

**FINAL**

**BOARD OF SELECTMEN'S MEETING**

**December 15, 2008**

**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.

Winifred Stearns, 5 Dorrance Place, stated that she would like the Board to ask the College to finish their projects south of Lebanon Street before they consider working on the proposed Visual Arts Center. She stated that it's been 4 years for the South Block and the project is still not finished. The last extension for the project expires this month and it will not be finished. The removal of transformers needs to happen. She stated that Ms. Griffin told her that the removal would happen in the beginning of January. Ms. Stearns is looking for a quick resolution to this issue.

Ms. Stearns then addressed concerns regarding Currier Place. She read in the paper that the trustees of Dartmouth College bought the area for over \$2 million. She would like to see the building on 4 Currier finished before they start breaking ground on the Visual Arts Center.

Vice Chairman Connolly stated that the extension of the building time of the South Block was absolutely necessary because there were problems that warranted the extension.

Chairman Walsh asked Ms. Griffin to give the Board a feel for the authority that the Board may have regarding this request at the next meeting after the 1<sup>st</sup> of the year. Ms. Griffin stated that there is an issue of loading docks construction prior to the demolition of the studio arts building and she will ask specifically about this at an upcoming meeting.

Vice Chairman Connolly stated that the Planning Board has already seen a presentation for the Visual Arts Center and the College will be looking for approval in January or February.

Selectman Baschnagel noted that the loading docks were slated for construction this spring.

Chairman Walsh wanted to clarify first what the Select Board can or can not do with regard to Ms. Stearns request. The Board then could consider what they may or may not do.

Chairman Walsh noted that the Public Works, Fire and Police Departments did a superb job over the last weekend's storm. He wanted to add a large thank you on behalf of the citizens of Hanover.

Selectman Baschnagel noted that Doug Hackett and the other dispatchers in the dispatch center were extremely busy on Friday morning with the storm.

**2. PUBLIC HEARING TO CONSIDER REVISIONS TO THE BUILDING CODE ADOPTING ORDINANCE RECOMMENDED BY THE BUILDING CODE ADVISORY BOARD.**

Ms. Griffin reported that Building Inspector Ryan Borkowski was present to speak to the Board if there are specific questions regarding the revisions.

Chairman Walsh questioned the process and why the Board needed to adopt the revisions when the State has already adopted them. Ms. Griffin stated that the Board is not obligated to enforce the full code that the State has adopted so the Building Code Advisory Committee has made specific recommendations.

Vice Chairman Connolly asked about Section 10 “Work That May Be Done Without a Building Permit”. She felt that the information that was removed should be made available to residents. Selectman Baschnagel thought that the Planning Office should put this information on the website.

Selectman Baschnagel asked about the provisions for residential sprinkler requirements adopted by the IBC and asked when that is going to be put into effect. Ryan Borkowski stated that it is in the 2009 code and it is also in the 2006 Life Safety Code, neither of which have been adopted by the State of NH. Mr. Borkowski also stated that there were concerns about infrastructure and the fact that there were not a lot of people qualified in the installation of these systems and there are no licensing requirements. Selectman Baschnagel noted that these systems could be run off of a hot water tank. Selectman Baschnagel’s concern is that in the future they may be asked to man another station and this requirement may eliminate that need. Mr. Borkowski noted that the Town can adopt the ordinance any time if they are more restrictive than the State’s ordinances.

Chairman Walsh asked for any public comment on this issue. There were no comments from the public.

**Selectman Baschnagel MOVED to adopt the changes as recommended to the Building Code Ordinance. Vice Chairman Connolly SECONDED the motion.**

**THE BOARD VOTED UNANIMOUSLY IN FAVOR OF ADOPTING THE CHANGES AS RECOMMENDED TO THE BUILDING CODE ORDINANCE.**

**3. DISCUSSION REGARDING REQUEST FOR PARTIAL ABATEMENT OF SEWER CHARGES BY DHMC.**

Ms. Griffin reported that Jona Roberts was present to speak to the Board on behalf of DHMC. Ms. Griffin stated that the request is late in coming but understands that there was a change in staff. DHMC is looking for an abatement because in their heating plants, there is a certain

Board of Selectmen  
December 15, 2008

amount of water that is never discharged into the sewer system because it goes through the “stacks” in what is called ‘blowdown’. DHMC is measuring a portion of the amount of water that gets released into the stacks and are requesting an abatement. The amount requested for abatement is \$1,702.85.

Ms. Griffin asked how this would be reimbursed. Ms. McClain reported that there is a reserve set aside for sewer abatements. She also stated that the Public Works Director and Mr. Robert’s predecessor negotiated this request in prior years but this particular request is an issue of timing.

Chairman Walsh asked what DHMC’s total sewer bill is currently. Ms. McClain stated that it was around \$240,000. She noted that Peter Kulbacki has worked with Mr. Robert’s office to ensure the accuracy of the data.

**Selectman Baschnagel MOVED to accept the recommendation for partial abatement of sewer charges for DHMC. Vice Chairman Connolly SECONDED the motion.**

**THE BOARD VOTED UNANIMOUSLY IN FAVOR OF ACCEPTING THE RECOMMENDATION FOR PARTIAL ABATEMENT OF SEWER CHARGES FOR DHMC.**

#### **4. DISCUSSION REGARDING BICYCLE FRIENDLY COMMUNITY APPLICATION.**

Ms. Griffin stated that when the Bicycle & Pedestrian Committee attended a recent Select Board meeting, they had indicated a desire to have the Board’s support in becoming a “Bicycle Friendly Community”. The Board asked for more information which has subsequently been provided.

Mr. Cox stated that the requirement is just a statement of commitment that there is support in the application process. Selectman Rassias voiced his support for this application. It would be a good thing for the Town. He feels that promoting awareness of bicyclists within the community is important.

Selectman Baschnagel was disappointed with the web page because he couldn’t get a sense for what the levels were and what they were looking for. It is clear that they are looking for a commitment from the Town but it would have been helpful to know more about their grading system criteria. Mr. Cox stated that there is an “honorable mention” level up to platinum levels which has to do with the infrastructure in place within the community.

Selectman Baschnagel was unable to find the criteria for each of these levels. Mr. Cox stated that the committee is interested in this and are not looking at asking for any funding for this. One of the charges is to educate the public and one standard is to provide education and even if they don’t meet the standard of “bronze” in the next 5 years, he felt it would be beneficial to the Town.

Board of Selectmen  
December 15, 2008

Selectman Baschnagel would like to see a written list of the criteria that the Board could review. Mr. Cox stated that they are looking for a statement from the highest elected official and it doesn't have to be very formal.

Ms. Stearns asked about the lanes that were going to be used for bicycles. Chairman Walsh clarified that this is not about changing any routes and at this point they are not going into a lot of specifics.

**Selectman Rassias MOVED to support the efforts of the Hanover Bicycle & Pedestrian Committee to complete and submit Part Two of the Bicycle Friendly Community application. Vice Chairman Connolly SECONDED the motion.**

**THE BOARD VOTED UNANIMOUSLY IN FAVOR OF SUPPORTING THE EFFORTS OF THE HANOVER BICYCLE & PEDESTRIAN COMMITTEE TO COMPLETE AND SUBMIT PART TWO OF THE BICYCLE FRIENDLY COMMUNITY APPLICATION.**

## **5. BUDGET AND FISCAL UPDATE.**

Ms. Griffin wanted the Board to be aware of a couple things that are happening with the Dresden School District and the County portions of the tax rate. The School District is working toward coming up with a couple different budgets for the School Board to consider. Ms. Griffin stated that there was a bump up in the 6<sup>th</sup> grade student population increasing costs for Special Education and other factors; if they didn't make any changes in expenditures, there would be a 10.5% increase for Hanover and a 7.7% increase for the residents of Norwich. Ms. Griffin stated that she has spoken with Superintendent Wayne Gerson and he was interested in getting feedback from the Town regarding tax rate targets and scenarios. They would like to find a 5% maximum tax rate increase.

Ms. Griffin stated that one of the external drivers to the budget is a reduction in the Dartmouth annual contributions which was \$1.5 million a year for 5 years and that is going away this year. There is a Special Ed surcharge in the amount of \$370,000 and they have a little prior year fund balance to use but not a lot. Ms. Griffin stated that she and Wayne have been having conversations regarding the possibility of pooling resources to save money.

Selectman Christie stated that when the Finance Committee looked at the work that had gone into getting down to 5% they were appreciative but this may not be low enough and asked that they look at a 3% or 0% budget. They recommended doing the work to see what a budget with these percentages would look like. This effort would require a reduction in programs. Chairman Walsh felt that there were positive conversations taking place.

Vice Chairman Connolly asked how much of the 5% were being driven by costs that just can not be reduced such as fuel and salaries. Ms. Griffin stated that the vast expense is labor related and

Board of Selectmen  
December 15, 2008

special education is a factor. They will undoubtedly be looking at programs that could be reduced.

Chairman Walsh noted that there are two things in the State legislature that can change the financial picture; retirement & Special Education aide. The State will probably look to reduce the Special Education aide to balance the State budget.

Ms. Griffin noted that there is a County Executive Legislative meeting coming up in the near future regarding the County Jail. She needs to get more information from Sharon Nordgren and Bernie Benn as to what exactly is going on with that.

Chairman Walsh asked whether the Board should communicate to the legislation their position regarding the proposed jail. Selectman Baschnagel felt that the Board already expressed their position to the Representatives at a recent meeting. Ms. Griffin wasn't sure that the Board's position was relayed strongly enough to the Representatives as to whether they were for or against the project. Selectman Baschnagel would propose asking the legislature to bring the project back to square zero and noted that he attended numerous presentations regarding the proposal and he didn't feel that they were fiscally responsible in the planning of this project.

**Chairman Walsh MOVED that the legislature consider what is being placed on the property tax; the current state of the economy; the impact that a facility costing more than \$44 million with the anticipated doubling of operating costs; be reviewed for a more fiscally responsible proposal with regard to the County Jail.**

**Selectman Baschnagel SECONDED the motion.**

Selectman Christie stated that he was fairly clear as to what the project was but it is a very complicated area that is hitting at the same time as so many external drivers to the tax rate.

Selectman Baschnagel wanted answers to the specific questions as to what are the tradeoffs that you've looked at, what is the payback, how long do people stay there, how many people will be served by the facilities providing education, what percentage of the people will be there long enough to benefit from that education, and he was not able to get answers to the questions.

**THE BOARD VOTED UNANIMOUSLY TO ENCOURAGE THE LEGISLATURE TO CONSIDER WHAT IS BEING PLACED ON THE PROPERTY TAX; THE CURRENT STATE OF THE ECONOMY; THE IMPACT THAT A FACILITY COSTING MORE THAN \$44 MILLION WITH THE ANTICIPATED DOUBLING OF OPERATING COSTS; BE REVIEWED FOR A MORE FISCALLY RESPONSIBLE PROPOSAL WITH REGARD TO THE COUNTY JAIL.**

Ms. Griffin asked if she should draft a letter to the legislation. Chairman Walsh would like this to go to the Executive Committee. Ms. Griffin would see who is on the Executive Committee and send a letter.

Board of Selectmen  
December 15, 2008

Chairman Walsh would like a clear message sent to the Executive Committee. Vice Chairman Connolly was sure that Hanover was not the only community to have this feeling.

Chairman Walsh stated that he would like to make it clear that when the proposal was presented to the Board, a case was not made as to what the benefit would be with these capital investments and operating costs in terms of reducing the costs in other areas or making a difference.

Chairman Walsh stated that recently he has spoken to other people in other towns regarding the budget process and they are interested in how Hanover sets a clear target early and then allows staff to work toward that target.

Ms. Griffin reported that there was a communication from the Retirement System stated that they will not bill for the spiking charge for anyone who retired beginning September 1 through the end of June on the assumption that the legislature will resolve this issue. If the issue is not resolved by the end of June, they will bill for this. The communities were facing receiving a bill 45 days after an employee retired and then were being given 30 days to pay.

**6. APPROVAL OF MINUTES:**  
- December 1, 2008

Vice Chairman Connolly and Selectman Baschnagel noted minor changes to the Minutes.

**Vice Chairman Connolly MOVED to approve the Minutes of December 1, 2008 as amended. Selectman Baschnagel SECONDED the motion.**

**THE BOARD VOTED UNANIMOUSLY TO APPROVE THE MINUTES OF DECEMBER 1, 2008 AS AMENDED.**

**7. ADMINISTRATIVE REPORTS.**

Ms. Griffin reported that it has been busy but she had nothing additional to report.

**8. SELECTMEN'S REPORTS.**

**Peter Christie**

Selectman Christie reported that the Finance Committee has been extremely active in meeting with the schools regarding the budget.

Selectman Christie reported that the Affordable Housing Commission is looking for future projects. There are several in various stages of consideration and thoughts.

**Kate Connolly**

Vice Chairman Connolly reported that the Planning Board has four applications in process. Tomorrow night the proposed hotel at the corner of South and Main Street. There were discussions regarding modifications of the apartment house on Curtiss Road. There is a lot line adjustment on Rennie Road that is proving to be difficult. Vice Chairman Connolly noted that there is a 3 unit apartment house on Park Street that is being changed to 6 units.

Vice Chairman Connolly reported that there will not be that many zoning amendments for next year's warrant. There was a presentation of the visual arts center which they are planning to go ahead with fairly soon.

**Bill Baschnagel**

Selectman Baschnagel reported that the Conservation Commission had discussions with Dartmouth with regard to wetlands issue on the Golf Course; draining from Occom Pond is increasing the wetness of areas on the Golf Course. He noted that the Town has established good communication with Facilities Operations & Maintenance employees.

Selectman Baschnagel reported that Rick Vandercourt has conducted a Wildlife Survey on the Centerra Property. His work is fascinating and will be wrapped up next spring. He recommended other Board members meet with him over this property and its history. There are trees that haven't been touched in 150 years. Selectman Baschnagel felt that this was one of the best projects that they have worked on. Ms. Griffin noted that this stemmed from the Route 120 Corridor Study.

**Athos Rassias**

Selectman Rassias reported that the Bike & Pedestrian Committee has been working hard on several projects. There was a long discussion regarding the previous meeting with the Select Board. It was a productive meeting with regard to the direction of the Committee. The Committee has been working on an education initiative and there were a lot of good ideas & work being done.

Selectman Rassias reported that the Bike & Pedestrian Committee members expressed concerns regarding the proposed hotel on South Street and an existing bike path. They feel there is going to be an impact with regard to valet parking and getting cars in and out of the garage of the hotel. Vice Chairman Connolly noted that the street widths would remain unchanged. Selectman Rassias stated that the addition of cars going in and out of that area will remain an issue.

**Brian Walsh**

Chairman Walsh has nothing new to report.

Board of Selectmen  
December 15, 2008

**9. OTHER BUSINESS.**

Selectman Christie reported that there was a celebration for Jack Nelson at Reservoir #3 celebrating his 10 years with the company. The Reservoir is now named Nelson Reservoir.

Chairman Walsh wished everyone present and the residents of Hanover a Merry Christmas & Happy New Year.

**10. ADJOURNMENT.**

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

**THE BOARD VOTED UNANIMOUSLY TO ADJOURN THE MEETING AT 8:50 P.M.**

Respectfully Submitted,

Athos Rassias, Secretary

Minutes prepared by Elizabeth S. Rathburn



**SUMMARY**

1. **Selectman Baschnagel MOVED to adopt the changes as recommended to the Building Code Ordinance. Vice Chairman Connolly SECONDED the motion.**

**THE BOARD VOTED UNANIMOUSLY IN FAVOR OF ADOPTING THE CHANGES AS RECOMMENDED TO THE BUILDING CODE ORDINANCE.**

2. **Selectman Baschnagel MOVED to accept the recommendation for partial abatement of sewer charges for DHMC. Vice Chairman Connolly SECONDED the motion.**

**THE BOARD VOTED UNANIMOUSLY IN FAVOR OF ACCEPTING THE RECOMMENDATION FOR PARTIAL ABATEMENT OF SEWER CHARGES FOR DHMC.**

3. **Selectman Rassias MOVED to support the efforts of the Hanover Bicycle & Pedestrian Committee to complete and submit Part Two of the Bicycle Friendly Community application. Vice Chairman Connolly SECONDED the motion.**

**THE BOARD VOTED UNANIMOUSLY IN FAVOR OF SUPPORTING THE EFFORTS OF THE HANOVER BICYCLE & PEDESTRIAN COMMITTEE TO COMPLETE AND SUBMIT PART TWO OF THE BICYCLE FRIENDLY COMMUNITY APPLICATION.**

4. **Chairman Walsh MOVED that the legislature consider what is being placed on the property tax; the current state of the economy; the impact that a facility costing more than \$44 million with the anticipated doubling of operating costs; be reviewed for a more fiscally responsible proposal with regard to the County Jail. Selectman Baschnagel SECONDED the motion.**

**THE BOARD VOTED UNANIMOUSLY TO ENCOURAGE THE LEGISLATURE TO CONSIDER WHAT IS BEING PLACED ON THE PROPERTY TAX; THE CURRENT STATE OF THE ECONOMY; THE IMPACT THAT A FACILITY COSTING MORE THAN \$44 MILLION WITH THE ANTICIPATED DOUBLING OF OPERATING COSTS; BE REVIEWED FOR A MORE FISCALLY RESPONSIBLE PROPOSAL WITH REGARD TO THE COUNTY JAIL.**

5. **Vice Chairman Connolly MOVED to approve the Minutes of December 1, 2008 as amended. Selectman Baschnagel SECONDED the motion.**

**THE BOARD VOTED UNANIMOUSLY TO APPROVE THE MINUTES OF DECEMBER 1, 2008 AS AMENDED.**

Board of Selectmen  
December 15, 2008

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

**THE BOARD VOTED UNANIMOUSLY TO ADJOURN THE MEETING AT 8:50 P.M.**

FINAL

**BOARD OF SELECTMEN'S MEETING**

**December 1, 2008**

**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. RECOMMENDATION TO SET A PUBLIC HEARING FOR DECEMBER 15, 2008 TO CONSIDER REVISIONS TO THE BUILDING CODE ADOPTING ORDINANCE RECOMMENDED BY THE BUILDING CODE ADVISORY BOARD.**

**Chairman Walsh MOVED to set a public hearing for December 15, 2008 to consider revisions to the Building Code Adopting Ordinance recommended by the Building Code Advisory Board. Vice Chairman Connolly SECONDED the motion.**

**THE BOARD VOTED UNANIMOUSLY TO SET A PUBLIC HEARING FOR DECEMBER 15, 2008 TO CONSIDER REVISIONS TO THE BUILDING CODE ADOPTING ORDINANCE RECOMMENDED BY THE BUILDING CODE ADVISORY BOARD.**

**3. LOCAL AND STATE ECONOMIC UPDATE – DISCUSSION WITH STATE LEGISLATIVE DELEGATION REGARDING STATE BUDGET AND UPCOMING LEGISLATIVE SESSION.**

Chairman Walsh invited State Representatives Sharon Nordgren, Bernie Benn and Beatriz Pastor-Bodmer to speak to the Board.

Ms. Griffin stated that she thought it would be beneficial to have a conversation between the Select Board and the State Representatives about the state of the budget. Specifically, she felt that having a discussion about the spiking issue and whether this was something that could be managed in this legislative session.

Chairman Walsh also stated that it would be helpful to know what the classes of revenues and amounts received from the state were for the last year (rooms & meals, tax, etc.) and have a conversation about any anticipated changes.

Board of Selectmen  
December 1, 2008

Ms. Griffin asked Betsy McClain to join the conversation to clarify some of the town revenues. Ms. Griffin stated that the State Highway Block money is an area of concern. She received a letter stating that they should anticipate receiving \$242,000 in State Highway Block Grant aid for '09-'10. They received another letter stating that the Town would receive less than anticipated but because they were conservative in their estimate they should not see much of a deficit. Rooms & Meals Tax Revenue was around \$400,000 which was larger than anticipated because travel has been down but this figure saw an increase.

Ms. Griffin stated that the only other area that the Town receives revenue is with regard to grant revenue which has been withheld and thus the Town has had to front the money and the State attempted to gain more investment earnings by holding the payments. Chairman Walsh asked if there were any capital funds from the revolving loan fund that they are expecting. Ms. McClain noted that the WWTP upgrades that were voted on and approved have not been awarded yet. Ms. Griffin stated that the State could increase their earnings by \$3 million if they withhold the payments for a period of time.

Ms. Griffin noted that the School District have their own issues to deal with regarding State funding. Ms. Griffin stated that construction aid and education funds may have cash flow implications.

Senator Matt Houde, Representatives Sharon Nordgren, Beatriz Pastor and Bernie Benn introduced themselves to the Board. Chairman Walsh thanked the representatives for coming.

Sharon Nordgren reported that she spoke with the Budget Director for the Governor's office and she is hopeful that there is a stimulus package which would be a short term fix for the structural capacity and Medicare.

Bernie Benn stated that the Governor just finished a first look at the overall budget. During the hearings last Friday, the Department of Transportation (DOT) was present and it is anticipated that the federal government will be making a change to assist with infrastructure. The question is whether the State has to match the funding. DOT felt that this would be a big help in particular for the Bridge Street bridge in West Lebanon. The bad news is that the DOT is spending \$100,000 more per day than they are taking in.

Chairman Walsh asked why the gas tax is being held at the same rate as it was years ago. Rep. Benn stated that there are bills in before the legislature to address that issue. It would take about 20 cents/gallon to bring the level up to inflation. Rep. Nordgren reported that the NH gas tax has the lowest tax rate in New England. Chairman Walsh stated that in his opinion it is absolutely ludicrous that the State would keep the tax rate the same as 1991 and the infrastructure is in desperate need of repair.

Rep. Nordgren stated that the structure of the highway fund keeps the State from using the money toward light rail across the State. Chairman Walsh wanted the legislature to take on this constitutional issue.

Board of Selectmen  
December 1, 2008

Selectman Baschnagel asked if the Governor has indicated a change in position on the gas tax. Rep. Nordgren felt that he may change his position on this.

Ms. Griffin asked about the deficit and whether there are popular options that are likely to grab the most support. Rep. Nordgren stated that NH is not as bad as other states. She felt that the Governor and the committees took steps that kept the State ahead of the curve. There were executive orders against hiring and believes that there will be another one to close out '09 because the State is still in a deficit. Rep. Nordgren reports that the Health and Services department gets hit the worst.

Rep. Nordgren stated that the unemployment rate could go up 7% which will increase other areas. She also stated that there are networks and safety nets for people but when the problem hits in February and March, there could be a huge trickle down effect.

Rep. Benn stated that the Commissioner is looking at ways to restructure things and they can't allow social services to fail. The demand for social services is going up. Rep. Nordgren reported that DHMC and the provider payment cut has gone from 81 cents on the \$1 to 54 cents on the \$1 and they lost \$3 million. Rep. Nordgren also noted that the Governor has been able to appoint commissioners who are working well with him.

Selectman Baschnagel expressed concern about reducing reimbursements which doesn't solve any problems and creates other problems. Rep. Nordgren stated that the DHMC is in a unique position because they are the hospital of last resort for the State because other hospitals can't afford to keep them. Rep. Benn noted that there are hospitals in the North Country that are barely holding on and are trying to keep their doors open.

Chairman Walsh asked if the Representatives are encouraging the Board to set aside extra money in the next year or two to cover obligations of the State. Rep. Nordgren encouraged the towns to set money aside for those areas that will be directly affected by the economy such as social services.

Ms. Griffin stated that historically the Town has had a very small welfare budget and they tend to get more and more social service requests for agencies that may or may not provide services within the Town of Hanover. Visiting Nurses Association is an organization that relies on Medicare funding which will probably be asking for more money this year. Ms. Griffin stated that part of the challenge is that when the Town finalizes their budget, the legislature is just getting started.

Selectman Baschnagel isn't sure that filtering everything down to the local level is the way to handle this. To make an assumption that welfare ought to be picked up by the towns and that they can do so efficiently is not a good assumption. Rep. Nordgren stated that when they are working on the State's budget, they do not consciously assume that the town is going to pick up the funding that they don't provide.

Selectman Baschnagel asked what else is being done to bring in additional revenue. Rep. Nordgren noted that there is an inheritance tax that is an option that is being looked at in addition

Board of Selectmen  
December 1, 2008

to the gas tax. Rep. Nordgren stated that they do a two year budget and the frustration is that when the revenues were projected, they weren't in a recession.

Chairman Walsh pointed out that the State is trying to find \$600 million in cuts or revenue in the next 2 ½ years. Rep. Nordgren pointed out that this was without even talking about the school funding issue.

Rep. Nordgren stated that they have \$89 million in the "rainy day" fund but it is unclear as to when exactly the rainy day is. Ms. Griffin stated that in the upcoming session, the legislature is being tasked with handling the school funding.

Chairman Walsh stated that he is concerned that some of the \$700,000 that the Town receives from the State budget deliberations will disappear in great levels. Chairman Walsh asked how the municipalities and schools can be much more effective in getting their concerns across in the legislative sessions.

Rep. Nordgren stated that she feels that the NHMA is effective in representing the towns. Ms. Griffin stated that with the Reps she speaks to, they come off as "whiny". Rep. Nordgren stated that she did not perceive that but she always felt that the NHMA responds appropriately. Ms. Griffin asked about Finance and Ways & Means. Rep. Nordgren stated that they do not come to the health and human services portion of the budget. Rep. Benn stated that the most effective lobbying is when you get 300 people to show up but the NHMA makes very clear presentations.

Rep. Nordgren noted that the spiking charge is on the docket to be dealt with this year. Ms. Griffin asked about how it might be modified. Rep. Nordgren stated that she has not heard the final decisions regarding solutions to the problem.

Ms. Griffin gave an overview of the spiking charge issue and noted that Hanover is looking at a \$150,000 payout for one Fire Captain who is looking to retire this winter.

Rep. Benn noted that it was meant to have communities control the way the employees are managed and not allow the spiking of the system. The communities that negotiate the contracts could limit the number of overtime hours. Ms. Griffin stated that this may be something that they look at with future contracts. Ms. Griffin noted that at the last Trustees meeting, employers could be looking at a 40% increase for Group II and a 23% increase for Group I in 2011. Ms. Griffin stated that they are looking at large increases in planning the budget. She also noted that there are other communities in NH that have expressed a desire to pull out of the system.

Selectman Christie could see both sides of the coin. If the limit allows communities to control excess overtime and pass the bill along to the general pool, all other towns are responsible.

Vice Chairman Connolly felt that if the towns are trying to control the overtime, it's going to mean the hiring of more employees. Rep. Benn noted that this year will see an increase of 15% in the whole system. Chairman Walsh felt that the towns and cities need to manage their own people and overtime. The benefits to retirees are set by State legislation and the Reps must deal

Board of Selectmen  
December 1, 2008

with this in the next biennium. Rep. Benn stated that the State is trying to come up with a system that will have tax benefits but the funding of this will be dependant upon employee contributions.

Vice Chairman Connolly asked about the legislation which placed the Medicaid system payment burden on each county and thought that this was in the court system. Ms. Griffin stated that they argued before the State Supreme Court about three weeks ago. Rep. Nordgren stated that there was a study committee working for a year on this issue. It separated the nursing home care from the children's care which affects each county differently depending on the demographics. Rep. Benn stated that it was supposed to be a balance but it ended up being downshifted.

Ms. Griffin asked about the county jail project. Rep. Benn stated that the court came down and ruled that against the suit and stated that there was a legal caucus and it is now out of the court process. Ms. Griffin asked if there was any chance that they may hold off on this project. Rep. Nordgren stated that they would know more after the meeting scheduled for December 10<sup>th</sup>.

Ms. Griffin noted that the county portion of the tax rate is going to be huge due to this project. Ms. Nordgren stated that the operating cost is something that is voted on yearly. Selectman Baschnagel noted that the way that it was explained to the Board was that the physical design of the jail requires a certain amount of staffing. Rep. Nordgren stated that this was not what she understood the project to be.

Chairman Walsh stated that gambling is going to be dragged through the Senate again and wanted to make sure that each Representative is not going to back slot machines in the State. Chairman Walsh is concerned that the State is going to plug a hole with gambling when it's small, it won't plug the hole and they will be stuck with a big problem and he encourages them all to vote against any gambling bill. Rep. Nordgren didn't feel that the Bill would get through the House. Senator Matt Houde is in favor of looking at all sources of revenue so he would look at gambling and broad base taxes although he may or may not support it, he needs to at least look at it. Rep. Benn could conceivably support taxing Texas Hold 'Em games that are taking place to make money for charities. Rep. Nordgren stated that the cities that don't support an income tax have other things going on that they are collecting revenue from.

Selectman Baschnagel stated that it is appalling to watch people drop a lot of money into lottery tickets who simply can't afford it. He would like the social impacts to be folded in to any of the discussions. Rep. Benn noted that there is a \$30 lottery ticket that has not been successful.

Rep. Nordgren stated that if there were specific line items that are vulnerable to the economy, they are items to focus on. Rep. Benn noted that they had an emergency session due to the heating fuel crisis last summer so that is one area that they will no longer have a huge impact.

Ms. Griffin stated that she will be having a meeting with Marilyn Bourne of LISTEN who is reporting an increase in demand for their services.

Rep. Benn noted that HB 1645 went to the Senate and this is when the lobbying really occurred. The good things that the House was doing for the long term was cut out in committee conference for example, retirement age, composition of the Board, etc were changed. Ms. Griffin noted that

there are a lot of communities that are not settling their contracts with their firefighters in part because of this Bill. Chairman Walsh wants to avoid the compulsory arbitration legislation that gets put in every year.

Ms. Griffin felt that it would be valuable to get together once a month during the legislative session to get the updates which would be helpful to both sides and she would like to schedule them to be here once a month on a Monday night. Rep. Nordgren noted stated that they won't get the budget from the Governor until February.

Chairman Walsh wants to know whether the state revolving loan fund for the wastewater treatment fund is at risk before they get the contracts going. Rep. Benn noted that the State was very successful with their bonds. The Board thanked the Representatives for speaking to them about these issues.

**4. APPROVAL OF MINUTES:**  
- November 10, 2008

**Chairman Walsh MOVED to approve the Minutes of November 10, 2008 as submitted. Selectman Baschnagel SECONDED the motion.**

**THE BOARD VOTED UNANIMOUSLY TO APPROVE THE MINUTES OF NOVEMBER 10, 2008 AS SUBMITTED.**

**5. ADMINISTRATIVE REPORTS.**

Ms. Griffin reviewed the 2009 meeting schedule with the Board.

Ms. Griffin reported that they are working on putting the budgets together providing the staff with items that should not be included in this year's budget.

**6. SELECTMEN'S REPORTS.**

**Peter Christie**

Selectman Christie reported that the Affordable Housing Commission met and progress at Gile Hill is going well. Selectman Christie gave the following report for Gile Hill:

Affordable Rentals Available:	8	Occupied:	5
Market Rate Rentals available:	7	Occupied:	7
Affordable Condos available:	4	Occupied:	2
Market Rate Condos available:	4	Occupied:	3

Selectman Christie stated that given the uncertainties on when things will become available, this is a good start. The next units being built will be delayed until these are secured but the hope is that it won't be more than a 6 month delay. There are 23 currently available out of 120 units and there are others coming online currently.



**Kate Connolly**

Vice Chairman Connolly reported that the Planning Board approved a site plan waiver for a small extension at Kendal. Tomorrow night the new hotel will be before the Planning Board.

**Bill Baschnagel**

Selectman Baschnagel reported that the Conservation Commission surveyed the boundary of the Mink Brook conservation area; they are looking at conversations with neighbors regarding issues in the area.

Selectman Baschnagel reported that the Commission will be coming before the Planning Board with suggestions regarding hazardous materials questions.

Selectman Baschnagel reported that the Bike & Pedestrian Committee has a growing advocacy for bike trails. Bike trails need to be coordinated with the Conservation Commission if it is going to be used in conjunction with trails. Selectman Baschnagel stated that the Conservation Commission is asking that the flag is raised in discussions with the Planning Board or Bike Committee regarding trails. They don't want the message to get across that any trail is a bicycle trail.

Chairman Walsh asked if there is a presumption that some of the walking trails will become bicycle trails. Selectman Baschnagel felt that there were concerns that conservation trails would become bicycle trails.

Selectman Baschnagel reported that the Hanover Lebanon Twin Rinks Association voted to support two rinks as an entity in Hartford. They are going to formally notify Dartmouth that they are not interested in the property swap.

**Athos Rassias**

Selectman Rassias had nothing new to report.

**Brian Walsh**

Chairman Walsh reported that the Recreation Board just received the budget information and are working on it.

Chairman Walsh announced that the Pond Party is scheduled for Valentine's Day in the afternoon.

**7. OTHER BUSINESS.**

There was no Other Business reported.

**8. ADJOURNMENT.**

Board of Selectmen  
December 1, 2008

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

**THE BOARD VOTED UNANIMOUSLY TO ADJOURN THE MEETING AT 8:58 P.M.**

Respectfully Submitted,

Athos Rassias, Secretary

Minutes prepared by Elizabeth S. Rathburn.

**SUMMARY**

1. **Chairman Walsh MOVED to set a public hearing for December 15, 2008 to consider revisions to the Building Code Adopting Ordinance recommended by the Building Code Advisory Board. Vice Chairman Connolly SECONDED the motion.**

**THE BOARD VOTED UNANIMOUSLY TO SET A PUBLIC HEARING FOR DECEMBER 15, 2008 TO CONSIDER REVISIONS TO THE BUILDING CODE ADOPTING ORDINANCE RECOMMENDED BY THE BUILDING CODE ADVISORY BOARD.**

2. **Chairman Walsh MOVED to approve the Minutes of November 10, 2008 as submitted. Selectman Baschnagel SECONDED the motion.**

**THE BOARD VOTED UNANIMOUSLY TO APPROVE THE MINUTES OF NOVEMBER 10, 2008 AS SUBMITTED.**

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

**THE BOARD VOTED UNANIMOUSLY TO ADJOURN THE MEETING AT 8:58 P.M.**

**FINAL**

**BOARD OF SELECTMEN'S MEETING**

**November 10, 2008**

**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.

Vice Chairman Connolly congratulated the Hanover High School women's and men's soccer teams for winning the State Championships. Chairman Walsh also congratulated the girls and the boys cross country teams who placed 2<sup>nd</sup> and 3<sup>rd</sup> place in the New England meet.

Chairman Walsh read an e-mail received from Lee Udy:

"I thought that I should put in writing what I mentioned to you yesterday. I would like to congratulate you and all the persons involved in the election last week. The elected officials, the staff, the volunteers all are to be commended on the very successful planning that assured the Hanover voters of an excellent voting experience. Although the press had warned about long lines with long waits at the polls, Hanover polls were organized and speedy. I personally wish to send you my thanks, along with those of a number of my friends who were very favorably impressed. Congratulations!"

Chairman Walsh commended Julia Griffin, Betsy McClain, the Supervisors of the Checklist and all the volunteers. Vice Chairman Connolly also wanted to recognize Willy Black.

Chairman Walsh reported that the Valley News incorrectly reported that Hanover was 4-1 against John McCain and noted that this was corrected in the paper the next day.

**2. PRESENTATION BY BIKE/PEDESTRIAN COMMITTEE.**

Chairman Walsh invited members of the Bike/Pedestrian Committee to speak to the Board.

Hugh Mellert thanked the Board for having the opportunity to speak about the Committee's goals. Mr. Mellert referred to a letter previously sent to the Board which outlined some of the projects the Committee has completed.

Mr. Mellert, Chairman of the Committee, introduced the other members of the Committee that were present: Tim Cox, Doug Deaett, Tom Linell and Phil Young. Carolyn Radysch introduced

herself and noted that she was asked by the Committee and the Town to work on Bike guidelines.

Ms. Radysch noted that the information provided is still considered a draft. Ms. Radysch reported that it was the Committee's hope to meet with the Planning Board in the near future. The goal of the guidelines is to determine what makes an acceptable bike lane. Bike lanes have been defined in the guidelines as to what size they should be. The Committee has determined the distance next to a curb should be a minimum of 5 feet and up to 6 feet depending on inclines or speed of traffic. The guidelines allow for the width to be reduced to 4 feet in some cases but 5 feet is generally the recommended width. Ms. Radysch discussed the term "sharrow" – shared lane arrow markings - which is a new innovation which helps bikes to align themselves outside the door opening zone and to mark the streets as a bike street to make more travelers aware. Ms. Radysch noted that the graphics with the chevron and bicyclist and 11' from the curb is the safest way to incorporate bicycle lanes. Ms. Radysch reported that they have reviewed streets within the Town and make recommendations to add sharrows in certain areas. Ms. Radysch gave examples of specific roads in Hanover where the sharrows would be recommended.

Ms. Griffin asked about the emblem and whether in the studies that were done if drivers were less likely to drive over it. Ms. Radysch stated that drivers are more aware that they are sharing the space. Selectman Baschnagel asked how the drivers differentiate between a shared lane and a non-shared lane. Ms. Radysch noted that cars passing the bicyclists give them a wider berth during passing.

Mr. Mellert stated that in some areas, such as the high school, there are signs that say "share the road" where the bike lane ends and bicyclists are forced to enter into the roadway; the sharrow would provide a demonstrative way to indicate that this is a shared roadway.

Mr. Cox stated that the areas in the sharrow, the bicyclists in that lane have a priority right of way so if there are cars coming in the other direction; they have to yield to the bicycle. He suggested working with law enforcement to educate the public.

Selectman Baschnagel was concerned about the public education factor and does not want the police department to provide that education. Selectman Baschnagel noted that this is not something that is learned in driver training.

Mr. Mellert stated that they agree that an educational campaign would need to be done. Mr. Cox added that they would ask the Town what kind of community they would like to have and whether it would be dominated by cars and trucks. Selectman Baschnagel felt that there would not be a preponderance of bicycles to replace the preponderance of vehicles.

Mr. Cox felt that it would be ideal to have arteries in Town so that people could choose to travel to work by bicycle and do that safely. They have to work in the constraints with the existing roadways. Mr. Cox suggested a trial area for the sharrow such as South Street.

Vice Chairman Connolly noted that she attended a site visit for a proposed hotel on South Street which may be under construction for a couple of years so it would probably not be the area to start with. Ms. Griffin suggested Park Street and Lebanon Street.

Selectman Rassias asked if the sharrows are in place anywhere locally. Ms. Radysch stated that they are in place in Cambridge, MA. They are in place on the West Coast and are slowly moving east. Selectman Rassias asked if this was effective from a commuting standpoint. Ms. Radysch stated that it is and noted that in Hanover, there are not that many streets that have parallel parking. One safety issue is that drivers generally don't look behind them when opening a car door and bicyclists get injured. The other safety issue is people riding on sidewalks in town because they don't feel safe to ride in the roadway.

Chairman Walsh felt that having guidelines or suggestions is a valuable thing. The thing that is missing in the guidelines is pedestrian traffic. He would like to see the "ideal" and the next level down for pedestrian's rights of ways and then ask Peter Kulbacki to take those thoughts and look at roads in town. He feels that without the bigger picture, he doesn't feel comfortable having a meaningful conversation about this particular issue. Ms. Griffin felt that they could look at certain roads in town and map what the roadways would look like with the markings on them on paper. Selectman Baschnagel felt that the drawings would be helpful.

Ms. Griffin noted that in past projects where there were discussions about widening the travel lanes, there was resistance due to the fear that this would encourage speeders.

Chairman Walsh felt that there was a standard in the compact area where they do not want bicycles to travel at speeds that they would normally travel outside the compact area. He feels that they need to set some goals to accommodate individual bicyclists versus pelotons. Mr. Mellert asked if this was something that they educate the pelotons in this matter. Chairman Walsh did not want the police department to provide this education. Mr. Cox stated that everyone would need to be educated and the Committee would want to be involved in this effort.

Mr. Mellert stated that they are more focused on the commuter bicyclist and not the peloton riders. Ms. Griffin stated that she felt that it would be fairly easy to reach out to the peloton riders to change some of the behaviors.

Selectman Rassias also noted that the peloton riders are fairly organized. Chief Giaccone noted that the Traffic Enforcement Officer asked whether they should start enforcing rules of the road for the bicyclists and he is hesitant to approach that issue if the community isn't supportive. Ms. Griffin suggested reaching out to middle schoolers who may or may not be aware of the rules of the road for bicyclists.

Chief Giaccone asked if there was an organized registry of bicyclists. Mr. Cox stated that to his knowledge, the Rodeo programs for the children do register bicycles but as far as he knows, there are no organized programs for registering bicycles. Chief Giaccone stated that having a registry recording all of the serial numbers would help with all of the bicycle thefts in town.

Chairman Walsh doesn't like the thought of a lot of regulation and enforcement although he encourages education.

Ms. Radysch suggested looking at the Town of Cambridge, MA website which provides a lot of information regarding maps, rules of the road, education, etc. She also stated that having an active bike committee that could educate children in the school would be a great way to go. She also noted that there are a lot of studies regarding accident rates that decrease with bike lanes. One study suggested that bike lanes are more safe than off-road bike paths.

Chairman Walsh stated that he would like to have the Committee focus on pedestrians which is part of the Committee's title. He feels that pedestrians are perhaps more important than the bicyclists. His concern is bicyclists that are paying attention to the vehicle traffic and not the pedestrians that are attempting to cross the street. He would like to see the pedestrian's welfare, move up in priority.

Mr. Cox noted that pedestrian traffic is a concern and they have been focusing on the straight road areas and they look at the intersections where all of the traffic is coming in at all different directions.

Chairman Walsh noted that the issues are on Lebanon Street, Park Street, Wheelock Street and not at the intersections. Chairman Walsh stated that they are trying to get people to walk just as much as they are trying to get people to bike.

Winifred Stearns, 5 Dorrance Place, asked if the lanes are strictly bicycle lanes and if the bicyclists are not in the bike lane, are cars prohibited to be in those lanes. Chairman Walsh stated that they are not at the level of talking about enforcement. Ms. Stearns felt that the lanes on Lyme Road are great and people honor it because there is a lot of room but all of Rope Ferry all the way down to the graveyard, bike lanes are not needed because the traffic is so slow in that area.

Ms. Radysch mentioned that the last guideline has to do with bulbouts where bicyclists can be pushed out. The idea is to allow space for the bikes to merge. An example is Main Street where there is a bulbout where bicyclists have to merge into traffic. She stated that by having a wider lane of 12 – 14 feet would be a better solution to this. Ms. Radysch also noted that the recommendation to make the bulbout more visible is a valid consideration.

Ms. Radysch stated that coming into Main Street from South Main Street and coming into Lyme Road, visual cues indicating a gateway into the Town by using signs or trees, sends a message to slow down as you travel into Hanover.

Phil Young noted that there is excellent collaboration with Dartmouth. Vice Chairman Connolly recommended that they bring the draft recommendations to the Planning Board.

Ms. Radysch noted that they have identified streets for this project and it is not for every street in town. Chairman Walsh remembered that a study was done 8 years ago and these did not include Park Street.

Mr. Young stated that the study included the area from Ledyard Bridge up to DHMC and coming back to go down the bridge to Norwich did include Park Street. Chairman Walsh felt that there is a way to incorporate bicycle lanes which does not take up both sides of the road. Ms. Griffin recalled that the study brought bicycles up West Street, West Street up to Maple Street, Maple to South Street and then over toward the hospital from there. There was some indecision about what to do when bikes came up in front of the Howe Library so there was a deal made to go up Sargent Place. The Bike Committee worked to find a solution for traveling bicyclists to travel safely through town while avoiding the high traffic areas.

Selectman Rassias felt that traffic patterns have changed a bit since the older study. He agrees with setting up a preferred route and the route described is to get people up Ledyard and through Town which may not capture the bike travelers currently riding through Town. Chairman Walsh stated that the reason the route was created was to make specific areas, sign them, mark them and bring them up to a level of safety but not do that everywhere in town and only in areas where people would learn to travel due to the quality of the roads in Town.

Selectman Baschnagel stated that it would be helpful if there were a map of the Town showing the routes through the area. Mr. Young stated that a reasonable master plan is on the list. Mr. Young also agrees with Selectman Rassias that there have been significant changes in traffic patterns (trees removed, sidewalks installed etc) since the study was done. Chairman Walsh felt that bicyclists will go wherever it is convenient for them.

Selectman Christie doesn't see much of a downside with this project and feels that they should work on this as quickly as they can. Ms. Griffin stated that they should be able to provide the Board with plans well before spring. Selectman Christie underscored that the education program has to be implemented.

Mr. Cox noted that they need the blessing from the Board to become a bicycle friendly community. A signature of a letter of endorsement from the Board is required and there is no cost involved. Selectman Baschnagel asked about the payoff versus just putting the education out there themselves. Mr. Cox stated that this would allow for them to get assistance from people who have done this before so they can follow the plan and guidelines and implement bicycle facility designs and work with law enforcement. Selectman Baschnagel felt that this information is probably readily available for them already.

Selectman Baschnagel stated that with these types of things such as a Tree City USA, you get a sign. Mr. Cox stated that ultimately, the Town would get a sign for this too. Selectman Christie felt that this could be helpful.

Chairman Walsh felt that there were three tasks before the Committee: pedestrians, working with the Police Department & Public Works regarding lane markings, and educating the community



members. Chairman Walsh felt that the bicycle accreditation should wait until they are up and running because that process may take away from the other tasks at hand. Chairman Walsh noted that he is not against it but there is a lot to be accomplished.

Selectman Rassias reported that he is a member of the League of American Bicyclists, there is a lot of publicity associated with it and they could use that to leverage the education and he supports doing the application. Chairman Walsh suggested that Selectman Rassias be involved with the Bicycle/Pedestrian Committee.

Selectman Christie stated that the question before the Board is whether they would be in support of signing a letter. Selectman Christie stated that he would support it. Selectman Baschnagel doesn't have a problem signing the letter but he has a problem with a program that may take time and money to gather data, etc.

Chairman Walsh would like to leave this with Selectman Rassias who he would like to see act as the Board liaison to the Committee.

Chairman Walsh thanked the Committee for speaking to the Board.

### **3. PROPOSED RELOCATION OF RIVERCREST STRUCTURE TO PUBLIC SAFETY PROPERTY ON LYME ROAD FOR VEHICLE STORAGE.**

Chairman Walsh invited Chief Giaccone and Lt. Evans to speak to the Board regarding this item.

Ms. Griffin noted that part of the proposal is to use the structure as housing for bicycles that are turned in to the police department. Ms. Griffin stated that there have been discussions over the years about creating a garage for the cruisers behind the police station. This is an item that is always on the wish list but is never brought to the Board.

Chairman Walsh asked if it would extend the number of years that they could run the cruisers. Ms. Griffin didn't think that this would increase the life span but this is the chance to acquire a really inexpensive structure. Ms. Griffin reported that Lt. Evans came up with the idea to use one single family home structure.

Ms. Griffin noted that Lt. Evans came up with a proposal with cost estimate for moving this structure behind the police department but it would require action by the Planning Board. Selectman Christie asked if this would look good when it's all done. Lt. Evans stated that this was a nice building and in speaking with Tim McNamara, they were hoping to see the building reused. This building is currently bare and it's proximity to the police station makes it a fairly easy move. Lt. Evans doesn't anticipate large expenses with the moving of wires when they move it.

Lt. Evans reported that the building itself is about 12'6" and the hope is to get it through without difficulty. Chairman Walsh wanted to make sure that they would know this ahead of time. Lt.

Evans stated that they would work with Peter Kulbacki but they wanted to get the approval of the Select Board first. Lt. Evans stated that he has spoken with Judy Brotman regarding this project and it doesn't appear that there is a lot line adjustment issue.

Ms. Griffin stated that the total estimated cost for the project including making it look nice with the requested siding, etc. is just under \$7,000 and the police department has been told to find the funds in the savings within their own budget.

Lt. Evans reported that the timeline is partially affected by Dartmouth's desire to get that building off their property. Chairman Walsh confirmed that this initiative would be at no cost.

Selectman Christie stated that as a member of the Recycling Committee he likes the fact that this structure will be reused but he wants to make sure it looks good.

Winifred Stearns wanted to confirm that this structure was going to be used for Town property. She was attending the meeting to ensure that it was not going to be used for personal property. Ms. Griffin assured Ms. Stearns that they would not use the Town structures for anything other than town property.

Lt. Evans reported that the issue of having a garage for the cruisers is one that comes up in a lot of evaluations as a wish list item. Chairman Walsh would like to do this as long as it isn't an eyesore. He would like to see if they could get an extra year out of the vehicles. Lt. Evans invited Chairman Walsh to drive one of the 2006 Crown Victoria cruisers that are currently out at fleet with springs that have punctured through the seats in various stages of deterioration.

Hugh Mellert asked if the building will have heat and utilities. Lt. Evans would like to have electricity added at some point in the future.

**Chairman Walsh MOVED to approve the Relocation of the Rivercrest Structure to the Public Safety Property on Lyme Road for Vehicle Storage. Selectman Baschnagel SECONDED the motion.**

**THE BOARD VOTED UNANIMOUSLY IN FAVOR OF RELOCATING THE RIVERCREST STRUCTURE TO THE PUBLIC SAFETY PROPERTY ON LYME ROAD FOR VEHICLE STORAGE.**

**4. DISCUSSION REGARDING NEW HAMPSHIRE RETIREMENT SYSTEM SPIKING CHARGE.**

Ms. Griffin wanted to make the Board aware of this issue since it is receiving a lot of press on the Seacoast. There are a number of communities looking at major cost impacts and are debating not finalizing negotiations on labor contracts because the spiking charge component of HB 1645 does not apply to employees who are not currently under contract. It applies to employees who's contracts were approved and it applies to employees who are not members of a bargaining unit. Now communities are not agreeing to contracts in order to avoid the spiking charge.

Chairman Walsh asked for clarification as to what the spiking charge is for the viewing audience. Ms. Griffin reported that as part of HB1645, one of the issues that came up in the legislative negotiations, there is a practice particularly in fire departments where employees work a lot of overtime in their last year of employment which is factored in figuring their retirement earnings. The key financial liability that the retirement system faces is the “spiking” of these hours of work and municipalities are responsible for the cost over 125% of the highest three years’ salaries. Communities started looking at what their responsibilities were going to be, some have upwards of \$500,000 for an employee that is retiring. Lebanon has a \$650,000 for one fire captain. The City of Portsmouth has \$1 million liability for one employee. Ms. Griffin stated that for the Town of Hanover, there is one fire captain that they would owe \$130,000 when he retires. There has been enough turmoil in the municipal world that the legislature is now aware that this can’t continue because the liability to the communities is huge.

Selectman Christie asked which part of the process can’t continue; the abuse of the system or the fact that the communities need to take charge and make sure that this doesn’t happen.

Ms. Griffin reported that municipalities have paid overtime and retirement contributions on the hours worked. The current situation is that the towns are responsible for the amounts over 125% of the base salary and it has caused a lot of towns to prohibit the amount of overtime that is being worked. Ms. Griffin noted that there are two areas in which this happens, one is for special details worked by the police department and the other is in the fire department where people are called back for coverage or those individuals who have dual responsibilities such as fire alarm maintenance. Ms. Griffin reported that the fire department is not allowing the senior officers to sign up for all of the overtime and have put a lid on a lot of the overtime.

Chairman Walsh noted that the real world would not handle this issue this way. People, if they were lucky, would get 80% of their base pay at retirement if they received anything at all. Chairman Walsh questioned why the legislature was making this an issue for management. Ms. Griffin reported that part of the reason is that labor in the State is very strong. Ms. Griffin stated that the best that they can hope for is that the notion that municipalities are responsible for amounts over 125% of base pay goes away.

Selectman Baschangel asked if the legislature were to make a ceiling of not more than 125%, whether it would still be part of an unfunded mandate. Ms. Griffin stated that the retirement system was short \$1 billion and at this point in time the money would run out in June and they would only be able to pay for 60% of their obligations. Ms. Griffin stated that this is a motivator to make them change their practices. Selectman Christie noted that it is one thing if people are working as part of the system but for employees to spike their income in the last three years, this is an abuse of the system.

Ms. Griffin stated that there is one captain that works on fire alarm maintenance, the question is whether the additional earnings of the captain would be a savings over hiring someone part-time with benefits.

Selectman Christie stated that the implication of the legislation is that 25% of overtime over the base salary is a reasonable amount, any more than that is not. Chairman Walsh stated that the legislature created the liabilities for the cities and towns. Selectman Baschangel noted that rather than making all of the communities pay, they are holding responsible those communities that have employees that engage in those practices.

Ms. Griffin stated that one of the contract negotiation items could be to make sure that employees don't work over 125% of their base salary.

**5. CONSIDERATION OF REQUEST FOR FREE SATURDAY PARKING IN DECEMBER.**

Chairman Walsh noted that they received a letter from the Chamber and the DMA. The request is for a free parking on the last Saturday in November and the four Saturdays in December.

**Selectman Baschnagel MOVED to approve the request for free Saturday parking for the last Saturday in November and all Saturdays in the month of December with the stipulation that the DMA hire people to cover the parking meters and that the Chamber notify the employers to notify the employees not to abuse this effort. Vice Chairman Connolly SECONDED the motion.**

**THE BOARD VOTED UNANIMOUSLY IN FAVOR OF THE MOTION TO APPROVE THE REQUEST FOR FREE SATURDAY PARKING FOR THE LAST SATURDAY IN NOVEMBER AND ALL SATURDAYS IN THE MONTH OF DECEMBER WITH THE STIPULATION THAT THE DMA HIRE PEOPLE TO COVER THE PARKING METERS AND THAT THE CHAMBER NOTIFY THE EMPLOYERS TO NOTIFY THE EMPLOYEES NOT TO ABUSE THIS EFFORT.**

**APPROVAL OF MINUTES:**

- October 20, 2008

**Vice Chairman Connolly MOVED to approve the Minutes of October 20, 2008 with no changes. Selectman Baschnagel SECONDED the motion.**

**THE BOARD VOTED UNANIMOUSLY TO APPROVE THE MINUTES OF OCTOBER 20, 2008.**

**7. ADMINISTRATIVE REPORTS.**

Ms. Griffin stated that she doesn't feel that they need a meeting next Monday night. The next meeting would be December 1<sup>st</sup>.

Ms. Griffin read a letter from Albert Leonard:

Board of Selectmen  
November 10, 2008

“This letter is to inform you that I am resigning as a part time Police Officer for the Town of Hanover effective immediately after the Dartmouth Football Game on November 15, 2008.

After 32 years, 9 in Lebanon and the last 23 in Hanover, it’s time to sit back, relax and enjoy life with my wife, family and new grandson.

It has been a privilege to be a member of the Hanover Police Department and to have had this opportunity to work with such a dedicated group of individuals.

I want to take this opportunity to wish you all the very best as you move forward in your endeavors.

Sincerely,

Albert “Bert” Leonard”

Ms. Griffin reported that the first meeting of the Sustainable Hanover Steering Committee was held two weeks ago. Ms. Griffin reported that the Committee is made up of a nice group of folks from the schools, college and community. There will be winter training sessions this winter in the Natural Step approach to building a sustainable eco municipality.

Chairman Walsh reported that at the NH Charitable Foundation, there was a presentation regarding the state energy plan and asked Ms. Griffin to see if she can get the slide presentation which would be a great resource.

## **8. SELECTMEN’S REPORTS.**

### **Peter Christie**

Selectman Christie reported that the Finance Committee met for both Dresden and Hanover. There is a subcommittee called Framework for Budget Guidelines which are trying to come up with guidelines specifically for the school budgets. One idea is to come up with a budget as a percentage of the grand list and another idea is to approach the budget as a percentage of total income of the community (reported by zip code by the federal government). He will continue to monitor this to see if there’s any benefit to this. Chairman Walsh felt that this would be a helpful tool during budget.

### **Kate Connolly**

Vice Chairman Connolly reported that she missed the Planning Board meeting that was held during the election. She reported that Buchanan Hall at Dartmouth College is getting a total renovation and extension to the adjacent dormitory. The proposed hotel on South Street hearing began last Tuesday and a site visit took place today. The moving of the transformer on the South Block was approved.

**Bill Baschnagel**

Selectman Baschnagel reported that the Parking and Transportation Board met and they had one discussion regarding the hotel. A question was raised regarding the underground parking garage and overflow parking. Selectman Baschnagel stated that the hotel would be interesting in working with the Town to use the parking facility overnight for overflow parking.

Selectman Baschnagel noted that next year is going to be a heavy hit for facility maintenance on the parking garage. The membrane will need replacement (every 5 years) again this year. Selectman Baschnagel expressed concern over the cost of on-going maintenance at the facility.

**Athos Rassias**

Selectman Rassias had nothing new to report.

**Brian Walsh**

Chairman Walsh had nothing new to report.

**9. OTHER BUSINESS.**

Chairman Walsh asked about the little banners on the light poles. Ms. Griffin noted that the light poles themselves are badly rusted and the concern was safety since the wind catches the banners and they did have one light pole fall over in the middle of the night. The poles are 15 years old and they have new poles on order. They do not want banners placed on any of the deteriorating poles.

Chairman Walsh confirmed that they will be back to normal in 3 months. Ms. Griffin reported that some of the poles are on back order.

**10. ADJOURNMENT.**

**Selectman Baschnagel MOVED to adjourn the meeting. Chairman Walsh SECONDED the motion.**

**THE BOARD VOTED UNANIMOUSLY TO ADJOURN THE MEETING AT 9:30 P.M.**

Respectfully Submitted,

Athos Rassias, Secretary

Minutes prepared by Elizabeth S. Rathburn.

**SUMMARY**

1. **Chairman Walsh MOVED to approve the Relocation of the Rivercrest Structure to the Public Safety Property on Lyme Road for Vehicle Storage. Selectman Baschnagel SECONDED the motion.**

**THE BOARD VOTED UNANIMOUSLY IN FAVOR OF RELOCATING THE RIVERCREST STRUCTURE TO THE PUBLIC SAFETY PROPERTY ON LYME ROAD FOR VEHICLE STORAGE.**

2. **Selectman Baschnagel MOVED to approve the request for free Saturday parking for the last Saturday in November and all Saturdays in the month of December with the stipulation that the DMA hire people to cover the parking meters and that the Chamber notify the employers to notify the employees not to abuse this effort. Vice Chairman Connolly SECONDED the motion.**

**THE BOARD VOTED UNANIMOUSLY IN FAVOR OF THE MOTION TO APPROVE THE REQUEST FOR FREE SATURDAY PARKING FOR THE LAST SATURDAY IN NOVEMBER AND ALL SATURDAYS IN THE MONTH OF DECEMBER WITH THE STIPULATION THAT THE DMA HIRE PEOPLE TO COVER THE PARKING METERS AND THAT THE CHAMBER NOTIFY THE EMPLOYERS TO NOTIFY THE EMPLOYEES NOT TO ABUSE THIS EFFORT.**

3. **Vice Chairman Connolly MOVED to approve the Minutes of October 20, 2008 with no changes. Selectman Baschnagel SECONDED the motion.**

**THE BOARD VOTED UNANIMOUSLY TO APPROVE THE MINUTES OF OCTOBER 20, 2008.**

4. **Selectman Baschnagel MOVED to adjourn the meeting. Chairman Walsh SECONDED the motion.**

**THE BOARD VOTED UNANIMOUSLY TO ADJOURN THE MEETING AT 9:30 P.M.**

**FINAL**

**BOARD OF SELECTMEN'S MEETING**

**October 20, 2008**

**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. Chairman Walsh welcomed the students from the Richmond School observing the meeting tonight and gave an overview of the way that meetings are run within the town.

**2. RECOMMENDATION TO SET POLLING HOURS FOR GENERAL ELECTION ON TUESDAY, NOVEMBER 4, 2008.**

Chairman Walsh noted that the recommendation is to hold polling hours between 7 a.m. and 7 p.m. at the Hanover High School.

**Selectman Baschnagel MOVED to accept the recommendation to set polling hours for the General Election on Tuesday, November 4<sup>th</sup> from 7 a.m. to 7 p.m. Vice Chairman Connolly SECONDED the motion.**

**THE BOARD VOTED UNANIMOUSLY TO ACCEPT THE RECOMMENDATION TO SET POLLING HOURS FOR THE GENERAL ELECTION ON TUESDAY, NOVEMBER 4<sup>TH</sup> FROM 7 A.M. TO 7 P.M.**

The Board set the schedule for each member to be present at the polls. Selectman Baschnagel explained to the students in the audience that the law requires that Select Board members be present at the polls.

**3. CONTINUED DISCUSSION REGARDING TAX RATE TARGET FOR FY 2009-2010.**

Chairman Walsh asked the Board if they had any questions regarding the additional information that Ms. McClain provided.

Selectman Christie stated that after the Board's last meeting, there was some sense that because of the anticipated impact on the tax rates coming from other sources, that the Selectmen should consider those impacts and absorb some of this in the town budget. He feels that they have a town to run and they should run it fair and frugally but there are things coming down the pike



that are bigger than what the town could absorb and handle. There was a Finance Committee meeting tonight in which they were in agreement that the town should not absorb the outside impacts (such as the new prison and the retirement problems) that are going to affect the taxpayers.

Selectman Baschnagel agreed with the approach that Selectman Christie was taking but he feels that they are running very close to the line of what the tax rate can handle. He would like to open up a dialogue with people to discuss increases in tax versus changes in service.

Selectman Rassias stated that he appreciates the position of the Finance Committee and noted that it has always been a struggle to balance the impacts on the Hanover taxpayer over the next few years as depicted in a chart provided to the Board by Betsy McClain.

Vice Chairman Connolly was in agreement with Selectman Christie's overview and felt that ultimately the Town has handled these issues well over the years and can only predict a ballpark tax estimate.

