquire Verizon's assets. There is a lot of interest in fiber and broadband service and whether Fairpoint can provide any additional service to Hanover residents. She will attend the PUC hearings on the 31st.

9. SELECTMEN'S REPORTS

Peter Christie

Selectman Christie reported that the Finance Committee/Dresden Group has been meeting regularly. One interesting aspect is that the CPI may not be the model to be used and more work is being done to determine the right surrogate for disposable income.

Selectman Christie attended the Planning Board meeting and reported that they had the second presentation by Curtis Court which is a 50 unit rental facility proposed in the Reservoir Road area. They came back with revised plans after a previous meeting.

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Selectman Christie noted that the Planning Board had a first look at the proposed new Co-Op store which will be the gateway to the Dresden Village. They are currently focusing on streetscape and sightlines and they are talking about it as a Country Store and it is an exciting project for the community.

Selectman Christie noted that he, Betsy and Tom Blinkhorn met to discuss options for Wastewater Reclamation Facility financing. They should have an update in mid November as they start looking at budgets.

Kate Connolly

Vice Chairman Connolly announced that she went to Joigny France just after the Town Band had left and their performances were lauded by the officials she came into contact with. The Town Band performed with bands from Italy, England and Germany.

Bill Baschnagel

Selectman Baschnagel attended a Planning Board meeting and reported that there is a working group reviewing Wetlands Ordinances which is coming together nicely. There was a proposal to develop an education piece for the public as to what wetlands are about and what the regulations are, etc.

Selectman Baschnagel reported that there was a second hearing on the LifeSciences building with another coming up. The College has been active addressing concerns of the neighbors with regard to lighting and noise. There is an open item with regard to making sure that the project will allow for a roundabout and they will be meeting tomorrow to discuss that.

Selectman Baschnagel reported that there was a Conservation Commission meeting where they were considering two wetlands project; the Chieftain dock and Sands of Time Road where a house is close to the shore that had burned down and was not allowed to be moved and zoning is very inflexible. They now have work to do to keep the shore from eroding.

Athos Rassias

Selectman Rassias reported that the Howe Library had their annual meeting which was well attended followed up by a brief annual meeting of the Board of Trustees. Posie Fowler is again the Chair for the next year. There was also a fundraising event in the Mascoma Bank Building which was well attended.

Brian Walsh

Chairman Walsh reported that the Chamber met and it was a productive meeting. He also reported that the DMA (Downtown Marketing Alliance) website is up.

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10. OTHER BUSINESS.

There was no other business.

11. ADJOURNMENT.

**Vice Chairman Connolly MOVED to adjourn. Selectman Baschnagel
SECONDED the motion. Bill SECONDED.**

THE BOARD VOTED UNANIMOUSLY TO ADJOURN AT 9:26 P.M.

Respectfully submitted,

Athos Rassias, Secretary

Minutes prepared by Elizabeth S. Rathburn.

SUMMARY

1. Vice Chairman Connolly **MOVED** to approve the banner request for the Special Olympics. Selectman Baschnagel **SECONDED** the motion.

THE BOARD UNANIMOUSLY APPROVED THE BANNER REQUEST OF SPECIAL OLYMPICS.

2. Selectman Christie nominated Joan Collison to the Affordable Housing Commission. Chairman Walsh **SECONDED** the nomination.

THE BOARD VOTED UNANIMOUSLY TO APPOINT JOAN COLLISON TO THE AFFORDABLE HOUSING COMMISSION.

3. Selectman Christie nominated Lynn Miller to the Recycling Committee. Vice Chairman Connolly **SECONDED** the nomination.

THE BOARD VOTED UNANIMOUSLY TO APPOINT LYNN MILLER TO THE RECYCLING COMMITTEE.

4. Selectman Christie nominated Sue Mattless to the Senior Citizen Advisory Committee. Vice Chairman Connolly **SECONDED** the nomination.

THE BOARD VOTED UNANIMOUSLY TO APPOINT SUE MATTLESS TO THE SENIOR CITIZEN ADVISORY COMMITTEE.

5. Vice Chairman Connolly **MOVED** to reappoint Bill Boyle as the Town Health Officer. Selectman Baschnagel **SECONDED** the motion.

THE BOARD VOTED UNANIMOUSLY TO REAPPOINT BILL BOYLE AS THE TOWN HEALTH OFFICER.

6. Selectman Baschnagel **MOVED** to accept with minor changes. Vice Chairman Connolly **SECONDED** the motion.

THE BOARD UNANIMOUSLY APPROVED THE MINUTES OF SEPTEMBER 24, 2007 WITH MINOR CHANGES.

7. Vice Chairman Connolly **MOVED** to adjourn. Selectman Baschnagel **SECONDED** the motion. Bill **SECONDED**.

THE BOARD VOTED UNANIMOUSLY TO ADJOURN AT 9:26 P.M.

FINAL

BOARD OF SELECTMEN'S MEETING

September 24, 2007

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; Bill Baschnagel, Selectman; Athos Rassias, Selectman and Julia Griffin, Town Manager.

1. PUBLIC COMMENT.

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

2. FIRE DISTRICT MAP MINOR MODIFICATION OF BOUNDARY LINES IN REPSONSE TO APPEALS AND FINAL ADOPTION.

Chairman Walsh asked Ms. Griffin to explain this item. Ms. Griffin noted that there were a handful of inquiries and one actual appeal with regard to the mailing that was sent out at the end of June. Ms. Griffin noted that she, Mike Ryan and Peter Kulbacki looked at one property on Etna Road and the property across the street which is 23 and 24 Etna Road. The consensus was that they agreed with the property owner that the property should be shifted into District 2 in addition to the property across the street. The Water Company staff did additional water pressure testing on Hemlock Road in response to an individual's concern in that area. Ms. Griffin noted that there were other areas on Hemlock Road that had water pressure issues and felt that they should be in District 2. This area is on the list to be upgraded over a period of time. The recommendation is that the Board concur with the request and adopt the map as final as shown.

Chairman Walsh asked for further questions from the Board.

The Board was in consensus in favor of accepting the recommendation for the Fire District Map Minor Modifications of Boundary Lines in Response to Appeals.

3. FURTHER DISCUSSION OF WASTEWATER RECAPTURE FEE.

Ms. Griffin advised that this was a recommendation in response to the two appeals that were heard by the Board and Town Staff distributed to the Board information on the recapture fee.

The first appeal was the Paydarfar property and Ms. Griffin advised that she and staff felt that it made sense that if there was a teardown of a single family home, replaced with a single family home, a new connection fee should not be assessed. She advised that there have not been many of those particular situations in Town.

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However, Ms. Griffin noted that in the case of someone taking down a house and putting up a duplex, there should be a differential connection fee for the additional discharge.

Ms. Griffin noted that it is the staff's recommendation that the Town abate the connection fee for the Paydarfar property and because of the circumstances, levying only the \$200 inspectoin fee.

Ms. Griffin also recommended that the Town modify their policy with respect to the connection fees so that when there is a single family home being replaced by a single family home, the Town does not assess a new connection fee.

Chairman Walsh noted that there was another factor of the Paydarfar case which was that the sewer user fees had been paid on a continuing basis. If somebody were to stop occupying the house and the fee had not been paid for years, it may be considered a new connection.

Selectman Baschnagel suggested that between now and the time that the new rates and fees schedule is updated next spring, there should be some additional explanatory information included on this issue.

Ms. Griffin noted that the basis for the recapture fee was to have new construction pay a portion toward the investment that ratepayers had made in the past for the wastewater system to prepare to serve new customers.

On the second appeal, the Neily property, the Selectmen agreed to assess the fee at the rates in effect prior to July 1, 2007 (which are significantly lower), as the property owners had been trying to schedule a final inspection prior to July 1, 2007.

Selectman Baschnagel MOVED to accept the recommendations. Vice Chairman Connolly SECONDED.

THE BOARD VOTED UNANIMOUSLY TO ACCEPT THE RECOMMENDATION.

4. SCHOOL FUNDING UPDATE.

Ms. Griffin advised that based on The Londonderry Decision, which was the last Supreme Court decision in this area, the Legislature was tasked with determining the definition of adequacy, determining the costs of adequacy and determining how to pay for adequacy. The Legislature adopted an adequacy formula in June which included funding Kindergarten. The Legislature has two more sessions to determine the costs and then how to pay for adequacy but the concern was that because the Londonderry Decision was appealed, the Legislature would be forced to resolve those questions during the 2008 sessions. The decision came down last week that the Legislature does not need to have the funding done in the 2008 session, only the costs to fund an adequate education needs to be determined.

There is a study committee that has started hearings to figure out how to cost adequacy in order to allow the Legislature to work on this in 2008.

Chairman Walsh added that there is a good bi-partisan study committee that was put together by the House and the Senate and he noted that there have been study committees in the past on this issues that were not bi-partisan.

Ms. Griffin noted that the Governor stated that he is going to push for a Constitutional Amendment to allow for targeted aid.

Selectman Baschnagel asked to clarify 'targeted aid'. It is his understanding that this would mean that the State would need to define and fund the adequacy issue but not necessarily distribute the money associated with that adequacy. Selectman Baschnagel questioned whether some districts would get less than 100% of the adequacy amount and others would get more.

Ms. Griffin advised that Selectman Baschnagel's assessment is correct but it is because it's linked to a political promise made by the Governor in that he does not want there to be donor communities paying the bill.

5. BOARD AND COMMISSION APPOINTMENTS:

- Affordable Housing Commission
- Building Code Advisory Board
- Conservation Commission
- Parking & Transportation Board
- Parks & Recreation Board
- Planning Board
- Recycling Committee
- Senior Citizens Advisory Committee
- Zoning Board of Adjustment
- Upper Valley Lake Sunapee Regional Planning Commission

Selectman Christie MOVED to appoint Roy Banwell, Len Cadwallader and Bob Strauss to the Affordable Housing Commission. Chairman Walsh SECONDED.

THE BOARD VOTED UNANIMOUSLY IN FAVOR OF ACCEPTING THE APPOINTMENTS TO THE AFFORDABLE HOUSING COMMISSION.

Chairman Walsh MOVED to appoint Randy Mudge, Bruce Williamson and Jack Wilson to the Building Code Advisory Board. Vice Chairman Connolly SECONDED.

THE BOARD VOTED UNANIMOUSLY IN FAVOR OF ACCEPTING THE APPOINTMENTS TO THE BUILDING CODE ADVISORY BOARD.

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Selectman Baschnagel MOVED to appoint Doug McIlroy and Sandy White to the Conservation Commission. Chairman Walsh SECONDED the motion.

THE BOARD VOTED UNANIMOUSLY IN FAVOR OF ACCEPTING THE APPOINTMENTS TO THE CONSERVATION COMMISSION.

Selectman Baschnagel MOVED to appoint Janet Rebman and Matt Marshall to the Parking and Transportation Board. Selectman Christie SECONDED.

THE BOARD VOTED UNANIMOUSLY IN FAVOR OF ACCEPTING THE APPOINTMENTS TO THE PARKING AND TRANSPORTATION BOARD.

Chairman Walsh MOVED to appoint Judy Doherty, Jill Polli, Jeff Graham and David Parsons to the Parks and Recreation Board. Vice Chairman Connolly SECONDED the motion.

THE BOARD VOTED UNANIMOUSLY IN FAVOR OF ACCEPTING THE APPOINTMENTS TO THE PARKS AND RECREATION BOARD.

Vice Chairman Connolly MOVED to appoint Bill Dietrich, Judith Esmay, Joan Garipay (alternate) and Michael Hingston (alternate) to the Planning Board. Chairman Walsh SECONDED.

THE BOARD VOTED UNANIMOUSLY IN FAVOR OF ACCEPTING THE APPOINTMENTS TO THE PLANNING BOARD.

Selectman Christie MOVED to appoint Marilyn "Willy" Black, Barbara Doyle and Evelyn Spiegel to the Senior Citizen Advisory Committee. Vice Chairman Connolly SECONDED.

THE BOARD VOTED UNANIMOUSLY IN FAVOR OF ACCEPTING THE APPOINTMENTS TO THE SENIOR CITIZEN ADVISORY COMMITTEE.

Vice Chairman Connolly MOVED to appoint Ruth Lapin (alternate), Bernie Waugh (alternate), Bill Dietrich and Gert Assmus to the Zoning Board of Adjustment.

THE BOARD VOTED UNANIMOUSLY IN FAVOR OF ACCEPTING THE APPOINTMENTS TO THE ZONING BOARD OF ADJUSTMENT.

Vice Chairman Connolly MOVED to appoint Mike Cryans to the Upper Valley Lake Sunapee Regional Planning Commission. Selectman Baschnagel SECONDED the motion.

THE BOARD VOTED UNANIMOUSLY IN FAVOR OF ACCEPTING THE APPOINTMENT TO THE UPPER VALLY LAKE SUNAPEE REGIONAL PLANNING COMMISSION.

6. APPROVAL OF MINUTES:
- September 10, 2007

Selectman Baschnagel MOVED to approve the Minutes of September 10, 2007 with minor changes. Vice Chairman Connolly SECONDED the motion.

THE BOARD UNANIMOUSLY APPROVED THE MINUTES OF SEPTEMBER 10, 2007 WITH MINOR CHANGES.

7. ADMINISTRATIVE REPORTS.

Ms. Griffin advised that progress is being made on the repairs to Reservoir Road. Ms. Griffin also advised that on Tuesday, October 23rd at 11:00 a.m. there will be a groundbreaking ceremony for the Gile Community and it appears that the Governor may be in attendance.

Ms. Griffin stated that she will be out of town on October 8th and asked the Board if they could change the date. Chairman Walsh felt that they should leave it that the Board will only have one meeting in October which is on the 22nd with the option of adding a meeting on the 29th if needed.

8. SELECTMEN'S REPORTS.

Peter Christie

Selectman Christie announced that Dick Podolec has stepped up to be Chair of the Hanover Finance Committee.

Selectman Christie reported that at the Dresden Finance Committee, Cheryl Lindberg agreed to serve a second term as Chairman. He also noted that John Hochrieter will continue as the Secretary.

Selectman Christie advised that the Dresden Finance Committee has done a thorough analysis of costs of the Middle School and High School over the past 10 years comparing it to the CPI Index for growth and disposable wage. Although this is still on-going, this may help the School Board understand the cost structure and what is driving the cost increases.

Selectman Christie reported that the Affordable Housing Commission met and although there will be a groundbreaking celebration in October, there are plans to start pouring

foundations later that month. It is the Commission's hope that there will be units available in the Spring and they are developing a list of people that are interested in residing there. Some of the meeting was spent looking for additional opportunities in Town for additional affordable housing.

Kate Connolly

Vice Chairman Connolly reported that on Wednesday night the Joint Steering Committee for the Route 120 Corridor will be finalizing Phase 1 of the Route 120 Commission study. Chairman Walsh asked what finalizing the report really means. Vice Chairman Connolly advised that it is literally delivering the document fulfilling the obligation of the study which is a comprehensive study of the Route 120 Corridor with four scenarios that have been developed.

Selectman Baschnagel advised that the study sets a baseline with a projection of what may happen under current zoning and planning. It does not provide for alternatives nor does it make any recommendations. It really is a starting point for further discussion.

Vice Chairman Connolly pointed out that there are two out of four scenarios which deal with realistic build out in that area.

Chairman Walsh would like something simple and concrete to describe what this is and is concerned about misinformation being distributed about this project. He would like someone to make a simple statement with regard to this study which Vice Chairman Connolly promised to his satisfaction.

Vice Chairman Connolly felt that there would be something published in the Valley News shortly about this study which will explain the study. This study was paid for and desired by the Department of Transportation in order for them to project future development under present conditions.

Chairman Walsh felt that the really important part of the study was that the City of Lebanon and the Town of Hanover worked hard together on some land-use issues. He is concerned about any future misunderstandings about the project.

Vice Chairman Connolly reported that the Planning Board had a discussion about the Storm Water Ordinance and then the Curtiss Road/Penfield project was postponed so the discussion was then focused on the Life Sciences Building.

Bill Baschnagel

Selectman Baschnagel reported that the Life Sciences Building discussions continued and the Planning Board received comments from the public with concerns about noise and activities. There is another meeting scheduled in October. Selectman Baschnagel noted that the Planning Board did request that the College consider a roundabout as part of the

project but only to the extent that in whatever they do in the project not impact the possibility of a roundabout being put in place.

Selectman Baschnagel noted that the Conservation Commission met with regard to Stormwater and Wetlands on-going discussion.

Selectman Baschnagel reported that he watched a drafting drill to practice hauling water to Hanover which included 8 trucks coming in from surrounding communities with 2 from the Hanover Police Department and they were able to pump 500 gallons a minute with water being trucked up from Wilson's Landing. Ms. Griffin noted that this was done as part of on-going discussions/negotiations with ISO. ISO has identified a number of areas where the Town can improve by looking at various aspects of operations and one of them was to demonstrate the Town's water drawing capability in the rural area in an effort to improve the Town's rating. Ms. Griffin also noted that she has a report with the list of things that they are targeting internally to improve the rating. There are items on the list which will not require a huge amount of money to improve their score.

Selectman Baschnagel reported that the TMA met last week and the State has completed a Park & Ride at Exit 13 and are now focusing on Exit 12 as the next candidate for a 200 car Park and Ride. Ms. Griffin noted that there's a Park & Ride at Exit 12 now but it's current capacity is only 40 or 50 cars.

Athos Rassias

Selectman Rassias reported that the Howe Library Board and it was the first meeting that Mary White was staffing and he feels that she was a fantastic choice for the job and it was a very productive meeting. The majority of the meeting was discussion of on-going projects and internal operations of the Library. There are on-going fundraising efforts underway. There was also an issue discussed over staff parking which appears to be going well.

Brian Walsh

Chairman Walsh had nothing new to report.

9. OTHER BUSINESS.

There was no Other Business.

10. ADJOURNMENT.

Vice Chairman Connolly MOVED to adjourn. Selectman Baschnagel SECONDED the motion.

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**THE BOARD VOTED UNANIMOUSLY TO ADJOURN THE MEETING
AROUND 8:30 P.M.**

Respectfully Submitted,

Athos Rassias, Secretary

Minutes transcribed by Elizabeth S. Rathburn.

SUMMARY

1. **THE BOARD UNANIMOUSLY ACCEPTED THE RECOMMENDATION FOR THE FIRE DISTRICT MAP MINOR MODIFICATIONS OF BOUNDARY LINES IN RESPONSE TO APPEALS.**

2. **Selectman Baschnagel MOVED to accept the recommendations for the wastewater recapture fee. Vice Chairman Connolly SECONDED.**

THE BOARD VOTED UNANIMOUSLY TO ACCEPT THE RECOMMENDATIONS REGARDING THE WASTEWATER RECAPTURE FEE.

3. **Selectman Christie MOVED to appoint Roy Banwell, Len Cadwallader and Bob Strauss to the Affordable Housing Commission. Chairman Walsh SECONDED.**

THE BOARD VOTED UNANIMOUSLY IN FAVOR OF ACCEPTING THE APPOINTMENTS TO THE AFFORDABLE HOUSING COMMISSION.

4. **Chairman Walsh MOVED to appoint Randy Mudge, Bruce Williamson and Jack Wilson to the Building Code Advisory Board. Vice Chairman Connolly SECONDED.**

THE BOARD VOTED UNANIMOUSLY IN FAVOR OF ACCEPTING THE APPOINTMENTS TO THE BUILDING CODE ADVISORY BOARD.

5. **Selectman Baschnagel MOVED to appoint Doug McIlroy and Sandy White to the Conservation Commission. Chairman Walsh SECONDED the motion.**

THE BOARD VOTED UNANIMOUSLY IN FAVOR OF ACCEPTING THE APPOINTMENTS TO THE CONSERVATION COMMISSION.

6. **Selectman Baschnagel MOVED to appoint Janet Rebman and Matt Marshall to the Parking and Transportation Board. Selectman Christie SECONDED.**

THE BOARD VOTED UNANIMOUSLY IN FAVOR OF ACCEPTING THE APPOINTMENTS TO THE PARKING AND TRANSPORTATION BOARD.

7. **Chairman Walsh MOVED to appoint Judy Doherty, Jill Polli, Jeff Graham and David Parsons to the Parks and Recreation Board. Vice Chairman Connolly SECONDED the motion.**

THE BOARD VOTED UNANIMOUSLY IN FAVOR OF ACCEPTING THE APPOINTMENTS TO THE PARKS AND RECREATION BOARD.

8. **Vice Chairman Connolly MOVED to appoint Bill Dietrich, Judith Esmay, Joan Garipay (alternate) and Michael Hingston (alternate) to the Planning Board. Chairman Walsh SECONDED.**

THE BOARD VOTED UNANIMOUSLY IN FAVOR OF ACCEPTING THE APPOINTMENTS TO THE PLANNING BOARD.

9. **Selectman Christie MOVED to appoint Marilyn “Willy” Black, Barbara Doyle and Evelyn Spiegel to the Senior Citizen Advisory Committee. Vice Chairman Connolly SECONDED.**

THE BOARD VOTED UNANIMOUSLY IN FAVOR OF ACCEPTING THE APPOINTMENTS TO THE SENIOR CITIZEN ADVISORY COMMITTEE.

10. **Vice Chairman Connolly MOVED to appoint Ruth Lapin (alternate), Bernie Waugh (alternate), Bill Dietrich and Gert Assmus to the Zoning Board of Adjustment.**

THE BOARD VOTED UNANIMOUSLY IN FAVOR OF ACCEPTING THE APPOINTMENTS TO THE ZONING BOARD OF ADJUSTMENT.

11. **Vice Chairman Connolly MOVED to appoint Mike Cryans to the Upper Valley Lake Sunapee Regional Planning Commission. Selectman Baschnagel SECONDED the motion.**

THE BOARD VOTED UNANIMOUSLY IN FAVOR OF ACCEPTING THE APPOINTMENT TO THE UPPER VALLY LAKE SUNAPEE REGIONAL PLANNING COMMISSION.

12. **Selectman Baschnagel MOVED to approve the Minutes of September 10, 2007 with minor changes. Vice Chairman Connolly SECONDED the motion.**

THE BOARD UNANIMOUSLY APPROVED THE MINUTES OF SEPTEMBER 10, 2007 WITH MINOR CHANGES.

13. **Vice Chairman Connolly MOVED to adjourn. Selectman Baschnagel SECONDED the motion.**

Board of Selectmen
September 24, 2007

**THE BOARD VOTED UNANIMOUSLY TO ADJOURN THE MEETING
AROUND 8:30 P.M.**

FINAL

BOARD OF SELECTMEN'S MEETING

September 10, 2007

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; Bill Baschnagel, Selectman; Athos Rassias, Selectman and Julia Griffin, Town Manager.

1. PUBLIC COMMENT.

Chairman Walsh asked for Public Comment.

Reiley Lewis from the Mascoma Valley Health Initiative wanted to give the Board an update of their progress to date and the plans for the future. She advised that they are the fiscal agent for Region IV, the All Health Hazards Planning Region. Ms. Lewis gave an overview of the initiatives that are being developed for All Health Hazards Region IV for Public Health Emergency Preparedness in the Upper Valley. Ms. Lewis provided a handout to the Selectmen which outlined their programs and upcoming events. There will be another exercise in December in which each Town will open their Emergency Operations Center to do a 'real time' drill and work out any possible problems between those locations. The Grant they are working with is called the Pandemic Flu Preparedness but the State of New Hampshire is making an effort to make it an All Health Hazards Preparedness versus the disease of the week planning.

Ms. Lewis noted that another area that they are focusing on is to formalize agreements with their partners and although, for example, Dartmouth College has agreed to let them use their facilities during an emergency, it is not written down with signatures, etc. They will be looking for a Memorandum of Understanding and not necessarily a legal contract.

Ms. Lewis advised that they are working on a risk communication part of the plan to educate the public before disasters and figure out how they will get the message out during emergencies and a mass fatality annex. There are 13 towns working together trying to solve problems at a relatively local level before calling Concord. They are looking to have a drill in which each Town will open up their Emergency Operations Center to see where some of the roadblocks are.

Ms. Lewis advised that there are some monthly meetings scheduled and special events planned in the coming weeks.

Chairman Walsh asked for examples of the kinds of things that the Towns would be more prepared for by having done these exercises versus if they didn't do them.

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Ms. Lewis explained that originally the funding was for bio-terrorism which the Town should be better prepared for. The more likely scenario is a Hepatitis A outbreak or other illness or pandemic flu, and the Town and the Region would be much more prepared than if they didn't do the training.

Ms. Lewis noted that the Department of Health and Human Services (DHHS) in NH works closely with Homeland Security and Emergency Management on the emergency preparedness effort. The DHHS wants them to respond as region health events because it might help to have the towns divided in Regions so that each individual town doesn't call Homeland Security for each disaster. The changes may be slow in coming but the conversations are happening.

Selectman Baschnagel noted that the first responders are not going to have sufficient manpower in the event of some of these disasters. Ms. Griffin noted that it is known that Towns will have to act on their own for a period of time before they can expect help. Selectman Baschnagel inquired if the regions will be helping other regions. Ms. Lewis advised that there are bi-monthly meetings with all 19 regions in Concord where they collaborate on the statewide level. There will be a representative coming, from the Vermont Department of Health, to their monthly meeting next week, so that they can reach out across the river.

Chairman Walsh noted that there is a Hazardous Materials Western Region and asked how similar these groups are and where there may be overlap. Ms. Griffin noted that the State has chosen to funnel hazmat funds regionally encouraging the creation of regional locations for the storage of hazardous materials and trailers. This is a little bit different than the All Hazards Planning but it has the same concept. The HazMat regions are larger than the Pandemic Flu Planning/All Hazards Planning Regions have been, but many of the Fire Departments have come together to come together to discuss the All Hazards Planning. The Hanover Fire Department and Dartmouth College have a small HazMat materials facility.

Ms. Griffin noted that over a decade ago, planning for the hazardous materials events was the first regional response planning and this is the model that the emergency plans are crafted after.

Chairman Walsh wanted to know what the Board members need to know if there is a Health Hazard and who do they call. Ms. Griffin noted that she is the Emergency Management Director for the Town and there is a very detailed Emergency Plan. She advised the Board that they would be the first people that she would call to advise them of whatever disaster was occurring.

Chairman Walsh confirmed that the plan is to train everyone in real time for disasters. Ms. Lewis also noted that the Region will be purchasing materials to open a medical surge facility if need be, and the plan at this time would be to set it up in Hanover.

Ms. Lewis thanked the Board for their continued support and noted that Ms. Griffin is a regular attendee and contributor. Chairman Walsh thanked Ms. Lewis for her help.

2. DISCUSSION OF PROPOSED BUDGET TARGET OBJECTIVE FOR FY 2008-2009.

Chairman Walsh gave a history of the background of the budget target objective. The goal is to have a tax rate increase no greater than the rate of inflation. Chairman Walsh noted that the Board received suggestions from Betsy McClain, the Town's Administrative Services Director, in their Friday packets.

Betsy McClain noted that when the Board was setting their upcoming goals and objectives, she heard that they wanted some kind of metric in which to set the tax rate. Ms. McClain noted that on the internet she located a Municipal Cost Index and wanted to know whether this was something that the Board wanted to use as a metric for the rate of inflation instead of the Consumer Price Index (CPI). She noted that in the previous discussions, it became clear that the Board liked CPI because that's what the taxpayers seemed to be comfortable with. Historically, the costs have exceeded the CPI index.

Selectman Christie asked about the length of time that the Municipal Cost Index has been in existence. Ms. McClain stated that there is an archive of several years but she just looked at the most recent from 2005. Selectman Christie questioned if the market basket of goods are weighted equally in coming up with a total. Ms. McClain advised that she did not know at this time and Ms. Griffin felt that this could be looked up.

Selectman Christie noted that the Municipal Cost Index excludes salaries and benefits. Ms. McClain noted that although this doesn't include salaries and benefits, there is some historical data that they could extrapolate from and if the Board wishes to handle these pieces separate and apart; this is something that could be done.

Vice Chairman Connolly noted that the salaries and benefits account for approximately 80% of the Town's expenses and questioned if they are significantly different from the CPI. Ms. McClain advised that with the salaries, there is a Cost of Living Adjustment (COLA) each year plus a merit increase so right from the start, the Town is behind the CPI.

Chairman Walsh felt that the theory behind a merit increase is that people are more productive and that they don't need to add people as fast as they might have had to and that it's not just a raw increase. Ms. Griffin noted that the amounts beyond the COLA are merit based, but the assumption has been that the employees advance along the pay scale each year based on experience, and the pay scale increases usually related to the CPI or whatever is negotiated by bargaining units.

Selectman Christie noted that there is not much turnover of Town employees. Selectman Baschnagel would like to see what would have happened using the same criteria in past

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years and how close they would have been on target with the Municipal Cost Index had they used those measures.

Selectman Rassias noted that the Consumer Price Index is wonderful because people understand it, but it has not reflected well what the Town is doing. He is supportive of looking at a new metric more closely.

Chairman Walsh felt that the citizens and taxpayers of Hanover don't really care about the pressures that the Town faces. He felt that adding some other information about the outside pressures may be of some interest to the citizens, but the citizens are more familiar with the costs that they are directly affected by.

Selectman Rassias noted that the decisions could allow the Board and the Town to examine what the budget priority decisions are and the consequences of those decisions.

Chairman Walsh felt that the Town has done a reasonably good job of explaining how and why they have had to go beyond the guidelines of the Consumer Price Index during those times when they had to. He is arguing not to move away from the CPI but perhaps add some explanations as to why it is becoming more difficult to budget within this metric.

Ms. Griffin noted that there is no reason that in parts of the budget, they can still use the CPI to compare costs but some of the parts of the budget are more in line with the Municipal Cost Index. Ms. Griffin noted that this is just another tool in which the Board can work with.

Selectman Baschnagel noted that with the largest part of the budget is salaries and benefits which are closer to CPI than MCI.

Chairman Walsh felt it would be best to look at the 5-year projections. Ms. McClain noted that when they first came forward with a 5-year projection, the Board noted that they thought that the tax rate would go down when in fact salaries and benefits bumped the numbers up.

Chairman Walsh noted that they are trying to move to a conversation that isn't just salaries, benefits, plus health care, plus pension, etc. Selectman Christie feels that handling wage growth might not be as hard as they think. Ms. McClain is working with a NH Public Finance Consortium looking at trends in median growth in income for a community. Ms. Griffin noted that the Town will be starting Union negotiations next month.

Selectman Christie asked how dependant the Town is on growth on the Grand List and would like to see how steady the growth has been for the last 10 years and what percentage of the budgets have been absorbed by that growth. If the growth were to stop, the budget problems on a 5-year model might change dramatically. Selectman Baschnagel felt that the College might be heading for a plateau of growth. Ms. Griffin

noted that the College has made a commitment to update dining and dormitories which increases the tax base. Vice Chairman Connolly noted that the proposed Life Sciences Building will not be taxable.

Chairman Walsh would like to see the same budget target discipline applied to the other funds in addition to the General Fund.

Ms. McClain suggested coming back in October with some 5-year projections so that they will have a clearer budget objective by November.

Chairman Walsh noted that he has heard very few requests for an increase in services and actually has heard more suggestion for reduction in services. Selectman Baschnagel stated that there have been more discussions about having increased staff support. Ms. Griffin noted that it's mostly on the Planning and Zoning side of things, more building inspectors, more planners, etc.

Vice Chairman Connolly hears more requests for increase in law enforcement of ordinances in her neighborhood. Selectman Christie noted that he is hearing more requests for an understandable budget but no requests for increase in services. Ms. Griffin noted that her office is constantly fielding complaints but they are fairly easy to fix. She doesn't hear a groundswell of support for an increase in Town facilities.

Ms. McClain also noted that the Town's accounting requirements have become increasingly complex. She has concerns that the Town will not be able to keep up with a weekly payroll for the Town with current staffing level.

Chairman Walsh asked how they could make things less complex. Ms. Griffin noted that there will be upcoming discussions in negotiations about a bi-monthly payroll. Ms. McClain noted that the purchasing card system has cut down some of the transaction processing by the accounting department.

Selectman Christie felt that the previous discussion has been of good value for the Board, even more so than the usual detailed discussions that come up during budget. Ms. Griffin noted that they plan on bringing the 5-year plan in October for discussion.

3. DISCUSSION OF PRELIMINARY PARKING WORKING GROUP RECOMMENDATIONS.

Ms. Griffin noted that she wanted to get the initiatives to the Board. Selectman Baschnagel noted that this is a group of people that represent people and businesses within the Town. There was a survey that went out last spring and the group pursued a Top Ten list of recommendations to bring before the Board.

Selectman Baschnagel will be looking for feedback from the Selectmen to bring back to the group. He also noted that these were not in a prioritized order. Selectman

Board of Selectmen
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Baschnagel noted that item #7 was withdrawn from the list. Selectman Baschnagel stated that he and Ms. Griffin have started a discussion of having the College track the needs of parking by the College for their activities and how they meet those needs.

Vice Chairman Connolly advised that #8 would be in a residential zone and she would discourage the building of parking spaces in the area of School Street near Gilberte.

Selectman Rassias asked about the Parking Garage and whether it is in full capacity during the day. Selectman Baschnagel advised that it is full (at 85%) during the peak hours of 10 and 3:00. There are more spaces leased than there are spaces in the garage and they are actively managed. The short term parking is more of an issue.

Selectman Rassias asked about the hours of operation. Selectman Baschnagel noted that there is a small but continuing group of people, mostly students, who are willing to rent space for overnight parking, paying monthly in order to have that luxury. The attendants are usually there until about 9:00 p.m. unless they stay later because a large event going on.

Chairman Walsh noted that he is not in support of having students take up 10 spaces on a 24/7 basis and this was not what the parking garage was built for. Selectman Baschnagel noted that the Parking Department is doing a good job tracking who is using the facility and using it to capacity. Ms. Griffin noted that number 3 discusses the overnight parking versus the long term parking with the goal of not impacting the daytime users.

Vice Chairman Connolly noted that the goal is to park people who are going to increase the business in the Town. Selectman Baschnagel reassured the members that this is a small number of people that have such leases and use the facility on that basis.

Chairman Walsh observed that the list is a laundry list, but he voiced concern over the recommendation that the Town handle all of these items; that there be changes to the zoning ordinance. There were some that he didn't really understand such as, moving the spaces for Molly's Restaurant.

Selectman Baschnagel noted that there were two areas in which there were suggestions that there be discussions about the currently non-public spaces such as the areas behind Molly's and the parking deck behind the bank.

Chairman Walsh felt that the Town may not be the natural leader of these initiatives. Selectman Baschnagel noted that this list comes from The Hanover Chamber of Commerce. Chairman Walsh noted that the Town is not going to be able to provide all of the parking that they are requesting. Chairman Walsh felt that the Town has done a superb job in managing the spaces in the downtown area.

Selectman Baschnagel noted that in Item #2, there is a suggestion that the Selectmen take a stronger role in the downtown parking needs of the Town. Chairman Walsh noted that he had a negative reaction when he read that item because it seemed to him that it is

asking the Town to go beyond the scope of what the Town is already doing and it would be to benefit the needs of private interests.

Selectman Baschnagel noted that there are property owners in Town that would pay for parking if there were a place to put it. An individual owner can't run a shuttle operation and can't put in a parking lot. There are property owners that would be willing to give money toward initiatives to help with parking issues. Several years ago the parking board created a system for gaining parking credits. Is the Select Board willing to become a stronger clearing house for receiving funds and then providing access to Downtown visitors and employees? They could possibly get 32 spaces on the deck.

Vice Chairman Connolly asked what the Board is committing themselves to do. Selectman Baschnagel noted that there could be another parking facility Downtown; they could join with Dartmouth on a shuttle parking lot with a shuttle for Downtown; there is a commitment that the Board needs to make to move in that direction.

Selectman Christie asked if it was being suggested that this be done by Town staff or by committee. Selectman Baschnagel noted that it would probably be done by both.

Chairman Walsh wants to look out 20 years at what the Town can do to create some options in the Town; there needs to be a steering committee that looks broadly at this. He feels there needs to be more geography involved in the planning of this.

Selectman Baschnagel felt that the problem would be solved by a variety of approaches with varying degrees of complexity. He noted that the problem won't be solved only by peripheral parking. He noted that there isn't a single solution to this problem.

Vice Chairman Connolly noted that it will be interesting to see what the impact is when the College opens their 100 spaces on the South Block.

Chairman Walsh noted that the Town has a \$12 million obligation to upgrade the Water Reclamation Facility, and there is a difference here. He feels that the Town is not obligated to address the parking issues addressed in the initiatives list.

4. CONSIDERATION OF APPEALS OF SEWER CONNECTION FEES.

Chairman Walsh noted that Ms. McClain sent the Board members information about two appeals for the sewer connection fees. Ms. Griffin noted that the requests are more of a departure from the policies adopted by the Board.

Chairman Walsh noted that he doesn't feel prepared to act on either request. There was a statement in one of the letters that there were two other properties that were handled differently and he would like to know the history of those before making a decision about this one. Chairman Walsh would like to work in private session on the latter one.

Mr. Joseph Paydarfar spoke to the Board and summarized that he purchased a 4 bedroom house on 1 Hemlock Road which remained unoccupied. They continued to pay a sewage line maintenance fee since January (bill dated May 31st) even though there was no use of the sewage system. The Town recognized that the property had a sewage line going to it. The house that they are building is a 4 bedroom house and the house that was taken down was a 4 bedroom house, and as an analogy, would the Town charge him a capacity recapture fee if they added a bedroom to the residence? According to the Ordinance the Town would not charge him a capacity recapture fee for an additional bedroom. The Town did not have to do anything for the sewage connection line; there was an existing stub that was already built for that property for which a connection fee was already paid. No work or labor from the Town was involved other than the \$200 inspection fee paid to the Town. On the grounds that this, indeed, is not a new connection and they have been paying a sewage maintenance fee, and the fact that they are not adding additional capacity and the Town has not had to do a thing with this, how does the Town justify charging him \$6,284? When they applied for their building permit in April, it was not disclosed to them that their connection fee would go up 10 fold as of July 1 or suggested that they connect before then to avoid the higher fee.

Dr. Paydarfar went on to state that because they capped the sewage line and took their property off the sewage network, they had to buy the capacity back to get back on the network. He noted that Ted Thompson at the end of Rip Road had a sewage line going through the property and as part of the construction; they had to get rid of the sewage easement. Mr. Thompson had already worked out an arrangement with the College to run his sewage line through his property and into the College's, but he had to cap his line first. Is Ted Thompson getting charged \$6,000? He got his sewage line capped and he got a new sewage connection. Arguably, the Ordinance does not define what a new connection is, his argument is that they have an existing house with sewage that already runs to this, how does the Town justify calling this a new connection? If he builds a new house on a new lot where there was never a sewage line, it is being treated the same as his house that was torn down and then building a new house that already has a sewage connection. He understands that there is a \$12 million sewage treatment plant issue. He is happy to pay a tax for the sewage treatment plant as long as everyone else is paying for it. He doesn't feel it's fair to single him out. The house will probably get taxed at a higher rate because it is a bigger house than existed previously.

Chairman Walsh appreciated his letter. Selectman Baschnagel noted that part of the connection fee is not the cost of putting the pipe in but the capacity at the end of the line. It's a capital investment, not an operating cost. Dr. Paydarfar noted again that the Town didn't have to do anything with regard to this existing connection.

Selectman Christie would like to see a copy of the ordinance. Chairman Walsh would like to see the history of the other properties.

5. RECOMMENDATION TO ABATE TIMBER YIELD TAX.

Vice Chairman Connolly MOVED to accept the recommendation to abate the Timber Yield Tax. Selectman Baschnagel SECONDED the motion.

THE BOARD VOTED UNANIMOUSLY TO ACCEPT THE RECOMMENDATION TO ABATE THE TIMBER YIELD TAX.

6. RECOMMENDATION TO AUTHORIZE EXECUTION OF COPIER LEASES FOR TOWN HALL AND PUBLIC WORKS.

Vice Chairman Connolly MOVED to authorize the execution of copier leases for Town Hall and Public Works. Selectman Baschnagel SECONDED the motion.

Selectman Baschnagel asked if they own the existing system. Ms. McClain noted that it was a long term lease and that they have run this equipment into the ground.

THE BOARD VOTED UNANIMOUSLY TO AUTHORIZE THE EXECUTION OF COPIER LEASES FOR TOWN HALL AND PUBLIC WORKS.

7. APPROVAL OF MINUTES:

- **June 25th**
- **July 9th**
- **July 23rd**

Selectman Baschnagel MOVED to approve the Minutes of June 25th with minor corrections. Vice chairman Connolly SECONDED.

THE BOARD VOTED UNANIMOUSLY TO APPROVE THE MINUTES OF JUNE 25TH WITH MINOR CORRECTIONS.

Vice Chairman Connolly MOVED to approve the Minutes of July 9th. Selectman Rassias SECONDED.

THE BOARD VOTED TO APPROVE THE MINUTES OF JULY 9TH WITH SELECTMAN CHRISTIE ABSTAINING.

Vice Chairman Connolly MOVED to approve the Minutes of July 23rd with one minor correction. Selectman Rassias SECONDED.

THE BOARED VOTED TO APPROVE THE MINUTES OF JULY 23RD WITH CHAIRMAN WALSH ABSTAINING.

8. BANNER REQUEST

- **Howe Library**
- **Hood Museum**

Chairman Walsh MOVED to approve the Banner Requests of the Howe Library and Hood Museum. Selectman Baschnagel SECONDED.

THE BOARD VOTED UNANIMOUSLY TO APPROVE THE BANNER REQUESTS OF THE HOWE LIBRARY AND HOOD MUSEUM.

Chairman Walsh feels that the banners are good things and would like to see the addition of banners on more poles. Ms. Griffin noted that they are currently looking into additional banner locations.

9. ADMINISTRATIVE REPORTS

Ms. Griffin noted that it has been busy. Tomorrow she will be going to Concord to participate in the Coalition Communities where the Governor and Speaker of the House will be discussing the status of school funding.

Ms. Griffin noted that there are two State working groups gearing up to work on the State Retirement System. One is a Legislative Study Committee which will consist largely of Legislators and a few representatives from other groups and the other is the Governor's NH Retirement System Working Group who will be meeting to look at options for the current retirement system. Ms. Griffin will be attending with some thoughts to share from one municipal administrator's perspective what the concerns are relative to the investment side of the Retirement System. The concern has been for the rate of return on the special accounts and as the working groups get geared up they are going to be looking for credible testimony and feedback. The Town Manager of Merrimack (Keith Hickey) has been appointed to the State Retirement System Board as a municipal representative which is a first in the State.

Chairman Walsh noted that the Public Policy Center is going to release a paper related to the retirement system in the near future.

10. SELECTMEN'S REPORTS.

Brian Walsh

Chairman Walsh thanked Ms. Griffin and the Town Staff for the wonderful event on Saturday recognizing the volunteers. Ms. Griffin noted that they want to make it an annual event and it seems like the early fall is a good time of year to do it.

Ms. Griffin noted that there were 4 wonderful photographs forwarded by Frank Moran of children singing karaoke which will be used in the Town Report.

Peter Christie

Selectman Christie advised that he had nothing new to report.

Kate Connolly

Vice Chairman Connolly reported that The Route 120 Corridor Study is nearing conclusion. They have come up with 4 scenarios, and there will be a meeting this week of the Steering Committee to finalize the vision and then a final public meeting in October to present the results of Phase 1 to the public.

Vice Chairman Connolly advised that the Planning Board has had a couple of meetings since the Select Board last met. They heard about the Penfield Project on Curtiss Road which is a 15 townhouse project being studied with great care. The Hochreiter/Cunningham land has been subdivided and re-parceled. The Planning Board will discuss storm water control tomorrow night.

Vice Chairman Connolly noted that last night there was a concert of the band heading to Joigny, France.

Bill Baschnagel

Selectman Baschnagel reported that Upper Valley TAC went through the 10-year plan with Councilor Burton. He advised that the 10-year plan has become a 30-year plan but part of the problem is that they never escalated the costs of everything. They have looked at cash flow issues and major restructuring which may prompt the Legislature to look at how the transportation fund is used. Selectman Baschnagel noted that the Highway Transportation Fund in New Hampshire is about \$275 million. Almost half of the money goes toward pavement, guardrails, bridges, etc. More than 50% goes to the Dept. of Safety, Dept. of Justice and a variety of other entities that are transportation related. There is a sense that they want to identify where the last half of the money goes.

Selectman Baschnagel reported that the Planning Board discussed the Life Sciences Building. He felt that the college has done some interesting things to try to reduce the impact to the neighbors although that wasn't part of the discussion which he felt was unfortunate. For example, making sure that the windows which would be lit all night won't be facing the neighbors. It is a proposed 5-story building, 175,000 sq. feet which will change the whole Medical School complex. This meeting was informational and the neighbors have not had a chance to speak yet.

Selectman Baschnagel noted that this would be the time to add a roundabout to that area and Peter Kulbacki has developed a plan for it. The roundabout would be 2 lanes wide on one side and one lane wide on the other. It is logical but he wants to ensure that it works.

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Chairman Walsh is less confident in the two roundabouts with relation to bicycles. Selectman Rassias noted that he commutes by bicycle daily and the one by Reservoir Road is tricky. Chairman Walsh wants a strong focus on bicycles. Vice Chairman Connolly noted that there will be an addition of sidewalks near Dewey Field.

Selectman Baschnagel advised that the Conservation Commission met and reviewed a couple of projects. He was involved in a good discussion with Peter Kulbacki regarding Reservoir Road and how to handle the brook etc.

Selectman Baschnagel reported that he attended the GACIT (Governor's Advisory Committee on Intermodal Transportation) meeting in Lebanon discussing the 10 year plan and the issues.

Athos Rassias

Selectman Rassias advised that he had nothing new to report. There was a CSAAC committee meeting which he missed and the Howe Library will meet later this week.

Chairman Walsh wanted to thank the Recycling Committee for the Hazardous Waste drop-off.

11. OTHER BUSINESS.

There was no Other Business.

12. ADJOURNMENT.

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

THE BOARD VOTED UNANIMOUSLY TO ADJOURN THE MEETING AT 9:35 P.M.

Respectfully Submitted,

Athos Rassias, Secretary

Minutes transcribed by Elizabeth S. Rathburn.

SUMMARY

1. **Vice Chairman Connolly MOVED to accept the recommendation to abate the Timber Yield Tax. Selectman Baschnagel SECONDED the motion.**

THE BOARD VOTED UNANIMOUSLY TO ACCEPT THE RECOMMENDATION TO ABATE THE TIMBER YIELD TAX.

2. **Vice Chairman Connolly MOVED to authorize the execution of copier leases for Town Hall and Public Works. Selectman Baschnagel SECONDED the motion.**

THE BOARD VOTED UNANIMOUSLY TO AUTHORIZE THE EXECUTION OF COPIER LEASES FOR TOWN HALL AND PUBLIC WORKS.

3. **Selectman Baschnagel MOVED to approve the Minutes of June 25th with minor corrections. Vice chairman Connolly SECONDED.**

THE BOARD VOTED UNANIMOUSLY TO APPROVE THE MINUTES OF JUNE 25TH WITH MINOR CORRECTIONS.

4. **Vice Chairman Connolly MOVED to approve the Minutes of July 9th. Selectman Rassias SECONDED.**

THE BOARD VOTED TO APPROVE THE MINUTES OF JULY 9TH WITH SELECTMAN CHRISTIE ABSTAINING.

5. **Vice Chairman Connolly MOVED to approve the Minutes of July 23rd with one minor correction. Selectman Rassias SECONDED.**

THE BOARD VOTED TO APPROVE THE MINUTES OF JULY 23RD WITH CHAIRMAN WALSH ABSTAINING.

6. **Chairman Walsh MOVED to approve the Banner Requests of the Howe Library and Hood Museum. Selectman Baschnagel SECONDED.**

THE BOARD VOTED UNANIMOUSLY TO APRPOVE THE BANNER REQUESTS OF THE HOWE LIBRARY AND HOOD MUSEUM.

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

THE BOARD VOTED UNANIMOUSLY TO ADJOURN THE MEETING AT 9:35 P.M.

FINAL

BOARD OF SELECTMEN'S MEETING

July 23, 2007

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 Vice Chairman Katherine Connolly. Present were: Katherine Connolly, Vice Chairman; Peter Christie, Selectman; Bill Baschnagel, Selectman; Athos Rassias, Selectman and Julia Griffin, Town Manager. Absent: Brian Walsh, Chairman.

1. PUBLIC COMMENT.

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

2. RECOMMENDATION TO ADOPT ABATEMENTS AS RECOMMENDED BY THE ADVISORY BOARD OF ASSESSORS.

Selectman Baschnagel **MOVED** to adopt the abatement recommendations as presented in the letter of June 29th. Selectman Rassias **SECONDED**.