Chairman Walsh stated that he had a different recollection of the previous budget discussions. He recalled that there were discussions about having a public hearing looking at all impacts on the tax rate as a whole but not that the town was going to compensate for those increases. He felt that they should look at services over time and the fundamental economics are going to be working against them. Chairman Walsh would like to encourage the Finance Committee to consider having a public hearing to discuss the impacts of the state, county and town tax rates projecting out a few years.

Chairman Walsh also recalled having discussions years ago regarding the Fire and Ambulance funds to determine if they could come up with a zero base budget. Ms. Griffin stated that the two departments to look at are police and public works since they have the largest operating costs.

Ms. Griffin noted that she could provide the Board a "menu" of discreet services that could be looked at to cut back on costs. For example, street sweeping once a week versus twice a week, etc. Selectman Baschnagel felt that this would be helpful background information.

Chairman Walsh noted that the expense base is going to grow faster than their revenue base and would much rather see an analysis projecting what they need to do to keep the amounts parallel, rather than where the money goes.

Selectman Christie felt that there needed to be a distinction between a rate problem versus a service problem. The problem with dealing with the rate problem by cutting back on services is that it would need to be done every year and it ultimately wouldn't change anything. Selectman Baschnagel felt that the problems are determining how to handle fuel increases and other increases that have external drivers.

Board of Selectmen  
October 20, 2008

Betsy McClain weighed in and stated that they will need to determine how they are funding some of the core services and whether people really want to pay the cost to have those services delivered.

Ms. Griffin noted that with no new programs or staff, the Board can see what the tax rate goes through over the next 5 years. The Board and Ms. Griffin reviewed the projected tax rates and noted that the projection for FY 2009-2010 is a rate of 7.79% which would be the largest increase the town would experience in years.

Chairman Walsh felt that the Board should give town staff three different numbers for a target (3.5%, 5%, & 7.5%) and that they are not just for the municipal tax rate but also for the Fire District tax rate.

Selectman Baschnagel noted that the Capital Investment Program (CIP) budget task force is fiscally unconstrained and at some point they need to rein the process in or provide them some direction because their projects could bring the rates off the charts.

Ms. Griffin noted that there have been discussions with the Fire Department about overtime because there are some large retirement payout responsibilities beyond 125% of the base salary due to House Bill 1645 which passed in June.

Selectman Christie felt that the Board needs to focus on the fee side of the revenue items to determine if Hanover is undercharging for certain things. Selectman Baschnagel felt that with the Fire Department they could have more control over the costs and they should be looking for those opportunities.

Ms. Griffin advised that she attended a monthly manager's meeting and learned that the current state deficit is at \$250 million. She suggested pulling in the legislative delegation earlier in the budget process so that they can hear what the town is dealing with prior to voting in the legislature.

Selectman Baschnagel announced that he went to the Department of Transportation (DOT) Commissioner meeting where he learned that the current 10 year plan is now underfunded by \$160 million. The interstate widening from Manchester south is using up the money.

Selectman Christie asked if they would actually be focusing on the 5% tax target. Ms. Griffin stated that it is not a hard thing for them to provide the Board with a target where wish list items are pulled out.

#### **4. DISCUSSION REGARDING POTENTIAL FOR ROUNDABOUT AT PARK STREET AND LYME ROAD.**

Ms. Griffin noted that Peter Kulbacki was going to provide the Board with a presentation regarding a potential roundabout and noted that Dartmouth College has a piece of property on the corner of Park & Lyme Road which they could sell.

Board of Selectmen  
October 20, 2008

Mr. Kulbacki reported that last fall they looked at the intersection of Park & Lyme. Dartmouth College put \$140,000 into an escrow account for an upgraded signal and road improvements. Mr. Kulbacki reported that they looked at changing the configuration into a T intersection and a single lane roundabout and a double lane roundabout. The analysis ruled out the T intersection which would cause more traffic problems in town. They looked at the single lane roundabout but that would approach capacity in a few short years causing problems with traffic heading south and those turning into Dewey Field. A two lane roundabout would work but the size is a question that is outstanding. Mr. Kulbacki noted that it would be 150' from curb to curb and would be larger than the roundabout at Reservoir Road.

Chairman Walsh asked if there was the possibility of moving the intersection toward the new Medical Center. Mr. Kulbacki noted that they could not go any further in that direction without causing a bigger problem. Ms. Griffin noted that there is a significant difference in cost between the traffic signal upgrade versus the roundabout.

Selectman Baschnagel asked about the larger drivers of the cost. Mr. Kulbacki noted that some areas are going to require fill and stonework.

Bob Norman commented about the comparisons and stated that one of the problems with the intersection are people looking to turn on Park Street and suggested creating two lanes prior to the intersection. Mr. Kulbacki stated that there is room to make adjustments with regard to the lanes.

Chairman Walsh would like to see some rough numbers. Ms. Griffin noted that the signal upgrade is \$200,000 but there is \$140,000 held in an escrow account. The roundabout would cost around \$400,000. Selectman Christie noted that the figures provided in the analysis are much larger. Mr. Kulbacki noted that some of the work doesn't need to be done and that the estimate is a contractor's estimate and does not account for the town doing the work, using the town's equipment, etc.

Chairman Walsh wondered whether the town would be looking to upgrade from the traffic signal improvements to the major improvements in 10 years. Mr. Kulbacki stated that the roundabout proposal has greater capacity.

Selectman Baschnagel noted that the intersection of Park & Wheelock will be affected. Mr. Kulbacki stated that it would push traffic along faster and travelers will wait longer at the other intersection.

Vice Chairman Connolly asked if the traffic in that area will ever decrease. Mr. Kulbacki stated that there have been studies done that indicate a smaller number of travelers. Ms. Griffin stated that some of this is based on the number of students using the bus for the Richmond School. Mr. Kulbacki stated that with the addition of Rivercrest, these numbers will change again.

Chairman Walsh stated that the question before the Board is what amount of land does the town want the College to reserve. He felt that they want the College to set aside the land for the two

lane roundabout to be considered in the next 2 to 15 years. That being said, that's not a commitment to do the roundabout in the next few years.

Selectman Rassias expressed concern over bike lanes. Mr. Kulbacki stated that the "two lane" roundabout is not two lanes all the way around. Selectman Rassias viewed the map of the roundabout and felt that it doesn't work at all for bicycles. Chairman Walsh felt that they need enough land to accommodate safe bicycle, pedestrian and automobile travel. He didn't want to just make it big enough for cars creating a huge disadvantage for bicycles. Selectman Baschnagel noted that the bicyclists force their way through intersections in other parts of town.

Ms. Griffin noted that there are three different types of bicyclists travelling through town, the bikers that go at high rates of speed for the workout, commuter bicyclists and recreation bicyclists.

Chairman Walsh wondered if one-way patterns in the downtown area would work better with this and whether it would change the design. Mr. Kulbacki agreed that this would affect the design.

Vice Chairman Connolly would like to find a way to fund it after the Life Sciences building is constructed.

Ms. Griffin added that there is unexploded dynamite located under the road from the old DOT project.

Selectman Christie stated that it felt like the roundabout changes the location of the traffic problems to other intersections. Selectman Baschnagel would like to find a grant to help look at traffic flows and intersections in town.

Chairman Walsh felt that one way to address this might be to change the times that people are expected to arrive at different locations whether it be work places or school times. Mr. Kulbacki stated that they had discussions about the snow plow budget being impacted if they changed the school times and it would cut down on overtime, etc.

Ms. Griffin noted that they have seen increases in school bus ridership. She also noted that there are fewer teenagers looking to rent parking spaces. Selectman Baschnagel noted that Advance Transit have had consultants riding on the buses and reported that it is now "cool" to ride the AT bus if you are a teenager.

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

Chairman Walsh invited Mike Ryan to speak to the Board. Mike Ryan, Director of Assessing, advised that the Assessors met on October 8<sup>th</sup> and recommended abatement for the property located at 62 Etna Road.

Board of Selectmen  
October 20, 2008

**Vice Chairman Connolly MOVED to accept the recommendation to adopt abatement for the property at 62 Etna Road. Selectman Baschnagel SECONDED the motion.**

**THE BOARD VOTED UNANIMOUSLY TO ACCEPT THE RECOMMENDATION TO ADOPT THE ABATEMENT FOR 62 ETNA ROAD.**

**6. BANNER REQUESTS:**

- Upper Valley Winter Special Olympics

**Selectman Baschnagel MOVED to approve the banner request of Upper Valley Winter Special Olympics. Vice Chairman Connolly SECONDED the motion.**

**THE BOARD VOTED UNANIMOUSLY IN FAVOR OF THE BANNER REQUEST OF UPPER VALLEY WINTER SPECIAL OLYMPICS.**

**7. APPROVAL OF MINUTES:**

- September 29, 2008

Vice Chairman Connolly had a few minor changes.

**Vice Chairman Connolly MOVED to approve the Minutes of September 29, 2008 as amended. Selectman Baschnagel SECONDED the motion.**

**THE BOARD VOTED UNANIMOUSLY TO APPROVE THE MINUTES OF SEPTEMBER 29, 2008 AS AMENDED.**

**8. APPOINTMENTS:**

- Conservation Commission
- Planning Board
- Zoning Board of Adjustment
- Ballot Clerks

**Selectman Baschnagel MOVED to reappoint Ray Hogue to the Conservation Commission. Vice Chairman Connolly SECONDED.**

**THE BOARD UNANIMOUSLY APPROVED THE REAPPOINTMENT OF RAY HOGUE TO THE CONSERVATION COMMISSION.**

**Vice Chairman Connolly MOVED to reappoint Charles Faulkner to the Planning Board. Chairman Walsh SECONDED the motion.**

**THE BOARD UNANIMOUSLY APPROVED THE REAPPOINTMENT OF CHARLES FAULKNER TO THE PLANNING BOARD.**

**Vice Chairman Connolly MOVED to reappoint Carolyn Radisch to the Zoning Board of Adjustment. Chairman Walsh SECONDED the motion.**

**THE BOARD UNANIMOUSLY APPROVED THE REAPPOINTMENT OF CAROLYN RADISCH TO THE ZONING BOARD OF ADJUSTMENT.**

Ms. Griffin noted that the Board is not required to appoint the Ballot Clerks but wanted the Board to know that they did recruit a whole group of new clerks to work the polls.

Ms. Griffin noted that Dartmouth Housing will have a representative there to confirm their residents.

**9. ADMINISTRATIVE REPORTS.**

Ms. Griffin reported that the NH unemployment rate is at 4.2% which is significantly less than other New England states.

Ms. Griffin reported that town staff are very busy with registering voters and they have over 1,000 absentee ballots. They can now slit the envelopes before 1 p.m. on Election Day which will be very helpful since it is a long and cumbersome process.

**10. SELECTMEN'S REPORTS.**

**Peter Christie**

Selectman Christie reported that the Finance Committee met today as discussed earlier in the meeting.

**Kate Connolly**

Vice Chairman Connolly reported that she attended a Planning Board Meeting where they discussed site plan reviews, thresholds for site plan review and generally overhauling the town's existing ordinances.

Vice Chairman Connolly reported that the Regional Planning Commission has been rejuvenated and working well in attracting contracts from the towns and noted that the Commission is serving the small towns particularly well. As a reminder, there is an open seat so if there is someone appropriate who could serve on the commission, please let them know.

**Bill Baschnagel**

Selectman Baschnagel reported that the Planning Board handled a subdivision on Spencer Road which was approved, approved a subdivision for properties behind St. Thomas and reviewed a transformer location for Hypertherm.

Selectman Baschnagel reported that the Conservation Commission met and wetlands were the topic of discussion. The Commission is financing a natural resource study in conjunction with the Lebanon Conservation Commission in the area of Route 120. He reported that they have

Board of Selectmen  
October 20, 2008

hired a professional to observe properties in the area and noted that the area behind Centerra has been growing for 150 years with no impact from man. The Commission will be coming to the Select Board with a request for a warrant article to invoke the recent RSA giving Conservation Commissions the right to provide funds to agencies outside the town (Upper Valley Land Trust, for example) to oversee a conservation easement and also to purchase land outside of the town. Ms. Griffin noted that this usually involves partnering across town lines regarding town line parcels.

Selectman Baschnagel also reported that he attended a Transportation Advisory Committee (TAC) meeting and good discussions took place there.

**Athos Rassias**

Selectman Rassias reported that the Howe Library had its Annual Meeting and Chairman Walsh spoke. New members were appointed and Posey Fowler had a wonderful sendoff. There was a brief meeting of the Board of Trustees where Ann Bradley was elected as the new Chair of the Corporation. Selectman Rassias also noted that he had the chance to read “Emily’s Legacy” which was about the Howe Library and had great details about the town over a 100 year period.

**Brian Walsh**

Chairman Walsh thanked the Board for changing the next meeting for November 10<sup>th</sup>.

**11. OTHER BUSINESS.**

There was no Other Business reported.

**12. ADJOURNMENT.**

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

**THE BOARD VOTED UNANIMOUSLY TO ADJOURN THE MEETING AT 9:13 P.M.**

Respectfully Submitted,

Athos Rassias, Secretary

Minutes prepared by Elizabeth S. Rathburn.

**SUMMARY**

1. **Selectman Baschnagel MOVED to accept the recommendation to set polling hours for the General Election on Tuesday, November 4<sup>th</sup> from 7 a.m. to 7 p.m. Vice Chairman Connolly SECONDED the motion.**

**THE BOARD VOTED UNANIMOUSLY TO ACCEPT THE RECOMMENDATION TO SET POLLING HOURS FOR THE GENERAL ELECTION ON TUESDAY, NOVEMBER 4<sup>TH</sup> FROM 7 A.M. TO 7 P.M.**

2. **Vice Chairman Connolly MOVED to accept the recommendation to adopt abatement for the property at 62 Etna Road. Selectman Baschnagel SECONDED the motion.**

**THE BOARD VOTED UNANIMOUSLY TO ACCEPT THE RECOMMENDATION TO ADOPT THE ABATEMENT FOR 62 ETNA ROAD.**

3. **Selectman Baschnagel MOVED to approve the banner request of Upper Valley Winter Special Olympics. Vice Chairman Connolly SECONDED the motion.**

**THE BOARD VOTED UNANIMOUSLY IN FAVOR OF THE BANNER REQUEST OF UPPER VALLEY WINTER SPECIAL OLYMPICS.**

4. **Vice Chairman Connolly MOVED to approve the Minutes of September 29, 2008 as amended. Selectman Baschnagel SECONDED the motion.**

**THE BOARD VOTED UNANIMOUSLY TO APPROVE THE MINUTES OF SEPTEMBER 29, 2008 AS AMENDED.**

5. **Selectman Baschnagel MOVED to reappoint Ray Hogue to the Conservation Commission. Vice Chairman Connolly SECONDED.**

**THE BOARD UNANIMOUSLY APPROVED THE REAPPOINTMENT OF RAY HOGUE TO THE CONSERVATION COMMISSION.**

6. **Vice Chairman Connolly MOVED to reappoint Charles Faulker to the Planning Board. Chairman Walsh SECONDED the motion.**

**THE BOARD UNANIMOUSLY APPROVED THE REAPPOINTMENT OF CHARLES FAULKNER TO THE PLANNING BOARD.**

7. **Vice Chairman Connolly MOVED to reappoint Carolyn Radisch to the Zoning Board of Adjustment. Chairman Walsh SECONDED the motion.**

**THE BOARD UNANIMOUSLY APPROVED THE REAPPOINTMENT OF CAROLYN RADISCH TO THE ZONING BOARD OF ADJUSTMENT.**



Board of Selectmen  
October 20, 2008

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

**THE BOARD VOTED UNANIMOUSLY TO ADJOURN THE MEETING AT 9:13 P.M.**

**FINAL**

**BOARD OF SELECTMEN'S MEETING**

**September 29, 2008**

**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 Public Comment and invited students in the audience to ask questions and explained the role of the Board of Selectmen.

There were no comments from the public.

**2. PUBLIC HEARING FOR CONSIDERATION AND APPROVAL OF MODIFICATIONS TO THE FY 2008-2009 RATE AND FEE SCHEDULE.**

Chairman Walsh went over the proposed modifications to the rate and fee schedule. The first item was a \$.50 increase in the municipal agent fee for motor vehicle registration transactions to help offset the additional cost the Town incurred in implementing the State's new automation program.

Chairman Walsh asked for clarification on the next item regarding the Museum Pass Program. Ms. Griffin stated that this is a program that allows a person to borrow a museum pass from the library as a private citizen to use at a museum. This fee would allow the Town to issue a fine for those individuals who do not pick up a reserved museum pass or impose an overdue fine. There are, for example, passes to the Museum of Fine Arts in Boston.

Chairman Walsh stated that there is a proposal to increase the charge for new or replacement recycle bins and then a fee for the implementation of a new LCHIP plan recording fee which is now a requirement for recording at the Registry of Deeds. Ms. Griffin noted that the proposed increase is allowing the Town to pass the cost along to the property owners.

Chairman Walsh is unwilling to have this folded in to the fee and would prefer having people write a separate check to cover those costs (\$25.00) made out to the Registry of Deeds. Selectman Baschnagel would prefer that the applicant pay for the LCHIP fee. Chairman Walsh does not want it to look like the Town is just raising the fee by \$25.00; it should be made clear to the resident that this money is being paid to the Grafton County Registry of Deeds for the LCHIP fee.

**Board of Selectmen  
September 29, 2008**

**Selectman Baschnagel MOVED to accept the four modifications as proposed to the rate and fee proposal, subject to the discussion about how the LCHIP fee is paid. Vice Chairman Connolly SECONDED.**

**THE BOARD VOTED UNANIMOUSLY IN FAVOR TO ACCEPT THE FOUR MODIFICATIONS TO AS PROPOSED TO THE RATE AND FEE PROPOSAL, SUBJECT TO THE DISCUSSION ABOUT HOW THE LCHIP FEE IS PAID.**

**3. RECOMMENDATION THAT HANOVER HOUSING AUTHORITY APPROVE REVISED PET POLICY FOR SUMMER PARK.**

**Chairman Walsh MOVED to have the Board act as the Hanover Housing Authority. Selectman Baschnagel SECONDED the motion.**

**THE BOARD VOTED UNANIMOUSLY IN FAVOR OF ACTING AS THE HANOVER HOUSING AUTHORITY.**

Chairman Walsh noted that the Board received a recommendation from the Department of Housing and Urban Development to modify their pet policy regarding the “damage deposit” payments.

**Selectman Baschnagel MOVED to accept the recommendation to approve the revised pet policy for Summer Park. Vice Chairman Connolly SECONDED the motion.**

**THE BOARD VOTED UNANIMOUSLY TO ACCEPT THE RECOMMENDATION TO APPROVE THE REVISED PET POLICY FOR SUMMER PARK.**

**Chairman Walsh MOVED that the Board cease acting as the Hanover Housing Authority and continue as the Board of Selectmen. Selectman Baschnagel SECONDED the motion.**

**THE BOARD VOTED UNANIMOUSLY TO CEASE ACTING AS THE HANOVER HOUSING AUTHORITY AND TO CONTINUE AS THE BOARD OF SELECTMEN.**

**4. PRELIMINARY DISCUSSION REGARDING TAX RATE TARGET FOR FY 2009-2010.**

Ms. Griffin stated that when she put this item on the agenda, she had no idea that the economy was going to take the hit that it did today (stocks fell 778 points). Ms. Griffin stated that she checked with a couple of local bank Presidents today to see how things were going on their front and it appears that the Upper Valley is still holding up reasonably well. Ms. Griffin questioned whether they should wait and see what happens in the next few weeks but she felt that they should assume no increase in next year’s budget and monitor this issue more closely.

Chairman Walsh stated that another wild card in this is the State budget. Ms. Griffin feels that they will see a shortfall in their rooms and meals tax revenue. She hasn’t checked on the state of

**Board of Selectmen  
September 29, 2008**

the municipal bond market but she did hear that the State of Maine tried to float a large bond on Friday and it failed.

Selectman Christie felt that it would be worthwhile to go through the numbers. On the school side, their budgeting guidelines have been adopted and they are looking at an increase of not more than 4.8% total. Ms. McClain advised that the revised number that the Town is looking at is pretty much the same at 4.79%.

Ms. McClain presented the Board with some updated numbers. She noted that the largest number in the figures is compensation. Although they have only settled a contract with one union, they are able to reasonably project the increases for the majority of the employee population. Ms. McClain stated that they are looking at, without expanding any programs, roughly a 4.5% increase each year to just pay salaries.

Vice Chairman Connolly felt that heating oil, gasoline, and building materials are probably underestimated. Ms. McClain noted that she looks at the consumer price index averages and arbitrarily pulled in 15% and agreed that it's not based on reality. Ms. McClain noted that she did factor in an inflator on the road maintenance, paving and reconstruction costs.

Ms. McClain noted that they are in the first year in a three year contract with AFSCME and the floor of the COLA was 1% with a cap of 3% and she would expect that it would result in a 3% increase. Vice Chairman Connolly asked about the retirement fund. Ms. McClain noted that the increases are realized every other year and will go into effect next July 1<sup>st</sup>. Ms. Griffin noted that there are economists that felt that this is a 5 year problem and with the state of the investment community, this is a wild card.

George Desaulniers, Hanover resident and manager at Morgan Stanley, suggested that the Town reconsider providing a match for employee's contributions to a 403 (b) plan. Ms. Griffin noted that the schools offer a 403 (b) for their employees but this is not something that the Town employees currently have. Mr. Desaulniers stated that if you look at the CPI, there are spikes of commodity prices and looking at these trends does not mean it is normal and perhaps the Town needs to schedule projects out depending on the commodity. He noted that oil prices went down \$11.00/barrel recently. If there's a 15% increase in a budget line item and it's not used, he feels that it should go back to the residents.

Chairman Walsh noted that the budget is approved by the residents at Town Meeting on a year by year basis. Mr. Desaulniers pointed out that there were similar problems back in 1993 and suggested looking back at the revenue fund in 1994, 1995 and 1996.

Chairman Walsh felt that in looking at the information provided, he felt that it would be useful to take the transfer from Capital Reserve Fund and the transfer to Capital Reserve Fund out of the information and look at it separately. Chairman Walsh is not willing to go forward without the Fire Fund included as they continue to wrestle with this issue.

Selectman Christie noted that there were some items that had 0.00% inflators. Ms. McClain stated that she took a conservative approach on some of the items. There are other significant

**Board of Selectmen  
September 29, 2008**

impacts coming such as the end of the SAFER grant which helped pay for additional firefighters. Ms. Griffin noted that next year, July 1, Dartmouth will not be paying on the bond for the schools and the principal and interest on the bond will increase significantly.

Ms. Griffin would like to see the Dresden portion of the budget and the new county jail included in these figures for a combined effect on the tax rate. Chairman Walsh noted that the Board had discussions in the spring about providing this information to residents so that they can understand simply what the drivers are in the tax rate to include the Fire Fund, County Tax, School tax and Town tax rates. Chairman Walsh stated that the Town tax is small compared to the other funds.

Selectman Christie noted that the Dresden Finance Committee had the same concerns to their budget as the Town does, retirement, fuel, etc.

Ms. Griffin stated that the health care costs have been lower than anticipated but the retirement system impacts are much greater.

Selectman Baschnagel was looking for a timeline or a next step for the tax rate target. Ms. Griffin stated that staff will come back to the Board sooner rather than later with a consolidated list. Chairman Walsh discussed the focus of the 5 year projection. Ms. Griffin felt that they do need to set the stage for what the options are depending on the economy.

Selectman Baschnagel asked what the milestones would be for the next step. Ms. Griffin could see Town staff coming up with recommendations as to how to reduce expenditures and provide options for the Board.

Dominic Candido, 6 Purling Brooks Drive, asked about the transfer in of \$428,000 and then a transfer out of \$428,000 on the informational sheet that they are working from. Ms. McClain pointed out that this is part of a "savings program" that the Town schedules out for equipment replacement so that there isn't a spike in the tax rate in certain years. Ms. McClain noted that the money is loaded in and then transferred out based on the Town Meeting vote.

Mr. Candido asked what the Capital Reserve Fund balance is currently. Ms. McClain noted that it is just under \$1 million which is used for vehicle replacement, communication equipment, etc. and last year a new fund was set up at the last Town Meeting to fund initiatives that would save operating costs.

Mr. Candido suggested not funding the reserve fund to this extent to hold down the projected increase. Ms. Griffin noted that they have decreased it in the past and this would not be an unusual occurrence. Selectman Christie noted that this stated that this doesn't work when it comes time to "pay the piper" and they have dipped into the fund before and then in the following years they have come up short and have had to make up for it.

Chairman Walsh felt that in October, the Board is going to need to look at a 3 month and 6 month average and a range pulled out of the numbers. Selectman Christie noted that the CPI doesn't inform them well on anything. Selectman Christie suggested looking at resident's ability

**Board of Selectmen  
September 29, 2008**

to pay and there are resources to look at income information. Ms. McClain noted that she spoke with someone from the Office of Energy and Planning but they don't have the same information as the State of Vermont but it is broken down by County. Selectman Christie suggested speaking with Tom Blinkhorn and noted that there are interesting statistics on income taxes available by zip code. Selectman Christie suggested comparing those figures against the CPI over a period of time.

**5. RECOMMENDATION TO AUTHORIZE TOWN MANAGER TO EXECUTE COPIER LEASE FOR THE WATER RECLAMATION FACILITY.**

**Chairman Walsh MOVED to accept the recommendation to authorize the Town Manager to execute the copier lease for the Water Reclamation Facility. Selectman Christie SECONDED the motion.**

**THE BOARD VOTED UNANIMOUSLY TO AUTHORIZE THE TOWN MANAGER TO EXECUTE THE COPIER LEASE FOR THE WATER RECLAMATION FACILITY.**

**6. APPROVAL OF MINUTES:  
- September 8, 2008**

**Vice Chairman Connolly MOVED to approve the Minutes of September 8 with the recommended changes. Chairman Walsh SECONDED the motion.**

**THE BOARD VOTED 4 IN FAVOR, 0 AGAINST AND 1 ABSTAINED TO APPROVE THE MINUTES OF SEPTEMBER 8, 2008. (Selectman Baschnagel abstained from the vote).**

**7. APPOINTMENTS:  
- Conservation Commission  
- Parking and Transportation Board  
- Parks and Recreation Board  
- Planning Board  
- Recycling Committee  
- Senior Citizen Advisory Committee  
- Zoning Board of Adjustment**

**Selectman Baschnagel MOVED to reappoint Judy Reeve and Anne Morris to the Conservation Commission. Vice Chairman Connolly SECONDED the motion.**

**THE BOARD VOTED UNANIMOUSLY TO REAPPOINT JUDY REEVE AND ANNE MORRIS TO THE CONSERVATION COMMISSION.**

**Selectman Baschnagel MOVED to appoint Richard Brannen, and reappoint Steve Marion and Bill Barr to the Parking and Transportation Board. Chairman Walsh SECONDED the motion.**

**Board of Selectmen  
September 29, 2008**

**THE BOARD VOTED UNANIMOUSLY TO APPOINT RICHARD BRANNEN, AND REAPPOINT STEVE MARION AND BILL BARR TO THE PARKING AND TRANSPORTATION BOARD.**

**Chairman Walsh MOVED to reappoint David Parsons and appoint Kathy Boghosian and Jay Rozzi to the Parks and Recreation Board. Vice Chairman Connolly SECONDED the motion.**

**THE BOARD VOTED UNANIMOUSLY TO REAPPOINT DAVID PARSONS AND APPOINT KATHY BOGHOSIAN AND JAY ROZZI TO THE PARKS AND RECREATION BOARD.**

**Vice Chairman Connolly MOVED to reappoint James Hornig and Michael Mayor to the Planning Board. Chairman Walsh SECONDED the motion.**

**THE BOARD VOTED UNANIMOUSLY TO REAPPOINT JAMES HORNIG AND MICHAEL MAYOR TO THE PLANNING BOARD.**

**Selectman Christie MOVED to reappoint Marilyn “Willy” Black and MaryAnn Cadwallader to the Recycling Committee through September, 2011. Vice Chairman Connolly SECONDED the motion.**

**THE BOARD VOTED UNANIMOUSLY TO REAPPOINT MARILYN “WILLY” BLACK AND MARYANN CADWALLADER TO THE RECYCLING COMMITTEE.**

**Selectman Christie MOVED to reappoint Maureen Hall and Nancy Pierce and appoint Marilyn Blodgett to the Senior Citizen Advisory Committee through September, 2011. Vice Chairman Connolly SECONDED the motion.**

**THE BOARD VOTED UNANIMOUSLY TO REAPPOINT MAUREEN HALL AND NANCY PIERCE AND APPOINT MARILYN BLODGETT TO THE SENIOR CITIZEN ADVISORY COMMITTEE.**

**Vice Chairman Connolly MOVED to reappoint Arthur Gardiner and appoint Steve Marion as an alternate to the Zoning Board of Adjustment. Selectman Baschnagel SECONDED the motion.**

**THE BOARD VOTED UNANIMOUSLY TO REAPPOINT ARTHUR GARDINER AND APPOINT STEVE MARION AS AN ALTNERATE TO THE ZONING BOARD OF ADJUSTMENT.**

## **8. ADMINISTRATIVE REPORTS.**

Ms. Griffin reported that she was in Richmond, Virginia at her annual conference last week. The workshops focused on sustainability and the national economy.

**Board of Selectmen  
September 29, 2008**

Ms. Griffin noted that she is monitoring the truck traffic coming up Route 10 with Dartmouth back in session. There have been conversations with the trucking companies trying to limit the trucks coming in during commuting hours. The trucking firms have been fairly cooperative. She will report back to the Board at the next meeting with information on the possibility of posting roads in the Town. Chairman Walsh noted that they haven't had any weather related issues yet and he anticipates problems when the rain, snow and sleet arrive.

Selectman Rassias asked whether the rail options were difficult to get going. Ms. Griffin stated that about 50% of the problem could be eliminated if the rail line was activated. She noted that Senator Burling has been extremely helpful on this issue.

The Local Government Center has asked Ms. Griffin to join the Transportation Advisory Committee which meets about 3 times per year which would provide an opportunity to dialogue with the DOT about issues the Town experiences. She advised that she would be happy to work on this committee.

**9. SELECTMEN'S REPORTS.**

**Peter Christie**

Selectman Christie reported that the flow of information with the school budgeting process is back to normal after last year's distractions with negotiations and other activities.

Selectman Christie reported that the Recycling Committee has met and had their kickoff meeting but he was not able to attend.

**Kate Connolly**

Vice Chairman Connolly reported that the Planning Board met and other than one minor subdivision on Spencer Road that was not finished, there were general discussions about possible future plans for subdivisions.

Vice Chairman Connolly reported that she attended the Legislative Session and she felt that they may reduce the agenda next time as it took almost all day without a break to go through the proposals. Several of the Select Board's opinions did not carry. The electronic notification proposal passed, tax liens would become mandatory if approved and the ballot box issue concluded with a decision that the time that the ballot box should remain open would be up to those present at the end of the meeting which she felt would create more chaos. Regarding the proposed constitutional amendment regarding expenditures for revenues from the Department of Transportation already exist and where the revenues are only to be used for infrastructure. Another result was that no one wanted to raise the gas tax.

Chairman Walsh thanked Vice Chairman Connolly for attending the session representing the Town.

**Bill Baschnagel**



**Board of Selectmen  
September 29, 2008**

Selectman Baschnagel reported that Advanced Transit (AT) had their kickoff meeting last week for a \$50,000 planning study looking at bus stops and transfer points within Hanover which should be done by the end of 2008. The focus is a view toward traffic issues and route structure issues. Chairman Walsh suggested getting input from AT on the one-way recommendations for downtown.

Selectman Baschnagel reported that Advanced Transit had 3 community meetings and there were 50 in attendance at each meeting which is illustrative of the community interest in public transportation.

**Athos Rassias**

Selectman Rassias reported that the Howe Library will hold their annual meeting on Thursday at 3:30 with a brief Trustees meeting beforehand. This is the big annual meeting where new members are appointed and the governance is restructured.

**Brian Walsh**

Chairman Walsh had nothing new to report.

**10. OTHER BUSINESS.**

Chairman Walsh mentioned that an election took place since the last meeting which went well. Ms. Griffin anticipates the election on November 4<sup>th</sup> will be very busy. They are working with the school to create more parking spaces. Ms. Griffin also noted that a new piece of legislation passed so that if you are running for a position on the ballot, you can work the election but you can not work the vote counting.

Ms. Griffin stated that there was an e-mail that went out to recruit ballot clerks and there has been a good response.

**11. ADJOURNMENT.**

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

**THE BOARD VOTED UNANIMOUSLY TO ADJOURN THE MEETING AT 8:53 P.M.**

Respectfully Submitted,

Athos Rassias, Secretary

Minutes prepared by Elizabeth S. Rathburn.

**SUMMARY**

- 1. Selectman Baschnagel MOVED to accept the four modifications as proposed to the rate and fee proposal, subject to the discussion about how the LCHIP fee is paid. Vice Chairman Connolly SECONDED.**

**THE BOARD VOTED UNANIMOUSLY IN FAVOR TO ACCEPT THE FOUR MODIFICATIONS TO AS PROPOSED TO THE RATE AND FEE PROPOSAL, SUBJECT TO THE DISCUSSION ABOUT HOW THE LCHIP FEE IS PAID.**

- 2. Selectman Baschnagel MOVED to accept the recommendation to approve the revised pet policy for Summer Park. Vice Chairman Connolly SECONDED the motion.**

**THE BOARD VOTED UNANIMOUSLY TO ACCEPT THE RECOMMENDATION TO APPROVE THE REVISED PET POLICY FOR SUMMER PARK.**

- 3. Chairman Walsh MOVED to accept the recommendation to authorize the Town Manager to execute the copier lease for the Water Reclamation Facility. Selectman Christie SECONDED the motion.**

**THE BOARD VOTED UNANIMOUSLY TO AUTHORIZE THE TOWN MANAGER TO EXECUTE THE COPIER LEASE FOR THE WATER RECLAMATION FACILITY.**

- 4. Vice Chairman Connolly MOVED to approve the Minutes of September 8 with the recommended changes. Chairman Walsh SECONDED the motion.**

**THE BOARD VOTED 4 IN FAVOR, 0 AGAINST AND 1 ABSTAINED TO APPROVE THE MINUTES OF SEPTEMBER 8, 2008. (Selectman Baschnagel abstained from the vote).**

- 5. Selectman Baschnagel MOVED to reappoint Judy Reeve and Anne Morris to the Conservation Commission. Vice Chairman Connolly SECONDED the motion.**

**THE BOARD VOTED UNANIMOUSLY TO REAPPOINT JUDY REEVE AND ANNE MORRIS TO THE CONSERVATION COMMISSION.**

- 6. Selectman Baschnagel MOVED to appoint Richard Brannen, and reappoint Steve Marion and Bill Barr to the Parking and Transportation Board. Chairman Walsh SECONDED the motion.**

**Board of Selectmen  
September 29, 2008**

**THE BOARD VOTED UNANIMOUSLY TO APPOINT RICHARD BRANNEN, AND REAPPOINT STEVE MARION AND BILL BARR TO THE PARKING AND TRANSPORTATION BOARD.**

- 7. Chairman Walsh MOVED to reappoint David Parsons and appoint Kathy Boghosian and Jay Rozzi to the Parks and Recreation Board. Vice Chairman Connolly SECONDED the motion.**

**THE BOARD VOTED UNANIMOUSLY TO REAPPOINT DAVID PARSONS, AND APPOINT KATHY BOGHOSIAN AND JAY ROZZI TO THE PARKS AND RECREATION BOARD.**

- 8. Vice Chairman Connolly MOVED to reappoint James Hornig and Michael Mayor to the Planning Board. Chairman Walsh SECONDED the motion.**

**THE BOARD VOTED UNANIMOUSLY TO REAPPOINT JAMES HORNIG AND MICHAEL MAYOR TO THE PLANNING BOARD.**

- 9. Selectman Christie MOVED to reappoint Marilyn “Willy” Black and MaryAnn Cadwallader to the Recycling Committee through September, 2011. Vice Chairman Connolly SECONDED the motion.**

**THE BOARD VOTED UNANIMOUSLY TO REAPPOINT MARILYN “WILLY” BLACK AND MARYANN CADWALLADER TO THE RECYCLING COMMITTEE.**

- 10. Selectman Christie MOVED to reappoint Maureen Hall and Nancy Pierce and appoint Marilyn Blodgett to the Senior Citizen Advisory Committee through September, 2011. Vice Chairman Connolly SECONDED the motion.**

**THE BOARD VOTED UNANIMOUSLY TO REAPPOINT MAUREEN HALL AND NANCY PIERCE AND APPOINT MARILYN BLODGETT TO THE SENIOR CITIZEN ADVISORY COMMITTEE.**

- 11. Vice Chairman Connolly MOVED to reappoint Arthur Gardiner and appoint Steve Marion as an alternate to the Zoning Board of Adjustment. Selectman Baschnagel SECONDED the motion.**

**THE BOARD VOTED UNANIMOUSLY TO APPOINT ARTHUR GARDINER AND APPOINT STEVE MARION AS AN ALTERNATE TO THE ZONING BOARD OF ADJUSTMENT.**

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

**THE BOARD VOTED UNANIMOUSLY TO ADJOURN THE MEETING AT 8:53 P.M.**

**FINAL**

**BOARD OF SELECTMEN'S MEETING**

**September 8, 2008**

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

The meeting of the Board of Selectmen was called to order at 7:30 p.m. by Chairman Brian Walsh. Present were: Brian Walsh, Chairman; Katherine Connolly, Vice Chairman; Peter Christie, Selectman; Athos Rassias, Selectman; and Julia Griffin, Town Manager. Absent: Selectman Bill Baschnagel.

**1. PUBLIC COMMENT.**

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

**2. DISCUSSION REGARDING PROPOSED PARKING TASKFORCE CHARGE.**

Ms. Griffin reported that Doug Wise was present to speak to the Board and noted that the committee has had a few different names. Ms. Griffin stated that in June she was tasked with coming up with a draft charge for the Committee.

Mr. Wise stated that the draft outlines everything discussed at the last Select Board meeting that they attended. Mr. Wise highlighted that Phase 1 is looking out into the future, looking beyond parking but into access into, around and out of Hanover whereas Phase 2 is trying to look out 10 to 15 years and how to meet those needs. Mr. Wise stated that once there is agreement in what the Town is looking for, they would like to engage as many constituents as possible. With Board approval, the Taskforce would like to invite a few people to be on the committee.

Ms. Griffin advised the Board that she provided them with an overview of previous conversations and the draft charge that she worked on including the wishes of the Board. Membership is another part of this and the Taskforce came up with a list of names.

Chairman Walsh asked the Board to give Mr. Wise feedback. Selectman Christie asked about a timeline. Mr. Wise felt that this could go on for 18 months but he feels that the timeframe might be too long. Some research could be done quickly through surveys but there is a lot of information available on the subject. He felt that a timeline is a hard thing to answer.

Vice Chairman Connolly saw a problem with the members being light on property owners. She felt that everyone else is well represented and although she wasn't sure how to pick and choose residents, she would like to see a more, well rounded list.

Chairman Walsh noted in Phase 1 and Phase 2, he would split it up as to where we are and where we want to be in 20 years. He would then separate out how to get there and how much it costs. Chairman Walsh didn't think that this charge would include the Dresden School District, buses and parking. This was a larger scope than he had in mind.

Ms. Griffin reported that Selectman Baschnagel gave his input prior to leaving on vacation and provided his version of a draft charge. Ms. Griffin read the proposed draft charge for the Parking Taskforce:

“Charge: The Downtown Accessibility and Parking Taskforce is charged with developing a broad, integrated, and long-term (10 to 20 year) plan for meeting downtown accessibility needs to ensure the continued viability and prosperity of the downtown district. Accessibility in this context concerns all means for facilitating and accommodating visitor, resident, and employee transportation and parking needs to and from the downtown.

As part of developing this plan, the Taskforce shall make recommendations regarding:

1. The appropriate role and mix of public and private transportation modes including walking, bicycles, public transit and shuttles, in-town and peripheral parking, etc.
2. The appropriate roles of all parties (taxpayers, businesses, property owners, etc.) in funding the capital and operations expenses associated with the maintenance and/or expansion of parking and transportations systems and facilities,
3. The appropriate means and organization for oversight of parking and transportation systems serving the downtown districts including the appropriate role of the Town in managing the operation of such facilities and systems,
4. Appropriate mechanisms for the funding of capital investments in such facilities and systems.
5. A proposed capital investment (including source of funding) plan looking out a minimum of ten years in support of these goals.
6. Options for better educating the public in the availability of downtown accessibility options.

Key assumptions relevant to the development of the Downtown Accessibility and Parking Plan:

1. The downtown district is defined by the current D1 and D2 zoning districts.
2. It is not assumed that these districts will be modified in the foreseeable future.
3. The maintenance of vibrant and livable neighborhoods surrounding the downtown district is a central community objective and shall not be jeopardized or adversely impacted due to actions recommended.”

Vice Chairman Connolly suggested adding “institutions” to the charge. Selectman Christie was struggling with how to separate the costs from the recommendations early in the discussions. There may be great ideas that are not financially feasible which creates frustration for the committee.

Mr. Wise indicated that if people see the word “parking”, they will focus on parking and not accessibility. He would suggest changing the name of the taskforce.

Chairman Walsh made suggestions regarding wording. He noted Downtown Access Taskforce might be a better title and there is a difference between recommendations and suggestions.

Chairman Walsh also wanted to clarify whether this is a business community taskforce or a town taskforce.

Ms. Griffin stated that normally, if this was a Town chartered taskforce, Town staff generally provides a lot of technical and administrative support to the taskforce. If it is a business generated taskforce, Town staff could come in as needed and wouldn't be staffing the taskforce. This is something that has come from the business community.

Mr. Wise stated that his take is that it is a community initiative more than a business vs. town issue. Mr. Wise didn't feel that there would be a problem in putting forth a recommendation whether the Board decides to do anything with it or not.

Chairman Walsh stated that he would have chosen a different set of people to be assigned to the taskforce to look at something that is in the Town's best interest versus the downtown's best interest. Chairman Walsh felt that if it is a business community taskforce that comes forth with suggestions, that would be fine. If this is a Town taskforce that comes to the Board with recommendations, it needs to be much deeper. Selectman Christie felt that Chairman Walsh was describing a two step process.

Ms. Griffin stated that now the draft charge looks too ambitious as written by incorporating Phase 1 and Phase 2. Ms. Griffin offered to work on the charge again.

Selectman Christie would like the initial group to come up with suggestions and ideas without costs as a primary driver. If they are going to work in two stages, the second wave could discuss economic feasibility but he feels that the first stage should be wide open with ideas.

Chairman Walsh didn't want to see any entrepreneurial efforts that cost the taxpayers money. Ms. Griffin stated that the taskforce could include logistics that include multiple entities.

Chairman Walsh noted that there were suggestions regarding people to include on the Taskforce and noted that he felt that they should discuss this in private session.

Mr. Wise noted that the Chamber has been charged with educating the public about parking in Hanover. Mr. Wise introduced Geoffrey Moore, Mortgage Consultant, and other committee members including Janet Rebman, Polly Allen, and Tom Byrne. The proposal is to get the average person parking in Hanover, to understand the facts surrounding the issue.

Mr. Moore stated that they have come up with a seed of an idea to begin to change the way people feel about parking. Mr. Moore presented the Board with a copy of a brochure and a poster with helpful hints about parking in Hanover. He suggested that Phase 2 could include high school students with training about road rage and being a courteous driver. Also, encouraging people to walk or rideshare into town. Ms. Griffin noted that Lt. O'Neill was happy to see a marketing tool that is more friendly and fun.

The Select Board members thought that the brochures were great. Ms. Griffin noted that Lt. O'Neill has between \$5,000 - \$8,000 that could be put toward this. Chairman Walsh didn't have a problem with matching funds from the Downtown Marketing Alliance versus the Town taking on the entire cost of this initiative. Selectman Christie suggested enhancing the map.

### **3. HANOVER AFFORDABLE HOUSING COMMISSION STATUS REPORT.**

Chairman Walsh invited Bob Strauss to speak to the Board. Mr. Strauss, Chairman Affordable Housing Commission, addressed the Board and introduced the members of the commission that were present: Don Derrick, Len Cadwalladar, Peter Runstadler, Bruce Altobelli, and Joan Collison. Mr. Strauss noted that they have prepared a detailed list of the work that has been done by the Commission in the last 7 years. Mr. Strauss read a statement to the Board:

"The need for affordable housing in Hanover will not be satisfied by the occupation of the Gile Hill housing and the Rivercrest units. As the College continues to grow with the construction of the Currier Street retail and office building, the Life Sciences Building, and the Visual Arts Center, additional housing will be required for the new staff members and employees. Expansion of Hypertherm is in the offing as well and a new coop store will be opening shortly on the Lyme Road. Hanover is a dynamic, growing community with an excellent school system centered on fine facilities. It is a highly desirable place to live for its active social, cultural, and intellectual life.

It is the responsibility of the Hanover Affordable Housing Commission to respond to the growing need for safe, well designed, attractive, and moderately priced dwelling units for our workforce. The need to minimize commuting traffic and house workers within walking, bicycling or commuter-bus distance from their place of employment is well known. But the land on which such facilities can be built is diminishing as rapidly as the need increases.

The finances of building affordable housing make each new project an economic adventure. Ideally, workforce housing should be built on Town-owned land which can be donated for this purpose. Such projects have a chance of overcoming the financial obstacles when land costs are not a factor. Therefore, the HAHC must be aware of all Town-owned land and review its suitability for housing. The parcels that are known to us: the Grasse Road 10.2 acre lot, the vacant site of the former community center on School Street, the Allen Street parking lot, and the Gile tract beyond the location of the Gile Hill development, are representative sites.

Another way to build affordable housing within present residential areas, is the so-called "in-fill" approach. By this it is meant the placement of new housing within existing complexes where open space will accommodate these additions. This, of course, means higher density and, for most developments, zoning changes. Although "more dense housing in and near the downtown" is a Master Plan recommendation (Housing, page 10), zoning change is a process which literally takes years to complete and should be placed in the category of long-term solutions. One such area which cries out for higher density redevelopment is the senior housing triangle at Summer-Park. The existing three buildings containing eight units each are surrounded by five privately

owned properties, the acquisition of which would be costly. To make the best use of that land, the building height restrictions should be loosened.

Another approach to the in-fill problem is the revision of the accessory dwelling ordinances in owner-occupied single family housing units and within accessory buildings throughout the Town. ( Master Plan Housing, Policies and Recommendations, page 10, fifth bullet.) By "accessory dwelling units" it is meant a second dwelling unit, either attached or detached, which is located on the same lot as the primary residence. Here we speak only of the urban area served by sewer and water lines. There are a number of advantages to this type of in-fill including additional income for the owners, protection and preservation of the single family neighborhood character, ability of the elderly to live independently but in close proximity to family members, and control of the spread of illegal conversions to apartments.

Vice Chairman Connolly reminded the Board that the presence of Dartmouth Undergraduates makes it particularly difficult to produce affordable housing in the in-town area and it should not be attempted unless it is connected to affordable housing.

Consideration should also be given to the inclusionary zoning ordinance originated by this Commission, which has not yet been employed in commercial residential development. This ordinance is designed to reward developers with additional market rate units in exchange for the construction of affordable units. The ratio of that tradeoff is, apparently, not sufficiently enticing. This type of ordinance will generally increase housing density and must be considered in light of presently permitted residential density. A review of the inclusionary zoning ordinance by the HAHC is planned for the new future.

Since parking will be a concern no matter how the future of affordable housing in Hanover evolves, the HAHC would like to be represented on the parking study committee recently authorized by the Select Board.

All of the foregoing approaches to an ongoing program of affordable housing in Hanover are buttressed by careful lot surveys, soil tests, and the preparation of preliminary drawings. The HAHC as advisory to the Select Board receives a minimal annual budget which does not support careful professional analysis of promising projects. This Commission cannot on its own volition apply for grants that could support such efforts. A recent adoption of State law, however, would permit the reorganization of this Commission into one that complies with a new law which authorizes a housing commission "to establish a revolving fund to receive gifts and grants both real and personal in the name of the town to expend, convey, or otherwise lawfully utilize to carry out its purpose..." A reorganization in compliance with this law (effective September 15, 2008) requires Select Board endorsement and voter approval.

Most of the foregoing approaches to the addition of Hanover's affordable housing stock are advanced by preliminary studies. The future strength and effectiveness of the affordable housing program in Hanover is dependent on the ability of the HAHC to originate projects and solicit the aid of developers both nonprofit and for-profit. This cannot be done effectively without the foregoing preliminary studies. The reorganization of the HAHC into a State approved "housing



commission" is one way of achieving this end. The HAHC is open to the prospect of funding by such other means as the Select Board may recommend. We welcome the opportunity to discuss this prospect further with members of the Select Board.”

Chairman Walsh stated that the Commission has done a fabulous job in the past 7 years. He noted that he felt that they could condense their list to one page as to what they have accomplished and what they are working on. He would like to be able to provide this information in an easy way for residents to look at it. He also noted that it was a thrill to see Gile Hill at the top of the Real Estate section in Sunday’s paper.

Vice Chairman Connolly noted that Gile Hill is a shining example of what can be done. She noted that she has been following the Commission’s work through the Planning and Zoning Board and felt that the inclusionary zoning efforts have not been as successful as they had hoped. Mr. Strauss noted that the state guidelines for affordable housing does not allow for students living in the units.

Chairman Walsh stated that he’s not clear about the transition of the Commission to be reorganized in order to be eligible for funding without becoming an operator or an owner and how best to enable that objective. Ms. Griffin stated that she looked back at the RSA which was adopted by the legislature with a goal to create a commission that can set up a trust fund to receive donations for individuals who wish to support the community which is very different from the Housing Authority controlled by the Board. Reorganizing this Commission is not much different from what they are currently doing except they could set up a trust fund and receive donations. Vice Chairman Connolly noted that the Board could establish a fund in order to apply for gifts to the Commission which would be a good thing to do.

Mr. Strauss reported that there were some donations made to the Commission seven years ago at the start of the Gile Project. They are interested in doing a project on Allen Street which would take some design time and architect work and they asked Twin Pines to look into some money for this project and they are unable to do that. If the Affordable Housing Commission was reorganized, they could be considered for funding.

Selectman Christie stated that he doesn’t see any down side to this effort. Chairman Walsh felt that he understood this issue much better and is more comfortable with it. Ms. Griffin stated that this needs to be a Warrant Article. Chairman Walsh clarified the legal process with Ms. Griffin.

Mr. Strauss provided the Board with an overview and update of the Gile Hill project and noted that there is a minor problem with water pressure. Ms. Griffin noted that there are solutions being worked out.

Chairman Walsh asked if there has been any issue with funding the mortgages. Ms. Griffin and Mr. Strauss were not aware of any problems.

Peter Runstadler stated that they are aware of gifts of land to the Town that could be used for Affordable Housing.

Chairman Walsh thanked the members of the Affordable Housing Commission for their hard work.

**4. REVIEW OF FY 2008-2009 GOALS & OBJECTIVES.**

Chairman Walsh moved on to the review of Goals & Objectives.

**Selectman Christie MOVED to approve the FY 2008-2009 Goals & Objectives. Vice Chairman Connolly SECONDED the motion.**

**THE BOARD VOTED UNANIMOUSLY IN FAVOR OF THE FY 2008-2009 GOALS & OBJECTIVES.**

**5. DISCUSSION REGARDING CIP KEY ISSUES.**

Ms. Griffin stated that Nancy Collier, Joan Garipay and Judith Esmay brought forth a list of key issues regarding the last draft of the CIP. She noted that she and staff will be meeting next week to organize the issues. She would like to bring the Board an enhanced list for the next Select Board meeting.

Chairman Walsh felt that it would be helpful to look at the alternatives with corresponding consequences which would help the Board make some informed decisions.

Ms. Griffin stated that she would speak with Nancy Collier about this.

**6. RECOMMENDATION TO SET A PUBLIC HEARING FOR SEPTEMBER 29, 2008 TO CONSIDER MODIFICATIONS TO THE FY 2008-2009 RATE AND FEE SCHEDULE.**

**Vice Chairman Connolly MOVED to set a public hearing for September 29, 2008 to consider modifications to the FY 2008-2009 rate and fee schedule. Selectman Rassias SECONDED the motion.**

**THE BOARD VOTED UNANIMOUSLY TO SET A PUBLIC HEARING FOR SEPTEMBER 29, 2008 TO CONSIDER MODIFICATIONS TO THE FY 2008-2009 RATE AND FEE SCHEDULE.**

**7. UPDATE REGARDING PROPOSED USE OF RENNIE FUND.**

Ms. Griffin reported to the Board that the Visiting Nurse Association does have an endowment fund and the suggestion is to get the funds into the hands of the agency for which it is intended.

Ms. Griffin stated that rather than signing over a check (\$25,831) to the VNA, the Board could ask the VNA what they would use the money for rather than using it for routine operating expenses.

Chairman Walsh would like to find out how the VNA would use this money and wondered whether this money could be handled to make more of a difference. Ms. Griffin noted that the VNA's intention is to use the money to offset the cost of their charity care unless the Board states differently.

Vice Chairman Connolly stated that she would like to go through with the request as presented. Selectman Christie felt that this money shouldn't just be sitting there within the Town with staff being required to manage it.

Ms. Griffin stated that they will ask the question as to whether there is something really special that they can do with this money that they couldn't do without it. Chairman Walsh would like them to consider a high impact venture for this money.

**8. UPDATE REGARDING OUTSTANDING LEGISLATIVE POLICY ISSUES PROPOSED BY NHMA.**

Ms. Griffin noted that there were two outstanding issues at the last Board meeting. The first one was regarding use vs. area variances. Ms. Griffin outlined that there were two important Supreme Court cases which clarified consideration by the Planning Board for a variance. The first case was the Simplex case and the second was the City of Manchester vs. Boccia which directed the issue of consideration that zoning boards must give prior to granting a variance. The NHMA is asking for support in going back to the Simplex case as a straightforward way to tackle the issue in how they determine a variance. Chairman Connolly stated that she does see the difference between use and area variances and the Hanover Planning Board did change their zoning laws to reflect the Supreme Court decisions.

Chairman Walsh and Selectman Christie stated that they would be abstaining from voting on this issue. The Board did not vote on the Floor Policy Proposal regarding use vs. area variances.

Ms. Griffin went on to the issue regarding land use change tax. She noted that in the City of Keene, a private property owner sold his land to the State of NH for a liquor store and both parties refused to pay the land use change tax to the City of Keene.

**The Select Board voted to unanimously to SUPPORT the floor policy proposal regarding land use change tax.**

**9. APPROVAL OF MINUTES:**  
- August 18, 2008

**Vice Chairman Connolly MOVED to approve the Minutes of August 18, 2008. Selectman Christie SECONDED the motion.**

**THE BOARD VOTED 3 IN FAVOR, 1 ABSTAINED TO APPROVE THE MINUTES OF AUGUST 18, 2008.** (Chairman Walsh abstained from the vote).

**10. ADMINISTRATIVE REPORTS.**

Ms. Griffin updated the Board about the Bridge Street bridge in West Lebanon. With the current timeline, the soonest that a temporary bridge could be constructed is 18 to 24 months at \$1.2 million. The new bridge will take 4 years to build. Senator Leahy is not interested in increasing the limit for the bridge over the interstate to accommodate truckers. Hanover has been told that under RSA 231:191 they have the authority to post maximum weight limits on Route 10, Wheelock Street and Route 120 if it is determined that unreasonable damage, expense or public safety are factors. The State is encouraging the Town to do this to leverage discussion regarding the I-89 bridge. This would put additional pressure on trucking firms. Senator Burling is working with the railroads to accommodate some hopper cars and allow the hoppers to load on the main line. Ms. Griffin will be attending a meeting on Thursday to talk about this possibility.

Chairman Walsh asked if the posting of weight limits would be done in Lebanon at the same time as Hanover. Ms. Griffin stated that Lebanon does not see the trucks as a big issue because they are seeing less truck traffic but Wilder is seeing an increase in traffic. Chairman Walsh stated that it makes no sense to him that trucks that are too heavy for the interstate bridge are appropriate for the roads in Town.

Selectman Christie questioned who had the authority to post the weight limits. Ms. Griffin stated that the Town has authority to post them. Chairman Walsh would like to have a conversation with the Department of Transportation (DOT). Ms. Griffin stated that they have done some preliminary truck counts and they are waiting to see how bad it gets when the students are back on campus. Ms. Griffin noted that they received complaints regarding cut through traffic and Chief Giaccone suggested putting no right turn signs for certain times in the morning on West and Maple Streets. Ms. Griffin voiced concern over the heavy trucks heading over the bridge in the winter.

**11. SELECTMEN'S REPORTS.**

**Peter Christie**

Selectman Christie reported that the Dresden Finance Committee met today. He noted that they take turns by rotating the Chair of the Committee and this time, Dick Podolec will be acting as Chair, Steve Flanders will be Vice Chair and John Hochreiter will be Secretary. The Committee has had quite a bit of discussion regarding budget guidelines for the school.

**Kate Connolly**

Vice Chairman Connolly reported that the Planning Board was off for a month but are now very busy. The Planning Board approved a minor subdivision on Hanover Center Road, proposed

reviewing the old Tuck Drive for bicycle traffic, and they handled a final approval of the Dresden School District playing fields. Vice Chairman Connolly reported that Kendal had a kitchen renovation approved and the Route 120 Dartmouth Parking Facility was approved. Six site plan waivers were also completed.

**Athos Rassias**

Selectman Rassias had nothing new to report.

**Brian Walsh**

Chairman Walsh wanted to recognize the note from Maura Carroll of the NHMA regarding Betsy McClain.

**Chairman Walsh MOVED to thank Betsy McClain for her contributions to the NHMA policy process. Vice Chairman Connolly SECONDED the motion.**

**THE BOARD VOTED UNANIMOUSLY TO THANK BETSY MCCLAIN FOR HER CONTRIBUTIONS TO THE NHMA POLICY PROCESS.**

Chairman Walsh noted that the Upper Valley Lake Sunapee Regional Planning Commission was holding a meeting requesting input on Tuesday, September 23<sup>rd</sup>, 5:00 p.m. at the Howe Library. He was hoping that members of the Planning Board would be attending.

Chairman Walsh announced the primary tomorrow from 7 a.m. to 7 p.m. at the Hanover High School reviewed the schedule for Board members.

**12. OTHER BUSINESS.**

Vice Chairman Connolly reported that there will be a public listening session September 25<sup>th</sup> at the Lebanon Opera House regarding climate change. Ms. Griffin will attend. Chairman Walsh requested that Ms. Griffin provide them with Charlie Sullivan's report. Ms. Griffin also reported that the Town offices received all new windows.

Chairman Walsh received a letter from Nihonmatsu expressing thanks for the hospitality while they were visiting Hanover. Chairman Walsh read the letter to the Board and credited Vice Chairman Connolly.

Ms. Griffin announced Seiko has arrived in Hanover who is a graduate student from Nihonmatsu working on her PhD.

**13. ADJOURNMENT.**

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

Board of Selectmen  
September 8, 2008

**THE BOARD VOTED UNANIMOUSLY TO ADJOURN AT 10:00 P.M.**

Respectfully Submitted,

Athos Rassias, Secretary

Minutes prepared by Elizabeth S. Rathburn.

**SUMMARY**

1. **Selectman Christie MOVED to approve the FY 2008-2009 Goals & Objectives. Vice Chairman Connolly SECONDED the motion.**

**THE BOARD VOTED UNANIMOUSLY IN FAVOR OF THE FY 2008-2009 GOALS & OBJECTIVES.**

2. **Vice Chairman Connolly MOVED to set a public hearing for September 29, 2008 to consider modifications to the FY 2008-2009 rate and fee schedule. Selectman Rassias SECONDED the motion.**

**THE BOARD VOTED UNANIMOUSLY TO SET A PUBLIC HEARING FOR SEPTEMBER 29, 2008 TO CONSIDER MODIFICATIONS TO THE FY 2008-2009 RATE AND FEE SCHEDULE.**

3. **The Select Board voted to unanimously to SUPPORT the floor policy proposal regarding land use change tax.**

4. **Vice Chairman Connolly MOVED to approve the Minutes of August 18, 2008. Selectman Christie SECONDED the motion.**

**THE BOARD VOTED 3 IN FAVOR, 1 ABSTAINED TO APPROVE THE MINUTES OF AUGUST 18, 2008. (Chairman Walsh abstained from the vote).**

5. **Chairman Walsh MOVED to thank Betsy McClain for her contributions to the NHMA policy process. Vice Chairman Connolly SECONDED the motion.**

**THE BOARD VOTED UNANIMOUSLY TO THANK BETSY MCCLAIN FOR HER CONTRIBUTIONS TO THE NHMA POLICY PROCESS.**

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

**THE BOARD VOTED UNANIMOUSLY TO ADJOURN AT 10:00 P.M.**

**FINAL**

**BOARD OF SELECTMEN'S MEETING**

**August 18, 2008**

**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: Chairman Brian Walsh.

**1. PUBLIC COMMENT.**

Vice Chairman Connolly asked for any comments from the public.

Lynn Wheeler introduced herself and announced that she is running for the Grafton County Register of Deeds. Ms. Wheeler informed the Board that she is a paralegal and title abstractor and has worked through various lawyers before starting her own business. She stated that she decided to run for the Register of Deeds as a Republican and there are two other individuals running as Democrats. She feels that the position of Register of Deeds is important to towns because the funds that are brought into the registry affect what amounts of money go into the county coffers and how that is managed. Ms. Wheeler thanked the Board for allowing her to come in to speak to them. She welcomed any questions from the Board.