THE BOARD VOTED UNANIMOUSLY TO ADOPT THE ABATEMENT RECOMMENDATIONS AS PRESENTED IN THE LETTER OF JUNE 29TH.

3. UPDATE ON ENERGY CONSERVATION INITIATIVES IN COLLABORATION WITH THE HANOVER CLIMATE PROTECTION COMMITTEE.

Ms. Griffin noted that the Hanover Climate Protection Committee has been busy and encouraged her to give the Board an update as to what they are working on. The Green Bag program has gone very well. She reported that the program sold out two complete orders of approximately 4,000 bags. When the Green Bags are being used at the Co-op, the Co-op will credit your bill.

Ms. Griffin reported that there are continuing efforts to plant wildflower beds in lieu of mowing for energy conservation purposes.

Ms. Griffin advised that the Town replaced a lot of lighting on their buildings and they are looking at getting an in-depth audit this fall for more energy saving initiatives. There are also new thermometers in the building to go down in temperature at night.

Ms. Griffin reported that biodiesel 10 fuel is currently being used at public works. There are talks with the School District to encourage them to purchase biodiesel fuel through the Town.

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Selectman Baschnagel noted that Advance Transit has not switched to biodiesel because they were told that it voids their warranty. Ms. Griffin noted that there is competing information out there so she would like Frank Austin and Van Chesnut to get together to take a look at this issue.

Selectman Rassias noted that there is some controversy over the use of ethanol. Ms. Griffin noted that this is something that Frank Austin has researched and they feel comfortable with the supplier and that this is a positive source.

Ms. Griffin will ask a member of the Climate Protection Committee to provide more information to the Board.

Ms. Griffin announced that the new LED signal is in. The crosswalks will be replaced tomorrow night with the new tape. Mike Chase is researching a grant through National Grid for an incentive program to purchase all lights now to get a 40% rebate. The determination was that you save about \$3,500 per year in energy costs, per intersection with the LED. By changing to solarized pedestrian lights, it would pay for itself in approximately 3 years. Ms. Griffin noted that they would be looking at purchasing one set in next year's budget. Each fixture costs approximately \$8,000 and Lt. Evans is looking into possible grants through the Highway Safety Agency.

Ms. Griffin also stated that the Town is looking into no idling policies for Municipal vehicles. They are collecting several sample policies to come up with a Town-wide policy. They have already rewired the police cruisers so that the light bars can work without the engine running.

Selectman Christie pointed out that if you idle for more than 10 seconds, you are economically better off shutting down the vehicle and restarting it. One hour of idling is half a gallon of gasoline.

Ms. Griffin noted that the largest contributor of idling air pollution is the bank drive-thrus. Some audits were done of local banks to determine the amount of CO2 emissions and this information is being shared with the banks. The Town is going to implement more 'no idling' signs for municipal parking lots. Selectman Baschnagel noted that there is a big difference between summer and winter and the numbers will be different.

Ms. Griffin advised that there is a flier with some information regarding idling and she suggested giving these brochures to people who come in to register their vehicles.

Ms. Griffin advised that they are working with National Grid and the Streetlight Committee to reduce streetlights in the areas that don't seem to need it. They are also looking in to the possibility of replacing mercury lights with sodium lights. Vice Chairman Connolly asked if there were differences in wattage and if they reduce the watts, if that would help instead of changing everything over.

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Ms. Griffin stated that the costs for the Town's streetlights are \$80,000/year. Half of the cost is the electricity charge and the other half is the light lease charge.

Selectman Christie asked if there was any progress in working with the College on this issue. Ms. Griffin noted that they have had discussions and she is waiting to hear about pricing. They are looking at swapping out the lights that tend to throw off a lot of glare with a different fixture that give off a much softer light. Selectman Baschnagel wanted to make sure that Ms. Griffin check on the proposed project on Tuck Mall because originally they had requested taller light poles and he wants to make sure that they are in compliance.

Ms. Griffin attended a meeting in Manchester for the Mayor of the Cities who signed on to the Climate Protection Agreement. She will stay active with that group to watch for initiatives such a bulk purchasing of biodiesel fuel, etc.

Vice Chairman Connolly noted that she will be interested in seeing some actual figures in costs/savings from the dorms that were built to be 'green'. Ms. Griffin noted that the College wanted a year's worth of data and they should be at that point now.

Ms. Griffin noted that the CPC will have a booth at StreetFest this weekend.

4. SUMMER PROJECTS UPDATE.

Ms. Griffin noted that work on Reservoir Road is about to begin. The light at the Lebanon Street intersection is almost complete and the new taped crosswalks will be done tomorrow morning. The granite pavers and new brick are being done in time for StreetFest. Staff will then turn their attention to Reservoir Road and then to Allen Street. They finished the reworking of Grant Road as planned.

Ms. Griffin advised that the Highway Painting team has been trained and have been working throughout the Town. It has been challenging to keep up with mowing. There is a new field at the Middle School. By July 1, 2009 they will lose the ballfields on Reservoir Road and are continuing to look at replacement options. There has been some work done by Shed 2 on Greensboro Road in anticipation of using it for soccer and baseball.

Ms. Griffin stated that the Town will also be doing work on landscaping the ends of Hovey and Buell.

Selectman Baschnagel noted that something like this could be done to discourage the right turn onto Rip Road coming down East Wheelock Street.

5. BANNER REQUEST: VISITING NURSE ASSOCIATION & HOSPICE.

Vice Chairman Connolly asked for any questions or comments from the Board. Selectman Baschnagel wanted to ensure that this could be done with the competing interests. Ms. Griffin noted that it could be done.

Selectman Baschnagel MOVED to approve the banner request of the Visiting Nurse Association and Hospice. Selectman Baschnagel SECONDED.

THE BOARD VOTED UNANIMOUSLY TO APPROVE THE BANNER REQUEST OF THE VISITING NURSE ASSOCIATION AND HOSPICE.

6. ADMINISTRATIVE REPORTS.

Ms. Griffin reported that she is about to send letters to Board members and Commissioners whose terms are expiring to find out if they wish to be reappointed in order to figure out where vacancies may exist.

Ms. Griffin also reported that letters went out to Hanover residents regarding the Fire Districts.

7. SELECTMEN'S REPORTS.

Peter Christie

Selectman Christie reported that the Dresden Finance Committee met recently. They previewed three reports; The Quality of Education Committee Report, The Compensation Study Committee and the Evaluation Study Committee. These are being done in anticipation of further contract negotiations. They are still a work in progress but are working toward a November timeline. The Finance Committee is also recommending budget guidelines to the School Board and recommending that any negotiations be limited to a 1 year contract until the reports are complete and finalized.

Athos Rassias

Selectman Rassias has nothing to report.

Bill Baschnagel

Selectman Baschnagel reported that there was a TMA meeting last week. TMA is changing their thrust to be more active in outreach and education among communities and the State level.

Selectman Baschnagel noted that the Connecticut River Transit (CRT) is running routes to Hanover along the Connecticut River serving the hospital and the college. They are hauling 100 people a day into Hanover and to Dartmouth Hitchcock Medical Center.

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Kate Connolly

Vice Chairman Connolly reported that the Planning Board is on hiatus until August 28th. The Planning Board did hear a presentation from the Fullington/Forward family for a prospective development project. There is also a proposal for development on Curtis Road.

Vice Chairman Connolly noted that their friends from Nihonmatsu will arrive this weekend. There will be 10 students with 5 host families.

8. OTHER BUSINESS.

There was no other business.

9. ADJOURNMENT.

Selectman Baschnagel MOVED to adjourn the meeting. Selectman Christie SECONDED.

THE BOARD VOTED UNANIMOUSLY TO ADJOURN AT 8:15 P.M.

Respectfully Submitted,

Athos Rassias, Secretary

Minutes prepared by Elizabeth S. Rathburn.

SUMMARY

1. **Selectman Baschnagel MOVED to adopt the abatement recommendations as presented in the letter of June 29th. Selectman Rassias SECONDED.**

THE BOARD VOTED UNANIMOUSLY TO ADOPT THE ABATEMENT RECOMMENDATIONS AS PRESENTED IN THE LETTER OF JUNE 29TH.

2. **Selectman Baschnagel MOVED to approve the banner request of the Visiting Nurse Association and Hospice. Selectman Baschnagel SECONDED.**

THE BOARD VOTED UNANIMOUSLY TO APPROVE THE BANNER REQUEST OF THE VISITING NURSE ASSOCIATION AND HOSPICE.

3. **Selectman Baschnagel MOVED to adjourn the meeting. Selectman Christie SECONDED.**

THE BOARD VOTED UNANIMOUSLY TO ADJOURN AT 8:15 P.M.

FINAL

BOARD OF SELECTMEN'S MEETING

July 9, 2007

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; Bill Baschnagel, Selectman; Athos Rassias, Selectman and Julia Griffin, Town Manager. Absent: Peter Christie, Selectman.

1. PUBLIC COMMENT

Chairman Walsh opened the meeting to Public Comment. There were no comments from the public.

2. PUBLIC HEARING TO CONSIDER ADJUSTMENT OF THE BOUNDARY BETWEEN THE HYDRANT DISTRICT AND THE RURAL DISTRICT TO REFLECT CURRENT ZONING AND TO CONSIDER RENAMING THE DISTRICTS.

Chairman Walsh advised that this item was a product of the last meeting. Chairman Walsh MOVED to define the new Fire Districts as Districts 1, 2 and 3. Vice Chairman Connolly SECONDED the motion.

Selectman Baschnagel suggested asking the public for input. There were no comments from the public.

THE BOARD VOTED UNANIMOUSLY TO RENAME THE DISTRICTS 1, 2 AND 3.

Chairman Walsh defined Districts 1, 2 and 3 noting that there were maps made available.

Ms. Griffin gave an overview of the changes that were made to the map after the last public hearing. She noted that Oak Hill was taken out of District 1 but Storrs Pond was left in. Grasse Road III was left in District 1, zoned for development and it was noted that there are hydrants along that road. The western slope of Balch Hill was removed from District 1 since it is protected from development. The Appalachian Trail corridor has also been moved from District 1 and placed in District 2. The area south of Hypertherm was also taken out of District 1. The entirety of the land north of Greensboro Road owned by the Leavitt's was left in District 1 and is zoned for development.

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Chairman Walsh noted that there were no changes between District 2 and District 3.

Winifred Stearns asked where the hydrants are on the east side of Storrs Pond. Ms. Griffin pointed out the location of the hydrants.

Anne Morris noted that the revised map is a great improvement and she commended the Board for listening to the people.

Chairman Walsh asked the Board for their input on the revised map. Vice Chairman Connolly felt that they have instituted the underlying rules and felt that the new map is an amplification of that decision. Ms. Griffin noted that the next step will be to notify the residents and give them an appeal period to appeal the decision behind defining their property within a specific district.

Chairman Walsh asked Ms. Griffin to prepare some written clarification of criteria with regard to the Forestry designated areas that are still in District 1.

Selectman Baschnagel MOVED to accept the map as delineated and the criteria as stated. Vice Chairman Connolly SECONDED.

THE BOARD OF SELECTMEN UNANIMOUSLY ACCEPTED THE MAP AS DELINEATED AND THE CRITERIA AS STATED.

3. DISCUSSION OF PROPOSED GOALS AND OBJECTIVES FOR FY2007-08 AS REVISED.

Chairman Walsh asked if Ms. Griffin had spoken with Selectman Christie about any of his concerns in his absence. Ms. Griffin noted that she did speak with him and his only concern was that the Town is somehow avoiding the CPI criteria for setting the tax rate. Ms. Griffin advised him that they are working on coming up with a new model. She assumed that this would be part of the fall discussions to make a list of criteria to use to set the tax rate target. Selectman Baschnagel would like to keep the CPI included to keep it strongly influenced.

Chairman Walsh suggested changing the wording to include CPI as the following: 'a target is to be informed by the CPI and the Board's review of the next set of rolling five year projection's to the Town's various funds'.

Selectman Rassias noted that when he was on the Finance Committee, there were constant discussions about CPI and felt that it was reasonable to leave it in the wording with the caveat that the Board's goal may deviate from the CPI.

Chairman Walsh would like Betsy McClain to come up with a clear statement as to the wishes of the Board and forward the information to Selectman Christie and Selectman Rassias for review prior to the budget discussions.

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Vice Chairman Connolly would like to change the word "Charter" under Item 6 with regard to the meetings for long-range transportation planning.

Chairman Walsh suggested changing the wording for Item 6 to 'Clarify the responsibilities of the relevant Boards or Committees relative to their responsibility for long-range transportation planning beginning with a joint meeting of the PTB, Planning Board and Board of Selectman in the early fall'.

Selectman Baschnagel questioned whether updating the Town Meeting Taskforce might be a staff goal versus a Board goal. Chairman Walsh would like this to say 'update the Selectmen and citizens, including notice to prior members of the Town Meeting Taskforce' and have a public hearing on this subject to indicate what the Town has done at the State level to attempt to make changes. He does feel that this item sits with the staff versus the Board.

Chairman Walsh asked if the Board wanted to leave the item 'develop final site management regulations for amendment of the Site Plan and Subdivision Regulations' so vague. Ms. Griffin noted that this was really a matter of bringing groups together to bring a proposal before the Select Board. Chairman Walsh wanted some wording to show that the Board is looking for something relatively simple and not administratively burdensome and will not create costs for the Town.

Chairman Walsh moved on to 'outline the top five increases for each operating area for budget review'. Ms. Griffin noted that this item came from the budget discussions. After discussing the budget items on the list, Ms. Griffin noted that she would provide a package to present to the Board including; top 5 increases, 15 year paving budget, options for restoring capital reserve contributions, electricity expense analysis, audit committee and the social service agency support policy.

Selectman Baschnagel MOVED to approve the proposed goals and objectives for FY2007-2008 with suggested revisions. Vice Chairman Connolly SECONDED.

THE BOARD VOTED UNANIMOUSLY TO APPROVE THE PROPOSED GOALS AND OBJECTIVES FOR FY2007-2008 WITH SUGGESTED REVISIONS.

4. RECOMMENDATION TO ADOPT ABATEMENTS AS RECOMMENDED BY THE ADVISORY BOARD OF ASSESSORS.

Ms. Griffin noted that this item should not have been included in this agenda. Chairman Walsh moved this item to the next scheduled meeting.

5. RECOMMENDATION TO ADOPT SEWER ABATEMENTS.

Selectman Baschnagel MOVED to adopt the sewer abatements as recommended. Vice Chairman Connolly SECONDED.

THE BOARD VOTED UNANIMOUSLY IN FAVOR OF ADOPTING THE SEWER ABATEMENTS AS RECOMMENDED.

6. RECOMMENDATION TO ABATE TIMBER YIELD TAX RELATED TO TOWN FOREST.

Chairman Walsh MOVED to accept the recommendation to abate timber yield tax related to the Town Forest. Selectman Rassias SECONDED.

Selectman Baschnagel asked about how the Town has treated this in the past and the possibility of reducing the tax due to the blow downs. Ms. Griffin advised that Assessor Mike Ryan gave a conservative estimate for the timber that had been felled during a storm in April. Mr. Ryan noted that by statute the Town is obligated to do this. Ms. Griffin noted that the Town is unable to waive the tax but they can adjust the amount of the tax. Ms. Griffin also noted that this is something that she has not dealt with in the past. Mr. Ryan noted that after the storm, he contacted the State and it was recommended to him to reduce the amount of the tax. It was also recommended that the Town take into account the cost of removal of this timber.

THE BOARD VOTED UNANIMOUSLY TO ACCEPT THE RECOMMENDATION TO ABATE THE TIMBER YIELD TAX RELATED TO THE TOWN FOREST.

7. REFINEMENT OF RESIDENCY POLICY RELATIVE TO SALE OF BURIAL PLOTS.

Chairman Walsh advised that the Town is running out of burial plots and it is the Board's wish to make plots available to people with significant ties to the Town of Hanover at the resident rate. They are also available at a different rate for those who were not Hanover residents. Chairman Walsh noted that the resident rate is \$500.00 and the non-resident rate is \$2,000. The proposal is that any resident may purchase a burial plot at the resident rate if they are a current resident of Hanover or can attest to being a previous resident of Hanover or can attest to having lived in Hanover for a period of 20 years.

Selectman Baschnagel MOVED to accept the Residency Policy relative to the sale of burial plots. Vice Chairman Connolly SECONDED.

THE BOARD VOTED UNANIMOUSLY TO ACCEPT THE RESIDENCY POLICY RELATIVE TO THE SALE OF BURIAL PLOTS.

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8. ADMINISTRATIVE REPORTS.

Ms. Griffin announced that she is currently working on a proposed 1st Annual Volunteer Recognition event on September 8th at Storrs Pond. She noted that there are about 250 invitees and Myra Johnson is looking at some cost estimates from Blood's Seafood. Storrs Pond is reserved for that date. Ms. Griffin noted that she is working with a \$4,000 or under budget to include food and some type of giveaway for the volunteers. The Board was supportive of this venture acknowledging that the funding would come out of the Selectmen's budget.

9. SELECTMEN'S REPORTS.

Kate Connolly

Vice Chairman Connolly reported that the Planning Board met and the Penfield Project on Curtiss Road is on the agenda for a site visit tomorrow night. The Planning Board has two subcommittees that are meeting regularly regarding wetlands and rural areas.

Vice Chairman Connolly announced that the Upper Valley Lake Sunapee Regional Planning Commission has a new Executive Director, Christine Walker, who worked for the North Country Council previously.

Vice Chairman Connolly reminded the Board that their friends from Nihonmatsu will be arriving July 27th and she encourages other Board members to join them.

Bill Baschnagel

Selectman Baschnagel advised that the Planning Board had one College project, the Tuck Mall sidewalk and lights and asked permission for a slightly taller lamppost on the north side of Tuck Mall which is moving ahead.

Selectman Baschnagel noted that the Parking and Transportation Board continues to talk about phone-in meter payments which are done through cell phones.

Athos Rassias

Selectman Rassias has nothing to report.

Brian Walsh

Chairman Walsh noted that the County budget is up 17.2% and the State has redone its relationship with the County so that the responsibility for long-term healthcare for the indigent will fall to the property tax.

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10. OTHER BUSINESS.

Ms. Griffin noted that they had a wonderful sendoff for Marlene McGonigle at the Library.

11. ADJOURNMENT.

Vice Chairman Connolly MOVED to adjourn the meeting. Selectman Baschnagel SECONDED.

THE BOARD VOTED UNANIMOUSLY TO ADJOURN THE MEETING AT 8:35 P.M.

Respectfully Submitted,

Athos Rassias, Secretary

Minutes prepared by Elizabeth S. Rathburn.

SUMMARY

1. **Chairman Walsh advised that this item was a product of the last meeting. Chairman Walsh MOVED to have Districts 1, 2 and 3. Vice Chairman Connolly SECONDED the motion.**

THE BOARD VOTED UNANIMOUSLY TO RENAME THE DISTRICTS 1, 2 AND 3.

2. **Selectman Baschnagel MOVED to accept the map as delineated and the criteria as stated. Vice Chairman Connolly SECONDED.**

THE BOARD OF SELECTMEN UNANIMOUSLY ACCEPTED THE MAP AS DELINEATED AND THE CRITERIA AS STATED.

3. **Selectman Baschnagel MOVED to approve the proposed goals and objectives for FY2007-2008 with suggested revisions. Vice Chairman Connolly SECONDED.**

THE BOARD VOTED UNANIMOUSLY TO APPROVE THE PROPOSED GOALS AND OBJECTIVES FOR FY2007-2008 WITH SUGGESTED REVISIONS.

4. **Selectman Baschnagel MOVED to adopt the sewer abatements as recommended. Vice Chairman Connolly SECONDED.**

THE BOARD VOTED UNANIMOUSLY IN FAVOR OF ADOPTING THE SEWER ABATEMENTS AS RECOMMENDED.

5. **Chairman Walsh MOVED to accept the recommendation to abate timber yield tax related to the Town Forest. Selectman Rassias SECONDED.**

THE BOARD VOTED UNANIMOUSLY TO ACCEPT THE RECOMMENDATION TO ABATE THE TIMBER YIELD TAX RELATED TO THE TOWN FOREST.

6. **Selectman Baschnagel MOVED to accept the Residency Policy relative to the sale of burial plots. Vice Chairman Connolly SECONDED.**

THE BOARD VOTED UNANIMOUSLY TO ACCEPT THE RESIDENCY POLICY RELATIVE TO THE SALE OF BURIAL PLOTS.

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7. **Vice Chairman Connolly MOVED to adjourn the meeting. Selectman Baschnagel SECONDED.**

**THE BOARD VOTED UNANIMOUSLY TO ADJOURN THE MEETING
AT 8:35 P.M.**

FINAL

BOARD OF SELECTMEN'S MEETING

June 25, 2007

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; Bill Baschnagel, Selectman; Athos Rassias, Selectman and Julia Griffin, Town Manager.

1. PUBLIC COMMENT

Chairman Walsh asked for Public Comment. There were no comments from the public. Chairman Walsh moved on to Item 3 regarding Fire Districts.

2. PUBLIC HEARING TO CONSIDER AND APPROVE MODIFICATIONS TO THE FY2007-2008 RATES AND FEES SCHEDULE.

Chairman Walsh opened the public hearing and asked Ms. Griffin to speak to the Rate and Fee Schedule. Ms. Griffin asked Betsy McClain to explain the changes in the Rate and Fee Schedule.

Ms. McClain noted that she has highlighted the items that were changed from last year. The Fire Department instituted a banner installation charge of \$600.00 due to the increase in the number of banner requests. Selectman Baschnagel asked for the basis of this charge. Chief Bradley advised that he came up with a fee of \$600.00 based on having approximately 20 requests per year. It takes about half an hour to put the banner up and another half an hour to take it down. Taking that information and costs for salary and equipment; the average wage for a firefighter is \$19.25, a Captain is \$28.00 and it takes 2 pieces of equipment and 4 people to do that and for them to stay in service while doing this detail. The established rate per hour for an engine is \$250.00 and \$90.00 for the ambulance which comes to \$445.00 and then the Town has a 35% administration fee which comes to \$600.75 which he rounded down to \$600.00.

Chairman Walsh noted that at this time, no fee is charged. He noted that they only allow for non-profit organizations. He is not prepared to charge \$600.00 to these organizations to put up banners. He would like to re-visit this as a part of the budget.

Ms. McClain noted that in looking at the number of false alarms and in trying to come up with a more punitive fee schedule to get the issues addressed with these false alarms, they are recommending a more progressive fee schedule. Chief Bradley advised that the Fire Department charges for the 4th false alarm received at any one location. During budget

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discussions there were talks about coming up with an idea to reduce and address the number of false alarms. The proposal is to have the first alarm activation be free, the 2nd one is \$100, 3rd would be \$200, 4th and beyond would be \$300.00 per occurrence. The hope is to get the owner's attention to address the problem and to get the problem fixed so that it does not cost more money. Selectman Baschnagel asked if it was for a calendar year. Chief Bradley advised it would be for each fiscal year.

Chairman Walsh would like statistics as to how many 1, 2, 3, 4's and beyond are being realized. He feels that this may not be a steep enough to influence behavior.

Ms. McClain noted that the per capita charge for ambulance services has increased. She also noted that when they transferred to ComStar for ambulance billing, they needed to change to a single rate structure so there is no longer a Resident and Non-Resident rate difference. Ms. McClain noted that there is another fee proposal of \$125.00 for intercept charges in assisting other agencies and deferred to Chief Bradley for explanation. Chief Bradley noted that this is a cost to the Fire Department when they are requested to do an intercept. It typically necessitates a recall for coverage to the station and this fee will attempt to cover the manpower cost. Selectman Rassias asked if this was a frequent occurrence. Chief Bradley noted that it is not a common occurrence.

Ms. McClain noted that the billing company suggested an across-the-board increase in rates to be able to increase the net amount collected for each ambulance run. Chief Bradley noted that they checked with ComStar and currently they are experiencing a 94.6% collection rate which far exceeds what Hanover Fire Department has been able to do in the past. The Town was able to achieve about 80 – 82% collection.

Ms. McClain gave an overview of the General Administration proposed changes. She noted that the non-resident committee of the Howe Library Trustees met and approved an increase in those membership fees from \$100.00 to \$110.00 for an annual family membership and from \$75.00 to \$80.00 for an annual Senior Citizen membership.

Joyce Noll asked about Non-Resident use of the Howe Library. Marlene McGonigle advised that about 25% of their memberships are non-resident.

Ms. McClain noted that the proposed changes to the Planning and Zoning charges are more of a clarification of language to make the fee schedule easier to interpret.

Selectman Baschnagel noted that there is a proposal to the building and zoning permits, that there needs to be a charge of a certain amount per hour versus a percentage and whether this is a forecast as to the amount of time that it takes to complete these tasks.

Ryan Borkowski noted that there had previously been a 5% surcharge for a change to a plan. This was to make it more in line with actual staff time so Jonathan Edwards used the actual salary costs as a basis.

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Ms. McClain noted that the changes to police rates are proposed to better match the Town's true costs. The fingerprint charge would increase from \$15.00 to \$20.00.

Chairman Walsh moved on to Cemetery lots. Ms. McClain noted that this year, the recommendation from Public Works was to increase the Non-Resident costs. Resident lot prices stay at \$400.00, and the Non-Resident cost rises from \$500.00 to \$2,000.00. She also noted that there were 20 lots sold to Non-Residents and 25 lots to Residents during the 2006-2007 fiscal year. Ms. McClain noted that there needs to be some guidelines developed to address concerns that William Desch has brought forth with regard to people who live in Hanover and move away toward the end of life who should be considered Residents for this purpose.

Ms. Griffin noted that at the rate that Pine Knoll Cemetery is filling up, the Town is going to need to consider another Cemetery location. Chairman Walsh wanted to have Ms. Griffin come up with definitions for Resident and Non-Resident and to approve the rates for this item.

Ms. McClain invited Peter Kulbacki to join her to discuss sewer rates. Chairman Walsh confirmed that these rates are consistent with those that were proposed at Town Meeting.

Ms. McClain noted that they were faced with making the approved capital improvements to the Water Reclamation Facility with an approximate cost of just over \$2 million. The Town needed to increase the sewer rates and only the users of the system pay for this, and not the general taxpayers in the Town. Residential fixed meter charges would be increased by 75% from \$47 to \$83. On the commercial side, this same fee went up 175% and there were specific calculations to come up with the rates. These are annual charges. Ms. McClain noted that residents just paid for the sewer rates so they will not see these bills for another year.

Ms. McClain noted that there is a recapture fee for new construction to hook up to the Hanover Water Reclamation Facility. Mr. Kulbacki noted that this recapture fee is based on the treatment plant replacement costs and they looked at the overall cost breakdown by gallons. Because they are close to capacity, those items that provide additional capacity will help pay for these improvements.

Selectman Baschnagel noted that he understands the math but wanted to confirm whether there was any double counting associated between the calculation being done here and the \$380,000 of debt that is incorporated into the rate 1 schedule. In other words, part of the fixed cost is paying off debt service and he is uncertain as to how that relates to the recapture fee.

Mr. Kulbacki noted that the current fixed charge is charged annually to everybody but the additional capacity is charged to the new construction. The connection fee is a one time charge and then the annual maintenance is paid through the annual user fees.

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Chairman Walsh would like to find a different way to do this process. Although he is ready to pass these fees, he needs to see a different process to look at the investments into the system and the impacts to ratepayers. He would like a 12 month+ look forward and would like to see the information in November. He would like to revisit the cost and the fee schedule for sewer rates at the same time.

Selectman Christie noted that there is a \$12 million, 5 to 7 year issue which he thought was going to be paid through connection fees and reserve funds. He wants to see specifically where the money is coming from and in what timeframe.

Chairman Walsh noted that when discussing capital and operating costs separately with months of time in between, it is not clear. He noted that the sum total of this proposal takes a residential bill from approximately \$272 to \$409 which is measurably under the average of the State.

Barbara McIlroy asked by what amount is the capacity being increased. Mr. Kulbacki noted that the plant would be increased by the addition of a secondary clarifier which holds 1 million gallons capacity. There are two right now and they are almost at 2 million gallons capacity.

Chairman Walsh closed the public hearing.

Chairman Walsh MOVED to approve the Rate and Fee Schedule as presented without the proposed fees for the banner request installation. Vice Chairman Connolly SECONDED.

THE BOARD VOTED UNANIMOUSLY TO APPROVE THE RATE AND FEE SCHEDULE AS PRESENTED WITHOUT THE PROPOSED FEES FOR THE BANNER REQUEST INSTALLATION.

Chairman Walsh would like to review the Recreation Department rate and fee schedule for the programs as part of the budget process. He would like to hear a statement from the Recreation Department and Recreation Board as to their review of the fees and the recommendation for changes to the fee schedule.

3. PUBLIC HEARING TO FURTHER DISCUSS PRINCIPLES OF REVISED FIRE DISTRICT DELINEATION ADOPTED IN FEBRUARY, 2007, TO BE IMPLEMENTED IN FALL, 2007.

Chairman Walsh opened the public hearing for the Fire District delineation.

Ms. Griffin gave a recap from the Town Meeting discussions regarding an additional public hearing for the Fire District delineation. In July, the Town will send official notices to every property owner in Hanover so that residents will be advised as to where their property lies within a specific district. In October, the tax rate will be set. In

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addition, Town staff will be available to discuss with residents any concerns with regard to the impact of the Fire District change.

Chairman Walsh clarified the process to appeal the notice. Ms. Griffin noted that a resident would start with the Town Manager's office and then a meeting would be set up with the appropriate staff personnel. Ms. Griffin also noted that there is a 5-year phase in for the tax rate.

Anne Morris noted that there are a few people that are planning on coming to this meeting but they were assuming that the public hearing on tax districts would be handled second on the agenda.

Chairman Walsh moved to deal with the Rates and Fees schedule to give additional time for those residents who might be interested in speaking about Fire Districts who were planning on arriving at a later time.

Chairman Walsh resumed the public hearing on Fire Districts at 8:25 p.m. and summarized the history of the Fire District delineation changes. Recommendations were made in February, 2007 and were accepted by the Board of Selectmen.

Chairman Walsh noted that the question was made at Town Meeting as to whether they have followed the Charter. Ms. Griffin noted that she has spoken with Walter Mitchell twice to confirm that they are interpreting the Charter properly and with the public notice being sent out in July, Mr. Mitchell stated that they have been in line with the Charter and in excess of what the Charter requires. She also noted that she has copies of Robin Carpenter's Letter to the Editor in the Valley News and the concerns brought forth have been discussed with the Town's lawyer.

Chairman Walsh noted that if they choose to act tonight, they have followed the proper legal procedures.

Susan Boyle, noted that she downloaded information on the internet and questioned why the Fire Fund is separate from the General Fund.

Chairman Walsh explained that in most of the Towns in the State of New Hampshire, fire services are paid by general property taxes. In Hanover there is a Fire Fund which is funded by property taxes on 4 Fire Districts; if this proposal goes through, next year it will be on 3 Fire Districts. The General Fund funds roads, Planning and Zoning and Administration and Selectmen's salaries, etc. The Fire Fund pays for firefighting equipment, personnel, benefits for those personnel, training, etc.

Kari Asmus, noted that Chairman Walsh stated 'if they act tonight' but the Board already acted in February and that the tax change was already in effect in the current tax year which started April 1, 2007.

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Chairman Walsh noted that since that action, the Board has received a specific map that sets the delineation between the districts and what they would be acting on would be the map as an expression of the principles that the Board set.

Kari Asmus noted that this is a 5-year phase in, but it didn't show what the total amount would be. Chairman Walsh deferred to have Betsy McClain who responded to this question.

Judy Reeves has a question about the map. It doesn't appear to go along with the Master Plan. She would like the Board to consider having the map updated to reflect current zoning.

Ms. Griffin noted that the basis of the delineation did not have to do with zoning regulations; it had to do with the definition of taxing districts. Town staff did not split any tax parcels among the Fire Districts. Ms. Reeves was concerned about future zoning issues with this delineation.

Winifred Stearns distributed a map to the Board to show the implication of Oak Hill being put into the Fire District and a copy of a letter from Paul Olsen of Dartmouth College which was published in the *Valley News* a year ago. She feels that the only rationale in putting Oak Hill into this district would be to make it easy for development in the future.

Doug McIlroy stated that the Board would need to answer the question from those who are paying in-town taxes and why then wouldn't they be able to build at in-town density.

Chairman Walsh noted that the direction given to Town Staff was that if a lot's frontage is within 1,000 feet of a hydrant, that lot should be included in the hydrant district. The map shows the consequences of that statement and this was not meant to set a base for development.

Anne Morris noted that although the Board says it's not a land-use issue but she feels that this could become a land-use issue. One of the Board members 'urged the Planning Board to adopt the Fire Hydrant line' as a line between rural and non-rural parts of the Town.

Selectman Baschnagel noted that he made that statement and it may not have been a well thought out true statement.

Ms. Morris wanted to speak with regard to a petitioned amendment to not allow CCRCs and PRDs in the rural area. She feels that the way this line is drawn, a landowner could make a case that they are defacto not in the rural area and therefore those petitioned amendments would not apply and this could be a real end run around the will of the people as expressed in the 2006 Town Meeting votes.

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Bill Boyle would like a further delineation between what is Fire District and what is EMS. He noted that when a person dials 911, they not only get the Fire Department but they also get a paramedic that is able to administer care at the scene. They don't decide where the line is drawn and he feels that they have a great Fire Department and if you are in a hydrant district, you obviously have better fire protection but there are a whole lot of other things that he would like clarified where service is or is not delineated.

Ms. Griffin explained that the Fire Fund is paid for by Fire District taxes. A percentage of the Firefighter's salaries, benefits and ambulance costs (equipment costs) are separated out in a separate fund called the Ambulance Fund which is paid for in two ways: 1) patient fees and 2) through the General Fund taxes of Hanover, Lyme and Norwich via a per-capita for community contribution. It is the same personnel but the cost of the ambulance comes from the Ambulance Fund. The Town is gradually shifting the cost of Firefighters from the Fire Fund to the Ambulance Fund where 60% of their activity is brought.

Kathy Jones feels that the term 'Rural District' might cause additional problems and why not call it Non-Hydrant or some other term.

Robin Carpenter noted that he had sent a Letter to the Editor and his position is clear that he does not believe that the Board is fairly distributing the costs for unequal service. He feels that this proposal is really one flat rate for everything that is not Moose Mountain and then there is an overlay to the Hydrant District which takes the hydrant specific costs to the hydrant users. He noted that the distance differences across the entire range in the Red and Yellow are really a mix, it means that any property 50 feet from the Fire Station is paying the same rate as a house that is 7 miles. This is why he says that this is an unfair allocation of costs between getting Fire services within a minute or 15 to 20 minutes. He also did take note about the remarks from Town Counsel and he is not surprised that Town Counsel supports that Town's position which is what lawyers are paid to do.

Chairman Walsh advised that he finds the observation in his last statement disingenuous. He further stated that the Select Board does not dictate to Town Counsel how to advise them. The Board's objective with their attorney's advice and guidance is to avoid lawsuits so that the taxpayers of the Town of Hanover don't have to waste money defending cases or if any cases are brought by others to assure that the Town has acted well within the law.

Ms. Griffin noted that the Town's legal budget is \$100,000 because they do a lot of proactive review of things with Counsel before they are brought forward to make sure that they are handling things legally. She also noted that Hanover is one of a handful of communities in the State of New Hampshire that have Fire Districts at all. 99.9% of the Towns in New Hampshire have their Fire Funds combined in the General Fund. She acknowledges that the service levels vary based upon where you live but what they've tried to do is simplify this and that there are certain costs that everyone shares whether

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you live next door to the station or whether you live on the other side of Moose Mountain.

Chairman Walsh apologized to Robin Carpenter for any possible misunderstanding with regard to his earlier statement.

Mary Kemp wanted to know why the costs for the Remote and Rural Districts go up and the Hydrant Districts go down. Ms. Griffin explained that the Fire District Committee recommended that the outlying districts would pay half of the readiness cost and that the Hydrant District residents historically have paid more than their fair share.

Selectman Baschnagel noted that for the purposes of forecasting rates, the whole process is how they allocate the budget for the Fire Department and if you assume a fixed budget over 5 years and one groups rates are going up and by definition, another group's rates are going down.

Chairman Walsh asked for Betsy McClain to go through the 5 year plan. Ms. McClain noted that if the Town were to do this all at once next year, projected rates would have the Hydrant District being \$1.81, the Non-Hydrant District being \$1.30 and the Remote District being \$.65. Because the Non-Hydrant Fire District is twice that of the Remote Fire District, they looked at the Remote District first. The Town is redistributing the cost from the Hydrant District to the Non-Hydrant and the Remote District.

Maurice Cozzo asked what happens in years 6 to 10.

Selectman Baschnagel noted that they do not know what the Fire Fund budget will be in the out years but for the purposes of illustrating the impact on the tax rate, they assume in this projection that the tax rate stays constant. This is just for the purposes of illustration. The common costs will be the same for the Hydrant and Non-Hydrant Districts.

Ann Crowe noted that her concern is that this is not in line with the Master Plan and it appears to be a disconnect between the Fire Districts and what is happening in the Planning Board.

Ed Sunn asked if anyone determined the percentage of fire calls were addressing field fires versus dwelling fires. Selectman Baschnagel noted that they looked at the number of calls but did not distinguish between types of calls. Chairman Walsh wanted to get Mr. Sunn's address so that this information could be sent to him.

Mr. Sunn noted that his land is valued higher than his dwelling but yet they are combined for purposes of the tax rate. He proposed an alternative to those who are out in the rural area and make some kind of an adjustment when they look at the percentage of land that the people have in relation to the dwelling unit.

Mr. Carpenter noted that the Town Charter calls for taxes on both real and personal property and he wanted to know why they are only taxing in real property. Ms. Griffin

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noted that the tax system is based on the property tax valuation and the assumption is based on the structure and improvements to the structure versus the contents.

Ms. Stearns noted that for the downtown district, the fire trucks have to maneuver around vehicles and gridlock and it could delay the response times.

Kari Asmus wanted people to keep in mind that one of the statements from the Taskforce, was as there is more even distribution of common costs, the hope is that there will be more efforts made to make a closer parity of service for all elements of the community.

Bill Boyle noted that if 99% of the New Hampshire towns fold their fire costs into the General Fund, maybe Hanover should look at changing this. Ms. Griffin noted that the Charter requires at least 2 Fire Districts, and it would require a vote to change the Charter.

Ed Sunn asked about the appeal process and if homeowners choose to appeal the tax rate. Chairman Walsh noted that they will not be able to appeal the tax rate but they will be able to challenge the district that they are in. The resident should contact the Town Manager's office and a meeting will be put together with the appropriate Town Staff to determine if they are being placed in the correct district. If they still disagree, there can be an appeal to the Select Board.

Chairman Walsh closed the hearing and noted that he came away with two things that require additional work. He feels the Board should ask the staff for a re-drawn map so that it can not be interpreted as setting the base for arguing land that has been rural has been taxed as though it were not rural and should be developed. He's not sure where the boundaries go and he would like the staff to work on a map reflecting this.

Selectman Christie felt it would be helpful to change the language and get away from the zoning language.

Vice Chairman Connolly noted that zoning is the law of the land and the Fire Districts don't change anything. Chairman Walsh feels that the way that the language is structured, it could create precedence for future argument which is not the Board's intent.

Chairman Walsh MOVED to set a public hearing for July 9, 2007 to consider the boundary between Fire District 1 and Fire District 2 relative to recommendation by staff. Selectman Rassias SECONDED.

THE BOARD VOTED UNANIMOUSLY IN SUPPORT OF SETTING A PUBLIC HEARING ON JULY 9, 2007 TO CONSIDER THE BOUNDARY BETWEEN FIRE DISTRICT 1 AND FIRE DISTRICT 2 RELATIVE TO RECOMMENDATION BY STAFF.

4. DISCUSSION REGARDING HOWE LIBRARY LONG-RANGE PLAN.

Chairman Walsh thanked Marlene McGonigle for her service, as she will be retiring on June 30th after 13 years.

Marlene McGonigle noted that the Board received a draft of their long range plan which will become a final draft after the Board's endorsement. She introduced Howe Corporation Chairman Posie Fowler and noted that this plan is dedicated to her. She read the dedication to the Board. Ms. McGonigle noted that this project has been on-going for the past 2 years and has been chaired by Linda Dacie and Ellen Lynch (who is on vacation), and Pam Smith handled the technology portion. She noted that a lot of hard work went into this effort, and they feel it is a good solid plan. There are no financial numbers in the plan which is part of the budget process that they go through. They are unable to forecast that far in advance to begin with and the plan needs to be flexible for the future.

Linda Dacie introduced Joan Collison and Betsy McClain who served on the Long Range Planning Committee, and noted that the Committee worked very hard for the last year and a half. The last 10 year plan enabled them to start with a solid basis and expand from there. They are not planning any new construction and they can not predict anything with regard to upgrades in technology and she invited the Board to ask questions.

Vice Chairman Connolly liked the Appendices which gave a great deal of history and made the plan more understandable.

Chairman Walsh noted that he read the document from a couple of different perspectives, and if they were entirely a private business looking to market their services, these are great statements. But his feeling is that the majority of the Library is funded through General Fund taxes and as he went through it, there were a number of areas that he wasn't persuaded fit. Because they are part of the Town, some of the statements on page 9 are probably handled through other parts of the Town. For example, to have a goal to increase the hours that the library is open, without dollar figures included. This is a budget issue, and he had a reaction that as an entity this is good but in looking at the public/private side of it, he's not sure where some of the goals fit in.

Posie Fowler noted that this reflects how different the Howe Library is from the other Town departments. She feels the Library is entirely different given the relationship with the Howe Corporation.

Linda Dacie noted that it is clear that they serve many different populations. About 25% of the members pay to use the library and are not Hanover residents. The Libraries serve the Town of Hanover, but a large number of people from outside the community.

Selectman Baschnagel noted that the Howe Library has the technical resources to maintain their website, and he would like to see the Library take over the Town's website.

Marlene McGonigle noted that all of the private funding really enhances what the library is able to do, and it is because of the funding sources both publicly and privately that makes it what it is today. Chairman Walsh stated that there is no question that what the Howe Corporation does makes the library a very special place. Posie Fowler noted that the Board has become very aware of the expenses Town-wide and they are putting in place an effort to raise money to offset those expenses.

Chairman Walsh thanked the Library representatives for all of their hard work.

Vice Chairman Connolly MOVED to endorse the Howe Library Long-Range Plan. Selectman Baschnagel SECONDED.

THE BOARD VOTED UNANIMOUSLY TO ENDORSE THE HOWE LIBRARY LONG-RANGE PLAN.

5. RECOMMENDATION TO ADOPT ABATEMENTS AS RECOMMENDED BY THE ADVISORY BOARD OF ASSESSORS.

Vice Chairman Connolly was at the meeting and asked if there were any questions. There were no questions from the Board.

Selectman Baschnagel MOVED to accept the recommendations for abatement by the Advisory Board of Assessors. Chairman Walsh SECONDED.

THE BOARD VOTED UNANIMOUSLY TO ACCEPT THE RECOMMENDATIONS FOR ABATEMENT BY THE ADVISORY BOARD OF ASSESSORS.

6. RECOMMENDATION TO APPROVE ISSUANCE OF 2007 DOG WARRANT.

Chairman Walsh noted that every year they receive a list of people who have received more than one notice to license their dogs.

Selectman Baschnagel MOVED to approve the issuance of the 2007 Dog Warrant. Selectman Rassias SECONDED.

THE BOARD VOTED UNANIMOUSLY TO APPROVE ISSUANCE OF THE 2007 DOG WARRANT.

7. RECOMMENDATION TO APPOINT DONNA STENDER AS DEPUTY TAX COLLECTOR.

Chairman Walsh MOVED to appoint Donna Stender as Deputy Tax Collector. Vice Chairman Connolly SECONDED.

THE BOARD VOTED UNANIMOUSLY TO APPOINT DONNA STENDER AS DEPUTY TAX COLLECTOR.

8. RECOMMENDATION TO APPROVE REVISED POLE LICENSE FOR HOVEY LANE.

Selectman Baschnagel MOVED to approve the revised pole license for Hovey Lane. Vice Chairman Connolly SECONDED.

THE BOARD VOTED UNANIMOUSLY TO APPROVE THE REVISED POLE LICENSE FOR HOVEY LANE.

9. BANNER REQUESTS:

- **Hypertherm – Special Olympics Fall Games**
- **Dartmouth Athletic Dept. (tabled from June 4th meeting)**
- **CHaD Half Marathon (together with related requests)**

Chairman Walsh noted that he spoke with Bob Ceplikas who is here to speak about the Dartmouth Athletic Department's banner request which was tabled from the June 4th meeting.

Ms. Griffin noted that one issue was not wanting to tie up the location for a lengthy time and the proposed banners appear to be more commercial versus non-profit.

Mr. Ceplikas noted that the Dartmouth Athletic Department has noticed the banners on Main Street and decided to submit a request. He wanted to note that they are very flexible as to the time period in which they could have the banners up. He would be glad to take back any feedback and revise the banners as the Town staff may see fit. He noted that it would be helpful to know that if they see celebrating athletic events as a reasonable request.

Vice Chairman Connolly asked how many banner locations there are. Ms. Griffin noted that there are about 14 or maybe only 12 and the Hood Museum is the predominant user of the location and they have been promised to agree to no more than 3 months out and are committed to use it from the beginning of August through the end of October. In the past, they have been asked to take down half of their banners to allow for another user.

Vice Chairman Connolly still has the same concerns about the appropriateness for the banners. She would suggest a display for a very brief period of time. Mr. Ceplikas asked for a clarification of what the appropriateness issue would be and whether there are

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elements that are bothersome on the banner. Vice Chairman Connolly noted that the Dartmouth sporting events are slightly for profit rather than charitable events. She felt that their first effort at a banner was not what they were looking for.

Selectman Baschnagel noted that his initial reaction was against the idea of a banner for an upcoming season for 3 months. The Town has worked hard to keep the commercialism out of it but he also feels that the Athletic Department has a venue in which to advertise on the property near the stadium itself for example. Selectman Christie noted that he views them as a little bit of art and color on the street. He's not as much into content as he is the visual impression. Selectman Rassias agrees that it's nice to get the cultural enhancement but for him to be supportive, it would have to be for a limited amount of time. He also feels the first run through was too much like a flier. Selectman Baschnagel reflected back on the winter carnival posters and noted that those were more a work of art.

Chairman Walsh felt that the Board was not against athletics but there is a concern about not wanting to look commercial. He is also concerned about scheduling all the banner requests. Chairman Walsh felt that the photographic proposal looks more commercial and advertising but they would be open to an artistic rendition. Selectman Christie also noted that there would be a difference if the banner was kind of depicting fall sports versus a specific game.

Mr. Ceplikas advised that he will go back and take advantage of his feedback and asked for further direction from the Board as to how to approach their request.

Chairman Walsh felt that he is ready for athletics to have parity with the arts. He is ready for Ms. Griffin to make the determination with a revised proposal. Ms. Griffin instructed Mr. Ceplikas to provide her with some more artistic alternatives.

Chairman Walsh moved on to the banner requests from Hypertherm and the CHaD Half Marathon and expressed concern about the parking around the Hanover Center Green for the CHaD Half Marathon. Ms. Griffin noted that they are working with Lt. Evans to bus people in and she suggested a 3:30 p.m. closure. She will discuss this with the group.

Selectman Baschnagel MOVED to approve the banner requests of Hypertherm and the CHaD Half Marathon. Selectman Rassias SECONDED the motion

THE BOARD VOTED UNANIMOUSLY TO APPROVE THE BANNER REQUESTS OF HYPERTHERM AND THE CHaD HALF MARATHON.

- 10. APPROVAL OF MINUTES:**
- April 30th
- June 4th

Vice Chairman Connolly MOVED to approve the Minutes of April 30th. Selectman Baschnagel SECONDED.

THE BOARD VOTED TO APPROVE THE MINUTES OF APRIL 30TH WITH SELECTMAN RASSIAS ABSTAINING FROM THE VOTE.

Vice Chairman Connolly MOVED to approve the Minutes of June 4th with minor changes. Selectman Baschnagel SECONDED.

THE BOARD VOTED TO APPROVE THE MINUTES OF JUNE 4TH WITH SELECTMAN CHRISTIE ABSTAINING FROM THE VOTE.

11. ADMINISTRATIVE REPORTS.

Ms. Griffin noted that the County budget was voted on but she doesn't have the results. The Democrats were concerned that the social service agencies not be hit to reduce the tax rate. She made suggestions to the State Representatives to reduce the amount of money spent in other areas.

Ms. Griffin noted that the Committees of Conference are meeting with regard to several items that they are waiting to hear more about.

12. SELECTMEN'S REPORTS.

Peter Christie

Selectman Christie had nothing to report.

Kate Connolly

Vice Chairman Connolly noted that the Grasse Road subdivision application has been withdrawn.

Bill Baschnagel

Selectman Baschnagel noted that the Conservation Commission had their annual meeting. They discussed the Chieftain dock issue but it is close to resolution.

Selectman Baschnagel attended a TMA meeting last week where they discussed the 89er which runs from 89 in Randolph, VT to Hanover which meets with Advance Transit and then up to the hospital. The was a temporary trial route for the past three years but the State of Vermont included this run as part of their budget so it will continue.

Athos Rassias

Selectman Rassias advised that he attended a Howe Library Board meeting last week; the budget was approved and it was Marlene McGonigle's last meeting and there were discussions on fundraising.

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Brian Walsh

Chairman Walsh had nothing to report.

13. OTHER BUSINESS.

There was no other business.

14. ADJOURNMENT.

Selectman Baschnagel MOVED to adjourn. Vice Chairman Connolly SECONDED.

THE BOARD VOTED UNANIMOUSLY TO ADJOURN THE MEETING AT 10:27 P.M.

Respectfully Submitted,

Athos Rassias, Secretary

Minutes prepared by Elizabeth S. Rathburn.

SUMMARY

1. **Chairman Walsh MOVED to approve the Rate and Fee Schedule as presented without the proposed fees for the banner request installation. Vice Chairman Connolly SECONDED.**

THE BOARD VOTED UNANIMOUSLY TO APPROVE THE RATE AND FEE SCHEDULE AS PRESENTED WITHOUT THE PROPOSED FEES FOR THE BANNER REQUEST INSTALLATION.

2. **Chairman Walsh MOVED to set a public hearing for July 9, 2007 to consider the boundary between Fire District 1 and Fire District 2 relative to recommendation by staff. Selectman Rassias SECONDED.**

THE BOARD VOTED UNANIMOUSLY IN SUPPORT OF SETTING A PUBLIC HEARING ON JULY 9, 2007 TO CONSIDER THE BOUNDARY BETWEEN FIRE DISTRICT 1 AND FIRE DISTRICT 2 RELATIVE TO RECOMMENDATION BY STAFF.

3. **Vice Chairman Connolly MOVED to endorse the Howe Library Long-Range Plan. Selectman Baschnagel SECONDED.**

THE BOARD VOTED UNANIMOUSLY TO ENDORSE THE HOWE LIBRARY LONG-RANGE PLAN.

4. **Selectman Baschnagel MOVED to accept the recommendations for abatement by the Advisory Board of Assessors. Chairman Walsh SECONDED.**

THE BOARD VOTED UNANIMOUSLY TO ACCEPT THE RECOMMENDATIONS FOR ABATEMENT BY THE ADVISORY BOARD OF ASSESSORS.

5. **Selectman Baschnagel MOVED to approve the issuance of the 2007 Dog Warrant. Selectman Rassias SECONDED.**

THE BOARD VOTED UNANIMOUSLY TO APPROVE ISSUANCE OF THE 2007 DOG WARRANT.

6. **Chairman Walsh MOVED to appoint Donna Stender as Deputy Tax Collector. Vice Chairman Connolly SECONDED.**

THE BOARD VOTED UNANIMOUSLY TO APPOINT DONNA STENDER AS DEPUTY TAX COLLECTOR.

7. **Selectman Baschnagel MOVED to approve the revised pole license for Hovey Lane. Vice Chairman Connolly SECONDED.**

THE BOARD VOTED UNANIMOUSLY TO APPROVE THE REVISED POLE LICENSE FOR HOVEY LANE.

8. **Selectman Baschnagel MOVED to approve the banner requests of Hypertherm and the CHaD Half Marathon. Selectman Rassias SECONDED the motion.**

THE BOARD VOTED UNANIMOUSLY TO APPROVE THE BANNER REQUESTS OF HYPERTHERM AND THE CHaD HALF MARATHON.

9. **Vice Chairman Connolly MOVED to approve the Minutes of April 30th. Selectman Baschnagel SECONDED.**

THE BOARD VOTED TO APPROVE THE MINUTES OF APRIL 30TH WITH SELECTMAN RASSIAS ABSTAINING FROM THE VOTE.

10. **Vice Chairman Connolly MOVED to approve the Minutes of June 4th with minor changes. Selectman Baschnagel SECONDED.**

THE BOARD VOTED TO APPROVE THE MINUTES OF JUNE 4TH WITH SELECTMAN CHRISTIE ABSTAINING FROM THE VOTE.

11. **Selectman Baschnagel MOVED to adjourn. Vice Chairman Connolly SECONDED.**

THE BOARD VOTED UNANIMOUSLY TO ADJOURN THE MEETING AT 10:27 P.M.

FINAL

BOARD OF SELECTMEN'S MEETING

June 4, 2007

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; Bill Baschnagel, Selectman, Athos Rassias, Selectman and Julia Griffin, Town Manager. Absent: Peter Christie, Selectman.

1. PUBLIC COMMENT.

Chairman Walsh changed the order of the Agenda to accommodate the audience. Chairman Walsh invited Bernie Benn, Sharon Nordgren, David Pierce and Ruth Bleyler, State Representatives to speak to the Board. (See Education Funding – Item #6)

Chairman Walsh asked for Public Comment.

Deborah Solomon of Read Road and Dirk van Leeuwen, introduced themselves to the Board and Mr. van Leeuwen advised that although they sit next to each other, they come from completely different aspects on the same issue.

Ms. Solomon advised that the issue concerns a very large house, on a very small plot of land on Weatherby Terrace. She advised that there is currently litigation before the Grafton Superior Court. There are aspects of the situation that they want to bring before the Board. She advised that Mr. van Leeuwen is representing a group of abutters and neighbors. It is a complicated piece of land and she provided the Board with a copy of her concerns (letter attached). Her concerns are 1) zoning regulations as they now exist which are not helpful and unrealistic and create a difficult situation in terms of notice; and 2) the way in which the Town fulfills its responsibilities, in particular the zoning operation; where the duties lie and how they are carried out.

Ms. Solomon further stated that the core of the issue is that in this particular case, for many, it is an unusual lot with unusual aspects to it. It's a small lot on which abutters have rights of easements over the paved road. There is a road, a large house within 3 feet of it because the setback was measured from the far edge of the property and not from the edge of the road. The issue is that none of this was brought before the public. The zoning regulations as they now exist give 15 days to appeal from a notice that is placed in one place only, on a Town bulletin board. This creates a situation where residents must come into Town Hall to know whether there are any issues in which they should be aware in relation to their own property. They are concerned about the length of the notice period and the notice itself. She feels that notice on-site is extremely important. It's the way people get to find out what's happening. She doesn't know what the procedures are and that's part of the problem; a lot of people didn't know the process.

Ms. Solomon advised that having to deal with this house through the zoning and the building and the demolition permits, people went to the Town officials for help and guidance and did not receive it. They were told 'you have to be aware of the law' and that's it. There was a great deal of assistance given to the developers who built this very large 6,000 square foot house on 1/3 of an acre, much of it isn't buildable because partly paved and partly steep slope. It's all very legal but it's not right. She would like advice on how to deal with the notice procedures and would like to deal with the imbalance of the Town officials and Town employees and the constituents that they serve.

Ms. Solomon also provided the Board with a petition that was signed by over 40 people in the neighborhood which speaks in general terms to try to address the situation of imbalance. Chairman Walsh invited her to present the petition. The signed petition was presented to Ms. Griffin.

Mr. Dirk van Leeuwen thanked the Board and the Town Manager for taking the time to listen to their concerns. He wanted to speak to the terrible things that have happened at all levels and due to administrative reasons, the Zoning Board has denied their appeal solely on 15 days notification grounds and the Court may throw it out for exactly the same reason and then the issues of process around it may be buried and may never come to the attention of the Town. Mr. van Leeuwen advised that although he would not go into the Court case, he wanted to make a few comments that deal with the quality and transparency with the way the citizens of the Town are approached. He offered the following examples:

- 1) After they went to the zoning board, they were ordered to come up with evidence and testimony in a very short period of time. He then called the Town Hall and spoke with a very friendly secretary who advised him that she would get the paperwork for him later that day or Monday. He did not understand why, half an hour later, he was called by the Zoning Administrator who immediately says 'oh there's this paperwork that is way in our basement that may take 3 or 4 weeks before we'll be able to retrieve it, and oh, by the way, you should understand that this has nothing to do with your business and with your appeal and objections.' He felt that the letter was at his discretion to decide and it's not up to the Town employee to decide what he does with the information. When he finally approached the Town Manager months later and said that he hadn't heard a thing, he receives a letter that stated that they 'got the information right away and Dr. van Leeuwen didn't show any interest so therefore we have filed the information because there was no way to reach him.' Now, he feels that this is nonsense.
- 2) As another example, 8 to 10 weeks ago on their little street, there is a metallic fence erected that encroaches a few feet on his right-of-way. The builder, who keeps himself anonymous, says that this is done at the order of the Town. He asked to see such an order but the Town has said exactly where that metallic fence should be. This was reconfirmed a few days later, sworn statement in the Court so he asked the Town Manager to provide him with the information, the rules of the Town that

allow this and is this indeed your order, which regulation allows the Town to do so, or is it not your order. The answer that he gets as a resident of the Town is that 'where this case is under litigation, your lawyer needs to address this question with the Town's lawyer'. He didn't even get the name or telephone number of the Town's lawyer and now 8 to 10 weeks later they have not received the information. If this Town orders the encroachment of his Right-of-Way and has not notified him and until today he still doesn't know if that order exists and they still don't know where to turn. He contacted the Hanover Police to investigate and he is told it is a civil case. Where, as a resident of the town, does he need to turn to?

- 3) In preparation for a Superior Court case, he asked for a copy of the rules of the Zoning Board Administration and he receives a letter with the following statement:

'Thank you for your inquiry. As I understand, Julia Griffin recently made clear to you, we are under advice of our legal counsel that communications between you and your fellow litigants on the one hand and town officials who are or may be involved with such litigation or matters pertinent thereto on the other hand, should take place only through our respective attorneys.'

After he firmly protested with the Town and said that being part of the litigation is not an excuse to make the rules that govern this Town available to him, he got at least some rules of the Zoning Board Administration. Two of his neighbors, abutters of this property, went to see the Zoning Administrator of this Town inquiring into the building appeal process and now that the Town has provided extensive documentation of their involvement in this project, it can not be that the Town completely sides with one party and does nothing to inform two of the neighbors as to what the appeal process is. He acknowledges that the specifics will be dealt with in the Court but it is his understanding that a public servant ought to provide basic availability to the residents of this Town in this type of matter.

- 4) Finally, he has given testimony at an earlier hearing in this place; very specifically he expressed his disappointment that the Town has not protected his basic interest in dealing with this matter. The Town then makes a transcript available to the Court where every position of the Town is spelled out perfectly and because he has a foreign accent, his whole testimony is 'inaudible', etc. then he believes that if there was clarification required, nobody has ever objected to corrections in the text because the purpose is to make clear to the Court what is happening.

He is bringing this before the Select Board because he has concerns about the staff at Town Hall gets confusing instructions and therefore maybe the Board could spend some time to provide their staff with clear instructions and understanding of what to do, where some re-education takes place and it is important that we have a Town administration that serves it's residents.

He provided a letter to the Board (see attached) and wanted there to be no misunderstanding that he appreciates all of the Board's work, Mrs. Connolly came to visit and personally saw what's happening, but the outcome of how it functions has caused some concerns.

Ms. Solomon added that in addition to the reluctance of the Town to provide some basic information, she is very concerned with the way that the Zoning Administrator went about this entire case, even under the assumption that everything that was done was legal, this was a very unusual situation, a very large house, a very small lot, this road that was a public road should have sent up some red flags that maybe she should have asked somebody. She apparently, according to testimony in the first appeal, stated that she had consulted with the Town attorneys but she never brought this before the Zoning Board of Adjustment or the Planning Board and the question is, when this is not required, what kind of judgment goes into these decisions? It's clear from the record in this case, that there has been constant involvement and communication between the Zoning Administrator, the builders, the owners and the architect to determine what was needed to be done to comply with the Town's interpretation of the zoning regulations. Great assistance was offered every step of the way in contrast none was offered to the residents who were severely impacted by what was going on and came to the Town for help and guidance.

Chairman Walsh complimented both residents and noted that they must be extremely frustrated with the Town and he appreciates their composure. Chairman Walsh takes the comments very seriously and takes away two things; 1) what changes should be made to zoning procedures and then 2) procedural questions in Town Hall and possible personality conflicts.

Chairman Walsh advised that they will get back to them this month when they have a chance to review the information presented and they will give them a time when they can return with a response. Mr. van Leeuwen noted that on one side there are personal interests and in the neighborhood it has caused significant problems. There are going to be many more examples of this situation and specifically the requirements for notifications. If you can go from such a small lot to such an enormous building without a variance hearing and another person who wants to expand his kitchen by 3 feet has to go to great lengths in order to accomplish this, then there are essential things wrong. In this specific case, the instruction from day 1 to the architect was to handle it in such a way to avoid a variance and that is what in particular contention.

Chairman Walsh noted that the Board takes pride in running the Town for the benefit of all of its citizens and in this case they have pointed out a breakdown within the Town. Chairman Walsh noted that since there is a Court proceeding going forward, there is nothing that the Select Board needs to do with respect to a timeline other than the obvious frustration. Ms. Solomon noted that some of the suggestions that they are making with regard to transparency and notice should be ready for the next annual meeting.

Mr. van Leeuwen wanted the Board to acknowledge that the Town made a mistake in process by not making any notification to the property owners of their property rights and never made it a subject up for debate, the negotiations were made with the other party and the neighbors were never made a part of that. The two issues in the Court is the process by the Town of Hanover and the property right and right-of-way and although they had no intention of making the Town part of the lawsuit but the Town has made errors so if the Board wishes to support the neighbors in any way and the Town lawyer would be willing to take that into consideration, the Court hearing is on the 3rd of July. If the Board felt that in retrospect, the Town should not have done what was done, he would appreciate the support of the Town. He feels it is unfortunate that they are now opposing parties because of a failed process.

Chairman Walsh noted that when the Board discusses litigation, they do so in non-public session and they have a non-public session scheduled after this meeting. The Board will consider the questions that they have raised but giving that they also have the responsibility of upholding the decisions that have been made, it is unlikely that the Board would be instructing the Town's lawyer to argue both sides of the case. Chairman Walsh didn't want the residents to leave with the impression that they are going to make a change but there are things that they need to make decisions on in a timely way.

Ms. Solomon noted that in a situation where judgment is involved, there needs to be some kind of instruction from the Select Board as to how that judgment should be exercised. Vice Chairman Connolly noted that, in the future, there are parts of the zoning Ordinance which certainly affected the decisions that were made that probably should be changed.

Mr. van Leeuwen wanted to add that the Zoning Ordinance specifically forbids the Zoning Administrator to grant the zoning permit that exceeds the lot coverage, from the newspaper and the public we have learned that the Zoning Administrator decided to allow a 39% lot coverage because a neighbor had 41% lot coverage and because there was precedence, made it her discretion to do so in complete violation of regulations. No variance hearing was called and still they were not involved. If you read it in retrospect, you will be embarrassed.

Selectman Baschnagel noted that the Board needs to review all the facts of the case. Chairman Walsh thanked the residents for their patience and allowing them to deal with other items before they could speak at the meeting tonight.

2. RECOMMENDATION TO SET A PUBLIC HEARING FOR JUNE 25, 2007 FOR CONSIDERATION AND APPROVAL OF MODIFICATIONS TO THE FY2007-2008 RATES AND FEE SCHEDULE.

Chairman Walsh MOVED to set a public hearing for June 25, 2007 for consideration and approval of modifications to the FY2007-2008 Rates and Fee Schedule. Selectman Baschnagel SECONDED the motion.

THE BOARD VOTED UNANIMOUSLY TO SET A PUBLIC HEARING FOR JUNE 25, 2007 FOR CONSIDERATION AND APPROVAL OF MODIFICATIONS TO THE FY2007-2008 RATES AND FEES SCHEDULE.

3. RECOMMENDATION TO SET A PUBLIC HEARING FOR JUNE 25, 2007 TO FURTHER DISCUSS PRINCIPLES OF REVISED FIRE DISTRICT DELINEATION ADOPTED IN FEBRUARY, 2007, TO BE IMPLEMENTED IN FALL, 2007.

Chairman Walsh MOVED to set a public hearing for June 25, 2007 to further discuss principles of revised Fire District delineation adopted in February, 2007, to be implemented in Fall, 2007. Vice Chairman Connolly SECONDED the motion.

Selectman Baschnagel asked about what the discussion will entail and how it relates to notice. Ms. Griffin noted that this was in response to the wishes of Town Meeting and the Board's decision to have another public discussion about this before people leave for the summer. The staff plan is to have a series of public notices that they send out that alert taxpayers of the proposed tax change in the Fire District tax designation and build in enough notice for people to come in to speak to Mike Ryan, Town Assessor long before tax bills are sent out. The hope is to get the notices sent out so that people can appear on June 25th for a public hearing.

Chairman Walsh recalled that the Board made a commitment a Town Meeting to have another public presentation of the rationale behind the Districts, the process that they went through to create the Districts and where the boundaries of the Districts were. He also recalled that the Board wanted to notice that hearing broadly and well so that people knew that the hearing/presentation was taking place and that there was a possibility that the Board might choose to make changes based on that hearing. He doesn't want to turn the hearing into an appeals process so the question to staff is how to get sufficient notice of the presentation and the principles behind it and the boundaries and if someone wants to call Town Hall to find out which District they might tentatively be in, perhaps there should be a number residents can call.

Selectman Baschnagel noted that they had a series of public hearings and they were criticized for not following the Town Charter when in fact, people didn't realize what this meant to them. He would like the Town to communicate well with what this means to each resident and the way to do that is to notify them of where they fit within the Districts.

Chairman Walsh is comfortable with posting maps at the Town offices and libraries where people can review these but they are tentative. He is just concerned that this will turn into an appeals process.

Ms. Griffin noted that the Charter is clear that they have to provide notice to the Community and allow people to raise objections. She believes that sending residents

individual notices relative to their assigned Fire District and by allowing ample time to ask questions or raise objections and public notice up front is in keeping with the Charter.

Ms. Griffin suggested providing a map with the proposed delineation and the background for the changes which is more descriptive and walks them through the process. Chairman Walsh has no trouble with the map as long as people know where to call. The presentation needs to be clear and succinct for the proposal that is before them. They need to be clear as to what the next step is and then there will be a letter notifying each property owner of their respective districts and when it takes effect with their tax bills in November, 2007.

Selectman Baschnagel asked if there should be anything in the letter to show the tax rate change. Ms. Griffin noted that this would be included.

Chairman Walsh would like Walter Mitchell to reaffirm that there are no Charter issues from their past decisions and with what they currently planning to do.

THE BOARD VOTED UNANIMOUSLY TO SET A PUBLIC HEARING FOR JUNE 25, 2007 TO FURTHER DISCUSS PRINCIPLES OF REVISED FIRE DISTRICT DELINEATION ADOPTED IN FEBRUARY, 2007, TO BE IMPLEMENTED IN FALL, 2007.

4. RECOMMENDATION TO AUTHORIZE TOWN MANAGER TO EXECUTE MULTIPLE TELEPHONE SYSTEM LEASES FOR PHASED INSTALLATION.

Ms. Griffin noted that Doug Hackett is present to answer any questions with regard to the leases.

Chairman Walsh noted that there were roughly 15 pages of leases in the Friday packets. Ms. Griffin noted that staff has reviewed this information.

Vice Chairman Connolly asked if there was a hub planned for the Black Center. Doug Hackett confirmed that this is the case.

Selectman Baschnagel MOVED to authorize the Town Manager to execute multiple telephone system leases for phased installation. Selectman Rassias SECONDED the motion.

THE BOARD VOTED UNANIMOUSLY TO AUTHORIZE THE TOWN MANAGER TO EXECUTE MULTIPLE TELEPHONE SYSTEM LEASES FOR PHASED INSTALLATION.

**5. DISCUSSION REGARDING UPPER VALLEY 250th ANNIVERSARY
PLANNED CELEBRATION.**

Ms. Griffin noted that there were a small group of individuals who have worked on this planned event. She just wanted to get this before the Board even though it is not going to take place until 2011. She assumes that within the next 12 – 18 months, the committee will be looking for funding from the Town. This hasn't been budgeted in the future year's budget yet because the committee has not started meeting yet. There is a desire to write something on the Town histories. Selectman Baschnagel assumed that the schools were being brought into this. Ms. Griffin noted that there is not currently a Dresden Committee member yet but there are local volunteer town officials that have agreed to serve but there have been discussions in getting more of the sectors involved including the schools.

Chairman Walsh noted that the question for the Board is 1) do they want to formally create a committee and 2) if they are going to be advertising for additional volunteers for Boards and Commissions do they want to include this as part of the list.

Selectman Baschnagel feels that they should participate somehow. Ms. Griffin noted that they are looking for steering committee members from each community and then the assumption is that there will be things going on in each community and between communities that will involve other volunteers.

6. CONTINUED DISCUSSION REGARDING EDUCATION FUNDING.

Ms. Nordgren offered copies of the proposed Amendment to CACR18 and Amendment to SB88.

Ms. Griffin suggested that Chairman Walsh give the audience an overview of his testimony before the House Finance Committee with regard to CACR18. Mr. Benn suggested reading what was passed by the House Finance Committee and will be voted on Wednesday, as opposed to the original amendment. Chairman Walsh noted that the Select Board's position on May 10th included two points; 1) the Board is in favor of a Constitutional Amendment to allow for targeting to aid those districts that need it most and 2) the proposed amendment was for the State's responsibility to be 50% of what is defined as 'adequacy' or perhaps 25% of what is currently being funded for education and the Select Board's position is that this is insufficient and a State responsibility of 25% is unfair to the students of the State and the property taxpayers. He asked the Representatives to bring them up to speed as to what is going to be on the floor for a vote on Wednesday.

Ms. Nordgren wanted to give a history of this for the benefit of the public. She noted that there were Claremont decisions and there was a decision on a funding proposal that was passed that they didn't feel was legal and was struck down by the Court. In the Court's decision, it was determined that the State needed to pay 100% of adequacy and there is a formula and there will be a definition of adequacy by the end of the session. So, the State

needs to pay the first and the last dollar of adequacy which means that every community would get 100% whether it's \$8,000 per student or \$10,000 per student and so the concern of the Reps that believe in targeting and the feeling that some need the assistance more than others, the Londonderry decision made it (according to the Representative's opinion) impossible for the State to target aid.

Chairman Walsh asked Ms. Nordgren to take them through where the definition of adequacy stands currently and the cost and the issue of the Constitutional Amendment with regard to targeting.

Ms. Nordgren noted that the House passed the definition of adequacy but now the Senate has it and will vote on it this week and the Senate has expanded on the House's definition. There will then be a Committee of Conference and the House and Senate will have to work on their agreements and disagreements and there will be a definition of adequacy. The part about funding adequacy will be handled in the Legislative session next year where they will need to decide the criteria for adequacy and determine how much each community will get. The Constitutional Amendment won't be voted on until the November 2008 Election.

Mr. Benn noted that they will be passing a 2008-2009 budget so when they get a cost of adequacy, the funding mechanism for that cost will depend on whether this Constitutional Amendment passes. If it passes, funding can be targeted. If it doesn't pass, they will have to come up with something else.

Mr. Benn noted that they will have a cost of adequacy prior to the vote. Ms. Nordgren noted that the 2008-2009 budget has a two year funding plan so that there's some consistency when it is costed out; it won't be immediate. Chairman Walsh noted that having some certainty for the school systems to budget is imperative.

Chairman Walsh asked where the House and Senate definitions for adequacy fall on a scale of looking back to the 1700's or whether it is at the level that Hanover feels comfortable with for their education expectations.

Ms. Nordgren felt that they didn't have an answer to that question. There is a question as to whether they include Kindergarten. It was included in the House definition and it is felt that the Senate may agree with that part. So, does the State pay for Kindergarten for everyone who doesn't already have it or is it being mandated. Mr. Benn noted that certain things may not be included in the adequacy definition that the school districts will choose and may be doing. Certain things about physical plans, busing, but the curriculum of what the kids will be taught will be a contemporary and inclusive plan (far beyond the 1700's).

Chairman Walsh noted that if the House and Senate pass this, it goes to the voters in November, 2008 which will take 2/3rd of the votes. Ms. Nordgren noted that the vote in the House and Senate is 60% so it's not 60% of those showing up but 60% of the members of the House and Senate.

Ms. Nordgren advised that according to the Londonderry decision, by this July, they need to define adequacy and if not, the Court has threatened to take over the school system. Ms. Bleyler noted that they won't be voting for the adequacy portion.

Mr. Benn read from paragraph 1 of the resolution to Article CACR 18:

'In fulfillment of the State's duties set forth in the preceding article, the legislature shall have the authority and responsibility to reasonably define standards for elementary and secondary education in its public schools, determine the level of state funding thereof and establish standards of accountability. The legislature shall have the authority to allocate state funds for public education in a manner that honors the rights and responsibilities of local communities and that reasonably will mitigate local disparities in education opportunity and fiscal capacity, provided that every school district receives a reasonable share of the state funds.'

Vice Chairman Connolly asked about the term 'reasonable' which appears throughout the resolution.

Mr. Benn noted that in Finance, there is strict scrutiny which is the highest position that the Court takes on the reading of an issue. The term 'reasonable' creates a more rational basis which makes it possible to meet the criteria. If, for instance, the Legislature decided that after they have costed the education plan and are targeting the issue; if it is then decided that a certain community gets more money because it has more Representatives, it would not be a 'reasonable' interpretation. The Court has the determination to decide what is reasonable in terms of the amount of money allocated to meet the cost of the adequate education.

Mr. Pierce noted that by going toward 'reasonable' versus strict scrutiny, the Courts will be much more deferential in its Legislative decisions. Mr. Benn noted that the sense of the Committee was that even though they have 'reasonable' in there, the Court will look carefully at this.

Ms. Bleyler noted that Ms. Nordgren and Mr. Benn are on the Finance Committee so they have been intimately involved with this issue and there are different opinions as to what the term 'reasonable' is going to do to future decisions.

Ms. Nordgren noted that they will vote on CACR 18 on Wednesday and if it passes, they go to a Committee of Conference and come to an agreement as to what it is and then it goes to the people.

Chairman Walsh asked what would happen if it didn't get voted by the House on Wednesday. Mr. Benn noted that it would be a dead issue. Ms. Nordgren noted that if it gets voted by the House on Wednesday, the Senate would agree and not send it back.

Selectman Baschnagel is more comfortable with what is being proposed in the House and noted that it is better than what was originally suggested. Mr. Benn noted that Chairman Walsh's testimony helped with this issue.

Chairman Walsh moved on to Senate Bill 88 which will directly affect the Town taxpayers and Town's ability to manage their employees.

Ms. Griffin noted that this was one of the worst bills they've ever seen on behalf of the taxpayers. For example, if a contract is expired, the CPI COLA holds until an agreement is made which could be disastrous. The original bill that came out of the Senate, made safety considerations a mandatory subject of bargaining which was not clearly defined but could include minimum staffing levels and suddenly communities can't decide their own staffing levels.

Ms. Griffin advised the Representatives that another issue is that it reduces the amount of employees defined from 10 to 5 as being a member of community of interest for purposes of forming a labor union.

Ms. Griffin noted that the third issue which is the most troublesome from her standpoint is the one that establishes the statutory 'evergreen clause' so that any pay plan adopted pursuant to a collective bargaining agreement automatically continues after the expiration of a contract even if the provision was never bargained for or agreed to. Ms. Griffin feels that the employers and unions don't meet an agreement initially because they are on opposite ends of what the employees feel should be the cost of living adjustment and what local government feels it can afford to pay based on all the other things that are being juggled in the budget process. What this proposal is saying is there will no longer be a period of time when there's no cost of living adjustment for employees if you can't reach an agreement. It builds in an automatic cost of living agreement without the voters having any opportunity to vote for that so some are arguing that it's a 28-A violation although it is unknown what the Court's position would be on this.

Ms. Griffin looked at the amendment from the House and she feels that this could double the bargaining unions in the State. Ms. Griffin noted that she is not anti-union but it's a more expensive proposition for communities when they go through the negotiation process and it could cause a fracture in some unions currently in place. You see people joining Unions that have nothing to do with their professions. Mr. Benn asked if the splintering off would weaken their negotiating position. Ms. Griffin felt that this would depend on the bargaining unit but from her perspective, the more Unions that you are negotiating with, the more time and expense is required to negotiate with them. If there is a lead contract and one Union settles, it becomes the standard in which they all look to set the cost of living adjustment.

Chairman Walsh asked about what affect this decision would have specifically on the Town of Hanover. He noted that the Firefighters have been increased because ISO claimed that they would raise insurance rates. The only way to control property taxes is through the number of employees. Chairman Walsh noted that they deal with 3 Unions

today and if that were to double, it would add complexity to the process. Chairman Walsh spoke on behalf of the Select Board and asked the Representatives to vote against the Amendment. Ms. Nordgren noted that this will be a very large floor fight with anticipated voting.

Chairman Walsh spoke to the Representatives about the Retirement System increases. He stated that because of the way the State law is written and the way the State Pension Board works, there is a retirement system that is broke that gets leveled back on the taxpayers. Ms. Griffin noted that the House voted on the Bill that was the result of a lot of work with a labor and management group that worked long and hard to size up the state of the NH Retirement System. Ms. Griffin noted that there is an attempt to get it killed in a Committee of Conference and she is hopeful that this doesn't happen because of all the time and effort that was put into the Bill in both the Senate and the House and to see it get killed based on some politics would be a terrible end to a Bill that could fix this problem.

Ms. Nordgren noted that Senator Peter Burling has worked hard on this and in the Senate, the Bill went to his committee and they are voting on it Thursday and he is hopeful that there will be a positive resolution to this.

Chairman Walsh feels that the system is really broken and it falls on the Towns and the taxpayers.

Chairman Walsh wanted to thank the Representatives for their hard work.

Mr. Benn stress to the Board that SB88 will be a very a difficult vote. He appreciates the candor of the Board because they are rarely told how the Board wishes for them to vote. It is clear that there is a real problem. Mr. Benn also noted the Committee is split.

7. DISCUSSION REGARDING POSSIBLE TRANSPORTATION AND PARKING DISCUSSION IN SEPTEMBER, 2007.

Chairman Walsh stated that the more that he has thought about how to charter various groups and committees; he feels that it's clear that the road network is set and this is not going to be changed or widened in the foreseeable future so it's not a transportation plan that changes the road network. The degree of flexibility is Advance Transit-like buses and parking lots and how this is maximized. He thought it might be useful in September to talk to the Parking and Transportation Board, Staff and Dartmouth College and present what they are thinking relative to bus transportation and peripheral parking lots and the Town should look at how they might join with the effort. The conversation also went over another parking structure downtown which he didn't want to devote energy into that when they have other options to pursue.

Selectman Baschnagel feels that they need to have a dialogue that looks well into the future.

Chairman Walsh noted that the question was raised as to whether they want to involve the TMA which he felt didn't need to be done at this point. He didn't want to get the conversation taken away to a regional level.

Selectman Baschnagel noted that Advance Transit (AT) received \$70,000 funding to pursue bus stop locations and transfer issues in the Town of Hanover. They will be putting a Request for Proposal (RFP) together and there will probably be a 9 month study.

Chairman Walsh would like to see the RFP to be sufficiently flexible so that items from future discussions can be folded into it.

- 8. BANNER REQUESTS:**
- Red Cross–Blood Drives
 - Dartmouth Athletic Dept.

Selectman Baschnagel MOVED to approve the Red Cross banner request. Vice Chairman Connolly SECONDED the motion.

THE BOARD VOTED UNANIMOUSLY TO APPROVE THE RED CROSS BANNER REQUEST.

Chairman Walsh noted that the request from the Dartmouth Athletic Department is different from anything that they've done before. He would like to spend some additional time thinking about it and bring it back before the Board. Ms. Griffin noted that they have already approved the Hood Museum during the timeframe that is requested. This changing event banner is different from anything that they have approved in the past. It seems commercial and advertising.

Selectman Baschnagel felt that turning the banners over to the Athletic Department for the next 6 months seems a little extreme.

Vice Chairman Connolly MOVED to table the request from Dartmouth Athletic Department to the June 25th meeting. Selectman Baschnagel SECONDED the motion.

THE BOARD VOTED UNANIMOUSLY TO TABLE THE BANNER REQUEST OF DARTMOUTH ATHLETIC DEPARTMENT TO THE JUNE 25, 2007 MEETING.

- 9. APPROVAL OF MINUTES:**
- Town Meeting – May 8th
 - May 14th

Selectman Baschnagel MOVED to approve the Minutes of Town Meeting with minor changes. Vice Chairman Connolly SECONDED.

THE BOARD VOTED 3 IN FAVOR AND 1 ABSTENTION TO APPROVE THE TOWN MEETING MINUTES OF MAY 8, 2007.

Selectman Baschnagel MOVED to approve the Minutes of May 14 with minor changes. Vice Chairman Connolly SECONDED the motion.

THE BOARD VOTED UNANIMOUSLY TO APPROVE THE MINUTES OF MAY 14TH.

10. ADMINISTRATIVE REPORTS.

Ms. Griffin reported that Town staff had a tour of the Lebanon Water Reclamation Plant and had an opportunity to sit with the Underwood Engineers to speak to the needs of the City of Lebanon Plant which will cost about 12 million dollars over the next 3 years. Lebanon's Town Manager, Gregg Mandsager and Ms. Griffin are working on the Inter-Municipal Agreement but it occurred to staff that it would be beneficial to have a combined Select Board and Planning Board meeting so that they can better understand the constraints and challenges in the two communities this fall.

Chairman Walsh asked Ms. Griffin to consider whether it would be most beneficial to have a joint staff presentation meeting in a room of all these people before a plant visit to see what the big picture is so that they know what they are looking at. Chairman Walsh felt that this was a large group of people to try to bring up to speed and that group's function is not physically in the plant.

Chairman Walsh asked for any other Administrative Reports.

Ms. Griffin noted that things are moving fast and furious in the Legislature and the Representatives wishes to have the Town reaffirm their position has taken a lot of time. She recommended that they alert her for any upcoming legislature that they hear of.

11. SELECTMEN'S REPORTS.

Kate Connolly

The Planning Board had one meeting, however there are some committees that have been formed and working hard. One Committee is focusing on wetlands, trying to iron out some difficulties that have come forth in the wetlands ordinance. There was a first meeting of the Rural Planning Committee which took place at Trumbull Hall and will continue to, to try to set up a committee of members of the Planning Board and residents to delineate new zoning regulations narrowly based on environmental constraints. The next step is to try to produce some sort of gradient zoning in the Rural Residential District.

Vice Chairman Connolly reported that the Route 120 Corridor group met to iron out data bumps and set up some delineation but the numbers are being crunched for that study so the first part of the results of a build-out should come out in conjunction with a new database from the State.

Bill Baschnagel

Selectman Baschnagel reported that the TMA met and the Regional Planning Commission has now been funded for a Transportation Demand Management Study in the Upper Valley Region. He's not sure where that's going to go but if they can make some progress in terms of identifying opportunities and ordinances, it could conceivably go so far as allowing property owners to get credit for setting up busing programs or rideshare programs in lieu of parking requirements, for example.

Selectman Baschnagel noted that Advance Transit's operating budget is now \$3.4 million and half of that is the fixed route and the remaining half is the special shuttles. The State of VT and NH have awarded Advance Transit a Charter to oversee Rideshare in 172 communities. They are receiving funding from both states so they will be hiring staff and working on publicity.

The Parking and Transportation Board met and they are looking into the feasibility of enabling residents to pay for meter fees with a cell phone in town. It's a way to allow people to pay with a credit card through their phone and it is unclear what the costs are.

Selectman Baschnagel noted that the Planning Board did not approve Granite State's poles from Hovey to Lebanon Street but they came back with putting the lines underground which was granted so the paperwork that they are signing needs to indicate this. Ms. Griffin noted that there should be a revised map attached. Ms. Griffin wanted to follow up with Mel Emerson and get clarification.

Athos Rassias

Selectman Rassias noted that there was a Community Substance Abuse Advisory Committee Meeting today that he couldn't attend. Ms. Griffin noted that she attended the meeting. Selectman Rassias will be attending the Howe Library Board of Trustees on Thursday.

Brian Walsh

Chairman Walsh noted that he attended a Chamber of Commerce meeting and they had constructive discussions about what the Chamber could be doing.

12. OTHER BUSINESS.

There was no Other Business.

Board of Selectmen
June 4, 2007

13. ADJOURNMENT.

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

THE BOARD VOTED UNANIMOUSLY TO ADJOURN THE MEETING AT 9:35 P.M.

Respectfully submitted,

Athos Rassias, Secretary

Minutes prepared by Elizabeth S. Rathburn.

SUMMARY

1. **Chairman Walsh MOVED to set a public hearing for June 25, 2007 for consideration and approval of modifications to the FY2007-2008 Rates and Fee Schedule. Selectman Baschnagel SECONDED the motion.**

THE BOARD VOTED UNANIMOUSLY TO SET A PUBLIC HEARING FOR JUNE 25, 2007 FOR CONSIDERATION AND APPROVAL OF MODIFICATIONS TO THE FY2007-2008 RATES AND FEES SCHEDULE.

2. **Chairman Walsh MOVED to set a public hearing for June 25, 2007 to further discuss principles of revised Fire District delineation adopted in February, 2007, to be implemented in Fall, 2007. Vice Chairman Connolly SECONDED the motion.**

THE BOARD VOTED UNANIMOUSLY TO SET A PUBLIC HEARING FOR JUNE 25, 2007 TO FURTHER DISCUSS PRINCIPLES OF REVISED FIRE DISTRICT DELINEATION ADOPTED IN FEBRUARY, 2007, TO BE IMPLEMENTED IN FALL, 2007.

3. **Selectman Baschnagel MOVED to authorize the Town Manager to execute multiple telephone system leases for phased installation. Selectman Rassias SECONDED the motion.**

THE BOARD VOTED UNANIMOUSLY TO AUTHORIZE THE TOWN MANAGER TO EXECUTE MULTIPLE TELEPHONE SYSTEM LEASES FOR PHASED INSTALLATION.

4. **Selectman Baschnagel MOVED to approve the Red Cross banner request. Vice Chairman Connolly SECONDED the motion.**

THE BOARD VOTED UNANIMOUSLY TO APPROVE THE RED CROSS BANNER REQUEST.

5. **Vice Chairman Connolly MOVED to table the request from Dartmouth Athletic Department to the June 25th meeting. Selectman Baschnagel SECONDED the motion.**

THE BOARD VOTED UNANIMOUSLY TO TABLE THE BANNER REQUEST OF DARTMOUTH ATHLETIC DEPARTMENT TO THE JUNE 25, 2007 MEETING.

- 6. Selectman Baschnagel MOVED to approve the Minutes of Town Meeting with minor changes. Vice Chairman Connolly SECONDED.**

THE BOARD VOTED 3 IN FAVOR AND 1 ABSTENTION TO APPROVE THE TOWN MEETING MINUTES OF MAY 8, 2007.

- 7. Selectman Baschnagel MOVED to approve the Minutes of May 14 with minor changes. Vice Chairman Connolly SECONDED the motion.**

THE BOARD VOTED UNANIMOUSLY TO APPROVE THE MINUTES OF MAY 14TH.

- 8. Vice Chairman Connolly MOVED to adjourn the meeting. Selectman Baschnagel SECONDED the motion.**

THE BOARD VOTED UNANIMOUSLY TO ADJOURN THE MEETING AT 9:35 P.M.

FINAL

BOARD OF SELECTMEN'S MEETING

May 14, 2007

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; Bill Baschnagel, Selectman; Athos Rassias, Selectman and Julia Griffin, Town Manager.

1. PUBLIC COMMENT.

Chairman Walsh welcomed Athos Rassias to the Board. Chairman Walsh asked for Public Comment. There were no comments from the Public.

2. BOARD OF SELECTMEN ORGANIZATIONAL MEETING FOR 2007-2008.

Vice Chairman Connolly MOVED to nominate Brian Walsh as Chairman. Selectman Baschnagel SECONDED the motion.

THE BOARD VOTED UNANIMOUSLY IN FAVOR OF THE NOMINATION OF BRIAN WALSH AS CHAIRMAN.

Chairman Walsh MOVED to nominate Katherine Connolly as Vice Chairman. Selectman Baschnagel SECONDED the motion.

THE BOARD VOTED UNANIMOUSLY IN FAVOR OF THE NOMINATION OF KATHERINE CONNOLLY AS VICE CHAIRMAN.

Chairman Walsh MOVED to nominate Athos Rassias as Secretary. Vice Chairman Connolly SECONDED the motion.

THE BOARD VOTED UNANIMOUSLY IN FAVOR OF THE NOMINATION OF ATHOS RASSIAS AS SECRETARY.

Ms. Griffin noted that the Board should review their liaison assignments. There are meetings that could be attended by staff instead of the Board members.

Chairman Walsh wanted to clarify for the public that it is increasingly difficult to get people to serve and there is more to serving than just attending the Board of Selectmen meetings every other Monday. There are other committees and commissions that require more and more time. One of the things that Chairman Walsh stated that he wanted to do was to encourage more young people to run for Select Board and for them to not be

Board of Selectmen
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overburdened with meetings. There has been an evolution and the Town has gotten more complicated. This is not to say that the Board members have gotten lazier, they've just gotten busier.

Chairman Walsh asked if it was Statutory that a Board member serve on the Advisory Board of Assessors. Ms. Griffin didn't feel that it was Statutory but that it was important for a member to be on the Board especially if there is an appeal. Vice Chairman Connolly advised that she didn't mind being on that Board. She will stay on that Board and Chairman Walsh will be the alternate.

Selectman Christie feels that there should be a Board member on the Affordable Housing Commission and he will remain on that Board.

Chairman Walsh didn't see a need to keep the CATV Board item on the Selectman's list.

Ms. Griffin felt that politically, it is important to have a Board member on the Chamber of Commerce. Chairman Walsh will remain on the Chamber.

With regard to CSAAC (Community Substance Abuse Advisory Committee) Ms. Griffin noted that staff meet with the College and the High School staff and she doesn't feel that it needs to be one that the Selectmen attend. She noted that she, the Police Chief and the Diversion Coordinator, Elizabeth Rathburn attend these meetings. Chairman Walsh felt that perhaps a Board Member should remain on this Board and that there should be more energy and exposure done on this committee. Selectman Rassias expressed an interest in attending these meetings.

Chairman Walsh felt that the Board needs to be represented on the Conservation Commission. Selectman Baschnagel will remain on this.

Chairman Walsh felt that Selectman Christie should remain on the Finance Committee and Selectman Rassias should get to know other parts of the Town. Selectman Christie agreed to remain on the Board and Selectman Rassias will be the alternate.

Chairman Walsh will remain on the Hanover Improvement Society and will remain as liaison for the Hanover Water Works Company.

Selectman Baschnagel didn't feel that it was really critical that a Board member be on the Upper Valley Transportation Advisory Committee but he felt that an elected official has more pull than staff. He will remain on this Committee.

Vice Chairman Connolly will remain as liaison to the Upper Valley Lake Sunapee Regional Planning Commission (UVLSRPC).

Chairman Walsh would like a letter sent to the Town Meeting Taskforce informing them that the Secretary of State shot down the proposed improvements in the Charter change

process that was put together by the Municipal Association. Ms. Griffin noted that she spent the last year participating with a work group at the LGC (Local Government Center) hoping to overhaul State Law relative to Town Meeting and Charters to enable more flexibility in the structure of Town Meeting and increase participation. This working group, which was broadly representative of State agencies and towns developed legislation and worked very closely last session. Two bills were introduced and then the Secretary of State arranged to kill both bills. The LGC was very disappointed but she made sure that Senator Burling was aware of their frustration with the process. The Secretary of State had been invited to participate in the working group and received copies of the bills months before they were introduced. Ms. Griffin will do an update for the Town Meeting Taskforce and the website but it was very discouraging to find that out last Friday. Chairman Walsh didn't feel that there was a high degree of enthusiasm on the part of the work group to change what they could under the current Charter but were working more toward a larger change.

Selectman Christie noted that the feedback that he gets is that it's still a strong issue in the Town on both sides and he doesn't support doing nothing. He wants to bring it to some place where the Town can vote and talk about it. He thinks that the Board will be surprised at the level of interest in change. He wants to move it to a place where people can speak and vote.

Ms. Griffin noted that she could put this on the agenda for the June meeting. Ms. Griffin noted that she would send a copy of everything to the Board members. Vice Chairman Connolly recalled that the changes that were being considered were not huge. Selectman Christie suggested reading the report again because it was very well documented. Chairman Walsh wanted this put on the June agenda.

Selectman Christie noted that he is least able to attend the Senior Citizens Steering Committee meetings. Ms. Griffin noted that Myra Johnson has expressed an interest in attending these meetings. Selectman Christie felt that this would work. There hasn't been a lot of liaison activity. Chairman Walsh wanted a Select Board member assigned as the person to go to if there should be a need for a Board member to be informed. Selectman Christie advised that he will be the alternate with Myra Johnson as primary. Selectman Baschnagel would like regular updates from Myra so that it can be reported at the Selectmen's meeting.

Selectman Christie noted that there are two staff members that attend the Recycling Committee regularly and there have only been a couple of times when it was important to have a Board member present. They meet once a month at 8:00 a.m. on different days of the week. Chairman Walsh asked if it is something that can be attended by staff with a Board member as alternate. Selectman Christie felt that this would work. Selectman Christie noted that he considered himself a liaison and not a member. Selectman Christie also suggested that Athos attend one of their meetings when he can.

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Vice Chairman Connolly will remain liaison to the Planning Board with Selectman Baschnagel as 1st Alternate and Selectman Christie as 2nd Alternate.

Selectman Baschnagel will remain on the Parking and Transportation Board.

Vice Chairman Connolly noted that the Howe Library meets one Thursday each month and she has served as alternate. Selectman Rassias noted that the time frame works well for him. Selectman Rassias will be assigned to the Howe Library. Vice Chairman Connolly will remain as alternate.

Joigny, France – Sister City Advisory Committee – Ms. Griffin noted that she gets copies of their minutes but they don't require Board involvement. Chairman Walsh noted that when there is a group of Joigny students or parents here, it would be good for a Board Member to be present. Selectman Rassias will be assigned to this.

Nihonmatsu, Japan – Sister City Advisory Committee - Vice Chairman Connolly will remain on this Committee. She noted that there will be a visit in July and beginning of August and then in the fall there will be a visit by the Mayor of Nihonmatsu who will be heading to Yale for a dedication ceremony.

Chairman Walsh noted that the Parks and Recreation Board meet Monday night, the 2nd Monday of every month. The issues that are coming up are whether the Recreation Board should continue to be the primary provider of Middle School sports programs and pay the Middle School for using their facilities or should the Middle School do their own programs, etc. Selectman Baschnagel felt that because of these upcoming issues, they should include a member of the Board. Chairman Walsh noted that he is trying to reduce the amount of his commitments and he may rely on Ms. Griffin to attend these meetings.

Chairman Walsh asked Ms. Griffin to provide Selectman Rassias with a list of these meetings with times, dates, location, etc.

3. TOWN MEETING RECAP.

Ms. Griffin noted that staff will be working toward getting a mailing out regarding Fire Districts and outline the procedure for notifying the residents of their new district designation and the appeal process. Ms. Griffin took away from Town Meeting that residents didn't feel that they were given enough information in the Town Report with regard to the district modification. Selectman Christie noted that at this point, the Board has voted to have the three districts, how the costs will be apportioned, so what's left to be appealed is the district in which the residents are placed. Selectman Christie confirmed with Ms. Griffin that the Town gave the right notifications and had adequate public input to make the decision that the Board was authorized to make. Vice Chairman Connolly noted that the changes to the tax rate will be phased in over 5 years.

Chairman Walsh reflected back on Town Meeting and asked if there was a commitment to have another public hearing on the Fire Districts. Vice Chairman Connolly thought that they committed to having another information presentation but not a public hearing. Chairman Walsh felt that they did make a commitment to have another public hearing. He would like to do it early rather than late and he wants the history presented clearly and the Committee's work presented clearly and then listen to the residents. Selectman Christie felt that they made it clear at Town Meeting that they didn't have to have another public hearing but the Town was choosing to do that. Selectman Baschnagel remembered committing to sending out additional notices. Ms. Griffin noted that they did and they were thinking that they should send notices out in late June and she doesn't want to wait until July because the tax rates are usually set in late October, there is a critical time to nail this down and finalize it.