Selectman Christie asked what the Register of Deeds does. Ms. Wheeler stated that the Registrar is responsible to record documentation having to do with Deeds and provide that back to the public. They also oversee the funds and the money that come in to the registry both through fees and transfer tax and then part of the funding becomes part of the County budget which becomes key in how you manage the office, overseeing expenditures, etc.

Vice Chairman Connolly thanked Ms. Wheeler for speaking to the Board.

**2. DISCUSSION REGARDING FLOOR POLICY VOTE – NHMA LEGISLATIVE POLICIES.**

Ms. Griffin stated that historically the Board goes through each proposed floor policy and then votes for or against each item. Vice Chairman Connolly noted that she will be representing the Town in the September vote.

Vice Chairman Connolly went on to the first item which was a Floor Policy Proposal to see if NHMA will support legislation to waive municipal recording fees for the establishment and release of elderly deferrals at the County Registry of Deeds with the goal being to save money for municipalities.



Board of Selectmen  
August 18, 2008

Selectman Baschnagel questioned whether this was going to eliminate anything. Ms. Griffin stated that from her perspective it does make things ‘cleaner’. Selectman Baschnagel likes the idea of attaching a fee to something specific versus putting another 2 cents on the tax rate.

**Selectman Baschnagel MOVED to vote against the Floor Policy Proposal to waive municipal recording fees for the establishment and release of elderly deferrals at the County Registry of Deeds. Selectman Rassias SECONDED the motion.**

**THE BOARD VOTED UNANIMOUSLY TO VOTE AGAINST THE FLOOR POLICY PROPOSAL TO WAIVE MUNICIPAL RECORDING FEES FOR THE ESTABLISHMENT AND RELEASE OF ELDERLY DEFERRALS AT THE COUNTY REGISTRY OF DEEDS.**

Vice Chairman Connolly went on to the next Floor Policy Proposal which was “To see if NHMA will SUPPORT an amendment to RSA 72:28, IV (a) to allow all veterans residing in the State of New Hampshire with an honorable discharge to qualify for the Standard and Optional Veterans’ Tax Credit regardless of whether they served their country during the qualifying wars and armed conflicts currently listed or received the required medals”. The goal of this proposal is to give recognition to all veterans for honorable service given to protect their country and its people no matter what the timeframe of their service or the medals they received.

Selectman Baschnagel noted that there are some veterans eligible for certain benefits and this would open things up to those who may not have served overseas or received required medals. Vice Chairman Connolly felt that this would be open to a huge number of people. Ms. Griffin felt that this particular issue would have a small impact on the Hanover receipts.

Selectman Rassias asked if this was the same thing that the Board looked at previously. Ms. Griffin stated that this was not the same issue and the Board raised the elderly, disabled and blind exemptions but there are a relatively small number of qualifying individuals for the veterans’ credit.

Selectman Baschnagel noted that there are veterans in town that would like to see a larger break. Ms. Griffin stated that the veterans would provide a greater tax impact

**Selectman Christie MOVED in favor of supporting the Floor Policy Proposal to amend RSA 72:28, IV for the Veterans’ Tax Credit. Selectman Baschnagel SECONDED the motion.**

**THE BOARD VOTED UNANIMOUSLY IN FAVOR OF THE FLOOR POLICY PROPOSAL TO ALLOW VETERANS RESIDING IN THE STATE OF NEW HAMPSHIRE WITH AN HONORABLE DISCHARGE TO QUALIFY FOR THE STANDARD AND OPTIONAL VETERANS’ TAX CREDIT REGARDLESS OF WHETHER THEY SERVED THEIR COUNTRY DURING THE QUALIFYING WARS AND ARMED CONFLICTS CURRENTLY LISTED OR RECEIVED THE REQUIRED MEDALS.**

Board of Selectmen  
August 18, 2008

Vice Chairman Connolly moved on to the Floor Policy Proposal “To see if NHMA will SUPPORT a Constitutional Amendment (CACR) to amend Part II, Article 6-A to clarify the uses of funds in the Highway Trust Fund.” The benefit that the proposal hopes to achieve is by limiting the diversion of the Highway Funds, towns will have adequate money to repair and maintain highways and bridges. Vice Chairman Connolly felt that making a Constitutional Amendment of this issue was overkill.

Vice Chairman Connolly felt that changing this funding around at this point could be catastrophic. Selectman Baschnagel stated that it was obvious that the diversion should be modified but noted that there are no funds to help divert that money. Ms. Griffin felt that this is the sort of issue that should go to a legislative study committee to determine alternatives if these funds are not diverted.

**Selectman Baschnagel MOVED to not support the amendment to Part II, Article 6-A regarding the use of funds in the Highway Trust Fund as proposed. Selectman Christie SECONDED the motion.**

**THE BOARD VOTED UNANIMOUSLY OPPOSED TO THE FLOOR POLICY PROPOSAL TO AMEND PART II, ARTICLE 6-A TO CLARIFY THE USES OF FUNDS IN THE HIGHWAY TRUST FUND.**

Vice Chairman Connolly went on to the Floor Policy Proposal “To see if NHMA will SUPPORT legislation to amend RSA 318-B concerning the location and operation of Methadone Clinics in our cities and towns. The Municipal interest to be accomplished by the proposal: Current law is completely lacking a clear policy giving the municipal governing body (the selectmen) the final authority whether or not a methadone clinic may be located in their municipality.”

Ms. Griffin noted that Lebanon had a similar issue with a methadone clinic and the issue was whether the municipalities have the right to opt out of allowing these clinics into their communities.

Selectman Rassias didn’t feel that they have supported their argument that NH is doing poorly with regard to allowing methadone clinics.

**Selectman Christie MOVED to not support the proposed Floor Policy regarding Methadone Clinics. Selectman Rassias SECONDED the motion.**

**THE BOARD VOTED UNANIMOUSLY TO NOT SUPPORT THE PROPOSED FLOOR POLICY TO AMEND RSA 318-B CONCERNING THE LOCATION AND OPERATION OF METHADONE CLINICS IN NH CITIES AND TOWNS.**

Vice Chairman Connolly announced the next Floor Policy Proposal “To see if NHMA will SUPPORT legislation to amend RSA 40:13, IX (b) to clarify the definition of the ‘Default budget’ with language similar to that proposed in HB 479 (2007) [which would have provided a specific definition of ‘debt service,’ ‘employment contracts,’ ‘other obligations,’ and ‘one-time

expenditures,' which are terms appearing in the default budget statute, among other things. See <http://www.gencourt.state.nh.us/legislation/2007/HB0479.html>.]"

Ms. Griffin explained that this item is an issue for an official ballot community and she does not fully understand it either. Selectman Baschnagel read it that the School Board put money in the default budget that should not be there. Ms. Griffin stated that this is not something that affects Hanover because they are not an official ballot community. Ms. Griffin explained that a default budget is one that if the proposed budget does not go through, the budget that currently stands is approved.

**Selectman Baschnagel MOVED to not support the proposed amendment to RSA 40:13, IX (b) to clarify the definition of the "Default Budget". Selectman Rassias SECONDED the motion.**

**THE BOARD VOTED UNANIMOUSLY OPPOSED THE PROPOSED AMENDMENT TO RSA 40:13, IX (b) TO CLARIFY THE DEFINITION OF THE "DEFAULT BUDGET" WITH LANGUAGE SIMILAR TO THAT PROPOSED IN HB479 (2007).**

Vice Chairman Connolly moved on to the Floor Policy Proposal "To see if NHMA will SUPPORT an amendment to RSA 485-C to give the municipal governing body the final approval authority on water withdrawals from aquifers for commercial bottling purposes. Municipal interest to be accomplished by the proposal: With such a law, municipalities will gain control over the quantity of water being withdrawn in their town from aquifers."

Ms. Griffin stated that this is a local control issue. After further discussions, Vice Chairman Connolly clarified that the State could allow a company to withdraw water and ship it elsewhere and the local company has no control over it.

Ms. Griffin stated that this issue made it all the way to the Supreme Court but was withdrawn by the water bottling company due to financial issues not related to the case itself.

Selectman Christie stated that the flip of the coin could be a community could be doing the same thing and making money off of other communities by taking water from the aquifers.

**Selectman Baschnagel MOVED to not support the proposal to amend RSA 485-C to give the municipal governing body the final approval authority on water withdrawals from aquifers for commercial bottling purposes. Selectman Rassias SECONDED the motion.**

**THE BOARD VOTED UNANIMOUSLY OPPOSED TO THE PROPOSAL TO AMEND RSA 485-C TO GIVE THE MUNICIPAL GOVERNING BODY THE FINAL APPROVAL AUTHORITY ON WATER WITHDRAWALS FROM AQUIFERS FOR COMMERCIAL BOTTLING PURPOSES.**

Vice Chairman Connolly went on to the next Floor Policy Proposal "To see if NHMA will SUPPORT continuing to work with legislators and the NHRS Board members about pending retirement fund deficiencies and offer ways to assure the long-term health and solvency of the

Board of Selectmen  
August 18, 2008

New Hampshire Retirement System, including changes to the benefit structure and the governance structure of the system.”

**Selectman Baschnagel MOVED to support the Floor Policy Proposal regarding Municipal Participation in Retirement Issues. Selectman Rassias SECONDED the motion.**

**THE BOARD VOTED UNANIMOUSLY IN FAVOR OF SUPPORTING THE FLOOR POLICY PROPOSAL REGARDING MUNICIPAL PARTICIPATION IN RETIREMENT ISSUES.**

Vice Chairman Connolly announced the next Floor Policy Proposal “To see if NHMA will SUPPORT legislation to amend all public notice requirements to allow electronic notification rather than only newspaper print for official public legal notification.” Ms. Griffin stated that this will allow communities to make the determination as to whether electronic notification would suffice as legal notification. Selectman Baschnagel would not support electronic notification as one of the minimum acceptable notices.

**Selectman Baschnagel MOVED to not support the Floor Policy Proposal seeking amendment to all public notice requirements to allow electronic notification. Selectman Rassias SECONDED the motion.**

**THE BOARD VOTED UNANIMOUSLY AGAINST THE FLOOR POLICY PROPOSAL TO AMEND ALL PUBLIC NOTICE REQUIREMENTS TO ALLOW ELECTRONIC NOTIFICATION RATHER THAN ONLY NEWSPAPER PRINT FOR OFFICIAL PUBLIC LEGAL NOTIFICATION.**

Vice Chairman Connolly went on to the Floor Policy Proposal “To see if NHMA will SUPPORT amendments to RSA 91-A allowing municipalities to recover the actual costs of retrieving, reviewing and reproducing documents and clarifying the level of specificity required when requesting public records.”

Ms. Griffin stated that there is still a lot of lack of clarity around what a community can request from a requestor when asking for public records. This proposal would allow municipalities to ask for more specifics regarding the documents that they are requesting and how much the Town can charge. Selectman Baschnagel didn’t feel that they would be able to get enough of a specific request to save the Town anything on this. Ms. Griffin stated that there are a number of elected officials that have worked in committee on this issue.

**Selectman Baschnagel MOVED to support the Floor Policy Proposal regarding Right to Know Costs and Specificity Requirements by amending RSA 91-A. Selectman Christie SECONDED the motion.**

**THE BOARD VOTED UNANIMOUSLY IN SUPPORT OF THE PROPOSAL REGARDING THE RIGHT TO KNOW COSTS AND SPECIFICITY REQUIREMENTS BY AMENDING RSA 91-A.**

Board of Selectmen  
August 18, 2008

Vice Chairman Connolly moved on to the next Floor Policy Proposal “To see if NHMA will SUPPORT increasing the gas tax and other fees dedicated to the highway fund and, further, to see if NHMA will continue to support working with the legislature and the Department of Transportation on alternative funding sources that will assure the maintenance of existing state and local transportation infrastructure and greater focus and financial support for public transportation, including rail and bus services.” Ms. Griffin stated that this is a critical issue for the State.

**Selectman Baschnagel MOVED to support the proposal regarding the Highway Fund. Selectman Christie SECONDED the motion.**

**THE BOARD VOTED UNANIMOUSLY IN FAVOR OF SUPPORTING THE FLOOR POLICY PROPOSAL REGARDING THE HIGHWAY FUND.**

Vice Chairman Connolly announced the Floor Policy Proposal “To see if NHMA will SUPPORT legislation redefining the term “charitable” in RSA 72:23-1, adopting a stricter review of property owned by religious, charitable and educational entities for compliance with the statutes, and creating a method of reimbursement to municipalities for state-owned property and OPPOSE legislation which requires the granting of additional local property tax exemptions, unless the state reimburses municipalities for the loss of revenue.”

Ms. Griffin stated that there is a long history with this item. Assessors are always looking for greater specificity with regard to what constitutes a charitable, religious or educational entity.

**Selectman Baschnagel MOVED to support the Floor Policy Proposal to redefine the term “charitable” in RSA 72:23-1 as proposed.**

**Selectman Baschnagel modified the motion to allow Vice Chairman Connolly to learn more about this proposal in the Legislative Session and make the determination to support or not support the proposal at that time. Selectman Christie SECONDED the modification to the motion.**

**THE BOARD VOTED UNANIMOUSLY TO ALLOW VICE CHAIRMAN CONNOLLY TO GAIN KNOWLEDGE AS TO THE FLOOR POLICY PROPOSAL TO REDEFINE THE TERM “CHARITABLE” IN RSA 72:23-1 AND DETERMINE WHETHER THE BOARD WOULD VOTE IN FAVOR OF THIS PROPOSAL AT THE LEGISLATIVE SESSION.**

Vice Chairman Connolly announced the Floor Policy Proposal “To see if NHMA will SUPPORT legislation to authorize municipalities to utilize, for any municipal purpose, the space designated for municipal good upon all poles, conduit and other structures within their rights-of-way without paying unreasonable make-ready costs. This includes the right to use that space for data and voice transmission to, from, and by the municipal government, schools, library, and other governmental institutions. It also includes a requirement that the owners of the utility poles and conduit do the necessary work for that space to be available.”

Board of Selectmen  
August 18, 2008

**Vice Chairman Connolly MOVED in support of the Floor Policy Proposal for Municipal Use of Structures in the Right-Of-Way. Selectman Baschnagel SECONDED the motion.**

**THE BOARD VOTED UNANIMOUSLY IN SUPPORT OF THE FLOOR POLICY PROPOSAL REGARDING MUNICIPAL USE OF STRUCTURES IN THE RIGHT-OF-WAY.**

Vice Chairman Connolly moved on to the next Floor Policy Proposal “To see if NHMA will SUPPORT legislation authorizing municipalities to adopt local ordinances governing the use of public rights-of-way and establishing appropriate compensation for such uses.”

**Selectman Baschnagel MOVED to support the Floor Policy Proposal regarding Local Ordinances Governing Right-of-Way Use. Selectman Rassias SECONDED the motion.**

**THE BOARD VOTED UNANIMOUSLY TO SUPPORT THE FLOOR POLICY PROPOSAL REGARDING LOCAL ORDINANCES GOVERNING RIGHT-OF-WAY USE.**

Vice Chairman Connolly went on to the next Floor Proposal Policy “To see if NHMA will OPPOSE legislation which will downshift state costs or state program responsibilities, either directly or indirectly, to municipalities and/or counties, resulting in increased municipal and/or county expenditures, whether in violation of Article 28-a or not, and SUPPORT adequate state funding of Medicaid costs.”

**Selectman Baschnagel MOVED to SUPPORT the proposal to OPPOSE legislation which will downshift state costs or state program responsibilities, either directly or indirectly, to municipalities and/or counties, resulting in increased municipal and/or county expenditures, whether in violation of Article 28-a or not, and SUPPORT adequate state funding of Medicaid costs. Selectman Rassias SECONDED the motion.**

**THE BOARD VOTED UNANIMOUSLY TO SUPPORT THE PROPOSAL TO OPPOSE LEGISLATION WHICH WILL DOWNSHIFT STATE COSTS OR STATE PROGRAM RESPONSIBILITIES, EITHER DIRECTLY OR INDIRECTLY, TO MUNICIPALITIES AND/OR COUNTIES, RESULTING IN INCREASED MUNICIPAL AND/OR COUNTY EXPENDITURES WHETHER IN VIOLATION OF ARTICLE 28-a OR NOT, AND SUPPORT ADEQUATE STATE FUNDING OF MEDICAID COSTS.**

Vice Chairman Connolly presented the next Floor Policy Proposal “To see if NHMA will OPPOSE mandatory binding arbitration as a mechanism to resolve impasses in municipal employee collective bargaining.

**Selectman Baschnagel MOVED to SUPPORT the proposal to OPPOSE mandatory binding arbitration. Selectman Rassias SECONDED the motion.**

**THE BOARD VOTED UNANIMOUSLY TO SUPPORT THE PROPOSAL TO OPPOSE MANDATORY BINDING ARBITRATION.**

Board of Selectmen  
August 18, 2008

Vice Chairman Connolly went on to the next Floor Policy Proposal “To see if NHMA will OPPOSE the continuation of an exemption from the property tax for poles, wires, and conduits owned by telephone companies.”

**Selectman Baschnagel MOVED to SUPPORT the proposal to OPPOSE the Telephone Company Property Tax Exemption. Selectman Rassias SECONDED the motion.**

**THE BOARD VOTED UNANIMOUSLY TO SUPPORT THE PROPOSAL TO OPPOSE THE TELEPHONE COMPANY PROPERTY TAX EXEMPTION.**

Vice Chairman Connolly went on to the next Floor Policy Proposal “To see if NHMA will SUPPORT the development of a detailed and specific definition of an adequate education in order to reach a stable and sufficient level of state funding for education.

To see if the NHMA will SUPPORT asking the state to use the following principles when addressing the State’s revenue structure in response to its responsibility to fund an adequate education:

- a) That revenues are sufficient to meet the state’s responsibilities as defined by constitution, statute, and common law;”
- b) That revenue sources are predictable, stable and sustainable and will grow with the long term needs and financial realities of the state;
- c) That changes to the revenue structure are least disruptive to the long-term economic health of the state;
- d) That the revenue structure is efficient in its administration;
- e) That changes in the revenue structure are fair to people with lower to moderate incomes.

Furthermore, to see if NHMA will SUPPORT legislation prohibiting retroactive changes to the distribution formula for adequate education grants after the notice of grant amounts has been given.

To see if NHMA will OPPOSE reductions in state revenue to political subdivisions, such as revenue sharing, meals and rooms tax distribution, highway block grants, water pollution moneys, adequate education grants, or catastrophic aid.

To see if NHMA will OPPOSE any failure by the State to fully fund school building aid.”

**Selelctman Baschnagel MOVED to support the Floor Policy Proposals regarding State Revenue Structure and State Education Funding. Selectman Rassias SECONDED the motion.**

**THE BOARD VOTED UNANIMOUSLY TO SUPPORT THE FLOOR POLICY PROPOSALS REGARDING STATE REVENUE STRUCTURE AND STATE EDUCATION FUNDING.**

Board of Selectmen  
August 18, 2008

Vice Chairman Connolly moved on to the Floor Policy Proposal “To see if NHMA will SUPPORT legislation to strengthen RSA 674:54 to permit municipalities to require development of property for governmental uses, excluding transportation and telecommunications facilities, be subject to local land use regulations.”

**Selectman Baschnagel MOVED to support the proposal for Land Use Compliance by Government Entities. Selectman Rassias SECONDED the motion.**

**THE BOARD VOTED UNANIMOUSLY TO SUPPORT THE PROPOSAL FOR LAND USE COMPLIANCE BY GOVERNMENT ENTITIES.**

Vice Chairman Connolly went on to the next proposal “To see if NHMA will OPPOSE mandating the use of the unit method of valuation in the appraisal of utility property, by either administrative or legislative action, and SUPPORT the right of municipalities to use any method of appraisal upheld by the courts.”

**Selectman Baschnagel MOVED to support the proposal regarding the Utility Appraisal Method. Selectman Rassias SECONDED the motion.**

**THE BOARD VOTED UNANIMOUSLY IN FAVOR OF SUPPORTING THE PROPOSAL REGARDING THE UTILITY APPRAISAL METHOD.**

Vice Chairman Connolly presented the next proposal “To see if the NHMA will OPPOSE legislation to increase the 60% bond vote requirement for official ballot communities.

Selectman Baschnagel stated that it is not clear to him why the percentage should be lower and didn’t feel that he would support this. He would like to see it increased to 66 2/3%.

**Selectman Baschnagel MOVED to vote against the proposal to OPPOSE an increase to the Minimum Vote Required for Bond Issues. Selectman Rassias SECONDED the motion.**

**THE BOARD VOTED 3 IN FAVOR AND 1 OPPOSED TO OPPOSE AN INCREASE TO THE MINIMUM VOTE REQUIRED FOR BOND ISSUES.** (Selectman Christie voted in opposition).

Vice Chairman Connolly announced the proposal “To see if NHMA will OPPOSE any proposals to mandate employee benefits, including any proposal to enhance retirement system benefits which may increase employer costs in future years for current or future employees.”

Ms. Griffin stated that this is something that should be a local funding issue.

**Selectman Christie MOVED to support the proposal regarding Mandated Employee Benefits. Selectman Baschnagel SECONDED the motion.**

**THE BOARD VOTED UNANIMOUSLY TO SUPPORT THE PROPOSAL REGARDING MANDATED EMPLOYEE BENEFITS.**



Vice Chairman Connolly moved on to the proposal “To see if the NHMA will SUPPORT legislation to strengthen RSA 83-F:5, V by providing a penalty to those utilities that do not file by June 1 a list of the changes made to the utility property since April 1 of the preceding year.” Ms. Griffin stated that this is an issue for the assessors.

**Selectman Baschnagel MOVED to support the proposal regarding Late Filing of Utility Change Report. Selectman Rassias SECONDED the motion.**

**THE BOARD VOTED UNANIMOUSLY TO SUPPORT THE PROPOSAL REGARDING LATE FILING OF UTILITY CHANGE REPORT.**

Vice Chairman Connolly presented the next proposal “To see if the NHMA will SUPPORT legislation authorizing municipalities to incur debt for the purpose of removing overhead utilities, and replacing them with underground utilities.” Ms. Griffin stated that if the Town decided it wanted to put all utilities underground, this would allow for the ability to bond.

**Selectman Baschnagel MOVED to support the proposal for Underground Utilities. Selectman Rassias SECONDED the motion.**

**THE BOARD VOTED UNANIMOUSLY TO SUPPORT THE PROPOSAL FOR UNDERGROUND UTILITIES.**

Vice Chairman Connolly moved on with the proposal “To see if NHMA will support legislation which prohibits the use of income and expense information by a taxpayer in any appeal of value if the taxpayer, after request by the municipality, has not submitted the requested information.”

Ms. Griffin reported that this stems from the problems that assessors have receiving information from commercial property owners.

**Selectman Baschnagel MOVED to support the proposal regarding Assessing Practices – Income and Expense Statements on Appeal. Selectman Rassias SECONDED the motion.**

**THE BOARD VOTED UNANIMOUSLY TO SUPPORT THE PROPOSAL REGARDING ASSESSING PRACTICES – INCOME AND EXPENSE STATEMENTS ON APPEAL.**

Vice Chairman Connolly moved on to the proposal “To see if the NHMA will SUPPORT legislation to amend RSA 41:11-a to allow the legislative body to authorize the governing body to lease municipal property for up to five years.”

**Selectman Baschnagel MOVED to support the proposal regarding Extended Lease of Municipal Property. Selectman Rassias SECONDED the motion.**

**THE BOARD VOTED UNANIMOUSLY TO SUPPORT THE PROPOSAL REGARDING EXTENDED LEASE OF MUNICIPAL PROPERTY.**

Board of Selectmen  
August 18, 2008

Vice Chairman Connolly went on to the proposal “To see if the NHMA will SUPPORT legislation creating a statutory procedure to rescind the approval of a bond, which a) could be used not less than five years after passage of the bond which is subject to the rescission vote, and b) would require the same majority vote needed to adopt a bond in the municipality the time of the rescission vote, and SUPPORT legislation to provide statutory authority to limit the length of time the authority has to bond once approved is valid.”

Ms. Griffin stated that this has not been an issue for Hanover but it’s a modification of an existing policy.

**Selectman Baschnagel MOVED to defer the decision to Vice Chairman Connolly who shall gather additional information at the legislative session and make a decision on the Board’s behalf regarding the Bond Rescission Process. Selectman Christie SECONDED the motion.**

**THE BOARD VOTED UNANIMOUSLY TO DEFER THE DECISION TO VICE CHAIRMAN CONNOLLY WHO SHALL GATHER ADDITIONAL INFORMATION AT THE LEGISLATIVE SESSION AND MAKE A DECISION ON THE BOARD’S BEHALF REGARDING THE BOND RESCISSION PROCESS.**

Vice Chairman Connolly went on to the proposal “To see if NHMA will SUPPORT legislation to clarify that municipalities may accept payments in electronic format, including, but not limited to credit cards, debit cards, ACH transactions, and other electronic methods that may become customarily used in the future. The decision to accept different forms of electronic payments should be a local option authorized by the governing body.”

**Selectman Baschnagel MOVED to support the proposal regarding Electronic Payments. Selectman Rassias SECONDED the motion.**

**THE BOARD VOTED UNANIMOUSLY TO SUPPORT THE PROPOSAL REGARDING ELECTRONIC PAYMENTS.**

Vice Chairman Connolly moved on to the next item “To see if NHMA will SUPPORT legislation to change RSA 80:59 to read: “The real estate of every person or corporation shall be subject to the tax lien procedure by the collector, in case all taxes against the owner shall not be paid in full on or before December 1 next after its assessment, provided that the municipality has adopted the provisions of RSA 80:58-86 in accordance with RSA 80:87. A real estate tax lien imposed in accordance with the provisions of RSA 80:58-86 shall have priority over all other liens.”

Selectman Baschnagel can envision a situation where they don’t wish to place a lien on a property. Ms. Griffin stated one of the concerns is that having the term “may” versus “shall” could be argued that when a lien is placed on a property, it didn’t need to be. Ms. McClain stated that in listening to the conversation of the committee involved, there were concerns over favors being done for certain taxpayers versus others. Having black and white statutes to fall back on is helpful for staff.

**Selectman Christie MOVED to support the Floor Policy Proposal making Tax Liening Mandatory. Selectman Rassias SECONDED.**

**THE BOARD VOTED 3 IN FAVOR OF THE MOTION AND 1 OPPOSED.** (Selectman Baschnagel voted against the motion).

Vice Chairman Connolly moved on to the next item “To see if NHMA will SUPPORT legislation giving welfare liens arising under RSA 165:28 priority over other liens.

**Selectman Baschnagel MOVED to support the Floor Policy Proposal regarding Welfare Lien Priority. Selectman Rassias SECONDED the motion.**

**THE BOARD VOTED UNANIMOUSLY TO SUPPORT THE FLOOR POLICY PROPOSAL REGARDING WELFARE LIEN PRIORITY.**

Vice Chairman Connolly went on to the next item “To see if NHMA will SUPPORT legislation to clarify that appointed officials, including land use boards, continue in office beyond the expiration of the term until such time as a new (or renewed) appointment is made.”

Selectman Baschnagel questioned whether this is really needed. Ms. McClain gave an overview of the story behind the proposal was that a planning board member in another community voted on an item where the outcome was disputed and the person’s term had expired.

Ms. Griffin stated that in some communities, it’s hard to keep track of expiring terms. This has happened a couple of times in Hanover.

**Selectman Rassias MOVED to support the Floor Policy Proposal regarding Terms of Appointed Officials. Selectman Baschnagel SECONDED the motion.**

**THE BOARD VOTED UNANIMOUSLY TO SUPPORT THE FLOOR POLICY PROPOSAL REGARDING TERMS OF APPOINTED OFFICIALS.**

Vice Chairman Connolly moved on to the next item “To see if NHMA will SUPPORT legislation to clarify that supplemental public hearings on the proposed municipal budget may be held later than 25 days before the town meeting, provided that at least one public hearing has been held, as required by RSA 32:5 “not later than 24 days before each annual or special meeting.”

**Selectman Baschnagel MOVED to support the Floor Policy Proposal regarding Supplemental Budget Hearings. Selectman Rassias SECONDED the motion.**

**THE BOARD VOTED UNANIMOUSLY TO SUPPORT THE FLOOR POLICY PROPOSAL REGARDING SUPPLEMENTAL BUDGET HEARINGS.**

Board of Selectmen  
August 18, 2008

Vice Chairman Connolly went on to the next item “To see if NHMA will SUPPORT an amendment to RSA 40:13, XVI to clarify that no deliberative session is needed to hold a special town meeting for the purpose of considering the adoption or amendment of a zoning ordinance.”

Selectman Christie didn’t feel the Board should take a position on this when it doesn’t apply to the Town of Hanover.

**THE BOARD DECIDED TO ABSTAIN FROM VOTING IN SUPPORT OR AGAINST THE PROPOSAL REGARDING SPECIAL MEETINGS FOR ZONING AMENDMENTS.**

Vice Chairman Connolly announced the next item “To see if NHMA will SUPPORT legislation to allow municipalities to establish, by vote of the legislative body, revolving funds for their solid waste programs, including solid waste collection, disposal, and the operation of any municipally operated transfer station, in addition to recycling.”

Ms. Griffin stated that it allows municipalities to generate revenue from the solid waste program. Ms. Griffin clarified that there is not specific permission by State law for communities to do this.

**Selectman Baschnagel MOVED to support the Floor Policy Proposal regarding the Solid Waste Revolving Fund. Selectman Rassias SECONDED the motion.**

**THE BOARD VOTED UNANIMOUSLY TO SUPPORT THE FLOOR POLICY PROPOSAL REGARDING THE SOLID WASTE REVOLVING FUND.**

Vice Chairman Connolly moved on to the next proposal “To see if NHMA will SUPPORT legislation to permit governing bodies to state their position on any warrant article where they are not currently required to state a position.”

**Selectman Baschnagel MOVED to support the Floor Policy Proposal regarding Governing Body Recommendation for All Warrant Articles. Selectman Rassias SECONDED the motion.**

**THE BOARD VOTED UNANIMOUSLY TO SUPPORT THE FLOOR POLICY PROPOSAL REGARDING GOVERNING BODY RECOMMENDATION FOR ALL WARRANT ARTLCES.**

Vice Chairman Connolly went on to the next item “To see if NHMA will SUPPORT legislation to reduce to one the number of required sessions that the Supervisors of the Checklist must meet prior to town elections.

**Selectman Baschnagel MOVED to support the Floor Policy Proposal regarding Supervisors of the Checklist Sessions. Selectman Rassias SECONDED the motion.**

**THE BOARD VOTED UNANIMOUSLY TO SUPPORT THE FLOOR POLICY PROPOSAL REGARDING SUPERVISORS OF THE CHECKLIST SESSIONS.**

Vice Chairman Connolly announced the next item “To see if NHMA will SUPPORT legislation to amend RSA 76:11-a to allow those municipalities which have adopted the deaf exemption to include the word “deaf” following the word “blind” in the information contained on tax bills.”

**Selectman Baschnagel MOVED to support the Floor Policy Proposal regarding Tax Bill Information. Selectman Rassias SECONDED the motion.**

**THE BOARD VOTED UNANIMOUSLY TO SUPPORT THE FLOOR POLICY PROPOSAL REGARDING TAX BILL INFORMATION.**

Vice Chairman Connolly announced the next item “To see if NHMA will SUPPORT legislation relative to the development of affordable housing which:

- a) implements, but does not exceed, the requirements of the *Britton v. Chester, 134 NH 439 (1991)*, Supreme Court decision;
- b) creates incentives for the development of affordable housing, but does not divert state sources of municipal revenue for any state-wide affordable housing initiative;
- c) considers the financial impact on a community such as education costs and the costs of providing services;
- d) creates methods for ensuring that such housing remains affordable.

And further, to see if NHMA will OPPOSE any legislation which would curtail municipal land use authority.”

Ms. Griffin stated that this stems out of proposed legislation in the Senate in the last few years to take away aid to cities and towns that is not pro-active in facilitating the construction of affordable housing. Selectman Baschnagel had concerns over how this would affect the innovative land use section of the RSA now which states that if you are going to build a subdivision and include affordable housing, you can by-pass part of the provision. Ms. Griffin felt that this would create a problem for that process.

**Selectman Baschnagel MOVED to support the Floor Policy Proposal regarding Affordable Housing. Selectman Rassias SECONDED the motion.**

**THE BOARD VOTED UNANIMOUSLY TO SUPPORT THE FLOOR POLICY PROPOSAL REGARDING AFFORDABLE HOUSING.**

Vice Chairman Connolly went on to the next item “To see if NHMA will SUPPORT an amendment to RSA ch. 41 to give towns the option to authorize the governing body to appoint or elect town clerks and town clerk/tax collectors.”

Ms. Griffin noted that, currently, Town Clerks have to be elected and they have to live in the community.

Board of Selectmen  
August 18, 2008

**Selectman Baschnagel MOVED to support the Floor Policy Proposal regarding the Appointment of Town Clerks and Town Clerk/Tax Collectors. Selectman Rassias SECONDED the motion.**

**THE BOARD VOTED UNANIMOUSLY TO SUPPORT THE FLOOR POLICY PROPOSAL REGARDING THE APPOINTMENT OF TOWN CLERKS AND TOWN CLERK/TAX COLLECTORS.**

Vice Chairman Connolly announced the next item “To see if the NHMA will SUPPORT legislation reducing the one-hour requirement that ballot boxes be open at town meeting for voting on certain bond issues.”

Vice Chairman Connolly would not support the elimination of that time requirement. Selectman Baschnagel recalled an issue in the Town of Bradford where the results for a bond vote were needed prior to going on to the next bond.

**Selectman Baschnagel MOVED to oppose the Floor Policy Proposal regarding Bond Ballot Voting. Vice Chairman Connolly SECONDED the motion.**

**THE BOARD VOTED UNANIMOUSLY TO OPPOSE THE FLOOR POLICY PROPOSAL REGARDING BOND BALLOT VOTING.**

Vice Chairman Connolly went on to the next item “To see if NHMA will SUPPORT the exemption from state child care licensing for municipal recreation department programs and also support the exemption from state camp licensing for municipal recreation department summer programs.”

Ms. Griffin stated that this allows for summer day camps and recreation to run without requiring state child care licensing.

**Selectman Rassias MOVED to support the Floor Policy Proposal regarding Municipal Recreation Programs. Selectman Baschnagel SECONDED the motion.**

**THE BOARD VOTED UNANIMOUSLY IN FAVOR OF THE FLOOR POLICY PROPOSAL REGARDING MUNICIPAL RECREATION PROGRAMS.**

Vice Chairman Connolly moved on to the next item “To see if NHMA will SUPPORT continued funding for the New Hampshire Housing and Conservation Planning Program.”

**Selectman Baschnagel MOVED to support the Floor Policy Proposal regarding the Housing and Conservation Planning Program. Selectman Rassias SECONDED the motion.**

**THE BOARD VOTED UNANIMOUSLY TO SUPPORT THE FLOOR POLICY PROPOSAL REGARDING THE HOUSING AND CONSERVATION PLANNING PROGRAM.**

Vice Chairman Connolly moved on to the next item “To see if the NHMA will SUPPORT legislation to eliminate the distinction between use and area variances and to adopt the standard established in *Simplex Technologies v. Town of Newington* as the test for an “unnecessary hardship” in all cases.”

Vice Chairman Connolly provided examples of use and area variances and stated that she would oppose this. Selectman Baschnagel felt that additional work could be done in this area. Ms. Griffin stated that she read an article which clarified why it made sense to simplify things in this area and offered to locate the article and provide it to the Board before the September 8<sup>th</sup> meeting for additional background.

**THE BOARD TABLED THE DISCUSSION REGARDING THE PROPOSAL REGARDING USE AND AREA VARIANCES TO BE DISCUSSED AT THE SEPTEMBER 8<sup>TH</sup> MEETING.**

Vice Chairman Connolly moved on to the next item “To see if NHMA will SUPPORT legislation clarifying that each day that a violation of a land use ordinance, code, or regulation continues shall be deemed to constitute a separate offense.”

**Selectman Baschnagel MOVED to support the Floor Policy Proposal regarding Penalties for Land Use Violations. Selectman Rassias SECONDED the motion.**

**THE BOARD VOTED UNANIMOUSLY TO SUPPORT THE FLOOR POLICY PROPOSAL REGARDING PENALTIES FOR LAND USE VIOLATIONS.**

Vice Chairman Connolly moved on to the next item “To see if NHMA will SUPPORT legislation clarifying that a municipality’s decision to change from an elected to an appointed zoning board of adjustment, or vice versa, can be accomplished by an ordinary warrant article at town meeting, rather than by amending the zoning ordinance.”

**Selectman Baschnagel MOVED to support the Floor Policy Proposal regarding the Election or Appointment of ZBA Members. Selectman Christie SECONDED the motion.**

**THE BOARD VOTED UNANIMOUSLY TO SUPPORT THE FLOOR POLICY PROPOSAL REGARDING THE ELECTION OR APPOINTMENT OF ZBA MEMBERS.**

Vice Chairman Connolly went on to the next item “To see if NHMA will SUPPORT legislation that (a) recognizes municipal authority over land use and environmental matters, (b) limits state preemption of local environmental regulation to those matters on which there is a compelling public need for uniform state regulation or which municipalities do not have the expertise or resources to regulate, and (c) recognizes that even when local environmental regulation is preempted, compliance with other local laws, such as zoning and public health ordinances and regulations, is still required.

Board of Selectmen  
August 18, 2008

**Selectman Baschnagel MOVED to support the Floor Policy Proposal regarding Environmental Regulation and Preemption. Selectman Rassias SECONDED the motion.**

**THE BOARD VOTED UNANIMOUSLY TO SUPPORT THE FLOOR POLICY PROPOSAL REGARDING ENVIRONMENTAL REGULATION AND PREEMPTION.**

Vice Chairman Connolly moved on to the next item “To see if NHMA will SUPPORT amending RSA ch. 79-A, Current Use Taxation, to clarify that no person or entity is exempt from the land use change tax, and to provide that when land ceases to qualify for current use taxation as a result of a sale of the land, the land use change tax will be assessed against the seller if the buyer is a government entity or other tax-exempt organization.

The Board discussed various scenarios in which this particular issue might come up. Ms. Griffin offered to ask Mike Ryan to provide more insight about this issue.

**THE BOARD TABLED THE ISSUE SURROUNDING THE PROPOSAL FOR EXEMPTION FROM LAND USE CHANGE TAX FOR FURTHER DISCUSSION.**

Vice Chairman Connolly moved on to the next item “To see if NHMA will SUPPORT legislation to make permanent the exemption for municipal motor vehicle inspection stations regarding the leasing of a computer terminal and electronic submission of inspection data under RSA 266:1 (OBD II emissions testing).”

Ms. Griffin stated that this has to do with the requirement for municipalities that maintain their own fleet.

**Selectman Baschnagel MOVED to defer the decision to Vice Chairman Connolly who shall gather additional information at the Legislative Session and make a decision on the Board’s behalf regarding the OBD Testing Proposal. Selectman Rassias SECONDED the motion.**

**THE BOARD VOTED UNANIMOUSLY TO DEFER THE DECISION TO VICE CHAIRMAN CONNOLLY WHO SHALL GATHER ADDITIONAL INFORMATION AT THE LEGISLATIVE SESSION AND MAKE A DECISION ON THE OBD TESTING.**

Vice Chairman Connolly moved on to the next item “To see if NHMA will SUPPORT legislation allowing municipalities to collect impact fees or exactions for improvements to state highways.”

**Selectman Baschnagel MOVED to support the Floor Policy Proposal regarding Impact Fees for State Highways. Selectman Rassias SECONDED the motion.**

**THE BOARD VOTED UNANIMOUSLY TO SUPPORT THE FLOOR POLICY PROPOSAL REGARDING IMPACT FEES FOR STATE HIGHWAYS.**



Board of Selectmen  
August 18, 2008

Vice Chairman Connolly went on to the next item “To see if the NHMA will SUPPORT legislation that (a) protects parties from losing their appeal rights when they appeal a planning board decision to the superior court under RSA 677:15 or to the ZBA under RSA 676:5, III, and either body determines that the appeal should have gone to the other, and (b) allows all issues to be appealed to the superior court after the conclusion of any appeal to the ZBA. Any such legislation should preserve the existing 30-day appeal period under RSA 677:15.”

Ms. Griffin stated that it hasn't been an issue for Hanover but that doesn't mean it hasn't in other parts of the State. It may perhaps alleviate some of the court dockets.

**Selectman Baschnagel MOVED to support the Floor Policy Proposal regarding Planning Board Appeals. Selectman Rassias SECONDED the motion.**

**THE BOARD VOTED UNANIMOUSLY TO SUPPORT THE FLOOR POLICY PROPOSAL REGARDING PLANNING BOARD APPEALS.**

Selectman Rassias had to excuse himself from the meeting for a period of approximately 10 minutes.

Selectman Baschnagel recommended that the Board support the remaining recommended standing policy positions. The remaining proposals consisted of the following:

“To see if NHMA will SUPPORT legislation relative to the development of affordable housing that implements, but does not exceed, the requirements of the New Hampshire Supreme Court's decision in *Britton v. Chester*, 134 N.H. 439 (1991).”

“To see if NHMA will SUPPORT legislation encouraging state and federal programs that provide incentives and assistance to municipalities to adopt energy use and conservation techniques that will manage energy costs and environmental impacts, promote the reasonable use of renewable energy sources, and promote energy conservation.”

“To see if NHMA will SUPPORT legislation encouraging statewide programs that provide incentives and assistance to municipalities to adopt land use planning and regulatory techniques that will better prevent sprawl, retain exiting tracts of open space, and preserve community character. This policy includes SUPPORT for continued funding for the Housing and Conservation Planning Program.”

“To see if NHMA will SUPPORT reliable enforcement of scientifically based health and environmental standards for the management of sludge, septage, and biosolids; will SUPPORT the funding of the New Hampshire Department of Environmental Services at a level allowing full and adequate development and enforcement of such scientifically based healthy and environmental standards; will SUPPORT an increase in the amount of state aid grants or other financial assistance for wastewater treatment plant upgrades to improve the quality of biosolids produced from Class B to Class A biosolids; will OPPOSE any state legislation that would curtail the ability of municipalities to dispose of municipally-generated biosolids through land

Board of Selectmen  
August 18, 2008

spreading, when done in accord with such scientifically based health and environmental standards; and will OPPOSE any preemption of local authority to regulate in this field.”

“To see if NHMA will OPPOSE any legislative attempt to undermine the basic goals of the current use program and will OPPOSE any reduction in the 10-acre minimum size requirement for qualification for current use, beyond those exceptions now allowed by the rules of the Current Use Board.”

“To see if NHMA will SUPPORT legislation to create permanent funding for the Land and Community Heritage Investment Program and will OPPOSE any subsequent diversion of such funds to other uses.”

**Selectman Baschnagel MOVED to support the remaining Floor Policy Proposals. Vice Chairman Connolly SECONDED the motion.**

**THE BOARD VOTED 3 IN FAVOR, 1 ABSENT TO SUPPORT THE REMAINING FLOOR POLICY PROPOSALS.** (Selectman Rassias had previously been excused from the meeting).

**Selectman Christie MOVED to appoint Vice Chairman Connolly to represent the Hanover Board of Selectmen in the Legislative Session. Selectman Baschnagel SECONDED the motion.**

**THE BOARD VOTED 3 IN FAVOR, 1 ABSENT TO APPOINT VICE CHAIRMAN CONNOLLY TO REPRESENT THE HANOVER BOARD OF SELECTMEN AT THE LEGISLATIVE SESSION.** (Selectman Rassias remained excused from the meeting).

Selectman Christie expressed frustration in voting on these issues which the Board knows very little about. Selectman Baschnagel stated that he attended some meetings regarding some of these issues so that is where he is coming from on the proposals. Selectman Christie stated that if one town has an issue, it does not affect all towns. Selectman Christie stated that if he had it to do over again, he would have abstained on all of the issues that they did not have knowledge about and suggested limiting the votes to those items that impact the Town of Hanover.

### **3. DISCUSSION REGARDING USE OF RENNIE FUND.**

Ms. Griffin asked Ms. McClain to discuss this issue with the Board. Ms. McClain gave a brief overview of the history of the Rennie Fund. The current market value of the fund is almost \$26,000 and it has been fairly inactive. There was a Board designated restriction put on the fund in the early ‘80s instructing the Town not to use the principal toward any annual service payments to the Visiting Nurse Association (VNA). Ms. McClain spoke with Dena Romero who explained that there is some history in the evolution of the VNA and it used to be an operating arm of DHMC and there was a close relationship between the staff of the VNA and the Community Counselor. During the ‘90s, there was more consolidation of the VNA service and a lot of the personal care and relationship was lost. There were a lot more opportunities in the

Board of Selectmen  
August 18, 2008

early '80s for meaningful use of the funds. The Trustees are looking for guidance from the Board with regard to this fund.

Selectman Rassias returned to the meeting.

Selectman Baschnagel felt that the easy thing to do is to add money to the yearly contribution. Selectman Christie asked if the VNA has an endowment. Ms. McClain did not know. Selectman Christie recommended that he would be inclined to give the VNA all of the money which would meet the needs of the donor.

Ms. McClain stated that the intent of the donor was not to create an endowment fund but the thought of it being part of a larger endowment would satisfy the intent of the donor.

Selectman Christie recommended tabling the issue pending further information.

**4. RECOMMENDATION OF SET POLLING HOURS FOR STATE PRIMARY ON TUESDAY, SEPTEMBER 9, 2008.**

Vice Chairman Connolly moved on to the issue of setting polling hours. Selectman Baschnagel announced that he will not be present that day. The Board members set the times that they would be in attendance.

**Selectman Baschnagel MOVED to set the polling hours from 7 a.m. to 7 p.m. on Tuesday, September 9, 2008. Selectman Rassias SECONDED the motion.**

**THE BOARD VOTED UNANIMOUSLY IN FAVOR OF SETTING THE POLLING HOURS FROM 7 A.M. TO 7 P.M. ON TUESDAY, SEPTEMBER 9, 2008.**

**5. BANNER REQUESTS:**  
- Hood Museum of Art

**Selectman Baschnagel MOVED to approve the Hood Museum banner request. Selectman Rassias SECONDED the motion.**

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

**6. APPROVAL OF MINUTES:**  
- July 7 & 21, 2008

**Selectman Baschnagel MOVED to approve the Minutes of July 7, 2008. Selectman Christie SECONDED the motion.**

**THE BOARD VOTED UNANIMOUSLY TO APPROVE THE MINUTES OF JULY 7, 2008.**

Board of Selectmen  
August 18, 2008

**Selectman Baschnagel MOVED to approve the Minutes of July 21, 2008 w/minor corrections. Selectman Christie SECONDED the motion.**

**THE BOARD VOTED UNANIMOUSLY TO APPROVE THE MINUTES OF JULY 21, 2008.**

**7. ADMINISTRATIVE REPORTS.**

Ms. Griffin reported that she was on vacation and managed to do some Town related research in the process.

Selectman Christie mentioned that the roads seem to be holding up fairly well with all the rain and asked how the Reservoir Road was holding up. Ms. Griffin stated that the Reservoir Road area has done just fine but the Girl Brook area has some significant issues. She noted that the high bridge is of concern regarding stability but is owned by the College.

Ms. Griffin also noted that the paving costs have almost doubled, from \$34/ton to more than \$68/ton. Ms. Griffin offered to get a paving update to e-mail to the Board as to what has been done and what is on the list to be done. Selectman Christie reported that Blueberry Hill is in bad shape.

**8. SELECTMEN'S REPORTS.**

**Peter Christie**

Selectman Christie reported that he participated in the Chamber of Commerce golfing outing.

**Bill Baschnagel**

Selectman Baschnagel reported that the Conservation Commission was in the process of reviewing 3 applications. He also reported that the Commission voted to set aside \$100,000 for an easement enforcement contingency fund.

**Athos Rassias**

Selectman Rassias had nothing new to report.

**Kate Connolly**

Vice Chairman Connolly reported that the Planning Board is currently on hiatus but will resume meetings next week.

Vice Chairman Connolly reported that the Town recently had a visit from friends from Nihonmatsu. She also noted that there will be a graduate student coming in the fall to Dartmouth College from Nihonmatsu and that Asakawa graduated from Dartmouth in 1898.

Board of Selectmen  
August 18, 2008

**9. OTHER BUSINESS.**

There was no Other Business reported.

**10. ADJOURNMENT.**

**Selectman Baschnagel MOVED to adjourn the meeting. Selectman Rassias SECONDED the motion.**

**THE BOARD VOTED UNANIMOUSLY TO ADJOURN THE MEETING AT 10:00 P.M.**

Respectfully Submitted,

Athos Rassias, Secretary

Minutes prepared by Elizabeth S. Rathburn.

**SUMMARY**

1. **Selectman Baschnagel MOVED to vote against the Floor Policy Proposal to waive municipal recording fees for the establishment and release of elderly deferrals at the County Registry of Deeds. Selectman Rassias SECONDED the motion.**

**THE BOARD VOTED UNANIMOUSLY TO VOTE AGAINST THE FLOOR POLICY PROPOSAL TO WAIVE MUNICIPAL RECORDING FEES FOR THE ESTABLISHMENT AND RELEASE OF ELDERLY DEFERRALS AT THE COUNTY REGISTRY OF DEEDS.**

2. **Selectman Christie MOVED in favor of supporting the Floor Policy Proposal to amend RSA 72:28, IV for the Veterans' Tax Credit. Selectman Baschnagel SECONDED the motion.**

**THE BOARD VOTED UNANIMOUSLY IN FAVOR OF THE FLOOR POLICY PROPOSAL TO ALLOW VETERANS RESIDING IN THE STATE OF NEW HAMPSHIRE WITH AN HONORABLE DISCHARGE TO QUALIFY FOR THE STANDARD AND OPTIONAL VETERANS' TAX CREDIT REGARDLESS OF WHETHER THEY SERVED THEIR COUNTRY DURING THE QUALIFYING WARS AND ARMED CONFLICTS CURRENTLY LISTED OR RECEIVED THE REQUIRED MEDALS.**

3. **Selectman Baschnagel MOVED to not support the amendment to Part II, Article 6-A regarding the use of funds in the Highway Trust Fund as proposed. Selectman Christie SECONDED the motion.**

**THE BOARD VOTED UNANIMOUSLY OPPOSED TO THE FLOOR POLICY PROPOSAL TO AMEND PART II, ARTICLE 6-A TO CLARIFY THE USES OF FUNDS IN THE HIGHWAY TRUST FUND.**

4. **Selectman Christie MOVED to not support the proposed Floor Policy regarding Methadone Clinics. Selectman Rassias SECONDED the motion.**

**THE BOARD VOTED UNANIMOUSLY TO NOT SUPPORT THE PROPOSED FLOOR POLICY TO AMEND RSA 318-B CONCERNING THE LOCATION AND OPERATION OF METHADONE CLINICS IN NH CITIES AND TOWNS.**

5. **Selectman Baschnagel MOVED to not support the proposed amendment to RSA 40:13, IX (b) to clarify the definition of the "Default Budget". Selectman Rassias SECONDED the motion.**

**THE BOARD VOTED UNANIMOUSLY OPPOSED THE PROPOSED AMENDMENT TO RSA 40:13, IX (b) TO CLARIFY THE DEFINITION OF THE "DEFAULT BUDGET" WITH LANGUAGE SIMILAR TO THAT PROPOSED IN HB479 (2007).**

6. **Selectman Baschnagel MOVED to not support the proposal to amend RSA 485-C to give the municipal governing body the final approval authority on water withdrawals from aquifers for commercial bottling purposes. Selectman Rassias SECONDED the motion.**

**THE BOARD VOTED UNANIMOUSLY OPPOSED TO THE PROPOSAL TO AMEND RSA 485-c TO GIVE THE MUNICIPAL GOVERNING BODY THE FINAL APPROVAL AUTHORITY ON WATER WITHDRAWALS FROM AQUIFERS FOR COMMERCIAL BOTTLING PURPOSES.**

7. **Selectman Baschnagel MOVED to support the Floor Policy Proposal regarding Municipal Participation in Retirement Issues. Selectman Rassias SECONDED the motion.**

**THE BOARD VOTED UNANIMOUSLY IN FAVOR OF SUPPORTING THE FLOOR POLICY PROPOSAL REGARDING MUNICIPAL PARTICIPATION IN RETIREMENT ISSUES.**

8. **Selectman Baschnagel MOVED to not support the Floor Policy Proposal seeking amendment to all public notice requirements to allow electronic notification. Selectman Rassias SECONDED the motion.**

**THE BOARD VOTED UNANIMOUSLY AGAINST THE FLOOR POLICY PROPOSAL TO AMEND ALL PUBLIC NOTICE REQUIREMENTS TO ALLOW ELECTRONIC NOTIFICATION RATHER THAN ONLY NEWSPAPER PRINT FOR OFFICIAL PUBLIC LEGAL NOTIFICATION.**

9. **Selectman Baschnagel MOVED to support the Floor Policy Proposal regarding Right to Know Costs and Specificity Requirements by amending RSA 91-A. Selectman Christie SECONDED the motion.**

**THE BOARD VOTED UNANIMOUSLY IN SUPPORT OF THE PROPOSAL REGARDING THE RIGHT TO KNOW COSTS AND SPECIFICITY REQUIREMENTS BY AMENDING RSA 91-A.**

10. **Selectman Baschnagel MOVED to support the proposal regarding the Highway Fund. Selectman Christie SECONDED the motion.**

**THE BOARD VOTED UNANIMOUSLY IN FAVOR OF SUPPORTING THE FLOOR POLICY PROPOSAL REGARDING THE HIGHWAY FUND.**

11. **Selectman Baschnagel MOVED to support the Floor Policy Proposal to redefine the term “charitable” in RSA 72:23-1 as proposed.**

**Selectman Baschnagel modified the motion to allow Vice Chairman Connolly to learn more about this proposal in the Legislative Session and make the**

**determination to support or not support the proposal at that time. Selectman Christie SECONDED the modification to the motion.**

**THE BOARD VOTED UNANIMOUSLY TO ALLOW VICE CHAIRMAN CONNOLLY TO GAIN KNOWLEDGE AS TO THE FLOOR POLICY PROPOSAL TO REDEFINE THE TERM "CHARITABLE" IN RSA 72:23-1 AND DETERMINE WHETHER THE BOARD WOULD VOTE IN FAVOR OF THIS PROPOSAL AT THE LEGISLATIVE SESSION.**

- 12. Vice Chairman Connolly MOVED in support of the Floor Policy Proposal for Municipal Use of Structures in the Right-Of-Way. Selectman Baschnagel SECONDED the motion.**

**THE BOARD VOTED UNANIMOUSLY IN SUPPORT OF THE FLOOR POLICY PROPOSAL REGARDING MUNICIPAL USE OF STRUCTURES IN THE RIGHT-OF-WAY.**

- 13. Selectman Baschnagel MOVED to support the Floor Policy Proposal regarding Local Ordinances Governing Right-of-Way Use. Selectman Rassias SECONDED the motion.**

**THE BOARD VOTED UNANIMOUSLY TO SUPPORT THE FLOOR POLICY PROPOSAL REGARDING LOCAL ORDINANCES GOVERNING RIGHT-OF-WAY USE.**

- 14. Selectman Baschnagel MOVED to SUPPORT the proposal to OPPOSE legislation which will downshift state costs or state program responsibilities, either directly or indirectly, to municipalities and/or counties, resulting in increased municipal and/or county expenditures, whether in violation of Article 28-a or not, and SUPPORT adequate state funding of Medicaid costs. Selectman Rassias SECONDED the motion.**

**THE BOARD VOTED UNANIMOUSLY TO SUPPORT THE PROPOSAL TO OPPOSE LEGISLATION WHICH WILL DOWNSHIFT STATE COSTS OR STATE PROGRAM RESPONSIBILITIES, EITHER DIRECTLY OR INDIRECTLY, TO MUNICIPALITIES AND/OR COUNTIES, RESULTING IN INCREASED MUNICIPAL AND/OR COUNTY EXPENDITURES WHETHER IN VIOLATION OF ARTICLE 28-A OR NOT, AND SUPPORT ADEQUATE STATE FUNDING OF MEDICAID COSTS.**

- 15. Selectman Baschnagel MOVED to SUPPORT the proposal to OPPOSE mandatory binding arbitration. Selectman Rassias SECONDED the motion.**

**THE BOARD VOTED UNANIMOUSLY TO SUPPORT THE PROPOSAL TO OPPOSE MANDATORY BINDING ARBITRATION.**



16. **Selectman Baschnagel MOVED to SUPPORT the proposal to OPPOSE the Telephone Company Property Tax Exemption. Selectman Rassias SECONDED the motion.**

**THE BOARD VOTED UNANIMOUSLY TO SUPPORT THE PROPOSAL TO OPPOSE THE TELEPHONE COMPANY PROPERTY TAX EXEMPTION.**

17. **Selectman Baschnagel MOVED to support the Floor Policy Proposals regarding State Revenue Structure and State Education Funding. Selectman Rassias SECONDED the motion.**

**THE BOARD VOTED UNANIMOUSLY TO SUPPORT THE FLOOR POLICY PROPOSALS REGARDING STATE REVENUE STRUCTURE AND STATE EDUCATION FUNDING.**

18. **Selectman Baschnagel MOVED to support the proposal for Land Use Compliance by Government Entities. Selectman Rassias SECONDED the motion.**

**THE BOARD VOTED UNANIMOUSLY TO SUPPORT THE PROPOSAL FOR LAND USE COMPLIANCE BY GOVERNMENT ENTITIES.**

19. **Selectman Baschnagel MOVED to support the proposal regarding the Utility Appraisal Method. Selectman Rassias SECONDED the motion.**

**THE BOARD VOTED UNANIMOUSLY IN FAVOR OF SUPPORTING THE PROPOSAL REGARDING THE UTILITY APPRAISAL METHOD.**

20. **Selectman Baschnagel MOVED to vote against the proposal to OPPOSE an increase to the Minimum Vote Required for Bond Issues. Selectman Rassias SECONDED the motion.**

**THE BOARD VOTED 3 IN FAVOR AND 1 OPPOSED TO OPPOSE AN INCREASE TO THE MINIMUM VOTE REQUIRED FOR BOND ISSUES. (Selectman Christie voted in opposition).**

21. **Selectman Christie MOVED to support the proposal regarding Mandated Employee Benefits. Selectman Baschnagel SECONDED the motion.**

**THE BOARD VOTED UNANIMOUSLY TO SUPPORT THE PROPOSAL REGARDING MANDATED EMPLOYEE BENEFITS.**

22. **Selectman Baschnagel MOVED to support the proposal regarding Late Filing of Utility Change Report. Selectman Rassias SECONDED the motion.**

**THE BOARD VOTED UNANIMOUSLY TO SUPPORT THE PROPOSAL REGARDING LATE FILING OF UTILITY CHANGE REPORT.**

23. **Selectman Baschnagel MOVED to support the proposal for Underground Utilities. Selectman Rassias SECONDED the motion.**

**THE BOARD VOTED UNANIMOUSLY TO SUPPORT THE PROPOSAL FOR UNDERGROUND UTILITIES.**

24. **Selectman Baschnagel MOVED to support the proposal regarding Assessing Practices – Income and Expense Statements on Appeal. Selectman Rassias SECONDED the motion.**

**THE BOARD VOTED UNANIMOUSLY TO SUPPORT THE PROPOSAL REGARDING ASSESSING PRACTICES – INCOME AND EXPENSE STATEMENTS ON APPEAL.**

25. **Selectman Baschnagel MOVED to support the proposal regarding Extended Lease of Municipal Property. Selectman Rassias SECONDED the motion.**

**THE BOARD VOTED UNANIMOUSLY TO SUPPORT THE PROPOSAL REGARDING EXTENDED LEASE OF MUNICIPAL PROPERTY.**

26. **Selectman Baschnagel MOVED to defer the decision to Vice Chairman Connolly who shall gather additional information at the legislative session and make a decision on the Board’s behalf regarding the Bond Rescission Process. Selectman Christie SECONDED the motion.**

**THE BOARD VOTED UNANIMOUSLY TO DEFER THE DECISION TO VICE CHAIRMAN CONNOLLY WHO SHALL GATHER ADDITIONAL INFORMATION AT THE LEGISLATIVE SESSION AND MAKE A DECISION ON THE BOARD’S BEHALF REGARDING THE BOND RESCISSION PROCESS.**

27. **Selectman Baschnagel MOVED to support the proposal regarding Electronic Payments. Selectman Rassias SECONDED the motion.**

**THE BOARD VOTED UNANIMOUSLY TO SUPPORT THE PROPOSAL REGARDING ELECTRONIC PAYMENTS.**

28. **Selectman Christie MOVED to support the Floor Policy Proposal making Tax Liening Mandatory. Selectman Rassias SECONDED.**

**THE BOARD VOTED 3 IN FAVOR OF THE MOTION AND 1 OPPOSED. (Selectman Baschnagel voted against the motion).**

29. **Selectman Baschnagel MOVED to support the Floor Policy Proposal regarding Welfare Lien Priority. Selectman Rassias SECONDED the motion.**

**THE BOARD VOTED UNANIMOUSLY TO SUPPORT THE FLOOR POLICY PROPOSAL REGARDING WELFARE LIEN PRIORITY.**

30. **Selectman Rassias MOVED to support the Floor Policy Proposal regarding Terms of Appointed Officials. Selectman Baschnagel SECONDED the motion.**

**THE BOARD VOTED UNANIMOUSLY TO SUPPORT THE FLOOR POLICY PROPOSAL REGARDING TERMS OF APPOINTED OFFICIALS.**

31. **Selectman Baschnagel MOVED to support the Floor Policy Proposal regarding Supplemental Budget Hearings. Selectman Rassias SECONDED the motion.**

**THE BOARD VOTED UNANIMOUSLY TO SUPPORT THE FLOOR POLICY PROPOSAL REGARDING SUPPLEMENTAL BUDGET HEARINGS.**

32. **THE BOARD DECIDED TO ABSTAIN FROM VOTING IN SUPPORT OR AGAINST THE PROPOSAL REGARDING SPECIAL MEETINGS FOR ZONING AMENDMENTS.**

33. **Selectman Baschnagel MOVED to support the Floor Policy Proposal regarding the Solid Waste Revolving Fund. Selectman Rassias SECONDED the motion.**

**THE BOARD VOTED UNANIMOUSLY TO SUPPORT THE FLOOR POLICY PROPOSAL REGARDING THE SOLID WASTE REVOLVING FUND.**

34. **Selectman Baschnagel MOVED to support the Floor Policy Proposal regarding Governing Body Recommendation for All Warrant Articles. Selectman Rassias SECONDED the motion.**

**THE BOARD VOTED UNANIMOUSLY TO SUPPORT THE FLOOR POLICY PROPOSAL REGARDING GOVERNING BODY RECOMMENDATION FOR ALL WARRANT ARTLCES.**

35. **Selectman Baschnagel MOVED to support the Floor Policy Proposal regarding Supervisors of the Checklist Sessions. Selectman Rassias SECONDED the motion.**

**THE BOARD VOTED UNANIMOUSLY TO SUPPORT THE FLOOR POLICY PROPOSAL REGARDING SUPERVISORS OF THE CHECKLIST SESSIONS.**

36. **Selectman Baschnagel MOVED to support the Floor Policy Proposal regarding Tax Bill Information. Selectman Rassias SECONDED the motion.**

**THE BOARD VOTED UNANIMOUSLY TO SUPPORT THE FLOOR POLICY PROPOSAL REGARDING TAX BILL INFORMATION.**

37. **Selectman Baschnagel MOVED to support the Floor Policy Proposal regarding Affordable Housing. Selectman Rassias SECONDED the motion.**

**THE BOARD VOTED UNANIMOUSLY TO SUPPORT THE FLOOR POLICY PROPOSAL REGARDING AFFORDABLE HOUSING.**

38. **Selectman Baschnagel MOVED to support the Floor Policy Proposal regarding the Appointment of Town Clerks and Town Clerk/Tax Collectors. Selectman Rassias SECONDED the motion.**

**THE BOARD VOTED UNANIMOUSLY TO SUPPORT THE FLOOR POLICY PROPOSAL REGARDING THE APPOINTMENT OF TOWN CLERKS AND TOWN CLERK/TAX COLLECTORS.**

39. **Selectman Baschnagel MOVED to oppose the Floor Policy Proposal regarding Bond Ballot Voting. Vice Chairman Connolly SECONDED the motion.**

**THE BOARD VOTED UNANIMOUSLY TO OPPOSE THE FLOOR POLICY PROPOSAL REGARDING BOND BALLOT VOTING.**

40. **Selectman Rassias MOVED to support the Floor Policy Proposal regarding Municipal Recreation Programs. Selectman Baschnagel SECONDED the motion.**

**THE BOARD VOTED UNANIMOUSLY IN FAVOR OF THE FLOOR POLICY PROPOSAL REGARDING MUNICIPAL RECREATION PROGRAMS.**

41. **Selectman Baschnagel MOVED to support the Floor Policy Proposal regarding the Housing and Conservation Planning Program. Selectman Rassias SECONDED the motion.**

**THE BOARD VOTED UNANIMOUSLY TO SUPPORT THE FLOOR POLICY PROPOSAL REGARDING THE HOUSING AND CONSERVATION PLANNING PROGRAM.**

42. **THE BOARD TABLED THE DISCUSSION REGARDING THE PROPOSAL REGARDING USE AND AREA VARIANCES TO BE DISCUSSED AT THE SEPTEMBER 8<sup>TH</sup> MEETING.**

43. **Selectman Baschnagel MOVED to support the Floor Policy Proposal regarding Penalties for Land Use Violations. Selectman Rassias SECONDED the motion.**

**THE BOARD VOTED UNANIMOUSLY TO SUPPORT THE FLOOR POLICY PROPOSAL REGARDING PENALTIES FOR LAND USE VIOLATIONS.**

44. **Selectman Baschnagel MOVED to support the Floor Policy Proposal regarding the Election or Appointment of ZBA Members. Selectman Christie SECONDED the motion.**

**THE BOARD VOTED UNANIMOUSLY TO SUPPORT THE FLOOR POLICY PROPOSAL REGARDING THE ELECTION OR APPOINTMENT OF ZBA MEMBERS.**

45. **Selectman Baschnagel MOVED to support the Floor Policy Proposal regarding Environmental Regulation and Preemption. Selectman Rassias SECONDED the motion.**

**THE BOARD VOTED UNANIMOUSLY TO SUPPORT THE FLOOR POLICY PROPOSAL REGARDING ENVIRONMENTAL REGULATION AND PREEMPTION.**

46. **THE BOARD TABLED THE ISSUE SURROUNDING THE PROPOSAL FOR EXEMPTION FROM LAND USE CHANGE TAX FOR FURTHER DISCUSSION.**

47. **Selectman Baschnagel MOVED to defer the decision to Vice Chairman Connolly who shall gather additional information at the Legislative Session and make a decision on the Board's behalf regarding the OBD Testing Proposal. Selectman Rassias SECONDED the motion.**

**THE BOARD VOTED UNANIMOUSLY TO DEFER THE DECISION TO VICE CHAIRMAN CONNOLLY WHO SHALL GATHER ADDITIONAL INFORMATION AT THE LEGISLATIVE SESSION AND MAKE A DECISION ON THE OBD TESTING.**

48. **Selectman Baschnagel MOVED to support the Floor Policy Proposal regarding Impact Fees for State Highways. Selectman Rassias SECONDED the motion.**

**THE BOARD VOTED UNANIMOUSLY TO SUPPORT THE FLOOR POLICY PROPOSAL REGARDING IMPACT FEES FOR STATE HIGHWAYS.**

49. **Selectman Baschnagel MOVED to support the Floor Policy Proposal regarding Planning Board Appeals. Selectman Rassias SECONDED the motion.**

**THE BOARD VOTED UNANIMOUSLY TO SUPPORT THE FLOOR POLICY PROPOSAL REGARDING PLANNING BOARD APPEALS.**

50. **Selectman Baschnagel MOVED to support the remaining Floor Policy Proposals. Vice Chairman Connolly SECONDED the motion.**

**THE BOARD VOTED 3 IN FAVOR, 1 ABSENT TO SUPPORT THE REMAINING FLOOR POLICY PROPOSALS.** (Selectman Rassias had previously been excused from the meeting).

51. **Selectman Christie MOVED to appoint Vice Chairman Connolly to represent the Hanover Board of Selectmen in the Legislative Session. Selectman Baschangel SECONDED the motion.**

**THE BOARD VOTED 3 IN FAVOR, 1 ABSENT TO APPOINT VICE CHAIRMAN CONNOLLY TO REPRESENT THE HANOVER BOARD OF SELECTMEN AT THE LEGISLATIVE SESSION.** (Selectman Rassias remained excused from the meeting).

52. **Selectman Baschnagel MOVED to set the polling hours from 7 a.m. to 7 p.m. on Tuesday, September 9, 2008. Selectman Rassias SECONDED the motion.**

**THE BOARD VOTED UNANIMOUSLY IN FAVOR OF SETTING THE POLLING HOURS FROM 7 A.M. TO 7 P.M. ON TUESDAY, SEPTEMBER 9, 2008.**

53. **Selectman Baschnagel MOVED to approve the Hood Museum banner request. Selectman Rassias SECONDED the motion.**

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

54. **Selectman Baschnagel MOVED to approve the Minutes of July 7, 2008. Selectman Christie SECONDED the motion.**

**THE BOARD VOTED UNANIMOUSLY TO APPROVE THE MINUTES OF JULY 7, 2008.**

55. **Selectman Baschnagel MOVED to approve the Minutes of July 21, 2008 w/minor corrections. Selectman Christie SECONDED the motion.**

**THE BOARD VOTED UNANIMOUSLY TO APPROVE THE MINUTES OF JULY 21, 2008.**

56. **Selectman Baschnagel MOVED to adjourn the meeting. Selectman Rassias SECONDED the motion.**

**THE BOARD VOTED UNANIMOUSLY TO ADJOURN THE MEETING AT 10:00 P.M.**

**FINAL**

**BOARD OF SELECTMEN'S MEETING**

**July 21, 2008**

**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; and Julia Griffin, Town Manager. Absent: Athos Rassias, Selectman. Chairman Brian Walsh participated by phone.

**1. PUBLIC COMMENT.**

Vice Chairman Connolly announced Public Comment. There were no comments from the public.

**2. PUBLIC HEARING FOR CONSIDERATION AND ACCEPTANCE OF PURLING BROOKS DRIVE.**

There was a 6:30 p.m. On-Site Public Hearing at Purling Brooks Drive attended by Selectmen Kate Connolly, Bill Baschnagel, and Peter Christie, along with Town Manager Julia Griffin, Operations Manager Mike Chase, Earl Simpson and Dennis Marquise of Simpson Development Corporation and several members of the public. Several residents on the streets asked questions regarding future maintenance responsibilities the Town would undertake with respect to the road, for clarification purposes. The Board members present reviewed the site, inquired as to the acceptability of the road of Town staff, and then tabled the Public Hearing at 6:48 to be continued at the 7:30 Board of Selectmen meeting the same night.

Vice Chairman Connolly opened the public hearing.

**Selectman Baschnagel MOVED to accept Purling Brooks Drive as a Town road. Selectman Christie SECONDED the motion.**

Bob Keene asked where this road was located. Vice Chairman Connolly informed Mr. Keane and the audience that it was located off River Road and Selectman Baschnagel gave an overview of the project to date.

**THE BOARD VOTED 3 IN FAVOR, 0 OPPOSED WITH 1 ABSTAINING FROM THE VOTE.** (Chairman Walsh abstained from the vote since he wasn't present at the meeting and was participating by phone).

**3. DISCUSSION REGARDING RURAL HANOVER BROADBAND TASK FORCE.**

Ms. Griffin invited Ms. McClain to speak to this issue. Ms. McClain introduced the Taskforce that were present: Jeff Silbert, Bob Keene, Monte Clinton and the Wood Family. She noted that there were many others engaged in these discussions that could not make the meeting.

Ms. McClain noted that the Town Offices would get repeated phone calls from residents regarding access to high speed internet from their rural homes. Ms. McClain noted that there was a survey sent out in March in which they sent over 300 surveys and approximately 154 were returned. Ms. McClain showed a map of Hanover which was marked with colored pins indicating the results of that survey. Green pins denote a “yes” toward making a contribution of a couple hundred dollars in order to get access; Red pins were not interested in the high speed internet options due to various reasons; and the Yellow pins indicated those residents that did not respond to the surveys.

Ms. McClain reported that there had been meetings with Comcast which didn’t prove to be very rewarding. The group had a meeting with FairPoint Communications last week and learned that Hanover is only the second municipality in the State to meet with FairPoint to pursue this. Comcast’s position was that if the Town paid for 2/3rds of the cost, they would provide this service. The Taskforce was interested in learning what the Town’s reaction would be in using Town funding toward this infrastructure improvement.

Bob Keene stated that specifically they were looking at the income from the Franchise Agreement and that a portion of that be used and be invested in the outlying district. Mr. Keene also noted that FairPoint seemed like the more willing entity to get this project done.

Monte Clinton stated that Comcast was primarily interested in cherry picking and he was impressed with FairPoint’s commitment with this project and they had a timeline that would include about 85% of the rural area by 2009. Ms. McClain advised that as part of the condition of the sale to FairPoint in the State of NH, they had to provide an additional 62,000 lines and be up 35% by September of 2009 and then up to 95% within 5 years.

Mr. Clinton stated that FairPoint appeared to be much more serious and are established in Vermont. Vice Chairman Connolly questioned how high speed is the high speed that they are discussing and what are the differences between opportunities.

Mr. Clinton stated that one member of the Taskforce, Josh Kim, was very knowledgeable in this area and he felt that what FairPoint was proposing was quite fast and would be adequate for the uses. Mr. Clinton expressed concern about the impact on the value of those homes that still have dial up service. He used to be the Director of Radiology at DHMC and noted that for new residents, they were warned that if they were in a dial up area, they would not be able to take on-call duties, so this became a real issue.

Ms. Griffin updated the group about the WCNH efforts and stated that with the municipal fiber network that they have been working on, a few things have happened over the last few months regarding Verizon’s sale to FairPoint which bodes well for communities like Hanover. First, Fairpoint is a rural telephone company and Verizon was not and she feels that they are committed to expanding service and the reason that they appear to move faster in Vermont right now is that Vermont has central franchise authority whereas NH is town by town and Vermont has a stronger telecommunications board.



Ms. Griffin announced that they just learned today that the Town won their case in Superior Court against SegTel for the municipal fiber network for emergency communications purposes which was not part of the WCNH network. The Judge confirmed the decision on the 18<sup>th</sup> of July and what this signals is that the Public Utilities Commission at the State level is taking a close look at what is attached to the poles. Pole attachments have been so complicated but she feels that this will change in the next several months regarding installing fiber.

Mr. Clinton stated that they were looking to the Select Board to provide them with a charge to develop a plan, develop a budget and work with FairPoint on this project.

Selectman Baschnagel stated that he doesn't have a good feel for where the DSL is located currently. Ms. McClain noted that initially it depended on a resident's location from the central office which is located on School Street in Hanover. Ms. McClain stated that there is a remote terminal that services Piper's Lane and gave an overview of some of the other locations off Route 10 that have service. Ms. McClain stated that they had asked for an inventory of remote terminals in Town 2 years ago from Verizon and was told that it was not available. FairPoint offered to provide a list of remote terminals and there will be another meeting in September which will also clarify which streets will be served.

Selectman Baschnagel also asked about cable service. Ms. McClain noted that it stops around Bent Road. Ms. Griffin noted that for Comcast it's all about houses per mile. Communities have no ability to make the provider come up with service beyond a certain point.

Bob Keene wanted to discuss the issue of property values. He reported that they heard a lecture at ILEAD a couple weeks ago with a focus on energy efficiency with solar and wind resources. He reported that several communities in the country decided that if there were solar and wind sources, there was an increased value in the property and the Town essentially provided incentives for the funds for providing those services to that individual household and they got payback through the property taxes over time and the value stayed with the resident so there was a continuing income stream over and above what previously would have been the assessed value of the property. One thing that he would like the Board to think in supporting the build out for this infrastructure, an individual such as himself could do work from home and eliminate the need for travel to get access to a computer thereby saving energy and recognize that it is an investment for which the Town would see a return. Vice Chairman Connolly stated that she felt that this was important for all of New England.

Ms. Griffin stated that she and Chairman Walsh are on the Hanover Chamber and they will be having a meeting in October with the Governor to discuss some of the more important issues and she felt that this was one of the important issues; high speed internet for the rural residents of Hanover.

Mr. Keene feels that if that State of Vermont can make it work then the State of New Hampshire should look at how they are doing business.

Selectman Christie asked about the economics of this issue as compared to individual dishes for example installing a dish for television and internet access. Ms. McClain stated one person has

satellite high speed and internet and pays \$180/month for it. She has DSL service and she pays \$40/month for it. Mr. Keene advised that he has "Wild Blue" and he pays \$50/month and it's about the same speed as dial-up from Enfield.

Jeff Silbert, 3 Mile Road, reported that they use Wavecomm from their home from a Tower in Vermont and FairPoint could make it 5 times faster. He pays about \$100/month for the business application and he would appreciate a faster more reliable source.

Mary Wood, 3 Mile Road, reported that she has two children who will be at the High School and they have to use slow dial up for school projects that they need to do; they have less ability to access the internet.

Chairman Walsh feels that the Town has the responsibility to work with the Broadband Taskforce and he is pleased that they are doing that. When it comes to the Town being involved financially, he can imagine the Town being involved as a borrower with some funds that would be paid back. He feels that the Town has an important role in this project and may have some role in funding but there are parts of the funding that he is not comfortable with. Ms. Griffin stated that there are a lot of problems with trying to fund this particular type of initiative.

Selectman Baschnagel stated that it would be interesting to find out from FairPoint what the cost would be for extending DSL. Ms. McClain stated that FairPoint did advise that there is already a lot of fiber in place in the infrastructure. Ms. Griffin felt there could be discussions with FairPoint to find out what the Town could do to facilitate this effort happening sooner rather than later.

Vice Chairman Connolly would like to commit to continue this effort and wondered when more definitive information would be available from any entity. Ms. Griffin noted that they should know more in September.

Selectman Christie asked what percentage of the homes are affected by this. Selectman Baschnagel felt that it was around 600 - 800 of the 3,000 dwellings in town. Ms. Griffin stated that there are numerous systems that residents are trying out with mixed success.

Mr. Keene pointed out that not all of FairPoint's lines are above ground. He noted that Dogford Road has underground cable which is worthless so there are major things that need to be done. Ms. Griffin agreed that there are a number of areas where the phone lines are substandard. Selectman Baschnagel stated that there are areas on Low Road which are underground with no conduits.

Ms. McClain stated that the group is hoping to receive more definitive information at the September meeting.

Vice Chairman Connolly stated that it appears that Comcast would like the Town to assume 2/3 of the cost. Ms. McClain stated that they weren't able to get information from Comcast as to a more definitive build out number.

Selectman Baschnagel stated that he is not interested in investing Town money in Comcast but he is more interested in investing in Municipal fiber.

Chairman Walsh asked to be excused from the meeting at 8:20 p.m.

#### **4. REVIEW OF 2008 REVALUATION REPORT.**

Ms. Griffin stated that the Town is required to do a revaluation every 5 years. Selectman Christie asked Mr. Ryan about the timing. Mr. Ryan stated that ideally, you want to do the revaluation as the values are increasing. Ms. Griffin stated that this is an unstable time in the economy and values have tapered. Selectman Baschnagel stated that Realtors are advising prospective sellers that their homes are going to be worth less and less which contradicts the report from Mr. Ryan and he does believe Mr. Ryan's numbers to be correct. Ms. Griffin stated that Realtors are trying to get people to price their homes to sell.

Mr. Ryan stated that homes have realized substantial increases in values since 1997 which is well documented. In 2006, the market hit a wall in the spring and the appreciation that they had grown accustomed to had changed. This is a 5 years span and values have gone up and in the last two years Hanover has been very stable and he hopes that this is reflected in the analysis that they did. He feels that they took a conservative approach to the revaluation. Mr. Ryan hopes that as they do this more and more in the future, the public will become more trusting of the process and the mystery will be taken out of it.

Selectman Christie asked what the public relations challenge would be and whether it was to explain why rates went up by a certain rate. Mr. Ryan stated that with news reports on the housing markets being in crisis; Hanover has seen a slow down but not a "crisis". Selectman Christie asked whether people will be surprised that their values went up at all. Mr. Ryan stated that he did feel that this may be surprising to some people but it's an increase over the past 5 years. Ms. Griffin stated that in the explanation to residents, it should be pointed out that Mr. Ryan does very careful, specific calculations.

Selectman Christie felt that they need to remind people that the revaluation is not a mechanism to raise more tax revenues.

Vice Chairman Connolly stated that the explanation that they received was very good and something like this should be sent out to residents. Ms. Griffin stated that the question before the Board is whether to mail the information or post it on the website. Vice Chairman Connolly stated that the values 5 years ago were harder to deal with than it is now. Selectman Baschnagel agrees that a complete explanation should be put on the web but wondered if there should be a paragraph with a simple chart to show where the percentage comes from to remind people in their tax bill that they are looking at 5 years. Selectman Christie felt that the anxiety lies with people feeling that their net worth has decreased with the decrease in the value of their homes. If you can show people that their homes have increased in the last 5 years, this may be good news for people. Vice Chairman Connolly felt that the anxiety would be more focused over whether

people's tax bills are going up. Mr. Ryan stated that a general rule is that 1/3 of property owners values go down, 1/3 stay the same and 1/3 go up.

Selectman Christie felt that relative value versus absolute values is the hardest part to explain to residents. If someone's property value change was lower than the average, their rates go down, if it is more than the average, their rates go up.

Ms. Griffin stated that because they have to do this every 5 years, it's not a matter of choosing the best time to do it. Ms. Griffin reviewed the proposed schedule with regard to notices being sent out, website information to be posted, taxpayer hearings, etc.

**5. RECOMMENDATION TO ADOPT JOB TITLES:**

- Water Superintendant
- Water Quality Technician
- Parking Control Facility Supervisor

**Selectman Baschnagel MOVED to adopt the job titles of Water Superintendant and Water Quality Technician as presented. Selectman Christie SECONDED the motion.**

**THE BOARD VOTED 3 IN FAVOR, 0 OPPOSED TO ADOPT THE JOB TITLES OF WATER SUPERINTENDANT AND WATER QUALITY TECHNICIAN.**

**Selectman Baschnagel MOVED to adopt the job title for the Parking Control Facility Supervisor. Selectman Christie SECONDED the motion.**

**THE BOARD VOTED 3 IN FAVOR, 0 OPPOSED TO ADOPT THE JOB TITLE FOR THE PARKING CONTROL FACILITY SUPERVISOR.**

**6. BANNER REQUESTS:**

- Hanover Farmer's Market
- Dartmouth Athletics Dept.

Ms. Griffin reminded the Board that the Dartmouth Athletics Department made a presentation to the Board a year ago regarding banner requests that were less artistic. They have tried to make a less commercial banner and they would like to rotate through the seasons. Ms. Griffin stated that they have a lot of people using the banners and they are looking at expanding the use of banners through the Town on other streetlights.

Vice Chairman Connolly noted that the Farmer's Market banners are already there. Ms. Griffin noted that the timing would be right for the Football banners when the Farmer's Market banners come down.

Selectman Baschnagel had mixed opinions about the banners but would give it a try.

**Selectman Baschnagel MOVED to approve the banner request of Dartmouth Athletics Dept. Selectman Christie SECONDED the motion.**

**THE BOARD VOTED 3 IN FAVOR, 0 OPPOSED TO APPROVE THE BANNER REQUEST OF THE DARTMOUTH ATHLETICS DEPARTMENT.**

Ms. Griffin stated that the Farmer's Market would like to put a banner over the street in addition to the other banners.

**Selectman Baschnagel MOVED to approve the banner request of the Farmer's Market. Selectman Christie SECONDED the motion.**

**THE BOARD VOTED 3 IN FAVOR, 0 OPPOSED TO APPROVE THE BANNER REQUEST OF THE FARMER'S MARKET.**

**7. ADMINISTRATIVE REPORTS.**

Ms. Griffin needed to go over Board's schedule for the next two meetings. Ms. Griffin suggested eliminating the meeting on August 4<sup>th</sup> and have just one meeting in August. Ms. Griffin also announced that she will be on vacation the first two weeks of August.

Ms. Griffin restated that they did receive good news regarding the SegTel suit and will e-mail the Judge's decision to the Board members. The Town will be looking to get Eustis Cable back to work on this project. The Municipal Association is interested in this decision due to other ongoing projects in other towns.

**8. SELECTMEN'S REPORTS.**

**Peter Christie**

Selectman Christie had nothing new to report.

**Kate Connolly**

Vice Chairman Connolly reported that the Planning Board had a site visit at the Trumbull Nelson property for the Dartmouth Parking Facility which will be reviewed by the Regional Planning Commission. The system falls into the greater transportation system because it will reduce the number of cars entering downtown Hanover.

Vice Chairman Connolly reported that they had an informal presentation by Hypertherm regarding a plan to build a lot of facilities off the Heater Road in Lebanon and Great Hollow Road. Hypertherm is a company that is doing very well and they need new, modern, energy efficient facilities.

Vice Chairman Connolly also reported that the Planning Board looked at lots belonging to Michael Evans and Holly Forward on Lyme Road for minor lot line adjustments.

**Bill Baschnagel**

Selectman Baschnagel reported that the Conservation Commission had a meeting and were looking for fund share opportunities for a wildlife inventory between Route 120 and Great Hollow Road with opportunities to share the cost of approximately \$15,000. They are also looking at the CIP and looking at recommendations.

The Transportation Management Association met last week and Dartmouth is actively pursuing van pool opportunities and reported that van pools are precursors to funding of transit lines and noted that Vermont AOT is now starting to sponsor van pools. Selectman Baschnagel clarified that van pools are a step beyond car pools. A group of people will get together and collectively commit to funding the acquisition cost, maintenance costs and running costs of a van to be purchased by an individual. There will be a driver and a back-up driver assigned, cost sharing put in place and there are typically 10 to 13 people involved.

Selectman Baschnagel announced that Lyme has put together a transportation committee. Ms. Griffin noted that Plainfield is also looking into something like this.

**9. OTHER BUSINESS.**

Ms. Griffin announced that there will be outdoor movies for the first 3 Saturdays in August at the playing fields on Reservoir Road. The Recreation Department is working on this project which has been spurred by Jennifer Childs who saw similar events in Texas. There will be advertisements and posters about these events and the Hopkins Center is picking the movies, paying for the movies and will distribute posters. An artist donated the artwork for the posters and food will be available. This will be a "sit in" event versus a "drive-in".

**10. ADJOURNMENT.**

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

**THE BOARD VOTED 3 IN FAVOR, 0 OPPOSED TO ADJOURN THE MEETING AT 8:57 P.M.**

Respectfully Submitted,

Peter Christie, Secretary

Minutes transcribed by Elizabeth S. Rathburn.

**SUMMARY**

1. **Selectman Baschnagel MOVED to accept Purling Brooks Drive as a Town road. Selectman Christie SECONDED the motion.**

**THE BOARD VOTED 3 IN FAVOR, 0 OPPOSED WITH 1 ABSTAINING FROM THE VOTE.** (Chairman Walsh abstained from the vote since he wasn't present at the meeting and was participating by phone).

2. **Selectman Baschnagel MOVED to adopt the job titles of Water Superintendant and Water Quality Technician as presented. Selectman Christie SECONDED the motion.**

**THE BOARD VOTED 3 IN FAVOR, 0 OPPOSED TO ADOPT THE JOB TITLES OF WATER SUPERINTENDANT AND WATER QUALITY TECHNICIAN.**

3. **Selectman Baschnagel MOVED to adopt the job title for the Parking Control Facility Supervisor. Selectman Christie SECONDED the motion.**

**THE BOARD VOTED 3 IN FAVOR, 0 OPPOSED TO ADOPT THE JOB TITLE FOR THE PARKING CONTROL FACILITY SUPERVISOR.**

4. **Selectman Baschnagel MOVED to approve the banner request of Dartmouth Athletics Dept. Selectman Christie SECONDED the motion.**

**THE BOARD VOTED 3 IN FAVOR, 0 OPPOSED TO APPROVE THE BANNER REQUEST OF THE DARTMOUTH ATHLETICS DEPARTMENT.**

5. **Selectman Baschnagel MOVED to approve the banner request of the Farmer's Market. Selectman Christie SECONDED the motion.**

**THE BOARD VOTED 3 IN FAVOR, 0 OPPOSED TO APPROVE THE BANNER REQUEST OF THE FARMER'S MARKET.**

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

**THE BOARD VOTED 3 IN FAVOR, 0 OPPOSED TO ADJOURN THE MEETING AT 8:57 P.M.**

**FINAL**

**BOARD OF SELECTMEN'S MEETING**

**July 7, 2008**

**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 announced public comment and there were no comments from the public.

**2. DISCUSSION REGARDING PROPOSED FY2008-2009 GOALS AND OBJECTIVES.**

Chairman Walsh moved on to the proposed Goals and Objectives.

Vice Chairman Connolly wanted to add a new category for the Goals and Objectives to include Energy and would like to see the Board adopt an official policy. Ms. Griffin stated that she could draft something for the Board to review for a future meeting. Chairman Walsh would like this to be singled out as a specific item since it's not just a budget issue.

Selectman Baschnagel mentioned the possibility of having people call in since several people have inquired about this as they watch the meetings live. Perhaps they could send an e-mail during the meeting or call in.

Selectman Christie wanted to add to the list the suggestions made regarding the traffic pattern changes to downtown. Chairman Walsh noted that he was looking at the long-range transportation planning and felt that this and the proposed traffic patterns fit together nicely. Selectman Baschnagel felt that this would be something that would fall into the world of professionals versus a citizen's committee and thought that this might be something that there might be grant money available for this project.

Selectman Christie would also like to add the sewer rate rationale as a Goal or Objective for the Board to discuss further.

Ms. Griffin went over a list that she provided to the Board with highlights of the Goals and Objectives and where each item stands. Chairman Walsh felt that they could eliminate the post-storm damage language and would follow it with the Capital Improvement Program to include conversations about capital and operating budgets. He would follow that up with the Energy/Carbon Footprint category which speaks to the finances of the Town. The other items seem to speak to the shaping of the Town.



Board of Selectmen  
July 7, 2008

Chairman Walsh asked about the second item regarding Affordable Housing and whether this item stays on the list. Selectman Baschnagel was concerned about the pace of activities and is looking forward to seeing how the Gile Tract works out. Ms. Griffin noted that the Affordable Housing Commission was looking to speak to the Board at the August meeting and noted that staff has been busy with the construction pieces of Gile Hill but the biggest challenge is that there isn't any feasibility money available for potential viable sites.

Selectman Christie noted that there was a very positive Affordable Housing Meeting recently and there were discussions about coming before the Board to report on the Gile Housing and he told the group that Gile is already a done deal. There have been 3 or 4 projects that they have looked at since Gile and felt that this would be a good thing for them to speak to the Board about.

Vice Chairman Connolly reported that the Planning Board got a tour of the Gile Project and she would like to know how many units are taken and how that process is coming along in this economy. She felt that there was no reason not to hear what they want to say.

Selectman Baschnagel asked whether the Commission has integrated the Senior Housing into their projects. Selectman Christie advised that they have looked at this with one of the projects they were considering.

Chairman Walsh felt that the Board needs to take a critical look at the Gile Project and look at the goals that they were trying to achieve, what they were able to achieve and what they would do differently if they were to do it again. By having a review of the things that the Commission has seen will be beneficial. There should also be conversations about future objectives. The Town has invested a lot in this project and they should have an overview as to how the needs of the Town have been met.

Selectman Christie didn't really want to spend a lot of time going over the Gile Project because in the eyes of the Commission, that project was 3 years ago and the review might need to come from Twin Pines or McLaughry. Chairman Walsh wanted to get a list of the 5 goals that the Town wished to achieve so there could be an evaluation as to whether they achieved those goals.

Selectman Christie felt that there were two different things being discussed. One is to review Gile and look at what they wanted to accomplish and what they would do differently next time and the other is to see what opportunities exist and the constraints that they may have. Chairman Walsh clarified that he is talking about an objective for the year to assess the achievements against the goals for the project. Selectman Christie felt that they would have more information in the next few months when units are being sold or rented.

Ms. Griffin stated that she would work on this and for the meeting in August, they would focus on opportunity.

Chairman Walsh went on to the Water Works Company item and felt that they should consider whether to continue after this year. Ms. Griffin stated that things may change with the change of the Presidency of Dartmouth College.

Chairman Walsh moved on to the Volunteer Appreciation Ceremony. Ms. Griffin stated that some money has been budgeted to do some kind of event to thank volunteers.

Chairman Walsh went on to the item regarding long-term transportation issue and was unclear where to go with this issue. Selectman Baschnagel agreed that it is a very broad issue from downtown traffic patterns to interstate transportation. Selectman Baschnagel also noted that without structure, this becomes a giant wish list. Chairman Walsh suggested putting constraints on this item to include limiting discussions to planning within the current road structure and a conversation regarding the balance between public vehicle and private vehicle transportation. He also suggested looking at what concrete things can be done that could make a difference and how they could be prioritized. Selectman Baschnagel agrees with Chairman Walsh but is not sure what the spectrum of outcomes might be in putting a group of people together to discuss these issues and it would require experts and consultants.

Selectman Christie stated that with regard to hiring a consultant, he's not sure how you would write a statement of objectives for that work. He is not sure what the definition of the problem might be.

Selectman Baschnagel stated that the groups that have transportation issues in their purview, recognize that their purviews are perhaps overly constrained for example, the PTB and the Planning Board. Selectman Baschnagel went on to state that there are no advocates to look out to the future years with regard to the road networks and future transportation issues. There are broader questions that are not being addressed anywhere within the Boards and Committees.

Selectman Baschnagel felt that if the Board was to make a clear statement regarding this issue, it would help guide future discussions. Ms. Griffin asked whether the Town is premature in tackling this objective when maybe they should be looking at Capital Improvements. Issues as to whether certain streets should be public or private, sidewalk extensions, etc. and by answering policy questions, it might help frame future transportation planning. Ms. Griffin noted that they don't want to spend money on experts when they don't know what the questions are that they would be looking to have answered.

Chairman Walsh stated that the road network is the road network and in that network they are looking for opportunities to make them function better with public vehicles with a lesser priority for private vehicles. Ms. Griffin asked if they wanted to delete this objective or modify the objective. Chairman Walsh stated that he would like the Board and staff to come up with some key policy statements flowing from the CIP and hold conversations in public meetings on those policies.

Selectman Christie and other Board members discussed the possibility of downtown becoming a pedestrian mall someday.

Chairman Walsh wanted to add the Capital Improvements Program to the Selectmen's objective and the other Select Board members agreed. Chairman Walsh also stated that he felt that the Capital Improvement Program for the Water Reclamation Facility is done.

Board of Selectmen  
July 7, 2008

Chairman Walsh stated that he would like Ms. Griffin to come up with something for the Energy and Carbon Footprint objective which would be up for a Board vote in the future. Chairman Walsh also suggested moving the sewer rate to a staff goal but not necessarily a Board goal to change anything.

Chairman Walsh wanted to add the 250<sup>th</sup> Anniversary Celebration and have the Board charter a group of people to work on this. Selectman Baschnagel noted that there are some people who have been working on it and he had the opportunity to review the 200<sup>th</sup> Anniversary book and there was a lot of work that went into it.

Chairman Walsh would like to discuss the e-mail or call in option at another time and not make it a goal or objective at this time.

Ms. Griffin stated that she had not worked on the Town Meeting Taskforce in the past year other than trying to track legislation which may be pertinent. Chairman Walsh recalled that the objective from last year was to hold a public meeting, report that the legislature provided no guidance and essentially cease work on this until the legislature provided them with some degrees of freedom. Ms. Griffin confirmed that they had discussed providing information as to what the legislature says that the Town can and can not do either in written form or in a public meeting and this has not been done.

Selectman Baschnagel felt that this was dealt with in the Town Report. Ms. Griffin stated that it was. Chairman Walsh then felt that this issue was done.

Ms. Griffin stated that the Wetland working group came out of the Velvet Rocks development relative to site management issues and a lot of work has taken place on this issue and Vice Chairman Connolly noted that they had some staffing issues with the group. Selectman Baschnagel felt that this issue was finished and the Planning Board would need to work from here. Vice Chairman Connolly did not feel that this issue was finished due to two separate issues and an assortment of ramifications.

Ms. Griffin noted that the words “final site management regulations” came out of the Velvet Rocks Development but the rural planning areas are still pending. Chairman Walsh did not want this issue to be left to staff to determine. Ms. Griffin stated that this item was essentially done and the Planning Board has before it a number of site plan regulation amendments to review.

Chairman Walsh moved on to the items for review for the proposed budget. Ms. Griffin noted that these were specific questions that emerged from previous budget discussions. Chairman Walsh stated that he felt that there was a 10 – 15 year period where they were able to manage the Town’s finances within some pretty strict numbers but he is now concerned that with all the factors facing the budget, he would like to find a way to have constructive discussions about these factors with residents. Ms. Griffin stated that she is seeing a trend in Town Reports that provide more in-depth information to residents regarding impacts to the tax rate.

Selectman Baschnagel felt that this dovetailed nicely with discussions and policy decisions regarding the CIP. Chairman Walsh asked if this could be given to the Finance Committee and Betsy McClain to find a way to communicate these factors for residents. Selectman Christie could envision the Finance Committee making comments to the information. Selectman Rassias wasn't sure how people would act on the information being provided. Selectman Baschnagel stated that if the Board shows the residents some options and then back one of them, it starts a discussion. Chairman Walsh felt that residents could generally accept the policy of keeping the tax rate low and maintaining the same level of service but he is looking at what comes next and look at the picture.

Ms. Griffin suggested that they write a piece geared toward residents, a sort of "State of the State" and have that as a baseline for organized input with the goal being a discussion about policy choices with regard to tax rates and services. Selectman Baschnagel would like to get this out before the budget season. Vice Chairman Connolly questioned whether they would have enough information by the end of the year to provide useful information. Ms. Griffin stated that she felt that they owe it to the citizens to outline their concerns. Chairman Walsh supported this effort and Ms. Griffin will prepare something for the Board to review.

Ms. Griffin went on to the next item regarding the Audit Committee and noted that by switching Audit Firms, it did not provide much for the Committee to do. Chairman Walsh confirmed that this item was now done.

Ms. Griffin noted that the next item was with regard to developing a policy in dealing with social service agency requests. Chairman Walsh felt that Towns around the State are going to be putting a limit on property tax increases and feels that this issue needs to be dealt with in a different way than it has been in the past. Selectman Christie stated that as the agencies are denied funding by the State, they are going to continue to look for support through the Towns. Selectman Baschnagel stated that the policy needs to address whether the agencies provide direct service to the community. Chairman Walsh went on to add that they need to look at whether the Town would need to provide these services if the agency did not.

**3. RECOMMENDATION TO SET AN ON-SITE PUBLIC HEARING ON JULY 21, 2008 FOR CONSIDERATION OF ACCEPTANCE OF PURLING BROOKS DRIVE.**

Chairman Walsh noted that he would not be available to attend the public hearing but would attend by phone. Selectman Baschnagel noted that the CIP has a policy statement about accepting roads for maintenance and it states that the Board would accept roads if they served more than one neighborhood. Ms. Griffin noted that subdivision was approved under previous guidelines and the Planning Board and the Town agreed to take that street but the ultimate approval is up to the Board.

Selectman Baschnagel went back to the issue of policy and pointed out that the Board has the opportunity for some discussions as to where to go with this issue and felt that perhaps they should postpone this particular item. Selectman Christie stated that this was a commitment that was already made and Vice Chairman Connolly added that the Board historically has supported

the Planning Board. Selectman Baschnagel pointed out that the Select Board has the final authority. Ms. Griffin stated that this is a key policy issue that they need to work with the Planning Board on but, in fairness, this subdivision was approved with the understanding that the street would be approved with public maintenance. The Town decided that they did not want to accept the road until the houses are all built. Selectman Baschnagel wanted the broader policy issue to be resolved before making this decision. The Select Board members discussed timing for the public hearing. Selectman Christie agreed that there need to be further discussions about accepting public roads but he did not feel that they should change the agreement made with the developers on Purling Brook Drive.

The Board set an on-site public hearing on July 21, 2008 at 6:30 on Purling Brooks Drive.

**4. CONSIDERATION OF SEWER ABATEMENT REQUEST.**

Chairman Walsh referred to a memo from Betsy McClain with the recommendation to abate \$532.00 of billed sewer charges fro the July 1, 2007 – June 30, 2008 for the owner/occupants of 8 Rip Road.

**Chairman Walsh MOVED to accept the recommendation for the sewer abatement request for 8 Rip Road. Selectman Baschnagel SECONDED the motion.**

**THE BOARD VOTED UNANIMOUSLY IN FAVOR OF ACCEPTING THE RECOMMENDATION FOR THE SEWER ABATEMENT REQUEST FOR 8 RIP ROAD.**

**5. CONSIDERATION OF CHaD HALF MARATHON STREET CLOSURE REQUEST.**

Chairman Walsh announced that this request is to close College Street on Saturday, September 6<sup>th</sup>. Ms. Griffin stated that she spoke with Lt. Evans and he expressed no concern over this.

**Selectman Baschnagel MOVED to approve the request for street closure for the CHaD Half Marathon. Vice Chairman Connolly SECONDED the motion.**

**THE BOARD VOTED UNANIMOUSLY TO APPROVE THE REQUEST FOR STREET CLOSURE FOR THE CHaD HALF MARATHON.**

**6. DISCUSSION REGARDING TOWN WARRANT PROCEDURE NOTING VOTE TALLIES.**

Ms. Griffin noted that there was concern over the Board vote tallies relative to the Articles in question and the DRA felt that this shouldn't be done unless the Board ask the Town whether it is okay that they do that. Ms. Griffin stated that they won't be able to put the vote tallies on the ballots next May.

Chairman Walsh stated that they should put this on the warrant and have someone check on it.

- 7. BANNER REQUESTS:**  
- CHaD Half Marathon  
- Special Olympics

**Selectman Baschnagel MOVED to approve the banner requests for the CHaD Half Marathon and the Special Olympics. Vice Chairman Connolly SECONDED the motion.**

**THE BOARD VOTED UNANIMOUSLY TO APPROVE THE BANNER REQUESTS FOR THE CHaD Half MARATHON AND THE SPECIAL OLYMPICS.**

- 8. APPROVAL OF MINUTES:**  
- June 23, 2008

**Selectman Baschnagel MOVED to approve the Minutes of June 23, 2008 with minor changes. Vice Chairman Connolly SECONDED the motion.**

**THE BOARD VOTED 4 IN FAVOR, 0 AGAINST AND 1 ABSTAINED TO APPROVE THE MINUTES OF JUNE 23, 2008. (Selectman Christie abstained from the vote).**

**9. ADMINISTRATIVE REPORTS.**

Ms. Griffin advised that there is not much to report but there are a lot of things in motion as it is a busy time of year with summer projects.

**10. SELECETMEN'S REPORTS.**

**Peter Christie**

Selectman Christie had nothing new to report.

**Kate Connolly**

Vice Chairman Connolly stated that the Planning Board will be having a site visit on Route 120 at 4:00 p.m. tomorrow.

The Planning Board also approved a renovation of the west stands of the stadium and noted that it will be an interesting project involving pre-cast concrete which will be trucked in to the area in sections.

Vice Chairman Connolly reported that friends from Nihonmatsu will be arriving for a visit on August 1<sup>st</sup> with a party on August 2<sup>nd</sup>.

Board of Selectmen  
July 7, 2008

**Bill Baschnagel**

Selectman Baschnagel had nothing to report.

**Athos Rassias**

Selectman Rassias had nothing new to report.

**Brian Walsh**

Chairman Walsh reported that they had a great 4<sup>th</sup> of July celebration and wanted to thank Jill Polli, Jack Lee and Liz Burdette who did a fabulous job. Chairman Walsh also made a suggestion that they have more music during the parade and not just at the end. Ms. Griffin noted that they had a hard time finding people.

**11. OTHER BUSINESS.**

There was no Other Business reported.

**12. ADJOURNMENT.**

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

**THE BOARD VOTED UNANIMOUSLY TO ADJOURN THE MEETING AT 10:05 P.M.**

Respectfully Submitted,

Athos Rassias, Secretary

Minutes prepared by Elizabeth S. Rathburn.

**FINAL**

**BOARD OF SELECTMEN'S MEETING**

**June 23, 2008**

**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 announced Public Comment. There were no comments from the public.

**2. PUBLIC HEARING TO CONSIDER AND APPROVE MODIFICATIONS TO THE FY2008-2009 RATES AND FEE SCHEDULE.**

Chairman Walsh opened the public hearing to discuss the Fire and Ambulance Fund for the benefit of hearing from a Representative from ComStar.

Chairman Walsh invited Fire Chief Roger Bradley to speak to the Board. Chief Bradley noted that they are proposing a change to the rate and fee schedule by eliminating the Malicious False Alarm Charge because that offense is a criminal act and they didn't feel that charging the businesses that fall victim to the false alarm didn't seem fair. This item would be turned over to the police for investigation and prosecution. Ms. Griffin noted that there is still a false alarm charge but the \$500 fee brought forth some concerns about punishing the property owner.

Chief Bradley also recommended bringing an additional charge for gas and oil permitting. The basic fee does not change but they are recommending an additional \$15.00 per appliance because it requires additional tracking which requires additional time by the inspector.

Chairman Walsh asked Ms. Griffin to go over the first change for the Private Fire Hydrant fees. Ms. Griffin noted that the hydrant rental rates go up any time the water rates increase.

Chief Bradley introduced Rick Martin who is the President of ComStar, the ambulance billing company that handles the Hanover Ambulance billing. Mr. Martin was present to answer any questions of the Select Board.

Chief Bradley noted that there is an increase from \$20.19 per capita to \$21.50 per capita which was reflected in the budget and this is the only recommended change to the ambulance rates.

Chairman Walsh asked Mr. Martin about the reimbursement rates which seem to cover less and less for providing the services. He noted that they are very pleased with the service ComStar is providing. Chairman Walsh asked what, if anything, the Town can do to keep the true costs for



providing ambulance service so that they can be reimbursed, rather than funding it out of General Fund taxes? How can the Town close that gap?

Mr. Martin noted that the rate setting process is whatever the Town determines that they wish to bill the communities. The Office of Inspector General provides guidance on how to operate on a number of aspects. ComStar follows those guidelines and the Town needs to look at the current billing rates and look at the gap as a starting point. Medicare and Medicaid have a set fee schedule no matter how you set your rates. Private insurances are reimbursing what they feel is reasonable. The way to close that gap is to take a close look at the costs involved. Mr. Martin noted that every rate situation is different so it is unfair to compare the rates that Hanover charges to other Towns. Chairman Walsh asked if the insurance companies are reimbursing amounts close to what the Town is charging or whether there have been a lot of rejected claims. Mr. Martin stated that they were not having a lot of rejected claims. Mr. Martin noted that there are some nationally published metrics that can compare costs to the Medicare rates which could be used a starting base. The national average cost for an ambulance run costs 28% higher than what Medicare allows (which does not include Municipalities). In order to be comparable to the average cost, the rates should be 28% higher than what Medicare will cover.

Chairman Walsh asked whether Mr. Martin could speak to Ms. McClain to do an assessment as to where the Town is relative to the region and what they are charging for the services. Mr. Martin noted that the Office of Inspector General would not support ComStar making any statements regarding other communities and the rates that they charge.

Chairman Walsh felt that ComStar could discuss areas where insurance companies argue about the rates. Mr. Martin stated that he felt that the insurance companies would not argue the rates. Mr. Martin noted that part of their job is to appeal the coverage when insurance companies only want to cover 70% of the cost.

Chairman Walsh thanked Mr. Martin for coming to speak to the Board.

Chairman Walsh tabled the hearing for a brief period of time to handle other business.

Chairman Walsh re-opened the public hearing. Ms. Griffin noted that there is a proposed change for copies of Warranty Deeds. Ms. McClain stated that they are changing from a \$2.00 fee to \$1.00/page.

Ms. Griffin gave an overview of the other proposed changes under General Administration. The Board had no further questions on these items.

Ms. Griffin gave an overview of the Howe Library and Etna Library proposed changes. The last time the fee for memberships went up was about 7 years ago. The Board did not have any questions on the proposed increases for the libraries. Selectman Rassias asked why the non-resident childcare providers are separate. Ms. Griffin advised that this was due to limits of borrowed books, etc. that they have been forced to put on childcare providers.

Ms. Griffin gave an overview of the Planning and Zoning proposed increases. Ms. Stearns noted that the Zoning Board does not impose fees on anyone who violates the Planning and Zoning permits. Ms. Stearns felt that there should be fees per day on these violations. Chairman Walsh stated that there were strong limitations as to what could be done. Ms. Griffin stated that there are very clear rules about when a fine can be imposed for violations. Typically when fines are implemented, the resident will hire a lawyer and an appeal is filed. Ms. Stearns would like some sort of public embarrassment for these individuals that violate the permits or some recourse.

Marjorie Rogalski, Climate Protection Campaign, and in looking at building codes in terms of sustainability and questioned whether the rates being adopted will cover the costs of reviewing the building codes and site visits.

Chairman Walsh stated that they did a careful and hard look at the building code rates and fees a couple of years ago to ensure that the cost of doing inspections were covered by the fees on a total basis and that the cost was fairly appropriated between Commercial, Industrial and Residential properties. The cost of enforcement is born by the properties and born by the type of property that is being built. Ms. Griffin added that the Town is always ideally generating enough building permit revenue to pay for the cost of the Planning and Zoning department and she can envision in the future looking at codes used for building "green".

Selectman Baschnagel noted that at one point in time the inspection focus for single family residential housing included life, safety, fire, foundations and heating systems and he hopes that the Town isn't enforcing every code issued by the International Building Codes for residential development. Ms. Griffin stated that they have to enforce the minimum codes for residential development.

Ms. Griffin gave an overview of the increase recommendation for the Special Detail Billing Rate for Non-Union employees and noted that they are still in negotiations with the Union. In addition there is a request in the increase in fees for police report requests. The Board had no questions on the police department recommendations.

Chairman Walsh invited Hank Tenney to speak on behalf of the Recreation Department. Mr. Tenney noted that he anticipates increases next year for all of their programs. Mr. Tenney pointed out a typo in the section that shows the standard fee for political organizations. It should say \$250 for a 4 hour slot and the chart indicates \$150.

Vice Chairman Connolly asked whether all future proposed increases are related to increases from the schools. Mr. Tenney pointed out that the school charges rental fees to use their facilities. Ms. Griffin stated that they felt that the only fair way to deal with this charge is to have families write two checks, one to the School District and one to the Recreation Department.

The Board did not have questions regarding Parks and Recreation's proposed fees.

**Selectman Baschnagel MOVED to accept the FY2008-2009 Rates and Fee Schedule as proposed. Vice Chairman Connolly SECONDED the motion.**

**THE BOARD VOTED UNANIMOUSLY IN FAVOR OF ACCEPTING THE FY2008-2009 RATES AND FEES SCHEDULE.**

**3. JOINT MEETING WITH HANOVER PLANNING BOARD FOR REVIEW AND DISCUSSION OF CAPITAL IMPROVEMENT PLAN.**

Chairman Walsh asked Nancy Collier and the other Planning Board Members to join the Board. Ms. Collier introduced herself, Charlie Faulkner, Joan Garipay, and Mike Hingston.

Ms. Griffin noted that this is the second draft and the purpose of the discussion is to get additional feedback. Ms. Griffin distributed a memo that was received from Nancy Collier and a memo from the League of Women Voters of the Upper Valley.

Ms. Griffin stated that the CIP attempts to outline each section from Water Reclamation to the Schools in Hanover. The CIP outlines the areas that they know they are facing some capital improvement issues for outdated equipment, buildings, etc. that need to be updated. This is not a true Capital Improvement projects because it goes further than the traditional NH Capital Improvement Projects. The Planning Board would like to have a CIP which would be able to provide guidance to developers.

Ms. Griffin felt it was critical for both Boards to work together on the CIP. She hopes that the Board will be able to get feedback to finish up this document so that the plan can be adopted.

Selectman Baschnagel noted that the RSA provides that either the Planning Board do this or a group be appointed but he felt that perhaps a group should be appointed and since this is a living document and will require updates regularly.

Chairman Walsh envisions a document that both Boards adopt and feels that both Boards want to be on the same page with future developments and projects. Selectman Baschnagel felt there was merit in smaller groups working to put this all together and felt that the group would consist of Planning Board and Select Board members.

Chairman Walsh felt there was great background in the document but he felt that there were a number of different policy decisions with both capital and maintenance costs and quality of infrastructure implications so he feels that the next step would be to list the decisions that need to be looked at and the ranges of costs. Ms. Griffin stated that staff seems to know what they need with regard to issues that need to be determined such as public versus private roads, sidewalk construction and maintenance, etc. and they could provide the Boards with a list.

Selectman Baschnagel felt that it would be worthwhile for someone to pull out the assumptions that are included already and then there will be a process where the dollar amounts get transferred into budget impacts which will lead to a series of decisions.

Chairman Walsh asked the Planning Board members for input. Nancy Collier, Planning Board, felt that this is a Capital Improvement Plan versus a Capital Improvement Program because she

would like to separate the spreadsheet from the policies which is informed by the Master Plan. She felt that the Planning Board is going to need to articulate the things that they have asked the Town to fit into budgets such as sidewalks, roads, etc. If the Boards can agree on the Master Plan and the Capital Improvement Policies, they fit together. Ms. Griffin stated that they should start with the ideal and then attach the dollar figures. Vice Chairman Connolly noted that in discussing the possibilities, they should note where they should change their policies. Ms. Collier felt that there may be some Master Plan policies that the Planning Board would like to revise for example, costs of things such as sidewalks which may impact their future planning.

Chairman Walsh noted that there are different levels of service in different parts of Town which should be considered when considering “ideals”. He also didn’t like the word “ideal” because each of these items will see tradeoffs in quality, capital and projected future operating costs and in reflecting the decisions that were made during the ‘70s due to petroleum costs which are the same kinds of things they will be facing in the future. Chairman Walsh stated that they would need to make decisions based on quality on one hand and economic impacts on the other hand. Ms. Collier stated that she felt that taking care of the locations such as in town, out of town and remote and decisions about who pays for these projects and the timing of everything. Selectman Baschnagel feels that the document triggers those very discussions. He felt there were a lot of things that could be laid out in terms of what the Town really wants or does not want.

Chairman Walsh felt that another factor would be the amount of time that something is being used such as the use of certain sidewalks from November to March. He is concerned about the standards to which the Town will be held to in the future in making these decisions based on State and Federal regulations.

Selectman Baschnagel noted that in the document, the figures included in the last summary don’t seem to reflect the numbers that are included in the text. Ms. Griffin stated that they would give updated cost benefits and noted that the cost of paving roads just increased so the extra \$70,000 the Town added to the paving budget just got absorbed.

Chairman Walsh felt that the issue is to look far enough forward to see what needs to be done and what the operating cost implications are. Ms. Griffin noted that they often look at competing demands when looking at which topics to tackle year to year.

Ms. Collier wondered how the Select Board deals with competing interests and what do you do if you want to add recreation or open space?

Chairman Walsh felt that this was easiest to track on the capital side but it needs to be looked at over 20 years to see the priorities of the Town including moving the Fire Station and then the Police Station, etc. Ms. Griffin noted that these decisions are often swapped out year to year with a focus on a certain aspects as they come up. Selectman Baschnagel felt that the Boards have to think about the operating costs with the capital costs. Chairman Walsh noted that the School Districts and the Water Company are not included in the indebtedness of the General Fund but the debt issues of the tax base need to be considered.

Ms. Griffin will ask that the policy questions be brought to the Select Board. Chairman Walsh would like alternate options accompanying the questions brought forth. Ms. Collier noted that this is a document that is needed whether impact fees are included or not.

Chairman Walsh would like to have another joint discussion at the first meeting in September.

#### **4. CONTINUED DISCUSSION REGARDING PARKING TASKFORCE REPORT.**

Chairman Walsh invited Doug Wise, Chair of the Chamber of Commerce, to speak to the Board.

Mr. Wise read the following statement to the Board:

“First, let me introduce the members of the Hanover Parking and Zoning Task Force: Tom Byrne, Bill Baschnagel, Jonathan Edwards, Patrick O’Neill, Paul Olsen and Rob Meyer.

The subject of parking was not new to any of us, or, for that matter you. It seems like an endless process of identifying a parking shortage, analyzing too many numbers that are often misleading, putting together a highly structured group of talented well-intended citizens who amass reports thicker than anything proposed in the US Congress, agreeing on a course of action, building or modifying some facilities, telling the world about the significant increase in parking spaces, and finally, realizing that the real net increase in public parking spaces is much less than we wanted. So, the problem resurfaces and we start over again.

Our reality today is that recent and pending actions in Hanover as well as beyond the Upper Valley have and will create changes that affected public parking spaces since the construction of the Town parking facility. New structures are or will be built in and around Hanover. The price of gas is quickly moving toward \$5.00/gallon and commutation patterns are already shifting.

Some of these actions are beyond our control. Others have been created from within. No doubt you, the Select Board and the Town Manager, have done your fair share to provide the public with needed parking. Yet, recent and planned changes demand that we have to begin a process to determine 1) where we are today, 2) where we want to be in 10-20 years, 3) how we can get from here to there, 4) how much it will cost to do so and 5) how the burden of cost can be equitably shared.

That’s the charge identified in the Chamber’s May 2<sup>nd</sup> letter to the Select Board. We suggested creating an ad hoc Hanover Parking Task Force with collaborative participation from the Chamber, the business community, the Town, the College and interested organizations and citizens in the Upper Valley.

The overarching goal of this ad hoc Task Force is to review how best to address Hanover’s parking and related transportation needs of the next 10 to 20 years and to accomplish that in an open-to-discussion and flexible “can do” spirit. It must be a team effort. As someone once said, there is no “I” in the word TEAM.

We suggest the tasks of this group take place in two phases:

- Phase 1 - Project the future demand for parking assets in Hanover – for destination shoppers, for people working in and around Hanover, and for residents who live in Hanover.

Develop a broad, integrated and long-term approach for meeting in-town accessibility needs (e.g. transportation/commutation and parking needs). This approach will factor in the impact of energy cost escalation; geo-politics and global warming that are affecting Main Street USA.

- Phase 2 - Once accomplished and universally endorsed, the task force should then consider:

**Funding:** The appropriate and equitable role of all parties in funding the capital and operational expenses associated with an expansion of the parking and transportation systems.

**Role of the Town:** As representatives for all of Hanover’s constituencies, the Select Board is in the position to ensure that appropriate and properly funded parking assets and systems are identified and endorsed.

**Additional Public Transportation and Parking Resources:** Other potential mechanisms (including parking credits) will be reviewed for the development and funding of additional resources.

This ad hoc group will come up with a set of realistic solutions because they’ll be open-minded representatives of all interests, willing to roll up their sleeves, and to work quickly, efficiently and productively. Yet, the group’s believability is critical to success. In that context, the group needs the guidance of the Select Board because of your stature, perspective, and multi-constituent membership.

We see two next steps:

- 1) Select up to 15 members of the ad hoc task force who represent the following: Hanover Planning Board, Hanover Select Board, Town of Hanover Staff, Dartmouth College, Dartmouth Hitchcock Medical Center, Hanover Area Chamber of Commerce, Downtown Marketing Alliance, Business Owners, Property Owners, Neighborhood Residents, Transportation Management Association and the School Board.
- 2) Conduct its first meeting to:
  - a. Choose a leader of the group.
  - b. Gain consensus on the charter for the task force.
  - c. Lay out a preliminary timeline to completion.

Tonight we need:

- 1) Your endorsement of this collaborative ad hoc task force.
- 2) Your appreciation of placing this task force under your aegis.
- 3) Your agreement with our next steps.

Speaking for the entire committee, we thank you for giving this initiative your attention and understanding. We are very enthusiastic that the proposed ad hoc task force will be objective, communal and focused. The spirit of the task force will be open-minded, interactive and always keeping you well informed. We may even have fun doing it. All involved constituencies will feel they have contributed to and been rewarded by the outcome of the efforts of this task force. Thank you again. We welcome any comments or suggestions.”

Chairman Walsh noted that in reading the report, there were some immediate and straightforward items and then others that were more complicated. He wanted to endorse item regarding the Chambers role to disseminate information to businesses and employees and he feels that this has been lacking for a long time. The other item was forwarding suggestions to the Planning Board regarding certain items and Chairman Walsh feels that the Planning Board would work well with them on these projects. The third item was the issue of employee parking in the garage after 5:00 p.m. for free and he’s not sure if that is a good idea or not but the PTB deals with this item on a regular basis and suggests speaking with them about this.

Chairman Walsh does not like the term “Parking Task Force” and feels that it’s more about accessibility. He is not willing to have an ad hoc parking task force but is willing to have conversations about an accessibility task force and felt that there is a strong desire to keep the downtown exciting and successful.

Chairman Walsh stated that he feels that there may be some real differences as to what the Town’s role is. He feels that the proper role for the Town is as an enabler versus and entrepreneur and there is some leadership that the Town can get behind and feels that they were fortunate with the Parking Garage and the 7 Lebanon Street development but he doesn’t want the business community to think that the Town has an entrepreneurial role. The Town can enable things to happen that without their support would not happen. Chairman Walsh also noted that the important piece is who funds these initiatives. He wants to find funding other than money from the General Fund taxpayer. Chairman Walsh felt a taskforce of 15 would be too many. Mr. Wise noted that there are so many different areas that need to be represented that this was the number that they came up with.

Chairman Walsh spoke about creating a charge for the Task Force. The history is that the Task Forces that have been successful are those that had a clear charge from the Select Board. Chairman Walsh felt that the Select Board should come up with a charge to direct the Task Force versus having the members determine that themselves.

Selectman Baschnagel commented that he thinks that these discussions pertain more to the downtown visioning group versus downtown parking group. He feels that they need to bring

more interests to the table. Mr. Wise noted that accessibility brings up so many other avenues and it changes the scope of this.

Vice Chairman Connolly noted that the timing could be affected by the increases in fuel prices and the way that people travel. This could be put on hold and suggests that there could be massive changes in habits. Mr. Wise felt that the time would not be wasted if they were to work on this now and he thinks that they could start the groundwork.

Selectman Baschnagel felt that this might be a better time than waiting. Vice Chairman Connolly felt that there should be some internal conversations regarding leased versus public parking. Ms. Collier felt that school kids should be considered.

Bob Strauss, Hanover Affordable Housing Commission, noted that the Commission is working toward getting as much housing in town as possible. They want to get workers as close to work as possible and keep drivers off the road. They would like to reduce the strain on the roads and the drivers. They would like to have a voice in whatever happens and they don't need to be at every meeting but they would like to be represented.