Chairman Walsh wanted to make the presentation on June 4th which would be right after Town Meeting and people may not be gone on vacation. Ms. Griffin noted that they couldn't get the mailings assembled by then. Selectman Baschnagel feels that if they make a presentation on June 4th it will be a repeat of the prior public hearings. Then you do the mailing which gives each resident the information as to which district they fall into. The appeal process can begin where it's an individual issue based on the principles as to whether they are in the correct district. Vice Chairman Connolly would be happier with having the letters go out and then have the hearing. She felt that everyone should have the information. Selectman Christie felt if this was going to be done, the Board should be prepared for the public outcry and the possibility that the whole thing could be defeated.

Ms. Griffin noted that there would only be three members present on June 4th and this would be hard on those members. Chairman Walsh wants that meeting to be scheduled for June 25th.

Chairman Walsh felt that Selectman Baschnagel did a great job on the Fire District presentation and Selectman Christie's presentation of the budget was great.

Ms. Griffin also noted that the consensus is to go to the High School for Town Meeting next year. She also suggested creating some kind of outdoor fun and food to make it easier for families and their children. She would work with the Recreation Department and High School to keep the date free of other commitments. Chairman Walsh also suggested doing the Resolutions during the dinner to make it more fun. Selectman Christie felt that it would be worth a try.

**4. APPOINTMENTS:
- Senior Citizen Advisory Committee**

Selectman Baschnagel MOVED to appoint Lee Monaco to the Senior Citizen Advisory Committee. Chairman Walsh SECONDED the motion.

THE BOARD VOTED UNANIMOUSLY TO APPOINT LEE MONACO TO THE SENIOR CITIZEN ADVISORY COMMITTEE.

**5. BANNER REQUESTS:
- Hood Museum**

Chairman Walsh MOVED to approve the banner request of Hood Museum, provided that staff can work out any conflict. Vice Chairman Connolly SECONDED the motion.

THE BOARD VOTED UNANIMOUSLY TO APPROVE THE BANNER REQUEST OF HOOD MUSEUM PROVIDED THAT THE STAFF CAN WORK OUT ANY CONFLICT.

**6. APPROVAL OF MINUTES:
- April 30, 2007**

Chairman Walsh noted that this should go back to Allegra Lubrano. Peter Christie and Athos Rassias will abstain on these Minutes. Chairman Walsh also noted the changes he requested for these Minutes.

7. ADMINISTRATIVE REPORTS.

Ms. Griffin reported that Town Hall is still in disarray but they are almost done with their remodeling and she noted that the Town was able to stretch their dollars by having the Public Works department handle the construction. There is a new staff member who is replacing Liz Meade and Darlene will move into the space that was formerly the mail room. Things appear disorganized but it is coming to an end.

Ms. Griffin noted that she continues to monitor what is happening in the Legislature. Chairman Walsh went down to testify before the House Finance Committee on CACR-18 which is the school funding Constitutional amendment. He spent several hours down there on behalf of the Town for which Ms. Griffin was grateful. She is sure that the Committee's prefer to hear from elected officials vs. Town staff.

8. SELECTMEN'S REPORTS.

Peter Christie

Selectman Christie reported that at the last Affordable Housing meeting, Tim McNamara presented the timing of the new Grasse Road III which will be delayed in favor of acceleration of Rivercrest and until public transportation is available for that location. As part of the land swapping and re-zoning around Grasse Road III, the Town was to have the right to purchase 14 out of 140 proposed units for affordable housing. A proposal was made that rather than fix that number; it should be 10% of any of the units which could be more or less than the original 14 units.

Kate Connolly

Vice Chairman Connolly reported that the Planning Board scheduled a hearing for Grasse Road which was postponed. They also saw an informal presentation of a 15 unit condo complex which would be located on Curtis Road but accessed on Lyme Road.

Bill Baschnagel

Selectman Baschnagel noted that there were Planning Board hearings for Dartmouth for the construction of the electrical and telephone communication ducts toward Dewey Field and the old hospital site and the steam tunnel in the same area. It's the precursor to the Life Sciences Center. The intent is to improve and upgrade the systems.

The Conservation Commission heard three wetland applications. Several members would like to assist in getting the Town calendar together for next year. Ms. Griffin noted that the Town didn't budget any money for this effort. Chairman Walsh noted that they had discussed combining items with the Youth in Action calendar. Ms. Griffin noted that it takes a lot of her Assistant's time when she works on the Town Calendar and it is expensive. Chairman Walsh noted that the Chamber is working on a Community Calendar on the Web and it seems that there will be multiple places to find this information.

Selectman Baschnagel also noted that the Conservation Commission has been working with the Planning Board in the design and review process and provide suggestions to the Board early on in the process.

Athos Rassias

Selectman Rassias had nothing to report.

Brian Walsh

Chairman Walsh wanted Ms. Griffin to speak to the on-going talks with Lebanon about Wastewater Reclamation. Ms. Griffin noted that they met with Lebanon City Staff a week ago to begin staff to staff discussions about the future needs of the Hanover Water Reclamation Facility. Initially they spoke to the role that Lebanon could pay in financing those projects. They started with a tour of the plant and next week she will be going to Lebanon to view their facility with staff. She shared with them multiple documents to study, a review of the financing alternatives, and a review of the financing strategies for the first phase which was approved at Town Meeting, a draft copy of the possible Inter Municipal Agency Agreement and an additional series of documents which gives them a history of the plant. There will be a follow up in about a week in Lebanon and then have committed to meeting again in the summer to go over the initiatives and the costs related to the improvements to start conversations about how to pay for these upgrades. They

had a very good discussion and she will be bringing the draft Inter Municipal Agency Agreement that they are talking about.

Vice Chairman Connolly noted that as part of the Route 120 study, she went to the Lebanon Conservation Commission last week and there were two proposals to rezone a portion of the Landmark land just south of the Medical Center to a fairly intense zoning district, a combination of industrial residential and the same proposal came across the road near Centerra where half the land would be equivalent to Hanover's Natural Preserve and then an industrial residential area. If enacted, this development would add a much larger burden to the facility. Ms. Griffin noted that they discussed the maximum additional solids capacity that the Town can purchase for the plant and indicated to them that Lebanon would be granted some percentage of that capacity to allocate as they chose to new developments and that was it. Lebanon staff would rather know exactly where they stand as far as how much they can rely on the Town of Hanover's facility based on maximum plant capacity so they can make decisions about what they can do at Lebanon's plant. Lebanon seems to be very open to the idea that if the Town can buy another half a million gallons per day of solid capacity, they would get 33% of the capacity and that's it, as a hypothetical.

Chairman Walsh noted that Ms. Griffin would be coming to the Board in the fall with a plan for both sides of the Ridgeline.

Chairman Walsh noted that he received a copy of a letter from David Bradley regarding, Senate Bill 88 – An Act Relative to Public Employee Terms of Employment Bargaining Units and Dispute Resolutions. The letter went to Bernie Benn, Ruth Bleyler, Sharon Nordgren and David Pierce. It is Mr. Bradley's reading on behalf of the School Board that if Senate Bill 88 passes, it will be mandatory in Collective Bargaining agreements that if the employees want to, they could bargain the number of employees. Mr. Bradley is urging on behalf of the school board that this be killed. Ms. Griffin noted that she has already expressed concern on behalf of the Town with regard to this Bill with the Town's delegation. She feels that it has a good chance of passing and Senator Burling voted for it. It allows bargaining units to be formed with only three employee members. It makes staffing levels a mandatory subject of bargaining. It institutes an automatic COLA increase once a contract is expired, even if the amount hasn't been negotiated as part of the increase.

Chairman Walsh would like to Board to officially communicate to the NHMA that the Board thinks that NHMA should examine whether this Bill violates the Constitution 28-A as an unfunded mandate and do the preparatory work to put together a lawsuit should it pass. Ms. Griffin also suggested that each Board member contact Senator Burling directly and express their concern. Senator Burling has already signed in favor of this Bill.

Ms. Griffin noted that the Governor has said that he won't sign the reform of the Retirement System Bill if it passes out of the Senate.

9. OTHER BUSINESS.

Chairman Walsh noted that the Board's goals and objectives will be done at the next Board Meeting in June but some of the members will not be present. He suggested looking at the goals and objectives so far and it can be reviewed again during the summer. Chairman Walsh noted that he and Selectman Christie had discussed that they should prioritize and/or review their goals and objectives quarterly so they don't get forgotten.

Chairman Walsh advised that he would like to see a draft from the Town Manager a tax rate target goal that could tie in to the 5 year projections. With regard to the 2005 June storm, an idea of where the Town should be now with that. Chairman Walsh asked that Ms. Griffin look at affordable housing giving a simple goal to work on. After the Wednesday morning meeting, the Hanover Water Works company needs to be in a place where it is in financial good shape and he is not sure about whether this should be taken off the list.

Ms. Griffin noted that there would be a proposal by the end of this month regarding recognizing Committee members.

Chairman Walsh noted the goal of defining the goals and charge in which the Boards or Committees have responsibility for long-range transportation planning. Ms. Griffin noted that nothing has been brought forward on this and ultimately this hasn't been a high priority from the staff perspective. Selectman Baschnagel noted that transportation infrastructure has pretty much been taken care of in the Town. Chairman Walsh stated that another side of this is peripheral parking and bus transportation. Selectman Baschnagel noted that this is something that the PTB needs to revitalize the Town about.

Chairman Walsh moved on to the goal of adopting formal Board and Commission meeting procedures and consider adoption of the Code of Ethical Conduct. Ms. Griffin noted that she has drafts of both of these but they haven't been a priority. Chairman Walsh was concerned that these kinds of things can get very complicated and very long as opposed to the sticking to the fundamentals of the issue. Selectman Baschnagel asked about where the Legislature is with regard to electronic and other means of communications Bill. Ms. Griffin advised that the Legislature continues to make minor changes on this with regard the Right-To-Know Law as far as e-mail communication. This could be a big change to one or both of those topics. Those will be moved to Ms. Griffin's list under Administration.

Chairman Walsh moved on to the Capital Improvements Program (CIP). Ms. Griffin noted that this is in process. Chairman Walsh wanted to have a joint Planning Board and Select Board meeting for this. Ms. Griffin noted that they were talking about doing this in the fall.

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Chairman Walsh noted the goal of developing a policy to address requested upgrades to paving including funding options. Ms. Griffin noted that Peter Kulbacki is working on this.

Ms. Griffin noted that staff has been working on an ordinance for the Storm Water Management Regulations. Vice Chairman Connolly asked for the document to be trimmed down. Ms. Griffin noted that this was being done.

Chairman Walsh would like to see a set of objectives that provides the thrust behind the list so that it doesn't appear to be just a laundry list so that they can understand the finances of the Town and whether they can see whether they control the costs.

Chairman Walsh noted that the Social Service Agencies is another question that comes out of Town Meeting. He feels that they need to re-think between now and November whether they are going to change the process. He doesn't feel that they want to decide to change the process during the budget season.

Selectman Baschnagel wants to present a clear representation of the process for applying for funding and would like to publish a policy for everyone to look at. Ms. Griffin asked if it should be a public hearing or presentation. Vice Chairman Connolly noted that they should have a definition as to what a social service agency is and what it does for the Town. There are agencies that would not need to be replaced if they didn't provide a service. Selectman Baschnagel suggested that this would be a definition in the process. Chairman Walsh felt that the Town may need to do more than put someone on the list after they have been voted in for three years. It's 1% of the tax rate and this needs to be thought through again. Selectman Christie asked if this lent itself to a task force. There could be benefit to having residents in Town brainstorm this issue and he has a couple of people in mind that could work on this.

Ms. Griffin noted that some towns vote on each agency year after year or they have the funding broken down for each agency or they have signatures to petition the article. Chairman Walsh noted that the Board would need to give a clear charge if they were going to assign a task force.

Selectman Baschnagel noted that the County tax is going up by 22% which he feels is outrageous and it is not well documented by the County Commissioner. Ms. Griffin noted that the County has a public hearing in late June to adopt the budget which takes effect the next week. The vote includes the County delegation. The key is to communicate with the County delegation soon and the turnout is usually pretty low for the vote. Ms. Griffin noted that the State representatives from Grafton County are not very involved in the County budget process. Selectman Baschnagel doesn't necessarily understand where all the information comes from and felt that it was a poor presentation and poor budget layout and he would find it hard to recommend that increase to anybody.

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Ms. Griffin noted that they also got hammered by the State for the Human Services budget, NH Retirement Budget, and a new jail. Chairman Walsh felt that there should be a letter and he would like the reps from Grafton County to communicate whether they are voting for or against the budget and why the costs of Corrections and the Retirement System and the State mandated payments in Health and Human Services and why those should be paid for through the County rather than the State level. Ms. Griffin noted that she would draft a letter tomorrow and make sure it's on their radar screen. The reason that they send it out now, is that the Executive Committee can react to what they are hearing from people. Chairman Walsh noted that the increase in Corrections is one of the 5 price increase drivers in the State.

10. ADJOURNMENT.

Selectman Baschnagel MOVED to adjourn. Vice Chairman Connolly SECONDED the motion.

THE BOARD VOTED UNANIMOUSLY TO ADJOURN AT 9:30 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Athos Rassias, Secretary

Minutes prepared by Elizabeth S. Rathburn.

SUMMARY

1. **Vice Chairman Connolly MOVED to nominate Brian Walsh as Chairman. Selectman Baschnagel SECONDED the motion.**

THE BOARD VOTED UNANIMOUSLY IN FAVOR OF THE NOMINATION OF BRIAN WALSH AS CHAIRMAN.

2. **Chairman Walsh MOVED to nominate Katherine Connolly as Vice Chairman. Selectman Baschnagel SECONDED the motion.**

THE BOARD VOTED UNANIMOUSLY IN FAVOR OF THE NOMINATION OF KATHERINE CONNOLLY AS VICE CHAIRMAN.

3. **Chairman Walsh MOVED to nominate Athos Rassias as Secretary. Vice Chairman Connolly SECONDED the motion.**

THE BOARD VOTED UNANIMOUSLY IN FAVOR OF THE NOMINATION OF ATHOS RASSIAS AS SECRETARY.

4. **Selectman Baschnagel MOVED to appoint Lee Monaco to the Senior Citizen Advisory Committee. Chairman Walsh SECONDED the motion.**

THE BOARD VOTED UNANIMOUSLY TO APPOINT LEE MONACO TO THE SENIOR CITIZEN ADVISORY COMMITTEE.

5. **Chairman Walsh MOVED to approve the banner request of Hood Museum, provided that staff can work out any conflict. Vice Chairman Connolly SECONDED the motion.**

THE BOARD VOTED UNANIMOUSLY TO APPROVE THE BANNER REQUEST OF HOOD MUSEUM PROVIDED THAT THE STAFF CAN WORK OUT ANY CONFLICT.

6. **Selectman Baschnagel MOVED to adjourn. Vice Chairman Connolly SECONDED the motion.**

THE BOARD VOTED UNANIMOUSLY TO ADJOURN AT 9:30 p.m.

FINAL

**2007 TOWN MEETING
TOWN OF HANOVER
Tuesday, May 8, 2007
Richmond Middle School Gymnasium**

The annual Town Meeting of the Town of Hanover, New Hampshire convened on May 8, 2007 at 7 a.m. by the Town Moderator, Marilyn “Willy” Black, at the Richmond Middle School Gymnasium. Moderator Black explained that the polls would be open from 7:00 a.m. until 7:00 p.m. for the purpose of voting for candidates for Town Offices and for all other articles requiring vote by official ballot as set forth in Articles One through Nine of the Town Meeting Warrant.

ARTICLE ONE: To vote (by nonpartisan ballot) for the following Town Officers:

One Selectman, to serve for a term of three (3) years;

Athos Rassias	308 (Elected)
Write-in	Several 1 Vote Write-ins

One Town Clerk to serve for a term of three (3) years;

Charles Garipay	315 (Elected)
Write-in	1

One Treasurer to serve for a term of one (1) year;

Michael Ahern	316 (Elected)
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One Library Trustee to serve for a term of three (3) years;

Chris Bentivoglio	309 (Elected)
Write-in	1

One Trustee of Trust Funds to serve for a term of three (3) years;

Brian Doyle	311 (Elected)
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ARTICLE TWO (to vote by ballot): To see if the Town will vote to amend the existing Hanover Zoning Ordinance as proposed by the Hanover Planning Board in Amendment No. 1:

The following is on the official ballot:

“Are you in favor of the adoption of Amendment No. 1 as proposed by the Planning Board for the Hanover Zoning Ordinance as follows?”

Amendment No. 1 would allow one accessory dwelling unit to be provided in an already existing accessory building in the Rural Residence (RR) zoning district, subject to a set of specified conditions.

At a Public Hearing held March 20, 2007, the Hanover Planning Board voted unanimously to recommend that Town Meeting adopt this zoning amendment.

RESULTS: YES 291 NO 48 ARTICLE PASSED

ARTICLE THREE (to vote by ballot): To see if the Town will vote to amend the existing Hanover Zoning Ordinance as proposed by the Hanover Planning Board in Amendment No. 2:

The following is on the official ballot:

“Are you in favor of the adoption of Amendment No. 2 as proposed by the Planning Board for the Hanover Zoning Ordinance as follows?”

Amendment No. 2 would reduce the allowed number of driveways in a Planned Residential Development from one driveway per dwelling unit to not more than two driveways per multi-family building.

At a Public Hearing held March 20, 2007, the Hanover Planning Board voted unanimously to recommend that Town Meeting adopt this zoning amendment.

RESULTS: YES 309 NO 31 ARTICLE PASSED

ARTICLE FOUR (to vote by ballot): To see if the Town will vote to amend the existing Hanover Zoning Ordinance as proposed by the Hanover Planning Board in Amendment No. 3:

The following is on the official ballot:

“Are you in favor of the adoption of Amendment No. 3 as proposed by the Planning Board for the Hanover Zoning Ordinance as follows?”

Amendment No. 3 would eliminate a restriction on the allowable sizes of accessory buildings in the Rural Residence zoning district and would simplify the formula for calculating allowed accessory building sizes in other districts.

At a Public Hearing held March 20, 2007, the Hanover Planning Board voted unanimously to recommend that Town Meeting adopt this zoning amendment.

RESULTS: YES 284 NO 56 ARTICLE PASSED

ARTICLE FIVE (to vote by ballot): To see if the Town will vote to amend the existing Hanover Zoning Ordinance as proposed by the Hanover Planning Board in Amendment No. 4:

The following is on the official ballot:

“Are you in favor of the adoption of Amendment No. 4 as proposed by the Planning Board for the Hanover Zoning Ordinance as follows?”

Amendment No. 4 would replace the text of Section 1006 in order to accurately reflect the parameters set forth by the State Supreme Court in several recent cases and by legislative changes to State Law.

At a Public Hearing held March 20, 2007, the Hanover Planning Board voted unanimously to recommend that Town Meeting adopt this zoning amendment.

RESULTS: YES 312 NO 15 ARTICLE PASSED

ARTICLE SIX (to vote by ballot): To see if the Town will vote to amend the existing Hanover Zoning Ordinance as proposed by the Hanover Planning Board in Amendment No. 5:

The following is on the official ballot:

“Are you in favor of the adoption of Amendment No. 5 as proposed by the Planning Board for the Hanover Zoning Ordinance as follows?”

Amendment No. 5 would allow outdoor recreational structures in the Forestry (F) zoning district to be forty feet high, exceeding the current thirty-foot height limit.

At a Public Hearing held March 20, 2007, the Hanover Planning Board voted unanimously to recommend that Town Meeting adopt this zoning amendment.

RESULTS YES 254 NO 77 ARTICLE PASSED

ARTICLE SEVEN (to vote by ballot): To see if the Town will vote to amend the existing Hanover Zoning Ordinance as proposed by the Hanover Planning Board in Amendment No. 6:

The following is on the official ballot:

“Are you in favor of the adoption of Amendment No. 6 as proposed by the Planning Board for the Hanover Zoning Ordinance as follows?”

Amendment No. 6 would remove from the Zoning Ordinance a now obsolete Building Code reference relative to a fire-resistant construction standard.

At a Public Hearing held March 20, 2007, the Hanover Planning Board voted unanimously to recommend that Town Meeting adopt this zoning amendment.

RESULTS YES 329 NO 4 ARTICLE PASSED

ARTICLE EIGHT (to vote by ballot): To see if the Town will vote to amend the existing Hanover Zoning Ordinance as proposed by the Hanover Planning Board in Amendment No. 7:

The following is on the official ballot:

“Are you in favor of the adoption of Amendment No. 7 as proposed by the Planning Board for the Hanover Zoning Ordinance as follows?”

Amendment No. 7 would amend definitions and several sections of the Zoning Ordinance in order to bring Town zoning regulations up-to-date with respect to recent floodplain-related changes promulgated by the Federal Emergency Management Agency.

At a Public Hearing held March 20, 2007, the Hanover Planning Board voted unanimously to recommend that Town Meeting adopt this zoning amendment.

RESULTS: YES 319 NO 14 ARTICLE PASSED

ARTICLE NINE: (to vote by ballot): To see if the Town will vote to amend the existing Hanover Zoning Ordinance as proposed by the Hanover Planning Board in Amendment No. 8:

The following is on the official ballot:

“Are you in favor of the adoption of Amendment No. 8 as proposed by the Planning Board for the Hanover Zoning Ordinance as follows?”

Amendment No. 8 would clarify and simplify language pertaining to what is permitted in water bodies, wetlands, and their respective setbacks, and it would allow additional improvements in the twenty-five-foot setback from wetlands and water bodies.

At a Public Hearing held April 3, 2007, the Hanover Planning Board voted unanimously to recommend that Town Meeting adopt this zoning amendment.

RESULTS: YES 300 NO 31 ARTICLE PASSED

BUSINESS MEETING

Moderator Black started the meeting and introduced a recorder group from the Ray School who played *My Country Tis of Thee* and Third Graders from the Ray School who recited the Gettysburg Address.

Moderator Black introduced Chairman Walsh who introduced the members of the Board of Selectmen. Moderator Black introduced the Department Heads and Town Staff.

ARTICLE TEN: To choose the following Town Officers to be elected by a majority vote:

Vice Chairman Connolly MOVED to nominate the following persons for the following offices:

One member of the Advisory Board of Assessors for a term of three (3) years; Paul Young; Three Fence Viewers and one alternate, each for a term of one (1) year; Edward Lathem, William Garrity, Lucie Minsk, and Robert Morris (Alternate); Two Surveyors of Wood and Timber, each for a term of one (1) year; John Richardson and Ed Chamberlain and such other officers as the Town may judge necessary for managing its affairs. SECONDED by Selectman Baschnagel.

There was no discussion on Article 10. **The motion PASSED unanimously and the nominees were ELECTED.**

Sue Young, Former Chair of the Hanover Parks and Recreation Board presented the Hanover Parks and Recreation Volunteer of the Year Award to Aileen Chaltain. Prior to starting her presentation, Sue Young wanted to dispel a rumor that she started. In order for the presentation to be a surprise, she told Aileen that Hank Tenney was going to announce his retirement at Town Meeting. Ms. Young gave the following presentation:

“When asked to describe you, Aileen, your numerous friends use phrases such as “great sense of humor”, “calm in a crisis”, “dedicated”, “hard-working”, “loyal”, “organized” and “modest”. All of these wonderful attributes are absolutely true which is probably why you’ve been recruited over the years as a vital and important leader of so many different volunteer organizations in Hanover. The list is as long as it is varied; President of the Friends of Hanover High School Football, volunteer Hanover High Assistant Softball Coach, Board Member and Chair of the Hanover After School Program, St. Denis Catholic Church Lector, catechism teacher and youth choir wrangler.

While performing all these wonderful roles, you also served on the Hanover Parks & Recreation Board of Directors for six years, the last two as Chair. During your tenure on the Board, Aileen, you contributed countless hours to meetings and events. You were instrumental and tireless in coordinating the scores of volunteers required to run the annual youth basketball tournament which hosts over 160 teams during February vacation, a thankless task that you did very effectively, enthusiastically and graciously for five years. You and your family could always be counted on to help out at the recreation department events, in particular the Fourth of July Celebration and the Occom Pond Party. When it came time to focus on the world beyond the Hanover plain, you didn’t hesitate to assist in the creation and implementation of the town’s response to the Afghan Children’s Fund, the Tsunami tragedy, the devastation of Katrina and the destruction in our neighboring town, Alstead, NH. Your ability to stay focused and on task while being diplomatic and humorous, made the Board meetings run smoothly and quickly. You are also a great recruiter of volunteers which benefits all of the organizations with which you are associated. This skill also allows you personally to find time to move on to the next opportunity. As your friend and fellow Rec and HASP Board member, Janet, affectionately said “she suckers me onto every board then leaves!”

Hank Tenney was also disappointed that you decided to step off the Board in 2006 but appreciates everything that you have done. He wrote: “In my 32 years as Director of Parks and Recreation, no one has given so much to so many as Aileen has. She was a driving force behind the policies that the Department now runs by. She will be greatly missed on the Board, but I will always remember her willingness to be involved. She was an overwhelming choice of the selection committee for this honor. I am glad have known Aileen and the rest of the Chaltain family and to be able to call her my friend.”

When asked about the mission of the recreation department or a program at the high school, you are often heard to say “it’s all about the kids” and I know you mean all kids and not just your son and daughter, Grady and Tori. However, Grady and Tori are central to your existence and you are there for them and their friends 200% of the time whether it’s hosting the Hanover High girls basketball team for dinner before every home game or driving Grady and his teammates all over New England for some sort of tournament. It came as no surprise

to anyone who knows you, Aileen, that you were by your husband Vic's side, broom in hand, preparing the High School football field for Grady's game that fateful day last October. Where else would you have been but doing something with Vic for one of your kids?

Unbelievably, you manage to do all this while working full-time as the Hopkins Center Box Office Manager. Your daily calendar is a colorful display of meetings, sporting events and other various commitments that would make any one else tire from just looking at it. How you maintain your sanity and ever-present smile, is beyond me.

Aileen, this award is long over-due and I can hear Vic's booming voice now saying "It's about time!" On behalf of everyone in Hanover and the Upper Valley, Aileen, thank you for being who you are and sharing so much of it with us. It is with great pleasure that I present to you the Hanover Parks and Recreation Department's Volunteer of the Year Award!"

Aileen Chaltain spoke to the audience and stated that she lost her partner in crime last fall and as all good partners do, they worked very well together so she is sharing this award with Vic and he is smiling down on everyone. Chairman Walsh congratulated Aileen on her award.

Chairman Walsh announced that they received a resignation today that he wanted to recognize. He asked that Lee Udy, Supervisor of the Checklist step forward. Chairman Walsh gave the following presentation:

"Each year at Town meeting we hold an election for Town officers; it takes many folks to run an election and first and foremost are the Supervisors of the Checklist. They are absolutely essential figures in the election process. With the transient student population of Dartmouth and the swelling of the checklist with each National and Presidential Election, the Supervisors have a Herculean task to keep the voter registry up to date.

Before every election, the Supervisors must update the Checklist by careful and thoughtful advising and registering of new voters. Often hundreds of them in two or three very short weeks and after each primary they must re-check the party affiliation of all voters and change the undeclared voters to a specific party. Then the voter may ask to be undeclared again requiring another correction in the Checklist. Every four years, Dartmouth students graduate and move on requiring more updates and when local residents move in and out of Town they must be officially added or removed from the Checklist as well. No wonder you're resigning. All of this must be executed efficiently, all the while as the Supervisors stay abreast of the latest changes in State law relative to voter registration, a field of law that has seen a fair amount of amendment over the past two Presidential Election cycles.

It was on Tuesday, May 11, 1998 that one of our current Supervisors of the Checklist, Lee Udy, was elected to the position. She has served in this position for 9 years. She has watched the Checklist almost double in the number of registered voters and has seen voter interest in registration reach new heights. She has actively supervised the Checklist for three Presidential Elections, two Presidential first in the Nation primaries, four State and Congressional primaries, four State and Congressional elections, nine Town Meetings, multiple School District meetings, and several special Town Meetings and School District

Meetings. That's amazing. Record turnouts characterize many of these events fully taxing our Supervisors of the Checklist and putting them on the State maps in terms of the challenges they have juggled on Election Day.

One day I remember, it was a Presidential Election with same day registration by Dartmouth Students and we had Andrew Volinsky who is probably the strongest lawyer on the Left in the State and Chuck Douglas who is probably the strongest and most contentious lawyer on the Right in the State come up and overlook Lee's shoulder one on each shoulder to make sure that no voter snuck in who shouldn't be there and lo and behold, we didn't have one problem and they went home bored. It was wonderful. The Supervisor I am speaking of is none other than Lee Udy.

We shall miss her attention to detail, thorough knowledge of the election procedures, ability to incorporate recent State Law changes into the voter registration and Checklist maintenance process quickly and seamlessly and her gracious treatment of all voters through it all maintaining her cool calm exterior and even more important, her wonderful sense of humor. Please join me in thanking Lee Udy for her 9 years of dedicated service to the Town."

Chairman Walsh also noted that there were a number of people recognized in the Selectmen's letter and he wanted to mention specifically the efforts of Tom Byrne, Nancy Collier and Bob Strauss who continue in their own ways to volunteer their time to the Town. For those that the Town lost this year, Katie Black, Wayne Broehl, Vic Chaltain and Bob Kirk. Chairman Walsh wanted to give a special thanks to Jim Rubens who led the effort to revitalize downtown taking it from no effort at all through convincing the business merchants and then the Select Board that a special levy on downtown properties was needed in order to strengthen the downtown. In Jim's own entrepreneurial way, starting all sorts of exciting things such as rekindling Streetfest and lighting up the web page and the Town owes a tremendous amount of thanks to Jim for the effort that he has put in. He has recently stepped down from that and it is being taken over by a group of people and it's going to be about 5 people to handle the things that Jim did. Chairman Walsh asked for a round of applause for Jim Rubens.

Moderator Black went over the ground rules for the meeting and announced the Consent Agenda, Articles Twelve through Eighteen.

ARTICLE TWELVE: To see if the Town will vote to raise and appropriate \$35,500 for deposit into the Land and Capital Improvements Fund, and to authorize funding of this amount by transfer from the Land Use Change Tax Reserve, with no funds being raised by taxation. The amount appropriated is the equivalent of 50% of the total collected in the Land Use Change Tax Reserve in the fiscal year 2005-2006. Funding deposited into the Land and Capital Improvements Fund derives from 50% of the land use change tax proceeds, paid by property owners when they take land out of current use.

There was no discussion on Article Twelve.

ARTICLE THIRTEEN: To see if the Town will vote to raise and appropriate \$35,500 for deposit into the Conservation Fund created as authorized by RSA 36-A:5.1, and to authorize funding of this amount by transfer from the Land Use Change Tax Reserve, with no funds

being raised by taxation. The amount appropriated is the equivalent of 50% of the total collected in the Land Use Change Tax Reserve in the fiscal year 2005-2006. Funding deposited into the Conservation Fund derives from 50% of the land use change tax proceeds, paid by property owners when they take land out of current use.

There was no discussion on Article Thirteen.

ARTICLE FOURTEEN: To see if the Town will vote to raise and appropriate \$34,220 for deposit into the Municipal Transportation Improvement Fund, and to authorize funding of this amount by transfer from the Transportation Improvement Fee Reserve, with no funds being raised by taxation. This amount is equivalent to the total Transportation Fee surcharge for each motor vehicle registered in the Town of Hanover (\$5.00 per vehicle) during fiscal year 2005-2006.

There was no discussion on Article Fourteen.

ARTICLE FIFTEEN: To see if the Town will vote to raise and appropriate \$587,160 and authorize payment into existing capital reserve funds in the following amounts for the purposes for which such funds were established:

Ambulance Equipment Capital Reserve Fund	\$30,500
Bridge Replacement and Renovation Capital Reserve Fund	\$30,000
Dispatch Equipment and Dispatch Center Enhancements and Capital Reserve Fund	\$5,000
Fire Department Vehicle and Equipment Capital Reserve Fund	\$71,000
Highway Construction and Maintenance Equipment Capital Reserve Fund	\$205,000
Parking Operations Vehicles and Parking Facility Improvements Capital Reserve Fund	\$35,660
Police Vehicles and Equipment Capital Reserve Fund	\$50,000
Sewer Equipment and Facilities Improvements Capital Reserve Fund	\$160,000

There was no discussion on Article Fifteen.

ARTICLE SIXTEEN: To see if the Town will vote to raise and appropriate \$1,381,919 for the purposes listed below, and to authorize funding these amounts by withdrawal from the listed capital reserve funds in the following amounts:

Ambulance Equipment Capital Reserve Fund <i>Defibrillator Replacement</i>	\$34,000
Fire Department Vehicle and Equipment Capital Reserve Fund <i>Firefighter Turn-out Gear</i>	\$10,056
Highway Construction and Maintenance Equipment Capital Reserve Fund <i>Excavator, Truck #18, F-2400 Kubota, Truck #26, Truck #01</i>	\$260,883
Road Construction and Improvements Capital Reserve Fund <i>Traffic Signal Upgrade at South Main and Lebanon Streets</i>	\$20,000
Sewer Equipment and Facilities Improvements Capital Reserve Fund <i>Plant Improvements (such as Third Clarifier); Truck #16222</i>	\$1,056,980

This will be a non-lapsing appropriation per RSA 32:7, VI and will not lapse until these specified purchases are complete or June 30, 2013, whichever is sooner.

Kim Perez, Etna, asked what the \$1 million is for. Chairman Walsh explained that 25 – 30% is for maintenance and a major piece of it is a Third Secondary Clarifier for the Water Reclamation Facility. Ms. Griffin explained the issue surrounding the Third Secondary Clarifier and that the bulk of the money is for that equipment. Chairman Walsh noted that the Water Reclamation Fund is not supported by the taxpayers but by those who use the facility.

Ellis Rollett asked about the defibrillator and how this purchase is selected and purchased. Chief Bradley noted that the process this time is that they are looking at one particular manufacturer because the other competitor is in a situation with the FDA where they can not ship within the United States. Mr. Rollett felt that \$34,000 would be for equipment that is ‘top of the line’ and he has compared other cities and Orlando pays as much as \$25,000 for their equipment but they receive a rebate for trading in their old equipment and he is wondering if they are negotiating the best price. Chief Bradley clarified that the Fire Department is purchasing a total of three defibrillators for \$34,000.

ARTICLE SEVENTEEN: To see if the Town will vote to raise and appropriate \$70,000 for the traffic signal replacement at the intersection of South Main and Lebanon Streets, and to fund this appropriation by authorizing the withdrawal of this sum from the Municipal

Transportation Improvement Fund. This will be a non-lapsing appropriation per RSA 32:7, VI and will not lapse until these improvements are complete or June 30, 2013, whichever is sooner.

Ellis Rollett asked about \$70,000 and then the other \$20,000 in Article 16 which seem to be for the same item. Ms. Griffin noted that it's a \$90,000 project and they have some money available in the Reserve Fund and they had to supplement some of the money from another account.

Mr. Rollett noted that he was involved early on when the Municipal Transportation Fund was set up and the intent was to reduce the use of automobiles and encourage other forms of transportation. The traffic light part came in where there were possibilities of putting loop detectors into the traffic light systems so that bicycles would be able to trigger traffic lights but there wasn't really an intent to replace traffic lights for automobile traffic and the intent was more to support public transportation. He asked if the support for Advance Transit came from this fund.

Chairman Walsh agreed that there was a strong desire to encourage improvements with either bus shelters or bike paths but the Select Board has worked very hard to keep tax rate increases to small numbers. The \$70,000 or \$90,000 amounts to roughly 1.5% on the general fund tax increase and the Board didn't want to come to Town Meeting with a 7.5% tax rate increase. He agreed with Mr. Rollett on the intent was more to do things other than general maintenance. Ms. Griffin noted that on page 46 in the Town Report, the Town has budgeted for Advance Transit support in the General Fund but in trying to manage the tax rate the support was shifted to the Parking Fund and that is a combination of funding for the shuttle system in addition to the fixed route system. The Advance Transit fee went up about 12% in large part due to the Federal Government's requirement to provide accessible transportation services in addition to the fixed route system. Chairman Walsh noted that the revenue that support the Parking Fund are the quarters put into the parking meters or the fines for not putting the quarters into the parking meters.

Hilary Pridgeon, Etna, asked what the Municipal Transportation Improvement Fund monies actually do. Chairman Walsh noted that it supports bicycle lanes and the bicycle path up to the hospital. Ms. Griffin noted that some of the funds were used for the roundabout at Reservoir Road and Lyme Road and the bicycle path component. Each year this money will be used for some transportation related improvement. Almost every year this fund has helped fund one of the transportation projects. State law is very specific about what this money can be spent on.

Kari Asmus, Etna, noted that when this issue came to the Finance Committee, there were some discussions about increasing the pedestrian lights at the intersections. Ms. Griffin noted that the base of the poles at the intersection of Lebanon and Main Street are in terrible shape. The mastons are reinforced to keep them from falling but as part of the project the ped heads and the LED's will be replaced.

ARTICLE EIGHTEEN: To see if the Town will vote to raise and appropriate \$20,000 for contract labor and other necessary expenditures related to the Town-wide reassessment of

property values, and to fund this appropriation by authorizing the withdrawal of this sum from the Town Revaluation Capital Reserve Fund. This will be a non-lapsing appropriation per RSA 32:7, VI and will not lapse until completion of the Reassessment or June 30, 2009, whichever is sooner.

Chairman Walsh noted that the Town has to reassess every 5 years according to State Law and the Town puts the money into a fund to do that and this article would take \$20,000 out of that fund.

There were no discussions on Article Eighteen.

Chairman Walsh MOVED Articles Twelve through Eighteen as written in the Town Warrant. Vice Chairman Connolly SECONDED the motion. The motion PASSED unanimously and Articles Twelve through Eighteen were ADOPTED as written.

ARTICLE NINETEEN: To see if the Town will vote to raise and appropriate \$18,773,242 to pay the operating expenses of the Town for the 2007-2008 fiscal year, for the purposes set forth in the Town budget. This sum does not include the funds voted in any of the preceding or succeeding articles.

Selectman Christie MOVED to see if the Town will vote to raise and appropriate \$18,773,242 to pay the operating expenses of the Town for the 2007-2008 fiscal year, for the purposes set forth in the Town budget. This sum does not include the funds voted in any of the preceding or succeeding articles. Chairman Walsh SECONDED the motion.

Selectman Christie presented the rest of the budget to the Town with the following introduction:

“Before I get started, I would like to recommend the Town Report as a must read to everyone. The report is very comprehensive, informative, and provides pretty much any level of detail that you need to understand the drivers behind the proposed budget. Many thanks to all who work diligently to pull it together each year - it is a very valuable resource.

Since you all have read the Report or will undoubtedly will be reading it soon, I will not be going into the detail found in the Report, but rather will be hitting some of the high points and perhaps looking down the road a bit.

As is our custom, as we move into the budget season, the Select Board gives Julia and staff a tax rate target increase. The tax rate targets have, for many years now, been at or near the inflation rate, except for last year when we needed to make allowance for repairs of the June 2005 flood damage.

In preparation for setting this year’s targeted, the Select Board reviewed a top level five year forecast that Betsy prepared. The news was not good.

Just taking into account relatively predictable expense increases, the model forecasted tax rate increases well in excess of inflation.

The primary long term drivers were highlighted in the Select Board's letter in the town report – namely employee benefit costs, oil and electricity costs, and rapidly changing technology.

The Employee benefit cost which impacted us the most this year was the state mandated employer retirement system contributions. For those who frequent our Select Board meetings either in person or via TV, rarely will a meeting go by without some reference to a State or Federal unfunded mandate. While we tend to joke about it, it is only because one does have to decide whether to laugh or cry.

In this year's budget alone, the State Retirement Fund mandated increase added 2% to the tax rate. Let me say that again, in this year's budget alone, the State Retirement Fund **mandated** increase added 2% to the tax rate. That is one third of the 6% general fund increase in this budget. These mandated retirement fund increases tend to happen every other year.

Another employee benefit cost, namely health care, has historically increased more rapidly than general inflation. We did, however, just last week, learn that thanks to good experience by Town employees and expert negotiating by Myra Johnson, our HR Director, there will actually be a decrease in health insurance costs of \$30,000 as compared to the \$60,000 increase built into the proposed general fund budget.

The Select Board plans (been discussing) to use the resulting \$90,000 savings to additionally replenish the undesignated reserve fund which was depleted to pay for the 2005 storm damage, thus leaving a smaller amount to be funded in next years budget.

Oil and electricity price increases continue to mount at a rate higher than the CPI and are increasingly larger components of Town costs.

We look at large increases in the electric bill at the newly renovated Howe Library and ask how much higher can we set the thermostats in the summer to cut down on air conditioning cost?

We look at the cost of oil going up and ask how much lower can we set the thermostats in the winter at all Town facilities?

Asphalt for road paving projects, and electricity to run the Water Reclamation Treatment Plant, are two more examples of where these cost drivers weigh disproportionately on the Town budget.

Rapidly changing technology drives shorter life cycles of equipment and software leading to more frequent need to upgrade.

These macro pressures will make it very difficult to limit tax rate increases to the rate of inflation over the next five years without impacting services.

And again this year, and a bit more next year, these macro pressures are exacerbated by the need to complete the funding for the 2005 storm damage.

At each turn everyone does their best to balance expense against services, short term financial pressures against doing a project "right." We are often faced with a "pay me now or pay me later" decision as was the case in spreading the storm damage costs out over three years. The Reservoir Road decision is an example of spending more in the short run in order to benefit from paying less in total over many budget cycles.

Well, if I haven't discouraged you enough yet, let me turn my attention to another major need – the Water Reclamation Facility.

The Water Reclamation Facility is funded from connection fees and annual charges based on water consumption of each house or business connected to the line. Thus, while it is not funded by property taxes, those who are on the sewer will be significantly impacted by upgrades and required maintenance of the facility.

When you look at the Town's long term Capital Improvement Plan, you can not help but be struck by the magnitude of the wastewater treatment costs. Other major capital expenses bounce around but rarely exceed \$1-2 million. Then your eyes drop to the water reclamation timeline, and you see numbers like \$15 to \$20 million.

As you start to learn more about the plant, you are confronted by several realities:

1. Our plant had its last major upgrade 17 years ago and most of the equipment installed at that time had a 15 to 20 year life.
2. While historically the Federal and the State Governments paid for approximately 95% of the cost, that number today is only 20%.
3. While some would like to use the lack of waste water capacity to limit growth, legally the Town cannot withhold investment in the plant to stymie growth since Federal and State funds supported the construction of the plant and its upgrades in the 70's and 80's. And, given the unutilized hydraulic capacity of the plant, we must invest what is required to accommodate the solids-handling capacity to the extent that it ultimately matches available hydraulic capacity, and last but not least;
4. It makes economic and practical sense to jointly plan our collective capacity with Lebanon, with whom we share a large watershed that flows down hill to the Hanover plant

We invested approximately \$4.7 million in the Water Reclamation Facility in 2003 to replace the first round of aging equipment some of which dated back to the original construction in the 60's, to replace a dysfunctional ultraviolet disinfection system; and to upgrade the plant's solids handling capacity. In the next 5-7 years we are looking at the need to invest an additional \$10- \$12 million, of which \$2.2 million is proposed to be invested this coming year.

We are already in early stage discussions with Lebanon relative to finding an optimal solution for both towns. For the short and intermediate term, it is very advantageous to the Hanover

Sewer District, to accept flow from the hospital and Route 120 and Route 10 corridors. By doing so, we spread the fixed costs of the plant over a larger number of users which lowers the current rates. As the plant reaches capacity, however, it may make collective sense to redirect some or all of that flow to a Lebanon plant. A lot of study and discussion will be required to figure out the right solution, and we will proceed carefully, cooperatively, and with timely public input.

On the positive side, we should also not lose track that our sewer rates, even after the projected investments, will be around the average of rates experienced throughout New Hampshire.

Now that I've delivered more bad financial news than anyone would want to hear, let's step back and remember that all is not doom and gloom, but quite the opposite. We live in an exceptional town. We have had the courage and capacity to afford a wonderful Howe Library and Black Community Center. We benefit from a new Water Filtration Plant. We benefit from well staffed and equipped public works, police, fire, and ambulance services. We benefit from a clean Connecticut River. We will soon benefit from a more diverse community as Gile Tract is completed. We have a proud, professional and committed town staff and literally hundreds of volunteers who work on behalf of the town day in and day out. We benefit financially from the value of our homes going up significantly year after year.

My bet is that most in this room would not swap Hanover for anywhere else.

When I first started working on this presentation, it was in the middle of our second late season snow lashing of April. I took solace that the Red Sox were back in action, and those three infamous umpires were once again standing around home plate waiting on that first pitch. The rookie first base ump, being a bit nervous on his first major league outing, bragged that he would "call them as he saw them", the more experienced third base ump, not wanting to be one upped, exclaimed that he "called them as they were". At that point, the home plate umpire, with total disdain, explained that "they ain't nothing - till I call them."

So, while we move from year to year, trying to pay attention to today's details but also looking five, ten and even twenty years down the road, we (and I mean a very collective we - the Select Board, Town staff and the many town volunteers) we do our best:

- To call them as we see them,
- To see them as they are,
- And, hopefully, to impact how they will be.

Thank you and let's play ball !!!"

Moderator Black asked for discussion.

Athos Rassias, Carriage Lane, Chair of the Hanover Finance Committee, referred to page 53 in the Town Report and relayed the Hanover Finance Committee's opinion of the budget and explained that they are a committee of 5 residents and it is their job to evaluate the budget and report on it at Town Meeting. They voted unanimously to support this budget. He wanted to underline the impact of extraordinary factors and the upcoming challenges.

Kari Asmus, wanted to address what she felt was a gross omission in terms of the information that the legislative body was provided with regard to this Warrant Article and the tax rate impacts that this budget will have when combined with the changes to the Fire Districts. It's all well and fine to provide the information on the Fire Districts tonight but at the Select Board meeting of February 5th, our Town staff and elected officials represented that information would be going out to each property owner, prior to Town meeting on colored paper. Instead, there's one paragraph on page 14 and tax rates on page 18 that lump all the tax rates together, but we're not voting on the school budget or the county budget tonight, we are voting on the Town budget. She felt that if there had been a more straightforward depiction more people might have been interested in attending Town Meeting. There are owners of approximately 750 properties that will see a Town tax increase of 8.5% and owners of an additional 330 properties that will see an increase of 16.5% and that's on top of the 15% increase that we all saw last year. If these property owners were aware of these increases, they might have wondered if there was something that they could do to this budget and whether they need to spend the \$48,000 on 'practical and aesthetic improvements' on Allen and Main Street. They might ask if they need to spend the money on Hovey and Buell and discuss the decision to upgrade Reservoir Road and she felt it made sense to make the culverts bigger and discussions about Grasse Road. Her concern was the omission of that basic tax rate information and because the Town Charter states that 'changes to Fire District may be made by the Selectmen upon 30 days written notice, sent by first class mail to the last known address of the owners of each property affected'. Maybe the Town Attorney says it wasn't necessary and legally it might not be but maybe there's a deeper concept than what's legally required and she feels that asking people to vote on the budget and then explain it this summer when the tax bills go out, isn't the way to do it. She would like to ask the Select Board to reconsider the implementation date to allow for a more timely informed citizenry. She is considering voting no on this budget.

Selectman Baschnagel stated that they did go through a process to restructure the Fire Fund's allocation between the residents in the Town. It is a process that provides varying rates for people in town depending on how close they are to the hydrants in Town. If you are in the Hydrant District, you bear the cost of the hydrants. The proposal that has been put forth and adopted by the Select Board calls for basically 3 districts, 1) the Hydrant District 2) the Rural District comprised of the area to the west of Moose Mountain which will share the cost of running the fire department and 3) the Remote Rural District, a third district on the other side of the mountain where it was recommended that the rates be half that of the Rural District. What we're voting on tonight is the aggregate cost of the Fire Department. The tax rate has not been established and won't be established until this coming Fall. Between now and the Fall, the Select Board has discussed the process that they will go through which follows the Town Charter and will go on over the next several months. The examples given were all examples from the General Fund and the General Fund doesn't play into this issue. The Fire Fund is the total cost of running the Fire Department and how it gets split up will be translated by the tax rates established.