Winnie Stearns feels that this is redundant to the Parking and Transportation Board and would like residents represented if anything overflows into that area. Selectman Baschnagel noted that the PTB focuses on operations of facilities that the Town manages and they are less prepared to look at the broader scope as suggested by Mr. Wise. Ms. Stearns asked how many should be involved in the proposed ad hoc task force. Selectman Baschnagel felt that people would come and go depending on the topic and the PTB would be involved at some level at certain times.

Ms. Griffin pointed out that she attended Tufts University and was indoctrinated in The Natural Step process and will be making a presentation to the Board about the sustainability efforts and this will be tied into the accessibility discussions.

Marjorie Rogalski, discussed the constituency in Norwich and would like to bring them into the conversation. Mr. Wise felt that they would be involved because they use the parking areas in Hanover.

Chairman Walsh would like to see a draft charge at one of the next meetings. He suggested Mr. Wise come up with some bullet points, Selectman Baschnagel and the PTB come up with a couple of items in addition to the Planning Board. Ms. Griffin will compile the ideas and they will discuss this. Mr. Wise suggested having all points in by July 10<sup>th</sup> for the next meeting.

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

Chairman Walsh invited Mike Ryan to speak to the Board on this issue. Mr. Ryan stated that on June 12<sup>th</sup> the Board of Assessors met to review the requests for abatement. The Board of Assessors recommended that the abatement requests for 43 South Main Street and NE Telephone Co. located at 4 School Street be denied.



**Vice Chairman Connolly MOVED to accept the recommendations of the Hanover Advisory Board of Assessors. Selectman Baschnagel SECONDED the motion.**

**THE BOARD VOTED UNANIMOUSLY TO ACCEPT THE RECOMMENDATIONS OF THE HANOVER ADVISORY BOARD OF ASSESSORS.**

**6. RECOMMENDATION TO APPROVE ISSUANCE OF 2008 DOG WARRANT.**

Ms. Griffin gave an overview of the process of the yearly approval of the issuance of the Dog Warrant. She noted that when the police department sends a letter about licensing, residents get their licenses in quickly. Chairman Walsh asked if they should attach a \$10 service fee for the police department's preparation of these letters. Ms. Griffin isn't sure whether the Town can legally do that and she will research this.

**Vice Chairman Connolly MOVED to approve the issuance of the 2008 Dog Warrant. Selectman Baschnagel SECONDED the motion.**

**THE BOARD VOTED UNANIMOUSLY TO APPROVE THE ISSUANCE OF THE 2008 DOG WARRANT.**

**7. DISCUSSION OF SEWER ABATEMENT REQUEST.**

Chairman Walsh felt that the information provided to the Board was self explanatory and would agree with the reduction of the usage of cubic feet from 18,373 cubic feet versus the billed 22,155 cubic feet for the Larry and Kay Litten property located at 40 School Street.

**Chairman Walsh MOVED to accept the sewer abatement request. Vice Chairman Connolly SECONDED the motion.**

**THE BOARD VOTED UNANIMOUSLY IN FAVOR OF ACCEPTING THE SEWER ABATEMENT REQUEST.**

**8. APPROVAL OF MINUTES:**

- June 2, 2008

**Vice Chairman Connolly MOVED to approve the Minutes of June 2, 2008. Selectman Rassias SECONDED the motion.**

**THE BOARD VOTED 3 IN FAVOR, 0 OPPOSED AND 1 ABSTAINED TO APPROVE THE MINUTES OF JUNE 2, 2008. (Selectman Baschnagel abstained from the vote).**

**9. ADMINISTRATIVE REPORTS.**

Ms. Griffin will be providing the Board with goals and objectives for the coming year in the near future and she asked the Board to think about when they would like to discuss these.

Ms. Griffin provided the Board with an update on the NH Retirement System impacts. She stated that the final Bill that was passed results in a very limited impact on residents next year. The General Fund increase is \$24,000 (.02 cents on the tax rate); the Fire Fund is \$2,000, Sewer Fund increase of \$1,200 and the Parking Fund increase of \$1,100 but the Retirement System is nowhere near fixed by this. In discussions with Senator Burling, she expressed concerns over getting hit hard with increases and the Bill that was passed was not the kind of fix that was recommended by the Committee. The Retirement System will continue to experience significant underfunding. This is a 5 year fix and she has concerns over long-term funding fixes which lose momentum over time. Vice Chairman Connolly asked if this legislation is good for 5 years and Ms. Griffin stated that this goes year to year.

Selectman Baschnagel noted that he recalled that the Trustees do not have fiduciary responsibilities and he was bothered by the impression that they did not perceive that there wasn't the same benchmark with regard to private fiduciaries. Ms. Griffin noted that there were concerns over the makeup of the Board lacking investment experience.

Ms. Griffin noted that they appointed a finance committee that is made up of independent financial seers that have the responsibility of determining the soundness of investments. She suspects there will be efforts in the fall to bring the House and Senate back together on this issue and she will keep the Board updated.

## **10. SELECTMEN'S REPORTS.**

### **Kate Connolly**

Vice Chairman Connolly reported that the Planning Board is still working on the Route 120 parking facility as part of the Dartmouth Parking Facility on the Trumbull Nelson property.

The Planning Board approved a 35,000 sq. ft. building on Currier Place with parking behind. There was another meeting where they were working on site plan regulations to match subdivision regulations.

Vice Chairman Connolly reported that there was a site plan waiver submitted for Irving Oil Blue Canoe which was not granted for changes to the signs and parking and they may be up for site plan review. Zoning does not allow lighting from inside the sign but does allow lighting from outside.

### **Bill Baschnagel**

Selectman Baschnagel reported that the Conservation Commission discussed the Girl Brook Reclamation project which should get underway shortly.

The Parking and Transportation Board discussed the budget and they appear to meet their budget requirements.

Board of Selectmen  
June 23, 2008

The Transportation and Management Association had a meeting to go over FY09 work plans where outreach and support will continue to be the focus. They also published a mobility checklist which will be handed out to area Planning Boards.

Ms. Griffin noted that Lyme and Plainfield have asked Van Chesnut for pricing for shuttle services in those communities. Vice Chairman Connolly noted that Advance Transit is dealing with standing room only conditions on the buses. Selectman Baschnagel noted that they are in line to get 7 more buses.

Selectman Baschnagel advised that there is a \$40,000 contract to review and update the scheduling and review of bus riders to determine needs, etc.

**Athos Rassias**

Selectman Rassias reported that there was a Howe Library meeting last week and they reviewed the new website which should be live June 30<sup>th</sup>. They also spent time reviewing self governance issues with the Trustees.

**Brian Walsh**

Chairman Walsh reported that on June 30<sup>th</sup> from 2 – 3 p.m. Senator Gregg will be holding office hours at the Town Office.

**11. OTHER BUSINESS.**

There was no Other Business reported.

**12. ADJOURNMENT.**

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

**THE BOARD VOTED UNANIMOUSLY TO ADJOURN THE MEETING AT 9:55 P.M.**

Respectfully Submitted,

Athos Rassias, Secretary

Minutes prepared by Elizabeth S. Rathburn.

**SUMMARY**

1. **Selectman Baschnagel MOVED to accept the FY2008-2009 Rates and Fee Schedule as proposed. Vice Chairman Connolly SECONDED the motion.**

**THE BOARD VOTED UNANIMOUSLY IN FAVOR OF ACCEPTING THE FY2008-2009 RATES AND FEES SCHEDULE.**

2. **Vice Chairman Connolly MOVED to accept the recommendations of the Hanover Advisory Board of Assessors. Selectman Baschnagel SECONDED the motion.**

**THE BOARD VOTED UNANIMOUSLY TO ACCEPT THE RECOMMENDATIONS OF THE HANOVER ADVISORY BOARD OF ASSESSORS.**

3. **Vice Chairman Connolly MOVED to approve the issuance of the 2008 Dog Warrant. Selectman Baschnagel SECONDED the motion.**

**THE BOARD VOTED UNANIMOUSLY TO APPROVE THE ISSUANCE OF THE 2008 DOG WARRANT.**

4. **Chairman Walsh MOVED to accept the sewer abatement request. Vice Chairman Connolly SECONDED the motion.**

**THE BOARD VOTED UNANIMOUSLY IN FAVOR OF ACCEPTING THE SEWER ABATEMENT REQUEST.**

5. **Vice Chairman Connolly MOVED to approve the Minutes of June 2, 2008. Selectman Rassias SECONDED the motion.**

**THE BOARD VOTED 3 IN FAVOR, 0 OPPOSED AND 1 ABSTAINED TO APPROVE THE MINUTES OF JUNE 2, 2008. (Selectman Baschnagel abstained from the vote).**

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

**THE BOARD VOTED UNANIMOUSLY TO ADJOURN THE MEETING AT 9:55 P.M.**

FINAL

**BOARD OF SELECTMEN'S MEETING**

**June 2, 2008**

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

The meeting of the Board of Selectmen was called to order at 7:30 p.m. by Chairman Brian Walsh. Present were: Brian Walsh, Chairman; Katherine Connolly, Vice Chairman; Peter Christie, Selectman; Athos Rassias, Selectman; and Julia Griffin, Town Manager. Absent: Bill Baschnagel, Selectman.

**1. PUBLIC COMMENT.**

Chairman Walsh noted that there is no one present for public comment.

**2. RECOMMENDATION TO SET A PUBLIC HEARING ON JUNE 23, 2008 FOR CONSIDERATION AND APPROVAL OF MODIFICATIONS TO THE FY2008-2009 RATES AND FEE SCHEDULE.**

**Vice Chairman Connolly MOVED to set a public hearing on June 23, 2008 for consideration and approval of modifications to the FY2008-2009 Rates and Fee Schedule. Selectman Christie SECONDED the motion.**

**THE BOARD VOTED UNANIMOUSLY TO SET A PUBLIC HEARING ON JUNE 23, 2008 FOR CONSIDERATION AND APPROVAL OF MODIFICATIONS TO THE FY2008-2009 RATES AND FEE SCHEDULE.**

**3. LEGISLATIVE UPDATE.**

Ms. Griffin reported that the Committee of Conference met last Tuesday regarding the NH Retirement System Bill. There were significant differences between the House version and the Senate version of this Bill.

Ms. Griffin gave an overview of the members on the Committee of Conference and noted that the LGC requested members to sit at the meeting due to the expected large volume of participants. Ms. Griffin noted that she was unable to attend the meeting but was kept updated.

Ms. Griffin stated that one outstanding issue is the final year of salary which becomes the base for which the calculation for retirement is settled. The original amount was 150% of the final year salary and historically employees boost their salaries by working overtime in their last year. The Local Government Center felt that anything over 100% of the employee's salary was unacceptable. The concern is that when employees retire at a higher rate, they use up more of the retirement benefit cash. The Committee of Conference was in session until 1:30 a.m. and then the House walked out. There was a lot of activity over the weekend and they are back in session now. Ms. Griffin stated that the latest update indicated that it was not looking good for employers. Ms. Griffin stated that there really needs to be a Bill passed this year otherwise it

will hit the Towns harder next year. There are enough areas of concern with this Bill that some Towns feel that having nothing pass is better than what is proposed.

The deadline for all Committees of Conference was Friday at 6 p.m. Ms. Griffin noted that this has been an extremely stressful time in Concord. Senator Burling felt that there was too much for employers and not enough for employees and there is substantive disagreement as to what to do with this issue. Ms. Griffin stated that she shared with Senator Burling her concerns over the impacts of next year's budget for the taxpayers if there is a \$350,000 increase in the Retirement contribution in addition to the other impacts including the new jail. Ms. Griffin stated that she would forward the Board the latest Legislative Update. Ms. Griffin spoke with Representative Nordgren who stated that the House was not happy with the Senate over this issue.

Chairman Walsh stated that he spoke with Senator Burling and the Senator voiced his appreciation for the work that Ms. Griffin had been doing on this over the weekend.

Ms. Griffin stated that she would outline for the Board a list of pros and cons for the employers. Chairman Walsh felt that the Local Government Center should provide material that is easy to understand outlining the entire process and what happened. Ms. Griffin stated that she could envision a table published in the paper that breaks down each step of this process and the impacts. Ms. Griffin noted that the Valley News has done very little to cover this issue.

**4. BANNER REQUESTS:**  
- American Diabetes Association

Ms. Griffin stated that there are two requests: one from the American Diabetes Association and then a late coming request from the Howe Library Trustees. The request to use the small banners by the Howe Library will be split between the Howe Library and the Farmer's Market.

**Vice Chairman Connolly MOVED to approve the banner requests of the American Diabetes Association and the Howe Library. Selectman Christie SECONDED the motion.**

**THE BOARD VOTED UNANIMOUSLY IN FAVOR OF APPROVING THE BANNER REQUESTS OF THE AMERICAN DIABETES ASSOCIATION AND THE HOWE LIBRARY.**

**5. APPROVAL OF MINUTES:**  
- May 13 and 19, 2008

**Vice Chairman Connolly MOVED to approve the Minutes of May 13, 2008 with one minor change. Selectman Rassias SECONDED the motion.**

**THE BOARD VOTED 3 IN FAVOR TO APPROVE THE MINUTES OF MAY 13, 2008 AS AMENDED, 1 ABSTAINED.** Chairman Walsh abstained from the vote.

**Vice Chairman Connolly MOVED to approve the Minutes of May 19, 2008 with minor changes. Selectman Rassias SECONDED the motion.**

**THE BOARD VOTED 3 IN FAVOR, 1 ABSTAINED APPROVING THE MINUTES FOR MAY 19, 2008.** Selectman Christie abstained from the vote.

**6. ADMINISTRATIVE REPORTS.**

Ms. Griffin stated that she is leaving Friday for Tufts University this week for her Natural Step workshop. She is hopeful that she will return to work on mapping out workshops this fall. The following Wednesday she will leave to go to Portsmouth for the Municipal Association annual conference.

Ms. Griffin stated that she is working on finishing up the CIP this week.

**7. SELECTMEN'S REPORTS.**

**Peter Christie**

Selectman Christie reported that the Finance Committee met (both the Hanover and Dresden members) and had a special review of Special Education with how it works and how it's funded. They have already started to plan for next year's budget looking at budget guidelines, etc.

**Kate Connolly**

Vice Chairman Connolly reported that the Planning Board met and discussed the creation of a new duct bank between Leverone and Thompson Arena. She reported the new building in back of the stadium is heating up the area with a leak in the steam conduit but with the upgrades, it should benefit everyone.

Vice Chairman Connolly also reported that the Planning Board adjusted block lines near Currier Place and reviewed a draft of a new commercial building in that area. Rivercrest continues with discussions about roundabouts, traffic, exits, and entrance discussions.

**Athos Rassias**

Selectman Rassias had nothing new to report.

**Brian Walsh**

Chairman Walsh reported that he observed a new roundabout in New Castle and Rye.

Vice Chairman Connolly added that the first of many Farmer's Markets will take place this Wednesday 3p.m. to 6 p.m. at the top of the Parking Garage.

Board of Selectmen  
June 2, 2008

**8. OTHER BUSINESS.**

There was no Other Business reported.

**9. ADJOURNMENT.**

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

**THE BOARD VOTED UNANIMOUSLY TO ADJOURN THE MEETING AT 8:05 P.M.**

Respectfully Submitted,

Athos Rassias, Secretary

Minutes prepared by Elizabeth S. Rathburn.



**SUMMARY**

1. **Vice Chairman Connolly MOVED to set a public hearing on June 23, 2008 for consideration and approval of modifications to the FY2008-2009 Rates and Fee Schedule. Selectman Christie SECONDED the motion.**

**THE BOARD VOTED UNANIMOUSLY TO SET A PUBLIC HEARING ON JUNE 23, 2008 FOR CONSIDERATION AND APPROVAL OF MODIFICATIONS TO THE FY2008-2009 RATES AND FEE SCHEDULE.**

2. **Vice Chairman Connolly MOVED to approve the banner requests of the American Diabetes Association and the Howe Library. Selectman Christie SECONDED the motion.**

**THE BOARD VOTED UNANIMOUSLY IN FAVOR OF APPROVING THE BANNER REQUESTS OF THE AMERICAN DIABETES ASSOCIATION AND THE HOWE LIBRARY.**

3. **Vice Chairman Connolly MOVED to approve the Minutes of May 13, 2008 with one minor change. Selectman Rassias SECONDED the motion.**

**THE BOARD VOTED 3 IN FAVOR TO APPROVE THE MINUTES OF MAY 13, 2008 AS AMENDED, 1 ABSTAINED. Chairman Walsh abstained from the vote.**

4. **Vice Chairman Connolly MOVED to approve the Minutes of May 19, 2008 with minor changes. Selectman Rassias SECONDED the motion.**

**THE BOARD VOTED 3 IN FAVOR, 1 ABSTAINED APPROVING THE MINUTES FOR MAY 19, 2008. Selectman Christie abstained from the vote.**

5. **Vice Chairman Connolly MOVED to adjourn the meeting. Selectman Christie SECONDED the motion.**

**THE BOARD VOTED UNANIMOUSLY TO ADJOURN THE MEETING AT 8:05 P.M.**

FINAL

**BOARD OF SELECTMEN'S MEETING**

**May 19, 2008**

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

**1. PUBLIC COMMENT.**

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

**2. BOARD OF SELECTMEN ORGANIZATIONAL MEETING OF 2008-2009.**

**Vice Chairman Connolly NOMINATED Brian Walsh as Chairman of the Select Board for another year. Selectman Rassias SECONDED the motion.**

**THE BOARD VOTED IN FAVOR OF THE NOMINATION AND BRIAN WALSH WAS RE-APPOINTED AS CHAIRMAN OF THE SELECT BOARD.**

**Chairman Walsh NOMINATED Kate Connolly to serve as Vice Chairman of the Select Board. Selectman Rassias SECONDED the motion.**

**THE BOARD VOTED IN FAVOR OF THE NOMINATION AND KATE CONNOLLY WAS RE-APPOINTED AS VICE CHAIRMAN OF THE SELECT BOARD.**

**Vice Chairman Connolly NOMINATED Athos Rassias as Secretary. Chairman Walsh SECONDED the motion.**

**THE BOARD VOTED IN FAVOR OF THE NOMINATION AND ATHOS RASSIAS WAS RE-APPOINTED AS SECRETARY.**

Chairman Walsh wanted to remove the Task Meeting Task Force. Vice Chairman Connolly asked if they could just re-affirm the liaison appointments from 2007. Chairman Walsh was willing to do this with a note that if Selectman Christie or Selectman Baschnagel wanted to make a change, they could take that up at the next meeting they are in attendance.

Ms. Griffin pointed out that Peter Christie is now serving on the Hanover Water Works Board which is a change from last year.

**Vice Chairman Connolly MOVED to re-affirm the liaison appointments from the previous year noting that Selectman Christie now serves on the Hanover Water Works Board and if**

**either Selectman Christie or Selectman Baschnagel wishes to make a change, they may do so at a future meeting. Selectman Rassias SECONDED the motion.**

**THE BOARD VOTED UNANIMOUSLY TO RE-AFFIRM THE LIAISON APPOINTMENTS FROM THE PREVIOUS YEAR NOTING THAT SELECTMAN CHRISTIE NOW SERVES ON THE HANOVER WATER WORKS BOARD AND IF EITHER SELECTMAN CHRISTIE OR SELECTMAN BASCHNAGEL WISHES TO MAKE A CHANGE, THEY MAY DO SO AT A FUTURE MEETING.**

### **3. TOWN MEETING RECAP.**

Ms. Griffin reported that one of the issues at Town Meeting was the sound system and felt that some experiments need to be done. Although the Town tried to save some money by not hiring John DeGange; it was probably a large mistake. Also, she received a suggestion from Wayne Gersen offering the auditorium for the Business Meeting portion of Town Meeting noting a better sound system and more comfortable chairs.

Vice Chairman Connolly asked if that auditorium would be big enough. Ms. Griffin stated that it is large enough and believes that the capacity is about 750 people and noted that it is rare that they get that many in attendance for the business portion of the meeting.

Ms. Griffin asked the Board to think about what they feel would work best. There were several complaints especially from the older folks. Vice Chairman Connolly noted that there was one question that she did not hear due to the sound system.

Ms. Griffin stated that it was a very good Town Meeting and the improvements to the Water Reclamation Facility which was approved at the meeting will be coming before the Board to determine where they will get the most 'bang for the buck'.

Vice Chairman Connolly felt that the extensive presentations done ahead of time helped the project pass through. Ms. Griffin was surprised that the Resolution passed without discussion.

Chairman Walsh reported that the Americans For Campaign Reform had a dinner that night honoring Warren Rudman who is one of their Honorary Chairs. It was held in Manchester and there were about 350 people from around the country. The keynote speakers were former Senator Howard Baker and his wife, former Senator Nancy Kassebaum-Baker (both Republicans) and the room was 60% Republicans, 40% Democrats and Chairman Walsh stated that it was a fabulous evening honoring a great man and talking about important issues. Chairman Walsh stated that he was sad to miss Town Meeting but happy to be at this event.

### **4. DISCUSSION OF CHAMBER OF COMMERCE PARKING AND ZONING TASK FORCE REPORT.**

Chairman Walsh advised that they will move this item out until the June 23<sup>rd</sup> Board of Selectmen's meeting. Chairman Walsh also suggested that some statistics be prepared regarding the number of parking spaces available to the public and how many have been transferred to only private use over the last 10 years. Vice Chairman Connolly added that there should be some statistics regarding the public spaces that have been changed to leased spaces.

Chairman Walsh wanted to make it clear that at least one member of the Select Board isn't willing to continue to work hard to create new parking spaces as the business community or members of the business community take away spaces and the Town doesn't get anywhere.

Ms. Griffin provided a current status inventory list to Mr. Tom Byrne and the Board members.

## **5. 2011 ANNIVERSARY COMMITTEE UPDATE.**

Tom Byrne stated that he previously provided the Board with a paper regarding the creation of a committee in 1957 for a celebration 4 years later. The government changed in 1963 and there are all kinds of changes over the last 50 years and wondered what the Select Board's interest is in this event and whether they have had a chance to talk about it.

Chairman Walsh stated that although they have not talked about it much, they are enthusiastic about having a celebration of the Town's 250<sup>th</sup> birthday.

Mr. Byrne stated that there are some issues and that there does need to be an organization, someone in charge of the whole operation like Ed Latham was and on that committee there were Select Board members and a couple of historians as well. Mr. Byrne stated that as time goes by there would be the hiring of people to do certain tasks such as graphic design, etc. Right now research is being done to highlight events and as an example of what the book will be like, it will have a lot of pictures and a timeline of important events. There will be narrative paragraphs regarding certain developments. The Committee currently consists of Jack DeGange, Jay Barrett, Jim Varnum, Willy Black, Sylvia Nelson, Perry Clark and Mr. Byrne. There are small expenses in making copies at the Howe Library so it would help if something could be worked out to get some copying service by the 2010 budget, it will need to be determined how this book is going to be printed and how it will be funded. The hope is to sell the copies but what is the Town's role in that and should they try to find someone to fund it.

Mr. Byrne noted that other Towns have celebrations around this time because they were all founded within 7 days of each other up and down the river. Mr. Byrne stated that they will be unable to rely solely on volunteers because people are so busy.

Ms. Griffin stated that as the Committee continues their work on this project, it would be helpful if they provided the Town with a funding request in conjunction with the 2009-2010 budget. Mr. Byrne stated that Dartmouth College President Jim Wright was interested in the project although he will not be in office then. The College had a large role in the celebration 50 years ago. Mr. Byrne stated that the idea of having the Boston Pops come up to have a concert on Memorial Field (rain or shine) but this will require a big deposit ahead of time. He would like to find

someone to take charge of the whole event, pulling together Parks and Recreation, etc. The research alone will be a lot of work.

Chairman Walsh asked if there have been any volunteers looking to take over the project. Mr. Byrne stated that they haven't picked anyone specifically and continue with their work on the book project. Mr. Byrne did have some people in mind.

Ms. Griffin encouraged Mr. Byrne to have people e-mail her with people that they might have in mind for this position.

Chairman Walsh suggested that if there are various groups in the community that are interested in celebrating the 250<sup>th</sup>, they could work with the Valley News to get the interest going in this project even if it is 3 years away.

Mr. Byrne stated that a lot of good stuff was written 50 years ago and 100 years ago. Chairman Walsh felt that there was a special opportunity for someone, perhaps a student, to help gather the history of the past 50 years.

Mr. Byrne felt that there would be some great opportunities to work with some maps and on-line resources to show the changes to the landscape over the last 50 years. Vice Chairman Connolly suggested including The Hood Museum in some of these discussions.

Ms. Griffin stated that she should be able to work out free copying at The Howe and at the Town Office.

Chairman Walsh extended thanks to Mr. Byrne and the committee for all of their work.

**6. RECOMMENDATION TO ADOPT ABATEMENTS AS PROPOSED BY THE ADVISORY BOARD OF ASSESSORS.**

Chairman Walsh invited Mr. Ryan to speak to the Board regarding the recommendations. Mike Ryan, Director of Assessing, stated that these recommendations are to correct some errors in assessing.

Chairman Walsh asked who was at the meeting on the Advisory Board of Assessors. Mr. Ryan stated that Kate Connolly, Xenia Heaton and Paul Young were in attendance at the meeting and Mr. Birnie was absent. Chairman Walsh asked if the recommendations were unanimous and Mr. Ryan stated that they were.

**Vice Chairman Connolly MOVED to accept the recommendations to adopt abatements as proposed by the Advisory Board of Assessors. Selectman Rassias SECONDED.**

**THE BOARD VOTED 3 IN FAVOR, 0 OPPOSED TO ACCEPT THE RECOMMENDATIONS TO ADOPT ABATEMENTS AS PROPOSED BY THE ADVISORY BOARD OF ASSESSORS.**

**7. DISCUSSION REGARDING PROPOSED COUNTY BUDGET.**

Ms. Griffin stated that there is a three layer analysis of the County budget. The staff presents their proposed budget to the County Commissioners and then makes any modifications to pass on. Then it goes to the Executive Committee of the County delegation which is made up of a handful of representatives from Grafton County who agree to serve on the Committee. They were going to have the public hearing today and will then meet to make any additional changes to the proposed budget which will then go to the full Delegation for a vote at the end of June.

Ms. Griffin stated that it appears that less than half the County delegation votes on budget because it is always at the very end of the Legislative sessions in Concord and they are always very busy with State business so the County budget tends to be more of an afterthought for them. If the Board wishes to pass along any concerns that they see with the County budget, now would be the time to pass those concerns along.

Vice Chairman Connolly noted that she has worked the figures and keeps coming up with a \$3 million increase versus a \$1.5 million increase. Ms. Griffin stated that it was a combination of an increase in the operating budget and a reduced reliance on undesignated fund balance to balance the budget. Ms. Griffin stated that she would know more after the hearing today. It is her understanding that they are considering revisiting the Grafton County Jail bond vote. Ms. Griffin expects to hear from Representatives Sharon Nordgren and Bernie Benn looking for the Board's input.

Chairman Walsh asked about the difference in the \$1.7 million to be raised by taxes and the \$500,000 to increase the budget is \$1.2 million. Ms. Griffin stated that the largest obstacle in their budget is the reduction of surplus available to reduce taxes.

Ms. Griffin read the following statement from the Grafton County Commissioner's memo dated May 5, 2008: "As a result of increasing that surplus over the last fiscal years, we have significantly reduced the County's fund balance and will only be able to use \$1,525,000 this year to reduce taxes. This is a reduction of \$1,475,000 over last year and this accounts for 8.68% of the 9.89% increase in the amount to be raised by taxes in fiscal year 2009. The Commissioners have adopted a fund balance policy that states that we will endeavor to keep a fund balance of between 5% - 8% of our operating budget; we will be working toward meeting that goal annually." Ms. Griffin summarized that they are trying to limit their operating budget increase to 1.5% and reducing their undesignated fund balance.

Chairman Walsh noted that the County is just under 10% of the Hanover tax amounts. Ms. Griffin stated that they are going to see a significant increase in the County portion when the bond impact for the Jail kicks in. Ms. Griffin stated that the expanded staff significantly increases the operating budget.

**8. APPOINTMENTS:**

- Senior Citizen Advisory Committee
- Hanover Affordable Housing Commission

**Chairman Walsh MOVED to appoint Paul Olsen to serve on the Hanover Affordable Housing Commission and Shirley Montgomery to serve on the Senior Citizen Advisory Committee. Vice Chairman Connolly SECONDED the motion.**

**THE BOARD VOTED 3 IN FAVOR, 0 OPPOSED TO APPOINT PAUL OLSEN TO THE HANOVER AFFORDABLE HOUSING COMMISSION AND SHIRLEY MONTGOMERY TO THE SENIOR CITIZEN ADVISORY COMMITTEE.**

**9. APPROVAL OF MINUTES:**  
- May 5, 2008

**Vice Chairman Connolly MOVED to approve the Minutes of May 5, 2008. Selectman Rassias SECONDED the motion.**

**THE BOARD VOTED 2 IN FAVOR, 0 OPPOSED AND 1 ABSTAINED TO APPROVE THE MINUTES OF MAY 5, 2008.**

**10. ADMINISTRATIVE REPORTS.**

Ms. Griffin reported that the latest CPI increase for April was 4.8% and she presumes that it is mostly fuel costs and it is a whole percentage greater than the CPI in Boston.

Ms. Griffin stated that she will be attending Tufts University as part of the sustainability initiatives for the Town and was hoping to take another person with her and invited any of the Board members or Town staff to join her. It is \$2,275 per person for the Friday through Wednesday program. Chairman Walsh also suggested contacting Kevin Peterson at the NH Charitable Foundation to see if there is money to send a second person. Chairman Walsh suggested asking Len Cadwallader.

Ms. Griffin reported that the next draft of the CIP is almost done. Nancy Collier suggested another joint review of the CIP with the Select Board and Planning Board.

Chairman Walsh suggested having a meeting on June 23<sup>rd</sup>. Ms. Griffin stated that she would run this date by the Planning Board and Town staff.

Ms. Griffin stated that there will be a meeting on June 10<sup>th</sup> in Hartford Connecticut for the CT River Valley Transportation Corridor consisting of VT, NH, CT, and MA. Ms. Griffin stated that she e-mailed it to Len Cadwallader, Bill Barr, Bill Baschnagel and Van Chesnut. She is unable to be there but is hoping that someone else will be able to attend. Chairman Walsh asked that Ms. Griffin send the notice to Christine Walker.

## **11. SELECTMEN'S REPORTS**

### **Kate Connolly**

Vice Chairman Connolly reported that she attended a Planning Board meeting where they subdivided the Trumbull-Nelson property on Route 120 which will now go to site plan review for a large parking facility. This will also be reviewed by the Lebanon Planning Board and the Regional Planning Commission.

Vice Chairman Connolly reported that the Planning Board also approved the relocation of propane tanks and transformers on the South Block Project. The Churches' property hotel was not heard because they found some sort of petroleum contamination on the property so they are assessing the problem and their options.

Vice Chairman Connolly stated that the proposed use of a well on Chase field was revoked and the fields are being rebuilt. Ms. Griffin stated that the College is providing the Board with all the water saving measures that they have already implemented as part of the re-build.

Selectman Rassias asked about the Trumbull-Nelson project. He would like the traffic reviewed in that intersection and specifically bicycle traffic coming out of the Jesse's lot. Vice Chairman noted that a traffic study would also be required. Ms. Griffin noted that the intersection of Medical Center Drive and Route 120 is handled by the State. She felt that an e-mail description or a drawing would be helpful to forward on to DOT District 2 to try to address the issues in conjunction with the Trumbull-Nelson approval. Vice Chairman Connolly also suggested giving that information to the Planning Board.

Chairman Walsh noted that there were previous plans for the bicycle paths on Route 120 toward the hospital which dealt with this question and this should be part of the conversations with the State. Ms. Griffin stated that there was an alternative bike path that came out of the cul-de-sac below David's House which brought riders out to the East side of Route 120. Ms. Griffin recalled that the hospital said no to the easements for the bike path in that area. Chairman Walsh noted that this bicycle route issue has been a problem for the last 15 years and would like to see a solution.

### **Athos Rassias**

Selectman Rassias had nothing to report.

### **Brian Walsh**

Chairman Walsh reported that the Chamber of Commerce had a Board meeting this week.

## **12. OTHER BUSINESS.**

Chairman Walsh asked for Other Business. There was no Other Business reported.



Board of Selectmen  
May 19, 2008

**13. ADJOURNMENT.**

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

**THE BOARD VOTED 3 IN FAVOR OF ADJOURNING THE MEETING AT 8:45 P.M.**

Respectfully Submitted,

Athos Rassias, Secretary

Minutes prepared by Elizabeth S. Rathburn.

**SUMMARY**

1. **Vice Chairman Connolly NOMINATED Brian Walsh as Chairman of the Select Board for another year. Selectman Rassias SECONDED the motion.**

**THE BOARD VOTED IN FAVOR OF THE NOMINATION AND BRIAN WALSH WAS RE-APPOINTED AS CHAIRMAN OF THE SELECT BOARD.**

2. **Chairman Walsh NOMINATED Kate Connolly to serve as Vice Chairman of the Select Board. Selectman Rassias SECONDED the motion.**

**THE BOARD VOTED IN FAVOR OF THE NOMINATION AND KATE CONNOLLY WAS RE-APPOINTED AS VICE CHAIRMAN OF THE SELECT BOARD.**

3. **Vice Chairman Connolly NOMINATED Athos Rassias as Secretary. Chairman Walsh SECONDED the motion.**

**THE BOARD VOTED IN FAVOR OF THE NOMINATION AND ATHOS RASSIAS WAS RE-APPOINTED AS SECRETARY.**

4. **Vice Chairman Connolly MOVED to re-affirm the liaison appointments from the previous year noting that Selectman Christie now serves on the Hanover Water Works Board and if either Selectman Christie or Selectman Baschnagel wishes to make a change, they may do so at a future meeting. Selectman Rassias SECONDED the motion.**

**THE BOARD VOTED UNANIMOUSLY TO RE-AFFIRM THE LIAISON APPOINTMENTS FROM THE PREVIOUS YEAR NOTING THAT SELECTMAN CHRISTIE NOW SERVES ON THE HANOVER WATER WORKS BOARD AND IF EITHER SELECTMAN CHRISTIE OR SELECTMAN BASCHNAGEL WISHES TO MAKE A CHANGE, THEY MAY DO SO AT A FUTURE MEETING.**

5. **Vice Chairman Connolly MOVED to accept the recommendations to adopt abatements as proposed by the Advisory Board of Assessors. Selectman Rassias SECONDED.**

**THE BOARD VOTED 3 IN FAVOR, 0 OPPOSED TO ACCEPT THE RECOMMENDATIONS TO ADOPT ABATEMENTS AS PROPOSED BY THE ADVISORY BOARD OF ASSESSORS.**

6. **Chairman Walsh MOVED to appoint Paul Olsen to serve on the Hanover Affordable Housing Commission and Shirley Montgomery to serve on the Senior Citizen Advisory Committee. Vice Chairman Connolly SECONDED the motion.**

**THE BOARD VOTED 3 IN FAVOR, 0 OPPOSED TO APPOINT PAUL OLSEN TO THE HANOVER AFFORDABLE HOUSING COMMISSION AND SHIRLEY MONTGOMERY TO THE SENIOR CITIZEN ADVISORY COMMITTEE.**

7. **Vice Chairman Connolly MOVED to approve the Minutes of May 5, 2008. Selectman Rassias SECONDED the motion.**

**THE BOARD VOTED 2 IN FAVOR, 0 OPPOSED AND 1 ABSTAINED TO APPROVE THE MINUTES OF MAY 5, 2008.**

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

**THE BOARD VOTED 3 IN FAVOR OF ADJOURNING THE MEETING AT 8:45 P.M.**

**FINAL**

**2008 TOWN MEETING  
TOWN OF HANOVER  
Tuesday, May 13, 2008  
Hanover High School Gymnasium**

The annual Town Meeting of the Town of Hanover, New Hampshire convened on May 13, 2008 at 7 a.m. by the Town Moderator, Marilyn “Willy” Black, at the Hanover High 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 Eight of the Town Meeting Warrant.

**ARTICLE ONE:** To vote (by nonpartisan ballot) for the following Town Officers:

Two Selectmen, each to serve for a term of three (3) years;

Peter Christie	462 (Re-elected)
Brian F. Walsh	482 (Re-elected)
Write-ins	7

One Moderator to serve for a term of two (2) years;

Marilyn “Willy” Black	486
Write-ins	3

One Treasurer to serve for a term of one (1) year;

Michael J. Ahern	
Write-ins	45

One Library Trustee to serve for a term of three (3) years;

Jean Keene (Write-in)	40
Other Write-ins	34

One Supervisor of the Checklist to serve for a term of two (2) years;

Linda McWilliams	468
------------------	-----

One Supervisor of the Checklist to serve for a term of six (6) years;

Elaine Hawthorne	476
Write-ins	1

One Trustee of Trust Funds to serve for a term of three (3) years.

Paul Gardent	444
Write-ins	2

**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 Hanover Planning Board for the Hanover Zoning Ordinance as follows?”

Amendment No. 1 would amend Section 201.1, Accessory Uses, to add “RO” to the list of zoning districts where a setback for noisy institutional use is required.

At a Public Hearing held February 26, 2008, the Hanover Planning Board voted unanimously to recommend that Town Meeting adopt this zoning amendment.

**RESULTS: YES 457 NO 80 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 Hanover Planning Board for the Hanover Zoning Ordinance as follows?”

Amendment No. 2 would amend Section 232, Noise Standards, to include noise limits for the testing of electrical generators.

At a Public Hearing held February 26, 2008, the Hanover Planning Board voted unanimously to recommend that Town Meeting adopt this zoning amendment.

**RESULTS: YES 438 NO 101 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 Hanover Planning Board for the Hanover Zoning Ordinance as follows?”

Amendment No. 3 would add “Institutional Dining Facility” as a new use permitted by Special Exception in the Institutional Zoning District, would define this term, and would set forth parking requirements relative to the number of persons employed in the facility.

At a Public Hearing held April 1, 2008, the Hanover Planning Board voted unanimously to recommend that Town Meeting adopt this zoning amendment.

**RESULTS: YES 454 NO 75 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 Hanover Planning Board for the Hanover Zoning Ordinance as follows?”

Amendment No. 4 would add a new Section 408, Parking and Transportation Demand Management Plan Option, to enable parking requirements to be satisfied by a parking and transportation demand management program that could include off-site parking, shuttle service, use of public transit, ride-sharing, pedestrian and bicycle commuting, and other alternatives to required on-site parking.

At a Public Hearing held April 1, 2008, the Hanover Planning Board voted 6:1 to recommend that Town Meeting adopt this zoning amendment.

**RESULTS: YES 436 NO 95 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 Hanover Planning Board for the Hanover Zoning Ordinance as follows?”

Amendment No. 5 would amend Section 212, Inclusionary Housing, to provide traditional and open-space subdivisions and multi-family developments with the same bonus-density allowances now available only in Planned Residential Developments.

At a Public Hearing held April 1, 2008, the Hanover Planning Board voted unanimously to recommend that Town Meeting adopt this zoning amendment.

**RESULTS: YES 408 NO 118 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 Hanover Planning Board for the Hanover Zoning Ordinance as follows?”

Amendment No. 6 would amend Section 702, Wetland, Water Body, and Intermittent Stream Protection and other relevant sections of the Zoning Ordinance regarding wetland, water body, and intermittent stream protection, to increase the applicability of administrative permits to smaller projects, to refine the criteria for wetlands special exceptions, to permit seasonal docks without the need for a special exception, to allow a special exception to be granted from dimensional setback requirements; and to update relevant map references and definitions.

At a Public Hearing held April 1, 2008, the Hanover Planning Board voted unanimously to recommend that Town Meeting adopt this zoning amendment.

**RESULTS: YES 336 NO 207 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 Hanover Planning Board for the Hanover Zoning Ordinance as follows?”

Amendment No. 7 would amend Section 1001.1, to specify that only an alteration of a building or structure which would result in a change of its use or an expansion of its footprint or volume would necessitate a Zoning Permit and that only an increase in a sign’s size or the introduction of lighting would necessitate a Zoning Permit.

At a Public Hearing held February 26, 2008, the Hanover Planning Board voted unanimously to recommend that Town Meeting adopt this zoning amendment.

**RESULTS: YES 465 NO 78 ARTICLE PASSED**

#### **BUSINESS MEETING**

Moderator Black started the meeting and introduced the Ray School 5<sup>th</sup> Grade Band who performed *My Country Tis of Thee*. Moderator Black noted that this is the first year that these children have held an instrument in their hand and the first time they have ever played together.

Moderator Black introduced the members of the Board of Selectmen and the Department Heads and Town Staff.

Moderator Black invited Lyn Swett-Miller, Chair of the Recycling Committee to speak to the audience. Lyn Swett-Miller made the following statement:

“Thank you Willy! We are incredibly fortunate to have so many citizens actively working to ensure a healthy, sustainable community here in Hanover. Clearly, we have our elected officials, but we also have numerous voluntary groups who harness their energies to promote positive changes to support our community and beyond. There is the Climate Projection Campaign promoting no idling and energy efficiency in our town, the Kids for a Cooler Upper Valley promoting the "Green Bag" Project, there is the Conservation Council and Commission with their numerous activities on behalf of the land, and there are countless creative others taking action every day.

I am here to represent the Hanover Recycling Committee, which has recently been reconstituted as the Hanover Sustainability committee. To celebrate this evolution, we are introducing another campaign.

The tag line is: Refill, don't landfill.

The project: A special offer to promote a Hanover Re-usable water bottle - Although not in from the manufacturer, the bottles will be green with the Hanover logo printed in white. They have been funded by contributions from the sustainability committee and will be offered at the break-even price of \$5 each.

So, the question of the day: What in Hanover can you do 1,563 times for just \$1.00? You can fill a 12 ounce bottle with municipal **tap** water. Why pay \$1.50 or more for a single-use, potentially toxic plastic water container, when you can re-use a non-toxic re-fillable container **1,563 times for \$1.00?**

As our information sheet suggests, each year Americans send about 38 billion plastic water bottles to landfills. Producing all of these bottles required more than 17 million barrels of oil last year - that is enough oil to fuel more than 1 million cars for a year and generated more than 2.5 tons of carbon dioxide. **Let's be part of a solution, not the problem. Make a difference - Go to the tap.”**

Moderator Black went over the general rules of Town Meeting and asked the audience if the motions could be read once. The audience voted in favor of this by a show of hands.

**ARTICLE NINE:** To choose the following Town Officers to be elected by a majority vote:

**Selectman Baschnagel 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; Joe Roberto; Three Fence Viewers, each for a term of one (1) year; Edward Lathem, William Garrity, and Robert Morris; 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 Vice Chairman Connolly.**



There was no discussion on Article Nine. **The motion passed and the nominees were ELECTED.**

**ARTICLE TEN:** To see if the Town will vote to raise and appropriate \$6,000,000 for the construction of wastewater treatment system improvements and replacement of obsolete treatment processing equipment at the Water Reclamation Facility as identified and recommended in an engineering report prepared in Fall 2006; and to authorize issuance of not more than \$6,000,000 of bonds or notes in accordance with the provisions of the New Hampshire Municipal Finance Act, RSA 33, and to take all action as may be necessary to carry out the purpose of this vote. Borrowing such sum through the issuance of traditional bonds and notes will only be undertaken if sufficient funds are not available from the State Revolving Loan Fund, which is administered by the New Hampshire Department of Environmental Services. Funding for the debt service associated with the loan is paid for by wastewater rates paid by users of the wastewater system, and is not paid for by General Fund taxes. A two-thirds ballot vote is required.

**Selectman Christie MOVED that the Town vote to raise and appropriate \$6,000,000 for the construction of wastewater treatment system improvements and replacement of obsolete treatment processing equipment at the Water Reclamation Facility as identified and recommended in an engineering report prepared in Fall 2006; and to authorize issuance of not more than \$6,000,000 of bonds or notes in accordance with the provisions of the New Hampshire Municipal Finance Act, RSA 33, and to take all action as may be necessary to carry out the purpose of this vote. Borrowing such sum through the issuance of traditional bonds and notes will only be undertaken if sufficient funds are not available from the State Revolving Loan Fund, which is administered by the New Hampshire Department of Environmental Services. Funding for the debt service associated with the loan is paid for by wastewater rates paid by users of the wastewater system, and is not paid for by General Fund taxes. A two-thirds ballot vote is required. Selectman Baschnagel SECONDED the motion.**

Selectman Christie made the following statement at Town Meeting:

“This is the third (and hopefully last) year that we will be discussing significant needs at the Waste Water Treatment Plant (now affectionately known as the Hanover Water Reclamation Facility).

The plant was originally built in 1960, using primarily State and Federal funding. It was upgraded in 1988. Several years ago, which was about 15 years after that refurbishing; the Town started planning the next rebuild of the plant? With the help of an outside engineering consulting firm, the expertise of our Town staff, and oversight from the Select Board a renovation totaling \$14.3 million was decided on. The adopted plan accomplished all of the “must do” and “should do” items, but not all of the “would like to do” elements of the original proposal.

The total project has been tackled in three phases.

Phase one was \$4.7M and was part of the 2006/2007 budget. Phase two was \$ 2.1 M and was part of the 2007/2008 budget. These first two phases were funded from a State Revolving Loan, Capital Reserves, Water Reclamation Facility, Undesignated Fund Balances, and a user rate increase of 50%.

Phase three is \$7.4M and is part of the 2008/2009 budget, to be paid for with a proposed \$6M bond and with \$ 1.4M from remaining capital reserves and fund balances.

I think it will be helpful to address several questions that were asked at the Public Hearings:

First: The Water Reclamation Facility is funded exclusively through user fees and is not part of the General Fund.

Second: Phase three does not increase the capacity of the Plant. In 1988 the plant was permitted to handle 2.3 million gallons a day. All upgrades and renovations to date have been to allow us to successfully operate the plant at the permitted capacity. At the beginning of these latest projects, we could have targeted for lower than the permitted capacity, but that would have been both extremely short sighted and cost ineffective.

Point 3: The Water Reclamation Facility services both Hanover and parts of Lebanon.

The reason for supporting Lebanon is twofold:

- Water flows downhill and Lebanon's participation allows rates to be lower.
- The plant was originally sized to handle flow from the natural watershed that flows downhill to the plant. This includes parts of Lebanon along route 120 (namely Centerra and the Hospital), and north along Route 10. For Lebanon to have to pump that water over the mountain such that it could then flow downhill to their plant would cost Lebanon over \$10M in capital expense.

In addition, Lebanon pays approximately 30% of the cost of operating the plant thus saving the average Hanover household \$120 per year in fees.

Point 4: Rates will not need to be increased beyond their current levels. The rate increase put in place last year and implemented in the bills that went out earlier this month are adequate to support Phase three expenses, including the bond cost going forward.

We don't have many options relative to refurbishing the Plant. We are legally and morally obligated to properly treat waste flow before discharging it into the Connecticut River and the plant equipment has reached or will quickly reach the end of its useful life.

One area of flexibility that we do have involves how to fund this last phase. Tom Blinkhorn from the Hanover Finance Committee (thank you Tom), myself, Betsy, and Peter Kulbacki looked at many options. We concluded that a 15 year bond was the most attractive. By bonding the bulk of the remaining work, the Town has the full funding up front which will allow for a more logical and economic project. It will also match up who is paying and who is receiving the benefits – which were felt to be important. In addition, the market for this type of Bond is also very favorable at this time.

I hope you will support this bond issue - if for no other reason than not to have to hear me talk about it again next year – that in itself has got to be worth more than \$6M to you -- don't you think?"

Moderator Black asked the audience for any discussion on this Article.

Jim Aronson, lives in Etna, advised that he is a geology professor commended the efforts of the Hanover Recycling Committee. Mr. Aronson noted that he spoke with someone who recalled when no one could swim in the Connecticut River prior to upgrades to the facility. In 1988, changes were made and all of those investments in the past have paid us back many fold. One of the more serious issues is the degradation of the methane collection system. This makes this Article such a win-win situation. In a normal modern plant, there are digestives that work with the main solid part of the load and those digesters have to consume an enormous amount of energy. Mr. Aronson stated that everyone received the analysis from the Climate Protection Campaign that Charlie Sullivan put together. This analysis itemizes the carbon dioxide footprint for the 5 major municipal contributors.

Mr. Aronson went on to note that the Water Reclamation Facility accounts for 25% of the Town's carbon footprint which we are committed to reducing. Not included in the analysis is the greenhouse footprint. Mr. Aronson stated that methane is a very powerful greenhouse gas; 50 times by weight compared to carbon dioxide. There are two sides to the coin that made this such a win-win. If methane is used as the heat source for the digestives, right now we burn 30,000 gallons of fuel (which may cost \$4.00/gallon in the near future or \$120,000/year) and this can be largely replaced by the methane as proposed in Article 6. The footprint for the Water Reclamation Facility is 800 tons of carbon dioxide out of a total municipal output of 3,250 tons. When you figure in the methane which already has the benefit of replacing the fuel oil that adds another 3800 tons of carbon dioxide effect in terms of the greenhouse effect.

Mr. Aronson stated that the Iroquois has a principle for governing themselves 'in every deliberation, we must consider the impact of our decisions on the next 7 generations.' Mr. Aronson encouraged the voters to pass this Article.

Louis Sapir, Kendal, asked if there is an underwriter for this bond and does the underwriter give priority to those who live in Hanover.

Ms. Griffin referred the question to Betsy McClain. Ms. McClain stated that this is a State Revolving Fund which means that it is not traded on the open municipal bond market and so proceeds become available as previous recipients of loans make their payments.

Kim Perez, Etna, confirmed that this was a 15 year bond. Ms. Perez asked about the toxins from the hospital and the college and whether those flows are more expensive to treat and whether they are being billed appropriately for their use.

Mr. Kulbacki explained that they have an industrial treatment program in place and Lebanon also has one where they monitor discharges from large utilities and there are certain limits and a way to bill them for not meeting those limits.

Moderator Black asked for any other discussion. There was no further discussion on this Article and Moderator Black asked the audience to vote by ballot and the votes were collected.

**RESULTS: YES 130 NO 5 ARTICLE PASSED**

**ARTICLE ELEVEN:** 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 that the reports from the Selectmen, Town Clerk, Treasurer, Collector of Taxes and other Town Officers as printed in the 2007 Town Report be accepted, as well as any Special Resolutions. SECONDED by Vice Chairman Connolly.**

Moderator Black introduced Ned Wittington, Aileen Chaltain and Jill Polli for the presentation of the Recreation Volunteer of the Year.

Ned Wittington made the following presentation to Jill Polli, Recreation Volunteer of the Year:

“Get ready folks, because the Recipient of this year’s Volunteer Service Award may not be happy once she hears who is receiving it. I’m sure she will show *great polish and restraint* when she is called forward to accept this well deserved award...!

A *“behind the scenes kind of person who doesn’t need or want attention for her efforts, a tireless worker, a loyal and passionate advocate for the Rec. staff and its programs* is how this person is most often described by those who have worked with her. In short, she’s one of the quiet gems in our community.

I know you’d prefer that the award really go to Janet, as we said it would, but today is your day, **Jill Polli!** We’re so grateful for all you’ve done and while we know you’d

rather not be in the spotlight, it's time for you to step into the limelight for just a minute and let your community publicly thank you. I should tell you that probably 3 or 4 people were designated as decoys and Jill thought she was going to be presenting this award to someone else.

But you won't be completely alone up here... ***David, Eliza and Christian, come up and join us!***

Jill, as you can imagine, your family is so very proud of you two. They shared a few comments with me.

***"We're so proud of you. We know you love the Rec. Board and Hank and we've had fun participating in the events that you helped organize, like the games at Pond Party and the concessions at the Basketball Tournament. Love, David, Eliza, Christian."***

So, not only does the Rec. Department benefit from this quiet, unassuming whirlwind, she also brings a "one, two, three, punch" to the table in her husband David, her daughter Eliza, and her son, Christian. They are at her side every step of the way whether it be:

- manning the concession table at the Rec. Department Basketball tournament;
- helping run the games, and food, and whatever else Jill needs them to do at Pond Party;
- being the heart and soul of the Rec. Dept's Haunted House;
- being Jill's able assistants at the July 4<sup>th</sup> Parade;
- helping hand out water and keep runners on track at the annual Turkey Trot;
- selling T-shirts for Afghan Children's Fund;
- collecting donations and helping organize the Tsunami Relief and Alstead Flood efforts;
- and helping load the "Hurricane Katrina Relief Truck."

Jill has also felt her family's support when she filled in as Interim Reception/Right Hand Woman (in the early days of the RWBC!), when she went to meeting after meeting after meeting as a member of the Athletic Fields Committee, then again when she agreed to serve as the Rec. Board's liaison to the Dresden Athletic Advisory Committee. This, in addition to holding down two full time jobs -- as Mom and the *other one* that she gets paid for!

Hank Tenney, the Director of Parks and Recreation for the Town of Hanover, says about Jill...

***"It would not be possible to offer and provide a quality program, like we have, without volunteers like Jill. Jill burst on the scene and gave more than was asked in providing supervision at our dances, basketball tourney, special events and as a secretary when we were looking to fill a position. She always works to help make things better. In addition to all the activities she participated in, she showed this with her involvement in***

*working on the committee for the new facility at the school and staying involved as a parent coordinator for the many sports activities her children were involved in.*

*Without hesitation, the Polli family deserves this award. Giving this award to Jill is a small way of showing my appreciation for how much Jill and her family have done for the Town and the Recreation Department over these many years.*

Jill, in your own words, the Volunteer of the Year Award is an award to the person or group of people who have shown their love of community by volunteering on a regular basis, thereby forming the cornerstone of our recreation department that relies heavily on volunteer support in order to provide so many of the great special events that the Hanover Rec. Department is proud to sponsor. It is my honor to present the 2008 Hanover Parks & Recreation Board's Volunteer of the Year Award to you, Jill Polli!"

**ARTICLE TWELVE:** To see if the Town will vote to modify the elderly exemption from property tax in the Town of Hanover, based on assessed value, for qualified taxpayers, to be as follows: for a person 65 years of age up to 75 years, increase the exemption to \$80,000; for a person 75 years of age up to 80 years, increase the exemption to \$120,000; for a person 80 years of age or older, increase the exemption to \$165,000. To qualify, the person must have been a New Hampshire resident for at least 3 consecutive years, own the real estate individually or jointly, or if the real estate is owned by such person's spouse, they must have been married for at least 5 years. In addition, the taxpayer must have a net income of not more than \$32,000 or, if married, a combined net income of less than \$45,000; and own net assets not in excess of \$75,000 excluding the value of the person's residence. This article represents a recommended modification of the current exemption for the elderly of \$65,000 for a person 65 to 75 years of age, \$95,000 for a person 75 years of age up to 80, and \$130,000 for a person 80 years of age or older and would be effective April 1, 2008 for the 2008 tax year.

**Selectman Rassias MOVED that the Town vote to modify the elderly exemption from property tax in the Town of Hanover, based on assessed value, for qualified taxpayers, to be as follows: for a person 65 years of age up to 75 years, increase the exemption to \$80,000; for a person 75 years of age up to 80 years, increase the exemption to \$120,000; for a person 80 years of age or older, increase the exemption to \$165,000. To qualify, the person must have been a New Hampshire resident for at least 3 consecutive years, own the real estate individually or jointly, or if the real estate is owned by such person's spouse, they must have been married for at least 5 years. In addition, the taxpayer must have a net income of not more than \$32,000 or, if married, a combined net income of less than \$45,000; and own net assets not in excess of \$75,000 excluding the value of the person's residence. This article represents a recommended modification of the current exemption for the elderly of \$65,000 for a person 65 to 75 years of age, \$95,000 for a person 75 years of age up to 80, and \$130,000 for a person 80 years of age or older and would be effective April 1, 2008 for the 2008 tax year. SECONDED by Vice Chairman Connolly.**

Selectman Rassias explained the exemption based on NH State Law and that The Town of Hanover adopted at Town Meeting several years ago and last modified it in 2003.

**Moderator Black asked for a vote on Article Twelve. The motion PASSED and Article Twelve was ADOPTED as written.**

**ARTICLE THIRTEEN:** Shall we modify the exemption for the disabled? The exemption, based on assessed value, for qualified taxpayers shall be increased to \$165,000. To qualify, the person must have been a New Hampshire resident for at least 5 years and own and occupy the real estate individually or jointly, or if the real estate is owned by a spouse, they must have been married for at least 5 years. In addition, the taxpayer must have a net income of not more than \$26,000 or, if married, a combined net income of not more than \$35,000; and own net assets not in excess of \$75,000 excluding the value of the person's residence. This article represents a recommended modification of the current exemption for the disabled of \$130,000 and would be effective April 1, 2008 for the 2008 tax year.

**Selectman Rassias MOVED that the Town vote to modify the exemption for the disabled. The exemption, based on assessed value, for qualified taxpayers shall be increased to \$165,000. To qualify, the person must have been a New Hampshire resident for at least 5 years and own and occupy the real estate individually or jointly, or if the real estate is owned by a spouse, they must have been married for at least 5 years. In addition, the taxpayer must have a net income of not more than \$26,000 or, if married, a combined net income of not more than \$35,000; and own net assets not in excess of \$75,000 excluding the value of the person's residence. This article represents a recommended modification of the current exemption for the disabled of \$130,000 and would be effective April 1, 2008 for the 2008 tax year. SECONDED by Selectman Baschnagel.**

Selectman Rassias explained that the State Law allows exemptions as described in the motion.

**Moderator Black asked for a vote on Article Thirteen. The motion PASSED and Article Thirteen was ADOPTED as written.**

**ARTICLE FOURTEEN:** Shall we adopt the provisions of RSA 72:37 for the exemption for the blind from the assessed value of residential real estate for property tax purposes? This statute provides that every inhabitant who is legally blind shall be exempt each year, for property tax purposes, from the assessed value on a residence to the value of \$30,000. This article represents a recommended modification of the current exemption for the blind of \$25,000 and would be effective April 1, 2008 for the 2008 tax year.

**Selectman Rassias MOVED that the Town adopt the provisions of RSA 72:37 for the exemption for the blind from the assessed value of residential real estate for property tax purposes. This statute provides that every inhabitant who is legally blind shall be exempt each year, for property tax purposes, from the assessed value**

on a residence to the value of \$30,000. This article represents a recommended modification of the current exemption for the blind of \$25,000 and would be effective April 1, 2008 for the 2008 tax year. **SECONDED** by Vice Chairman Connolly.

**Moderator Black asked for a vote on Article Fourteen. The motion PASSED and Article Fourteen was ADOPTED as written.**

**ARTICLE FIFTEEN:** To see if the Town will vote to authorize the Board of Selectmen to accept from Dartmouth College a portion of property located on the easterly side of Grasse Road in Hanover (map 4, lot 10) according to such terms and conditions as the Board deems appropriate and reasonable; said portion of this property to consist of no more than 10.2 acres, to be used for recreation, affordable housing and/or conservation purposes.

**Vice Chairman Connolly MOVED that the Town vote to authorize the Board of Selectmen to accept from Dartmouth College a portion of property located on the easterly side of Grasse Road in Hanover (map 4, lot 10) according to such terms and conditions as the Board deems appropriate and reasonable; said portion of this property to consist of no more than 10.2 acres, to be used for recreation, affordable housing and/or conservation purposes. SECONDED by Selectman Baschnagel.**

Vice Chairman Connolly advised that this was part of a 1981 subdivision.

**Moderator Black asked for a vote on Article Fifteen. The motion PASSED and Article Fifteen was ADOPTED as written.**

Kim Perez, Etna, noted that there was a flyer that went to residents promoting energy efficiency and asked if the police department has looked at energy efficient vehicles for their fleet. Chief Giaccone noted that they are looking to replace two vehicles (Administrative and Detective cars) with hybrids but the core of the fleet will be gas powered vehicles. The MPG is 15 mpg which is greater than vehicles they are using now.

Bob Norman, supports Article Twenty, Building Maintenance and Improvement Capital Reserve Fund and feels that this initiative will help the Town take advantage of inventory that shows where the Town can see the most savings in future years.

Hilary Pridgen, asked about the four police cruisers and two sedans and whether this is 1/3 of the fleet or 1/4 of it and their scheduled replacement. It seems like a lot of vehicles to replace in one year. Ms. Griffin stated that they replace the cruisers every 3 years and the two administrative years every 6 years. Ms. Griffin added that it is her hope that in 3 years there will be a hybrid police cruiser package available on the open market. Ms. Pridgen asked whether it made sense to hold on to a couple of the police cruisers longer. Ms. Griffin stated that the maintenance for these high mileage, highly used vehicles costs the taxpayers much more than keeping them on the replacement rotation.



Miriam Osofsky encouraged voters to vote in favor of Article Twenty so that they are able to complete the improvements to Town buildings to increase energy efficiency.

Vice Chairman Connolly asked if the audience wished for her to read each item from Article Sixteen through Twenty-Two or whether they would prefer to simply vote on the Articles together. The audience chose not to have Vice Chairman Connolly read each Article but rather vote on all of them at the same time.

**ARTICLE SIXTEEN:** To see if the Town will vote to raise and appropriate \$6,750 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 2006-2007. 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.

**ARTICLE SEVENTEEN:** To see if the Town will vote to raise and appropriate \$6,750 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 2006-2007. 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.

**ARTICLE EIGHTEEN:** To see if the Town will vote to raise and appropriate \$1,124,910 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	\$ 44,000
Bridge Replacement and Renovation Capital Reserve Fund	\$ 60,000
Fire Department Vehicle and Equipment Capital Reserve Fund	\$105,500
Highway Construction and Maintenance Equipment Capital Reserve Fund	\$240,000
Parking Operations Vehicles and Parking Facility Improvements Capital Reserve Fund	\$ 22,160
Police Vehicles and Equipment Capital Reserve Fund	\$ 76,170
Sewer Equipment and Facilities Improvements Capital Reserve Fund	\$567,080
Town Revaluation Capital Reserve Fund	\$ 10,000

**ARTICLE NINETEEN:** To see if the Town will vote to raise and appropriate \$556,441 for the purposes listed below, and to authorize funding these amounts by withdrawal from the listed capital reserve funds in the following amounts:

Dispatch Equipment and Dispatch Center Enhancements Capital Reserve Fund <i>Dispatch Radio Console Upgrade</i>	\$ 20,000
Highway Construction and Maintenance Equipment Capital Reserve Fund <i>Sidewalk Tractor 03; Truck 09</i>	\$186,300
Police Vehicles and Equipment Capital Reserve Fund <i>Police Cruiser Fleet (4 cruisers; 2 sedans)</i>	\$221,500
Sewer Equipment and Facilities Improvements Capital Reserve Fund <i>Line Flusher; Truck #20224; Snowblower for Skidsteer</i>	\$128,641

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, 2012, whichever is sooner.

**ARTICLE TWENTY:** To see if the Town will vote to establish a Building Maintenance and Improvement Capital Reserve Fund under the provision of RSA 35:1 for preventive maintenance and energy efficiency initiatives to Town buildings, and to raise and appropriate \$50,000 to be placed in this fund towards this purpose.

**ARTICLE TWENTY-ONE:** To see if the Town will vote to raise and appropriate \$34,175 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 2006-2007.

**ARTICLE TWENTY-TWO:** To see if the Town will vote to raise and appropriate \$5,373 for partial funding of two projects proposed by the Bike and Pedestrian Committee, 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, VA and will not lapse until these projects are complete or June 30, 2012, whichever is sooner.

**Vice Chairman Connolly MOVED Articles Sixteen through Twenty-Two as written in the Town Warrant. Selectman Baschnagel SECONDED the motion. The motion PASSED and Articles Sixteen through Twenty-Two were ADOPTED as written.**

Vice Chairman Connolly invited Moderator Black to speak to Article Seventeen. Moderator Black announced that in the Town Report it was reported that David Nutt has passed away. In 1966 he read the motion to create the Conservation Commission which passed that year and then he read a second motion which created a fund of \$2,000 for the Conservation Commission in the Town of Hanover he is owed a great deal of gratitude for starting this whole movement.

**ARTICLE TWENTY-THREE:** To see if the Town will vote to approve the cost items contained in the collective bargaining agreement approved by the Board of Selectmen on March 24, 2008, between the Town of Hanover and the American Federation of State, County and Municipal Employees (AFSCME), Local 1348, which calls for the following increases in salaries and benefits for its members:

<u>Year</u>	<u>Estimated Increase</u>
2008-2009	\$28,300
2009-2010	\$15,756 (low) to \$47,267 (high)
2010-2011	\$15,913 (low) to \$48,685 (high)

And further to raise and appropriate the sum of \$28,300 for the 2008-2009 fiscal year, such sum representing the additional costs attributable to the increase in salaries and benefits over those of the appropriations at current staffing levels paid in the prior fiscal year.

**Selectman Baschnagel MOVED that the Town vote to approve the cost items contained in the collective bargaining agreement approved by the Board of Selectmen on March 24, 2008, between the Town of Hanover and the American Federation of State, County and Municipal Employees (AFSCME), Local 1348, which calls for the following increases in salaries and benefits for its members:**

<u>Year</u>	<u>Estimated Increase</u>
2008-2009	\$28,300
2009-2010	\$15,756 (low) to \$47,267 (high)
2010-2011	\$15,913 (low) to \$48,685 (high)

**And further to raise and appropriate the sum of \$28,300 for the 2008-2009 fiscal year, such sum representing the additional costs attributable to the increase in salaries and benefits over those of the appropriations at current staffing levels paid in the prior fiscal year.**

**Vice Chairman Connolly SECONDED the motion.**

Selectman Baschnagel noted that the Town has three unions; police, fire and AFSCME. The Town is still in negotiations with the police and fire unions but have come to an agreement with AFSCME.

Dave Bradley, asked who these employees are and how many there are. Ms. Griffin stated that she believed there were 19 members in the union and they are public works employees.

Kari Asmus, Etna, asked what was included in the salary increase and why the numbers aren't more similar year to year.

Ms. McClain stated the reason is because the increase in the wages is mitigated by/ contract also calls for an increase in the cost share of health insurance premiums so the 3% increase in wages is reduced by the fact that employees will be bearing more of the cost for health insurance. For those making \$45,000 and under is 10%; between \$45,000 and \$55,000 it will be 12% and over \$55,000 will be 15%.

Ms. Asmus asked if the Finance Committee voted on the union negotiations. Dick Podolec, Finance Committee, noted that they voted in favor of the overall budget but did not separate this item out specifically.

**The motion PASSED and Article Twenty-Three was ADOPTED as written.**

**ARTICLE TWENTY-FOUR:** To see if the Town will vote to raise and appropriate \$17,658,571 to pay the operating expenses of the Town for the 2008-2009 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 that the Town vote to raise and appropriate \$17,658,571 to pay the operating expenses of the Town for the 2008-2009 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 Baschnagel SECONDED the motion.**

Selectman Christie made the following presentation to Town Meeting:

“I will try to keep this brief as Willy has come close to using the big hook on me in the past.

Every year I stand up here and tell you what a hard budgeting year it has been –“the hardest ever”. Well, this year I can tell you that it was the easiest ever – (pause) at least for the Select Board. You see - we set Julia off with a budget target of around 1% increase in the tax rate based on our five year plan, and she, Betsy and all of the Department Heads did the hard work of delivering against that guideline and presented a draft budget with no increase in the tax rate. The Select Board decided to add \$70,000 to the budget to protect against the need for additional road repair after our severe winter

(seems like a long time ago but the memory still lingers of trying to drive over and around huge frost heaves on King Hill, Laramie Road, Blueberry Hill, Trescott, Hanover Center and a bunch more roads).

We ended with a budget, presented for consideration tonight, with a general fund tax rate increase of 0.66%. In the spirit of full disclosure, the rate would have been 6% if you eliminated the \$300K of extraordinary one time road repair money needed for the June 2005 wash outs from last year's base. Still a job well done.

A few items of special interest from this budget:

We make a final allocation of \$50,000 in this budget for the 2005 road repair wash outs – that repair work will now be behind us.

We continue to get killed by escalating energy related costs which dominate our materials budgets. Electricity, heating oil, gasoline, and asphalt costs are all increasing at much greater than the general CPI. As one example, just between October/ November 2007 when the budget was being pulled together by staff and the March 2008 presentation to the Select Board, gasoline prices had increased enough to add about \$50,000 to our expected expenses – that is almost 0.6 % on the tax rate. The Board did not increase the budget accordingly, but rather asked staff to once again sharpen their pencils and make additional tradeoffs.

As we look down the road a bit we see two new costs that will impact us in the next few years:

The New Hampshire Retirement System is seriously underfunded. We had the privilege of reviewing a two inch thick, 175 page report, by an independent study commission (you know it is not good news when it goes over ten pages) and with the help of Dick Carney (thank you Dick) figured out that through a series of miscalculations, bad assumptions, mismanagement and accounting missteps, that the retirement fund is now in the hole to the tune of \$2.6 Billion. Towns are predicted to pick up most of the shortfall and we will see that cost starting in next year's budget for sure.

Second, the new County Corrections Facility Bond will add \$400 to the tax bill of a \$400,000 home starting in 2009.

It is unreasonable to expect the Town to absorb those magnitudes of outside increases through its own cost reductions.

On a different note, as part of our "Cool Cities" initiative and Climate Protection Campaign, this budget reflects a significant commitment to reducing the Town's carbon footprint. Several times during the budget review process our normally mild and understated Chairman, Mr. Walsh, strongly reminded all involved that relative to green house gas reduction it was not "business as usual".

The proposed budget includes:

- Continuous monitoring of the Town’s carbon foot print against the base line that was completed this past year (thank you Charlie Sullivan).
- Establishing a Building Maintenance Reserve to fund needed building renovations.
- Installing programmable thermostats in all town facilities.
- Replacing some lawn areas with wild flower plantings.
- Use of B-10 Bio Diesel in town vehicles.
- Shifting a portion of our Town fleet to hybrid vehicles.
- Replacing old traffic signals with LED’s.
- Replacing pedestrian warning lights with solar powered signals.
- Elimination of non essential streetlights and replacing of old lights with more energy efficient fixtures.
- Reduction of methane emissions at the WRF.
- Expansion of the Town’s recycling program and the evolution to a Sustainability committee.
- Funding to work with Natural Steps to develop a series of community work shops around sustainability.
- Installation of “Idle Free Zones “at key entrances to Town and in municipal and school parking lots.

These are all low hanging fruit that will both save money and reduce our footprint going forward.

I feel the hook coming, so I will end by thanking Elizabeth Rathburn for taking such good minutes year round, Julia, Betsy, and the Department Heads for the fine job they did in preparing the budget, to Penny Hoisington for the must read Town Report, and to all of you who generously volunteer to keep Hanover the wonderful community that it is.

So I thank you all and open the floor for discussion.”

Darrell Hotchkiss noted that he is a lawyer in Town and supports the motion for the budget but pointed out that there is an error on page 131 that states that he is a plaintiff’s attorney that has brought a case before the Town of Hanover that has cost the Town \$5,852. There is no plaintiff named Strohlic and he has done no such thing. He noted that there is an increase of 33% over the \$90,000 budgeted last year for \$120,000. For most cases this is because the Town has had to defend itself against an entirely correct decision and he wanted it known that he thinks that the Zoning and Planning Department does an exquisite job. In the particular case that’s been misstated, there has been an entirely correct decision by the Zoning Administrator which has been upheld by the ZBA. He felt it would be wrong to have him listed on the roster of shame as the plaintiff’s attorney or that his clients would be listed as someone who are suing the Town.

**The motion PASSED and Article Twenty-Four was ADOPTED as written.**

**ARTICLE TWENTY-FIVE:** To see if the Town will vote, in accordance with RSA 41:26-c, to authorize the appointment rather than the election of the Town Treasurer.

**Vice Chairman Connolly MOVED that the Town vote, in accordance with RSA 41:26-c, to authorize the appointment rather than the election of the Town Treasurer. Selectman Baschnagel SECONDED the motion.**

Vice Chairman Connolly asked for a round of applause for Michael Ahearn for his services as Town Treasurer.

**The motion PASSED and Article Twenty-Five was ADOPTED as written.**

Moderator Black asked the audience if they would allow non-residents to speak to the next few Articles. Moderator Black also noted that this is the first Town Meeting that she has been to that Foster Blough has not attended. She asked for a round of applause for all of Foster's years with the Town.

**ARTICLE TWENTY-SIX:** (Article by agency request) 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 third year this article has appeared on the warrant.

**Selectman Rassias 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 third year this article has appeared on the warrant. Vice Chairman Connolly SECONDED the motion.**

Kevin O'Leary, UVHS, asked the residents to support this Article. They provide services to the Town of Hanover and noted that they currently have a contract with the Police Department to allow officers to bring stray dogs to the facility. The fees that the UVHS charge do not cover their expenses so they are asking for the Town's support.

**The motion PASSED and Article Twenty-Six was ADOPTED as written.**

**ARTICLE TWENTY-SEVEN:** (Article by agency request) 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 second year this article has appeared on the warrant.

**Selectman Rassias 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 second year this article has appeared on the warrant. Vice Chairman Connolly SECONDED the motion.**

George Theriault, President & CEO of the NH Association for the Blind, stated that this is a charitable organization that provides direct rehabilitation services for people who are blind and severely visually impaired. Mr. Theriault reported that last year they served 66 residents of the Town of Hanover, 81 in Lebanon and have served every town and city in the State.

**The motion PASSED and Article Twenty-Seven was ADOPTED as written.**

**ARTICLE TWENTY-EIGHT:** (Article by agency request) To see if the Town will vote to raise and appropriate \$570 to support the services provided for the residents of Hanover by Tri-County Community Action Agency (Tri-County CAP). This is the second year this article has appeared on the warrant.

**Selectman Rassias MOVED that the Town vote to raise and appropriate \$570 to support the services provided for the residents of Hanover by Tri-County Community Action Agency (Tri-County CAP). This is the second year this article has appeared on the warrant. Vice Chairman Connolly SECONDED the motion.**

Joie Finlay–Morris, Tri County Cap, stated that they greatly appreciate the Town’s support. They are asking for \$570 because they ask for \$15.00 per household of those residents that they serve in each community. She knows that she will be asking for support again next year due to the huge increase in fuel costs.

**The motion PASSED and Article Twenty-Eight was ADOPTED as written.**

**ARTICLE TWENTY-NINE:** (Article by agency request) To see if the Town will vote to raise and appropriate \$500 to support the services provided for the residents of Hanover by the Court Appointed Special Advocates (CASA). This is the first year this article has appeared on the warrant.

**Selectman Rassias MOVED that the Town vote to raise and appropriate \$500 to support the services provided for the residents of Hanover by the Court Appointed Special Advocates (CASA). This is the first year this article has appeared on the warrant. Vice Chairman Connolly SECONDED the motion.**

No one was present to speak to the Article.

**The motion PASSED and Article Twenty-Nine was ADOPTED as written.**

**ARTICLE THIRTY:** (Article by agency request) To see if the Town will vote to raise and appropriate \$3,100 to support the services provided for the residents of Hanover by the Outreach House. This is the first year this article has appeared on the warrant.

**Selectman Rassias MOVED that the Town vote to raise and appropriate \$3,100 to support the services provided for the residents of Hanover by the Outreach House.**



This is the first year this article has appeared on the warrant. **Vice Chairman Connolly SECONDED the motion.**

Susan Shinn, Administrator, stated that Outreach House was established in 1991 and opened their doors on South Park Street in 1997. Their goal is to provide affordable housing and adequate care for senior adults in the Upper Valley. Since its founding, Outreach House has been able to keep the monthly rates significantly lower than the state average for assisted living. The Hanover Police Union adopted Outreach House last year. Outreach House provides housing for 3 Dartmouth Grad students who live there and provide nighttime coverage for their resident's care. They also have a lot of volunteers who contribute with yard maintenance and activities.

Anna Downey, Hanover, stated that she and her Brownie troop visited Outreach House and encouraged support for this Article.

Anne James helped start Outreach House and noted that this is one of the hidden gems in Hanover and encouraged people to stop by and speak to the residents there.

Peter Mertz, Board of Directors, stated that Outreach House is on a very tight budget and are very concerned about the rise in energy costs and grocery bills. This is why they are coming to the Town to ask for assistance.

**The motion PASSED and Article Thirty was ADOPTED as written.**

Selectman Rassias asked for a petitioner to make the motion for Article Thirty-One.

**Hilda Sokol MOVED Article Thirty-One.** Ms. Sokol urged all citizens in Hanover to vote yes on this Resolution and made the following statement:

“It asks State leaders to acknowledge that there is a problem with high property taxes and to begin to talk about it. For many years, these state leaders have resisted alternatives to high property taxes and have even taken a pledge not to talk about them. The Pledge locks us into a system of taxation that is unjust and unfair and leads to higher and higher property taxes. The result – this Resolution is really about fairness. The property tax is not fair. It is not based on ability to pay. It produces hardships for many middle and low income wage people and especially our seniors. 60 cents of every dollar raised by State and local government in New Hampshire comes from the property tax. This is twice as much as the average in other states. I know that New Hampshire prides itself as being a frugal State with small government but it relies too much on the property tax to fund State and local government needs. I ask you to vote yes on this fair tax resolution. Help start an open discussion.”

**ARTICLE THIRTY-ONE:** (Article by Petition) To see if the Town will vote to approve the following resolution to be forwarded to our State Representatives, our State Senator and our Governor:

Resolved: We the citizens of Hanover, NH believe in a New Hampshire that is just and fair. The property tax has become unjust and unfair. State leaders who take a pledge for no new taxes perpetuate higher and higher property taxes. We call on our State Representatives, our State Senator and our Governor to reject the “Pledge”, have an open discussion covering all options, and adopt a revenue system that lowers property taxes.

**Kim Perez SECONDED the motion.**

**The motion PASSED and Article Thirty-One was ADOPTED as written.**

Moderator Black thanked Town Staff for all the work that they have done and all the volunteers on all the Committees and all the Boards and all the Commissions who do the work of the Town. Moderator Black also thanked Public Works for their hard work all winter.

**ARTICLE THIRTY-TWO:** To transact any other business that may legally be brought before this Town Meeting.

**Selectman Rassias MOVED that the Town vote to transact any other business that may legally be brought before this Town Meeting. Vice Chairman Connolly SECONDED the motion.**

Ellis Rollett asked the Town to consider another venue or sound system. Ms. Griffin stated that they will look into using John DeGange again next year.

Deb Nelson, noted that there are four highway employees retiring this spring after 88 years of service and asked for their names.

Ms. Griffin stated that it is amazing in what the Town is losing in experience. The following employees are retiring in 2008:

Rod Forward  
Don Daniels  
Chuck Bowdoin  
Jim Stone

The work ethic of these four men is incredible. Chuck Bowdoin is incredible and night after night after night would come in to check the roads. Don Daniels can fix anything. Jim Stone knows where every water valve is. Each of these employees deserve applause for their service with the Town of Hanover.

Ms. Griffin also announced that John Kapusta is retiring from the police department after just under 20 years of service.

**An audience member MOVED to adjourn Town Meeting. Another audience member SECONDED the motion. THE MEETING WAS ADJOURNED AT 8:55 P.M.**

Respectfully Submitted,

Charles Garipay, Town Clerk

Minutes prepared by Elizabeth S. Rathburn.

**FINAL**

**BOARD OF SELECTMEN'S MEETING**

**May 5, 2008**

**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, Peter Christie, Selectman; and Julia Griffin, Town Manager.

**1. PUBLIC COMMENT.**

Chairman Walsh asked for any comments from the public.

David Cioffi, Etna, reported a successful Green Up Day event with over 150 bags being picked up. Mr. Cioffi also expressed gratitude to Rev. Brayman for allowing them to use Trumbull Hall.

Mr. Cioffi read the following letter requesting that it be included in the Minutes:

“I would like to comment on three items – the proposed wetlands amendments (Article 7 on the warrant, the potential revival of a rural lands study group and how Town committees are appointed and operate. I’ll be as brief as possible as I know you have a busy night ahead of you.

Here is a summary of key grievances with the wetlands proposal and supported by other landowners.

1. There is no problem that needs fixing. Current Hanover regulations coupled with State regulations are more than adequate when they are enforced.
2. Landowners should have been briefed about the true impact of changes long ago such as at the meeting on January 15, 2008 in Etna or at a follow-up meeting convenient for them to attend like the evening Etna meeting. The wetlands committee has been working behind a curtain.
3. The public notices regarding the proposals do not meet the notice requirements of State statute. We feel the statements in the notices were inadequate and misleading.
4. The proposal has been sold as more landowner friendly and it isn’t. There are some good things but these are far outweighed by the bad things. The Town would move further into our backyards with needless and confusing new regulations. Jurisdictional areas have increased and some currently allowed minor impacts have been decreased. Plus it will add significant costs for landowners by requiring the need for a professional soil scientist/engineer to do complex drainage calculations for minor work.

5. Costs for the Town to enforce these regulations will increase due to the expansion of the jurisdictional area.
6. It is misleading to say that the proposals are drafted to parallel the State wetlands regulations. In fact, the Town's proposed regulations go beyond the State's and actually add another layer.
7. The proposal is loaded with ambiguous terms that make it difficult for landowners to understand. They do not tell landowners what they can and can't do. Instead, there is now a supplemental pamphlet entitled "Water Resource Protection in Hanover" that endeavors to explain the ordinance but it warns you that the precise terms of the applicable laws and regulations are not set forth in this document. The wetlands zoning ordinance should be written so when a landowner reads it, he knows what he can and cannot do.

At this point, there is nothing you can do because the water is over the dam on this proposal. Once something like this gets on the ballot with the Planning Board's unanimous approval, impacted landowners are dead in the water. Our only recourse is the courts and on this proposal you should know that is a distinct possibility due to how it has been brought forth.

The second item I want to address is the possibility the Rural Lands Study Group might be reincarnated. Again, we have no problem that needs fixing. The ten-acre minimum size lot for major subdivisions ensures rural Hanover will not be overwhelmed by housing developments. Of course, it also ensures there will never be affordable housing in rural Hanover.

The real problem is a certain element of our Town population is trying to create a doomsday scenario – rural Hanover will soon look like a New Jersey suburb unless we regulate every acre out there.

I strongly encourage you to take a leadership role by taking these actions:

1. Instruct the Planning Board to back off and let current zoning do its work. There is no need to revive the Rural Lands Study Group. Rural lands have already been studied to death. You know the lands the Town covets because they have been identified several times.
2. Instruct the Conservation Commission to start spending the conservation fund to acquire easements on the identified land. On March 31, 2008 they had \$498,679 in the fund. You can stretch that money by purchasing easements from willing landowners rather than blowing it all by acquiring through purchase one big piece of land.
3. The Open Spaces Plan recommended a stewardship fund of \$30,000 be created to support monitoring and enforcement of easements held by the Town and thereafter be increased each year for each new easement accepted for Town stewardship. This has not been done. Thus, purchasing easements is encouraged by this past study as well as by the

2003 Master Plan but nobody pays attention to this. The people in power have a fixation on zoning only.

4. Consider a land acquisition bond proposal for the upcoming year of two million dollars. This will tell you how much Hanover citizens value our rural land for preservation. Let all Hanover citizens vote on this issue rather than letting a select committee propose more zoning to take this land.

When I was on the rural lands study committee, one of the items that was often repeated was that past studies done (Scenic Locales Report, Open Space Priorities Plan, Guiding Growth in Rural Hanover, 2003 Master Plan) demand that we use zoning to preserve rural land. I challenge that concept because I have read those plans and noted there is also an emphasis on using other methods like purchasing easements and even a bond issue. Unfortunately, the zoning advocates bury these suggestions. I now challenge you Selectmen to resurrect these ideas and try them rather than allow the Planning Board to move forward with more zoning.

Finally, I want to comment on the process of appointment Town committees and how they operate. My observation of the past Rural Lands Committee was that there really were no appointed members. Various folks would show up – some more than others – but all were considered committee members. We did not establish any method of voting on issues nor did we follow Robert's Rules of Order. The landowner opinions on issues didn't matter. It was evident where the group was headed and there was no stopping them. The Town representative from the Planning Department participated more as an advocate of more zoning rather than as a technical advisor. Now I understand that a new committee being considered will be comprised of three members of the Planning Board and the Town Planning staff. Hopefully, you Selectmen will stop this freight train before it starts down the track, call a halt to more zoning in rural Hanover, and consider alternative methods of land acquisition. I have tried to convince the Planning Board to use more carrot than stick but my pleas have fallen on deaf ears – ears that I see throughout all the studies that have been made on rural lands – ears that think zoning is the only way to preserve rural Hanover the way they want to see it. You folks need to encourage alternative methods because at this point, the only way I see rural landowners can protect their land is to fight the Town in court. Already you are there with the Leavitt family land.

Thank you for providing time for citizen comments at the front of your meeting. Please include these comments in the minutes of the meeting.”

Chairman Walsh thanked Mr. Cioffi for speaking to the Board.

John Schiffman, 24 Rip Road, stated that he visited China and when he arrived back in Hanover, he came up with a concept for moving traffic through Hanover. Mr. Schiffman referred to a map that he crafted to demonstrate his suggestion. The concept was to have one-way traffic from North Main Street to the Inn Corner, proceeding one more block. Lebanon Street traffic would all flow to the East. Crosby Street would be one-way to E. Wheelock. E. Wheelock would be west bound to The Green. He would also suggest placing a permanent barrier between the

Hanover Inn and the Hop. Mr. Schiffman noted that he has no vested interest in this project but wanted the Board to look further at the proposal.

Chairman Walsh felt that this was a good place to start a conversation. Selectman Baschnagel stated that there had been discussions about a roundabout at Crosby and Lebanon Street and the concept fits in to this type of approach. Selectman Connolly stated that she was concerned about the access for Dartmouth Coach and Advance Transit if the area in front of the Inn is closed off.

Chairman Walsh stated that he would like to see a plan from Town Staff in June as to where the Town goes from here. Selectman Baschnagel stated that perhaps they could add the Advance Transit study to this project.

## **2. UPDATE BY LEGISLATIVE DELEGATION REGARDING STATUS OF EDUCATION FUNDING AND RETIREMENT SYSTEM LEGISLATION.**

Chairman Walsh invited Representative Bernie Benn to speak to the Board. Ms. Griffin thanked Mr. Benn for coming in since Sharon Nordgren was unable to attend. Representative Benn stated that he doesn't know what has happened to the Retirement System Bill since it went to the Senate. Chairman Walsh asked Mr. Benn to outline the important points of the Bill as it came out of the House.

Representative Benn stated that the Retirement System is in a situation where the funding was not looking positive. NH is not the only state in this situation but they are toward the bottom. This occurred for several reasons and largely because the Board of Director's estimates for growth were doing quite well for a while and then slowed down. While the growth was doing very well, there was a transfer of money that was growing in the corpus of the system into a "special account" where extra money was funneled beyond the 9% growth to pay for COLAs and medical subsidies. The IRS weighed in on this approach and felt that it was not legal. The Bill took \$250 million out of the "special account" and placed it back into the corpus of the fund.

The medical subsidy was an 8% subsidy that did not apply to everyone which went into effect for a certain time period which was going to end June, 2008. There was concern that there would be a lot of teachers retiring throughout the State because they would lose their medical subsidy if they didn't retire at that time. Part of the Bill proposed extending the deadline one more year. The Bill included changing the composition of the Board of Directors of the Retirement System and lowered the number from 14 to 12 people. The ratio of employee representatives on the Board went down but they added more experts on the Board that had experience with investments. This is a contentious point with the Unions because they wanted to have the same level of representation. Ms. Griffin stated that the House Bill came as a long study and recommendation from the Governor's Commission.

Mr. Benn stated that if nothing was done, the municipalities were looking at a 50% increase in their contribution but the Bill proposed would drop it to a 15% increase. It is unclear what will happen with that when it comes out of the Senate. The Unions have put a big push on the Senate. Mr. Benn reported that the Police and Fire Unions feel that they have made their

payments at a higher rate than the teachers and their claim is that the employers have underpaid into the system all these years which has caused the problem. Mr. Benn stated that the employers paid the bill that was sent to them although it might not have been as high as it should have been. The municipalities aren't at fault because they paid what the Retirement System asked them to pay. Chairman Walsh noted that if the funds had not been siphoned to the special accounts or if the benefits had been handled correctly, the Retirement System wouldn't be in this situation.

Mr. Benn stated that Senator Burling was chair of the ED&A, Executive Department & Administration Committee, and a Bill has passed out of that Committee to the floor of the Senate which will go out to Finance in the Senate very soon.

Vice Chairman Connolly reported that the proposal was to change the age requirements for retirement were changed. Mr. Benn stated that the original proposal was to raise the age requirements to 25 years of service and 55 years of age. The arguments from the Unions for police and fire advised that there shouldn't be people 55 year old firefighters taking people out of burning buildings, etc. Mr. Benn stated that they felt that there may be other jobs for people in the higher age brackets. Mr. Benn stated that they then lowered the age to 50. The Senate put it back to 45 years.

Mr. Benn stated that Representatives realize that when they discuss the 'employers', they realize that they are talking about the taxpayers. The Committee of Conference will be quite difficult.

Ms. Griffin reported that if HB 1645 passes, Hanover will see an increase of \$18,000; if it doesn't pass it will go up to \$339,000 in the employer mandated retirement system contributions which is only the Town portion of the bill and not the schools. Mr. Benn stated that everyone is concerned and recognizes that this is going to increase the amount of property tax that the citizens are paying and he can't imagine that the numbers are going to hold in the Committee of Conference.

Mr. Benn stated that he felt that they were making progress on Education Funding. The Bill has passed from the House Finance Committee with a split vote along party lines. The State is under mandate from the Courts and the Londonderry decisions made them address State education funding. This is the first time that they have really dealt with the issue in a methodical way versus looking at how much money is available and how they are going to distribute it. Last year they followed the Courts mandate and defined an adequate education. It is a document that is in Statute that they have passed.

The second step was to cost out the adequate education which is what they are doing right now. There is a difference between costing and funding. The Court didn't require a system for funding the education at this point but a system to cost the adequate funding. This was done like an accounting function as to how much it costs for each teacher, etc. versus what is available for funds and spreading it throughout the communities. The Committee came up with a cost which started with a term called 'base adequacy' which is the same amount of money that every school would get for a per pupil cost. The Bill went to the Senate and they started by creating a costing



Bill. Mr. Benn stated that the Bill consisting of the base cost (per pupil costs) plus differential aid for three items that they felt needed to be addressed as a separate number 1) poverty level, 2) number of special needs students and 3) ESL (English as a Second Language) students. Those three items had extra money added to the formula so the total amount of money included the base amount of \$3,450 and then the added amount of money came to \$4,900. This did not take into consideration the ability for Towns to raise the money that is needed to meet the requirements. The price of the adequate education is about 50% of the actual cost of educating children. Most States pay about 50% of the actual cost of educating a child and municipalities pay 50% on average across the country. NH up to this point has only paid about 20% of the actual cost of education, so this Bill will bring the State toward the national average of 50%.

Mr. Benn reported that the next challenge was determining how to distribute the money. The Senate created funding proposals that helped with fiscal disparity of communities and transition aid that would help communities that might lose money in the transition. It was the hope of the committee to come to a pure costing Bill and deal with funding next year.

The House Representatives were getting a lot of backlash from donor towns when they were first working on this. The Senate created spreadsheets designating how much Towns were going to get based on the formula that was established and they found that the Towns that brought the Claremont case forward were going to get less money. Therefore, they added the fiscal disparity portion to equal things out.

Chairman Walsh felt that there would be a different way of approaching it in allowing the Boards to decide due to the House and Senate's inability to deal with this.

Mr. Benn stated that SB 539, as amended by their Committee, stated that this Bill has nothing to do with funds for next year but the following year. The Bill won't get passed until the following June which will not be in time for schools to pass their school budget. The Committee proposed a 2 year transition period in which they have collared the existing funding at a certain amount for each Town and Towns that would be eligible to get more in the formula would be capped at 15%. They also set up two committees to determine 1) how the Board of Education is working – evaluation of existing methods of administration of education in the State and 2) looking at the fiscal disparity of communities to try to come up with a formula. The one element that was missing from the cost of commission was the size of the schools – small schools have a real disadvantage under these formulas. The disparity by size is a problem for rural versus urban schools. This committee will study these issues this summer. The amount of money to be raised by this is \$940 million which is \$120 million more than they are raising now. Mr. Benn wanted to point out that this Bill does not appropriate any money. This Bill does not solve the problem but takes them 2/3 of the way closer. The funding portion and ways to distribute the money is the next issue that they have to tackle.

Mr. Benn reported that there is also a Constitutional Amendment. There are a lot of people in the State and Court who believe that the only way to fairly distribute money in the State is to change the Constitution to allow for targeting funds. The Courts advise that they are allowed to target funds as long as this is above the adequacy level. The problem is that there is a fiscal

problem if they have to raise \$120 million more next year and they may have to look for \$200 million in cuts in their budget. A lot of the Representatives believe that targeting is a reasonable thing to do. The amendment before the Representatives is not the same one that came out of the Senate. The one that came out of the Senate was too open ended, it took the Courts out of the system and it didn't define how the State was going to pay for education. The Representatives established an amendment that has three elements (Rep Benn handed the proposed Constitutional amendment as it stands as of this date to the Board): 1) targeting, 2) Courts review not be diminished (same level of scrutiny over the Legislature in dealing with education funding as it has now) and, 3) the State's obligation to pay for the full amount of adequacy as defined. This allows targeting within 'adequacy'. The money can be targeted as long as adequacy is being met. This Bill requires 3/5ths vote in the House to pass. If it passes in the House, it will go to Conference Committee in the Senate.

Mr. Benn reported that HB 321 contains \$50 million in cuts that the Governor is recommending. Tomorrow will be a busy day and they will know more Thursday afternoon.

Chairman Walsh asked if the amount put in place for adequacy would be subject to inflation of the dollar as well as the number of students. Mr. Benn stated that there are inflators included in the Bill. Ms. Griffin located the CPI adjustment wording on page 7 of the Bill.

Chairman Walsh stated that he testified against the amendment last year. He would like to see a solution to this problem; there is a general will for targeting and a belief that it is reasonable and he feels that there is a tremendous distrust of the Legislature and the State's responsibility fell short of what the Town needs.

Chairman Walsh stated that a clear and honest statement as to what an adequate education costs in the State of NH sets the base for an intelligent statewide debate. Chairman Walsh commended Representative Benn and the other Representatives for the progress that they have made.

Mr. Benn reported that the Kindergarten Bill is contentious and although it doesn't affect Hanover, Mr. Benn is hopeful that it will pass and every child will attend Kindergarten.

The Board thanked Representative Benn for speaking to the Board. Chairman Walsh wanted to ensure that for future meetings and discussions, he would like to make sure that the School Board is invited.

**3. RECOMMENDATION TO SET POLLING HOURS FOR TOWN MEETING ON TUESDAY, MAY 13<sup>TH</sup>.**

**Vice Chairman Connolly MOVED that the polling hours be set from 7 a.m. to 7 p.m. on Tuesday, May 13<sup>th</sup>. Selectman Baschnagel SECONDED the motion.**

**THE BOARD VOTED UNANIMOUSLY TO SET THE POLLING HOURS FROM 7 A.M. TO 7 P.M. ON TUESDAY, MAY 13, 2008.**

**4. DISCUSSION REGARDING SALE OF ALCOHOL AT FARMER'S MARKET.**

Chairman Walsh announced that there will be a Farmer's Market starting in the beginning of June, Wednesdays from 3:00 p.m. to 6 p.m. through September. There will be approximately 20 farmers bringing in fruits and fresh produce. There are two vendors that sell hard cider and wine and requested to sell these items at the Farmer's Market. Ms. Griffin noted that these sales would not be in violation of the open container ordinance if they are sold in sealed bottles and can not be unsealed. Selectman Baschnagel confirmed with Ms. Griffin that these vendors have liquor licenses to sell alcohol. Selectman Rassias stated that the Chamber was trying to get a feel for the impact on the area and so far it doesn't sound like it will have a negative impact.

Ms. Griffin stated that the focus is to support local farmers and producers. It's designed to be in keeping with the other farmer's markets. Sally Wilson who formerly owned the Norwich Inn has been hired to manage the Farmer's Market.

**Chairman Walsh MOVED to approve the Farmer's Market this year with a review and an understanding that it is to be local, small business farmer produced produce and not an outlet for regional and national goods. Selectman Baschnagel SECONDED the motion.**

**THE BOARD VOTED UNANIMOUSLY IN FAVOR OF APPROVING THE FARMER'S MARKET THIS YEAR WITH A REVIEW AND AN UNDERSTANDING THAT IT IS TO BE LOCAL, SMALL BUSINESS FARMER PRODUCED PRODUCE AND NOT AN OUTLET FOR REGIONAL AND NATIONAL GOODS.**

**5. UPDATE REGARDING VACANCIES ON BOARDS AND COMMISSIONS.**

Ms. Griffin stated that she did recruit a member for the Advisory Board of Assessors but none of the other positions need to be filled at Town Meeting. Ms. Griffin requested that the Board think of candidates to fill some of the Boards and Commissions seats.

Chairman Walsh wanted to thank the Fire District Task Force and remove them from the list of Boards and Commissions.

**6. TOWN MEETING UPDATE.**

Ms. Griffin stated that she will be e-mailing the motions to the Board members but needed someone to move the Treasurer's position at Town Meeting. Vice Chairman Connolly volunteered to move this item.

Open House scheduled at the Water Reclamation Facility all day Thursday. Kevin MacLean can arrange for additional tours for people who can't make the Open House. There will be display boards with photos at Town Meeting.

- 7. BANNER REQUESTS:**  
- Hanover Parks & Recreation – 4<sup>th</sup> of July Banner  
- Farmer’s Market

**Selectman Baschnagel MOVED to approve the Banner Requests of Hanover Parks and Recreation and the Farmer’s Market. Vice Chairman Connolly SECONDED the motion.**

**THE BOARD VOTED UNANIMOUSLY IN FAVOR OF APPROVING THE BANNER REQUESTS FOR HANOVER PARKS AND RECREATION AND THE FARMER’S MARKET.**

- 8. APPROVAL OF MINUTES:**  
- April 21, 2008

**Selectman Baschnagel MOVED to approve the Minutes of April 21<sup>st</sup> with minor corrections. Vice Chairman Connolly SECONDED the motion.**

**THE BOARD VOTED UNANIMOUSLY IN FAVOR OF APPROVING THE MINUTES OF APRIL 21<sup>ST</sup> WITH MINOR CORRECTIONS.**

**9. ADMINISTRATIVE REPORTS.**

The NH Fair Tax Coalition is holding a meeting at the Library on Thursday night at 7:00 p.m. The Coordinators for the Tax Coalition will be on hand. They are hoping that some of the Board members can join the discussion and Ms. Griffin has a conflict on that night. Chairman Walsh has two conflicts for that night. Selectman Baschnagel will make an attempt to be there.

Ms. Griffin announced the two retirements taking place within the Town at the same time. Jim Stone and John Kapusta will have separate retirement celebrations starting at noon on Friday, May 16<sup>th</sup>.

**10. SELECTMEN’S REPORTS**

**Peter Christie**

Selectman Christie had nothing to report.

**Kate Connolly**

Vice Chairman Connolly reported that the Planning Board met and reviewed an issue regarding the Richardson farm in Etna with discussions on how to create a couple of lots for their children and then put around 100 acres into conservation. There was also discussion of reinstating the Rural Study Group.

Vice Chairman Connolly reported that the Planning Board would be reviewing the proposed hotel on South Street tomorrow night and the proposed Park and Ride on the Trumbull-Nelson property.

Selectman Baschnagel asked if there had been any discussions about joint efforts between the Town and the College on the Park and Ride project. Ms. Griffin stated that they have been involved in discussions to find a preferred access point to allow Town vehicles to get onto Route 120 from the Jesse's Restaurant intersection. Selectman Baschnagel asked about Town use of the lot. Ms. Griffin stated that they have not discussed this specifically but there were preliminary discussions with the College that this might be possible. Selectman Baschnagel stated that there were discussions that the Town spaces at Thompson would go away if they were added in this new area. Ms. Griffin stated that her understanding was that this new development was going to take the pressure off the Thompson Lot and this should be brought up before the Planning Board and the PTB.

Vice Chairman Connolly noted that the discussion tomorrow night will be for subdivision only.

Selectman Baschnagel noted that he assumes that the College would be looking at shuttle service and whether this would be shared by Town employees with shared costs.

**Bill Baschnagel**

Selectman Baschnagel reported that the GIS Committee will meet again on Thursday but Jonathan has gone through the files and there are over 100 files that might be usable and have not been looked at in a few years. Chairman Walsh noted that the Town made an investment in this over time, years ago.

**Athos Rassias**

Selectman Rassias had nothing to report.

**Brian Walsh**

Chairman Walsh noted that the Town Report was excellent and commended Penny Hoisington, Julia Griffin and everyone involved for their contribution.

**11. OTHER BUSINESS**

There was no Other Business reported.

**12. ADJOURNMENT**

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

Board of Selectmen  
May 5, 2008

**THE BOARD VOTED UNANIMOUSLY TO ADJOURN THE MEETING. THE MEETING ENDED AT 9:10 P.M.**

Respectfully Submitted,

Athos Rassias, Secretary

Minutes prepared by Elizabeth S. Rathburn.

**SUMMARY**

1. **Vice Chairman Connolly MOVED that the polling hours be set from 7 a.m. to 7 p.m. on Tuesday, May 13<sup>th</sup>. Selectman Baschnagel SECONDED the motion.**

**THE BOARD VOTED UNANIMOUSLY TO SET THE POLLING HOURS FROM 7 A.M. TO 7 P.M. ON TUESDAY, MAY 13, 2008.**

2. **Chairman Walsh MOVED to approve the Farmer's Market this year with a review and an understanding that it is to be local, small business farmer produced produce and not an outlet for regional and national goods. Selectman Baschnagel SECONDED the motion.**

**THE BOARD VOTED UNANIMOUSLY IN FAVOR OF APPROVING THE FARMER'S MARKET THIS YEAR WITH A REVIEW AND AN UNDERSTANDING THAT IT IS TO BE LOCAL, SMALL BUSINESS FARMER PRODUCED PRODUCE AND NOT AN OUTLET FOR REGIONAL AND NATIONAL GOODS.**

3. **Selectman Baschnagel MOVED to approve the Banner Requests of Hanover Parks and Recreation and the Farmer's Market. Vice Chairman Connolly SECONDED the motion.**

**THE BOARD VOTED UNANIMOUSLY IN FAVOR OF APPROVING THE BANNER REQUESTS FOR HANOVER PARKS AND RECREATION AND THE FARMER'S MARKET.**

4. **Selectman Baschnagel MOVED to approve the Minutes of April 21<sup>st</sup> with minor corrections. Vice Chairman Connolly SECONDED the motion.**

**THE BOARD VOTED UNANIMOUSLY IN FAVOR OF APPROVING THE MINUTES OF APRIL 21<sup>ST</sup> WITH MINOR CORRECTIONS.**

5. **Selectman Baschnagal MOVED to adjourn the meeting. Vice Chairman Connolly SECONDED the motion.**

**THE BOARD VOTED UNANIMOUSLY TO ADJOURN THE MEETING. THE MEETING ENDED AT 9:10 P.M.**

**FINAL**

**BOARD OF SELECTMEN'S MEETING**

**April 21, 2008**

**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, Peter Christie, 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. CONTINUED PUBLIC HEARING TO CONSIDER BORROWING \$6,000,000 FROM THE STATE OF NEW HAMPSHIRE, STATE WATER POLLUTION CONTROL REVOLVING FUND PROGRAM FOR NECESSARY IMPROVEMENTS TO THE WATER RECLAMATION FACILITY.**

Chairman Walsh opened the public hearing and noted that a mailing did go out to the Town residents.

Winifred Stearns spoke to the Board and felt that the new borrowing would be used for capacity to accommodate the expansion of DHMC, Centerra and other developments in Lebanon and wanted to know if they are being charged an impact fee.

Chairman Walsh clarified that this money was going to be used to repair or replace existing equipment and not to expand capacity. Ms. Stearns asked if these improvements were to increase capacity to be used by Lebanon and question the Town's obligation to service Lebanon.

Ms. Griffin clarified that Lebanon's contributions to the facility currently takes up less than 30% of the flows. Ms. Griffin stated that in terms of what is treated by Lebanon has a lot to do with the watershed. The Town will not treat anything that is developed over the other side of the watershed. Ms. Griffin pointed out that DHMC paid a hefty impact fee to the Town for this service and that the Select Board adopted a new fee schedule last year which includes a substantial connection fee for properties that wish to hook up to the system.

Ms. Stearns asked why the Town was out of compliance in years past. Ms. Griffin stated that it was because they were using a system that was not powerful enough to adequately disinfect the liquids coming out of the facility. Ms. Stearns stated that it appears that the Town will forever have to take in the wastewater from the hospital and Centerra and she feels that this is why the Town needs to spend this amount of money.

Ms. Stearns concluded by thanking the Board for the wonderful brochure.



Barbara McIlroy, stated that she felt that the handout was very helpful and she found the chart that was included was revealing because it shows that the plant had less capacity than the 2.3 million gallons/day as permitted. The chart shows that the effective capacity was considerably less than that because of the wastewater coming in. The Town has fixed the plant and added sufficient capacity so that they can now treat 2.3 million gallons/day. The projections show a constant increase in additional demand for the next 20 years. She would like to see the rate of demand, how fast the demand is changing and how much Lebanon capacity does the Town want. Ms. McIlroy stated that there haven't been any public discussions over the demand of the plant. Ms. McIlroy stated that in looking at the handout it appeared that the rates would be going up again. She would like a public hearing regarding the big projects that are coming down the pike.

Ms. Griffin clarified that in conversations with Lebanon over the past 5 years, Lebanon is aware that the plant has only so much capacity. Ultimately, Lebanon will only be able to access 22 – 30% of the capacity of the plant. Hanover needs to be able to meet build out needs within the Town itself. The City of Lebanon needs to decide how the limited capacity is allocated but there is only a fixed amount of capacity available for allocation. Ms. McIlroy asked if this understanding was in writing. Ms. Griffin advised that they have a draft municipal agreement that has been circulated to Lebanon for discussion but it has not been brought before the Hanover Select Board because the focus has been to make the improvements to the plant first. Ms. Griffin reported that last December the Lebanon City Council chose to postpone improvements on their own facility.

Chairman Walsh asked Ms. Griffin if she would clarify the issue of the sewer fees. Ms. Griffin advised that the Town needed to project sewer fees to fund projects that are now underway and for the proposed projects that they are seeking funding for at this Town Meeting. The Town does not anticipate another sewer rate increase. There is a committee looking at how the Town allocates the fees based on the types of users and that committee is looking at the most effective way to allocate the costs. Ms. Griffin stated that it is possible that the committee looking at this may make recommendations to shift the allocation across the user groups but there is no discussion about raising additional revenue from sewer users to fund these projects.

Chairman Walsh closed the public hearing.

Chairman Walsh stated that this item is on the Warrant for Town Meeting. Ms. Griffin stated that staff would be working on preparing information boards and scheduling public tours.

**3. PUBLIC HEARING TO CONSIDER AND APPROVE RECOMMENDED HOUSING FUND BUDGET FOR FY2008-2009.**

**Vice Chairman Connolly MOVED to have the Board act as the Hanover Housing Authority. Selectman Baschnagel SECONDED the motion.**

**THE BOARD VOTED UNANIMOUSLY IN FAVOR OF ACTING AS THE HANOVER HOUSING AUTHORITY.**

Chairman Walsh noted that this fund does not go before Town Meeting. Chairman Walsh went over the budget items with the Board. He noted that there is a significant increase in expenses but it is money that will be used to insulate and side some units. None of this money is supported by taxes but rather, rent that tenants pay and money from the Department of Housing and Development. Ms. Griffin noted that audits were done and the recommendations were made by consultants. Vice Chairman Connolly asked about vinyl siding and the recommendation made by the consultant. Ms. Griffin stated that she wasn't sure about the actual process to complete the work but she stated that she would get a summary from Frank Austin and forward it to the Board.

Selectman Baschnagel asked about the handicap doors. Ms. Griffin stated that it was her belief that these were similar to the doors installed at the Community Center and the Police Department.

Chairman Walsh noted that the tenant rents are going up by 20% and the federal contribution is going down by 3%. Ms. McClain stated that this had to do with her projections with budgeting vacancies in the coming year. She refined her projections based on what the occupancy numbers were last year, what they are experiencing currently and what the possibility is for the upcoming year.

John Chaffee, Lebanon Housing Authority, stated that they are guaranteed a certain amount of money in rent by HUD. Chairman Walsh stated that working with the Lebanon Housing Authority for the past 9 or 10 years has been a beneficial collaboration.

Ms. Griffin stated that there are interesting issues that come up in dealing with tenants and this is not an easy job which the Housing Authority deals with and it continues to prove to be a challenge and she thanked John for his hard work in this area.

Ms. Griffin noted that page 7 is a list that Frank Austin has mapped out of projects that need to be done. Ms. Griffin noted that the efficiency apartments are small and they are having a hard time keeping them occupied. There have been discussions about renovating the efficiency apartments and people on a waiting list are willing to decline an efficiency apartment in order to wait for a one bedroom apartment.

**Vice Chairman Connolly MOVED to approve the Housing Fund budget for FY2008-2009. Selectman Baschnagel SECONDED the motion.**

**THE BOARD VOTED UNANIMOUSLY TO APPROVE THE HOUSING FUND BUDGET FOR FY2008-2009**

**Vice Chairman Connolly MOVED that the Board cease acting as the Hanover Housing Authority and continue as the Board of Selectmen. Selectman Baschnagel SECONDED the motion.**

**THE BOARD VOTED UNANIMOUSLY TO CEASE ACTING AS THE HANOVER HOUSING AUTHORITY AND TO CONTINUE AS THE BOARD OF SELECTMEN.**

**4. PUBLIC HEARING TO CONSIDER AND APPROVE RECOMMENDED CHANGES TO ELDERLY, DISABLED, AND BLIND EXEMPTIONS.**

Ms. Griffin asked Mike Ryan to speak to this issue. Ms. Griffin reported that the Board already added these items to the Warrant and this is the public hearing. Ms. Griffin also stated that they do not need a ballot vote for this item.

Chairman Walsh confirmed with Ms. Griffin that the Department of Revenue Administration (DRA) had signed off on the Warrant.

Mr. Ryan gave an overview of the proposed exemptions. He reported that the last time that these exemptions were adjusted was in 2003 due to the re-evaluation done at that time. Currently, under the Elderly Exemption there are 12 residents that qualify for this exemption. Mr. Ryan reported that they have not had any accounts on the Disabled Exemption for about 3 years and they currently have 4 accounts on the Blind Exemption. Mr. Ryan noted that they expect the exemptions will amount to \$1.4 million and in the fall with the adjustments to \$1.76 million. In changing the assessment, they needed to change the qualifications for income and these were updated for the Elderly and the Disabled but the Blind Exemption does not have an income check.

Chairman Walsh closed the public hearing.

**Vice Chairman Connolly MOVED to approve the recommended changes to the Elderly, Disabled and Blind Exemptions on the schedule as shown on the memo dated January 31, 2008 and updated on April 18, 2008. Selectman Baschnagel SECONDED the motion.**

**THE BOARD VOTED UNANIMOUSLY IN FAVOR OF APPROVING THE RECOMMENDED CHANGES TO THE ELDERLY, DISABLED AND BLIND EXEMPTIONS ON THE SCHEDULE AS SHOWN ON THE MEMO DATED JANUARY 31, 2008 AND UPDATED ON APRIL 18, 2008.**

**5. RECOMMENDATION TO AUTHORIZE TOWN MANAGER TO EXECUTE MEMORANDUM OF UNDERSTANDING, CONSERVATION EASEMENT DEED AND ANY OTHER RELATED DOCUMENTS BETWEEN SIMPSON DEVELOPMENT CORPORATION, THE HANOVER CONSERVATION COUNCIL, AND THE TOWN REGARDING THE VELVET ROCKS DEVELOPMENT.**

Ms. Griffin stated that Vicki Smith was present to answer any questions about this item. Ms. Smith reported that these documents had also been reviewed by Attorney Margaret Jacobs.

Ms. Smith reported that in 2005, the last phase of the Simpson Development on Greensboro Road was approved. The idea was to cluster development in a small area and leave a large amount of open space. Ms. Smith stated that the Board initially felt that since the upper portion of the Simpson land borders the Appalachian Trail, a good steward would be the Appalachian Trail conservancy. Ms. Smith reported that it didn't work out well for them but the Hanover Conservation Council was interested in becoming owners of the open space and there will be a conservation easement placed on the property. The land is rocky and has wetlands that come through it and provides a nice buffer for the Appalachian Trail. The Planning Board wanted to ensure that the public has access to the land and there is a trail being built from the end of the parking lot up to the Appalachian Trail. The second trail is being designed to handle mountain bikes and baby joggers. The Memorandum of Understanding was done to specify the responsibility for the trails. Simpson Development would be responsible for constructing the trail and the Town Trails Committee would be responsible for maintaining both trails.

Vice Chairman Connolly noted that the area being conserved is 114 acres. Selectman Baschnagel also noted that there were a lot of people who worked very hard on this project to make it happen. Ms. Smith stated that Simpson Development was great to work with in conjunction with the other Committees and Boards.

**Selectman Baschnagel MOVED to authorize the Town Manager to Execute the Memorandum of Understanding, Conservation Easement Deed and any other Related Documents between Simpson Development Corporation, the Hanover Conservation Council, and the Town Regarding the Velvet Rocks Development. Vice Chairman Connolly SECONDED the motion.**

**THE BOARD VOTED UNANIMOUSLY IN FAVOR OF AUTHORIZING THE TOWN MANAGER TO EXECUTE THE MEMORANDUM OF UNDERSTANDING, CONSERVATION EASEMENT DEED AND ANY OTHER RELATED DOCUMENTS BETWEEN SIMPSON DEVELOPMENT CORPORATION, THE HANOVER CONSERVATION COUNCIL, AND THE TOWN REGARDING THE VELVET ROCKS DEVELOPMENT.**

**6. APPROVAL OF MINUTES:**  
- April 7, 2008

The Board had several changes to the Minutes.

**Selectman Baschnagel MOVED to approve the Minutes of April 7, 2008 as corrected. Vice Chairman Connolly SECONDED the motion.**

**THE BOARD VOTED 4 IN FAVOR, 0 OPPOSED AND 1 ABSTAINING TO APPROVE THE MINUTES OF APRIL 7, 2008 AS CORRECTED. (Selectman Christie abstained from the vote)**

**7. ADMINISTRATIVE REPORTS.**

Ms. Griffin stated that she did not have much to report as she was out last week. She will send the Board a revised Warrant to clarify the Articles each member will be presenting. Lucie Minsk decided to step down as a Fence Viewer.

Selectman Rassias will be at Town Meeting from 7 a.m. to 11 a.m. Selectman Baschnagel will be present from 11 a.m. to 3 p.m. Vice Chairman Connolly will be present from 3 p.m. to 7 p.m. Ms. Griffin noted that three members will need to stay at the end after the business meeting to sign the tally of the votes.

**8. SELECTMEN'S REPORTS.**

**Peter Christie**

Selectman Christie had nothing new to report.

**Kate Connolly**

Vice Chairman Connolly reported that the Planning Board reviewed The Velvet Rocks: Phase II where the original plans were changed to single family homes and units that have only one floor. The configurations were changed although the number of units have not changed.

Vice Chairman Connolly reported that there was a continued review of Rivercrest although there was not remarkable progress.

**Bill Baschnagel**

Selectman Baschnagel reported that the Planning Board met and the College presented a rebuild of Rolfe Field, which will be a significantly enlarged set of bleachers, new fencing all around, and a new sidewalk which will be a major renovation of that entire area. Selectman Rassias asked if this would include improvements to the bike path in that area to include a wider shoulder. Selectman Baschnagel stated that this was being considered. Chairman Walsh would like to have the Bike Committee included in these discussions.

Selectman Baschnagel reported that the Parking and Transportation Board met and will continue working on the recommendations from the Chamber of Commerce parking study.

Selectman Baschnagel reported that the Conservation Commission met and they have conducted a site visit of Rivercrest.

Selectman Baschnagel reported that the GIS Committee met for the 2<sup>nd</sup> time last week. One thing that came out of the discussion was that the Town has a fair amount of GIS materials. Jonathan Edwards is going to create a list to determine what the Town already has and a list of overlays that can be used on top of the State maps.

Board of Selectmen  
April 21, 2008

**Athos Rassias**

Selectman Rassias had nothing new to report.

**Brian Walsh**

Chairman Walsh had nothing new to report.

**9. OTHER BUSINESS.**

There was no Other Business.

**10. ADJOURNMENT.**

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

**THE BOARD VOTED UNANIMOUSLY IN FAVOR OF ADJOURNING THE MEETING AT 8:40 p.m.**

Respectfully Submitted,

Athos Rassias, Secretary

Minutes prepared by Elizabeth S. Rathburn.

**SUMMARY**

1. **Vice Chairman Connolly MOVED to have the Board act as the Hanover Housing Authority. Selectman Baschnagel SECONDED the motion.**

**THE BOARD VOTED UNANIMOUSLY IN FAVOR OF ACTING AS THE HANOVER HOUSING AUTHORITY.**

2. **Vice Chairman Connolly MOVED to approve the Housing Fund budget for FY2008-2009. Selectman Baschnagel SECONDED the motion.**

**THE BOARD VOTED UNANIMOUSLY TO APPROVE THE HOUSING FUND BUDGET FOR FY2008-2009**

3. **Vice Chairman Connolly MOVED that the Board cease acting as the Hanover Housing Authority and continue as the Board of Selectmen. Selectman Baschnagel SECONDED the motion.**

**THE BOARD VOTED UNANIMOUSLY TO CEASE ACTING AS THE HANOVER HOUSING AUTHORITY AND TO CONTINUE AS THE BOARD OF SELECTMEN.**

4. **Vice Chairman Connolly MOVED to approve the recommended changes to the Elderly, Disabled and Blind Exemptions on the schedule as shown on the memo dated January 31, 2008 and updated on April 18, 2008. Selectman Baschnagel SECONDED the motion.**

**THE BOARD VOTED UNANIMOUSLY IN FAVOR OF APPROVING THE RECOMMENDED CHANGES TO THE ELDERLY, DISABLED AND BLIND EXEMPTIONS ON THE SCHEDULE AS SHOWN ON THE MEMO DATED JANUARY 31, 2008 AND UPDATED ON APRIL 18, 2008.**

5. **Selectman Baschnagel MOVED to authorize the Town Manager to Execute the Memorandum of Understanding, Conservation Easement Deed and any other Related Documents between Simpson Development Corporation, the Hanover Conservation Council, and the Town Regarding the Velvet Rocks Development. Vice Chairman Connolly SECONDED the motion.**

**THE BOARD VOTED UNANIMOUSLY IN FAVOR OF AUTHORIZING THE TOWN MANAGER TO EXECUTE THE MEMORANDUM OF UNDERSTANDING, CONSERVATION EASEMENT DEED AND ANY OTHER RELATED DOCUMENTS BETWEEN SIMPSON DEVELOPMENT CORPORATION, THE HANOVER CONSERVATION COUNCIL, AND THE TOWN REGARDING THE VELVET ROCKS DEVELOPMENT.**

6. **Selectman Baschnagel MOVED to approve the Minutes of April 7, 2008 as corrected. Vice Chairman Connolly SECONDED the motion.**

**THE BOARD VOTED 4 IN FAVOR, 0 OPPOSED AND 1 ABSTAINING TO APPROVE THE MINUTES OF APRIL 7, 2008 AS CORRECTED. (Selectman Christie abstained from the vote)**

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

**THE BOARD VOTED UNANIMOUSLY IN FAVOR OF ADJOURNING THE MEETING AT 8:40 p.m.**



**FINAL**

**BOARD OF SELECTMEN'S MEETING**

**April 7, 2008**

**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 asked for any comments from the public. There were no comments offered from the public.

**2. CONTINUED PUBLIC HEARING TO CONSIDER BORROWING \$6,000,000 FROM THE STATE OF NEW HAMPSHIRE, STATE WATER POLLUTION CONTROL REVOLVING FUND PROGRAM FOR NECESSARY IMPROVEMENTS TO THE WATER RECLAMATION FACILITY.**

Chairman Walsh stated that this meeting provides a second time that discussions will take place regarding the proposed improvements and the option of borrowing \$6,000,000.

Ms. Griffin handed out the latest version of a four page document that she had prepared and one that Selectman Baschnagel had prepared for presentation to the residents. Ms. Griffin stated that they would send this out as a mailing to residents prior to Town Meeting. Ms. Griffin stated that they would also prepare a breakdown of what the wastewater rates would be if they did not serve locations in Lebanon.

Ms. Griffin stated that the final document would be mailed out to 2,001 residents which is also the number of Town Reports that will be going out. Chairman Walsh suggested integrating the document prepared by Ms. Griffin and the document prepared by Selectman Baschnagel and noted that he felt that narrowing the information down to two pages instead of four is unattainable.

Chairman Walsh summarized that the proposal is to borrow \$6,000,000 from the State Revolving Loan Fund and put that together with another \$1.2 million from the Capital Reserve Fund in the Sewer Fund and another \$242,000 from Undesignated Fund Balance for a total of \$7,442,000 which will complete a list of work at the facility that was put together by two different consultants since 2001. Chairman Walsh stated that the proposed work will replace obsolete and worn out equipment. There are some upgrades needed based on requirements from the Department of Environmental Services (DES).

Chairman Walsh stated that this proposal is not going to increase the capacity of the plant. The capacity was set by the DES permitting process in 1988-1989. The plant is not paid for by

**Board of Selectmen  
April 7, 2008**

General Fund taxes in the Town but rather user fees and capital assessments to those who use the plant.

Chairman Walsh reported that there was a group that met comprising of the Select Board, Town staff and the Finance Committee to evaluate the best way to handle the funding of this project. Financing the bulk of the project through borrowing was deemed best. The estimate was that the interest rate on the borrowing would be 3.75% which may not be available to the Town next year.

Chairman Walsh stated that every year the Town sets their rates and fees and one year ago the sewer fees for the treatment plant went up significantly. The increases approved last June will be reflected on the bills sent to users in May. Chairman Walsh stated that there is no expectation that another increase in rates would be needed to pay off the proposed debt.

Chairman Walsh reported that the increase in the fees will take the annual cost of sewage treatment on the average from \$255 for 2007 to approximately \$410 in the year 2008, going forward. Chairman Walsh compared those rates with the average in Enfield which was \$785/year in 2006, City of Lebanon was \$530/year and New London charged \$1,067/year. The average statewide was \$469/year which shows that Hanover is slightly below average.

Chairman Walsh stated that the treatment plant serves the area that is drained by gravity down toward the Mink Brook. This includes a portion of the City of Lebanon which is north of the ridgeline by DHMC and Centerra Park. Chairman Walsh noted that they have had a number of conversations with Lebanon and they fund their full share of the operating costs and the capital costs of the Town's facility and in looking at this, it was clear that it was not in anyone's best interest to shift the users from Hanover to Lebanon. The Lebanon users make up 20-30% of the fees for the facility and if they were to leave, the additional cost would be spread among Hanover users.

Chairman Walsh reviewed with the Board the document prepared by Ms. Griffin. Vice Chairman Connolly suggested changing the wording for Phase I from "overhaul liquids train" to "disinfection treatment technology".