John Hochreiter, Etna, noted that he was part of the Fire Study Committee and he has been a call firefighter in Etna for about 25 years so he had some interest and experience as to the costs of the Fire Department. He noted that through the course of the process of the Fire

Study Committee, he came around to an entirely different point of view. When he entered the Fire Study Committee, he thought that those in Etna should pay a different fire tax than those who live in the downtown area. As they talked and negotiated, he came to mind that what they are paying for is the capacity of the Fire Department. He changed his mind through the course of that and voted for arranging the Fire Districts as Selectmen Baschnagel has outlined.

Selectman Baschnagel asked Ms. Griffin to give a summary of the events that have taken place up to this point with this topic.

Ms. Griffin noted that Town Staff brought this idea forward over two years ago because the current fire district tax delineation was not equitable. Notices were sent to all residents in mid October and there was some pretty good turnout at the public meetings during the course of the Fall. It's the Town Attorney's opinion that the October 19th mailing served as notice as required by the Town Charter.

As a result of the input that the Board received, the Charter doesn't require that the Board modify their recommendation unless somebody files an appeal. We didn't hold to the formality of that process, the Board decided that because they heard feedback from concerned residents, they decided to appoint the Fire District Task Force who met 5 times in December and January and that Task Force came up with recommendations that came before the Select Board at the end of January in a public meeting. The Board decided to go with the three district scenario. The staff then spent the rest of February and March taking a look at how they would map the three districts and they spent the last March meeting with the Board in a public meeting sharing the proposed delineation of the districts.

The decision at that point was to create a process under which notice will be sent to each resident mid-summer with their new district delineation and background information. There will be an appeal period if a resident feels that the basis for the decision is faulty when compared to the criteria that the Board's adopted in creating the districts. Once the Selectmen revise the map if they need to in response to appeals, the Town will produce a final map and the Department of Revenue Administration (DRA) sets the tax rate in late October.

So the Town Attorney's opinion, based on the Town Charter, is that the October 19th mailing served as the initial notice that they needed to implement as part of the Selectmen's ability to revise the districts and in fact, the additional notice was sent out this summer, was supplemental to what's required by the Charter. Ms. Griffin understands Ms. Asmus' frustration in not having more information included in the Town report this year and part of it was that it was a workload issue and she had suggested to the Board that they take additional time to work on the map and wait until sewer bills and June tax bills were sent out. There will be plenty of opportunity this summer and fall to come to Town staff with questions about the districts.

Moderator Black noted that when she was on the Select Board this issue came forward.

Robin Carpenter was one of the members of the study committee and he concurs with Ms. Asmus' position. He noted that he and Ms. Asmus were in the minority at the meetings held about the Fire Districts. He wanted to underscore that the Town Report really failed this

matter. He noted that there are very substantive changes to some of the residents' tax rates and the citizenry deserved a full explanation of what was going on in a mailing that was going to go out to everyone. He felt that the fact that his opinion in the Committee that recommended to the Select Board is in minority, does not relieve the Select Board from full literal compliance in the Town Charter and takes exception to the statement that Ms. Griffin made that they didn't hold to the formality of the process.

Ms. Griffin noted that when she said that the Select Board didn't hold its process to the formality of the Charter, she meant that they weren't limited. The Charter says that the Select Board only has to do two things. The Charter says the following: 'changes in area lines (meaning fire district lines in this case) shall be made by the Selectmen from time to time as a result of the change in nature of the property in the area or the services provided. Such changes may be made by the Selectmen upon 30 days written notice of the proposed change being sent first class mail to the last known address on the tax rolls of the owners of each of the properties affected. In this case we did a town-wide mailing to every property owner. 'Such changes shall be effective without hearing unless written objection thereto is filed with the Town Clerk or with one of the Selectmen within such 30 day period.' We didn't even have to hold a public hearing but the Select Board held several. 'If such an objection is filed, the Selectmen shall postpone the effective date of the change until at least ten days after the date of the hearing, however, if such postponement shall delay the effective date until after April 1st of any year, the area line that is revised shall be retroactive to March 31st of such year' So when I said we weren't held to the formality of the Charter, what I implied is that we went far above and beyond what the Charter required in providing notices to citizens and opportunities for providing input and feedback to the Board of Selectmen.

Robin Carpenter, noted that the mailing that went out in October, specified changes somewhat like the changes that the Select Board now embraces and now wishes to go forward with. His interpretation of the Charter provision is that when a decision has been made about changes, then a mailing should go out and that mailing should describe precisely what is going on so if at that time a citizen wishes to object in order to hold a special hearing, etc. then they have the information in which to proceed.

Selectman Baschnagel noted that the Select Board laid out the process that will take place over the next several months and they will again put out a mailing to the citizens and the Selectmen will follow exactly the process that Mr. Carpenter is describing.

Kim Perez, Etna, made a suggestion that the tax impact of proposed budget on the inside front cover of the Town Report or somewhere really obvious.

Kari Asmus, clarified that the letter that was sent out in October, it gave a projected increase but what they actually decided on was a greater shifting of the burden to the rural areas. She really felt that what was sent out in October does not reflect what's likely to happen in reality.

Moderator Black noted that the rates still aren't set in stone.

Hilary Pridgin, noted that page 18 of the Town Report was confusing and was under the impression that there will be a public hearing brought to people's attention and to explain how

the costs would be allocated. The information is not very clear and straightforward. It's a part of the total tax bill and the school is included as part of the denominator and it's not a clear presentation.

Selectmen Baschnagel clarified that there will be opportunity in the future.

Moderator Black noted that the amount of money is set but how it is allocated has not been cast in stone.

Jan Assmus questioned the social services policy and why these items go automatically on the budget after being placed on the budget for 3 years. She suggested that each year they could vote on who really needed it in that particular year rather than having the same ones included automatically.

Chairman Walsh (page 13) explained the practice of putting these articles on the warrant. The Select Board and Town staff go through an extensive review of these articles. The Agency brings to the Town a form which outlines how they serve the Town of Hanover and they are asked how else they raise money. In most cases we accept what the agencies have requested and in some cases we decrease the amount of money that they are given. This is 1% of the General Fund tax rate and the Selectmen struggle with portions of it.

Jan Assmus questions the principle of giving as part of the Town budget. Maybe there should be a set amount of money that we want to give to non-profits but we decide each year where the money goes.

Chairman Walsh recommends that people spend an hour with Betsy McClain to learn more about the process and to learn that the people of the Town are receiving direct benefit from these social services. It is the Town's responsibility to take care of these people and in each instance, the services are being provided directly by these agencies.

Stanley Udy, 80 Lyme Road, wondered if any more requests had been made and had been disapproved. Ms. Griffin noted that they didn't decline any funding requests this year. Sometimes they may not recommend the full amount requested by the agency. He asked if it has to be 3 consecutive years to be put automatically on the Warrant. Ms. Griffin stated that it did not. Ms. Griffin noted that the agencies are asking Towns for money because their funding is being cut at the State level.

Moderator Black noted that if the Town had to pick up the services provided by these agencies, it would cost so much more money than what they are asking for.

Robert Chambers, Etna, shared that the Select Board does have a very rigorous process in reviewing Social Service Agencies and they make sure that the Town doesn't pay a disproportionate share for the social services.

Robert Norman, the Federal Government has cut the allocation and is paying less and less and they hope that the social service agencies are able to help out. He also believes that it is possible to change the entire process of keeping a social service agency off the warrant.

Robin Carpenter, noted that the issue isn't the merits of the agency but it's the process that is in question and the role of the taxpayers.

Sandra Hoeh noted that it is really easy to pick at the small numbers because they are understandable. She does believe that if they didn't fund these organizations, they will not be serving the people who really need help and the Town will have to pay someone to provide these services at a greater cost. She attended the Select Board meeting where social services had to provide the Board with information. It's not a rubber stamp and she felt that there was some misunderstanding as to how this works.

Bob Morris, asked if the money that is given to the agencies is going to go to help the residents of Hanover. Moderator Black clarified that this was the case and referred to page 13 of the Town Report.

Kim Perez, Etna, agrees with the sentiments of the group but felt that the Moderator should not speak to these issues.

Anne Morris felt that the community would be a better community for doing this.

Lisa Kaylor, 58 Hanover Street in Hanover and UVHS Board of Directors, while there is a service agreement between the Hanover Police and the Humane Society for stray dogs; it's only a partial covering of the services. Over 100 citizens take part in their training classes which are not covered by this money but the more animals they can train, the better off the community will be. There is a help line and there is the shelter. There were over 50 Hanover animal residents that were reunited with their owners.

Rich Howarth, speaking about the Fire Districts, noted that there is a finance side about differential tax rates but there's also two fire houses and there's a decision that the Select Board make about how to allocate resources between the two fire houses. He noted that in the report to the Select Board dated February 2nd that the Fire District Task Force wrote the following; it said 'it was suggested that were the Town to move to a more even distribution of common costs, it would be beneficial if greater effort could be made to achieve a closer parody of service level for all elements of the community' so he asked if there was a commitment on the part of the Select Board to take the recommendation seriously and to look at improving the low response times in the Two-Mile Road corridor on the other side of the water district where they typically see 15 to 20 minute response times which is below the industry standard.

Selectman Baschnagel noted that the Board is committed to do what they can do but there are two factors. One, the Etna station is manned by volunteers and he encourages residents to become volunteers. When he was attending college, there were 40 volunteers. A normal fire, there were 10 or 15 people responding, there are now 12 call firefighters in total. Two, there has been a program started to provide increased water capacity in the rural areas, but there aren't any big heroic steps such as manning the Etna fire station full time.

Chief Roger Bradley noted that he takes exception to Mr. Howarth making a public statement that the response times are 15 to 20 minutes which can be disproven by his department's run records and welcomes Mr. Howarth or anyone else to take a look.

Moderator Black called for a vote. **The motion PASSED and Article 19 was adopted as written.**

ARTICLE TWENTY: To see if the Town will vote to raise and appropriate \$2,500 to support the services provided for the residents of Hanover by Bonnie CLAC. This is the third year this article has appeared on the warrant.

Vice Chairman Connolly MOVED that the Town vote to raise and appropriate \$2,500 to support the services provided for the residents of Hanover by Bonnie CLAC. This is the third year this article has appeared on the warrant. SECONDED from the floor.

Mr. Robert Chambers stated that the meeting was started with the Gettysburg Address stating that All Men Are Created Equal but not everyone starts with the same amount of resources. Bonnie Clac helps low income individuals around the State of New Hampshire, Vermont and other areas. Mr. Chambers summarized that Bonnie Clac guarantee car loans for people, they teach a financial fitness course and help people buy brand new cars. They've helped 900 individuals to buy cars and guaranteed \$13 million in loans. Their losses are lower than any other commercial or non-profit organization. They graduated more people from financial literacy courses than any other non-profit in the State of New Hampshire. They are doing their best for the environment by buying fuel efficient vehicles. They are adding a health component to the financial literacy courses. They helped 49 people at DHMC and 40 at Dartmouth College. He noted that he appreciates the Town's support. He mentioned that Enfield is now supporting them financially.

Kari Asmus, she noted that she has stated that she feels that this is not an appropriate use of Town money and she donated her Honda Civic to Bonnie Clac but she still feels that she made the contribution that way instead of having it affect the tax rate.

Moderator Black asked for a vote on Article Twenty. The motion PASSED and Article 20 was ADOPTED as written.

ARTICLE TWENTY-ONE: To see if the Town will vote to raise and appropriate \$2,500 to support the services provided for the residents of Hanover by the Upper Valley Humane Society. This is the second year this article has appeared on the warrant.

Selectman Baschnagel MOVED that the Town vote to raise and appropriate \$2,500 to support the services provided for the residents of Hanover by the Upper Valley Humane Society. This is the second year this article has appeared on the warrant. Vice Chairman Connolly SECONDED the motion.

Lisa Kaylor, UVHS, noted that their organization does receive funding from several other Towns but Hanover is the 2nd largest town that they serve. Lebanon contributed \$9,700 this year to the Humane Society. The Humane Society does add a lot to the Community and it enables families to take advantage of the services that they provide.

Moderator Black asked for discussion on Article Twenty-One. Hearing none, Moderator Black asked for a vote on Article Twenty-One. **The motion PASSED and Article Twenty-One was ADOPTED as written.**

ARTICLE TWENTY-TWO: To see if the Town will vote to raise and appropriate \$1,500 to support the services provided for the residents of Hanover by the New Hampshire Association for the Blind. This is the first year this article has appeared on the warrant.

Selectman Lubrano MOVED that the Town vote to raise and appropriate \$1,500 to support the services provided for the residents of Hanover by the New Hampshire Association for the Blind. This is the first year this article has appeared on the warrant. Selectman Baschnagel SECONDED the motion.

Moderator Black asked for discussion on Article Twenty-Two. Hearing none, Moderator Black asked for a vote.

The motion PASSED and Article Twenty-Two was ADOPTED as written.

ARTICLE TWENTY-THREE: To see if the Town will vote to raise and appropriate \$465 to support the services provided for the residents of Hanover by Tri-County Community Action Program (CAP). This is the first year this article has appeared on the warrant.

Selectman Lubrano MOVED that the Town vote to raise and appropriate \$465 to support the services provided for the residents of Hanover by Tri-County Community Action Program (CAP). This is the first year this article has appeared on the warrant. Selectman Lubrano noted that the organization is asking for \$15.00 for each person that it has served in Hanover. Chairman Walsh SECONDED.

Moderator Black asked for any discussion on Article Twenty-Three. Hearing none, Moderator Black asked for a vote. **The motion PASSED and Article Twenty-Three was ADOPTED as written.**

ARTICLE TWENTY-FOUR: (Article by Petition) To see if the Town will go on record in support of effective actions by the President and the Congress to address the issue of climate change which is increasingly harmful to the environment and economy of New Hampshire and to the future well being of the people of Hanover. These actions include: 1) establishment of a national program requiring reductions of U.S. greenhouse gas emissions while protecting the U.S. economy, and: 2) creation of a major national research initiative to foster rapid development of sustainable energy technologies thereby stimulating new jobs and investment. In addition, the Town of Hanover encourages New Hampshire citizens to work for emission reductions within their communities, and we ask our Selectmen to consider the appointment of a voluntary energy committee to recommend local steps to save energy and reduce emissions. The record of the vote on this article shall be transmitted to the New Hampshire Congressional Delegation, to the President of the United States and to declared candidates for those offices.

Selectman Lubrano **MOVED** to see if the Town will go on record in support of effective actions by the President and the Congress to address the issue of climate change which is increasingly harmful to the environment and economy of New Hampshire and to the future well being of the people of Hanover. These actions include: 1) establishment of a national program requiring reductions of U.S. greenhouse gas emissions while protecting the U.S. economy, and: 2) creation of a major national research initiative to foster rapid development of sustainable energy technologies thereby stimulating new jobs and investment. In addition, the Town of Hanover encourages New Hampshire citizens to work for emission reductions within their communities, and we ask our Selectmen to consider the appointment of a voluntary energy committee to recommend local steps to save energy and reduce emissions. The record of the vote on this article shall be transmitted to the New Hampshire Congressional Delegation, to the President of the United States and to declared candidates for those offices. **SECONDED** from the floor.

John Trummel, Etna, resident for 12 years. This article was on virtually every town ballot in New Hampshire this year and sponsored by the Carbon Coalition who feels that they need to take more concerted action on Global Climate Change and he is partially responsible for getting it on the Hanover ballot. He is co-chairman of the Climate Protection Campaign who are Upper Valley residents interested in working toward solutions of global climate change. We can all change to compact fluorescent bulbs and drive fuel efficient cars but we will not make a serious impact on carbon emissions or global warming unless the Government takes action to work toward a solution which is why local citizens have put this on the ballot.

Moderator Black asked for discussion on Article Twenty-Four. Hearing none, Moderator Black asked for a vote. **The motion was PASSED and Article Twenty-Four was ADOPTED as written.**

ARTICLE TWENTY-FIVE: (Article by Petition) To see if the Town will vote to instruct the Town Manager and the Chief of Police to adopt the following policy with regard to arresting and prosecuting adults for the medical use of marijuana:

- (1) Hanover law enforcement officers are urged not to arrest an adult for simple possession of marijuana if the adult is able to produce written certification from his or her physician stating that the adult's use of marijuana would likely provide therapeutic benefit for the adult's medical condition, and where the physician's written certification can be verified as legitimate.
- (2) This policy shall not apply to the following:
 - (a) Distribution, cultivation, or sale of marijuana; or
 - (b) Driving under the influence.
- (3) With regard to this policy, the following definitions shall apply:
 - (a) "Adult" means an individual who is 21 years of age or older;
 - (b) "Marijuana" has the same definition as contained in the New Hampshire Revised Statutes Annotated.

Stuart Cooper, who spoke to the Article, lives in Manchester, NH and is the Executive Director of Live Free, which is a non-profit dedicated exclusively for the reform of medical marijuana laws in the State. They recently had a Bill, HB774 supported by doctors and 70% of NH voters and they lost by 9 votes in the New Hampshire Legislature. The next step was to go to the NH voters so he collected signatures and he noted that they have the support of the medical community and they have residents who are suffering with diseases that would benefit by the medicinal use of marijuana.

Chairman Walsh noted that the Board of Selectmen are required to take an oath to uphold the laws in the State of New Hampshire and although the Selectmen are not named in this article, the Town Manager and the Police Chief are and they have also taken that same oath. So, they asked the Town Attorney what it might mean to the Town if it passed. Here is the letter:

Dear Julia:

I'm writing with respect to Article 25 as it appears on this year's annual Town Meeting Warrant. This is a petitioned article instructing the Town Manager and the Police Chief to adopt a policy to discourage officers from arresting and prosecuting individuals found in possession of marijuana which is held 'for medical use'. Basically this article seeks to instruct the Chief and the officers not to uphold the laws of the State of New Hampshire in this particular circumstance. This Article, even if supported by vote at the Town Meeting is not valid and legal. First, the Town Manager has no direct authority over how the employees of the police department conduct law enforcement duties. By statute, that authority lies with the Police Chief. Further, the Chief and officers are sworn by oath to uphold the laws of the State of New Hampshire. The Town Meeting doesn't have the authority to attempt to interfere with the carrying out of those duties. Marijuana and other cannabis type substances are controlled drugs under the state law and are prohibited absent a prescription from a doctor and only then if dispensed by a licensed pharmacy. The obvious goal of this Article is to undermine or to skirt those restrictions and in effect change State law. The Town Meeting doesn't have that authority which leads to the conclusion that this Article is not valid. Therefore, it is our recommendation that the Town Meeting vote to table this Article.

Chairman Walsh stated that clearly this is something that arguing this at the State level is the appropriate place for this.

Bernie Benn, State Representative, who had the chance to vote on the article in the State house opposes the Warrant Article. He did vote for the Bill in the State House but feels that it would be irresponsible for Town Meeting to ask the police officers to not uphold the law so he asks the audience to vote this down.

Robin Carpenter, MOVED to table Article Twenty-Five. SECONDED from the floor. Moderator Black asked for a vote which had to be counted. The motion to table was passed 75 to 33.

Chairman Walsh asked Allegra Lubrano to stand up. Chairman Walsh stated that Allegra has been a real pleasure to serve with and has done great service to the Town at a high price to her kids. The Town owes her a great thanks.

Allegra Lubrano stated that it has been a pleasure working with Town staff and she has an incredible appreciation for them.

ARTICLE TWENTY-SIX: To transact any other business that may legally be brought before this Town Meeting.

Selectman Lubrano MOVED to transact any other business that may legally be brought before this Town Meeting. Selectman Baschnagel SECONDED.

Kari Asmus noted that they did not mean to offend the Hanover Fire Chief which wasn't the intent but when suggesting that you can't say what the response times are, the average response times are 19.1 minutes.

Selectman Baschnagel MOVED to adjourn Town Meeting. SECONDED from the floor. Town Meeting adjourned at 9:25 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Charles Garipay, Town Clerk

Minutes prepared by Elizabeth S. Rathburn.

FINAL

BOARD OF SELECTMEN'S MEETING

April 30, 2007

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; Bill Baschnagel, Selectman; Allegra Lubrano Selectman and Julia Griffin, Town Manager. Absent: Peter Christie, Selectman.

1. PUBLIC COMMENT

There were no comments from the public.

2. REVIEW OF PROPOSED REVISED FIRE DISTRICT BOUNDARIES.

Ms. Griffin invited Mike Ryan, City Assessor and Betsy McClain, Finance Director to speak to the proposed revisions to the Fire District Boundaries with the purpose of reducing the number of Fire Districts from four to three.

Mr. Ryan pointed out specific locations on the map and noted that the eastern boundaries of the non-hydrant area follow the ridgeline of Moose Mountain. In some areas, there are properties that have no frontage and others have access only through Lebanon. Within the Hydrant District, there are only a couple of properties on Balch Hill that are more than 1,000 feet from the nearest hydrant. He noted that the boundaries really do follow the growth patterns that he has seen in the Town over the years.

Chairman Walsh confirmed with Mr. Ryan that all of the boundary lines follow lot line boundaries.

Mr. Ryan also noted that along Greensboro Road, there are some larger parcels with frontage within 1,000 feet of a hydrant which made them part of District 1.

Ms. Griffin noted that at some point in advance of the tax bills being sent out, they would send out a letter to taxpayers informing them of the changes with a map indicating where they sit within their respective district, giving the residents plenty of time to bring forth their concerns.

Ms. Griffin noted that they would be looking for the Board to approve the map. Chairman Walsh would like to rather approve the principles in which the boundaries are based vs. approving a specific map. Selectman Baschnagel noted that the Planning Board is using the same criteria for the In-Town versus Rural designation and he can see a situation such as a subdivision becoming an issue.

Board of Selectmen
April 30, 2007

Chairman Walsh voiced concern about combining the policies of the Planning Board and the Select Board's decisions regarding distance to water coverage.

Ms. Griffin suggested that a letter and the proposed map could be sent to the residents this summer with a period of time for residents to appeal and then have the Board approve the revised map. Chairman Walsh felt that it would be interesting to see the difference between the proposed map and the zoning map. Mr. Ryan noted that most of the properties to the east of Three Mile Road, except for those with frontage are generally in current use so it's not as significant a problem.

Vice Chairman Connolly is comfortable with approving the map based on the principles and she felt that zoning should be irrelevant to this map. The standards for the districts are very clear.

Selectman Lubrano would like to move forward in a way that allows for Ms. Griffin to allow exceptions and she feels that approving a map is the wrong way to go and she would like to see an appeals period. She is also curious about how this is going to be dealt with at Town Meeting. She feels that questions are going to be raised at Town Meeting and the Board should be prepared for this. Ms. Griffin noted that they discussed sending a mailing out this summer. Selectman Lubrano feels the Board needs to be prepared to respond to questions about the new districts.

Ms. Griffin proposed that they could have a handout for the residents that include the map and an outline of the factors that were used to establish the districts.

Chairman Walsh would like the letters to go out by mid August and if there is a continued disagreement it would be brought to the Board and have the process completed by the 2nd meeting in October so that it will allow the Board to have time to look at any changes.

Chairman Walsh MOVED to approve the principles behind the draft map as presented by Mike Ryan. 1) That parcels will be determined which districts they are in based on where their frontage is and 2) that parcels will not be split but whole parcels will define the district. Vice Chairman Connolly SECONDED.

THE BOARD VOTED UNANIMOUSLY TO APPROVE THE PRINCIPLES BEHIND THE DRAFT MAP AS PRESENTED BY MIKE RYAN. 1) THAT PARCELS WILL BE DETERMINED WHICH DISTRICTS THEY ARE IN BASED ON WHERE THEIR FRONTAGE IS AND 2) THAT PARCELS WILL NOT BE SPLIT BUT WHOLE PARCELS WILL DEFINE THE DISTRICT.

3. DISCUSSION REGARDING PROPOSED RECREATION LATE REGISTRATION POLICY REVISION.

Chairman Walsh read the proposal for the public. If a player registers after the registration deadline, they will incur a \$20.00 late registration fee and no student will be allowed to register after the first session of any sports program with the exception of new arrivals to Town.

Selectman Lubrano felt that it was really not a good policy to turn people away because they didn't sign up in time. She asked if there were any sports programs that have absolute limits on numbers. Ms. Griffin noted that typically they do not set limits on numbers.

Chairman Walsh noted that the difficulty that the Recreation Department finds is that when sign-ups are closed and they put the teams together, the late registrations create a problem. It's not one or two people; it's a much larger number that are signing up late. He noted that this has been a real problem over the last year.

Selectman Lubrano feels bad about kids missing out by missing the deadline by a week. Ms. Griffin noted that Fall is typically the most difficult season and the biggest challenge that they have is the real latecomers that miss the first game or the first week of practices and sometimes there are a whole number of kids that could create another whole team that try to sign up late. It becomes a scheduling and logistical nightmare and they are trying to draw a line. Selectman Lubrano hoped that there would be some discretion in this when kids sign up late or decide after the sign-up that they would like to play because their friends are playing.

Vice Chairman Connolly asked if there could be some kind of campaign in June prior to school ending to try to get kids to sign up for the Fall sports sooner. Ms. Griffin stated that they tried that and families need a chance to catch their breath with the start of a new year. Ms. Griffin noted that the Recreation Department relies on prior year numbers to estimate for the next season.

Chairman Walsh could find some flexibility in the younger grades but as they get to 5th and 6th grade, it becomes a bigger problem.

At the conclusion of this discussion, it was agreed that Ms. Griffin would meet with Hank to discuss the Board's concern and explore possible modifications to this part of the policy.

4. RECOMMENDATION TO APPROVE LICENSE TO GRANITE STATE ELECTRIC POLES AND MANHOLES ON HOVEY LANE AND LEBANON STREET.

Ms. Griffin stated that this is the first attempt to reserve space for Town fiber cable in working with the utility companies in licensing the poles and the underground conduits. She noted that the companies may not like this and may not agree to it but the Town has the Right-of-Way and National Grid is okay with it. Verizon is not going to be happy with it but they do not own the poles.

Selectman Baschnagel asked if there was a map of this. Ms. Griffin noted that the Town does have a map which Town staff has worked with and there is no change as to where the poles are now and this matches the final plan approved by the Planning Board for National Grid for the underground conduits.

Selectman Lubrano MOVED to approve a license to Granite State Electric for poles and manholes on Hovey and Lebanon Streets. Selectman Baschnagel SECONDED.

THE BOARD VOTED UNANIMOUSLY TO APPROVE A LICENSE TO GRANITE STATE ELECTRIC FOR POLES AND MANHOLES ON HOVEY AND LEBANON STREETS.

5. RECOMMENDATION TO SET POLLING HOURS ON MAY 8, 2007.

Vice Chairman Connolly MOVED to set the polling hours from 7 a.m. to 7 p.m. at Richmond Middle School and appoint Shirley Barnes, Susan Cohen, Toni Jeffery, Maris Noble and Peregrine Spiegel as ballot clerks. Selectman Lubrano SECONDED the motion.

THE BOARD VOTED UNANIMOUSLY TO SET THE POLLING HOURS FROM 7 A.M. TO 7 P.M. AT THE RICHMOND MIDDLE SCHOOL AND APPOINT SHIRLEY BARNES, SUSAN COHEN, TONI JEFFERY, MARIS NOBLE AND PERGERINE SPIEGEL AS BALLOT CLERKS.

6. FINAL PREPARATIONS FOR TOWN MEETING.

Vice Chairman Connolly will take Articles 10 and 11. The Recreation Department will present one resolution. Chairman Walsh will handle Articles 12 through 18. Selectman Christie will do the budget. Vice Chairman Connolly will present Article 20. Selectman Baschnagel will present Article 21. Selectman Lubrano will present Articles 22, 23 and 24. Chairman Walsh will present Article 25. Chairman Walsh noted that even if the public decides to pass Article 25 with regard to adopting a policy regarding arresting and prosecuting adults for the medical use of marijuana, it can not be enforced. Ultimately this Article is asking the police department and the Town to allow the use of marijuana by those individuals that are using it for medicinal purposes while under a physician's care. This is an issue for the Legislature in the State of New Hampshire and not the Town. Ms. Griffin noted that she will have a letter from legal counsel which should put it in perspective which states that even if it is voted on, the Town can not act on it.

Chairman Walsh noted that he would make the motion and then after the petitioner makes their statement, he will make a statement. Selectman Lubrano will present Article 26.

7. RECOMMENDATION TO ADOPT RESOLUTION DECLARING MAY 18, 2007 AS BIKE & WALK TO WORK DAY IN HANOVER.

Selectman Baschnagel read the following Resolution:

WHEREAS, bicycling is an integral part of the Town's multi-modal transportation system; and

WHEREAS, bicycling can replace driving for short trips, thereby helping the region meet the requirements of the Federal Clean Air Act; and

WHEREAS, the Upper Valley Trails Alliance, the Hanover Parks and Recreation Department, the Bike-Walk Alliance of NH (BWANH), the NH Department of Transportation, and other public and private groups and individuals have worked together to promote a day commuting by bicycle; and

WHEREAS, in 2006, hundreds of bike and pedestrian commuters took part in Bike/Walk to Work Day Commuter Breakfasts in dozens of communities across New Hampshire; and

WHEREAS, biking to work is good for local business - the Centers for Disease Control reports that physical activity saves employers 5% -12% in medical costs per year; and that physically fit people are absent an average of two fewer days per year than people who are not physically fit; and

WHEREAS, the month of May is designated National Bike Month by the National Highway Traffic Safety Administration, the Center for Disease Control, and the League of American Bicyclists to promote the bicycle as a means of transportation, recreation, exercise, and reducing air pollution;

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, that we proclaim Friday, May 18, 2007 as Bike/Walk to Work day.

Selectman Baschnagel MOVED to adopt the Resolution declaring Friday, May 18, 2007 as Bike/Walk to Work day. Chairman Walsh SECONDED the motion.

THE BOARD MOVED TO ADOPT THE RESOLUTION DECLARING FRIDAY, MAY 18, 2007 AS BIKE/WALK TO WORK DAY.

**8. APPOINTMENTS:
- Ballot Clerks**

The Board appointed the Ballot Clerks under item number 5.

- 9. BANNER REQUESTS:**
- Parks & Recreation – Fourth of July
- Upper Valley Special Olympics
- American Cancer Society

Ms. Griffin noted that the UV Special Olympics withdrew their request because they did not get a banner made in time.

Selectman Lubrano MOVED to approve the banner requests of the Hanover Parks and Recreation and the American Cancer Society. Selectman Baschnagel SECONDED the motion.

THE BOARD VOTED UNANIMOUSLY TO APPROVE THE BANNER REQUESTS OF HANOVER PARKS AND RECREATION AND THE AMERICAN CANCER SOCIETY.

- 10. APPROVAL OF MINUTES:**
- February 26th & April 2nd, 2007

Chairman Walsh noted that he would abstain on the Minutes of April 2nd.

Selectman Lubrano MOVED to approve the Minutes of February 26th as revised non-substantively. Selectman Baschnagel SECONDED the motion.

THE BOARD VOTED UNANIMOUSLY TO APPROVE THE MINUTES OF FEBRUARY 26TH AS REVISED NON-SUBSTANTIVELY.

Selectman Lubrano MOVED to approve the Minutes of April 2nd as revised non-substantively. Selectman Baschnagel SECONDED the motion.

THE BOARD VOTED TO APPROVE THE MINUTES OF APRIL 2ND AS REVISED NON-SUBSTANTIVELY WITH CHAIRMAN WALSH ABSTAINING.

11. ADMINISTRATIVE REPORTS

Ms. Griffin noted that several areas were hit with storm related damage. She will be attending a mandatory briefing on May 9th in Newport to register to be eligible for refunding for the storm related expenses. Some residents have called her office to see about what support the Town can give due to the loss of trees. The Water Company is looking at a huge loss of red pines on their property. The Governor was in Hanover this afternoon to look at Hanover, Lyme and Orford and there is some discussion about relief for this damage but it is unclear as to what kind relief might be available. Ms. Griffin noted that they are asking residents to provide them with their costs so that they can

combine it with the figures to be included for assistance requests. She suggested anyone with damage to register on the FEMA website for this specific disaster. She did not hear about any substantial damage to homes but there have been some really significant blow downs on properties.

Selectman Lubrano asked about the Timber tax. Ms. Griffin noted that the Town does not have the authority under State law to waive assessing the value of the lumber, when a logger files an intent to cut permit which triggers the Timber Tax. If someone is cutting down more than 10,000 board feet of lumber, they need to file an intent to cut permit which leads to a valuation of the wood. A couple of communities tried to vote to waive the Timber Tax and DRA notified the towns that they do not have the right under State law to do that. Assessors have some leeway as to how much value they place on “salvage wood” which is substantially lower than the value placed on wood being taken out on a real logging job and this is the way that the tax burden can be relieved. Ms. Griffin noted that Mike Ryan is looking at the options the Town has with regard to this. The trees that were lost were pines and poplars and that wood is only good for 30 days on the ground before it is no longer good for sale. Selectman Lubrano asked what triggers the tax. Ms. Griffin noted that 10 trees down would not qualify but there are major logging jobs in other areas and the Town has 30 days in which to approve the intent to cut permits but they are being approved on the spot so that they can get their clearing done. The Town remained relatively unharmed except for a few areas that had serious blow downs.

Chairman Walsh asked about the cemetery north of West Wheelock Street. Ms. Griffin noted that because the storm happened when it did, if it happened one month later, the leaves would have redirected the wind tunnels but because it happened now, the pine trees became sails. She noted that the eastern facing ridges were the areas that were hit the hardest.

12. SELECTMEN’S REPORTS

Kate Connolly

Vice Chairman Connolly reported that she has been to three Planning Board meetings. In the first meeting they finished the Zoning Amendments. There was one hearing on Grasse Road with another one scheduled for tomorrow night. The Planning Board has started a conversation about two different subjects. The first one is wetlands. There is a smaller group that meets every Wednesday at noon discussing a possible new wetlands ordinance. The next subject is the Rural Residential District and there is a desire to craft some environmentally based parts of the ordinance to complement the existing ordinances.

Brian Walsh

Chairman Walsh wanted to report that he has received rave reviews about the Town Report this year and wanted to pass this along to Penny Hoisington and everyone else who generated the report.

Bill Baschnagel

Selectman Baschnagel reported that he has been told that the State is talking about cutting public transportation funds this year and the next few years. He doesn't know the specifics yet.

The Upper Valley Lake Sunapee Regional Planning Council is applying for a transportation demand management project for the area.

He also noted that the Chamber parking survey is out and responses are being received.

Allegra Lubrano

Selectman Lubrano reported that she missed her last Howe Board Meeting after having an accident during a snowstorm that night. She will miss her last CSAAC meeting scheduled next week. She stated that it has been a pleasure to serve on the Board and that she has an enormous appreciation for staff and she wishes more people were aware of how much work Ms. Griffin does as Town Manager.

Chairman Walsh expressed his appreciation and on behalf of the Board for all of the work that Selectman Lubrano has done during her time on the Board.

13. OTHER BUSINESS

Ms. Griffin noted Chairman Walsh had some scheduling conflicts for June so they should discuss other meeting options. Ms. Griffin suggested adding a meeting on June 25th to allow for Chairman Walsh to attend.

Ms. Griffin also noted that each year the Town budgets \$27,000 for line painting and it never gets done early enough because the Town relies on outside contractors who only do the painting at night. She spoke with the Public Works crew and suggested bringing it in-house and the total cost for the equipment is \$46,000 which is 2 years of expense. The bulk of the expense is the laser painter which is a total of about \$42,000. Instead of buying it outright, she suggests doing a lease purchase over 5 years and the money budgeted for line painting can be allocated toward the lease purchase payment for the laser painter which is about \$10,192 a year over 5 years and have Public Works do the work during the day and not at night so that it can be done earlier. Ultimately, this proposal will save money for the Town. She would like to get Board approval to negotiate a lease purchase price for the equipment. Ms. McClain has already received

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one quote for \$10,192 each year for 5 years. Ms. Griffin noted that the Town employees do the painting for the crosswalks now.

Chairman Walsh asked if this equipment will have a useful life of more than 5 years. Ms. McClain confirmed that it would and there were discussions about having this equipment included in the capital reserve schedule.

Chairman Walsh asked if this could be made available to other towns nearby to reduce the cost. Ms. Griffin noted that she thought that Mike Chase had already discussed this with Enfield and Canaan. Ms. Griffin noted that there is training needed with this equipment in addition to refresher courses so it is unclear if they would loan just the equipment to the other Towns or equipment and the operators.

Selectman Baschnagel asked about impacts to the budget. Ms. Griffin noted that they are talking about using \$10,000 toward the equipment which has \$27,000 for contracted services.

Vice Chairman Connolly MOVED to authorize Ms. Griffin to execute a lease purchase agreement for the purchase of the line painting equipment. Selectman Lubrano SECONDED the motion.

THE BOARD VOTED UNANIMOUSLY TO AUTHORIZE MS. GRIFFIN TO EXECUTE A LEASE PURCHASE AGREEMENT FOR THE PURCHASE OF THE LINE PAINTING EQUIPMENT.

14. ADJOURNMENT

Selectman Baschnagel MOVED to adjourn the meeting. Selectman Lubrano SECONDED the motion.

THE BOARD VOTED UNANIMOUSLY TO ADJOURN THE MEETING AT 8:45 P.M.

Respectfully submitted,

Allegra Lubrano, Secretary

Minutes prepared by Elizabeth S. Rathburn.

SUMMARY

1. **Chairman Walsh MOVED to approve the principles behind the draft map as presented by Mike Ryan. 1) That parcels will be determined which districts they are in based on where their frontage is and 2) that parcels will not be split but whole parcels will define the district. Vice Chairman Connolly SECONDED.**

THE BOARD VOTED UNANIMOUSLY TO APPROVE THE PRINCIPLES BEHIND THE DRAFT MAP AS PRESENTED BY MIKE RYAN. 1) THAT PARCELS WILL BE DETERMINED WHICH DISTRICTS THEY ARE IN BASED ON WHERE THEIR FRONTAGE IS AND 2) THAT PARCELS WILL NOT BE SPLIT BUT WHOLE PARCELS WILL DEFINE THE DISTRICT.

2. **Selectman Lubrano MOVED to approve a license to Granite State Electric for poles and manholes on Hovey and Lebanon Streets. Selectman Baschnagel SECONDED.**

THE BOARD VOTED UNANIMOUSLY TO APPROVE A LICENSE TO GRANITE STATE ELECTRIC FOR POLES AND MANHOLES ON HOVEY AND LEBANON STREETS.

3. **Vice Chairman Connolly MOVED to set the polling hours from 7 a.m. to 7 p.m. at Richmond Middle School and appoint Shirley Barnes, Susan Cohen, Toni Jeffery, Maris Noble and Peregrine Spiegel as ballot clerks. Selectman Lubrano SECONDED the motion.**

THE BOARD VOTED UNANIMOUSLY TO SET THE POLLING HOURS FROM 7 A.M. TO 7 P.M. AT THE RICHMOND MIDDLE SCHOOL AND APPOINT SHIRLEY BARNES, SUSAN COHEN, TONI JEFFERY, MARIS NOBLE AND PERGERINE SPIEGEL AS BALLOT CLERKS.

4. **Selectman Baschnagel MOVED to adopt the Resolution declaring Friday, May 18, 2007 as Bike/Walk to Work day. Chairman Walsh SECONDED the motion.**

THE BOARD MOVED TO ADOPT THE RESOLUTION DECLARING FRIDAY, MAY 18, 2007 AS BIKE/WALK TO WORK DAY.

5. **Selectman Lubrano MOVED to approve the banner requests of the Hanover Parks and Recreation and the American Cancer Society. Selectman Baschnagel SECONDED the motion.**

THE BOARD VOTED UNANIMOUSLY TO APPROVE THE BANNER REQUESTS OF HANOVER PARKS AND RECREATION AND THE AMERICAN CANCER SOCIETY.

6. **Selectman Lubrano MOVED to approve the Minutes of February 26th as revised non-substantively. Selectman Baschnagel SECONDED the motion.**

THE BOARD VOTED UNANIMOUSLY TO APPROVE THE MINUTES OF FEBRUARY 26TH AS REVISED NON-SUBSTANTIVELY.

7. **Selectman Lubrano MOVED to approve the Minutes of April 2nd as revised non-substantively. Selectman Baschnagel SECONDED the motion.**

THE BOARD VOTED TO APPROVE THE MINUTES OF APRIL 2ND AS REVISED NON-SUBSTANTIVELY WITH CHAIRMAN WALSH ABSTAINING.

8. **Vice Chairman Connolly MOVED to authorize Ms. Griffin to execute a lease purchase agreement for the purchase of the line painting equipment. Selectman Lubrano SECONDED the motion.**

THE BOARD VOTED UNANIMOUSLY TO AUTHORIZE MS. GRIFFIN TO EXECUTE A LEASE PURCHASE AGREEMENT FOR THE PURCHASE OF THE LINE PAINTING EQUIPMENT.

9. **Selectman Baschnagel MOVED to adjourn the meeting. Selectman Lubrano SECONDED the motion.**

THE BOARD VOTED UNANIMOUSLY TO ADJOURN THE MEETING AT 8:45 P.M.

FINAL

BOARD OF SELECTMEN'S MEETING

April 2, 2007

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 Vice Chairman Katherine Connolly. Present were: Katherine Connolly, Vice Chairman; Bill Baschnagel, Selectman; Peter Christie, Selectman; Allegra Lubrano, Selectman and Julia Griffin, Town Manager. Absent: Brian Walsh, Chairman.

1. PUBLIC COMMENT

There were no comments from the public.

2. PRE-TOWN MEETING PUBLIC HEARING TO CONSIDER AND APPROVE THE PROPOSED WARRANT.

Vice Chairman Connolly announced the pre-town public hearing.

Ms. Griffin noted that Article 9 on the Warrant is the last Zoning Board ordinance amendment that will be heard at the Planning Board tomorrow night. It's possible it could be removed from the Warrant and then there will need to be renumbering done.

Ms. Griffin also noted that there may be two additional petitioned Warrant Articles; 1) for the War in Iraq and 2) for the legalization of marijuana for medicinal purposes. These have not been filed yet but she received a call from a lawyer in Washington, D.C. who is representing a group that is contemplating a petitioned warrant article which would require the Town Manager to direct the Police Chief to allow the medicinal use of marijuana in Hanover. She put this attorney in touch with Walter Mitchell and Chris O'Connor, Prosecutor because there is no reason to debate this at Town Meeting if it is against State Law. She now has a legal opinion from Walter Mitchell that it would be illegal to do so under State Law.

Selectman Lubrano confirmed that there haven't been any impeachment petitions yet. Ms. Griffin stated that the last article that the Town received is Article 24 which is regarding global warming.

Vice Chairman Connolly asked for any questions with Articles 1 through 9.

Winifred Stearns, 5 Dorrance Place, asked about Article 2 which she feels is discriminatory because it works in the favor of rural districts and she feels that when there is a zoning change proposed, it should cover everybody in the district.

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Vice Chairman Connolly noted that the Planning Board put this Article on the Warrant and the Select Board doesn't have the authority to change them.

Ms. Stearns noted that she attended the meeting in February and at that time; it did not pertain to existing structures exclusively.

Vice Chairman Connolly went on to Articles 10 and 11.

Selectman Lubrano MOVED to include Articles 10 and 11 on the Warrant. Selectman Baschnagel SECONDED the motion.

THE BOARD VOTED UNANIMOUSLY TO INCLUDE ARTICLE 10 ON THE WARRANT TO CHOOSE TOWN OFFICERS TO BE ELECTED BY A MAJORITY VOTE AND ARTICLE 11 ON THE WARRANT, TO RECEIVE REPORTS FROM THE SELECTMEN, TOWN CLERK, TREASURER, COLLECTOR OF TAXES AND OTHER TOWN OFFICERS AND TO VOTE ON ANY MOTION RELATING TO THESE REPORTS AND TO RECEIVE ANY SPECIAL RESOLUTIONS THAT MAY BE APPROPRIATE AND TO VOTE THEREON.

Selectman Baschnagel MOVED to include Article 12 on the Warrant. Selectman Lubrano SECONDED the motion.

THE BOARD VOTED UNANIMOUSLY TO INCLUDE ARTICLE 12 ON THE WARRANT TO SEE IF THE TOWN WILL VOTE TO RAISE AND APPROPRIATE \$35,500 FOR DEPOSIT INTO THE LAND AND CAPITAL IMPROVEMENTS FUND, AND TO AUTHORIZE FUNDING OF THIS AMOUNT BY TRANSFER FROM THE LAND USE CHANGE TAX RESERVE, WITH NO FUNDS BEING RAISED BY TAXATION.

Selectman Baschnagel MOVED to include Article 13 on the Warrant. Selectman Lubrano SECONDED the motion.

THE BOARD VOTED UNANIMOUSLY TO INCLUDE ARTICLE 13 ON THE WARRANT TO SEE IF THE TOWN WILL VOTE TO RAISE AND APPROPRIATE \$35,500 FOR DEPOSIT INTO THE CONSERVATION FUND CREATED AS AUTHORIZED BY RSA 36-A:5.1, AND TO AUTHORIZE FUNDING OF THIS AMOUNT BY TRANSFER FROM THE LAND USE CHANGE TAX RESERVE, WITH NO FUNDS BEING RAISED BY TAXATION.

Selectman Baschnagel MOVED to include Article 14 on the Warrant. Selectman Lubrano SECONDED the motion.

THE BOARD VOTED UNANIMOUSLY TO INCLUDE ARTICLE 14 ON THE WARRANT TO SEE IF THE TOWN WILL VOTE TO RAISE AND APPROPRIATE \$34,220 FOR DEPOSIT INTO THE MUNICIPAL

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TRANSPORTATION IMPROVEMENT FUND, AND TO AUTHORIZE FUNDING OF THIS AMOUNT BY TRANSFER FROM THE TRANSPORTATION IMPROVEMENT FEE RESERVE, WITH NO FUND BEING RAISED BY TAXATION.

Selectman Baschnagel MOVED to include Article 15 on the Warrant. Selectman Lubrano SECONDED the motion.

THE BOARD VOTED UNANIMOUSLY TO INCLUDE ARTICLE 15 ON THE WARRANT TO SEE IF THE TOWN WILL VOTE TO RAISE AND APPROPRIATE \$587,160 AND AUTHORIZE PAYMENT INTO EXISTING CAPITAL RESERVE FUNDS FOR THE PURPOSES FOR WHICH SUCH FUNDS WAS ESTABLISHED.

Selectman Baschnagel MOVED to include Article 16 on the Warrant. Selectman Lubrano SECONDED the motion.

THE BOARD VOTED UNANIMOUSLY TO INCLUDE ARTICLE 16 ON THE WARRANT TO SEE IF THE TOWN WILL VOTE TO RAISE AND APPROPRIATE \$1,381,919 AND TO AUTHORIZE FUNDING THESE AMOUNTS BY WITHDRAWAL FROM THE DESIGNATED CAPITAL RESERVE FUNDS.

Winifred Stearns wanted to speak to Article 16 because she feels that if they need to upgrade the sewer again, it has more to do with Lebanon's facilities. And how long is the Town of Hanover going to be paying for the upgrades that occur in Lebanon?

Ms. Griffin stated that the \$1,056,980 is taking money out of the Capital Reserve, the lion share of the expense is to pay for a third secondary clarifier at the Water Reclamation Facility. The secondary clarifier is needed to effectively handle solids. There will be a number of recommendations over the next 5 to 7 years in order to handle the solids. She noted that the Board spent a considerable amount of time reviewing the proposed improvements to the plant; some to increase solids capacity and some to replace aging equipment.

Ms. Stearns had concerns about the Hanover residents paying for the increased solids that may come from Lebanon with their continued expansion of infrastructure.

Selectman Baschnagel noted that there is a joint study being done for a build-out analysis for the Route 120 corridor which will help in making decisions as to what the Town is able to handle in future years in terms of additional solids coming from Lebanon.

Selectman Baschnagel MOVED to include Article 17 on the Warrant. Selectman Lubrano SECONDED the motion.

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THE BOARD VOTED UNANIMOUSLY TO INCLUDE ARTICLE 17 ON THE WARRANT TO SEE IF THE TOWN WILL VOTE TO RAISE AND APPROPRIATE \$70,000 FOR THE TRAFFIC SIGNAL REPLACEMENT AT THE INTERSECTION OF SOUTH MAIN AND LEBANON STREETS AND TO FUND THIS APPROPRIATION BY AUTHORIZING THE WITHDRAWAL OF THIS SUM FROM THE MUNICIPAL TRANSPORTATION IMPROVEMENT FUND.

Selectman Baschnagel MOVED to include Article 18 on the Warrant. Selectman Lubrano SECONDED the motion.

THE BOARD VOTED UNANIMOUSLY TO INCLUDE ARTICLE 18 ON THE WARRANT TO SEE IF THE TOWN WILL VOTE TO RAISE AND APPROPRIATE \$20,000 FOR CONTRACT LABOR AND OTHER NECESSARY EXPENDITURES RELATED TO THE TOWN-WIDE REASSESSMENT OF PROPERTY VALUES, AND TO FUND THIS APPROPRIATION BY AUTHORIZING THE WITHDRAWAL OF THIS SUM FROM THE TOWN REVALUATION CAPITAL RESERVE FUND.

Selectman Baschnagel MOVED to include Article 19 on the Warrant. Selectman Lubrano SECONDED the motion.

THE BOARD VOTED UNANIMOUSLY TO INCLUDE ARTICLE 19 ON THE WARRANT TO SEE IF THE TOWN WILL VOTE TO RAISE AND APPROPRIATE \$18,773,242 TO PAY THE OPERATING EXPENSES OF THE TOWN FOR THE 2007-2008 FISCAL YEAR, FOR THE PURPOSES SET FORTH IN THE TOWN BUDGET.

Selectman Christie noted that the Finance Committee reviewed the budget and achieved unanimous approval.

Selectman Christie will present Article 19 at Town Meeting. Vice Chairman Connolly will present Article 20 for Bonnie Clac. Selectman Baschnagel will present Article 21 for the Upper Valley Humane Society. Selectman Lubrano will present Article 22 for the NH Association for the Blind and Article 23 for Tri-County Community Action Program (CAP). Vice Chairman Connolly will present Article 24 regarding global warming. Selectman Lubrano will handle all Other Business.

Selectman Lubrano MOVED to close the pre-town meeting public hearing. Selectman Baschnagel SECONDED the motion.

THE BOARD VOTED UNANIMOUSLY TO CLOSE THE PRE-TOWN MEETING PUBLIC HEARING.

3. PUBLIC HEARING TO CONSIDER AND APPROVE THE PROPOSED FY2007-2008 BUDGET FOR THE HOUSING FUND.

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Selectman Lubrano MOVED for the Select Board to act as the Housing Authority in order to consider the proposed FY2007-2008 budget for the Housing Fund. Selectman Baschnagel SECONDED the motion.

THE BOARD VOTED UNANIMOUSLY IN FAVOR OF ACTING AS THE HOUSING AUTHORITY TO CONSIDER THE PROPOSED FY2007-2008 BUDGET FOR THE HOUSING FUND.

Ms. McClain advised that the Housing Fund budget is the only facility for which there is a Capital Reserve Fund and as such Frank Austin put it on a rigorous preventive maintenance schedule. The first project is to replace windows which will help the buildings become more energy efficient. There is a slight increase to install a handicap door opener on the Summer Park entrance. The Senior Citizen Advisory Committee would like to creatively fund a part-time monitor at the Senior Lounge. They have been able to come up with a part-time 6 hour a week position which would be paid for other by other line item savings.

Vice Chairman Connolly asked what the monitor's duties would be. Ms. McClain advised that the Senior Center Activities Coordinator is a part-time position and this person would be able to help with some of that person's duties and there could be more programming going on during the absence of the Coordinator.

Selectman Baschnagel noted that the rentals are the target rentals which are not the rentals that the residents pay but a combination of the rental received and the contribution from HUD. Ms. McClain advised that the Town is annually audited by HUD and they are coming to do the audit this month.

Selectman Baschnagel asked about the life expectancy of water heaters which shows 5 years. Ms. McClain advised that Frank Austin was looking at a better solution to the water heater issues.

Selectman Baschnagel made a suggestion that Mr. Austin speak to the New Hampshire Electric Co-op because they offer hot water heaters to their customers that have a 20 year guaranteed life and they are very efficient.

Selectman Baschnagel MOVED to accept the proposed Housing Authority Budget for FY2007-2008. Selectman Lubrano SECONDED the motion.

THE BOARD VOTED UNANIMOUSLY TO ACCEPT THE PROPOSED HOUSING AUTHORITY BUDGET FOR FY2007-2008.

Selectman Lubrano MOVED to cease acting as the Housing Authority. Selectman Baschnagel SECONDED the motion.

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THE BOARD VOTED UNANIMOUSLY TO CEASE ACTING AS THE HOUSING AUTHORITY.

4. APPOINTMENT OF TAX COLLECTOR.

Ms. Griffin advised that as part of the staffing changes in the Town Clerk's Office, the Board needs to take actions to appoint Elizabeth Meade as the new tax collector effective April 3, 2007 and because of the work that is done with the Department of Motor Vehicles, Elizabeth Meade needs to be appointed the Hanover Municipal Agent.

Selectman Baschnagel MOVED to appoint Elizabeth Meade as the Town's Tax Collector effective April 3, 2007. Selectman Lubrano SECONDED the motion.

THE BOARD VOTED UNANIMOUSLY TO APPOINT ELIZABETH MEADE AS THE TOWN'S TAX COLLECTOR.

5. APPOINTMENT OF HANOVER MUNICIPAL AGENT.

Selectman Baschnagel MOVED to appoint Elizabeth Meade as the Town's Municipal Agent effective April 3, 2007. Selectman Lubrano SECONDED the motion.

THE BOARD VOTED UNANIMOUSLY TO APPOINT ELIZABETH MEADE AS THE TOWN'S MUNICIPAL AGENT EFFECTIVE APRIL 3, 2007.

6. RECOMMENDATION TO APPROVE SEWER ABATEMENTS.

Ms. Griffin noted that the recommendation needs to be physically abated tonight and the amounts will continue to be pursued.

Selectman Baschnagel asked where things stand in terms of revising the Inter-Municipal Agreement.

Ms. Griffin noted that Gregg Mandsager is interested in beginning discussions relative to the agreement. There is a draft Inter-Municipal Agreement that has almost been completed to bring before the Board for input.

Selectman Baschnagel MOVED to accept the recommendation to approve the sewer abatements. Selectman Lubrano asked for clarification. Ms. McClain noted that there are wastewater services provided to the City of Lebanon. Currently they bill the City of Lebanon for the Route 10 services that the Town provides but they bill individual property owners for the properties in the Gile Tract area. The Town of Hanover has no lien authority in the City of Lebanon to demand payment from the customers who refuse to pay. By purging the unpaid commitment out of the tax collector system, it allows the accounting office to go after the amounts and because they can't lien it, it would stay forever until paid. Selectman Lubrano noted that Robert Bailey wrote that he paid for

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Hanover and Lebanon for sewer rates. Ms. McClain noted that the Town of Hanover does not have the ability to look at the Lebanon records and the Town receives the billing information directly from Lebanon. There are currently no checks and balances in this billing system.

Selectman Lubrano SECONDED the motion.

THE BOARD VOTED UNANIMOUSLY TO ACCEPT THE RECOMMENDATION TO APPROVE THE SEWER ABATEMENTS.

7. RECOMMENDATION TO AUTHORIZE THE TAX COLLECTOR TO WAIVE UP TO \$25.00 IN INTEREST DUE.

Ms. McClain noted the State allows the tax collector, if authorized by the Board of Selectmen, to waive up to \$25.00 in interest. She would like to recommend that the tax collector be authorized to waive up to \$25.00 in interest so she can do the cost analysis as to whether it is cost effective to pursue smaller dollars worth of interest.

Selectman Baschnagel asked about current Town policy. Ms. McClain stated that currently, anything over \$5.00 the Town needs to pursue. Normally they contact the property owner and due to interest accruals, it keeps everything off by pennies. Selectman Baschnagel didn't have a problem with it if it is just about the timing with the posting of the checks.

Selectman Lubrano MOVED to accept the recommendation to authorize the tax collector to waive up to \$25.00 in interest due. Selectman Baschnagel SECONDED the motion.

THE BOARD VOTED UNANIMOUSLY TO ACCEPT THE RECOMMENDATION TO AUTHORIZE THE TAX COLLECTOR TO WAIVE UP TO \$25.00 IN INTEREST DUE.

8. BANNER REQUESTS

- Kids for a Cooler Upper Valley – Green Bags
- Communities United to Climate Action Now

Ms. Griffin advised that both requests fit into the banner schedule. Ms. Stearns asked if this was going to continue to be done for whatever purpose. Ms. Griffin noted that there is now going to be a fee for the installation of banners. They don't approve every banner request that comes before them.

Selectman Baschnagel MOVED to approve the banner request of Kids for a Cooler Upper Valley. Selectman Lubrano SECONDED the motion.

THE BOARD VOTED UNANIMOUSLY TO APPROVE THE BANNER REQUESTS FOR THE KIDS FOR A COOLER UPPER VALLEY.

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Patricia Higgins spoke on behalf of the banner request for the Communities United to Climate Action Now.

Selectman Christie noted that the Recycling Committee several years ago looked to expand its charter to involve objectives such as Cool Cities and chose not to but there is renewed interest in it and they will likely explore some of the broader Cool Cities activities.

Selectman Lubrano MOVED to approve the banner request for the Communities United to Climate Action Now. Selectman Baschnagel SECONDED the motion.

THE BOARD VOTED UNANIMOUSLY TO APPROVE THE BANNER REQUEST FOR THE COMMUNITIES UNITED TO CLIMATE ACTION NOW.

9. APPROVAL OF MINUTES

- February 27th & 28th
- March 1st & 19th

Selectman Lubrano MOVED to accept the February 27th, 28th and March 1st Minutes. Selectman Baschnagel SECONDED the motion.

THE BOARD VOTED UNANIMOUSLY TO ACCEPT THE FEBRUARY 27TH, 28TH AND MARCH 1ST MINUTES WITH MINOR REVISIONS.

Selectman Baschnagel MOVED to accept the Minutes of March 19. Selectman Christie SECONDED the motion.

THE BOARD VOTED UNANIMOUSLY TO ACCEPT THE MINUTES OF MARCH 19TH.

10. ADMINISTRATIVE REPORTS

Ms. Griffin reported that she is busy getting the Town Report ready for the printer. She requested the Board sign up for shifts for Town Meeting on May 8th.

Selectman Christie will work the meeting from 7 a.m. to 10 a.m. Selectman Baschnagel will be there from 10 a.m. to 1 p.m. Selectman Lubrano will be present from 1 p.m. to 4:00 p.m. Vice Chairman Connolly will be there from 4 p.m. to 7 p.m. and Chairman Walsh will be designated to be there from 4p.m. to 7 p.m.

Ms. Griffin noted that she is keeping a close watch on the Legislative sessions, especially the Retirement System discussions.

11. SELECTMEN'S REPORTS

Peter Christie

Selectman Christie stated that there is nothing really new to report. The Finance Committee supported the budget and concurred with the judgments made with relation to expanding the time for payment of the storm damage.

The Recycling Committee has their on-going events this summer and there is interest now in exploring ways to expand their mission.

Allegra Lubrano

Selectman Lubrano reported that she and Ms. Griffin attended the Community Substance Abuse Advisory Committee (CSAAC) Meeting today and on Thursday night Dr. Steve Atkins will speak at the Richmond Middle School at 7:00 p.m. at a public forum to discuss dealing with adolescents. There were further discussions at the meeting about the continuing issues surrounding the Code of Conduct at the High School and the varying alcohol-related enforcement issues between NH and Vermont.

The Howe Board met last month. Marlene McGonigle is retiring in June and they are searching for her replacement. Ms. Griffin advised that this week is the deadline for resumes.

Bill Baschnagel

Selectman Baschnagel reported that The Chamber Parking Group continues to meet and they have a questionnaire that they will send out to business owners regarding their views of parking.

Kate Connolly

The Planning Board met and discussed zoning amendments.

12. OTHER BUSINESS

There was no Other Business.

13. ADJOURNMENT

Selectman Baschnagel MOVED to adjourn. Selectman Lubrano SECONDED the motion.

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**THE BOARD VOTED UNANIMOUSLY TO ADJOURN THE MEETING AT 8:30
P.M.**

Respectfully Submitted,

Allegra Lubrano, Secretary

Minutes prepared by Elizabeth S. Rathburn.

SUMMARY

1. **Selectman Lubrano MOVED to include Articles 10 and 11 on the Warrant. Selectman Baschnagel SECONDED the motion.**

THE BOARD VOTED UNANIMOUSLY TO INCLUDE ARTICLE 10 ON THE WARRANT TO CHOOSE TOWN OFFICERS TO BE ELECTED BY A MAJORITY VOTE AND ARTICLE 11 ON THE WARRANT, TO RECEIVE REPORTS FROM THE SELECTMEN, TOWN CLERK, TREASURER, COLLECTOR OF TAXES AND OTHER TOWN OFFICERS AND TO VOTE ON ANY MOTION RELATING TO THESE REPORTS AND TO RECEIVE ANY SPECIAL RESOLUTIONS THAT MAY BE APPROPRIATE AND TO VOTE THEREON.

2. **Selectman Baschnagel MOVED to include Article 12 on the Warrant. Selectman Lubrano SECONDED the motion.**

THE BOARD VOTED UNANIMOUSLY TO INCLUDE ARTICLE 12 ON THE WARRANT TO SEE IF THE TOWN WILL VOTE TO RAISE AND APPROPRIATE \$35,500 FOR DEPOSIT INTO THE LAND AND CAPITAL IMPROVEMENTS FUND, AND TO AUTHORIZE FUNDING OF THIS AMOUNT BY TRANSFER FROM THE LAND USE CHANGE TAX RESERVE, WITH NO FUNDS BEING RAISED BY TAXATION.

3. **Selectman Baschnagel MOVED to include Article 13 on the Warrant. Selectman Lubrano SECONDED the motion.**

THE BOARD VOTED UNANIMOUSLY TO INCLUDE ARTICLE 13 ON THE WARRANT TO SEE IF THE TOWN WILL VOTE TO RAISE AND APPROPRIATE \$35,500 FOR DEPOSIT INTO THE CONSERVATION FUND CREATED AS AUTHORIZED BY RSA 36-A:5.1, AND TO AUTHORIZE FUNDING OF THIS AMOUNT BY TRANSFER FROM THE LAND USE CHANGE TAX RESERVE, WITH NO FUNDS BEING RAISED BY TAXATION.

4. **Selectman Baschnagel MOVED to include Article 14 on the Warrant. Selectman Lubrano SECONDED the motion.**

THE BOARD VOTED UNANIMOUSLY TO INCLUDE ARTICLE 14 ON THE WARRANT TO SEE IF THE TOWN WILL VOTE TO RAISE AND APPROPRIATE \$34,220 FOR DEPOSIT INTO THE MUNICIPAL TRANSPORTATION IMPROVEMENT FUND, AND TO AUTHORIZE FUNDING OF THIS AMOUNT BY TRANSFER FROM THE TRANSPORTATION IMPROVEMENT FEE RESERVE, WITH NO FUND BEING RAISED BY TAXATION.

5. **Selectman Baschnagel MOVED to include Article 15 on the Warrant. Selectman Lubrano SECONDED the motion.**

THE BOARD VOTED UNANIMOUSLY TO INCLUDE ARTICLE 15 ON THE WARRANT TO SEE IF THE TOWN WILL VOTE TO RAISE AND APPROPRIATE \$587,160 AND AUTHORIZE PAYMENT INTO EXISTING CAPITAL RESERVE FUNDS FOR THE PURPOSES FOR WHICH SUCH FUNDS WAS ESTABLISHED.

6. **Selectman Baschnagel MOVED to include Article 16 on the Warrant. Selectman Lubrano SECONDED the motion.**

THE BOARD VOTED UNANIMOUSLY TO INCLUDE ARTICLE 16 ON THE WARRANT TO SEE IF THE TOWN WILL VOTE TO RAISE AND APPROPRIATE \$1,381,919 AND TO AUTHORIZE FUNDING THESE AMOUNTS BY WITHDRAWAL FROM THE DESIGNATED CAPITAL RESERVE FUNDS.

7. **Selectman Baschnagel MOVED to include Article 17 on the Warrant. Selectman Lubrano SECONDED the motion.**

THE BOARD VOTED UNANIMOUSLY TO INCLUDE ARTICLE 17 ON THE WARRANT TO SEE IF THE TOWN WILL VOTE TO RAISE AND APPROPRIATE \$70,000 FOR THE TRAFFIC SIGNAL REPLACEMENT AT THE INTERSECTION OF SOUTH MAIN AND LEBANON STREETS AND TO FUND THIS APPROPRIATION BY AUTHORIZING THE WITHDRAWAL OF THIS SUM FROM THE MUNICIPAL TRANSPORTATION IMPROVEMENT FUND.

8. **Selectman Baschnagel MOVED to include Article 18 on the Warrant. Selectman Lubrano SECONDED the motion.**

THE BOARD VOTED UNANIMOUSLY TO INCLUDE ARTICLE 18 ON THE WARRANT TO SEE IF THE TOWN WILL VOTE TO RAISE AND APPROPRIATE \$20,000 FOR CONTRACT LABOR AND OTHER NECESSARY EXPENDITURES RELATED TO THE TOWN-WIDE REASSESSMENT OF PROPERTY VALUES, AND TO FUND THIS APPROPRIATION BY AUTHORIZING THE WITHDRAWAL OF THIS SUM FROM THE TOWN REVALUATION CAPITAL RESERVE FUND.

9. **Selectman Baschnagel MOVED to include Article 19 on the Warrant. Selectman Lubrano SECONDED the motion.**

THE BOARD VOTED UNANIMOUSLY TO INCLUDE ARTICLE 19 ON THE WARRANT TO SEE IF THE TOWN WILL VOTE TO RAISE AND

APPROPRIATE \$18,773,242 TO PAY THE OPERATING EXPENSES OF THE TOWN FOR THE 2007-2008 FISCAL YEAR, FOR THE PURPOSES SET FORTH IN THE TOWN BUDGET.

10. **Selectman Lubrano MOVED to close the pre-town meeting. Selectman Baschnagel SECONDED the motion.**

THE BOARD VOTED UNANIMOUSLY TO CLOSE THE PRE-TOWN MEETING.

11. **Selectman Lubrano MOVED for the Select Board to act as the Housing Authority in order to consider the proposed FY2007-2008 budget for the Housing Fund. Selectman Baschnagel SECONDED the motion.**

THE BOARD VOTED UNANIMOUSLY IN FAVOR OF ACTING AS THE HOUSING AUTHORITY TO CONSIDER THE PROPOSED FY2007-2008 BUDGET FOR THE HOUSING FUND.

12. **Selectman Baschnagel MOVED to accept the proposed Housing Authority Budget for FY2007-2008. Selectman Lubrano SECONDED the motion.**

THE BOARD VOTED UNANIMOUSLY TO ACCEPT THE PROPOSED HOUSING AUTHORITY BUDGET FOR FY2007-2008.

13. **Selectman Lubrano MOVED to cease acting as the Housing Authority. Selectman Baschnagel SECONDED the motion.**

THE BOARD VOTED UNANIMOUSLY TO CEASE ACTING AS THE HOUSING AUTHORITY.

14. **Selectman Baschnagel MOVED to appoint Elizabeth Meade as the Town's Tax Collector effective April 3, 2007. Selectman Lubrano SECONDED the motion.**

THE BOARD VOTED UNANIMOUSLY TO APPOINT ELIZABETH MEADE AS THE TOWN'S TAX COLLECTOR.

15. **Selectman Baschnagel MOVED to appoint Elizabeth Meade as the Town's Municipal Agent effective April 3, 2007. Selectman Lubrano SECONDED the motion.**

THE BOARD VOTED UNANIMOUSLY TO APPOINT ELIZABETH MEADE AS THE TOWN'S MUNICIPAL AGENT EFFECTIVE APRIL 3, 2007.

16. **Selectman Baschnagel MOVED to accept the recommendation to approve the sewer abatements. Selectman Lubrano SECONDED the motion.**

THE BOARD VOTED UNANIMOUSLY TO ACCEPT THE RECOMMENDATION TO APPROVE THE SEWER ABATEMENTS.

17. **Selectman Lubrano MOVED to accept the recommendation to authorize the tax collector to waive up to \$25.00 in interest due. Selectman Baschnagel SECONDED the motion.**

THE BOARD VOTED UNANIMOUSLY TO ACCEPT THE RECOMMENDATION TO AUTHORIZE THE TAX COLLECTOR TO WAIVE UP TO \$25.00 IN INTEREST DUE.

18. **Selectman Baschnagel MOVED to approve the banner request of Kids for a Cooler Upper Valley. Selectman Lubrano SECONDED the motion.**

THE BOARD VOTED UNANIMOUSLY TO APPROVE THE BANNER REQUESTS FOR THE KIDS FOR A COOLER UPPER VALLEY.

19. **Selectman Lubrano MOVED to approve the banner request for the Communities United to Climate Action Now. Selectman Baschnagel SECONDED the motion.**

THE BOARD VOTED UNANIMOUSLY TO APPROVE THE BANNER REQUEST FOR THE COMMUNITIES UNITED TO CLIMATE ACTION NOW.

20. **Selectman Lubrano MOVED to accept the February 27th, 28th and March 1st Minutes. Selectman Baschnagel SECONDED the motion.**

THE BOARD VOTED UNANIMOUSLY TO ACCEPT THE FEBRUARY 27TH, 28TH AND MARCH 1ST MINUTES WITH MINOR REVISIONS.

21. **Selectman Baschnagel MOVED to accept the Minutes of March 19. Selectman Christie SECONDED the motion.**

THE BOARD VOTED UNANIMOUSLY TO ACCEPT THE MINUTES OF MARCH 19.

22. **Selectman Baschnagel MOVED to adjourn. Selectman Lubrano SECONDED the motion.**

THE BOARD VOTED UNANIMOUSLY TO ADJOURN THE MEETING AT 8:30 P.M.

FINAL

BOARD OF SELECTMEN'S MEETING

March 19, 2007

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; Bill Baschnagel, Selectman; Peter Christie, Selectman and Julia Griffin, Town Manager. Absent: Allegra Lubrano, Selectman.

1. PUBLIC COMMENT

There were no comments from the public.

2. RECOMMENDATION TO SET A PRE-TOWN MEETING PUBLIC HEARING ON APRIL 2, 2007 TO CONSIDER THE PROPOSED WARRANT.

Vice Chairman Connolly MOVED to accept the recommendation to set a pre-town meeting public hearing on April 2, 2007 to consider the proposed warrant. Selectman Baschnagel SECONDED the motion.

THE BOARD VOTED UNANIMOUSLY TO ACCEPT THE RECOMMENDATION TO SET A PRE-TOWN PUBLIC HEARING ON APRIL 2, 2007 TO CONSIDER THE PROPOSED WARRANT.

3. RECOMMENDATION TO SET A PUBLIC HEARING ON APRIL 2, 2007 TO CONSIDER AND APPROVE THE PROPOSED FY2007-2008 BUDGET FOR THE HOUSING FUND.

Vice Chairman Connolly MOVED to accept the recommendation to set a public hearing on April 2, 2007 to consider and approve the proposed FY2007-2008 budget for the housing fund. Selectman Baschnagel SECONDED the motion.

THE BOARD VOTED UNANIMOUSLY TO ACCEPT THE RECOMMENDATION TO SET A PUBLIC HEARING ON APRIL 2, 2007 TO CONSIDER AND APPROVE THE PROPOSED FY2007-2008 BUDGET FOR THE HOUSING FUND.

4. RECOMMENDATION TO AFFIRM THE ADOPTED FY2007-2008 BUDGET.

Chairman Walsh noted that the Board went through the budget meetings four nights in a row. Vice Chairman Connolly confirmed that money was being set aside for the Marshall Lot landscaping. Selectman Baschnagel confirmed the information on the Fire District Tax. Ms. McClain clarified the adjustments that were presented in the information.

Chairman Walsh asked about the Kids and Cops Program and the reduction noted for that item. Ms. Griffin noted that there has been a decrease in participation in the event and therefore a decrease in revenue and less expense.

Selectman Baschnagel MOVED to affirm the adopted FY 2007-2008 budget. Selectman Christie SECONDED the motion.

THE BOARD VOTED UNANIMOUSLY TO AFFIRM THE ADOPTED FY 2007-2008 BUDGET.

5. UPDATE ON THE EMPLOYEE AND EMPLOYER WORKING GROUP ON THE NH RETIREMENT SYSTEM.

Ms. Griffin noted that Ms. McClain was a staff representative at a briefing that was put on by the Local Government Center and the Legislative Committee of the LGC about a week ago and she brought back the information that was provided to the Board in the Friday packets.

The information outlines the key issues and background about the Employer and Employee Working Group that has been meeting since last summer. They were tasked with understanding what the issues are facing the retirement system and to come up with a set of recommendations. The proposal was heard today as part of House Bill 653 before the Executive Department and Administration Committee in the House. Ms. Griffin attended along with other managers and representatives from the Local Government Center and other groups that participated in the Working Group in addition to Union representatives and police associations.

Ms. Griffin reported that the hearing went well but it was her feeling that they may not approve the bill but retain it and then send it off to a study committee. The employers are concerned because to the extent the system is under funded, they can expect continued hefty increases.

Selectman Baschnagel asked what the current estimate was for the unfunded liability. Ms. Griffin advised that it is \$3 billion dollars based on the latest actuarial reports. She believes that the lion's share of that amount might be the

retirement system special account but she hasn't seen the numbers to determine if that is the case.

Chairman Walsh feels that this is a problem that none of the citizens and taxpayers in the State know that we have. He feels that the Local Government Center needs to educate the public as to what this looks like and where it's heading.

Ms. Griffin sent a letter stating that this is the biggest issue facing the Legislature today. Selectman Baschnagel noted that one of the recommendations is to eliminate the Special Account and adopt a standard benefit, COLA 2% per year. He noted that the 2% is less than the Special Account right now. Ms. Griffin feels that it was the creation of the Special Account that created the problem for the Retirement System. For example, employees in Group 1 could argue that when their money, when it earns more than a certain percentage, it's going into a Special Account in Group 2. She was surprised that Group 1 employees haven't begun to protest this issue.

Chairman Walsh noted that it's very difficult to have a conversation about this that lets the Town balance equitably between the taxpayer's interest and the municipal employees.

Ms. Griffin noted that the theme at the hearing on the part of the more outspoken Unions was that this is the employee's money and that employer's don't have the right to meddle in the management of the Retirement System.

Chairman Walsh noted that this speaks to the defined contribution plan. Ms. Griffin felt that as long as employers (i.e. taxpayers) are contributing to the system, they should have more than one seat at the table. The LGC is trying to get one management representative on the Board and that House Bill is likely to be killed.

Chairman Walsh would like to express to the colleagues of the Local Government Center that the Hanover Select Board thinks that the task of making the position known and understandable to the citizens and the property taxpayers of the State aware of this and that the Board is willing to help in some way to do that.

Ms. Griffin feels that engaging as many people as possible. The impact of trying to fix an ever worsening problem is going to fall squarely on the property taxpayers' shoulders.

Vice Chairman Connolly wanted the taxpayers to realize just how unbalanced the system is and if it does continue it will directly affect them. The variance between Group 1 and 2 is considerable.

Ms. Griffin felt that the Town could put information out to the taxpayers with the Town Report to educate them as to how this may affect them and then share the information handed out with the LGC to try to customize it for wider distribution.

6. BANNER REQUESTS

- CHaD/The Family Place – Shield our Children from Harm
- StreetFest (Including Street Closure)
- Ledyard Bridge Banners – Communities United for Climate Action Now

Selectman Baschnagel MOVED to approve the Banner Requests from CHaD/The Family Place and StreetFest. Vice Chairman Connolly SECONDED the motion.

THE BOARD VOTED UNANIMOUSLY TO APPROVE THE BANNER REQUESTS FROM CHaD/THE FAMILY PLACE AND STREETFEST.

Chairman Walsh discussed the request for banners on the Ledyard Bridge and the concerns about setting a precedent by doing this even though he is not against the organization behind the request.

Chairman Walsh MOVED to vote against approving the Ledyard Bridge banner request. Vice Chairman Connolly SECONDED the motion.

THE BOARD VOTED UNANIMOUSLY AGAINST APPROVING BANNERS ON THE LEDYARD BRIDGE.

7. APPROVAL OF MINUTES

- February 27, 2007

Chairman Walsh deferred the approval of the Minutes of February 27th until Selectman Lubrano is back.

8. ADMINISTRATIVE REPORTS

Ms. Griffin advised that they are working to get the Town Report done and off to the printer by the first week of April.

9. SELECTMEN'S REPORTS

Peter Christie

Selectman Christie had nothing to report.

Kate Connolly

Vice Chairman Connolly reported that she attended a meeting about the Route 120 Corridor and she feels that they are at the point where they will start crunching numbers.

Bill Baschnagel

Selectman Baschnagel reported that the Conservation Commission met and talked about a request from the Town to approve a space for replacing the pump station and the committee declined to approve it at this point. The grant had specific wording that they had concerns with and felt it needed further review.

With regard to the Route 120 Committee, there is traffic data on the corridor but they don't have recent or up-to-date source of destination traffic data and they were discussing speaking with RSG (Resource Systems Group) to get an updated traffic base.

Selectman Baschnagel met again with the Chambers Parking Survey Group and they are looking to put together a simple parking survey for the businesses in Town to get their opinions on how they view the parking and what they feel the problem areas are.

Brian Walsh

Chairman Walsh had nothing new to report.

10. OTHER BUSINESS

There was no other business.

11. ADJOURNMENT

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

THE BOARD VOTED UNANIMOUSLY TO ADJOURN THE MEETING AT 8:05 P.M.

SUMMARY

1. **Vice Chairman Connolly MOVED to accept the recommendation to set a pre-town meeting public hearing on April 2, 2007 to consider the proposed warrant. Selectman Baschnagel SECONDED the motion.**

THE BOARD VOTED UNANIMOUSLY TO ACCEPT THE RECOMMENDATION TO SET A PRE-TOWN PUBLIC HEARING ON APRIL 2, 2007 TO CONSIDER THE PROPOSED WARRANT.

2. **Vice Chairman Connolly MOVED to accept the recommendation to set a public hearing on April 2, 2007 to consider and approve the proposed FY2007-2008 budget for the housing fund. Selectman Baschnagel SECONDED the motion.**

THE BOARD VOTED UNANIMOUSLY TO ACCEPT THE RECOMMENDATION TO SET A PUBLIC HEARING ON APRIL 2, 2007 TO CONSIDER AND APPROVE THE PROPOSED FY2007-2008 BUDGET FOR THE HOUSING FUND.

3. **Selectman Baschnagel MOVED to affirm the adopted FY 2007-2008 budget. Selectman Christie SECONDED the motion.**

THE BOARD VOTED UNANIMOUSLY TO AFFIRM THE ADOPTED FY 2007-2008 BUDGET.

4. **Selectman Baschnagel MOVED to approve the Banner Requests from CHaD/The Family Place and StreetFest. Vice Chairman Connolly SECONDED the motion.**

THE BOARD VOTED UNANIMOUSLY TO APPROVE THE BANNER REQUESTS FROM CHaD/THE FAMILY PLACE AND STREETFEST.

5. **Chairman Walsh MOVED to vote against approving the Ledyard Bridge banner request. Vice Chairman Connolly SECONDED the motion.**

THE BOARD VOTED UNANIMOUSLY AGAINST APPROVING BANNERS ON THE LEDYARD BRIDGE.

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

THE BOARD VOTED UNANIMOUSLY TO ADJOURN THE MEETING AT 8:05 P.M.

FINAL

BOARD OF SELECTMEN'S MEETING

March 1, 2007

7:00 P.M. – MUNICIPAL OFFICE BUILDING – HANOVER NH

The meeting of the Board of Selectmen was called to order at 7:00 p.m. by Chairman Brian Walsh. Present were: Brian Walsh, Chairman; Bill Baschnagel, and Selectman; Allegra Lubrano, Selectman; Peter Christie, Selectman. Absent: Katherine Connolly, Vice Chairman; and Julia Griffin, Town Manager.

1. PUBLIC COMMENT

Chairman Walsh announced that Ms. Griffin is not well and joins the meeting by speaker phone and Selectman Christie is present.

Selectman Christie spoke to the quality of the meeting being aired on CATV. He noted that the use of the microphone directly relates to the quality of the sound for the viewers. He also wanted the Board to address how the Town handles this part of the budget with the lack of Federal and State funding for the social services at an in-between meeting.

Chairman Walsh also noted that Vice Chairman Connolly is still home recuperating.

Chairman Walsh suggested tentatively adopting the budget and re-affirm approval on March 19th.

There were no comments from the public.

2. 4th BUDGET PUBLIC HEARING:

- Parking
- Police
- Parks and Recreation

Parking

Ms. McClain announced that Patrick O'Neill, Nick Giaccone from the police department are present and Van Chesnut from Advance Transit is also present to speak.

Lt. O'Neill advised that the PTB recommends \$500,000 to be drawn from Undesignated Funds to be transferred to the Parking Fund's Capital Reserve and the other highlight is that the Parking Division is in its 5th month of offering the credit card payment option for payment of fines, parking leases and for parking at the 7 Lebanon Street parking garage.

Lt. O'Neill reported that they processed 1,100 transactions in that time between the Town office and the parking facility totaling \$46,000 in revenue from credit cards. Based on

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this successful experience, the staff recommends the purchase of additional parking pin display kiosks which accept coin and credit card as payment method.

Chairman Walsh noted that Vice Chairman Connolly had a question for this budget. She suggested using some of the \$528,000 proposed for transfer toward the upkeep and landscaping of the Marshall Lot. Another use would be a reduction in the debt service from the parking garage which was promised to the taxpayers if possible. This is a huge amount of money to sequester when there are no immediate needs.

Chairman Walsh asked about what a program would cost to improve the appearance of the lots.

Ms. Griffin noted that she would like to see more landscaping in the Marshall Lot. Selectman Baschnagel agrees that this should be looked at but he didn't feel that they should sequester funds for it until they have a sense of what they are dealing with. There has been a surplus in the parking fund so he suggested getting together with William Desch to discuss options. Chairman Walsh asked that this be added for further discussion tonight.

Selectman Christie referred to page 28 to look at the undesignated fund balance which is in excess of the target. Selectman Baschnagel advised that the intended use of the funds would be to provide enhanced parking facilities. It becomes seed money for the next opportunity to add to their parking facilities. Ms. McClain summarized that net of the proposed \$500,000 transfer to the capital reserve; the Town would be left with 10.5%.

Selectman Christie confirmed that the money therefore is best spent toward capital improvement in the future versus a reserve against operation which is healthy and growing.

Ms. Griffin noted that they can not spend any money out of the parking reserve without a separate warrant article.

Chairman Walsh noted that the total capital reserve would be brought to \$750,000. He recalled that the parking facility cost \$5.5 million and that the land was free and they were able to do it in conjunction with the College's changes to 7 Lebanon Street for a gain of 300 parking spaces. To increase the inventory of parking in Town, capital will be very useful.

Selectman Baschnagel advised that parking spaces in constructed parking facilities are now approaching \$40,000 per space in terms of capital costs.

Selectman Christie asked about the 3 multi space parking meters and what is the payback on that. Lt. O'Neill advised that he has not done a payback study on those. They would realize some payback on that and the users that pay for their parking meter may have time left when they leave versus pay display units in the parking lots, people purchase some time, they get a tag to put on their dashboard and when they leave, the next person needs

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to do the transaction all over again. He would like to see approaching additional options for the public to use credit cards. This will be the future of parking in terms of convenience for the public.

Chairman Walsh asked Lt. O'Neill when they would be in a place where they need to have one less person collecting coins with the upgrade in technology.

Selectman Baschnagel felt that there were two functions of the people on the street. There is an enforcement function and collection of funds with the people that walk the streets. Lt. O'Neill pointed out the thefts from the parking meters in the fall. He advised that the units are much more secure than in year's past.

Chairman Walsh asked if there are any lots that are privately owned that the Town manages. Lt O'Neill advised that the Town lost 36 spaces on the top of the Fleet deck, in the HSD Lot they lost about 30 spaces, and then 12 spaces in the Coldwell Banker lot.

Selectman Christie asked about a chart last night where there was outstanding debt, he would like to recommend showing the remaining debt for this fund also.

Chairman Walsh stated that he's not sure what the benefit would be to transfer \$500,000 to the Capital Reserve. He doesn't have trouble using that money for parking needs in town but he's not sure that transferring into capital reserve is the best way to do it. If the money is to be used for a certain project, it would need to go to Town meeting as a warrant article to be approved before it could be used for that purpose.

Selectman Baschnagel shares the concern about the issues surrounding moving the money but he is concerned about the surplus being built up in the Parking Fund that become targets for other applications which has happened in years past. At one point, there was several hundred thousands of dollars in the fund and other departments were taking money from that fund.

Chairman Walsh asked if that fund could be used for bus transportation program. Selectman Baschnagel felt that it could as an investment, but not as an operating fund.

Chairman Walsh found the metrics useful and under revenue he would like to see a total so he wouldn't have to add it up himself. It would be useful in determining trends.

Chairman Walsh invited Van Chesnut to speak to the high points of Advance Transit.

Van Chesnut, Advance Transit, advised that some of the people that have not been able to access fixed route service due to disability now have the option to do so. They call this access ADA Complimentary Para Transit, which is part of the Americans with Disabilities Act and has been offered since the beginning of the year.

Mr. Chesnut reported that they carried just under 400,000 people on their line routes which is a 17% increase in one year. Considering what would happen if the bus wasn't

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available, this service saved a net of over one million automobile miles and over 5 tons of pollutants. Advance Transit is going to start replacing buses with cleaner burning diesels which will have a positive impact on air quality in the community. The proposal is straightforward, they didn't ask for anything last year but labor, fuel and insurance have all gone up and the amount requested is just to maintain the current levels of service. The ADA portion is a partially unfunded mandate so they are looking for support to cover the costs.

Police Department

Ms. McClain introduced Chief Nick Giaccone, Doug Hackett and Lt. Michael Evans.

Chief Giaccone advised that he had sent a memo regarding the unexpected increase for the Prosecutorial contribution. The other part of the budget consists of 80% for salaries and the final year of the labor agreement which will require restarting negotiations in the fall.

Chairman Walsh spoke about the LGCPA memo and he appreciated the last sentence which indicates that there is an increase and the proposal to increase fines to make it budget neutral.

Selectman Baschnagel asked how many computers the police department currently has. Corey Stevens advised it was around 32.

Selectman Christie asked about the Diversion program and the reduction of the revenue portion of the budget. Chief Giaccone noted that in the first year, they were trying to anticipate the number of arrests and the expenditure of the psychologist. The arrest numbers have come down a little bit. Elizabeth Rathburn, Diversion Program Coordinator, noted that last year there were 84 attendees and the year prior it was over 100 and with the increase in the fee from \$325.00 per attendee to \$400.00 it was anticipated that the revenue would be higher.

Selectman Lubrano asked about the increase for the Retirement System and where it would be listed as a line item. Ms. McClain advised that they are currently all pooled in the unallocated section of the budget.

Selectman Baschnagel asked about the 8% increase in Investigation Personnel and whether there was an increase in personnel or if it reflected the transition from Lt. to Captain. Ms. McClain advised that this was due to a Detective being appointed Captain.

Chairman Walsh asked if there were any trends noted (page 202 statistics). Chief Giaccone noted that there were problems with the software to tally up the dollar amounts of good stolen. The numbers that have been increasing are internet crime which includes thefts through Ebay and the FBI has a Clearinghouse in West Virginia which looks at the reports and then it gets transferred to the local department. Hanover has had limited luck in restitution but an increase in thefts and the dollar amount. Chief Giaccone noted that

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the College carries higher numbers for the sexual assaults because many victims do not want police involvement.

Chairman Walsh asked about the jump in dispatch numbers. Chief Giaccone noted that this is due to taking on Enfield and Canaan.

Parks and Recreation

Hank Tenney, Director, invited questions of the Board.

Selectman Baschnagel asked about the cost to the General Fund which has doubled in the last few years. Mr. Tenney advised that staff has driven the cost up, especially after the hiring of the facilities manager and the full time maintenance person is now part of the recreation department.

Chairman Walsh asked about the HOST After School Program and what the numbers were. Ms. Griffin advised that it's a fairly small program. They are committed to the fact that the program has to be self supportive and the fee is passed on to the users. There is no General Fund subsidy. Ms. Griffin noted that their original hope was to get 30-40 participants but currently there are 16. The Middle School provides free after school study in the library and they pay for the staffing, so there are talks with Principal Susan Finer and Superintendent Wayne Gerson to try to better organize after school programs where families are truly paying for the cost of the care of their kids after school.

Selectman Baschnagel asked about the Basketball Tournament and whether the increased costs have to do with increased fees. Hank Tenney advised that there will be a decrease in revenue. The offset for the gym costs has gone up which will come out of the expense side. It's a single elimination tournament. Ms. Griffin advised that if teams are only paying \$30.00 they might be able to increase the fees but Hank has been reluctant to boost the fees too much.

Selectman Christie asked if each program is going to be covered by the fees charged. Ms. McClain advised that they've allocated no administrative support to these programs and each program is covering their own direct costs.

Chairman Walsh noted that youth programs were down \$6,000 from last year and the net from the basketball tournament is down \$3,000. Ms. Griffin advised that they pay for the custodial services provided by the school for the gymnasium. Hank Tenney advised that there are about 30 – 35 officials who volunteer their time and the only thing they receive is a free McDonald's meal which is donated by McDonalds. A lot of volunteer work goes into the program.

Chairman Walsh noted that they have gone from a net expense to the General Fund from \$120,000 in 2004 to \$250,000 this year or from \$195,000 when the Black Center opened to \$250,000 now. These are big jumps and the program went from 3.5 people to 6 people. There is a \$22,000 difference from last year, which is a 9.6%

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difference and then \$13,000 in salaries and he'd like to see the number at 5% instead of 10%. Chairman Walsh stated that he doesn't wish to raise fees so that people can't participate in the programs but they put together great programs and he suggested increasing a fee, for example, of \$30.00 to \$32.50 which could bring it closer to 5% between revenue and expenses. Hank Tenney felt that last year they tried to reach the budget goals last year which was unrealistic and the fees are now \$40.00/person to participate in a program. Mr. Tenney noted that they just picked up a copier lease, credit card services, which are not controlled expenses. Ms. Griffin suggested discussing raising fees in May. Hank Tenney noted that they are running into more people who are classified as Hanover residents or Non-profits and they are giving the opportunity for people to use the center and they may need to look at a fee structure and what the Board wishes to do with the structure with regard to who uses it and who pays for it.

Chairman Walsh advised that with regard to credit cards, he has been against the program but the Board chose to do credit cards and he has trouble with having the General Fund pay for the \$3,000 fees for programs that are already nicely priced. The new equipment is very good but they didn't need to buy such good equipment. Ms. Griffin suggested focusing on next fall's program since the spring brochure is almost done.

Chairman Walsh wanted to commend Hank Tenney and his department for doing a tremendous service to the community.

Items for Further Review

Ms. McClain advised that she provided the Board with a packet of information that she had compiled from the items that the Board had mentioned that they wished to review.

Chairman Walsh asked about the HVAC remote system monitoring. Ms. McClain stated that they found a \$1,200 savings with computers that MIS already had.

Chairman Walsh noted the energy consumption for the Howe and all Town departments. Ms. McClain advised that staff would look at this.

Chairman Walsh noted that the Grant Road work in the public works budget and will start this summer.

Chairman Walsh noted that the fiber project shows a cost of about \$200,000 of Town money over a 5 year period.

Selectman Baschnagel noted that he had discussions with Betsy McClain and Doug Hackett and he feels much more comfortable with the project. Town staff has done a lot of work on this and he received responses for the questions that he had. Selectman Lubrano is prepared to defer to staff on this project. Selectman Christie noted that there should be a 4 year payback on this. Ms. McClain advised that this was what was projected and there has been an increase in Town staff, they have a higher variety of volunteer and benefits plans and they still conduct weekly payroll with one person, at

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some point, decentralizing timekeeping and some fixed asset tracking where it could be accessed instead of hiring a half time person would recognize significant savings. She feels the network could make better use of the Administrative Staff in the departments.

Chairman Walsh advised that one of the pieces of the proposal was the ability to share between the Hanover dispatch center and the Lebanon dispatch center and will they be able to defer personnel? Doug Hackett advised that right now they staff two people on days, two evenings and one midnight person and they are seeing an increase 3 days a week between midnight and 2 a.m. where staff is getting overloaded. The benefit of the fiber grant would be to have the other town (Lebanon vs. Hanover) pick up the slack with answering phones to automatically transfer to the other dispatch center if the phone rings 4 times without being answered. The fiber would allow each town to log-in to the other's software and then if they take an ambulance call, it can be entered right into their software.

Ms. Griffin wished to give some credit to Senator Burling because it didn't appear that it was going to go through. Police Chief Jim Alexander and City Manager Gregg Mandsager were able to clarify what this project was going to accomplish.

Chairman Walsh spent some time reading the material and he is more comfortable that this is a good thing for the Town to do financially and operationally. He feels that they have done a tremendous amount of work in the background but in the future a little heads up would help them understand a project of this size.

The Board was in favor of this project but they would like to continue to keep an eye on the progress of this project.

Chairman Walsh moved on to reinstating VNA and West Central donation requests in the amount of \$2,290.

Chairman Walsh noted the Hovey/Buell bump-outs which is \$4,600 for general traffic calming.

Chairman Walsh noted that the increase in the Fire Department water rates represents an additional \$.19 on the Hydrant District Tax Rate.

Chairman Walsh addressed the issue of Suppression Overtime.

Chief Bradley stated that based on activity and past history, the needs have been under funded and they have made do and overspent that account previously. Selectman Christie asked if the overtime amount decreased by \$100,000 with the increase in personnel. Chief Bradley noted that with the SAFER grant, that maintaining 4 people on duty would necessitate over \$300,000 and with 5 they were projecting \$233,000 and it wasn't funded at that level. Selectman Christie asked if the forecasted \$100,000 savings by going to 5 firefighters was realized since they've only had to budget \$233,000 versus \$333,000.

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Chief Bradley confirmed that this was the case had that line item been budgeted at \$333,000.

Selectman Baschnagel asked about callbacks and what the current policies are, if there are 5 on a shift. Chief Bradley advised that they have changed their staffing levels to accommodate their staffing at 4. If 2 people respond with an ambulance and 3 are left at the station, they will call 1 to bring the number up to 4.

Chairman Walsh noted that in looking at the metrics in terms of incidents, in 4 years, in personnel with salaries benefits and overtime, it has gone from \$1.5 to \$2.1 million and he recognizes that they made a conscious decision relative to ISO but he doesn't see where they have gained another \$600,000 in increase in value or protection from this and he is going to be pushing on overtime for every fund because it appears that it is growing faster than they can afford.

Chairman Walsh moved on to the reduction to equipment reserve by \$10,000. Selectman Christie felt that it was his understanding that while they were paying for the equipment loan, they would not reserve and he asked if the reduction of \$10,000 accomplished this. Ms. McClain confirmed that this was what they were doing. On the in-between budget discussions they will go over how they might pay for the next ladder truck.

Chairman Walsh asked about the reduction in the Fire Department overall tax levy and how they came up with the figure of \$32,225. Ms. McClain explained that it was because of the way the Fire District Tax worked, she had to figure out the Remote District Tax rate and then the Non-Hydrant is built off of that and then they work out what the Hydrant District is over the 5 year transition period.

Chairman Walsh noted that Peter Kulbacki provided the Board with a memo with information on how to generate an additional \$878,990 for the Water Reclamation Facility with fees and charges and he was comfortable with it.

Selectman Christie noted that for the fiber network, the use of technology that creates efficiency that allow you to grow your business or expand your services without adding staff is exactly the right model and he encourages this kind of thinking. This will pay off in the long run; it will allow the Town to provide the same services, better services without having to add staff along the way.

Chairman Walsh moved on to the proposed budget changes that were listed in Ms. McClain's packet. Ms. McClain advised that under budget adjustments #1 are the recommended reductions in expenditure or increases in revenue and reinstatement of a couple of items which gets them from a 7.2% tax increase to 6.8% tax increase. She also looked at spreading the \$105,000 in the budget currently over 2 years, the tax rate is brought down to 6%. Then if they take the costs of the Reservoir Road repairs and spread that over 2 years, it results in a 4.75% tax rate increase. Selectman Baschnagel

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noted that he had done some similar calculations which also brought the tax rate down to 5.0%.

Chairman Walsh gave an overview of the items noted in the packet for the benefits of the audience. Ms. McClain noted that the reduction in the Dispatch equipment reserve is directly related to the \$50,000 in improvements to the infrastructure.

Chairman Walsh asked the Board members where they stand with the issues. He commended the Department Heads and staff for the budgets that have been presented in difficult times.

The Board agreed with the budget adjustments #1 to get the rate down from 7.2% to 6.8%.

Chairman Walsh is ready to support taking care of Reservoir Road and refilling the fund balance and start next year without those leftover problems. Selectman Christie would adjust the rate to 6.00% but he doesn't feel comfortable going further than that. Leave 6.00% as the target for Town Meeting. He doesn't see much in good news for the next year.