Vice Chairman Connolly felt that it was important to explain why the Town has DHMC in Lebanon as a user. Chairman Walsh wanted to be clear to the voters what is being put before them and not focus so much on the history. They should emphasize the cost amount, how it will be paid for, that the users are paying for this and it is not going to require an increase in rates.

Selectman Baschnagel felt that each phase could be summarized and he agreed that the first page should provide an overview of the entire project. Selectman Rassias felt that the graphics depicting the State average and the comparison with Lebanon were very powerful. Selectman Rassias felt that additional details could be posted on the website for those who want more information.

**Board of Selectmen  
April 7, 2008**

Ms. Griffin suggested that they offer some tours of the facility to answer additional questions and recommended pictures for photo boards. Ms. Griffin wanted to point out why this should be done now versus later especially with the current economy.

Barbara McIlroy referred to the Dufresne-Henry report of 2002 and asked how close the facility is to full capacity and how long it will be before they have to do these improvements again. She also asked about the third secondary clarifier that was recommended by the engineers.

Chairman Walsh stated that they were permitted for 2.3 million gallons/day when they did the upgrade in 1988-1989. The number was primarily set by the technology at the time and the physical capacity at the site. The build-out analysis had information that was not available to Dufresne-Henry at the time. The term “gallons per day” refers to the liquids capacity. Chairman Walsh reported that on most days they are at 1.3 million gallons and there are days when it would go up to 1.7 million. The third secondary clarifier was approved at Town Meeting last year and it handles more than just capacity. The clarifier allows the facility to close portions of their operations down for maintenance.

Ms. McIlroy asked about the gap between the gallons per day. Mr. Kulbacki referred to a chart depicting that there could be ½ million gallons per day difference in capacity and this even changes from year to year which they are unable to predict. Mr. Kulbacki stated that in 2003 they were at their treatment capacity and could not remove enough solids to control their bacteria levels. Mr. Kulbacki stated that if they keep the programs in place (helping businesses reduce their solids), stay on top of their maintenance and making the proposed improvements, they will have 20 years before they have to do additional work. Selectman Baschnagel reiterated that this will buy 20 years of lifetime for the plant.

Ms. Griffin noted that there are factors that make the future more difficult to predict and at some point, it may make sense for Lebanon to direct some of the wastewater flows from the Gile watershed to their facility. Ms. Griffin stated that technological improvements may change dramatically in the next 20 years which could influence changes including federal regulations.

Chairman Walsh wanted to reiterate that this is not about an investment to increase capacity. It is about an investment to replace equipment that is worn out and reactivating methane capturing for heating. The numbers may appear to be capacity related but it is actually related to the fact that it is a 20 year old plant. They are offering to set up tours of the plant in part because after reviewing the reports and recommendations, the Select Board took a tour of the plant and saw the deteriorating equipment.

Selectman Rassias felt that getting a brochure out and having a couple more public meetings will be good and he would encourage placing this on the warrant. Chairman Walsh stated that he is convinced that borrowing the money is right and doing the improvements all at once is the right thing to do.

**Chairman Walsh MOVED to continue the public hearing to April 21, 2008. Selectman Baschnagel SECONDED the motion.**

**THE BOARD VOTED IN FAVOR OF CONTINUING THE PUBLIC HEARING TO  
APRIL 21, 2008.**

**3. PRE-TOWN MEETING PUBLIC HEARING TO REVIEW AND APPROVE  
THE PROPOSED WARRANT FOR 2008 TOWN MEETING.**

Ms. Griffin began the review of the proposed Warrant for the 2008 Town Meeting. She reported that Brian Walsh and Peter Christie have filed to run again for Selectman but no one else has filed to run for those seats. Ms. Griffin reported that no one has filed for Treasurer. Willy Black has filed for Moderator. Ms. Griffin noted that no one has filed for Etna Library Trustee. Ms. Griffin reported that Linda McWilliams has applied for the Supervisor of the Checklist position which would be the formal completion of the two year term that was remaining on Lee Udy's term and Elaine Hawthorne had filed for the six year term. Paul Gardent has filed for the Trustee of Trust Funds.

Selectman Baschnagel commended the students for their patience during the voting registration process at the polls during Primary elections.

Ms. Griffin reported that Articles 2 through 8 are the Zoning Ordinance Amendments brought forth by the Planning Board. She noted that Lucie Minsk has indicated that she is not interested in continuing as a Fence Viewer. Ms. Griffin stated that Article 10 is set aside for Resolutions; Article 11 is the article regarding borrowing for the Water Reclamation Facility. Ms. Griffin stated that Articles 12 through 14 are the elderly and blind exemptions which will be increased due to the reassessment and they require a ballot vote. Vice Chairman Connolly suggested adding the old exemptions amounts and the proposed new exemption amounts for Articles 12 through 14.

Ms. Griffin stated that the Consent Calendar starts with Article 15 which will allow the Town to receive the property for Grass Road Stage III. Ms. Griffin stated that Article 16 and 17 cover the appropriation of monies paid in the Land Use Change Tax process into the Conservation Fund and the Land and Capital Improvements Fund. Article 18 is the appropriation of the money received for the motor vehicle registration \$5 surcharge into the Municipal Transportation Improvement Fund. Article 19 is the appropriation of money into the Capital Reserve Funds and Article 20 is the appropriation of money out of those Reserve Funds for the specific pieces of equipment that were proposed to the Board to be purchased as part of the proposed budget. Article 21 is to establish the Building Maintenance and Improvement Capital Reserve. Article 22 is to use the remaining small balance of the money in the Municipal Transportation Improvement Fund for the Bicycle and Pedestrian Committee to look at the bike lane cross sections.

Chairman Walsh stated that the one article he questioned, as part of the Consent Calendar, was Article 15. Selectman Baschnagel felt that this particular Article is of a different nature and felt that it might facilitate discussion because he's not sure how aware residents are of this item. Selectman Baschnagel felt there needed to be additional education for the residents. Chairman Walsh wanted to keep the article separate and make the Consent Calendar start at Article 16.

**Board of Selectmen  
April 7, 2008**

Ms. Griffin stated that Article 23 is the approval of the AFSME contract. Article 24 is the Town Budget net of all the actions taken prior to the actions taken above it. Articles 25 through 29 are requests for funding for social service agencies. Ms. Griffin stated that Chairman Walsh suggested the wording "Article by Agency Request" next to the articles for the social service agencies.

Selectman Rassias questioned how some of the social service agencies end up on the Warrant. Ms. Griffin gave an overview of the process and stated that the Town has a hybrid system of putting the request on the Warrant for three years and once approved for three consecutive years, they become an automatic part of the proposed budget.

Chairman Walsh notified the Board that he has a conflict of two separate meetings that he should attend the night of Town Meeting.

**Vice Chairman Connolly MOVED to approve and to include Article 10 on the Warrant. Selectman Rassias SECONDED the motion.**

**THE BOARD VOTED 4 IN FAVOR, 0 OPPOSED AND 1 ABSENT TO APPROVE AND INCLUDE ARTICLE 11 ON THE WARRANT TO SEE IF THE TOWN WILL VOTE TO RAISE AND APPROPRIATE \$6,000,000 OF A TOTAL EXPECTED PROJECT COST OF \$7,442,000 FOR THE CONSTRUCTION OF WASTEWATER TREATMENT SYSTEM IMPROVEMENTS AND REPLACEMENT OF OBSOLETE TREATMENT PROCESSING EQUIPMENT AT THE WATER RECLAMATION FACILITY AS IDENTIFIED AND RECOMMENDED IN AN ENGINEERING REPORT PREPARED IN FALL 2006; AND TO AUTHORIZE THE ISSUANCE OF NOT MORE THAN \$6,000,000 OF BONDS OR NOTES IN ACCORDANCE WITH THE PROVISIONS OF THE NEW HAMPSHIRE MUNICIPAL FINANCE ACT, RSA: 33, AND TO TAKE ALL ACTION AS MAY BE NECESSARY TO CARRY OUT THE PURPOSE OF THIS VOTE.**

Selectman Christie will present Article 11 at Town Meeting. Article 11: 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 Rassias will present Articles 12, 13 and 14 at Town Meeting.

**Vice Chairman Connolly MOVED to approve and include Articles 12, 13 and 14 on the Warrant. Selectman Baschnagel SECONDED the motion.**

**THE BOARD VOTED 4 IN FAVOR, 0 OPPOSED AND 1 ABSENT TO APPROVE AND INCLUDE ARTICLES 12, 13 AND 14 ON THE WARRANT.**

**ARTICLE 12: TO SEE IF THE TOWN WILL VOTE TO MODIFY THE ELDERLY EXEMPTION FROM PROPERTY TAX IN THE TOWN OF HANOVER, BASED ON ASSESSED VALUE, FOR QUALIFIED TAXPAYERS, TO BE AS FOLLOWS: FOR A**

**Board of Selectmen  
April 7, 2008**

**PERSON 65 YEARS OF AGE UP TO 75 YEARS, \$80,000; FOR A PERSON 75 YEARS OF AGE UP TO 80 YEARS, \$120,000; FOR A PERSON 80 YEARS OF AGE OR OLDER, \$165,000.**

**ARTICLE 13: SHALL WE MODIFY THE EXEMPTION FOR THE DISABLED? THE EXEMPTION BASED ON ASSESSED VALUE, FOR QUALIFIED TAXPAYERS SHALL BE \$165,000. THIS ARTICLE REPRESENTS A RECOMMENDED MODIFICATION OF THE CURRENT EXEMPTION FOR THE DISABLED AND WOULD BE EFFECTIVE APRIL 1, 2008 FOR THE 2008 TAX YEAR.**

**ARTICLE 14: SHALL WE ADOPT THE PROVISIONS OF RSA 72:37 FOR THE EXEMPTION FOR THE BLIND FROM THE ASSESSED VALUE OF RESIDENTIAL REAL ESTATE FOR PROPERTY TAX PURPOSES? THIS STATUTE PROVIDES THAT EVERY INHABITANT WHO IS LEGALLY BLIND SHALL BE EXEMPT EACH YEAR, FOR PROPERTY TAX PURPOSES, FROM THE ASSESSED VALUE ON A RESIDENCE TO THE VALUE OF \$30,000. THIS ARTICLE REPRESENTS A RECOMMENDED MODIFICATION OF THE CURRENT EXEMPTION FOR THE BLIND AND WOULD BE EFFECTIVE APRIL 1, 2008 FOR THE 2008 TAX YEAR.**

Vice Chairman Connolly will present Article 15 at Town Meeting.

**Chairman Walsh MOVED to approve and include Article 15 on the Warrant. Selectman Baschnagel SECONDED the motion.**

**THE BOARD VOTED 4 IN FAVOR, 0 OPPOSED AND 1 ABSENT TO APPROVE AND INCLUDE ARTICLE 15 ON THE WARRANT TO SEE IF THE TOWN WILL VOTE TO AUTHORIZE THE BOARD OF SELECTMEN TO ACCEPT FROM DARTMOUTH COLLEGE A PORTION OF PROPERTY LOCATED ON THE EASTERLY SIDE OF GRASSE ROAD IN HANOVER (MAP 4, LOT 10) ACCORDING TO SUCH TERMS AND CONDITIONS AS THE BOARD DEEMS APPROPRIATE AND REASONABLE; SAID PORTION OF THIS PROPERTY TO CONSIST OF NO MORE THAN 10.2 ACRES, TO BE USED FOR RECREATION, AFFORDABLE HOUSING AND/OR CONSERVATION PURPOSES.**

Vice Chairman Connolly will present the Consent Calendar consisting of Articles 16 through 22.

**Chairman Walsh MOVED to approve and include Articles 16 through 22 on the Warrant. Selectman Baschnagel SECONDED the motion.**

**THE BOARD VOTED 4 IN FAVOR, 0 OPPOSED AND 1 ABSENT TO APPROVE AND INCLUDE ON THE WARRANT ARTICLES 16 THROUGH 21.**

**ARTICLE 16: TO SEE IF THE TOWN WILL VOTE TO RAISE AND APPROPRIATE \$6,750 FOR DEPOSIT INTO THE LAND AND CAPITAL IMPROVMENTS FUND, AND**

**TO AUTHORIZE FUNDING OF THIS AMOUNT BY TRANSFER FROM THE LAND USE CHANGE TAX RESERVE, WITH NO FUNDS BEING RAISED BY TAXATION.**

**ARTICLE 17: TO SEE IF THE TOWN WILL VOTE TO RAISE AND APPROPRIATE \$6,750 FOR DEPOSIT INTO THE CONSERVATION FUND CREATED AS AUTHORIZED BY RSA 36-A:5.2, AND TO AUTHORIZE FUNDING OF THE AMOUNT BY TRANSFER FROM THE LAND USE CHANGE TAX RESERVE, WITH NO FUNDS BEING RAISED BY TAXATION.**

**ARTICLE 18: TO SEE IF THE TOWN WILL VOTE TO RAISE AND APPROPRIATE \$1,124,910 AND AUTHORIZE PAYMENT INTO EXISTING CAPITAL RESERVE FUNDS FOR THE PURPOSES FOR WHICH SUCH FUNDS WERE ESTABLISHED.**

**ARTICLE 19: TO SEE IF THE TOWN WILL VOTE TO RAISE AND APPROPRIATE \$556,441 FOR THE PURPOSES LISTED, AND TO AUTHORIZE FUNDING THESE AMOUNTS BY WITHDRAWAL FROM THE LISTED CAPITAL RESERVE FUNDS IN THE FOLLOWING AMOUNTS.**

**ARTICLE 20: TO SEE IF THE TOWN WILL VOTE TO ESTABLISH A BUILDING MAINTENANCE AND IMPROVEMENT CAPITAL RESERVE FUND UNDER THE PROVISION OF RSA 35:1 FOR PREVENTIVE MAINTENANCE AND ENERGY EFFICIENCY INITIATIVES TO TOWN BUILDINGS, AND TO RAISE AND APPROPRIATE FIFTY THOUSAND DOLLARS (\$50,000) TO BE PLACED IN THIS FUND TOWARDS THIS PURPOSE.**

**ARTICLE 21: TO SEE IF THE TOWN WILL VOTE TO RAISE AND APPROPRIATE \$34,175 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.**

**ARTICLE 22: TO SEE IF THE TOWN WILL VOTE TO RAISE AND APPROPRIATE \$5,373 FOR PARTIAL FUNDING OF TWO PROJECTS PROPOSED BY THE BICYCLE AND PEDESTRIAN COMMITTEE, AND TO FUND THIS APPROPRIATION BY AUTHORIZING THE WITHDRAWAL OF THIS SUM FROM THE MUNICIPAL TRANSPORTATION IMPROVEMENT FUND.**

Selectman Baschnagel will present Article 23 at Town Meeting.

**Chairman Walsh MOVED to approve and include Article 23 on the Warrant. Selectman Baschnagel SECONDED the motion.**

**THE BOARD VOTED 4 IN FAVOR, 0 OPPOSED AND 1 ABSENT TO APPROVE AND INCLUDE ARTICLE 23 ON THE WARRANT TO SEE IF THE TOWN WILL VOTE TO APPROVE THE COST ITEMS CONTAINED IN THE COLLECTIVE BARGAINING**

**Board of Selectmen  
April 7, 2008**

**AGREEMENT APPROVED BY THE BOARD OF SELECTMEN ON MARCH 24, 2008, BETWEEN THE TOWN OF HANOVER NAD THE AMERICAN FEDERATION OF STATE, COUNTY AND MUNICIPAL EMPLOYEES (AFSCME), LOCAL 1348, WHICH CALLS FOR INCREASES IN SALARIES AND BENEFITS FOR ITS MEMBERS.**

Selectman Christie will present Article 24 at Town Meeting.

**Chairman Walsh MOVED to approve and include Article 24 on the Warrant. Selectman Baschnagel SECONDED the motion.**

**THE BOARD VOTED 4 IN FAVOR, 0 OPPOSED AND 1 ABSENT TO APPROVE AND INCLUDE ARTICLE 24 ON THE WARRANT TO SEE IF THE TOWN WILL VOTE TO RAISE AND APPROPRIATE \$17,658,571 TO PAY THE OPERATING EXPENSES OF THE TOWN FOR THE 2008-2009 FISCAL YEAR, FOR THE PURPOSES SET FORTH IN THE TOWN BUDGET.**

Selectman Rassias will present Articles 25 through 29 at Town Meeting.

**Chairman Walsh MOVED to include Articles 25 through 29 on the Warrant. Vice Chairman Connolly SECONDED the motion.**

**THE BOARD VOTED 4 IN FAVOR, 0 OPPOSED AND 1 ABSENT TO INCLUDE ARTICLES 25 THROUGH 29 AT TOWN MEETING.**

**ARTICLE 25: (Article by agency request) 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.**

**ARTICLE 26: (Article by agency request) TO SEE IF THE TOWN WILL VOTE TO RAISE AND APPROPRIATE \$1,500 TO SUPPORT THE SERVICES PROVIDEDFOR THE RESIDENTS OF HANOVER BY THE NEW HAMPSHIRE ASSOCIATION FOR THE BLIND.**

**ARTICLE 27: (Article by agency request) TO SEE IF THE TOWN WILL VOTE TO RAISE AND APPROPRIATE \$570 TO SUPPORT THE SERVICES PROVIDED FOR THE RESIDENTS OF HANOVER BY TRI-COUNTY COMMUNITY ACTION AGENCY (TRI-COUNTY CAP).**

**ARTICLE 28: (Article by agency request) TO SEE IF THE TOWN WILL VOTE TO RAISE AND APPROPRIATE \$500 TO SUPPORT THE SERVICES PROVIDED FOR THE RESIDENTS OF HANOVER BY THE COURT APPOINTED SPECIAL ADVOCATES (CASA).**



**Board of Selectmen  
April 7, 2008**

**ARTICLE 29: (Article by agency request) TO SEE IF THE TOWN WILL VOTE TO RAISE AND APPROPRIATE \$3,100 TO SUPPORT THE SERVICES PROVIDED FOR THE RESIDENTS OF HANOVER BY THE OUTREACH HOUSE.**

Selectman Rassias will introduce Article 30 (Article by Petition) at Town Meeting. The Board of Selectmen was not required to vote on this Article.

Selectman Rassias will introduce Article 31 to transact any other business that may legally be brought before Town Meeting.

Chairman Walsh closed the public hearing.

**4. APPOINTMENTS:**  
- Senior Citizen Advisory Committee

Ms. Griffin advised the Board that there was a request for appointment to the Senior Citizen's Advisory Committee but she didn't include it in the Friday mailing and didn't have it in front of her. Chairman Walsh asked that this item be moved to the April 21, 2008 meeting.

**5. APPROVAL OF MINUTES:**  
- March 24, 2008

**Selectman Baschnagel MOVED to approve the Minutes of March 24, 2008 as corrected. Vice Chairman Connolly SECONDED the motion.**

**THE BOARD VOTED 4 IN FAVOR, 0 OPPOSED, 1 ABSENT TO APPROVE THE MINUTES OF MARCH 24, 2008 AS CORRECTED.**

**6. ADMINISTRATIVE REPORTS.**

Ms. Griffin reported that the Town Report white pages went off to the printer today. Chairman Walsh thanked Vice Chairman Connolly on behalf of the Board for drafting the Selectmen's letter.

Ms. Griffin stated that she will be working on the background information for the Warrant. Ms. Griffin noted that the deadline for the printer is Friday.

**7. SELECTMEN'S REPORTS**

**Kate Connolly**

Vice Chairman Connolly reported that the Planning Board met and finalized the zoning ordinance amendments for Town Meeting.

**Board of Selectmen  
April 7, 2008**

Vice Chairman Connolly reported that there was a meeting regarding The Shoreline Protection Act but there were so many people in attendance that she took the information provided and then left. Selectman Baschnagel noted that at some point there needs to be discussions as to how much of the Connecticut River Frontage should be included under the Shoreline Protection Act.

Vice Chairman Connolly reported that the Planning Board will be looking again at the Rivercrest proposal tomorrow night.

**Bill Baschnagel**

Selectman Baschnagel reported that the Transportation Management Association met last week and the goal for the future will be to increase the number of businesses on the Board.

Selectman Baschnagel reported that the GIS Committee met today and although he was unable to attend, he heard that it was a good meeting with members recognizing that they need to consider what it will do for the Town, what are the benefits, who is going to use it, etc. which will provide the backdrop for putting the program together.

**Athos Rassias**

Selectman Rassias had nothing to report.

**Brian Walsh**

Chairman Walsh had nothing to report.

**8. OTHER BUSINESS.**

Ms. Griffin reported that there was a late banner request for CHaD and Family Place for their program called 'Shield our Children from Harm'. Ms. Griffin reported that the location is available for the request.

**Selectman Baschnagel MOVED to approve the Banner Request of CHaD and the Family Place. Vice Chairman Connolly SECONDED the motion.**

**THE BOARD VOTED 4 IN FAVOR, 0 OPPOSED AND 1 ABSENT TO APPROVE THE BANNER REQUEST OF CHaD AND THE FAMILY PLACE.**

Selectman Baschnagel noted that he had received a traffic flow pattern recommendation for downtown from John Schiffman. Chairman Walsh noted that he had asked Mr. Schiffman to speak to them after Town Meeting.

Selectman Baschnagel wanted to discuss sending sewer bills twice a year instead of once a year. Ms. Griffin stated that there have been internal discussions about this and it will come up in the future.

**Board of Selectmen  
April 7, 2008**

**9. ADJOURNMENT.**

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

**THE BOARD VOTED UNANIMOUSLY TO ADJOURN THE MEETING AT 9:05 P.M.**

Respectfully Submitted,

Athos Rassias, Secretary

Minutes prepared by Elizabeth S. Rathburn.

**SUMMARY**

1. **Chairman Walsh MOVED to continue the public hearing to April 21, 2008. Selectman Baschnagel SECONDED the motion.**

**THE BOARD VOTED IN FAVOR OF CONTINUING THE PUBLIC HEARING TO APRIL 21, 2008.**

2. **Vice Chairman Connolly MOVED to approve and to include Article 11 on the Warrant. Selectman Rassias SECONDED the motion.**

**THE BOARD VOTED 4 IN FAVOR, 0 OPPOSED AND 1 ABSENT TO APPROVE AND INCLUDE ARTICLE 11 ON THE WARRANT TO SEE IF THE TOWN WILL VOTE TO RAISE AND APPROPRIATE \$6,000,000 OF A TOTAL EXPECTED PROJECT COST OF \$7,442,000 FOR THE CONSTRUCTION OF WASTEWATER TREATMENT SYSTEM IMPROVEMENTS AND REPLACEMENT OF OBSOLETE TREATMENT PROCESSING EQUIPMENT AT THE WATER RECLAMATION FACILITY AS IDENTIFIED AND RECOMMENDED IN AN ENGINEERING REPORT PREPARED IN FALL 2006; AND TO AUTHORIZE THE ISSUANCE OF NOT MORE THAN \$6,000,000 OF BONDS OR NOTES IN ACCORDANCE WITH THE PROVISIONS OF THE NEW HAMPSHIRE MUNICIPAL FINANCE ACT, RSA: 33, AND TO TAKE ALL ACTION AS MAY BE NECESSARY TO CARRY OUT THE PURPOSE OF THIS VOTE.**

3. **Vice Chairman Connolly MOVED to approve and include Articles 12, 13 and 14 on the Warrant. Selectman Baschnagel SECONDED the motion.**

**THE BOARD VOTED 4 IN FAVOR, 0 OPPOSED AND 1 ABSENT TO APPROVE AND INCLUDE ARTICLES 12, 13 AND 14 ON THE WARRANT.**

**ARTICLE 12: TO SEE IF THE TOWN WILL VOTE TO MODIFY THE ELDERLY EXEMPTION FROM PROPERTY TAX IN THE TOWN OF HANOVER, BASED ON ASSESSED VALUE, FOR QUALIFIED TAXPAYERS, TO BE AS FOLLOWS: FOR A PERSON 65 YEARS OF AGE UP TO 75 YEARS, \$80,000; FOR A PERSON 75 YEARS OF AGE UP TO 80 YEARS, \$120,000; FOR A PERSON 80 YEARS OF AGE OR OLDER, \$165,000.**

**ARTICLE 13: SHALL WE MODIFY THE EXEMPTION FOR THE DISABLED? THE EXEMPTION BASED ON ASSESSED VALUE, FOR QUALIFIED TAXPAYERS SHALL BE \$165,000. THIS ARTICLE REPRESENTS A RECOMMENDED MODIFICATION OF THE CURRENT EXEMPTION FOR THE DISABLED AND WOULD BE EFFECTIVE APRIL 1, 2008 FOR THE 2008 TAX YEAR.**

**ARTICLE 14: SHALL WE ADOPT THE PROVISIONS OF RSA 72:37 FOR THE EXEMPTION FOR THE BLIND FROM THE ASSESSED VALUE OF RESIDENTIAL REAL ESTATE FOR PROPERTY TAX PURPOSES? THIS STATUTE PROVIDES THAT EVERY INHABITANT WHO IS LEGALLY BLIND SHALL BE EXEMPT EACH YEAR, FOR PROPERTY TAX PURPOSES, FROM THE ASSESSED VALUE ON A RESIDENCE TO THE VALUE OF \$30,000. THIS ARTICLE REPRESENTS A RECOMMENDED MODIFICATION OF THE CURRENT EXEMPTION FOR THE BLIND AND WOULD BE EFFECTIVE APRIL 1, 2008 FOR THE 2008 TAX YEAR.**

4. **Chairman Walsh MOVED to approve and include Article 15 on the Warrant. Selectman Baschnagel SECONDED the motion.**

**THE BOARD VOTED 4 IN FAVOR, 0 OPPOSED AND 1 ABSENT TO APPROVE AND INCLUDE ARTICLE 15 ON THE WARRANT TO SEE IF THE TOWN WILL VOTE TO AUTHORIZE THE BOARD OF SELECTMEN TO ACCEPT FROM DARTMOUTH COLLEGE A PORTION OF PROPERTY LOCATED ON THE EASTERLY SIDE OF GRASSE ROAD IN HANOVER (MAP 4, LOT 10) ACCORDING TO SUCH TERMS AND CONDITIONS AS THE BOARD DEEMS APPROPRIATE AND REASONABLE; SAID PORTION OF THIS PROPERTY TO CONSIST OF NO MORE THAN 10.2 ACRES, TO BE USED FOR RECREATION, AFFORDABLE HOUSING AND/OR CONSERVATION PURPOSES.**

5. **Chairman Walsh MOVED to approve and include Articles 16 through 22 on the Warrant. Selectman Baschnagel SECONDED the motion.**

**THE BOARD VOTED 4 IN FAVOR, 0 OPPOSED AND 1 ABSENT TO APPROVE AND INCLUDE ON THE WARRANT ARTICLES 16 THROUGH 22.**

**ARTICLE 16: TO SEE IF THE TOWN WILL VOTE TO RAISE AND APPROPRIATE \$6,750 FOR DEPOSIT INTO THE LAND AND CAPITAL IMPROVMENTS FUND, AND TO AUTHORIZE FUNDING OF THIS AMOUNT BY TRANSFER FROM THE LAND USE CHANGE TAX RESERVE, WITH NO FUNDS BEING RAISED BY TAXATION.**

**ARTICLE 17: TO SEE IF THE TOWN WILL VOTE TO RAISE AND APPROPRIATE \$6,750 FOR DEPOSIT INTO THE CONSERVATION FUND CREATED AS AUTHORIZED BY RSA 36-A:5.2, AND TO AUTHORIZE FUNDING OF THE AMOUNT BY TRANSFER FROM THE LAND USE CHANGE TAX RESERVE, WITH NO FUNDS BEING RAISED BY TAXATION.**

**ARTICLE 18: TO SEE IF THE TOWN WILL VOTE TO RAISE AND APPROPRIATE \$1,124,910 AND AUTHORIZE PAYMENT INTO EXISTING**

**CAPTIAL RESERVE FUNDS FOR THE PURPOSES FOR WHICH SUCH FUNDS WERE ESTABLISHED.**

**ARTICLE 19: TO SEE IF THE TOWN WILL VOTE TO RAISE AND APPROPRIATE \$556,441 FOR THE PURPOSES LISTED, AND TO AUTHORIZE FUNDING THESE AMOUNTS BY WITHDRAWAL FROM THE LISTED CAPITAL RESERVE FUNDS IN THE FOLLOWING AMOUNTS.**

**ARTICLE 20: TO SEE IF THE TOWN WILL VOTE TO ESTABLISH A BUILDING MAINTENANCE AND IMPROVEMENT CAPITAL RESERVE FUND UNDER THE PROVISION OF RSA 35:1 FOR PREVENTIVE MAINTENANCE AND ENERGY EFFICIENCY INITIATIVES TO TOWN BUILDINGS, AND TO RAISE AND APPROPRIATE FIFTY THOUSAND DOLLARS (\$50,000) TO BE PLACED IN THIS FUND TOWARDS THIS PURPOSE.**

**ARTICLE 21: TO SEE IF THE TOWN WILL VOTE TO RAISE AND APPROPRIATE \$34,175 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.**

**ARTICLE 22: TO SEE IF THE TOWN WILL VOTE TO RAISE AND APPROPRIATE \$5,373 FOR PARTIAL FUNDING OF TWO PROJECTS PROPOSED BY THE BICYCLE AND PEDESTRIAN COMMITTEE, AND TO FUND THIS APPROPRIATION BY AUTHORIZING THE WITHDRAWAL OF THIS SUM FROM THE MUNICIPAL TRANSPORTATION IMPROVEMENT FUND.**

- 6. Chairman Walsh MOVED to approve and include Article 23 on the Warrant. Selectman Baschnagel SECONDED the motion.**

**THE BOARD VOTED 4 IN FAVOR, 0 OPPOSED AND 1 ABSENT TO APPROVE AND INCLUDE ARTICLE 23 ON THE WARRANT TO SEE IF THE TOWN WILL VOTE TO APPROVE THE COST ITEMS CONTAINED IN THE COLLECTIVE BARGAINING AGREEMENT APPROVED BY THE BOARD OF SELECTMEN ON MARCH 24, 2008, BETWEEN THE TOWN OF HANOVER AND THE AMERICAN FEDERATION OF STATE, COUNTY AND MUNICIPAL EMPLOYEES (AFSCME), LOCAL 1348, WHICH CALLS FOR INCREASES IN SALARIES AND BENEFITS FOR ITS MEMBERS.**

- 7. Chairman Walsh MOVED to approve and include Article 24 on the Warrant. Selectman Baschnagel SECONDED the motion.**

**THE BOARD VOTED 4 IN FAVOR, 0 OPPOSED AND 1 ABSENT TO APPROVE AND INCLUDE ARTICLE 24 ON THE WARRANT TO SEE IF THE TOWN WILL VOTE TO RAISE AND APPROPRIATE \$17,658,571 TO PAY THE OPERATING EXPENSES OF THE TOWN FOR THE 2008-2009 FISCAL YEAR, FOR THE PURPOSES SET FORTH IN THE TOWN BUDGET.**

- 8. Chairman Walsh MOVED to include Articles 25 through 29 on the Warrant. Vice Chairman Connolly SECONDED the motion.**

**THE BOARD VOTED 4 IN FAVOR, 0 OPPOSED AND 1 ABSENT TO INCLUDE ARTICLES 25 THROUGH 29 AT TOWN MEETING.**

**ARTICLE 25: (Article by agency request) 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.**

**ARTICLE 26: (Article by agency request) 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.**

**ARTICLE 27: (Article by agency request) TO SEE IF THE TOWN WILL VOTE TO RAISE AND APPROPRIATE \$570 TO SUPPORT THE SERVICES PROVIDED FOR THE RESIDENTS OF HANOVER BY TRI-COUNTY COMMUNITY ACTION AGENCY (TRI-COUNTY CAP).**

**ARTICLE 28: (Article by agency request) TO SEE IF THE TOWN WILL VOTE TO RAISE AND APPROPRIATE \$500 TO SUPPORT THE SERVICES PROVIDED FOR THE RESIDENTS OF HANOVER BY THE COURT APPOINTED SPECIAL ADVOCATES (CASA).**

**ARTICLE 29: (Article by agency request) TO SEE IF THE TOWN WILL VOTE TO RAISE AND APPROPRIATE \$3,100 TO SUPPORT THE SERVICES PROVIDED FOR THE RESIDENTS OF HANOVER BY THE OUTREACH HOUSE.**

- 9. Selectman Baschnagel MOVED to approve the Minutes of March 24, 2008 as corrected. Vice Chairman Connolly SECONDED the motion.**

**THE BOARD VOTED 4 IN FAVOR, 0 OPPOSED, 1 ABSENT TO APPROVE THE MINUTES OF MARCH 24, 2008 AS CORRECTED.**

- 10. Selectman Baschnagel MOVED to approve the Banner Request of CHaD and the Family Place. Vice Chairman Connolly SECONDED the motion.**

**Board of Selectmen  
April 7, 2008**

**THE BOARD VOTED 4 IN FAVOR, 0 OPPOSED AND 1 ABSENT TO APPROVE THE BANNER REQUEST OF CHaD AND THE FAMILY PLACE.**

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

**THE BOARD VOTED UNANIMOUSLY TO ADJOURN THE MEETING AT 9:05 P.M.**



**FINAL**

**BOARD OF SELECTMEN'S MEETING**

**March 24, 2008**

**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 public comment. There were no comments from the public.

**2. PUBLIC HEARING TO CONSIDER BORROWING \$6,000,000 FROM THE STATE OF NEW HAMPSHIRE, STATE WATER POLLUTION CONTROL REVOLVING FUND PROGRAM FOR NECESSARY IMPROVEMENTS TO THE WATER RECLAMATION FACILITY.**

Chairman Walsh opened the public hearing to consider borrowing \$6,000,000 for improvements to the Water Reclamation Facility. Ms. Griffin reported that this item was being considered by the Board and an information sheet had been sent to the Board members that may ultimately be used to educate the residents. Ms. Griffin gave an overview of the work that was needed in 2003 and the way that it was funded at that time including money from the Capital Reserve Fund, State Revolving Loan, Water Reclamation Facility Undesignated Fund Balance, and sewer contributions from Dartmouth and DHMC. Ms. Griffin stated that in 2003, the Town spent \$4.7 million including a State Revolving Fund loan for \$3,000,000 to make the Phase I improvements to the facility.

Ms. Griffin stated that the item that will be brought before Town Meeting, pending Board approval, will be whether to borrow \$6,000,000 and allocate an additional \$242,000 from the WRF Undesignated Fund Balance and \$1.2 million from the Capital Reserve Funds for the Phase II improvements.

Ms. Griffin stated that these projects were proposed to be done in two phases by Underwood Engineers. The Town last did a substantial upgrade of the plant in 1988 – 1989 with an understanding that this would last around 15 - 20 years. Ms. Griffin stated that these improvements should allow the Town to enjoy use of the plant without the need for another significant improvement in the facility for many years to come.

Selectman Baschnagel cautioned that the term “upgrade” might confuse the residents and he wanted to make it clear that they are not increasing capacity but rehabilitating the facility. Ms. Griffin stated that there have been three issues that they have tried to deal with in the last few years. First, to address the “liquids train” coming from the plant which is the liquid that is ultimately discharged into the Connecticut River. The second was to increase the solids handling

capacity of the plant. The last piece that they are looking to address is to overhaul the equipment that is coming to the end of its useful life.

Chairman Walsh would like to make sure that the information being sent out to residents is very simple. He would like to point out that unless the EPA changes their regulations, these improvements should last through the life of the bond.

Ms. Griffin went on to the background portion of the information that was put together. She wanted to point out to residents that most of these facilities in the Upper Valley were constructed in the late '60s early '70s and they were largely funded by the Government at that time. Ms. Griffin reported that the facility was designed to handle 2.3 million gallon per day (mgd) hydraulic capacity and an organic strength of 194 milligrams per liter (mg/l) of BOD. When the Water Reclamation Facility approached its 15 year mark, there was a substantial amount of State money available for upgrades. In 2002, the Town learned that they were in violation due to repeated effluent limits violations for coli form. The decision was made to go with the chlorination/de-chlorination system improvements.

Ms. Griffin stated that they retained Underwood Engineers to do an assessment of the facility for the Phase II project. There were \$11 million in improvements recommended in the Phase II study and the list was brought down on an itemized list.

Chairman Walsh would like to see a graph with this information that will help the residents have a better visual of what is happening versus a lot of wording.

Ms. Griffin pointed out that one of the challenges of this facility is that when the College is closed, the intake drops by over 50% and with the UV system, the facility was constantly seeing system upsets during these particular times. This activity can shock the treatment plant especially with an anaerobic digester when the 'bugs' require a certain amount of food and the intake is depleted. Ms. Griffin stated that they sat down with DHMC and the Hanover Inn to ask that they stop food grinding and sending it down the wastewater pipes.

Ms. Griffin highlighted the proposal for Phase II. The recommendation is to replace aging equipment and initiatives to improve the sustainability of the plant including using methane to heat the plant so that the facility is self sufficient. Ms. Griffin wanted to spell out the projects for residents so that they understand what the equipment does and how the facility operates and what the proposed improvements will accomplish.

Selectman Baschnagel and Selectman Christie offered Ms. Griffin some suggestions regarding the presentation information for the residents. Selectman Christie suggested providing pictures of the Water Reclamation Facility and the aging equipment. Selectman Baschnagel stated that when he thought of the Facility as a factory with solids coming in and being processed and then the final product ends up at the other end, this was a visual that was helpful to him. Selectman Christie didn't feel that the residents would need or necessarily want too much detail but a general understanding that this equipment is well used and in need of improvement.

Hilary Pridgen, Etna, asked about the impact on the sewer user fees. Ms. Griffin stated that there will not be a change in the fees and by designing the new fees which were adopted last June, they had the ability to fund the principal and interest payments on the borrowing that had already been done. Ms. McClain cautioned that the sewer rates were increased since the last annual bill was sent out so residents have not seen that increase from the last billing cycle. Ms. Griffin stated that the new sewer bills will go out in May. The Board compared the rates in Hanover versus other towns and the rates were right around the State average.

Selectman Christie felt that the Town needs to make residents aware that while they are raising in total enough money to cover all of the costs, the Board is looking at the allocation of who pays those fees; looking at various user groups whether residential, commercial, industrial, institutional etc. and that each of them produce a different burden on the plant.

Ms. Pridgen stated that each taxpayer will be paying for these improvements. Chairman Walsh clarified that this is not the case and the bonds would be general obligation bonds for the Town of Hanover but they would be paid for by the people or businesses that are connected to the facility through sewer fees, not general taxes. Ms. Pridgen asked to clarify that she should not anticipate spending any additional money over her sewer fees to pay for this project.

Chairman Walsh clarified that the Board raised the fees last year because they knew that there was a lot of work that needed to be done. The Board felt it made more sense to borrow now and have the cost of these changes borne by people over time as they use them. Ms. McClain confirmed that the bond will carry an interest rate of approximately 3.75%. Selectman Christie also stated that they are looking at how this money is allocated by user and at this point it is unclear whether the rates will go up or down for the residents or the institutional user, etc. because right now the allocation is done based on meter size.

Ms. Pridgen asked why the Town is taking DHMC's sewage and whether they are increasing the capacity of the plant to benefit this large Lebanon user.

Ms. Griffin stated that when the hospital first moved from Hanover to Lebanon, the Town had just upgraded the plant. The plant had significant additional hydraulic and solids handling capacity before Centerra and expansions on campus. The Town decided to provide Wastewater Treatment services for the Gile watershed. Since that time, DHMC expanded twice, Centerra grew and the Town began to see the increasing complexity of the waste coming from these developments and others; it was clear that the Town needed to change the way they handled both solids and liquids. The decision to serve Centerra and DHMC came at a time when there was plenty of additional capacity and there is an agreement in place that the Town needs to treat the waste coming from those areas and if the Town ever decided not to handle the influx of wastewater, they would be required to give 5 years notice. Ms. Griffin stated that the Town looked into detail at the pros and cons of not taking Lebanon's wastewater and looked at the cost for the sewer users if they eliminated those flows. The cost would increase significantly for residents because it would be spread over a smaller number of users.

Ms. Griffin stated the facilities in Lebanon generate over 30% of the wastewater flows to the plant and discussions about different scenarios prompted a build-out analysis. Ms. Pridgen asked if the build-out only handled the next 20 years. Ms. Griffin stated that they did a maximum/permanent build-out analysis for the entire area that Hanover covers and Lebanon did one for their community. Ms. Griffin stated that they have communicated to Lebanon that there is only so much capacity that the facility can handle and once the work is completed on the plant, there is only so much additional capacity that can be made available to them.

Ms. Pridgen asked how close in-town Hanover is to being at build-out. Ms. Griffin offered to show Ms. Pridgen the build-out analysis which is part of the Master Plan.

Selectman Christie reported that what's driving the need for the renovations is the replacement of old equipment. If they cut back on volume to just Hanover's needs, it would only save a very small percentage but if the flow was eliminated from Lebanon, the rates would be raised by another 25%. Ms. Pridgen stated that her concern was that the Town would be overbuilding the facility.

Chairman Walsh stated the capacity is set at 2.3 million gallons/day and the capacity can not change. Ms. Pridgen asked what the plant generally handles each day. Ms. Griffin recalled that it was around 1.5 million gallons/day. Ms. Griffin stated that they do have peak periods where they hit the maximum hydraulic capacity. Chairman Walsh stated in the rest of the country there would be a sewer district and that would have been put in place when the plant was first built and it would probably overlap a number of counties. Chairman Walsh clarified that the Town serves the watershed that naturally flows down to the treatment plant, so if people think about this as a sewage treatment district which is paid for by the people who use the services versus the Hanover Treatment Plant. Chairman Walsh felt that it sounds like Hanover is doing something for Lebanon but that is not the case because the Town has a responsibility of serving the area of the watershed. Chairman Walsh stated that they spent a lot of time talking with Lebanon to discuss what their contribution should be and it became evident that losing those flows was going to be very expensive for those who were users of the plant and there were capital needs that needed to be addressed so it did not work in anyone's best interest.

Ms. Griffin stated that ultimately they felt that to the extent that the Lebanon users contribute to fixed costs of the plant, the Hanover ratepayers are in a better financial position if the Town continues to receive those flows.

Dennis Goodman, Hanover Center, asked the Board whether any of the new equipment will make it easier to increase development over what is now allowed with the zoning. Ms. Griffin stated that the build-out analysis was done and then assumed maximum build-out based on that zoning. There is only so much additional capacity that the facility can take. This is not going to enable more intensive development in the community because there is only so much capacity.

Selectman Baschnagel went to Google Earth and looked at the treatment facility and noted that there is very limited space left in that area. Ms. Griffin stated that the capacity has a great deal to do with the footprint of the plant and what the Connecticut River can handle.

Ms. Pridgen asked what would happen if the College wanted to add 1,000 students to their enrollment. Selectman Baschnagel stated that this would come up in zoning and it was possible that the College could be told that they can not do that.

Ms. Griffin stated that the City of Lebanon also has an aging plant that needs significant improvements. Ms. Pridgen asked about additional development on Route 120 toward Exit 18. Ms. Griffin stated that the Town will not handle anything that is developed over that side of the hill. Chairman Walsh clarified that this is not an investment to increase capacity but rather improvements that will make the facility more cost efficient and more environmentally efficient.

Selectman Christie felt that these same questions will come up by other residents and these are the answers that the Board will need to articulate to the residents.

Chairman Walsh stated that one of the decisions that needs to be made is whether to bring this to this year's Town Meeting or next year's. He also noted that many bond issues around the State have been turned down and he isn't sure that this would necessarily happen at Town Meeting. Ms. Pridgen stated that if residents just receive their sewer bill, they may be inclined to vote no. Chairman Walsh stated that they need to make it clear to residents that there will still be an increase in the bills they are about to receive regardless of these improvements.

Selectman Baschnagel pointed out that the projects could be handled one at a time but he has concerns over the possible change in interest rates for the bond and whether this would cost so much more if it is put off another year.

Ms. Griffin stated when attending meetings with other Town Managers, she learned that a lot of bonds did fail at Town Meetings due to the concerns of the residents about the economy. Ms. Griffin feels that they would get a better rate for the SRF this summer versus next summer.

Selectman Christie confirmed that the residents were informed that the sewer rates would be increased. Ms. McClain stated that residents were informed but they probably will not remember until they receive their new bills. Selectman Baschnagel wanted to reiterate that information to the residents.

Dennis Goodman asked how critical it is that the equipment be replaced now versus next year. Selectman Baschnagel stated that the equipment is failing and staff is having a hard time finding replacement parts, etc. Ms. Griffin added that if they wait, this project will be more expensive in years to come. Selectman Christie stated that part of the appeal of bonding is that the money is received all at once and the project can be done right. The other benefit is that the cost will be spread over 15 years which is when the users are enjoying the benefits of the investment. If the improvements are done in pieces over the next 2 to 3 years, the rates will need to be increased even more.

Chairman Walsh felt that putting this before Town Meeting this year is the right thing to do but he has concerned that the Board may not be able to adequately educate the residents in the next

few weeks before Town Meeting. Ms. Griffin felt that she and Ms. McClain could put the information together to present it to the residents. Chairman Walsh would like to have another public hearing on April 7<sup>th</sup>.

**Chairman Walsh MOVED to continue the public hearing to April 7, 2008 to consider borrowing \$6,000,000 from the State of New Hampshire for necessary improvements to the Water Reclamation Facility. Selectman Baschnagel SECONDED the motion.**

**THE BOARD VOTED UNANIMOUSLY IN FAVOR OF CONTINUING THE PUBLIC HEARING TO APRIL 7, 2008 TO CONSIDER BORROWING \$6,000,000 FROM THE STATE OF NEW HAMPSHIRE FOR NECESSARY IMPROVEMENTS TO THE WATER RECLAMATION FACILITY.**

**3. CONTINUED PUBLIC HEARING TO CONSIDER ADOPTION OF THE FY 2008-2009 PROPOSED BUDGET.**

Chairman Walsh opened the public hearing to consider adoption of the FY 2008-2009 budget. Chairman Walsh explained that at the end of the last budget meeting, the effective tax rate increase would be 0% but if the money that was put in for the July, 2005 storm, the effective tax rate increase would be 5.3%. Chairman Walsh reported that one item left for consideration is whether to put any additional money in this year's budget due to the damage to roads over the winter months.

Chairman Walsh asked the other Board members for their input as to where they should go from here. Selectman Rassias felt that adding 1% would not make much of a difference. Selectman Baschnagel referred to a list provided by Peter Kulbacki (Director of Public Works) and asked how these roads would be repaired if they did not appropriate additional money. Ms. Griffin advised that the Town stretches their money the best that they can to fix the roads and if they appropriate \$70,000 they could repair one of the roads on the list. Ms. Griffin noted that the roads may settle down a bit from the heaving that had occurred and pre-mudseason may not be the best time to determine what is needed.

Chairman Walsh felt that this issue could be put on a warrant article to determine how much money the Town should put forward to fix the roads that are used most heavily and have been most damaged by this past season's winter damage. Chairman Walsh didn't feel that \$70,000 would make much of a difference and he's not ready to talk about raising it 2%. Selectman Rassias asked what was being put toward paving in this year's budget. Ms. McClain noted that they have \$351,000 to go into the paving budget. Ms. Griffin gave a list of the roads that are on schedule for repaving this year and noted that they are on the schedule based on their close proximity to each other.

Ms. Griffin stated that the list for overlay this summer (based on the regular schedule) Foxfield Lane, Heneage, Hilton Field Lane, Ledge Road, Meadow, Pine Drive, Rip Road, Rope Ferry Road, Verona Avenue, West Wheelock Street, and Willow Springs Lane.

Selectman Baschnagel did not feel that the Board was in a position to recommend that Public Works does one thing instead of another, he felt that if they were to defer some or all of those roads, they could repair a lot of the roads damaged by the winter season.

Chairman Walsh also stated that they could ask for more information from Peter Kulbacki by April 7<sup>th</sup>. Selectman Christie advised that although \$70,000 might not sound like a lot, it would double the amount that is currently being budgeted. Selectman Christie recommended adding \$70,000 into the budget. Selectman Baschnagel felt that he would rather do that than put this on a Warrant article.

**Selectman Christie MOVED to add \$70,000 to the paving budget. Selectman Baschnagel SECONDED the motion.**

**THE BOARD OF SELECTMEN VOTED UNANIMOUSLY IN FAVOR OF ADDING \$70,000 TO THE PAVING BUDGET.**

Selectman Christie asked what would the impact would be if they reduce the real estate valuation overlay budget and it turns out that they underestimated the amount. Ms. McClain stated that this would mean that they would need to reduce the amount out of the Undesignated Fund Balance.

Vice Chairman Connolly asked about the police facility bond and the addition of over \$60,000 into the budget. Ms. McClain noted that this money went toward the building improvement capital reserve fund including anticipated projects that will come out of the energy audits. Ms. Griffin reported that the Town has been setting aside \$40,000 in overlay for the proposed budget and the suggestion had been to add an additional \$30,000. Ms. Griffin added that the Board could reduce the contribution to \$40,000 and add the additional funding (of \$30,000) to the paving budget. Selectman Christie recognized that the current state of the economy makes this more difficult but question what history has shown to determine what is adequate. Mr. Ryan stated that the amount appropriated for overlay has been quite small and he didn't have the numbers from 2003 as to how much was abated. Selectman Baschnagel does feel that this is the year that people will appeal their taxes. Mr. Ryan was not as concerned about this but if there is a serious problem and they are not adequately funded to handle it, it provides a very tough situation. Ms. McClain noted that the current balance in overlay is \$117,000 prior to adding another \$40,000. Selectman Christie feels that with the knowledge of the issue with the roads, he would suggest diverting the additional \$30,000 to paving which a known need is versus and hypothetical need. Ms. McClain clarified that by making these changes it increases the tax rate 2/3%.

**Selectman Christie MOVED to reduce the appropriation for Overlay in the proposed budget by \$30,000 (from \$70,000 to \$40,000) to help defray the impact of the increased paving appropriation. Selectman Baschnagel SECONDED the motion.**

**THE BOARD VOTED UNANIMOUSLY IN FAVOR OF REDUCING THE FY2008-2009 OVERLAY APPROPRIATION BY \$30,000 (FROM \$70,000 TO \$40,000).**

**Chairman Walsh MOVED to adopt the proposed budget for FY 2008-2009. Selectman Christie SECONDED the motion.**

**THE BOARD VOTED UNANIMOUSLY IN FAVOR OF ADOPTING THE PROPOSED BUDGET FOR FY 2008-2009.**

**4. RECOMMENDATION TO APPROVE CONTRACT FOR FY 2008-2009, 2009-2010 AND 2010-2011 WITH AFSCME LOCAL 1348.**

Chairman Walsh reported that the Board received information on this but asked Ms. Griffin to go over the highlights of this recommendation. Ms. Griffin stated that they have come to a tentative agreement for a contract with AFSCME Local 1348 which represents the Public Works employees for July 1, 2008 through June 30, 2011. The contract includes a 3% cost of living adjustment (COLA) effective July 1, 2008; a 1% to 3% COLA for July 1, 2009; and a 1% to 3% COLA for July 1, 2010. Ms. Griffin clarified that the 1% to 3% amounts are linked to the CPI for December of that fiscal year. There are some major NH Retirement System increases coming effective July 1, 2009 and it was made clear at the bargaining table that the Town is concerned about the increase in costs of the compensation package that the Town is responsible for.

Chairman Walsh noted that there were negotiations regarding co-pays and asked for a summary of these discussions. Ms. McClain noted that the current co-pay formula has 4 tiers. For those employees earning less than \$30,000 there is a 5.5% cost share; employees earning \$30,000-\$45,000 there is an 8% cost share; for \$45,000 to \$55,000 there is a 9% cost share and for employees earning greater than \$55,000 there is a 10% cost share. With the proposed contract there are three tiers (10, 12 and 15). Employees earning less than \$45,000 pay 10%; \$45,000-\$55,000 pay 12 percent; and for those employees who earn over \$55,000, they would pay 15%.

**Vice Chairman Connolly MOVED to approve the contract for FY 2008-2009, FY 2009-2010 and FY 2010-2011 with AFSCME Local 1348. Selectman Baschnagel SECONDED the motion.**

**THE BOARD VOTED UNANIMOUSLY TO APPROVE THE CONTRACT FOR FY 2008-2009, AND 2010-2011 WITH AFSCME LOCAL 1348.**

Ms. Griffin noted that the Police Union and the Fire Dept Union are still in negotiations and she has made it clear to the Unions that they are approaching the deadline (April 8<sup>th</sup>) to get it settled this year.

**5. RECOMMENDATION TO SET PRE-TOWN MEETING PUBLIC HEARING ON MONDAY, APRIL 7, 2008 TO REVIEW AND APPROVE THE PROPOSED WARRANT FOR 2008 TOWN MEETING.**

**Chairman Walsh MOVED to set the pre-Town Meeting public hearing on Monday, April 7, 2008 to review and approve the proposed warrant for the 2008 Town Meeting. Selectman Baschnagel SECONDED the motion.**



**THE BOARD VOTED UNANIMOUSLY TO SET THE PRE-TOWN MEETING PUBLIC HEARING ON MONDAY, APRIL 7, 2008 TO REVIEW AND APPROVE THE PROPOSED WARRANT FOR THE 2008 TOWN MEETING.**

- 6. RECOMMENDATION TO SET A PUBLIC HEARING ON MONDAY, APRIL 21, 2008 TO CONSIDER AND APPROVE THE PROPOSED HOUSING FUND BUDGET FOR FY 2008-2009.**

**Chairman Walsh MOVED to set a public hearing on Monday, April 21, 2008 to consider and approve the proposed Housing Fund Budget for FY 2008-2009. Selectman Baschnagel SECONDED.**

**THE BOARD VOTED UNANIMOUSLY TO SET A PUBLIC HEARING ON MONDAY, APRIL 21, 2008 TO CONSIDER AND APPROVE THE PROPOSED HOUSING FUND BUDGET FOR FY 2008-2009.**

- 7. BANNER REQUESTS/STREET CLOSURES:**
  - American Red Cross Blood Drive
  - StreetFest

**Chairman Walsh MOVED to approve the Banner Request of the American Red Cross Blood Drive. Selectman Baschnagel SECONDED the motion.**

**THE BOARD VOTED UNANIMOUSLY IN FAVOR OF APPROVING THE BANNER REQUEST OF THE AMERICAN RED CROSS BLOOD DRIVE.**

**Chairman Walsh MOVED to approve the Banner Request for StreetFest. Selectman Baschnagel SECONDED the motion.**

**THE BOARD VOTED UNANIMOUSLY IN FAVOR OF APPROVING THE BANNER REQUEST FOR STREETFEST.**

Chairman Walsh asked Ms. Griffin about the free parking request for StreetFest. Ms. Griffin noted that she received an e-mail from Sharyn Amberger and the Town does not typically waive parking throughout the Town for this event. Chairman Walsh suggested asking the DMA and the Chamber to present the Board with some reasons as to why they should change the parking requirements for StreetFest. Selectman Baschnagel noted that the Town still offers 3 hours of free parking in the parking garage.

- 8. APPROVAL OF MINUTES:**
  - March 12 and 13, 2008

**Vice Chairman Connolly MOVED to approve the Minutes of March 12, 2008 with minor changes. Selectman Baschnagel SECONDED the motion.**

**THE BOARD VOTED TO APPROVE THE MINUTES OF MARCH 12, 2008 WITH MINOR CHANGES. FOUR IN FAVOR, ZERO OPPOSED WITH ONE ABSTAINING. CHAIRMAN WALSH ABSTAINED FROM THE VOTE.**

**Vice Chairman Connolly MOVED to approve the Minutes of March 13, 2008 with minor changes. Selectman Baschnagel SECONDED the motion.**

**THE BOARD VOTED TO APPROVE THE MINUTES OF MARCH 13, 2008 WITH MINOR CHANGES. FOUR IN FAVOR, ZERO OPPOSED WITH ONE ABSTAINING. CHAIRMAN WALSH ABSTAINED FROM THE VOTE.**

#### **9. ADMINISTRATIVE REPORTS.**

Ms. Griffin reported that there has been a lot of activity in the Legislature. Regarding the NH Retirement System fun, House Bill 1645 which reflects the recommendation by the Retirement System Study Group/Working Commission, passed in the House by a large margin. The Bill undertakes a fairly significant overhaul of the NH Retirement System. She has been in touch with Senator Burling to express support for adoption of the Bill as proposed. Ms. Griffin reported that two of the labor bills that they were concerned about did pass in the House and she will express her concerns to Senator Burling about the passing of those bills.

The most concerning Bill is the Evergreen Clause Bill which basically states that if a bargaining unit has an agreement that's expired and there is a failure to negotiate a bargaining agreement between the employer and the employee, the cost of living adjustment that existed in the prior bargaining agreement will continue in perpetuity until a new agreement is decided on and removes that decision making ability from the legislative body. Ms. Griffin felt that this would lead to the resolution of fewer bargaining agreements. This Bill also allows for a bargaining unit to form with only 1 person versus the currently required 10 people.

Ms. Griffin reported that the school funding legislation came out of the legislation last week with a vote of 14 to 10 with Senator Burling voting in favor of creating the donor situation again. Hanover and Portsmouth are not on the list of Towns that would be donors but there is still a \$79 million funding gap in the formula.

Ms. Griffin reported that she received a call from a reporter from the Valley News who was working on a story about a petition that was filed in Superior Court which is challenging a possible violation of procedure on the vote for the Grafton County Jail. She is not sure who has initiated this petition.

#### **10. SELECTMEN'S REPORTS.**

**Peter Christie**

Selectman Christie reported that he met with the Affordable Housing Commission and received an update on the Gile Community housing. Although they cannot yet take deposits, there have been a significant number of people who have committed to the units is significant. There is a feeling that less money will be spent on carrying a lot of interest and therefore more money can be put into the project itself.

Selectman Christie reported that the Recycling Committee met and they will be making efforts to educate and discourage people from buying bottled water. They are considering offering for sale re-usable water bottles that are not made out of plastic.

### **Kate Connolly**

Vice Chairman Connolly reported that the Planning Board had a long hearing on Rivercrest which will be continued. There are several issues up for discussion including design of Lyme Road, the use of the northern roundabout and the number of entrances and exits need to be addressed.

Vice Chairman Connolly reported that the proposed Trumbull Nelson parking facility on Trumbull Nelson property has been continued to next month.

Vice Chairman Connolly announced that some legislature passed regarding some new shoreline regulations and there will be a presentation on the Shoreline Protection Acts at the Lake Sunapee Community Building in New London tomorrow night at 6:30.

### **Bill Baschnagel**

Selectman Baschnagel reported that the Transportation Management Association (TMA) met and they are about to launch more aggressive annual re-visit to get more companies and businesses involved in their efforts.

### **Athos Rassias**

Selectman Rassias had nothing new to report.

### **Brian Walsh**

Chairman Walsh reported that the Chamber of Commerce has completed a report of their parking and zoning task force. He feels that they will vote favorably to forward this on to the Select Board.

Chairman Walsh noted that the Board received the Chapter 2 Land Use Draft by the Upper Valley Lake Sunapee Regional Planning Commission (UVLSRPC) and he would like to talk about what the process should be to respond to this and whether they should have the Planning Board respond. Selectman Baschnagel stated that there was limited time since there is a public hearing scheduled for April 16<sup>th</sup> to adopt the draft. Selectman Baschnagel felt that the Planning

Board needs to read it and this was something that was supposed to be published 10 years ago. Vice Chairman Connolly advised that this is something that was in existence and the RPC is proposing changes. Selectman Baschnagel would encourage the RPC to put a draft together in consultation with the Planning Board of the communities that they are talking about. Ms. Griffin stated that they are looking for comments from the regions stakeholders at the April 16<sup>th</sup> meeting. Selectman Baschnagel stated that the draft suggestions that for Hanover are not consistent with the Master Plan. Chairman Walsh would like to send them a letter that it was an unreasonable request to ask for a response within 3 weeks on this document and the Planning Board, staff and Select Board will need a chance to look at it and respond after Town Meeting. Ms. Griffin observed that the Regional Plan was something that was done in the past without a lot of active participation from the member communities. Ms. Griffin suggested that they suggest a more dynamic process to have a more profound dialogue. Selectman Baschnagel would recommend that they review the Master Plans of the communities that they serve. Ms. Griffin envisions sending a letter with the concerns brought forth from the Board.

**11. OTHER BUSINESS.**

**Chairman Walsh NOMINATED Selectman Christie to be a Director of the Hanover Water Company representing the Town of Hanover. Vice Chairman Connolly SECONDED the motion.**

**THE BOARD VOTED IN FAVOR OF THE NOMINATION OF SELECTMAN CHRISTIE AS A DIRECTOR OF THE HANOVER WATER COMPANY REPRESENTING THE TOWN OF HANOVER. FOUR IN FAVOR, ZERO OPPOSED AND ONE ABSTAINING. SELECTMAN CHRISTIE ABSTAINED FROM THE VOTE.**

Chairman Walsh noted a request from Penny Hoisington to provide information for the Selectmen's Letter for the Town Report. Vice Chairman Connolly will take the lead and other members will provide information to her.

**12. ADJOURNMENT.**

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

**THE BOARD VOTED UNANIMOUSLY IN FAVOR OF ADJOURNING THE MEETING AT 10:04 P.M.**

Respectfully Submitted,

Athos Rassias, Secretary

Minutes prepared by Elizabeth S. Rathburn.