Selectman Lubrano agreed with Selectman Christie. Chairman Walsh was also fine with recovering half of the undesignated fund balance in the general fund.

Chairman Walsh MOVED to pass a budget which will reflect the changes in budget adjustments 1 and 2 on page 4 of the memo from Betsy McClain subject to Betsy and Julia and the Department heads reviewing it and then to be reviewed with Vice Chairman Connolly with the intent of the Selectmen reaffirming this budget and not re-opening it on March 19th. Selectman Lubrano SECONDED the motion.

THE BOARD VOTED UNANIMOUSLY TO PASS THE BUDGET WHICH WILL REFLECT THE CHANGES IN BUDGET ADJUSTMENTS 1 AND 2 ON PAGE 4 OF THE MEMO FROM BETSY MCCLAIN SUBJECT TO REVIEW BY TOWN STAFF AND DEPARTMENT HEADS IN ADDITION TO VICE CHAIRMAN CONNOLLY WITH THE INTENT OF THE SELECTMEN REAFFIRMING THE BUDGET ON MARCH 19TH.

Chairman Walsh felt that with regard to the landscaping, Town staff could get back to the Board on March 19th when they could discuss what seems reasonable in response to Vice Chairman Connolly's concerns. Selectman Baschnagel asked about the Capital Reserve but he wanted to establish an understanding or an account that does not allow for money to be used as a slush fund and make sure it stays dedicated to future enhancements. Ms. McClain advised that they could sub account that fund and not transfer the trustees and trust funds and clearly designate it for capital.

Ms. Griffin pointed out that the Staff is committed to not use the fund balance to either balance the budget or finance buildings or things that are not parking related.

Selectman Christie is not persuaded between the loss of flexibility and protecting the fund from temptation. Giving up the loss of flexibility versus lack of discipline should not be an issue. Selectman Baschnagel is happy with Ms. McClain's proposal to make an account and label the fund. She will create a new line item in the budget for this item.

Chairman Walsh wanted to keep the number at \$500,000 for the reserve and the landscaping can be done above and beyond that. Ms. McClain advised that they will discuss the landscaping allocation at the March 19th meeting.

Selectman Baschnagel raised the issue of the Park and Lyme signals and the \$145,000 of developer funds to invest them in that signal. He does not wish to do this since the College is going to do more building and there is going to be additional work in that area before they spend that money. He would also advocate a roundabout on that corner rather than investing in signals.

Ms. Griffin noted that Public Works and the Police are concerned about the safety of that signal at Park and Lyme. She would like to have funds to deal with that problem if something goes terribly wrong with that area should it fail.

Selectman Baschnagel stated that he doesn't want to invest \$145,000 on this and determine that this is not the solution that the Town wanted. Ms. Griffin wanted to fast track discussions about this intersection. Chairman Walsh asked if there was a \$5,000 or \$10,000 repair that could be done. Mr. Kulbacki advised that they have already done the \$5,000 and \$10,000 repair and some of the money is to reconfigure the intersection. The signal is going to fail and the roundabout proposal would not fit in that intersection. Selectman Christie expects that there may be an opportunity with the College to look at options in that area. Mr. Kulbacki has done some layouts for a new signal and reconfiguration of the intersection. They looked at a double lane roundabout when they were looking at moving the school and it would be very large.

Selectman Baschnagel does not have a problem with leaving it in the budget but to explore more options.

3. ADMINISTRATIVE REPORTS

Ms. Griffin advised that there was nothing new to report.

4. SELECTMEN'S REPORTS

There were no Selectmen's reports.

5. OTHER BUSINESS

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There was no Other Business.

6. ADJOURNMENT

**Selectman Lubrano MOVED to adjourn. Selectman Baschnagel
SECONDED the motion.**

**THE BOARD VOTED UNANIMOUSLY TO ADJOURN THE MEETING
AT 8:50 P.M.**

Respectfully Submitted,

Allegra Lubrano, Secretary

Minutes prepared by Elizabeth S. Rathburn.

SUMMARY

- 1. Chairman Walsh MOVED to pass a budget which will reflect the changes in budget adjustments 1 and 2 on page 4 of the memo from Betsy McClain subject to Betsy and Julia and the Department heads reviewing it and then to be reviewed with Vice Chairman Connolly with the intent of the Selectmen reaffirming this budget and not re-opening it on March 19th. Selectman Lubrano SECONDED the motion.**

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THE BOARD VOTED UNANIMOUSLY TO PASS THE BUDGET WHICH WILL REFLECT THE CHANGES IN BUDGET ADJUSTMENTS 1 AND 2 ON PAGE 4 OF THE MEMO FROM BETSY MCCLAIN SUBJECT TO REVIEW BY TOWN STAFF AND DEPARTMENT HEADS IN ADDITION TO VICE CHAIRMAN CONNOLLY WITH THE INTENT OF THE SELECTMEN REAFFIRMING THE BUDGET ON MARCH 19TH.

2. **Selectman Lubrano MOVED to adjourn. Selectman Baschnagel SECONDED the motion.**

THE BOARD VOTED UNANIMOUSLY TO ADJOURN THE MEETING AT 8:50 P.M.

FINAL

BOARD OF SELECTMEN'S MEETING

February 28, 2007

7:00 P.M. – MUNICIPAL OFFICE BUILDING – HANOVER NH

The meeting of the Board of Selectmen was called to order at 7:00 p.m. by Chairman Brian Walsh. Present were: Brian Walsh, Chairman; Bill Baschnagel, Selectman; Allegra Lubrano, Selectman; and Julia Griffin, Town Manager. Absent: Katherine Connolly, Vice Chairman and Peter Christie, Selectman.

1. PUBLIC COMMENT

Chairman Walsh announced Public Comment. There were no comments from the public. Chairman Walsh announced problems with the audio and requested that anyone wishing to speak use the microphone.

2. 3rd BUDGET PUBLIC HEARING:

- Board of Selectmen
- Town Manager
- Human Resources
- Administrative Services
- Assessing
- MIS
- Social Services
- Planning & Zoning

Board of Selectmen

Ms. Griffin noted that the Board of Selectmen's budget is pretty straightforward. More than half of the budget is the Cable Franchise Fee. There are no proposed significant increases in the budget. By having Elizabeth Rathburn prepare the Minutes in conjunction with her duties at the Police Department, there has been a savings of approximately \$2,000 to the Board's budget.

Town Manager

Ms. Griffin noted that the increase is the salary increases for the Town Manager and Penny Hoisington.

Selectman Baschnagel noted that there was a decrease in overtime which indicates improved efficiency.

Ms. Griffin credited Betsy McClain with making the process more efficient which no longer requires Penny Hoisington to work overtime with Julia to get the work on the budget done.

Chairman Walsh asked about the Professional Fees for the Audit and the increase of \$8,000 in a short period of time. Ms. McClain noted that they are locked in for this fiscal year and the next but then the Town will put out Requests for Proposal for FY 2009/2010 to entertain offers from different firms.

Ms. Griffin noted that although there would be proposals coming in, she is not convinced that they will be for less than the Town is currently paying. Chairman Walsh asked if there would be latitude in what the Town is looking at for services. Ms. McClain noted that the Town could ask for a review instead of a full audit but that would hurt the Town with regard to grant applications. Chairman Walsh asked about setting up a sub-committee to review this issue. Ms. McClain would welcome some more input in this area.

Human Resources

Chairman Walsh invited Myra Johnson, Human Resources Director, to speak to the Board about the Human Resources budget. Ms. Griffin pointed out that Ms. Johnson just completed her first year with the Town.

Ms. Johnson noted that a lot of what is seen in the budget is due to recruiting and retirements but she feels that it should remain fairly stable. She is looking at ways to save money including moving some of the copying that has been attributed to Human Resources which will now be the responsibility of the individual departments. The one big expenditure was the large Holiday party and there were over 100 attendants. Ms. Griffin noted that some of the money for that event came out of the Board of Selectmen's miscellaneous account.

Selectman Baschnagel asked about the list of full time employees and whether that are any vacancies. Ms. Johnson noted that there were 3 positions that were not currently filled.

Kari Assmus, Etna, had a question about Union negotiations and whether money was included in this section. Ms. Griffin noted that this would be charged to the legal budget and not in Human Resources.

Chairman Walsh liked seeing the performance measures and found it very useful. He would like to see it in a 10 year perspective but only if the numbers are readily available.

Administrative Services

Ms. McClain noted that the overall budget to budget changes are in line with the salary increases so there are no big outstanding items that she feels need to be highlighted.

Selectman Baschnagel asked about the offset with the Sweep account. Ms. McClain noted that the short term interest which is the money earned on the money in the bank when they collect fees is in the unallocated section of the budget.

Selectman Lubrano asked about the changes in the end of day balancing for the on-line motor vehicle registrations. Ms. McClain advised that the Town is transitioning over to conducting motor vehicle registrations directly into the State database. The web-based application will update the database directly which means that at the end of the day, they need to balance and close out and shut the day down. Currently the day is kept open until the following day. Chairman Walsh asked if this meant that the Town was able to keep a larger portion of the fees. Ms. McClain advised that it does not mean that the Town receives more money but it does mean that they are able to provide more services to the Town.

Ms. Griffin noted that this has been a controversial project across the State and many communities have not been happy with the program. Some communities are not happy with the way the State has established this program but from the Town's perspective, it is a welcome change. Ms. McClain noted that there is a separate accounting system and some of the larger cities used to have that function combined.

Ms. Griffin noted an anticipated decrease of \$15,000 for the motor vehicle registration permit revenue. Chairman Walsh looked at the numbers and thought that things would level out versus taking the amount down. He would like to put this amount of money on the list of things to talk about.

Selectman Baschnagel asked why the receivables are up and what might be pushing them. Ms. McClain stated that she thinks that the overall tax bills are somewhat larger in terms of the tax they collect every year, she can't pinpoint anything beyond that.

Chairman Walsh asked about unallocated costs. Ms. McClain advised that this is where employee benefits for all the salaries that are budgeted in the General Fund are in this category. In terms of revenue, they've been more aggressive in looking more closely at the Town's working capital interest. There is a big increase in the revenue line item which is due in part to the work that Mike Ahern who works with local banks to maximize the number. The other area where they have been aggressive is the Rooms and Meals Tax.

Selectman Baschnagel found it potentially misleading that the salaries are not included in the personnel costs. He asked what the miscellaneous income amount is for. Ms. McClain advised that part of this is for the lamination of birth certificates and the small fee charged adds up.

Ms. McClain noted that they level funded the legal services amount. Chairman Walsh felt that the Town is doing a good job since other towns spend more in legal fees.

Ms. Griffin noted that the police station upgrade will be complete in a year. Ms. McClain noted a typo and that the last payment will be in FY2007/2008. Chairman Walsh would like to see the debt outstanding in next year's figures.

Ms. Griffin noted that page 145 shows the employer required contribution to the State Retirement System. Chairman Walsh asked how much it is in dollars. Ms. Griffin noted a 34.1% increase which is \$130,000 in the General Fund and then an \$18,000 increase in the Fire Fund. Chairman Walsh noted that \$130,000 is 2% on the general fund tax rate.

Ms. Griffin noted that there is an effort to amend the Retirement System Board to allow active municipal participation on that Board. She is not hopeful that it will happen this year. The next increase should come two years from now but due to concerns that the Retirement System may fail, the Town may be hit with another increase next year.

Selectman Baschnagel asked if the Town's representatives are aware of the magnitude of the contributions. Ms. Griffin advised that they are aware and there are conflicting positions on this. The goal is to get municipal representatives on the Board.

Chairman Walsh noted that the State budget is being eaten up by the State Retirement System. Selectman Baschnagel asked if the employees have been made aware of their total compensation package. Ms. Griffin advised that they have been, especially in the last year.

Chairman Walsh noted that the Health Insurance increase is maxed at 6.4% and the property insurance has also seen a limited increase.

Selectman Baschnagel commented that the short term interest accounts are great. Ms. McClain suggested a quarterly sewer bill which will increase the interest accrued on those amounts.

Selectman Baschnagel asked about the insurance decrease. Ms. McClain noted that the premiums are somewhat fixed so there is a reallocation of assets along the fund groups.

Ms. Griffin pointed out that no fund balance is proposed to be used on page 148 and then \$105,000 is proposed to be added back on page 149. This would be one of the accounts where they can discuss the rate of increasing the undesignated fund balance.

Chairman Walsh stated that the target is between 5 and 10% and the general fund now is 4% so if they ended this year at 0 and they put the \$105,000 in, would that get them to the 5%? Ms. McClain stated that it would get them to 5.29%.

Assessing

Ms. Griffin invited Mike Ryan to approach the Board to speak about his budget. Ms. Griffin noted that last year the Town did better than they anticipated and they try to remain conservative on the projections. Chairman Walsh felt that \$35 million sounded like a large amount and he didn't feel that it should necessarily be increased. Ms. Griffin noted that part of this money is the large dormitories that the College has built but they will not be continuing this trend in the years to come. At times the assumption of residents in Town is that the College doesn't pay taxes and she reminds them that they certainly do pay a large portion in taxes.

Chairman Walsh asked about the revaluation and how far into the work is the Town at this point. Mr. Ryan advised that they are 60% done and they do have a lot of call backs for people who missed the first round of visits. Mr. Ryan advised that this would be for 2008 and the tax bill that hits in the fall of 2008.

Selectman Lubrano was amazed that in 4 years, property values went up 10%. She asked Mr. Ryan what the revaluation would do to this number. Mr. Ryan advised that some of the reason for the previous increase was the fact that it hadn't been done in a number of years.

Ms. Griffin noted that Mr. Ryan asked for \$50,000 in overlay but they cut it back to \$40,000. He's hoping that it's enough. Chairman Walsh stated that he would rely on the staff's recommendations.

MIS

Corey Stevens advised that there weren't any real highs or lows to his budget, it's pretty much level funded budget from last year and he invited questions from the Board. Ms. Griffin noted that the Howe Library was asking for replacement laptops and they were told no. Selectman Baschnagel asked about the replacement schedule. Mr. Stevens advised that it is based on a 4 year rotation.

Chairman Walsh advised that he saw that the average cost for replacement is \$1,200 and he is wondering why it costs that much and what level of machines are being purchased versus what is really needed. Mr. Stevens advised that part of that number is for a monitor if necessary. There is no money in the budget for replacement pieces so it is taken out of the \$1,200.

Selectman Lubrano asked about the laptops for HVAC monitoring. Mr. Stevens noted that the number could have been decreased and they could put used monitors for that function. His concern is that using the used computers and then needing to replace them because they are unreliable. Mr. Stevens advised that Frank Austin would be able to regulate the system from his desk versus going to the actual location and there are limitations as to what situations he can address from the computer.

Selectman Baschnagel felt that Mr. Austin should be able to handle the controls from a remote location versus a computer being left solely to monitor the system. Chairman Walsh had the feeling that this should require a \$300.00 machine to simply monitor the system. Ms. Griffin suggested Mr. Stevens and Mr. Austin get together and discuss options on this subject.

Selectman Baschnagel looked at the equipment from last year to this year and questioned why some items are in the budget yearly. Mr. Stevens noted that these amounts are held just in case they need to be replaced. Ms. Griffin noted that Mr. Stevens runs his budget tight and if something is not budgeted for, it is not purchased. Some of the equipment that may need replacing such as dispatch monitors, is set aside in case there is an immediate need.

Social Services

Ms. McClain joined the Board to run through the Social Services section of the budget. Ms. Griffin noted the increases projected from the Towns of Lyme and Norwich.

Chairman Walsh noted that there is \$72,200 requested for Social Service Agencies. Ms. McClain noted that this does not include some of the newer agencies that have requested funding. The new requests are a separate article for 3 years and then in the 4th year, it is included in the budgetary considerations.

Mr. Michaud, West Central Services, asked if there was a decrease in the quality of the services provided by the Town after the retirement of Dena Romero. Ms. Griffin noted that the Town of Hanover has a very small amount of welfare cases and Myra Johnson took over that portion of Dena Romero's job and she is available to anyone for these services.

Myra Johnson added that Dena Romero has been available to answer questions and continues to be a valuable resource to the Town.

Chairman Walsh confirmed that the Town had contracted with the Grafton County Senior Citizens Council to help with services for the elderly population.

Ms. McClain gave an overview of the application process for anyone wishing to obtain funds for their social services.

Roberta Berner, Executive Director for the Grafton County Senior Citizens Council, (with Laurel Fielder who is a Board Member) stated that they appreciate the contract that they have with the Town of Hanover. She advised that they have increased the staff for Service Link and their social workers operate separately. Ms. Griffin noted that the Town boosted the amount of the donations that are provided by the Town since they took over a portion of Dena's job. Ms. Berner noted that they are seeing an increase in their in-home care. They delivered home delivered meals and provide transportation to assist in keeping people in their homes.

Mike Cryans, Executive Director of Headrest, advised that they are the only 24/7 hotline in the State of New Hampshire retrieving suicide calls in NH, VT and Maine. They also handle shelter calls for abused women in the North Country. They rely on the generosity of the communities and they receive funds from the State of New Hampshire and the United Way and he thanked the Town for their support.

Carol Ohlwert, VNA/Hospice, also thanked the Town of Hanover for their continued support and noted that they are celebrating their 100th Anniversary. She stated that they started the service in Windsor and in the Town of Hanover it had been a Town supported agencies for many years and then the hospital took it over. She noted that if they weren't able to get the support, they wouldn't be able to provide the services that they do. She explained that they handle a variety of programs including support for people with new babies and people who are dealing with end of life issues. They are paid by Medicare but she noted that the reimbursements never cover their costs. The un-reimbursed care that they provide is a significant shortfall in their budget.

Dick Carney, VNA/Hospice Board Member, noted that just as in the case of the Town's re-allocation of the Fire District Tax, the VNA is trying to do the same thing. They've established their average costs based on the number of calls that they receive and arrive at a per capita charge based on population. The requested increase amounts to an additional \$.23 per capita. The un-reimbursed expense was almost \$420,000 which is significant out of a \$20 million budget.

Chairman Walsh put the additional \$1,300 request on the list to be discussed further by the Board.

Ron Michaud, West Central Behavioral Health Services, gave a history of the State's handling of mentally ill patients. He advised that they are in the same situation as VNA as Medicare does not completely reimburse West Central for the services that are provided. They are asking for \$10,230 and he is hopeful that the Town will not level fund them. He also stated that Hanover Select Board by far has a very good attitude, spirit and openness toward Social Services and the budget process. He looks at the money not as donations but as payment to support services within the community.

Chairman Walsh asked that the \$930 difference to be placed on the list for further consideration.

Peggy O'Neil, Executive Director of WISE, thanked the Town of Hanover for their support over the years. They are experiencing a significant increase in the use of their services. They serve a relatively small number of people in Hanover, but the overall number has increased significantly. Currently, WISE is providing support to the Child Advocacy Center for the "non-offending parent" in cases where there is suspected child abuse. They have been working in the Hanover High School and they would love the opportunity to work with the Hanover Richmond School. They continue to provide 24 hour crisis services. It is hard to get volunteers because they are required to complete over 30 hours of training. They currently have about 25 volunteers.

Jessica Eakin, Director, Youth-in-Action stated that they are continuing to have a strong year. She is also the librarian at the High School, so she is hoping to get even more youths involved in Youth-in-Action. They've had over 300 students do volunteer activities. They help senior citizens and school children in the area including tutoring.

Robert Chambers, Bonnie Clac, noted that they provide services to help people finance affordable vehicles. Bonnie Clac has received attention from some national foundations and they have been approached about going national. They are the only agency in the State of NH that helps people to buy automobiles. Bonnie Clac has achieved greater success than any other non-profits providing the same type of service across the country. They helped 870 individuals purchase new cars. They received referrals from 240 different social service agencies in the State of NH. They received referrals from over 1,800 employers in the State of NH and VT.

Chairman Walsh feels that Bonnie Clac is doing great things but from the application, no other Town or City is contributing to support them and he has concerns about that.

Mr. Chambers noted that since the application was submitted, the Town of Enfield has voted and they are now in their budget this year. They have made application in Keene and a number of other communities and part of the issue is the amount of time that it takes to do this. He feels that in the future they may become a self sustaining organization, especially if they go nationally, and then they may not need to ask for financial assistance from the Town.

Jill Harris, President and CEO of the Upper Valley Humane Society, thanked the Board for their support and expressed appreciation for the relationship that they have with the Hanover Police Department. Each year they work with over 200 families from Hanover and some of them are families in crisis who surrender animals to the UVHS. They invest 4 times the level of resources over what they receive in adoption fees. They work on keeping pets and families together and happy by offering behavior support.

George Therriault, President and CEO for the NH Association for the Blind, is requesting \$1,500 and this is the first time in 95 years that they have asked Towns for support. The increase in the aging population has directly affected their agency. Ten years ago, they considered themselves very successful to manage 20 new referrals per month. About 5 or 6 years ago they were managing 30 new referrals a month and now it's averaging 55 a month, simply because of the changing demographics. There are about 45,000 severely visually impaired people 65 and older in NH. There are probably another 10 - 12,000 who would be considered legally blind of other age groups. They face a real challenge as the population continues to age and there is very little progress being made for the three leading causes of blindness in NH. They do not charge for services and there is no Medicare funding for these services. They serve about 1,600 individuals on an annual basis, one-on-one, and another 600 individuals in groups. He stated that they are largely invisible to the community because they don't have an office in town and they travel from Concord or wherever the workers live. They have met increased demand in service by cross training people to become more effective. There are fixed and rising costs that they have to deal with as others have had to do. They have applied to 11 Towns and he noted that the application for the Town of Hanover was very thoughtful and he appreciated the effort that the Town puts into it.

Joie Finlay-Morris, Tri County Cap, advised that they have been around for over 40 years and they used to work out of the Listen Community building and last year they needed to expand so they now have a new office on Mechanic Street in Lebanon. They justify the funding by coming to a \$15.00/per household number to those that they assist and in Hanover they served 31 families last year. The three big programs that they handle are fuel assistance, electric discount and homeless programs. They provided the residents of Hanover with over \$17,285 in cash assistance to help with heating or electric bills. They are asking for \$465.00 from the Town of Hanover.

Planning & Zoning

Ms. Griffin advised that the only real highlight in this budget this year is under the Administrative Assistant's job title is a vacancy in quotes, Planning and Zoning Clerk, and that money was earmarked for the part-time electrical inspector and were unable to find a replacement for that position. Mr. Edwards asked her if they could use that money for another purpose. Ms. Griffin wanted to assess the need now that Beth Rivard is back full time. She has spoken with Nancy Collier and they feel that additional clerical support is important. The position isn't filled right now but the money is in the budget. Ms. Griffin also noted that they are looking at re-configuring the building to rearrange staff and better serve the public.

Mr. Edwards also noted that they have purposely tried to be conservative in the revenue estimates. Ms. Griffin was concerned about delays with regard to Planning and Zoning Board decisions and the larger projects that Dartmouth has going on.

Selectman Baschnagel confirmed that the revenue estimates were based on activity and not on an increase in fees. Ms. Griffin stated that they will be looking at fees in March and April and they are a little low in comparison to other communities.

Chairman Walsh asked about the money coming in and going out and what this means. Ms. McClain advised that they realize a certain amount of land use change tax and they don't put it into the designated reserve in the same year that they raise that money, which would be a 50% contribution to the Conservation Fund and 50% contribution to the Land and Capital Improvement Fund so they have to realize the land use change tax and put in on the balance sheet in a pending reserve. The other line items represent the transfers in from the designated reserve from the previous year and the appropriation that is historically authorized at Town Meeting for 50% to the Conservation Fund and 50% to the Land and Capital Improvements Fund. The auditors track the gross appropriations and they need to be able to see both sides of it in the same year.

Ms. Griffin summarized that the money in this budget that comes in between July 1, 2007 to June 30, 2008 will not be transferred into the two reserve funds until the Town Meeting in May, 2009. The money that is shown in the budget won't go into the reserves until May, 2009.

Chairman Walsh stated that it looks like there is \$200,000 of revenue but there is truly only \$100,000. Ms. Griffin stated that they are required to characterize it in this way because of the auditors and the DRA (Department of Revenue Administration).

Selectman Baschnagel commented that he would like to look at 10 years at a time to see if there are any noticeable trends. He would also like to get some statistics as to how well the Town is serving their clients. One of the issues with Planning is the

processing time and he would like to get a better feel as to how this process is going for the public. They should be tracking a set of metrics with each application.

Mr. Edwards noted that they don't have a lot of staff time to track metrics but if they can get some of the software which they have on the wish list, it would take assist in handling this.

3. ADMINISTRATIVE REPORTS

There were no Administrative Reports.

4. SELECTMEN'S REPORTS

There were no Selectmen's Reports.

5. OTHER BUSINESS

Chairman Walsh asked to review the list of things to be considered for this year's budget. He stated that it appears that they will be putting a 5.5% to 7% increase before this year's Town Meeting and there was a 15% increase last year and he wants to find ways to find revenue to fund the wish lists.

Ms. Griffin noted that as an example, the Town could use money in the Land and Capital Improvements Fund for the moving of the fields for Parks and Recreation. Chairman Walsh wants to revisit this issue tomorrow night and whether it needs to be done this year as opposed to next year. Ms. Griffin stated that it could wait another year.

Selectman Baschnagel shares the concerns expressed by the Chairman. He doesn't see anything on the list that jumps out at him as a must have item.

Selectman Lubrano shares the concerns about the tax rate increases, but there are two things she would like to see in this year's budget. The traffic calming bump outs and landscaping on Hovey and Buell and although it can wait, it's already waited and it's not a huge amount of money. She would also like to spend the extra money that was requested by the VNA and West Central.

Chairman Walsh stated that he felt the department heads provided the Board with a good budget package and now the decision that the Board needs to make is to either approve it or not approve it.

Kari Assmus attended the Finance Committee meeting Monday night and there was open-mindedness into splitting it into two years. The people in the Rural Fire District are going to be taking a pretty big hit and their increase in taxes this year, despite the fact that it's being done over 5 years, if you add their General Fund tax

rate and their Fire Fund tax rate, compare 2008 over 2007, it's an 18% increase over their 15% increase last year. It can start to feel very difficult to have these big increases over the last 2 years.

Chairman Walsh noted that the Fire Department will be providing the Board with further information regarding the overtime budget so that they can review the numbers that he feels should be significantly less.

Selectman Christie (via phone) felt that the Finance Committee didn't have a strong feeling of 2 years versus 3, but to the extent that the Town could moderate the changes over 2 years, that would be smart. He felt it would be valuable to walk through the Sources and Uses on page 20 because he senses that they are conservative on the revenue side and would like to have that discussion before the discussions tomorrow.

Ms. McClain referred to page 20 and suggested looking at the items in which the revenue has decreased. In talking about building permit projections, she felt that they have been prudently conservative and not overly conservative. They have also been overly optimistic with some of their building rental revenues, Hank Tenney has had increasing pressure to allow some Hanover residents to use the building for free. They have level funded the revenue expected from the Richard Black Community Center. The transfers from capital reserve are not really revenue but more planned replacement in the year.

Chairman Walsh asked if there were any other items in the budget that are a natural expense for the Land and Capital Improvements Fund versus something that is being twisted to fit that category. He could make an argument that the cost of upgrading Reservoir Road could be a candidate for funding out of that account.

Ms. McClain noted that the first roundabout was paid for partially out of the Land and Capital Improvements Fund. Ms. McClain noted that the Diversion Program was overestimated in last year's budget. Ms. Griffin noted that the numbers are down in that program, which is actually a good thing.

Chairman Walsh would like to see some suggestions for finding the money to bring the tax rate down by a certain percentage for tomorrow night's meeting.

Ms. Griffin also suggested looking at the rates that the Richard Black Community Center charges for their rooms. They can look at increasing the rental fees.

Chairman Walsh asked about where else they can save money. Ms. Griffin stated that one fund that they will look at tomorrow night is the overtime money in the Fire Department. Selectman Baschnagel wanted to confirm the overtime policies are currently.

Ms. Griffin spoke about the contribution to reserve and whether they should consider reducing the amount that will be contributed this year. Selectman Baschnagel pointed out that the extra amount of money that is paid in reserve in addition to the lease on the Ladder Truck could be used elsewhere.

Chairman Walsh noted that they have heavy expensive equipment by design and the way the company sets it up to maintain, and they should be getting more useful life out of the equipment. They should be seeing 30-40 years of life out of the equipment and in truth they are getting only 10 years.

Ms. Griffin noted that the Public Works Department might be able to extend the life of the equipment but the tradeoff will be the requirement of additional maintenance and possibly more personnel. They review the replacement schedules yearly to try to determine how much is really needed to go to the reserve account.

Selectman Baschnagel advised that in anticipation of reviewing the fiber optic memo, he wants to see the payoff and he wants to make sure it's phased appropriately. Chairman Walsh would like to see the benefit of doing it this year versus next year.

Ms. Griffin noted that part of the project is grant funded so that it needs to be implemented in a timeframe that has been determined by the grant.

Ms. McClain noted that the telephone switch at the Police Department needs to be replaced because they are in danger of losing the emergency calls coming into dispatch which would be an additional expense. Selectman Baschnagel wants to get a better handle on what the project entails.

6. ADJOURNMENT

Selectman Baschnagel MOVED to adjourn the meeting. Selectman Lubrano SECONDED the motion.

THE BOARD VOTED UNANIMOUSLY TO ADJOURN THE MEETING AT 10:15 P.M.

Respectfully Submitted,

Allegra Lubrano, Secretary

Minutes prepared by Elizabeth S. Rathburn

Board of Selectmen
February 28, 2007

SUMMARY

- 1. Selectman Baschnagel MOVED to adjourn the meeting. Selectman Lubrano SECONDED the motion.**

THE BOARD VOTED UNANIMOUSLY TO ADJOURN THE MEETING AT 10:15 P.M.

BOARD OF SELECTMEN'S MEETING

February 27, 2007

7:00 P.M. – MUNICIPAL OFFICE BUILDING – HANOVER NH

The meeting of the Board of Selectmen was called to order at 7:00 p.m. by Chairman Brian Walsh. Present were: Brian Walsh, Chairman; Bill Baschnagel, Selectman; Allegra Lubrano, Selectman; and Julia Griffin, Town Manager. Absent: Katherine Connolly, Vice Chairman and Peter Christie, Selectman.

1. PUBLIC COMMENT

Chairman Walsh gave an overview of the issues that were going to be discussed at this meeting. He announced that Vice Chairman Connolly is home recovering from surgery and Selectman Christie has a bad cough and will be watching from home. Selectman Christie called in to confirm that he was able to reach the meeting by phone.

2. 2nd BUDGET PUBLIC HEARING:

- Howe Library
- Etna Library
- Fire
- Ambulance

Howe Library

Ms. Griffin noted that there were no extraordinary parts to the Howe Library budget but she did advise Marlene McGonigle of the discussion last night surrounding the HVAC costs for the Library. Ms. Griffin announced that Ms. McGonigle will retire at the end of June so this will be her last Town budget presentation.

Marlene McGonigle, Library Director, introduced Pam Smith and Ellen Lynch who work at the Library. She also introduced Posie Fowler, Chairman of the Trustees and Mado McDonald who is the Treasurer of the Board of Trustees.

Chairman Walsh acknowledged all the great work that Ms. McGonigle has done for the Town.

Ms. McGonigle pointed out that there is a recommendation before the Board to increase the non-resident fees although in the budget text it states that the fees would remain the same. Chairman Walsh noted that the fees haven't changed

since 1996. The increase would be an additional \$10 on the family membership for a total of \$110.00, an additional \$5.00 on the \$75.00 senior membership.

Selectman Baschnagel commented that he particularly likes the organization charts included in the budget and would like to see all of the employees listed.

Selectman Lubrano mentioned the software agreements listed in the Library budget and she thought that any software related contracts would be listed under the MIS budget. Ms. Griffin noted that each department is charged for their software and hardware by the MIS department and these are not duplicate charges.

Selectman Baschnagel confirmed that there are over 60 computers in the Library. Ms. McGonigle noted that even at this number, there are not enough, there are always people waiting. Ms. Griffin advised that one issue that they discussed was laptop replacement. She felt that it was not up to the Town to replace the laptops. There are 6 laptops in existence but unless the Howe Corporation decides to replace them, they will not be replaced by Town funds.

Selectman Lubrano asked about the Transfer to Capital Reserve Fund which has not been funded for the last couple of years. Ms. McGonigle noted that there is about \$26,000 in that fund currently. Ms. McGonigle also advised that the Corporation would be contributing about \$10,000 toward a Reserve Fund which will be used toward the Innovative Software upgrade. Chairman Walsh would like to look at the useful life of software and the useful life of IT assets as part of the between budget discussions.

Chairman Walsh moved on to the building costs for the Howe Library on page 88 and the electric bill is just short of \$50,000 and heat is projected at \$29,000 which are large numbers compared to the rest of the Town buildings. He noted that the goal for the upcoming years will be to build up the energy efficiency in all Town buildings.

Chairman Walsh moved on to the Performance Statistics on page 101. Ms. McGonigle noted that there was about a 17% increase in circulation since the re-opening of the renovated Howe Library. Chairman Walsh asked about the immediate after school base with the opening of the Richard Black Center and the move of the Richmond Middle School. Ms. McGonigle noted that the Library has seen an increase in the amount of kids that come in after school. There are about 60 kids in the Library after school each day and they do not currently have a monitor.

Ms. Griffin made an observation that with the move of the Richmond Middle School, there are a lot of students who stay at the school for after school activities but there are a core of kids who ride the bus to the Library.

Posie Fowler, President of the Howe Library, announced that the Howe Library has been picked as one of the 3 best small libraries in the U.S. by the Gates Foundation and it is because of all the work that Marlene McGonigle and her staff have put into it. Chairman Walsh recognized the hard work of Ms. Fowler and the Trustees of the Howe Library.

Etna Library

Barbara Prince introduced Mary King who helps run the Etna Library.

Selectman Baschnagel asked about the amount of support that they receive from the Howe Library in terms of keeping up the data base. Pam Smith noted that the Howe Library provides about 3 hours a week for adding new items to the Etna Library.

Ms. Griffin pointed out that one item that wasn't funded was a desire to keep the Library open from 2-5 on Wednesdays when school age children are released from school early. Ms. Prince noted that people are looking for more hours. Chairman Walsh advised that they will consider this request although there is not much room for them to work with in terms of funds. He is encouraged to see the growth in circulation.

Fire Department

Ms. Griffin noted that the biggest issue this year has been the Fire District tax modification. There is no new apparatus proposed to be purchased this year. She also noted that Vice Chairman Connolly had some questions that would be addressed as part of the discussion.

Chief Roger Bradley introduced Captain Chris Broderick, Captain Michael Clark and Captain Michael Gilbert. Captain Michael Hinsley was unable to attend due to illness.

Chief Bradley noted that there is a fairly substantial expense in the budget for turnout gear for firefighters and another expense in the ambulance fund for replacing defibrillators.

Selectman Baschnagel confirmed that they are now fully manned with the SAFER Grant. Chief Bradley advised that they are now able to fill a normal shift at 5 people per shift. It has made a difference in the operation of the department and the level of service they are able to maintain for the residents of Hanover.

Chairman Walsh asked about the table relative to tax rates by district that is included in the text and how it relates to the 5 year phase in. Ms. McClain confirmed that the tax rates presented reflected the first year of a 5 year phase in.

Chairman Walsh would like an indication that the figures included in the table are year one which should be highlighted in the Town Report.

Chairman Walsh was looking for a dollar value for the hydrant costs before the filtration plant and after the filtration plant. Ms. Griffin advised that they could get a percentage of the tax rate breakdown in addition to the dollar amount to be provided to the Board.

Selectman Baschnagel asked about the billing for the Ambulance Fund. He asked who was handling the processing that still needs to be done internally. Chief Bradley advised that the processing is being handled by Judy Stevens who is also the Town's designated contact person for Comstar for billing issues. Ms. Griffin noted that they are planning on having a meeting with representatives from Comstar because they have a series of recommendations for the Town.

Chairman Walsh asked about the Fire Suppression Overtime. It was his recollection that there was going to be a lot less overtime with the expansion of the force. He feels that the figure is very high and he would like the number looked at and the deal reviewed with a resolution as to how much smaller that amount could be made.

Selectman Baschnagel asked about the amount requested for pagers and questioned whether this is for total replacement. Chief Bradley advised that this was for the alpha numeric pagers and the amount is actually for the monthly service fee.

Selectman Baschnagel asked about accumulating funds in the reserve for fire apparatus. He noted that the lease payments are made out of the annual budget and he would like to see that the reserve is started well in advance of the anticipated replacement. Ms. McClain advised that there is a small portion that is being transferred to the reserve and the lease payments are also being made.

Ms. Griffin advised that this didn't seem to be the year to boost the amounts that are contributed to the reserve with the increase in water fees and the change in the Fire District tax structure. Chairman Walsh would like to discuss this between budgets.

Selectman Baschnagel asked about the investment in hazardous materials supplies. Ms. Griffin stated that the biggest amount is to reserve money for training for hazmat related issues. Chairman Walsh asked about the hazardous materials response team that is located in western NH (Mid-Western New Hampshire Regional Hazardous Materials Response Team). Chief Bradley advised that the Hanover Fire Department has participated in that effort for the last couple of years as a dues paying member and their business plan was to be up and functioning and running as a decontamination response team within 5 years,

and then to become a hazardous materials technician level response team which it should be in the foreseeable future.

Currently there are no funds being transferred to the operation of that team. In the future there may be firefighters who may become responders for the regional team. There have not been any details laid out as to how this would work with regard to overtime pay, etc.

Chairman Walsh asked about the geographic area that the Mid-Western New Hampshire Regional Hazardous Materials Response Team covers. Chief Bradley advised that it encompasses Springfield, Newport, Sunapee, Canaan, Enfield, Grafton, Lyme, Lebanon, and down the I-89 corridor.

Selectman Baschnagel asked about the items that mention possible funding from grants and whether the grants have been submitted. Chief Bradley advised that the grants have not been submitted and this is in anticipation of possible grants. It was confirmed that the money would not be spent if a grant is not obtained.

Selectman Baschnagel asked about the conference items and whether this is for re-certifications. Captain Clark advised that this is for new members that haven't received the certifications as of this time.

Selectman Lubrano noted that the budget has been decreased by \$151,000 or 1.7% from last year but there was a one-time appropriation for half of the ladder truck which was \$350,000. She questioned the additional amount of \$180,000 in water costs which would be charged out to the hydrant district. She questioned why this amount is in the budget if it is being charged back out. Ms. Griffin noted that the taxes to be raised to fund this item will be generated by the Fire Hydrant District and appear as part of the current year levy revenue item. There's \$75-\$80,000 in personnel and salaries with \$30,000 in increased payments to the NH Retirement system. Ms. Griffin noted that the bulk of the budget is salary and retirement related expenses.

Chairman Walsh would like to have a list of the top 5 increases by dollars and not percentages at the beginning of each section for next year's budget presentation.

Chairman Walsh noted the 12% increase in the contributions over the last 4 years to the NH Retirement System which is out of the Town's control.

Chairman Walsh would like to see more than 2 to 2 ½ years for the statistics. He would like to see 10 years for comparison purposes.

Selectman Lubrano asked about the decrease in the mutual aid statistics and what the explanation would be. Chief Bradley advised that the decrease with mutual aid could increase at any time; it's unpredictable. Captain Gilbert noted that the increase in fines for the malicious false alarms have made a difference. Captain

Broderick also noted that since DHMC has finished with their construction project, there has been less mutual aid response to false alarms.

Chairman Walsh asked about the unintentional alarms. Ms. Griffin noted that this is really due to construction and the responses required. Chief Bradley advised that when a new occupancy comes on line, it takes about a year to work the bugs out of the system even when they are all installed according to Code.

Captain Gilbert pointed out that there are three unintentional alarms before they start charging for the alarms at \$100 per incident. Chairman Walsh would like to look at charging more for additional false alarm offenses. Selectman Baschnagel felt that part of the issue is to learn more about the causes of the alarms.

Selectman Baschnagel felt that the Fire Department should look at adding alarm systems to residences in Town. With the proposal of adding the fiber network, this would be another way to address some early notification for fire responses.

Chief Bradley announced that The Hanover Rotary is having their Annual Pancake Breakfast this Saturday morning at the Lyme Road Fire Station.

Ambulance Fund

Chief Bradley stated that there aren't any surprises in this year's budget. Ms. Griffin noted that they are still working on designing the new ambulance.

Ms. Griffin noted that there have been discussions about transferring some of the personnel costs to the Ambulance Fund since most of the Fire Department responses are EMS related.

Selectman Baschnagel asked about no longer accepting assignment from Blue Cross/Blue Shield (BC/BS). Ms. McClain noted that there was a contract with BC/BS to accept assignment which meant that Hanover would accept payment directly for BC/BS's insured patients. As part of this contract, BC/BS stipulated maximum payment amounts that may be less than our actual costs. Comstar advised the Town to not accept assignment with BC/BS because work needs to be done to compel BC/BS to pay a fairer share of the actual costs. Comstar is encouraging all of its clients not to accept assignment with BC/BS and is a leader regionally in working on this issue with BC/BS.

Selectman Baschnagel asked about the fees with Comstar and offsets. Ms. McClain advised that instead of allocating 90% of the Administrative Assistant's salary over to the Ambulance Fund, they now allocate 10%.

Selectman Baschnagel noted the Contractual Obligations and Disallowed Patient Billings are down 31.1% which he confirmed was a gain that was made due to transitioning the ambulance billing to Comstar.

Selectman Baschnagel suggested some kind of reflection in the numbers to show the need for paramedics versus EMTs on the ambulance runs.

3. ADMINISTRATIVE REPORTS

Ms. Griffin advised that she had nothing to report.

4. SELECTMEN'S REPORTS

The Board members had nothing new to report.

5. OTHER BUSINESS

There was no Other Business reported.

6. ADJOURNMENT

Selectman Lubrano MOVED to adjourn. Selectman Baschnagel SECONDED the motion.

THE BOARD VOTED UNANIMOUSLY TO ADJOURN THE MEETING AT 8:25 P.M.

Respectfully Submitted,

Allegra Lubrano, Secretary

Minutes prepared by Elizabeth S. Rathburn.

SUMMARY

- 1. Selectman Lubrano MOVED to adjourn. Selectman Baschnagel SECONDED the motion.**

THE BOARD VOTED UNANIMOUSLY TO ADJOURN THE MEETING AT 8:25 P.M.

FINAL

BOARD OF SELECTMEN'S MEETING

February 26, 2007

7:00 P.M. – MUNICIPAL OFFICE BUILDING – HANOVER NH

The meeting of the Board of Selectmen was called to order at 7:00 p.m. by Chairman Brian Walsh. Present were: Brian Walsh, Chairman; Peter Christie, Selectman; Bill Baschnagel, Selectman; Allegra Lubrano, Selectman; Julia Griffin, Town Manager. Absent: Katherine Connolly, Vice Chairman.

1. PUBLIC COMMENT

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

2. 1st BUDGET PUBLIC HEARING:

- Town Manager's Presentation of Proposed 2007-2008 Budget
- Public Works
- Water Reclamation-Sewer Fund
- CIP
- Town Properties

Chairman Walsh invited Ms. Griffin to give a presentation of the proposed 2007-2008 budget. Ms. Griffin noted that this year, the entire budget is on the website for the first time at www.hanovernh.org. Chairman Walsh announced that Vice Chairman Connolly is not going to be present for the meetings but has forwarded her comments about the budget. Ms. Griffin stated that this year's tax rate target was 4.68% but there was an additional 2.5% added which included rebuilding Reservoir Road to an upgraded level. Ms. Griffin also gave an overview of the memo that she had previously provided to the Board which gave a breakdown of the items that the Board had previously approved that would impact this year's budget. There was a 34.1% increase in the retirement contribution; \$118,000 from the General Fund and \$50,000 from the Fire Fund. There is a 6.4% increase in Health Insurance which is a guaranteed maximum, which was one of the lowest increases in the State. Ms. Griffin stated that there would need to be an increase of \$37,000 to cover the expense of gasoline and diesel fuel. Included in the proposed budget is \$50,000 to install a fiber network among Town and school facilities. This would also allow for Lebanon and Hanover to create a virtual dispatch center where if the facility in Lebanon should go down, Hanover could take over and vice versa. Over time there would be a cost savings to the Town on this project.

Ms. Griffin noted that the Water Reclamation Facility's budget included some big ticket items for improvements to the facilities. The total amount of \$2.165 million reflects capital improvement projects for treatment plant maintenance and capacity upgrades with funding provided by a combination of capital reserves and undesignated fund balance.

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Chairman Walsh noted that the only other big change in the budget had to do with hydrant costs to the Fire District fund because the filtration facility has gone on-line.

Chairman Walsh invited Selectman Christie to speak to the recent Finance Committee meeting.

Selectman Christie noted that there was a Finance Committee meeting with regard to the budget and he felt that the leverage points had to do with the reconstruction of Reservoir Road, taking the construction costs and spreading it over two years instead of one year and heard suggestions of slowing down on the Water Reclamation Facility improvements. The Committee felt that with all the public hearings and discussions about Reservoir Road there was general consensus about spreading the cost over 2 years instead of 1 would make sense. They discussed how much was cut out of last year's budget and didn't feel that the smaller items should be cut out this year. The projects being delayed or compromised are directly due to budgetary constraints. The feeling was that it was a solid budget that did not require a lot of work.

Public Works

Ms. Griffin referred to the section for Public Works in the budget book (page 33 – 47). There is a proposed additional \$150,000 to be placed toward paving. The road reconstruction budget (pg. 47) increased to \$427,725 which included the additional paving funding. Ms. Griffin noted that the original request was cut by \$40,000.

Mr. Kulbacki noted that one problem is that they keep extending the time out for paving and the price of paving is increasing and he feels the base is closer to \$400,000 than \$200,000. Selectman Baschnagel would like to revisit the paving schedule that was presented a couple of years ago which was a 15 year plan. Ms. Griffin suggested looking at the plan and put in the work that has been done to date.

Chairman Walsh would like to create a list of things that need to be looked at before building the budget next year. The paving issue would be one of those items on the list.

Ms. Griffin pointed out the increase in the road reconstruction number which was directly affected by Reservoir Road. Once the funding is done for Reservoir Road, it will be gone from the budget. This is a one-time hit although it may take more than one year to pay for it. Ms. Griffin noted that this includes the Lebanon Street signal replacement which is \$93,000+. Chairman Walsh confirmed that the Reservoir Road repairs and Lebanon Street signal replacement is not going to be a recurring expense. Ms. Griffin noted that they are recommending that the traffic signal be funded through funds other than the tax rate.

Selectman Baschnagel had a question about dedicating a computer to monitor the HVAC systems. Frank Austin noted that he could dial in to check on a building to see what is going on with a heating system at the Howe Library, Police Department and Richard Black Center. He noted that it is much less expensive than having a technician come in. Selectman Baschnagel felt

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that instead of buying new computers, they should be able to use one of the old computers or laptops. Chairman Walsh noted that the heating bill for the Howe Library is about 6 times what it was before. Frank Austin noted that the budget for fuel was mis-budgeted in the past and now they have a better handle of the actual usage. The other issue was Trumbull Nelson taking care of part of the heat during construction. Now there is an actual cost and the use is 10,000 gallons versus \$10,000 which was previously budgeted for it. Chairman Walsh asked about the electricity use at the Howe and questioned why it is so large. Frank Austin referred the question to Betsy McClain who advised that the building is now larger and it is air conditioned, they are open more hours and the rates have increased. Ms. McClain advised that they have negotiated a kilowatt hour rate which is less than Granite State which is locked in to 2008. Chairman Walsh would like to see what the sources of expense are for the electricity in that building and he would like to see what can be done to reduce that expense. Selectman Baschnagel noted that the Fire Station is so efficient and the other buildings in Town are not. Ms. McClain noted that the Library has a lot of computers, etc.

Kari Asmus had a question about whether the Town would see a savings if they were to stockpile their sand for the next season.

Mr. Kulbacki noted that they level funded last year's salt and there is no place to store additional salt and they do stockpile their sand for the season. They will sometimes trade sand for top soil and he noted that there were plenty of winter related materials used this past winter although there wasn't as much done for snow removal. Ms. Griffin noted that every year when she has had to cut the budget, one is overtime in each of the departments and the other is in materials. Selectman Lubrano noted that last year, an item for extra salt and sand on the wish list was cut by a certain amount.

Selectman Baschnagel noted that the parking lots are fewer than there were last year. Mr. Kulbacki noted that in the past they have not charged the Parking Fund for snow removal. Chairman Walsh would like a clear statement of which of the Town lots are maintained, not maintained and which lots are additional.

Chairman Walsh noted that Grant Road is in tough shape and he questioned when it will be worked on. Ms. Griffin noted that 1/3 of the road would be worked on this year and then the rest over the next two years. Chairman Walsh feels that this is a priority.

Selectman Baschnagel asked about the sidewalk maintenance and why Allen Street is a priority. Ms. Griffin stated that the north side is in terrible condition. There have been more trip and fall claims on that section of sidewalk, there is shifting, cracking and if the north side is going to be done it makes sense to look at the south side. The cost estimate includes removing the concrete and replacing it with asphalt. There is a concrete apron. Mr. Kulbacki noted that part of the challenge is to keep the character of the area but to designate what is sidewalk and what is roadway. There was discussion about the use of the sidewalk by EBA's for tables outside their establishment and whether they should pay the Town to occupy the sidewalk in that manor.

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Chairman Walsh asked about Outside Specialty Repairs which is up 25%. Frank Austin stated that this is the fund that they use for property that breaks down throughout the Town and not just Public Works. He noted that the new Tower required an expense of \$2,000 and that money comes out of this fund.

Chairman Walsh would like to add to the list the state of the Capital Reserve amounts.

Chairman Walsh asked about the relationship between the Public Works budget and the Parks and Recreation budget line items for field maintenance.

Ms. Griffin stated that there have been amounts set aside for field development. The additional amount of money that is not funded was the cost to try to remove all the backstop equipment from Reservoir Road to behind the Middle School and whether the fencing can be salvaged or needs to be replaced. Hank Tenney and Mike Jackson have worked out a configuration for fields.

Selectman Baschnagel asked whether the Town saved money by contracting out for trash pickup downtown versus having the Town handle this issue. Mr. Kulbacki noted that it allowed for funds to be used in other areas and there is a difference in the tipping fees. The work on sidewalks would be funded by money saved on this item.

Selectman Baschnagel asked about the Lebanon Street signal and what the problem is with that equipment. Mr. Kulbacki noted that it's falling down. Ms. Griffin noted that Public Works had to weld the arm of the light pole to keep it in place. The current driving force is the state of the pole.

Water Reclamation/Sewer Fund

Ms. Griffin gave an overview of the discussions that have taken place with regard to projects that were considered by the Board for this coming year. The first project is the most expensive which is the cost of the Third Secondary Clarifier that is proposed to be funded by undesignated fund balance and capital reserves. The State Department of Environmental Services required maintenance to the pipe leading to the Connecticut River, which took money which would have paid for the clarifier in previous years. The other two projects are the permanent selector zone and the aeration and blower replacement. Ms. Griffin also advised that the repairs to the Mink Brook Bridge required funds to be paid by the Town that would have otherwise been used toward some of this equipment.

Selectman Baschnagel asked about the connection fee increase. Ms. McClain advised that significant increases have been factored in to the budget. The recapture fee when new hookups are being added should be realized with an increase in rates.

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Chairman Walsh would like to see what the \$878,990 in Fee Rate Increases looks like against the State average. Ms. Griffin noted that the permanent selector zone and the aeration and blower replacement should come out of rate increases and developer contributions. The staff needs to work on recommendations for the increases. Chairman Walsh does not feel comfortable in presenting this to Town Meeting without knowing the minimum and maximum rates that they are considering. Ms. Griffin would like to come back on March 19th with a recommendation for the Board. Chairman Walsh would like to see a couple different rates and scenarios on Wednesday night. Ms. Griffin asked if the funding options for the three projects and the linkage make sense. Chairman Walsh felt that the blowers were capital reserve related items.

Selectman Baschnagel wondered why Water Company and Water Reclamation Personnel were being combined. It's an organizational issue more than funding. He would like to see this separated for next year's budget.

Selectman Baschnagel asked about the Hawk Ridge composting facility at almost \$120,000 which he assumes the majority is hauling. Mr. Kulbacki confirmed that the biggest fee is hauling.

Capital Improvements

Selectman Baschnagel would like to see a list of large capital improvements for the coming years. Ms. Griffin stated that this was something that would be looked at further. Selectman Baschnagel would like to assess the impact of some of the larger projects that will be coming on the horizon.

Chairman Walsh asked about the age of the excavator. Mr. Austin advised that it was a 1997 excavator. Although 10 years old, it still has useful life but they will be putting more money in repairs on this equipment. The balance is to have equipment that still has good value and to keep the staff level low. There is an average of 10 years of life on this equipment and it could be stretched out another 5 years but the costs of replacing this piece will continue to increase.

Ms. McClain noted that the \$34,000 for defibrillator replacement is a negotiated deal that Michael Hinsley made with the vendor and was not indicative of the usual cost of replacing equipment.

Town Properties

Chairman Walsh asked about the fiber optic network and the \$50,000 that would be going out but where and when is the payback with this improvement.

Ms. McClain noted that with this investment, it would reduce the number of phone lines required which would save \$15,000/year. For example, the Town office has 10 or 12 lines leased for peak

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periods and at the same time the Howe Library needs to lease 10 or 12 lines and when you look at the leased line inventory, they could minimize the number of excess lines that are required.

Chairman Walsh asked how many lines they have currently and how many lines it would be reduced to. Doug Hackett advised that there are currently 117 telephone lines, with the fiber, if approved, there would be two T1 lines which would allow 48 simultaneous users for outside dial tone. Every time that a department member calls another department it takes 2 leased lines but with the new system, it will then become an intercom call which will eliminate the traffic between the buildings. Monday mornings between 7 and 9, almost 1/3 of the calls came from other Town buildings. If the Town does this it would drop from 117 town lines to 44 in addition to the two T1 lines. This would allow intercom calls to go to each desk. Right now, each call goes through dispatch but with the new system each call could go direct to the person's desk which would decrease the amount of calls received in the dispatch center by other Town departments. Doug Hackett also noted a grant to tie the City of Lebanon and the Town of Hanover together. Lebanon has currently already funded a town wide telephone system. The Town and the City have already committed to purchase the same telephone system. The benefit to this is not only the dispatch capability but the calls between Lebanon and Hanover would then become an intercom call. Doug gave an example of transferring calls to Lebanon which are received by Hanover when Lebanon's dispatch center is overwhelmed and the call is not answered right away. He would project in 3 or 4 years, there would be exact dollar figure savings over what is being spent now.

Selectman Baschnagel would like to look at the projected future savings before spending the money to fund the project.

Doug Hackett noted that the phone system is a digital phone set that does not require power back up at the sites and it is not a VOIP system. The cost for 117 lines is currently \$2,576 and the new plan would cost \$1,290 so there would be an immediate savings.

Selectman Christie noted that there is a lot of excitement for the project, but he would like to look at it from the financial aspect. Chairman Walsh is concerned about the phase-in for the project. Selectman Baschnagel would like to see a project plan. He wants to look at all the aspects of the fiber optic network.

Kari Asmus asked about the cost for the schools for the fiber optic. Ms. Griffin advised that there are three different projects and costs that need to be looked at with regard to hooking up each school to the fiber.

Selectman Baschnagel confirmed that there is \$20,000 from this year's budget to be encumbered for the project. Ms. Griffin advised that what the Town is looking to do is to use money received from the State, budgeted monies and money possibly from the schools. Selectman Baschnagel asked if this included all the hardware, etc. Ms. Griffin advised that it does not include phones which are separate. Chairman Walsh would like to see a 5 year plan.

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Selectman Baschnagel noted that it appeared that there were redundant charges for the Richard Black Center for the elevator. Ms. Griffin noted that the wording may appear redundant but the figures are not.

Chairman Walsh asked about the seals that need to be replaced at the Library and whether this is going to be an annual item. Frank Austin noted that the compressors have a drive motor and the seal to the shaft is leaking oil. Ms. Griffin noted that this is the last lingering issue regarding maintenance of this building that the Town does not own.

Chairman Walsh would like the issues surrounding the Howe Library to be put on the list for in-between budgets.

Selectman Baschnagel asked about the cemeteries and boat landings and who handles that. Mr. Kulbacki advised that Public Works handles the boat landings.

Chairman Walsh would like to know why only half of the police flooring is going to be replaced and half the public works flooring will be replaced. Frank Austin noted that if they received the funding this year, they would replace the flooring in one building and then repeat that process next year for the other building.

Chairman Walsh asked about the property management charges for the police department. Frank Austin noted that the upgrade for the HVAC was a lot higher than anticipated.

Selectman Baschnagel wanted to look more closely at the basis for the costs for heating and electricity in the Town buildings. Ms. Griffin pointed out that some of the increases are strictly cost increase related and not so much usage issues. She also noted that it doesn't mean that the Town shouldn't look at additional ways to save energy.

Chairman Walsh would like to look at the cost per square footage of each building. He is concerned that the newer buildings are not as efficient as they are supposed to be. Frank Austin noted that these are climate controlled buildings and they are occupied for greater periods of time. He would like to set up the buildings so that they could shut down rooms that don't need to be heated or cooled continually. Mr. Austin noted that the Howe Library is probably as efficient as it's going to get and it's going to continue to be a high use facility.

3. APPOINTMENTS: DOWNTOWN BUSINESS SERVICE DISTRICT ADVISORY COMMITTEE

Chairman Walsh announced that Ann Malenka is leaving her position on the Downtown Business Service District Advisory Committee as a representative for Dartmouth. He would like to nominate E.J. Kiefer to replace her on that Committee. Chairman Walsh also expressed his

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appreciation for Ms. Malenka's service to the Committee. Ms. Griffin also noted that Joseph Bafumi and Antoinette Jeffrey were looking to join the Recycling Committee.

Chairman Walsh NOMINATED E.J. Kiefer to sit on the Downtown Business Service District Advisory Committee. Selectman Baschnagel SECONDED the motion.

THE BOARD VOTED UNANIMOUSLY TO ACCEPT E.J. KIEFER AS A MEMBER OF THE DOWNTOWN BUSINESS SERVICE DISTRICT ADVISORY COMMITTEE.

Selectman Christie MOVED to appoint Joseph Bafumi and Antoinette Jeffrey to the Recycling Committee. Chairman Walsh SECONDED the motion.

THE BOARD VOTED UNANIMOUSLY TO APPOINT JOSEPH BAFUMI AND ANTOINETTE JEFFREY TO THE RECYCLING COMMITTEE.

4. RECOMMENDATION TO ADOPT ABATEMENT AS PROPOSED BY THE ADVISORY BOARD OF ASSESSORS

The Advisory Board of Assessors recommended that relative to the Nugget Building, that the 2005 and 2006 assessments be revised. The revised assessment would go down from \$2,526,800 to \$2,276,800 for an abatement of \$250,000 each year, resulting in a cumulative tax refund of \$9,707.50.

Selectman Baschnagel MOVED to accept the recommendation to adopt abatement as proposed by the Advisory Board of Assessors relative to the Nugget Building for an abatement of \$250,000 for tax years 2005 and 2006. Chairman Walsh SECONDED the motion.

THE BOARD VOTED UNANIMOUSLY TO ACCEPT THE RECOMMENDATION TO ADOPT ABATEMENT AS PROPOSED BY THE ADVISORY BOARD OF ASSESSORS RELATIVE TO THE NUGGET BUILDING FOR AN ABATEMENT OF \$250,000 FOR TAX YEARS 2005 AND 2006.

**5. APPROVAL OF MINUTES:
- February 5, 2007**

Selectman Lubrano MOVED to approve the Minutes of February 5, 2007 with minor changes. Chairman Walsh SECONDED the motion.

THE BOARD VOTED UNANIMOUSLY TO APPROVE THE MINUTES OF FEBRUARY 5, 2007 WITH MINOR CHANGES.

6. ADMINISTRATIVE REPORTS

Ms. Griffin didn't have anything to report.

7. SELECTMEN'S REPORTS

Peter Christie

Selectman Christie noted that there were new members on the Recycling Committee.

Bill Baschnagel

Selectman Baschnagel reported that the Chamber of Commerce Parking Committee had a meeting. The Planning Board has been working on zoning amendments. The Parking and Transportation Board met after walking around the downtown area and the Town should see an increase of about 25 parking spaces.

Allegra Lubrano

Selectman Lubrano had nothing to report.

Brian Walsh

Chairman Walsh had nothing to report.

8. OTHER BUSINESS

Chairman Walsh noted that there were two items. The first item is regarding banner space for the Boat show.

Chairman Walsh MOVED to approve a banner request for the Lions Club Boat and Auto Show. Selectman Lubrano SECONDED the motion.

THE BOARD VOTED UNANIMOUSLY TO APPROVE THE BANNER REQUEST FOR THE LIONS CLUB BOAT AND AUTO SHOW.

The second item is with regard to a license for an underground electrical conduit for NH Electric Co-Op for the Quinton property on Goose Pond Road. Selectman Christie recommended that the license be approved based on the conditions outlined in the memorandum provided by Public Works Director Peter Kulbacki.

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Selectman Lubrano MOVED to approve the license for an underground electrical conduit for NH Electric Co-Op for the Quinton property on Goose Pond Road, based on the conditions outlined in the memorandum provided by Public Works Director Peter Kulbacki. Selectmen Baschnagel SECONDED the motion.

THE BOARD VOTED UNANIMOUSLY TO APPROVE THE LICENSE FOR AN UNDERGROUND ELECTRICAL CONDUIT FOR NH ELECTRIC CO-OP FOR THE QUINTON PROPERTY ON GOOSE POND ROAD, BASED ON THE CONDITIONS OUTLINED IN THE MEMORANDUM PROVIDED BY PUBLIC WORKS DIRECTOR PETER KULBACKI.

9. ADJOURNMENT

Selectman Lubrano MOVED to adjourn. Selectman Baschnagel SECONDED the motion.

THE BOARD VOTED UNANIMOUSLY TO ADJOURN THE MEETING AT 9:30 P.M.

Respectfully Submitted,

Allegra Lubrano, Secretary

Minutes prepared by Elizabeth S. Rathburn

SUMMARY

1. **Chairman Walsh NOMINATED E.J. Kiefer to sit on the Downtown Business Service District Advisory Committee. Selectman Baschnagel SECONDED the motion.**

THE BOARD VOTED UNANIMOUSLY TO ACCEPT E.J. KIEFER AS A MEMBER OF THE DOWNTOWN BUSINESS SERVICE DISTRICT ADVISORY COMMITTEE.

2. **Selectman Christie MOVED to appoint Joseph Bafumi and Antoinette Jeffrey to the Recycling Committee. Chairman Walsh SECONDED the motion.**

THE BOARD VOTED UNANIMOUSLY TO APPOINT JOSEPH BAFUMI AND ANTOINETTE JEFFREY TO THE RECYCLING COMMITTEE.

3. **Selectman Baschnagel MOVED to accept the recommendation to adopt abatement as proposed by the Advisory Board of Assessors relative to the Nugget Building for an abatement of \$250,000 for tax years 2005 and 2006. Chairman Walsh SECONDED the motion.**

THE BOARD VOTED UNANIMOUSLY TO ACCEPT THE RECOMMENDATION TO ADOPT ABATEMENT AS PROPOSED BY THE ADVISORY BOARD OF ASSESSORS RELATIVE TO THE NUGGET BUILDING FOR AN ABATEMENT OF \$250,000 FOR TAX YEARS 2005 AND 2006.

4. **Selectman Lubrano MOVED to approve the Minutes of February 5, 2007 with minor changes. Chairman Walsh SECONDED the motion.**

THE BOARD VOTED UNANIMOUSLY TO APPROVE THE MINUTES OF FEBRUARY 5, 2007 WITH MINOR CHANGES.

5. **Chairman Walsh MOVED to approve a banner request for the Lions Club Boat and Auto Show. Selectman Lubrano SECONDED the motion.**

THE BOARD VOTED UNANIMOUSLY TO APPROVE THE BANNER REQUEST FOR THE LIONS CLUB BOAT AND AUTO SHOW.

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6. **Selectman Lubrano MOVED to approve the license for an underground electrical conduit for NH Electric Co-Op for the Quinton property on Goose Pond Road, based on the conditions outlined in the memorandum provided by Public Works Director Peter Kulbacki. Selectmen Baschnagel SECONDED the motion.**

THE BOARD VOTED UNANIMOUSLY TO APPROVE THE LICENSE FOR AN UNDERGROUND ELECTRICAL CONDUIT FOR NH ELECTRIC CO-OP FOR THE QUINTON PROPERTY ON GOOSE POND ROAD, BASED ON THE CONDITIONS OUTLINED IN THE MEMORANDUM PROVIDED BY PUBLIC WORKS DIRECTOR PETER KULBACKI.

7. **Selectman Lubrano MOVED to adjourn. Selectman Baschnagel SECONDED the motion.**

THE BOARD VOTED UNANIMOUSLY TO ADJOURN THE MEETING AT 9:30 P.M.

FINAL

BOARD OF SELECTMEN'S MEETING

February 5, 2007

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; Bill Baschnagel, Selectman; Allegra Lubrano, Selectman; Julia Griffin, Town Manager.

1. PUBLIC COMMENT

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

2. REVIEW AND APPROVAL OF FIRE DISTRICT TASK FORCE RECOMMENDATIONS.

Chairman Walsh asked Selectman Baschnagel to give an overview of the results of the Fire District Task Force.

Selectman Baschnagel noted that there were a series of weekly meetings in December and January. He felt that the Task Force was a good representation of the various parts of the Town and the differing views. The charge of the group was to talk about District boundaries, methods for allocating or adjusting tax rates between the boundaries and making recommendations for a transition period for implementing the recommendations. The group recommended that the Town establish three fire Districts: 1) Hydrant District, 2) Remote District which is located on the East side of Moose Mountain and 3) Non-Hydrant District, most of the rural area. Selectman Baschnagel noted that the recommendations came after discussions that included mapping by Peter Kulbacki. There were discussions about allocating costs and it appeared that there was a consensus that the Hydrant District residents should bear the costs of the Hydrants. The balance of the costs should be treated as common costs to be divided between the Hydrant and Non-Hydrant Districts and the remote District should have a reduction of 50% of the Non-Hydrant District.

Selectman Baschnagel noted that the group felt that the phase-in period would be under the Select Board's purview. The phase-in period was discussed in the group and there were options discussed and they made a suggestion that the 5-year phase-in period would be reasonable. Selectman Baschnagel noted the hard work of the Task Force and Town staff.

Chairman Walsh invited members of the audience to comment.

Robin Carpenter, Thompson Rd, noted that he was on the Task Force and that the sentiment of the majority was to spread the common costs but at the last minute there was an amendment to reduce costs by 50% for the remote areas. He took issue with the arrival of

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the recommendations to the majority and he doesn't believe that the recommendations in the report are in line with the Town Charter. He believes that the positions that were adopted are not consistent with the charge of the Charter. There were specific data that the Task Force received from the Fire Department showing response times varying substantially across the whole Town and within Zone 2. Data presented to the Task Force shows costs of fire damage at \$10,000/minute and then there was data that the Task Force had with regard to insurance costs being higher for properties at a greater distance than 5 miles from the station. The conclusions reflected the reporting of the majority of the committee but do not bear properly on the requirements of the Town Charter.

Caroline Tischbein, Ruddsboro Road, advised that she was not chosen to sit on the Task Force but she did attend 4 out of 5 meetings as a member of the public and her opinion overall was that it was a thoughtful group but she felt that they were rushed at the end to come to an agreement. She also felt that dividing the Town into Hydrant, Non-Hydrant and remote is not good enough. She noted that the Fire Department and tax structure was very different in 1964.

Kari Asmus, Sausville Rd, provided the Board with paperwork that Selectman Baschnagel provided to the Task Force that she found very helpful and that it should be made available to the Town Web Site and added to the recommendations.

John Hochreiter, Ruddsboro Road, was a member of the Task Force and noted that he had mixed emotions working on this issue. He worked on the Etna call force and it used to be a very separate department but over the last 20+ years, it has been merged into the Hanover Fire Department. He looks at the response times with a different view. During the meetings his opinion changed as to what their purpose in making the recommendations would be. He feels that the recommendations are the best case.

Chairman Walsh asked the Board to review the recommendations. The Board agreed to the recommendations of the Task Force. The Board was split 3 in favor to 2 opposed as to the phase-in period being allocated over 5 years. The two opposed were looking at allocating the costs over 3 years.

Chairman Walsh wanted to propose that a lot whose entrance is located within a District is then within that District. Instead of parts of the land that are in the District and the entrance in another District. Selectman Baschnagel looked for clarification as to how to draw the boundaries using the '1,000 feet from a Hydrant' criteria. Mike Ryan advised that the old system was not clear.

Ms. Griffin felt that Town staff might need to look at the maps and draw the lines for the proposed Districts. Chairman Walsh noted that the Town staff will be charged with drawing up a map using the '1,000 feet from a Hydrant' criteria. Chairman Walsh wanted the staff to use the ridgeline and provide a map for the Board to review.

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Chairman Walsh MOVED that the Fire Districts be redefined and the Fire District taxes based on the following principles:

- 1) That there will be three Fire Districts; a Hydrant District, a Non-Hydrant District and a Remote District. The Hydrant District will be defined as those properties which are within 1,000 feet of a Hydrant with full pressure. The Remote District will be defined as all properties which are on the east side of the ridgeline of Moose Mountain. The Non-Hydrant District will be the remainder of Town. These will be further defined by a map to be developed by staff which reflects the location of structures and defines the precise edges of the District.**
- 2) That the cost of Hydrants shall be borne by the Hydrant District.**
- 3) All other costs will be borne by the 3 Districts with the Remote District having half the tax rate of the Non-Hydrant District. The Hydrant District and the Non-Hydrant District having equal tax rates for those costs which are not Hydrant related. These changes will be phased-in over 5 years beginning with the tax year that starts on April 1, 2007.**

Vice Chairman Connolly SECONDED the motion.

THE BOARD VOTED UNANIMOUSLY TO APPROVE THE MOTION.

Selectman Christie asked whether the Task Force discussed how to communicate this to the residents. Ms. Griffin suggested putting an insert in the Town Report that is on colored paper to explain the Fire District modification.

Selectman Christie confirmed with the Board that the modification does not require Town Meeting vote but that residents could discuss it at Town Meeting. Selectman Christie felt that there were two major ways to discuss the fair taxation issue. One based on readiness and one based on outcomes. He feels that the adopted principles properly reflect a taxing method based on readiness.

Selectman Lubrano spoke to the Charter issues raised by Mr. Carpenter. She noted that The Charter does indeed command that the Select Board create two or more fire protection Districts and in doing so, examine several factors including insurance, distance, and other metrics it deems relevant. The Task Force discussed each of the issues and the majority of the group felt that the information was too erratic and it ended up that readiness is the best metric they could use. She didn't feel it was fair to state that the group didn't consider The Charter and its mandate when making these decisions.

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Chairman Walsh felt that an insert into the Town report would be a good idea but he would like to also add reasoning behind the decisions that were made in the discussions about differentiating the Districts.

3. CONTINUED DISCUSSION REGARDING PROPOSED CAPITAL IMPROVEMENT PROGRAM AND FINANCING OPTIONS FOR WATER RECLAMATION FACILITY.

Chairman Walsh noted that there was a report from the consulting engineers about 6 months ago with regard to improvements to the Water Reclamation Facility at the proposed cost of \$12 million.

Ms. Griffin noted that Town staff looked at the entire list of recommendations from the engineers (Underwood Consulting) and then reconfigured the list in priority order. Priority set towards the pieces of equipment that are in need of upgrade or replacement and short term capacity issues. The final cost estimate for the projects that should be done in the next few years came to \$9.5 million. Town staff then established an implementation year and then looked at some financing options for the Board to consider. There were also discussions to include the City of Lebanon to gain additional funds from projects located in Lebanon that use the Hanover facility. There are funds in the capital reserve and undesignated fund balance to fund the highest priority item which is the new Third Secondary Clarifier.

Selectman Baschnagel questioned as to whether there should be a policy decision as to where things are headed with Route 120 in the City of Lebanon.

Ms. Griffin noted that the current agreement requires that the Town of Hanover provide wastewater service for the Gile watershed which includes the top southern section of Medical Center Drive, North. In the discussions with Lebanon, any development that occurs south of the hospital is not part of the Gile watershed and therefore not subject for service within the Town of Hanover.

Selectman Baschnagel questioned whether the Board should decide whether to continue to provide this service to Lebanon. If the area east of Centerra is re-zoned, how much of this area falls within the Gile watershed and what happens there?

Peter Kulbacki noted that there had been discussions about development in Lebanon and Hanover about this issue over the last few years. It is possible that future development in Lebanon will be 35 – 40 % of the Town's total flow. Hanover would have to give Lebanon a total of what could be allowed.

Chairman Walsh wanted there to be discussions with the City of Lebanon and this is something that should be started now and he doesn't feel that decisions should be made on this until there are clear discussions with Lebanon.

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Mr. Kulbacki stated that the Town has all the information that it needs to enter into discussions with the City.

Vice Chairman Connolly noted that there were some large developments coming down the Route 120 corridor as planned in Lebanon. Mr. Kulbacki noted that an old agreement between Lebanon and Hanover does not have a termination date or provision and any future agreements that are entered into should have this provision.

Chairman Walsh had questions for Mr. Kulbacki about the possibility of the plant failing to function and which items on the list are at risk for failure. Mr. Kulbacki discussed each item starting with deferred maintenance. Mr. Kulbacki stated that the Town could get along for a while without the permanent selector. The aeration system & blower replacement would cause catastrophic problems. The dewatering equipment replacement could be taken care of with an outside contractor at the cost of \$1,500/day. To replace this equipment it requires that it fit in the same footprint which is creating challenges. The influent screening is another item that the Town could get by for a while. The grit removal system could continue to be patched. The RAS/WAS pump work could be scaled back. Selectman Baschnagel looked for a time horizon for the clarifier. Mr. Kulbacki stated that 2-3 years and if all the projects that are proposed went forward as proposed the facility would be at capacity in 2008.

Ms. Griffin noted that the new projects proposed at DHMC and the new Life Sciences building are going to strain the system. She also noted that when Lebanon had a proposal for another large hotel on Route 120, the City was warned that the Town of Hanover might not be able to accommodate it.

Chairman Walsh felt that the maintenance and replacement of big ticket items falls on the sewage treatment plant District. The expansion of capacity falls somewhat on the plant District and partially on the users of that equipment. He also didn't want to see the Town of Hanover become a leader in the upgrade of technology when it's being down wholly on the Town's own money.

Vice Chairman Connolly asked for clarification for items that were moved farther down in priority. Mr. Kulbacki stated that they looked at the parts of the plant that handle the majority of the loads.

Ms. Griffin noted that there are a lot of plants that receive federal funds and she noted that part of Chairman Walsh's argument was that if the Town upgrades their system now and whether they might miss out on federal funding and whether any parts might be funded in the future before the Town takes on the total financial responsibility.

Selectman Baschnagel feels that federal funds will be more likely available for upgrades in technology and systems versus replacing what was there.

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Vice Chairman Connolly suggested educating the newly elected officials as to the enormous environment problems surrounding this issue.

Selectman Baschnagel confirmed with Mr. Kulbacki that all of these items have a 20 year life. Mr. Kulbacki noted that sump pumps and smaller equipment have a shorter useful life but the bigger systems have a 20 year life.

Ms. Griffin asked the Board to look at the funding options proposed. Selectman Christie questioned why these issues aren't being bonded when their useful life is 20 years versus paying it all at once. Undesignated reserves are kept as a year-to-year contingency, capital reserves deal with 5-year use of life capital equipment and there are bonds to deal with 20-year life and why would you deviate from that model? Selectman Christie feels that the Town will want to maximize development fees, etc but then how do you pay for the rest?

Ms. Griffin felt that there was a lot to be bonded at once. If the bond is voted down, will that indicate that there be will less future development? The perception is that if you vote no on the bond, then you vote no on future development and the State would not accept that as a valid and legal position to take. Looking at current rates which are significantly below State average, looking at financing tools, but the Town could run the risk of getting a "no" vote at Town Meeting.

Selectman Baschnagel noted that the feeling of some people may be to cut off Lebanon. Ms. Griffin pointed out that if that happened, Hanover would lose use of the Lebanon Landfill and there is a reliance of regional facilities. She is concerned that it will drive a wedge between the two communities.

Vice Chairman Connolly also noted that if the Town stops Lebanon's development due to lack of capacity, Hanover would be doing them a huge disservice in the process.

Chairman Walsh gave instruction to Ms. Griffin to put together information as to what is capacity related, what is maintenance and replacement related, and what is an improvement in technology.

Selectman Baschnagel pointed out that he agreed with Chairman Walsh that the Town should not purchase new technology just to buy new technology. There needs to be tangible benefit to the new technology.

Chairman Walsh would like a bigger package to review and to look at those items that have potential catastrophic events tied to them.

Vice Chairman Connolly has a problem with the technology that uses so much energy to take on wastewater treatment.

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Ms. Griffin reviewed the funding options and the money available. Selectman Baschnagel would like the discussion with Lebanon to include a cut off in the terms of gallons that the Town will be able to accept from Lebanon.

4. BANNER REQUESTS:

- The Prouty

Ms. Griffin noted that The Prouty is looking for an additional banner to go across the street.

Chairman Walsh MOVED to approve The Prouty banner request. Selectman Lubrano SECONDED the motion.

THE BOARD VOTED UNANIMOUSLY TO APPROVE THE PROUTY BANNER REQUEST.

5. APPROVAL OF MINUTES

- January 8, 2007

Selectman Lubrano MOVED to approve the Minutes of January 8, 2007 with minor corrections. Vice Chairman Connolly SECONDED the motion.

THE BOARD VOTED UNANIMOUSLY TO APPROVE THE MINUTES OF JANUARY 8, 2007 WITH MINOR CORRECTIONS.

6. ADMINISTRATIVE REPORTS

Ms. Griffin advised that the staff is finishing the budget this week. The hope is to get the budget out during the middle of the week of February 19th. Ms. McClain will be gone soon on vacation so they are trying to get done earlier.

The legislative session has started and she has been responding to things but most of the bills will not require her to get involved. Ms. Griffin noted that one item was voter registration which would not work for college towns.

7. SELECTMEN'S REPORTS

Peter Christie

Selectman Christie reported that there was a major milestone in affordable housing with the final approvals for Gile Tract.

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The Hanover Finance and Dresden Finance Committees have had many meetings and they have voted to support the proposed school budgets.

Kate Connolly

Vice Chairman Connolly attended the dedication of the filtration facility at the water treatment plant. She noted that the quality of the water is much better. It was dedicated to Bill Boyle.

The Planning Board did pass the Gile Tract and an elevated path at Hypertherm to the Old Spectra Building bridging over the wetland area. There have been discussions of possible zoning amendments.

The Route 120 corridor group had meeting and the next meeting is a large public meeting at the Black Center on March 1st.

Bill Baschnagel

Selectman Baschnagel reported that the PTB met and there will be discussions about taking some money out of the undesignated fund balance and move it into a capital reserve.

The Conservation Commission met and there is a case that they are dealing with on Greensboro Road where a barn was built in a wetland. There have been good discussions within the Conservation Commission with regard to annual goals. Joanna Whitcomb submitted her resignation from the Commission.

The Hanover Chamber has pulled together a group to speak about parking issues. This will remain an open discussion over the next 6 months.

Allegra Lubrano

Selectman Lubrano reported that she and Ms. Griffin attended a CSAAC (Community Substance Abuse Advisory Committee) meeting today.

Brian Walsh

The Hanover Chamber had their annual meeting last month. The Selectman's Advisory Committee and Downtown Marketing Alliance are meeting soon and should have a recommendation for the budget hearings.

The Recreation Board was meeting prior to the Select Board meeting.

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8. OTHER BUSINESS

No other business was reported.

9. ADJOURNMENT

Vice Chairman Connolly MOVED to adjourn. Selectman Lubrano SECONDED the motion.

THE BOARD VOTED UNANIMOUSLY TO ADJOURN THE MEETING AT 9:30 P.M.

Respectfully Submitted,

Allegra Lubrano, Secretary

Minutes prepared by Elizabeth S. Rathburn.

SUMMARY

1. **Chairman Walsh MOVED that the Fire Districts be redefined and the Fire District taxes based on the following principles:**
 - 1) **That there will be three Fire Districts; a Hydrant District, a Non-Hydrant District and a Remote District. The Hydrant District will be defined as those properties which are within 1,000 feet of a Hydrant with full pressure. The Remote District will be defined as all properties which are on the east side of the ridgeline of Moose Mountain. The Non-Hydrant District will be the remainder of Town. These will be further defined by a map to be developed by staff which reflects the location of structures and defines the precise edges of the District.**
 - 2) **That the cost of Hydrants shall be borne by the Hydrant District.**
 - 3) **All other costs will be borne by the 3 Districts with the Remote District having half the tax rate of the Non-Hydrant District. The Hydrant District and the Non-Hydrant District having equal tax rates for those costs which are not Hydrant related. These changes will be phased-in over 5 years beginning with the tax year that starts on April 1, 2007.**

Vice Chairman Connolly SECONDED the motion.

THE BOARD VOTED UNANIMOUSLY TO APPROVE THE MOTION.

2. **Chairman Walsh MOVED to approve The Prouty banner request. Selectman Lubrano SECONDED the motion.**

THE BOARD VOTED UNANIMOUSLY TO APPROVE THE PROUTY BANNER REQUEST.

3. **Selectman Lubrano MOVED to approve the Minutes of January 8, 2007 with minor corrections. Vice Chairman Connolly SECONDED the motion.**

THE BOARD VOTED UNANIMOUSLY TO APPROVE THE MINUTES OF JANUARY 8, 2007 WITH MINOR CORRECTIONS.

4. **Vice Chairman Connolly MOVED to adjourn. Selectman Lubrano SECONDED the motion.**

THE BOARD VOTED UNANIMOUSLY TO ADJOURN THE MEETING AT 9:30 P.M.

FINAL

BOARD OF SELECTMEN'S MEETING

January 8, 2007

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; Bill Baschnagel, Selectman; Allegra Lubrano, Selectman; Julia Griffin, Town Manager.

1. PUBLIC COMMENT

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

2. PUBLIC HEARING TO CONSIDER RESERVOIR ROAD OPTIONS

Chairman Walsh opened the public hearing and gave an overview of the history of the storm, the resulting damage to Reservoir Road, and the decision to repair the road. The options that were reviewed included Emergency Access Only, One-Way Traffic, Two-Way Traffic or the Wolfeboro Road option. There were also options as to whether to keep the road gravel or to pave the road. Chairman Walsh noted that the Planning Board reviewed these options and their recommendation was the Two-Way Traffic option with some suggestions as to design. He noted that he wanted to keep the discussion limited to the options that have been brought forth and not to get into the details as to suggestions for design. A committee would then be formed to look at the options with regard to design.

Selectman Baschnagel pointed out that the money that was set aside at Town Meeting was not all for Reservoir Road but for all of the road repairs that were needed after the 2005 storm. Ms. Griffin confirmed this and that the \$500,000 expense was staggered over 2 years.

Maryann Cadwallader, Rip Road, applauds the recommendation made by the Planning Board for the Two-Way Traffic option. She stated that Reservoir Road is a major link between rural and downtown Hanover. It will allow for the increased development of Grasse Road. (See attached letter)

Stan Colla, Rip Road, wanted to discuss the design of Reservoir Road and his concerns about the effect on Rip Road. He advised that before the flood, he knew that there would be a change in traffic volume due to the new Middle School. The flood eliminated a major thoroughfare which caused more traffic on Rip Road. In the recommendations

from the Planning Board, there has been some consideration to preserve Reservoir Road as a by-way and to encourage people to travel the road more slowly. He would like to see this encouraged in other parts of the town. He feels that people have been conditioned to use the alternate routes and would like to see Reservoir Road promoted as the preferred route over Rip Road. The Grasse Road developments are cul-de-sacs but Rip Road has about 40 homes that have driveways that run out into Rip Road. He would like to see Grasse Road and Reservoir Road made as more of a thoroughfare where people see it as the preferable alternative. He stated that there had also been discussions about keeping Reservoir Road as a way for walkers, bikers and hikers. Although he is sympathetic, he doesn't feel that this road is necessarily meant for that. He would like to see construction done to handle a large amount of traffic and traffic speed safely.

Barry Harwick, 12 Reservoir Road, stated that his residence is across from the Dartmouth Rugby House and he has seen an increase in traffic. He feels that the dirt portion has a lot of traffic and he believes that preserving the scenic by-way is important. Trying to mitigate Rip Road by creating a larger thoroughfare is not what he is hoping for. Prior to the storm, it was a limited two-way road and he feels that widening the road to accommodate two lanes with the ability to increase speed will require much more work including landscaping. He understands the need to open the road again but he feels it should be done to the condition of the road prior to the 2005 storm.

Bill Mlacak, Reservoir Road, advised that he is a frequent user of the Reservoir Road area and he has enjoyed the road without the traffic for the last couple of years. He feels that speeding issues have not been handled well in that area and he doesn't see how speeding issues would be addressed with the repaired Reservoir Road. He also stated that the Conservation Commission recommendation was to repair the road without affecting the water and he doesn't see any of the proposed options addressing this issue. He also noted that opening the road is largely at the behest of the Rip Road residents and doesn't feel that the Town should give the re-opening of the road to these residents. There is no sidewalk on Rip Road and he feels that the residents should allow for this to happen first before the Town gives them anything in terms of a road. He also noted that any paving or significant widening would need to go through Town Meeting since it is a scenic road. He also noted that with global warming and the initiatives sponsored by the Select Board, to add more roads and encourage more vehicle travel is sending the wrong message. He would prefer to keep the walking trail and make the routes less convenient and discourage vehicular traffic. He questioned why so many vehicles are going to the schools and why are they not using buses. He felt that instead of allocating the funds for the more expensive options should be allocated to encourage more timely busing and police enforcement of existing speed limits. He summarized his four issues: 1) Conservation Commission, 2) lack of sidewalk, 3) scenic road designation and, 4) global warming issues.

Judy Colla, 31 Rip Road, stated that with regard to the recreational use of Reservoir Road and it is beautiful and pristine but the more pristine it is, the more limited it is for use. She does not feel that it is a good place for women to walk by themselves or small

children. She would encourage making safe recreational opportunities in areas that are more public. She feels that creating the road in a safe way for traffic would be preferential.

Rich Howarth, 2 Sausville Road, advised that there are about 600 households in rural Hanover and what he observes happening on Wheelock Hill are folks from downtown using Rip Road to get to the school and he doesn't feel that there is any data to conclude that the problem is with the rural residents. He also stated that the road prior to the storm was unsafe for a car and it was not safe for bicyclists. He feels that the road should be made safer than it was before if it is going to be repaired. He feels that it should be emergency access only and that there should be extra traffic calming measures for the Rip Road area. Dartmouth College is looking at building at the top of Reservoir Road area and if they are going to do that, they should pay for the infrastructure.

Stan Colla, 31 Rip Road, advised that in his prior statement, he restricted his comments to the Reservoir Road/Grasse Road issue and not the Rip Road issues. He wanted to respond to other comments made earlier. He does not believe that in this community that there is going to be much change in the residents of the Town by increasing public transportation. If traffic is coming down Wheelock Street, he doesn't feel that anything will be able to convince people to turn right onto Park Street instead of Rip Road. He feels that the two-way option makes the most sense and he doesn't want the Board to leave the road the way it is after the storm 2 years ago.

Frank Logan, 16 Rip Road, stated that he spoke with a woman that lives in the Grasse Road area who uses Rip Road to get to the school and was not aware of this issue. She did admit that because of the closure she uses Rip Road but would go back to using Reservoir Road if it should be re-opened. Mr. Logan spoke to the Planning Board's recommendation to make the road fully usable for pedestrians, runners, bicyclists, etc. Mr. Logan also spoke to the comment made that 'we don't need more roads in Hanover' and he doesn't see the restoration of a road that previously existed as adding a new road.

Chairman Walsh spoke to the Wolfeboro Road option. His view is that this needs to be looked at with regard to the recreation issues within the Town and not just the repair of Reservoir Road. He understands the parallel between these two issues and although he feels positive about it, he views it as a general budget issue rather than a design issue with regard to this road.

Kari Asmus, 2 Sausville Road, advised that this issue is about both recreation and commuting. The reason people don't use their bicycles more is because they don't feel safe and they may be more likely to use them if the road is made safer.

Lyn Swett-Miller, 22 Rip Road, spoke with regard to volume and speed. She would like to see traffic calming issues dealt with throughout the Town.

Chairman Walsh asked for the wishes of the Board. Vice Chairman Connolly agrees with the findings of the Planning Board. Selectman Lubrano stated that while she appreciates the concerns of the residents of the Town who wish to maintain Reservoir Road as almost an exclusive recreational thoroughfare, she feels that the Planning Board has looked at the options carefully and she would like it restored to a safe gravel road and she does not want to see it paved. Selectman Baschnagel felt that the recommendations were appropriate and consistent with the way he feels that this should be done. He also agrees with having a smaller group come up with design recommendations. Selectman Christie is concerned that this is solving today's problem and perhaps not the problems the Town may face 10 years from now. He would like to explore ways to do the project so that the Town can upgrade to paving if growth overwhelms the scenic nature of the road.

Chairman Walsh closed the public hearing and wanted to discuss how to put together a design team to work on the issues within the parameters that have been approved by the Board. Chairman Walsh noted that Nancy Collier and Peter Kulbacki should be on the design team.

Chairman Walsh wanted to discuss the financing of the project. He would suggest using money that was set aside and spread any additional costs over the next year or two which would help re-build the undesignated fund balance. Selectman Baschnagel feels that the Town should look at the role that Dartmouth should play with the development of Grasse Road III. He feels that perhaps Dartmouth should be approached with an impact fee contribution toward this issue. Chairman Walsh felt that if the Town is talking about rebuilding the road to the way it was prior to the storm, it would be hard to argue for that. Selectman Baschnagel noted that there would be improvements and upgrading because of the anticipated increased demand and he feels that this should be an element to consider.

Selectman Christie felt that this project should be spread over this year and next year's budget due to the other pressures that are coming to the Town. He feels that the best option may be to use the initial \$250,000 that has been set aside and then spread the additional cost over the next two years.

Bill Mlacak wanted to speak to the creation of the advisory group or subcommittee, he noted that the creation of this group would be subject to the NH Right-to-Know Law, which would require public meetings with appropriate notice and open to the public.

Selectman Christie noted that he heard from the conversation tonight that there are concerns about speed on these roads. Ms. Griffin noted that there are problems all over town with regard to speed and there are two to three maximum police officers on duty during any one shift. At any given time there are 16 -25 locations that are deemed high priority directed patrol areas. She noted that the Police Department is short staffed which has not enabled the use of a Traffic Enforcement Officer. Chairman Walsh feels that there is a good balance because he gets just as many complaints regarding lack of enforcement as he receives about over enforcement.

Rich Howarth commented that when Alan Patterson was doing traffic enforcement in the mornings, it made a big impact.

3. BANNER REQUESTS

- Hanover Parks & Recreation – Occom Pond Party
- Kids for a Cooler Upper Valley – Green Bags
- Norris Cotton Cancer Center – The Prouty

Ms. Griffin gave the Board an overview of the banner requests and noted that balancing the needs of everyone requesting banner time has become more challenging.

Chairman Walsh MOVED to grant the banner requests of Hanover Parks and Recreation, Kids for a Cooler Upper Valley and the Norris Cotton Cancer Center. Vice Chairman Connolly SECONDED the motion.

THE BOARD VOTED UNANIMOUSLY TO GRANT THE BANNER REQUESTS OF HANOVER PARKS AND RECREATION, KIDS FOR A COOLER UPPER VALLEY AND NORRIS COTTON CANCER CENTER.

4. APPROVAL OF MINUTES

- December 18, 2006

Selectman Lubrano MOVED to approve the Minutes with minor revisions. Chairman Walsh SECONDED the motion.

THE BOARD VOTED UNANIMOUSLY TO APPROVE THE MINUTES OF DECEMBER 18, 2006 WITH MINOR REVISIONS.

5. ADMINISTRATIVE REPORTS

Ms. Griffin handed the Board an information sheet about the Water Company fees. The Public Utilities Commission (PUC) has been actively involved in finalizing approvals for the effective rate increases to help pay the debt on low interest loan for the new treatment plant and the water tank so effective 10/13/06 the treatment portion, (construction of the new facilities) results an increase of 46.26%. There is also another general rate increase of 5.25% which focuses on the inflation impact. In April 2007, there will be about a 10% increase which will be the last piece of the project. The increase was pro-rated back to October and bills went out last Friday so she wanted to provide the Board with additional information to answer their questions with regard to what the percentages are for. Chairman Walsh wanted to see additional information as to what the Town rates are in comparison to the rest of the State. He advised that the numbers appear much larger but in comparison to the rest of the State, Hanover is somewhere in the middle.

Ms. Griffin advised that she is finishing up budget meetings this week and then she and Betsy will focus on areas that they should look at for cuts.

6. SELECTMEN'S REPORTS

Peter Christie

Selectman Christie advised that he had nothing to report.

Kate Connolly

Vice Chairman Connolly attended the Planning Board Meeting last week and the Gile Tract continues and is coming close to completion. The Planning Board also subdivided the College's South Street property in addition to the house on Currier Street.

Bill Baschnagel

Selectman Baschnagel reported that there have been two Fire District meetings so far and they will meet each Thursday through January. He stated that there has been a lot of vigorous discussion and he is optimistic that they will get somewhere in this process. The meetings are held Thursday evenings in the Hanover Fire Station Training room. He also noted that the Christmas party was good and a lot of fun.

Allegra Lubrano

Selectman Lubrano advised that she and Ms. Griffin attended the Community Substance Abuse Advisory Committee (CSAAC) meeting was held today. The Middle School is bringing in a speaker on setting limits with adolescents in February. Howe Board of Trustees meeting is scheduled for Thursday night. She will also be attending the first organization meeting on Wednesday night to discuss next summer's CHaD half marathon which is tentatively scheduled for August 25th with a goal of \$200,000.

Brian Walsh

Chairman Walsh attended the Recreation Board meeting prior to the Select Board's meeting tonight. The Pond Party is scheduled for Saturday, February 10th. Howl at the Moon is scheduled for February 2nd and people will need to buy tickets in advance at the Recreation Department, there will not be any tickets for sale that night. The Hanover Chamber will hold their Annual Meeting on January 16th. The Downtown Marketing Association and the Selectman's Advisory Committee will hold a set of meetings so that they can make a recommendation to the Select Board.

7. OTHER BUSINESS

Board of Selectmen
January 8, 2007

Vice Chairman Connolly advised that Bill Hammond, teacher at Hanover High School, just returned from a trip to Kosovo, India and Japan to study teaching methods. He was given access to schools around Tokyo by Katz Suzuki and he was greeted by Mr. Sudo in Nihonmatsu and was given access to schools there. Mr. Hammond is assembling all of his material to put together a documentary for presentation in the future. She will communicate thanks to Mr. Sudo, the City of Nihonmatsu and Mr. Suzuki.

Ms. Griffin advised that the Coalition Communities are looking for a donation from member communities. She feels inclined to send a check for \$1,000. The Board agreed to have Ms. Griffin cut a check to the Coalition.

Selectman Baschnagel will attend the Chambers Parking Group meeting on January 29th.

Selectman Christie noted that the Hanover Finance Committee meeting is being planned for later this month and he feels that this year is going to be tougher than normal which may require a couple of sessions instead of one.

8. ADJOURNMENT

Selectman Baschnagel MOVED to adjourn. Selectman Lubrano SECONDED the motion.

THE BOARD VOTED UNANIMOUSLY TO ADJOURN THE MEETING AT 8:45 P.M.

Respectfully Submitted,

Allegra Lubrano, Secretary

Minutes prepared by Elizabeth S. Rathburn.

SUMMARY

1. **Chairman Walsh MOVED to grant the banner requests of Hanover Parks and Recreation, Kids for a Cooler Upper Valley and the Norris Cotton Cancer Center. Vice Chairman Connolly SECONDED the motion.**

THE BOARD VOTED UNANIMOUSLY TO GRANT THE BANNER REQUESTS OF HANOVER PARKS AND RECREATION, KIDS FOR A COOLER UPPER VALLEY AND NORRIS COTTON CANCER CENTER.

2. **Selectman Lubrano MOVED to approve the Minutes with minor revisions. Chairman Walsh SECONDED the motion.**

THE BOARD VOTED UNANIMOUSLY TO APPROVE THE MINUTES OF DECEMBER 18, 2006 WITH MINOR REVISIONS.

3. **Selectman Baschnagel MOVED to adjourn. Selectman Lubrano SECONDED the motion.**

THE BOARD VOTED UNANIMOUSLY TO ADJOURN THE MEETING AT 8:45 P.M.