**SUMMARY**

1. **Chairman Walsh MOVED to continue the public hearing to April 7, 2008 to consider borrowing \$6,000,000 from the State of New Hampshire for necessary improvements to the Water Reclamation Facility. Selectman Baschnagel SECONDED the motion.**

**THE BOARD VOTED UNANIMOUSLY IN FAVOR OF CONTINUING THE PUBLIC HEARING TO APRIL 7, 2008 TO CONSIDER BORROWING \$6,000,000 FROM THE STATE OF NEW HAMPSHIRE FOR NECESSARY IMPROVEMENTS TO THE WATER RECLAMATION FACILITY.**

2. **Selectman Christie MOVED to add \$70,000 to the paving budget. Selectman Baschnagel SECONDED the motion.**

**THE BOARD OF SELECTMEN VOTED UNANIMOUSLY IN FAVOR OF ADDING \$70,000 TO THE PAVING BUDGET.**

3. **Selectman Christie MOVED to reduce the appropriation for Overlay in the proposed budget by \$30,000 (from \$70,000 to \$40,000) to help defray the impact of the increased paving appropriation. Selectman Baschnagel SECONDED the motion.**

**THE BOARD VOTED UNANIMOUSLY IN FAVOR OF REDUCING THE FY2008-2009 OVERLAY APPROPRIATION BY \$30,000 (FROM \$70,000 TO \$40,000).**

4. **Chairman Walsh MOVED to adopt the proposed budget for FY 2008-2009. Selectman Christie SECONDED the motion.**

**THE BOARD VOTED UNANIMOUSLY IN FAVOR OF ADOPTING THE PROPOSED BUDGET FOR FY 2008-2009.**

5. **Vice Chairman Connolly MOVED to approve the contract for FY 2008-2009, FY 2009-2010 and FY 2010-2011 with AFSCME Local 1348. Selectman Baschnagel SECONDED the motion.**

**THE BOARD VOTED UNANIMOUSLY TO APPROVE THE CONTRACT FOR FY 2008-2009, AND 2010-2011 WITH AFSCME LOCAL 1348.**

6. **Chairman Walsh MOVED to set the pre-Town Meeting public hearing on Monday, April 7, 2008 to review and approve the proposed warrant for the 2008 Town Meeting. Selectman Baschnagel SECONDED the motion.**

**THE BOARD VOTED UNANIMOUSLY TO SET THE PRE-TOWN MEETING PUBLIC HEARING ON MONDAY, APRIL 7, 2008 TO REVIEW AND APPROVE THE PROPOSED WARRANT FOR THE 2008 TOWN MEETING.**

7. **Chairman Walsh MOVED to set a public hearing on Monday, April 21, 2008 to consider and approve the proposed Housing Fund Budget for FY 2008-2009. Selectman Baschnagel SECONDED.**

**THE BOARD VOTED UNANIMOUSLY TO SET A PUBLIC HEARING ON MONDAY, APRIL 21, 2008 TO CONSIDER AND APPROVE THE PROPOSED HOUSING FUND BUDGET FOR FY 2008-2009.**

8. **Chairman Walsh MOVED to approve the Banner Request of the American Red Cross Blood Drive. Selectman Baschnagel SECONDED the motion.**

**THE BOARD VOTED UNANIMOUSLY IN FAVOR OF APPROVING THE BANNER REQUEST OF THE AMERICAN RED CROSS BLOOD DRIVE.**

9. **Chairman Walsh MOVED to approve the Banner Request for StreetFest. Selectman Baschnagel SECONDED the motion.**

**THE BOARD VOTED UNANIMOUSLY IN FAVOR OF APPROVING THE BANNER REQUEST FOR STREETFEST.**

10. **Vice Chairman Connolly MOVED to approve the Minutes of March 12, 2008 with minor changes. Selectman Baschnagel SECONDED the motion.**

**THE BOARD VOTED TO APPROVE THE MINUTES OF MARCH 12, 2008 WITH MINOR CHANGES. FOUR IN FAVOR, ZERO OPPOSED WITH ONE ABSTAINING. CHAIRMAN WALSH ABSTAINED FROM THE VOTE.**

11. **Vice Chairman Connolly MOVED to approve the Minutes of March 13, 2008 with minor changes. Selectman Baschnagel SECONDED the motion.**

**THE BOARD VOTED TO APPROVE THE MINUTES OF MARCH 13, 2008 WITH MINOR CHANGES. FOUR IN FAVOR, ZERO OPPOSED WITH ONE ABSTAINING. CHAIRMAN WALSH ABSTAINED FROM THE VOTE.**

12. **Chairman Walsh NOMINATED Selectman Christie to a Director of the Hanover Water Company representing the Town of Hanover. Vice Chairman Connolly SECONDED the motion.**

**THE BOARD VOTED IN FAVOR OF THE NOMINATION OF SELECTMAN CHRISTIE AS A DIRECTOR OF THE HANOVER WATER COMPANY REPRESENTING THE TOWN OF HANOVER. FOUR IN FAVOR, ZERO**

**OPPOSED AND ONE ABSTAINING. SELECTMAN CHRISTIE ABSTAINED FROM THE VOTE.**

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

**THE BOARD VOTED UNANIMOUSLY IN FAVOR OF ADJOURNING THE MEETING AT 10:04 P.M.**

**FINAL**

**BOARD OF SELECTMEN'S MEETING**

**March 13, 2008**

**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; Katherine Connolly, Vice Chairman; Peter Christie, Selectman; Bill Baschnagel, Selectman; and Athos Rassias, Selectman. Also present was Julia Griffin, Town Manager (via speakerphone).

**1. PUBLIC COMMENT.**

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

**2. REPORT OF THE SELECTMEN'S ADVISORY COMMITTEE RELATIVE TO THE FY 2008-2009 PROPOSED BUDGET FOR THE DOWNTOWN MARKETING ASSESSMENT DISTRICT.**

Chairman Walsh spoke on behalf of the Advisory Committee in Jim Rubens absence. He advised that both the Downtown Marketing Association (DMA) and the Advisory Committee requests to continue the \$50,000/year to support the efforts of the DMA.

**Chairman Walsh MOVED to appropriate \$50,000 to support the efforts of the Downtown Marketing Association. Vice Chairman Connolly SECONDED the motion.**

**THE BOARD VOTED UNANIMOUSLY IN FAVOR OF APPROPRIATING \$50,000 TO SUPPORT THE EFFORTS OF THE DOWNTOWN MARKETING ASSOCIATION.**

**3. 4th BUDGET HEARING:**

- Howe Library
- Etna Library
- Board of Selectmen
- Town Manager
- Human Resources
- Administrative Services
- Assessing
- MIS
- Social Services
- Planning & Zoning
- Approval of Proposed FY 2008-2009 Budget



**Board of Selectmen  
March 13, 2008**

**HOWE LIBRARY**

Mary White, Director, introduced Ellen Lynch, Assistant Director and presented new library cards and library books to the Select Board. Chairman Walsh welcomed Mary White to the budget hearing as it was her first as Director for the Howe Library.

Selectman Christie felt it would be helpful to know what the average taxpayer in Hanover pays for library fees since the charge to non-residents is going up to \$115.00/year. Ms. McClain noted that they would get this figure for the Board.

Chairman Walsh asked about Microform and Ms. White noted that this covered microfilm and microfiche. Chairman Walsh thought that this media was outdated. Ms. White clarified that newspapers are still on microfiche.

Vice Chairman Connolly asked about charges from MIS and whether the \$42,000 covers the cost of the new network. Ms. White clarified that this was the charge for the new network and that the server might be shared with DPW. Chairman Walsh confirmed with Corey Stevens that if the fiber project goes forward, this will be a shared system.

Chairman Walsh asked for clarification in the section on the public services. Ms. White gave a breakdown of the employees that are part-time and full-time and their various functions. Chairman Walsh confirmed with Ms. White that there are no proposed additional full-time employees. Chairman Walsh asked about the increase of 7.7%. Ms. White advised that this was for an employee that went to full time. Ms. McClain noted that there was a misclassification of one employee and there were some hours that were being taken as technical services and the swing between the two is the correction of that part-time staff person.

Chairman Walsh asked about substitutes working at the Library. Ms. White advised that these people work on a seriously part-time basis covering illness or attending trainings and those 4 hours are charged to the regular part-time line but if someone is sick it comes out of the substitute line. This item has always been underfunded and overspent so they are asking for the increase to be in line with actuals.

Selectman Baschnagel noted a decrease in technical services part-time and was concerned that the salaries are going up at a greater rate in the Library than the rest of the personnel staff. Selectman Baschnagel stated that generally staff increases are around 3 - 4%, part-time public services are up 8.7%, public service substitutes are up 50% and although the Library may be filled with part-time people, they are going up at a greater rate on a percentage basis without a change in hours of operation. Ms. White stated that the 13.3 full-time employees haven't changed much in the last 10 years. Ms. McClain noted that Ms. White carefully reviewed the schedule and anniversary dates to make sure that they were raising these at the appropriate rates. Ms. White noted that there is a 7.8% increase in public service pages. They have 3 elderly women who earn \$8.50/hour and she was hoping to increase their wages to \$10.00/hour and one at \$10.50/hour which she was hoping to raise to \$12.00/hour.

**Board of Selectmen  
March 13, 2008**

Ms. White noted that there are two items on the wish list. There is an employee who works 33 hours a week and she is hopeful that they can increase her hours to 35 hours a week so that she can be eligible for benefits. Ms. White expressed her appreciation to the Board of Selectmen.

**ETNA LIBRARY**

Chairman Walsh invited the Etna Librarian, Barbara Prince, to speak to the Board. Ms. Prince noted that Mary King is the Assistant Librarian and that the Library has increasing circulation and programs. Chairman Walsh confirmed that the Etna Library is open 24 hours per week. Selectman Baschnagel asked how many people uses the wireless access at the Library. Ms. Prince advised that this was put on-line about 2 months ago and it has been popular but she doesn't think that people are aware that they have it available. Ms. Prince noted that one of the items on the wish list was to be open on Wednesdays which is early dismissal days for the schools. If the Town budgets 2 hours for the Library, they would then add 4 hours on Wednesday. Ms. Prince advised that she would add 2 hours to her schedule and Ms. King could be there for 4 hours on Wednesdays. Selectman Baschnagel asked about volunteers. Ms. Prince advised that they have about 25 volunteers who work the Saturday hours.

**BOARD OF SELECTMEN**

Ms. McClain noted that in the Town Manager's budget there are a couple of new items; \$12,000 for the sustainability workshop, an adjustment to reflect Ms. Griffin's adjusted salary, and a request for proposal for audit services and the audit fees are going up to \$35,000 total. Ms. Griffin (by phone) pointed out that they were left with one bidder so there was not a lot of choice but the firm will do a good job. Chairman Walsh noted that for every non-profit board that he is on, they are seeing the costs of auditing work increasing.

Ms. Griffin reported that Larry Litten and Lyn Swett-Miller had done a lot of work to find someone who could help with a watershed community workshop and the recommendation was to engage with a consultant out of Cambridge MA. The program is called 'The Natural Step' the consultant came highly recommended and her services were a perfect fit for Hanover right now and the goal would be to engage a larger circle in the community.

Vice Chairman Connolly commented that auditing firms are on the edge due to an incident in New Castle and there was clearly fraud and conspiracy so all firms are being more careful.

Chairman Walsh would like to see the sustainable budget separate from Cultural Exchange and other programs within the Selectmen's budget.

Selectman Baschnagel asked about CATV and whether the Planning Board meetings are going to be broadcast regularly. Ms. McClain advised that CATV is ready to go forward with this. Ms. Griffin advised that CATV does have space available for these meetings to be broadcast and that this would not cost anything.

## **HUMAN RESOURCES**

Myra Johnson, Director of Human Resources, introduced herself and noted that she does not have a complex budget. Selectman Baschnagel noted that she has done a great job getting people involved in the wellness efforts. Ms. Johnson advised that the Anthem projects are very successful with the incentives being offered.

Ms. Johnson would like to get a grant to kick off the wellness initiatives. The only real option that they have at this point is to get employees involved in their own health care and she would like to be able offer every eligible employee the opportunity to be tested for glucose, cholesterol and blood pressure and then re-test them in about 9 months to determine if this has helped with their general health. Ms. Johnson noted that LGC has indicated that Hanover may be used for a pilot program to help kick off these initiatives. Ms. Johnson noted that Hank Tenney was generous in possibly allowing employees to work out in the basement of the R.W. Black building and she would be asking for an extra \$1,000 to help transform this room. Ms. Johnson stated that she is challenging the Fire Department to get involved in this endeavor and could assist with taking blood pressure readings.

Chairman Walsh noted that Ms. Johnson's job is much harder than it may appear and stated that she is doing a great job.

## **ADMINISTRATIVE SERVICES**

Ms. McClain stated that the Administrative Services budget is increasing nominally. The Accounting Office is now located upstairs and there were some internal promotions. There are no proposed increases in resources and they have identified several areas where the Town is saving.

Chairman Walsh moved on to Unallocated Costs. Ms. McClain advised that once fiber is up and running and the Dept Heads can access the server, the budget will be prepared differently and at that time they will begin to allocate fringe benefits to better reflect the costs of those services. The amounts shown under Unallocated Costs have not been allocated to services.

Chairman Walsh asked Ms. Griffin about the status of the fiber network. Ms. Griffin stated that the lawsuit filed by SegTel has delayed the use of the fiber which was due to be up and running January 1, 2007. Ms. Griffin is anticipating that this will be a total delay of 4 to 6 months and that is assuming a favorable outcome in the Court. Chairman Walsh confirmed that there are 2 suits going on currently. Ms. Griffin stated that there is a suit in Superior Court and another suit in Federal Court and to date it has cost approximately \$70,000 in legal fees.

Ms. McClain gave some highlights of the proposed budget. She noted that the tax levy reflects a 0% increase in the tax rate but the tax base goes up. The proposed overlay increase is \$30,000 which is an allowance for property assessment appeals and they anticipate an increase in this area due to the state of the economy. The Town renegotiated their Bank relationship by switching to Citizens Bank and have realized a better yield in the budget. Ms. McClain noted

**Board of Selectmen  
March 13, 2008**

that in the expense portion of the budget, there was a dramatic increase in the legal fees. She noted that the Town's debt service has gone down due to the public safety building bond being paid off.

Ms. McClain reported that the Town has been given a benefits guarantee that health insurance premiums will not exceed an 11.3% increase. She noted that the Town has been very careful about budgeting by the individual to keep the budget lean and this is being projected as if those costs are fixed but that could change at any time.

Vice Chairman Connolly asked about the investment income and the anticipation that this will increase. Ms. McClain advised that there are more taxes being collected so the amount of interest will continue to grow and there is a forecast that the Fed rate will be cut a full percent going forward.

Ms. Griffin noted that by changing their banking services, the yield that Citizens Bank provided added an additional \$20,000 in income. Chairman Walsh wanted to add the increase in overlay onto the review list. Ms. Griffin noted that this is supposed to be a one-time increase in overlay and is not meant to be permanent. Chairman Walsh is concerned that if they are wrong about this, the amounts ultimately could be taken out of Undesignated Fund Balance. Ms. Griffin confirmed that this could affect the increase in Undesignated Fund Balance.

**ASSESSING**

Chairman Walsh invited Mike Ryan, Director of Assessing to speak to the Board, Mr. Ryan reported that the \$10,000 to go toward the revaluation budget this year was to take into consideration taxpayer hearing, mailings, clerical support and clean-up in the Fall so they can get a bill out to residents in a timely manner. The \$10,000 to go into the Revaluation Reserve is to build-up for the next revaluation in 2013. Mr. Ryan stated that the changes in this year's proposed budget are primarily in the salary adjustments, replacement of computers through MIS and the overlay. Chairman Walsh asked if the \$25 million increase in the taxable Grand List is high enough. Mr. Ryan advised that the bigger projects have already come through in the last couple of years. The volume and the dollars on the projects have gone down and it is a reflection of the state of the economy. Chairman Walsh asked about the South Block. Mr. Ryan advised that the bakery will be coming on-line this year and the front part of the building will have a partial impact because it will not be done by April of this year. Chairman Walsh asked what Mr. Ryan's thoughts were on the overlay request. Mr. Ryan advised that with the general economic climate there has been a drawback of economic activity and he feels that there is a lot of volatility in the market right now and if a mistake is made, it doesn't take much to use up those funds.

Selectman Christie asked how the volatility of the market affects the overlay. Mr. Ryan advised that people are more likely to challenge the decisions.

**Board of Selectmen  
March 13, 2008**

**MIS**

Chairman Walsh invited Corey Stevens, Director, to speak to the Board.

Selectman Rassias asked about the software maintenance contracts and software upgrades which is up 18% and questioned what was driving this amount. Mr. Stevens advised that it is due to added software for permitting and an increase in support for IMC for the Fire Department. Ms. McClain advised that the Innovative contract is \$26,000, the payroll system is \$13,000, IMC for the Police Department remains at \$11,000, parking and AIM system at \$3,500 and she has a list of all the administrative applications that make up the figure. Ms. McClain noted that the support costs provide the Town with certain products that they would have to locate such as DMV and tax rates. Chairman Walsh would like to see the \$100,000 expense broken down and would like to see where Freeware could be used and felt that this was a big number and there should be some alternatives. The Planning and Zoning permitting software should be a pretty simple database so \$8,500 seems to be high.

Selectman Baschnagel asked about the purchase of 30 computers. Mr. Stevens noted that they are trying to determine when to switch to Vista.

Vice Chairman Connolly asked about the charge for the Howe Library server being listed here and in the Howe Library budget. Ms. McClain noted that there is an internal transaction charged out to the Library from Mr. Stevens' budget. Selectman Baschnagel asked how old the network is at the Library. Mr. Stevens advised that it will be either 4 or 5 years old. Mr. Stevens advised that there needs to be enough money to build big enough drives to serve two different departments.

Selectman Baschnagel asked if there was anything in the budget to facilitate the maintenance and usability for the Town website. Ms. McClain noted that there is a \$5,000 item on the wish list to look at canned municipal products that would assist in the launching of data. Ms. Griffin noted that Mr. Stevens is the webmaster in addition to his other duties and they couldn't afford to put it in the budget and meet the target.

**HEALTH AND WELFARE**

Ms. McClain advised that the Health and Welfare budget is apart from the social service agencies to budget the community contribution to support the Hanover Ambulance service and it has gone up to reflect the per capita costs. Ms. McClain reported that Myra Johnson is also the welfare officer and they have flat budgeted their general assistance and the Town is required to provide those services but it is unpredictable.

Chairman Walsh invited Mr. Chambers to speak for Bonnie Clac. Robert Chambers, President and Founder of Bonnie Clac, advised that this is an agency that provides automobile and credit assistance to low income people. He reported that they have received a \$1,500 grant from Enfield where they only assisted 10 people and they have assisted 54 residents and people that come into the Town of Hanover. Selectman Baschnagel asked how many residents are served in

**Board of Selectmen  
March 13, 2008**

the Town of Hanover. Mr. Chambers advised that their agency served approximately 10 residents of Hanover. Chairman Walsh stated that when Bonnie Clac first came to the Town it was supposed to be seed money and then within about three years they would become self funding. Chairman Walsh asked Mr. Chambers when they would no longer need municipal funding. Mr. Chambers noted that the organization did receive a large grant to spread throughout the country and feels that they will become fully self-sustaining in 7 years. Chairman Walsh asked if Enfield and Hanover are the only towns that contributed. Mr. Chambers advised that they are making requests throughout but they missed the opportunity for support from Lebanon and the United Way rejected their request. Chairman Walsh supported the efforts of Bonnie Clac but he would like to see some return on their investment by not having to continue having their taxpayers support this when other communities are not assisting. Selectman Baschnagel would like to add Bonnie Clac to the list.

Ms. Griffin stated that one of the issues that they agonize over is what role the Town should play with social services agencies, this year there are two new agencies seeking funding over and above what they have previously funded. She personally feels that it is not appropriate for the Town to provide charitable donations directly through tax proceeds to agencies that don't provide services that the Town would have to provide through their welfare operations. Ms. Griffin feels that Bonnie Clac sits on the edge between the types of services that the Town would have to provide as a welfare agency of the State if Bonnie Clac did not provide this service. Ms. Griffin feels that with the current economy she anticipates that there will be a steady increase in agencies requesting funding without being able to draw the connection to essential welfare services. Chairman Walsh feels that this agency should be funded out of the Transportation Trust Fund and not out of property taxes. Mr. Chambers advised that they are getting more sophisticated in their offices and separating out the overhead and in the next year or two they will be ready to make a financial statement and he feels they will be self sustaining in the next couple of years.

Chairman Walsh announced that the Family Place has requested \$2,000. No one was present to speak to this item.

Chairman Walsh invited a representative for the Grafton County Senior Citizens Council to speak to the Board. Roberta Berner, Exec. Director and Jill Vahey, Director of the UV Senior Center, reported that they have spent more time with the Summer Park residents and there has been an increase in transportation needs. Ms. Berner reported that there are people other than low income housing folks are using the services and elder care services are stable and growing in the Town of Hanover.

Ms. Vahey reported that they started a satellite program at the Senior Center providing meals twice a month and it appears that their first attempt was very successful. Chairman Walsh noted that when the Community Counselor retired, the Grafton County Senior Citizens Council picked up a significant piece of this job and he confirmed that this is going well from the Town's perspective. Chairman Walsh asked about the \$1,000 increase in the request. Ms. Berner advised that this is an increase in the cost for transportation and elder care and their costs have increased dramatically in the last year.

**Board of Selectmen  
March 13, 2008**

Selectman Baschnagel asked how things are going for the coordination of transportation services in terms of reducing the duplicative efforts. Ms. Berner noted that Advance Transit (AT) has started their ADA transit services and if you live within  $\frac{3}{4}$  of a mile of a fixed route and you're going within  $\frac{3}{4}$  of a mile within a fixed route, you are well taken care of. If you don't fit into the criteria, that is where the services of the GCSCC take over. The GCSCC have served people who live as far as Hanover Center and she cannot recall turning anyone away. Selectman Baschnagel asked if they ever refer people to AT if they are within their criteria. Ms. Berner reported that the coordination is a work in progress on the State level and she and Van Chesnut serve on the State Coordinating Council for Community Transportation. She also reported that they need to coordinate dispatching. Ms. Berner stated that there are a lot of plans in the works within the State where dispatching, fuel and maintenance are issues that need additional coordination. Selectman Baschnagel asked if there would be options for AT and the GSCC to work together for dispatching services.

Chairman Walsh thanked them for their presentation and their services.

Chairman Walsh invited Mike Cryans to speak on behalf of Headrest. Mr. Cryans reported that they are requesting \$7,000. Mr. Cryans gave an overview of the services provided by Headrest including a 24-hour hotline (in its 300,000<sup>th</sup> hour), substance abuse counseling, adolescent treatment initiatives, counseling for the County Jail, Grafton County Drug Court, intensive outpatient services, and couple nights a week they have NA Meetings. Mr. Cryans reported that 2% of their funding comes from their clients and the donation request from the Town would be 1%. They have a \$700,000 budget in which they rely on the State, donors and contributors such as the United Way, and the 11 Towns from which they receive money. Mr. Cryans announced that on Tuesday and Wednesday, Headrest will have 8 Hanover High School students doing some community service which will help to clean the place and they will spend some time teaching these students about what they do.

Chairman Walsh thanked Mr. Cryans for his presentation and the work they do.

Chairman Walsh announced that LISTEN has requested \$1,000. No one was present to speak on behalf of LISTEN.

Chairman Walsh invited representatives from the VNA and Hospice to speak on behalf of their request.

Dick Carney, Board Member of the Visiting Nurse Association and Hospice introduced Jan Stryker who was new to the agency in the area of Development of Community Relations. Ms. Stryker thanked the Board for their past support. Ms. Stryker advised that the VNA/Hospice provide homecare from pre-birth to end of life and in the last year clinicians made over 4,200 home visits. Ms. Stryker advised that they have seen a huge increase in requests for services this year. The average cost per visit is around \$129. Ms. Stryker reported that without the services of VNA, the Town will see an increase in emergency calls to meet the need of the families going into crisis. Ms. Stryker advised that they are a non-profit agency and the reimbursements never

**Board of Selectmen  
March 13, 2008**

cover the cost. The goal of the VNA/Hospice is to get to the average of \$4.00 per capita and they are requesting \$22,700 which is \$2.96 per capita which is a lot lower than the average.

Mr. Carney shared a personal experience with the VNA/Hospice in which his friend was thankful that he could take care of his mother near the end of her life and added that there is value that is difficult to put a price on. Ms. Stryker stated that they appreciate any increase that the Town could consider.

Selectman Christie asked about this rate of increase and how long it would take to get to the \$4.00 per capita average. Mr. Carney didn't want to hit the Town with the increase that quickly. Ms. Stryker noted that they asked for a 7% increase last year and this year they are asking for a 10% increase with their services increasing by 20%.

Chairman Walsh feels that there is a good argument that some of this should be paid out of Medicare or Medicaid and the ability to allow people to stay in their homes is a great asset and they would request that they talk to their representatives. Selectman Baschnagel asked what percentage of costs are reimbursed through various insurance programs. Ms. Stryker noted that Medicare reimburses at around 65% and Medicaid reimburses in the area of 15-20% and there is also private insurance which covers some of the costs.

Posie Fowler voiced her support of the VNA and reported that coverage for their services has been cut back. She has an aunt that is 102 and she can not get VNA coverage.

Chairman Walsh moved on to West Central Services. Suellen Griffin, CEO of West Central Services, gave an overview of the services that West Central Services provides including behavioral health services, substance abuse services, emergency 24-hour/day 7 day/week services and in-home case management services when necessary. Ms. Suellen Griffin reported that they do receive Medicare and Medicaid but rely on their fundraising, private donors and the 22 towns that they service. They base their requests on \$1.25 per capita and last year they serviced 117 Hanover residents of which 26 were children. She finds that there is a perception of the agency and if they end up in the red in the bottom line, someone takes care of it and it is not true. They try to balance their budget and there is no one bailing them out of their financial situation at the end of the year. This agency is viewed as a larger agency than they are. Ms. Suellen Griffin expressed thanks to the Board for their support and advised that they try to find new ways to fund their programs.

Chairman Walsh thanked Suellen Griffin for her presentation.

Chairman Walsh invited a representative from WISE to speak to the Board. Ms. McClain reported that Peggy O'Neill could not make the meeting but expressed her appreciation for the Board's support.

Chairman Walsh wanted to confirm that WISE receives money from other towns. Ms. McClain confirmed that this is the case.



**Board of Selectmen**  
**March 13, 2008**

Chairman Walsh announced the request from Youth-In-Action. Jessica Eakin, Director, gave an overview of their services and announced that next week they are celebrating their 25<sup>th</sup> year. They work with the Chamber and other non-profits to provide volunteers. There are more and more volunteers involved in the community projects. Chairman Walsh confirmed that Youth-In-Action receives \$6,000 from Norwich. Ms. Eakin reported that their donations vary from year to year and she thanked them for their support.

Chairman Walsh announced the request from the Upper Valley Humane Society. Jill Harris, President and CEO of UVHS reported that they underreported some of their activities for 2007. Ms. Harris advised that they served 600 families in Hanover and spoke generally of the work that they do including dealing with lost and found pets, surrendered pets and she expressed appreciation for the Board's support.

Ms. Harris noted that Hanover was the first town that supported the UVHS and this year they are requesting funds from Hanover, Enfield and Plainfield. Ms. McClain noted that the police budget has a line item for animal control and they have negotiated a fee for service agreement when officers drop off stray animals at the Humane Society. The Board asked to increase the line item and renegotiation of the contract to provide a fixed fee agreement. Ms. Harris noted that the service agreement only covers a certain subset of what they do and they get about 30 surrendered pet each year. Ms. Harris stated that because the Town supports the Humane Society, Hanover animals get priority over outsider towns. In terms of the strays that come in, a benefit is that any Hanover citizen can bring in a stray animal with no charge to them. Chairman Walsh stated that they may be looking at moving this issue out of social services and more within the Municipal services funding area.

Chairman Walsh announced the New Hampshire Association for the Blind. Ms. McClain noted that the representative for this agency was unable to attend. Ms. Griffin wondered if they have received any funding from the other towns they serve. Selectman Rassias noted that in the application paperwork they are requesting funding from 11 towns. Chairman Walsh reported that this is a warrant article and would like to learn more about this. Ms. Griffin had reservations as to whether this was more of a charitable donation than an acknowledgement that without this work the Town would be required to provide these services. Selectman Christie was surprised that this item was accepted so easily at Town Meeting.

Chairman Walsh would like to have a conversation about policy between now and next year's budget in dealing with social services.

Chairman Walsh announced the Tri County Cap request. No one was present to speak to this item.

Chairman Walsh moved on to the request by CASA in the amount of \$500.00. Henry Herndon was present to speak on behalf of CASA's request and believes that this is the first request to the Town of Hanover. Mr. Herndon explained that CASA stands for Court Appointed Special Advocate and has been in service for 18 years in NH which has a lean administrative staff that provides supervision to over 400 volunteers. CASA works with the Department of Children

**Board of Selectmen  
March 13, 2008**

Youth and Families (DCYF) and West Central Services. CASA needs to be in a position to handle 600 cases by the end of 2009 which will dictate the additional trainers for volunteers as well as supervision.

Chairman Walsh noted that this will be a special article on the Town Meeting Warrant and he suggested that someone from CASA be present to speak to the general audience. If the item passes for 3 years in a row, it automatically gets included in future year budgets. Chairman Walsh wondered if this should have been funded through the Courts instead of through the Town.

Chairman Walsh announced the request from Outreach House. Susan Shinn, Administrator, reported that Outreach House was founded to maintain affordable housing for the elderly. They have 9 bedrooms and there were 16 people living at Outreach House and all are connected to Hanover by either living here or working here. The cost is \$3,070 per month for a person to live in Outreach House and they are looking for support to cover that cost.

Carol Weingeist, reported that fundraising is done every year and they apply for grants as well but when they have a vacancy, it stresses their budget. They would appreciate one month's rent for one resident, as requested; \$3,100 will give them a buffer to continue to pay their operating costs. Ms. Weingeist stated that they do get a break in their property taxes because they are not-for-profit and noted that there are 3 Dartmouth Grad students who provide nighttime coverage so they are not required to provide nighttime staff.

Ann Chamberlain, lives in Hanover, offered her own personal experience with Outreach House in that her 93 year old mother lives there and it has provided great joy to keep her in the community. Her mother is a graduate of Hanover High School (Class of '32) and having her at Outreach House provides the family with peace of mind when they have to leave for vacation.

Ms. Weingeist also reported that the Hanover Police Department Union adopted Outreach House and they gather to do activities such as barbecues for them and retired Hanover Fire Chief John Whitcomb does yard work.

Peter Runstadler serves on the Board of Outreach House. He gave a testimonial for Outreach House and stated that Outreach House sets an example in Hanover and hopefully in other towns that a place like this should exist for the increasing elderly population. There is always a tight budget and with the increase in costs in fuel, food and in trying to balance the budget, last year there were 4 empty rooms. The request of \$3,100 would really help them balance their budget.

Chairman Walsh thanked them for the work that they do.

Chairman Walsh noted that ACORN did not file an application. No one was present to speak to ACORN. ACORN was taken off the list.

## **PLANNING AND ZONING**

Chairman Walsh invited Jonathan Edwards to speak with regard to his budget. Mr. Edwards advised that the Planning and Zoning Budget proposal does not include any new endeavors except the new software and an increase for trail maintenance as part of the conservation budget.

Selectman Baschnagel asked about the annual support cost for their software. Mr. Edwards was told it is a one-time purchase including training for staff and other than upgrades on occasion there is not supposed to be an annual fee. Chairman Walsh noted that this is another item that should be looked at for freeware. Mr. Edwards agreed that they should look at this prior to purchasing the software. Ms. Griffin noted that there was an item on the wish list that she could not see funding this year which was to develop a GIS system and there is a cost estimate for one of them which is just too much of an investment and she believes that there is a working group that will look at lower cost alternatives. Ms. Griffin noted that Mark Goodwin from Lebanon gave them an estimate but she did not put it in the budget because they would not be able to meet the budget goal.

Vice Chairman Connolly stated that the Regional Planning Commission (RPC) has instituted a facility with a GIS person to run it. Ms. Griffin felt that if Hanover supported this effort it would make more sense than trying to reinvent the wheel.

Vice Chairman Connolly asked about the Conservation Commission transfer to Designated Reserve, transfer to Conservation Fund and Transfer to Trust Fund. Ms. McClain clarified that each year the Town generates a certain amount of revenue from the land use change tax. The transfer in from Designated Reserve is the money raised the previous year that was appropriated at Town Meeting and pulled out of reserve with half going to the Conservation Fund and the other half to the Land and Capital Improvements Fund. The transfer to Designated Reserve is taking the current year's Land Use Change Tax and placing it on the books in the Designated Reserve and because of the State's budgeting requirements; they have to appropriate the transfer into the reserve.

## **APPROVAL OF THE PROPOSED BUDGET**

Chairman Walsh started the review of the wish list.

### **Etna Library**

Vice Chairman Connolly would like to add the \$2,000 for the Etna Library on the list.

### **Howe Library**

Selectman Baschnagel did not want to add the extra hours for the Howe Library. He doesn't see what the increase in the services would be just to bring the person up to an amount of hours where they could receive benefits.

**Board of Selectmen  
March 13, 2008**

Chairman Walsh felt that if Ms. White would like to move positions around within her department and do so within the constraints of her budget, he would support that but he doesn't want to add the money to the budget to do this. He also advised that he doesn't like the Select Board make decisions on specific positions such as these that are requested.

Selectman Rassias reported that there were some strong sentiments about this from the Howe Library Board. Chairman Walsh stated again that he doesn't have a problem with this being done but is against adding money specifically to do it. Ms. Griffin stated that the challenge is that it hits both benefits and salary. Selectman Baschnagel supported the Chairman's position. Selectman Christie asked if this would be retroactive. Ms. Griffin stated that this would be a new expense.

**Human Resources**

Selectman Rassias asked why the requested amount is so large (\$9,000). Chairman Walsh felt that this was a good thing to do but he thought there might be ways to do this in cooperation with DHMC and other Town Departments and would rather not put this out to contract it but rather find a way to make it happen.

Selectman Rassias advised that there are two items. One is to do the screening and the other is to provide an exercise area. Selectman Baschnagel pointed out that the Fire Department has exercise equipment available to all employees. Ms. McClain noted that Myra Johnson had mentioned that she had started conversations with the Fire Department. Ms. Griffin didn't feel that this needed to be funded this year and that there are great resources within the Upper Valley. Chairman Walsh wanted to express his support but that he would encourage looking to other agencies to assist.

**MIS**

Ms. McClain noted that the amount requested (\$5,000) was to get the website improvements started. Ms. Griffin felt that they should look to fund this next year and wait to see what happens with the Howe website and see if they can piggyback on these improvements. Selectman Baschnagel stated that he is puzzled as to why Penny Hoisington can post things to the website when no one else can. Ms. Griffin noted that this is an internal training issue. Chairman Walsh noted that the Chamber of Commerce is re-doing their website also and he would like to have a conversation as to what the website needs to be.

**Police Department**

Ms. Griffin noted that they have looked at placing warning lights near each of the schools and rather than try to fund them in next year's budget, try to pilot this with funding from the Municipal Transportation Improvement Fund. Chairman Walsh felt that this should not come out of that budget.

**Board of Selectmen  
March 13, 2008**

Selectman Christie asked what was driving this request and whether this would have a payback period within a couple of years. Ms. Griffin noted that there is one pedestrian flashing light on West Wheelock and this came up as there were increased discussions about safety near the High School with regard to traffic speeds and jaywalkers. If they could look for grant funding, they might pilot this at the High School and then aim to do something for the other schools as well. Selectman Baschnagel urged Ms. Griffin to think in terms of a couple of companies that make the flashing light and speed indicators that are solar powered, relatively inexpensive and mobile. Ms. Griffin noted that they priced out those units and Lt. Evans would have pricing on those items. The Board decided not to move forward with that.

Chairman Walsh asked about the \$7,500 for the opticom sensors and whether this item would save the Town money. Ms. McClain advised that it would not. Selectman Baschnagel would like to see a grant pursued.

**Public Works**

Chairman Walsh announced the request for landscaping and a gate at Shed 2. Selectman Baschnagel felt that the landscaping is evolving and a lot of work has been done and he's not sure that a gate is necessary. The Board removed this from the list.

**Fire Department**

Chairman Walsh asked how many vehicles have been fitted with the opticom. Ms. Griffin advised that none of the public safety vehicles have them. She would encourage looking at possible grant funding. Chairman Walsh would like to see this included in the new police vehicles.

Chairman Walsh announced that there was a request under Fire Prevention for an additional 4 hours a week for Inspector Jerry Frankenfield. Selectman Baschnagel noted that there were discussions to train other personnel to be backups. Ms. Griffin noted that there are two people that are being trained.

Chairman Walsh moved on to the request for funds to paint the Etna Fire Station. Ms. Griffin has a hard time spending a lot of money on this old building. Selectman Baschnagel suggested that the Town buy paint and have volunteers paint the building. John Hochreiter advised that they could get volunteers to paint the old station.

**General Fund**

Chairman Walsh and the Board agreed to accept the \$5,000 from the addition of dispatching services to Cornish and leaving \$5,000 in the dispatch overtime budget.

Chairman Walsh wanted to deal with the Humane Society services issue differently next year but for this year, it remains as requested.

**Board of Selectmen**  
**March 13, 2008**

Chairman Walsh went on to the item of reducing permit revenues to shift additional permitting fee revenue to the Fire Fund to fund the part-time Fire Inspector. Chairman Walsh felt that this function, to the extent that it's new construction, should be fully funded by building permits next year. Selectman Baschnagel agreed that this should be the case to the extent that it is new construction. Ms. McClain is not sure that they have the data to know. This will be an item for review next year.

**Department of Public Works**

Chairman Walsh advised that the Select Board will consider adding 1% or \$70,000 on March 24<sup>th</sup>.

Selectman Baschnagel noted that there is a sidewalk made of gravel on Crosby Street. Ms. Griffin reported that this is College property and not Town owned right-of-way. Ms. McClain noted that Peter Kulbacki reported on this and there were two options discussed with Dartmouth. One was to pave over the dirt path which is a well travelled path and Dartmouth maintains it and Mr. Kulbacki reported that Dartmouth intends to construct a sidewalk there as part of the stadium refurbishment. Chairman Walsh suggested doing nothing on this item this year.

Ms. McClain reviewed with the Board the fact that Frank Austin reported large increases in fuel costs. Chairman Walsh tentatively added this to the budget. Selectman Christie asked how this would have been handled if they knew about this when they were preparing the budget. Ms. McClain stated that they would look for \$50,000 in budget cuts. Selectman Christie does not want to hit a moving target and as these increases occur, the Town adjusts accordingly.

Building Maintenance and Capital Reserve Fund – Ms. Griffin stated the intention was to use the capacity from the expiration of the police bond and the last payment for the window replacement for the Howe Library to seed, one time, the Building Maintenance Fund because they know with the building energy assessments there will be recommendations to make the buildings more energy efficient.

Chairman Walsh would hate to see \$100,000 in a place where they couldn't appropriate it for expenditure until 2009. Ms. McClain suggested seeding the fund with \$25,000 and then appropriate the remainder for building improvements to be determined. Selectman Baschnagel was not comfortable in doing this because it is being built upon bumps that were incurred in the past and there is an argument that this should be returned to the taxpayers. Selectman Baschnagel also stated that it will probably be sometime in the summer of 2009 when the Town will be ready to act on the audit recommendations. Selectman Christie agreed with Selectman Baschnagel that it will be a while before they know how they are going to attack a full needs list. Chairman Walsh noted that the Board has wanted to create a fund for building maintenance. Ms. Griffin noted that the only difference is when the money would be appropriated.

Ms. Griffin suggested establishing the fund with the paid off police bond and the Howe window payments, seed it with money from next year's budget and then take the next 12 months to develop a game plan based upon the audit recommendations and then they will have a better

**Board of Selectmen**  
**March 13, 2008**

sense for prioritization of the projects. Chairman Walsh believes that if they spend \$25,000 this year, they could save \$25,000 next year because he believes that the buildings are that inefficient. He doesn't want to be in a place where they now have to wait until July of '09. Selectman Christie advised that if it is not spent in July 2009, it will go into Undesignated Fund Balance. Ms. Griffin assured the Board that they will have a plan for this money and they will not spend it without a building abatement plan. Selectman Christie asked if the money could be moved from the Undesignated Fund Balance and back into the Improvement Reserve and Ms. McClain confirmed that it could be done with Town approval.

Selectman Baschnagel supported seeding \$25,000. Chairman Walsh would like to be able to do high impact things relative to energy that have quick paybacks.

Selectman Christie advised that he would approve \$50,000 for this item. Ms. McClain confirmed that they will budget \$50,000 transfer into the reserve and then the remainder (\$50,000) would be budgeted as an appropriation or an expense to be spent on projects resulting from the audits. Selectman Christie noted that how this is done does not impact the tax rate. Ms. Griffin felt that it was important to stress sustainability. Selectman Baschnagel noted that he would not vote in support of this.

Bike and Pedestrian Committee – Ms. Griffin noted that there is a little bit left in the Municipal Transportation Improvement Fund after funding replacement of the traffic signal at Wheelock and Main and they have asked for this money for the projects the Committee presented last night. Selectman Rassias supports this. Chairman Walsh would like the \$7,000 to come out of the Municipal Transportation Improvement fund and find the additional money to come out of the budget somewhere.

Bonnie Clac – Chairman Walsh suggested leaving this in for this year. Selectman Baschnagel stated that in looking at the financials for Bonnie Clac, they are running a surplus and those funds may be committed but he doesn't feel that the Town is making a contribution that makes any kind of difference in their operation and he would like to see more to support the idea that the Town would need to provide this service if they didn't support it. Selectman Baschnagel would take this item out of the budget.

Vice Chairman Connolly felt that the Town is becoming a lead source for contributions and this is an organization that is becoming national and she doesn't feel that they should use the Town money for this. Selectman Christie feels that this is a great organization but it seems like it has gone beyond the local area and it doesn't meet the criteria that the Board is going toward. Selectman Christie also stated that if they do deny the request, they should give a clear reason why.

Selectman Rassias questioned whether the group is as financially solvent as they appear to be. Chairman Walsh stated that the Town was instrumental in getting the organization started and for him the question is whether the answer is no this year or next year. Ms. Griffin stated that for next year, they could provide the criteria for the policy with the application and this might result in some agencies determining that they do not really qualify. Selectman Baschnagel confirmed

**Board of Selectmen  
March 13, 2008**

that they are not required to vote as to whether they are in support or not before the item goes on the warrant. Ms. Griffin stated that they do not have to state their support.

Chairman Walsh proposed to not support Bonnie Clac's request with a clear communication with Bonnie Clac as to why and vote in support of the request of Etna Library. Selectman Baschnagel SECONDED the proposal.

The Board unanimously supported the proposal to not support Bonnie Clac's request for funding and the Board unanimously supported the request from the Etna Library.

Chairman Walsh noted that there was an addition of \$5,000 to the General Fund from the Cornish dispatching services and an additional \$500 from money that was previously used to support Bonnie Clac.

**Water Reclamation Facility**

Selectman Christie reported that everyone he has spoken with understands that they will have to replace equipment at the Facility as needed and the objective at this point should be to educate people. He feels that they should move forward with this and get the education going whether it's a mailing and/or a public hearing. It's an educational need that must be done well before Town Meeting. Vice Chairman Connolly agreed that they need to move forward.

Chairman Walsh advised that the draft that Ms. Griffin provided was good. Ms. Griffin suggested using something similar to what she prepared to provide background and status which could be sent in newsletter form and that mailing would need to go out before the end of the month. The Board would then schedule 2 public hearings in April. Chairman Walsh suggested having a public hearing on the 24<sup>th</sup> with a presentation at a public hearing at the second meeting in April. Ms. Griffin noted that the public hearing would need to be set tonight so that Penny could notice the hearing tomorrow. Ms. Griffin asked the Board to provide feedback for the information that was provided to them so that they can get it out to the residents.

**Chairman Walsh MOVED to set a public hearing for the plans and financing of the Water Reclamation Facility on March 24<sup>th</sup>. Selectman Baschnagel SECONDED the motion.**

**THE BOARD VOTED UNANIMOUSLY IN FAVOR OF SETTING A PUBLIC HEARING FOR THE PLANS AND FINANCING OF THE WATER RECLAMATION FACILITY ON MARCH 24<sup>TH</sup>.**

**Chairman Walsh MOVED to continue the budget hearing until March 24<sup>th</sup>. Vice Chairman Connolly SECONDED the motion.**

**THE BOARD VOTED UNANIMOUSLY IN FAVOR OF CONTINUING THE BUDGET HEARING UNTIL MARCH 24<sup>TH</sup>.**



**4. ADMINISTRATIVE REPORTS.**

Ms. Griffin advised that she had no Administrative Reports.

Selectman Christie wanted to extend the Boards appreciation to the Department Heads for their hard work on this year's budget.

**5. SELECTMEN'S REPORTS**

**Peter Christie**

Selectman Christie had nothing to report.

**Kate Connolly**

Vice Chairman Connolly had nothing to report.

**Bill Baschnagel**

Selectman Baschnagel had nothing to report.

**Athos Rassias**

Selectman Rassias had nothing to report.

**Brian Walsh**

Chairman Walsh had nothing to report.

**6. OTHER BUSINESS.**

There was no Other Business reported.

**7. ADJOURNMENT.**

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

**THE BOARD VOTED UNANIMOUSLY TO ADJOURN THE MEETING AT 10:45 P.M.**

Sincerely,

Athos Rassias, Secretary

Minutes prepared by Elizabeth S. Rathburn

**SUMMARY**

1. **Chairman Walsh MOVED to set a public hearing for the plans and financing of the Water Reclamation Facility on March 24<sup>th</sup>. Selectman Baschnagel SECONDED the motion.**

**THE BOARD VOTED UNANIMOUSLY IN FAVOR OF SETTING A PUBLIC HEARING FOR THE PLANS AND FINANCING OF THE WATER RECLAMATION FACILITY ON MARCH 24<sup>TH</sup>.**

2. **Chairman Walsh MOVED to continue the budget hearing until March 24<sup>th</sup>. Vice Chairman Connolly SECONDED the motion.**

**THE BOARD VOTED UNANIMOUSLY IN FAVOR OF CONTINUING THE BUDGET HEARING UNTIL MARCH 24<sup>TH</sup>.**

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

**THE BOARD VOTED UNANIMOUSLY TO ADJOURN THE MEETING AT 10:45 P.M.**

**FINAL**

**BOARD OF SELECTMEN'S MEETING**

**March 12, 2008**

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

**1. PUBLIC COMMENT.**

Chairman Walsh announced that Foster Blough passed away and asked for a moment of silence. Mr. Blough had served on the Hanover School Board and the Hanover Finance Committee in years past.

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

**2. 3<sup>rd</sup> BUDGET HEARING:**

- Public Works
- CIP
- Town Properties

**PUBLIC WORKS**

Chairman Walsh invited Peter Kulbacki, Director of Public Works, to speak to the Board. Mr. Kulbacki introduced Mike Chase, Director of Operations and Frank Austin, Fleet and Facilities Manager.

Mr. Kulbacki mentioned that they had major struggles with fuel and paving cost increases. Mr. Kulbacki reported that they are about \$20,000 over budget in overtime costs this year.

Selectman Rassias asked about the overtime budget for personnel. Mr. Kulbacki noted that the majority of the amount spent on overtime is related to snow plowing and pickup that needs to be done at night. There is also street sweeping that is done at night in the summertime.

Chairman Walsh felt that Public Works has done a good job keeping overtime costs down despite the uncontrolled factor of the weather.

Selectman Christie wondered if the Board should be adding money to the budget to handle the damage that was done over this past winter. Specifically, there are roads that have been washed out that are not included in this budget and whether they should add money to this paving budget. Mr. Kulbacki felt that they will be patching a lot of the damaged roads and rebuilding others and repaving will cost more than he felt the Town would be willing to spend. They have

**Board of Selectmen  
March 12, 2008**

tried to cut their tonnage of paving but the price went up so to keep the budget in line with what they have tried to manage has been difficult.

Chairman Walsh asked Mr. Kulbacki what amount would make a difference in the paving budget. Mike Chase noted that reclaiming highways is the best way to spend the money because reclaiming the road can make it last longer. Mr. Chase provided examples to the Board as to alternatives for repairing the roads including reclaiming, shim paving and rebuilding. Ms. McClain noted that \$74,000 is in the budget for reclaiming. Mr. Chase noted that this was to do one mile of road. Selectman Christie would like to put another 1% into roads which is about \$70,000.

Selectman Baschnagel asked how soon they will know what the damage is from the winter. Mr. Kulbacki stated that they can pretty much tell now and there are some roads that can not be repaired with a patch. Mr. Kulbacki stated that in the next couple of weeks, they could report back as to what they are looking at for repairs.

Chairman Walsh stated that their objective is to close the budget discussions tomorrow. He would ask that DPW send information to the Board on the repairs between now at March 21<sup>st</sup>.

Vice Chairman Connolly asked about the sidewalk maintenance budget and noted a deficit in sidewalks on the west side of Crosby Street. Mr. Kulbacki stated that there are on-going sidewalk discussions for that area and this is in conjunction with some renovations that are forthcoming. Chairman Walsh would like to have a working session dealing with sidewalks. Ms. McClain noted that the sidewalk plan is on the CIP plan and there are policy decisions that will help inform that exercise.

Selectman Rassias asked about the wording regarding 'fully funding the pavement program'. Mr. Kulbacki stated that a few years back the budget was trimmed and the paving budget was cut back so some of the roads have been pushed off for repair so this is referring to the desire to fund this at the level to keep the roads on track for repair.

Chairman Walsh asked about the 45% cost increase in bio-diesel; he would like to see what the cost amount actually is and whether it's just bio-diesel. Mr. Austin noted that he checked bio-diesel prices (bio-diesel \$3.83/gallon versus regular diesel \$3.54/gallon) and at the time they were preparing the budget the Town was paying \$2.97/gallon for diesel and \$2.40/gallon for gas and now gas is over \$3.00/gallon. Chairman Walsh would like to add this to the list for further review.

Chairman Walsh asked why bio-diesel is 20% more expensive than regular diesel. Mr. Austin reported that the cost is driven by the market and one reason is that the farmers have caught on to being able to make money on the product and by-product used to make bio-diesel. The industry is looking at using animal fat to provide fuel. The prices have more than doubled since they started using this type of fuel. Vice Chairman Connolly confirmed that they need to stay with bio-diesel and they can't alternate this fuel. Chairman Walsh noted that Keene is doing some

**Board of Selectmen  
March 12, 2008**

work with animal fat and asked whether Hanover was aware of this and keeping up with this and would like to see Hanover working with that community on this initiative.

Chairman Walsh stated that in looking at the fuel line item at \$190,000, he wondered whether they should be looking at adding a 25% increase. Ms. McClain could run the numbers and it will probably be about \$10,000 to \$15,000 and she will have the update tomorrow.

Vice Chairman Connolly asked about the streetlights around the green. Mr. Kulbacki stated that they are looking at changing all the globes to eliminate some of the glare. Selectman Baschnagel noted that in the area of W. Wheelock Street, it is very hard to see people in the area. He would like to make sure that everything is done to make these lights work to their fullest potential by removing tree limbs that are blocking lights, etc.

Chairman Walsh asked about electricity use and gallons of oil in relation to the assessment of streetlights in town and what can be more efficient or eliminated. Ms. McClain noted that Mike Evans was asked by Ms. Griffin to look at the safety of removing certain streetlights. Mr. Kulbacki noted that this study has not been completed yet. Vice Chairman Connolly asked about using less wattage bulbs. Mr. Kulbacki noted that there were other issues including having to pay tariffs to the electric company to change the lights or equipment.

Chairman Walsh would like to set goals for next year's budget with regard to streetlights. He would like to know what would need to be eliminated (with regard to streetlights) to reduce energy usage by 10% and 33%. Selectman Baschnagel would like to look into initiatives being done by the NH Co-op in the Plymouth area with regard to lower wattage lamps.

Selectman Rassias asked about the vehicle purchases and whether there is a fuel efficient truck available for these types of vehicles. Mr. Austin noted that there are not a lot of options for certain types of vehicles.

Chairman Walsh felt that for those vehicles that are not that heavy duty, there may be better options. Mr. Austin felt that there are some very viable options and the technology is out there. Mr. Austin also stated that the sidewalk machine is equipment that has limited alternatives. Mr. Austin noted that when he attended a summit in Atlanta for hybrid technology, there is a push to move this in the right direction.

Chairman Walsh asked about the amount of \$108,800 for road reconstruction. Mr. Kulbacki advised that the amount for the Inn corner traffic signals was included in this line item. Chairman Walsh would like signals broken down from road reconstruction.

Chairman Walsh would like to see a table of traffic signals that are energy efficient and those that are not. Ms. McClain noted that the upgrade at South Main Street and Lebanon Street reduced energy costs by 30%. Chairman Walsh would like to see this broken down by barrels of oil, etc.

**Board of Selectmen  
March 12, 2008**

**CIP**

Ms. McClain noted that there were members from the Bike Committee present to speak to the possibility of using the small remaining balance in the Municipal Transportation Improvement Fund which is funded by an additional \$5.00 per vehicle registration fee.

Vice Chairman Connolly asked about the line item for the building and maintenance fund in the amount of \$100,000 to help fund the Howe Library roof repair and asked why this is going to be put into the fund this year. Ms. McClain noted that this amount is comprised of two items that exist in the FY 2008 budget. The expenditure of \$16,500 is Town's portion of certain renovations and this will not be in next year's budget. In the current fiscal year, final debt service payment on the Police Department and the Town office building will not need to be funded. Ms. McClain reported that there are certain large capital expenditures anticipated and with the building audits, this money could be used for energy efficiency initiatives. Vice Chairman Connolly asked if the budget was going to be kept up to the level of the bond that is expiring. Ms. McClain noted that this could be brought to zero or this money could be used to assist the capital reserve fund for major building improvements. Chairman Walsh would like to put this on the list for further review.

Mr. Austin reported that he did some research to try to establish upcoming expenditures, the Howe Library roof became an item on the list because there had been some leaks in addition to the police station roof. Mr. Austin feels that the list needs to be more fully developed from floors, windows and roof repair/maintenance and even though the number appears to be large, he feels that it may be on the low side. Mr. Austin noted that the energy audit will be ready the end of August. Vice Chairman Connolly noted that the list of possible projects would be helpful to the Board. Chairman Walsh would like to remove the Howe Library roof from this particular budget item.

Chairman Walsh asked about specialized equipment and whether there could be sharing with neighboring towns. Mr. Austin noted that part of the problem is that each town has only one of each of these particular types equipment and everyone needs it at the same time. Mr. Austin agreed that he will be looking at certain equipment and whether the Town should own the equipment or rent the equipment.

Barbara McIlroy spoke from the audience and stated that she noticed that age seems to be the criteria for replacement and questioned whether the equipment should be kept longer than the 5, 10 or 15 years. Mr. Austin noted that the odometer and the age of the equipment has less to do with the replacement schedule than the maintenance requirements. Mr. Austin reported that with equipment replacement, he is ideally looking for some sort of residual value to offset the original cost and the maintenance costs and they use the industry standards on some of the equipment. Chairman Walsh noted that the ladder truck was replaced at 30 years and he feels that DPW does a good job in making an economical decision on these replacements vehicle by vehicle.

**Board of Selectmen  
March 12, 2008**

Chairman Walsh invited Hugh Mellert, Chairman Bicycle/Pedestrian Committee, to speak to the Board. Mr. Mellert introduced fellow members Doug Deaett, Roger Lohr and Tim Cox. Mr. Mellert stated that they were appearing before the Board to get a blessing to use money from the Municipal Transportation Fund to support two projects. The first project is to hire a consultant to look at a number of 'hot spots' to make recommendations and improvements on bicycle safety at a cost of about \$6,000. The second project is a bicycle mapping project in which they could 'piggyback' onto on-going efforts in the Town of Hartford with a cost of approximately \$2,000 to look at roads in Hanover and their level of bicycle friendliness. Ms. Griffin mentioned that there is about \$5,300 left in the Municipal Transportation Improvement Capital Reserve Fund and was offered as a possibility for funding these efforts. Mr. Mellert noted that they have also secured \$1,000 from the Hanover Improvement Society and are continually working on moving forward and looking at their funding options.

Selectman Rassias felt that this is very important and he is thankful that this group is coming together. He noted an increasing amount of people commuting to DHMC by bicycle and voiced his support of the work being done by the group.

Chairman Walsh is frustrated that work has gone into creating the Bicycle Committee and substantial amounts of money were invested in improvements to Lyme Road and there was no Committee input on these projects and there was granite and paving that should have been influenced. Chairman Walsh would like to see a set of design standards that are the beginning point for future development to avoid building additional problems.

Selectman Baschnagel noted that there is work planned in front of the Richmond Middle School in addition to projects planned on Lyme Road (Rivercrest) which should include criteria for bicycles in the area.

Selectman Christie asked for the final amount being requested by the Committee. Ms. McClain proposed adding a \$7,000 appropriation and a \$5,400 withdrawal from the Municipal Transportation Improvements Fund to fund the majority of the \$7,000. Chairman Walsh would like to know where the money is usually spent from the fund. Ms. McClain advised that historically this fund has been used for the roundabouts. Mr. Mellert stated that the larger portion of this year's fund is going to the traffic light project on Main Street. Mr. Kulbacki advised that part of the offset of the costs is the Inn corner.

Chairman Walsh would like to find the difference between the \$7,000 and the \$5,300 somewhere else besides the traffic lights. The intent was for things like bicycle and pedestrian improvements and would like to find the money for the traffic lights somewhere else. Chairman Walsh does not want this fund generally used for road improvements because originally it was about bus shelters, safe biking, walking paths, etc. Mr. Mellert noted that the majority of the fund was used in previous years for bike friendly storm grates. Selectman Baschnagel noted that the intent was to handle traffic related projects and not maintenance.

Selectman Christie would like to see what else is being taken out of this fund. Ms. McClain noted that the \$70,000 has been appropriated in the budget includes part of the traffic light

**Board of Selectmen  
March 12, 2008**

replacement that has already been done and they are rebuilding the fund at \$35,000/year. Selectman Christie asked why the money could not come out of this fund. Selectman Baschnagel noted that the money would not be available until after Town Meeting May 2009.

Chairman Walsh requested that the Committee and Public Works join forces for the design of future projects and thanked the Committee for coming forward.

Chairman Walsh questioned the \$125,000 in dispatch equipment in 2012 and noted that there is a bond out for a significant amount of money and he would like to see how this all flows together and is not convinced that \$125,000 will be okay at that time. Chairman Walsh feels that the Town should look into how they transition to free software and look at this over the next 10 years. Selectman Baschnagel suggested including Corey Stevens in that conversation. Chairman Walsh noted that this was an item that he wanted to discuss in next year's budget.

Chairman Walsh asked about the parking facilities improvement amount of \$110,000 in 2011 for the replacement of the control equipment and felt that this was a short life for this item. Ms. McClain noted that this is for the arms going in and out of the facility that have had significant problems. Chairman Walsh would like to look at the options for this item.

**TOWN PROPERTIES**

Marjorie Rogalski, Cool Cities, thanked the Board for their consideration on carbon emissions and energy efficiency in their decision making. Ms. Rogalski asked if the money was going to be used for recommendations stemming from the energy audits. Chairman Walsh noted that they do not have an answer to that yet but they may set some money aside and there are a set of maintenance issues for the buildings and a set of energy saving opportunities for the buildings. Ms. McClain noted that there hasn't been anything additional budgeted in the Public Works budget for these initiatives. Ms. Rogalski asked if there would be money available to continue with energy audits of the Town buildings because only three buildings have been done so far. Mr. Austin noted that there would be additional audits but they would probably be done in the winter of '08-'09. Mr. Austin felt that more than likely it is a process and the Board may not feel comfortable in spending the large amounts of money that are recommended for some of the buildings. Mr. Austin reported that most issues brought up were insulation issues but some of them were complicated and will require further discussion at a later date. Ms. Rogalski hopes that in the upcoming years there are on-going energy audits and thanked the Board for putting in LED traffic lights. Chairman Walsh noted that on-line for tomorrow night's discussion is taking on the methane at the Water Reclamation Facility which should have a large carbon footprint for savings.

Chairman Walsh would like to propose turning off the air conditioning in all of the Town buildings and would like to use the savings to fund energy saving initiatives and asked Mr. Austin how much money could be saved by doing this. Mr. Austin stated that there are a number of different operation systems in the Town systems from the air conditioning unit placed in a window to elaborate systems such as the library that mixes air and does a number of different things. Mr. Austin noted that there were a number of things that were implemented to help with



**Board of Selectmen  
March 12, 2008**

these systems and in '06 they subscribed to National Grid to do an energy conservation program to look at the Town's lighting and usage. Mr. Austin reported that by converting a number of lighting units, they saved \$5,000 annually at '06 price per KW. Mr. Austin felt that there were other ways to reduce their usage short of shutting air conditioning off. A predetermined temperature can be programmed into the systems. Mr. Austin reported that the window units are the most costly to operate and currently, the Fire Department and the municipal building have stand alone window units.

Selectman Christie reviewed the information provided to the Board and noted that he doesn't see the answer as to what the savings would be if they shut off all of the air conditioning. Ms. McClain noted that about \$2,600 would appear to be the savings. By eliminating a single air conditioning unit in the Town office, it saves around \$69.00. Mr. Austin noted that in the other buildings with the central units, the blowers are running all the time and the compressors run when the air conditioning needs to run through.

Chairman Walsh stated that the Town built in the need to constantly move air in the Library and the RW Black Center no matter what the temperature. Selectman Baschnagel noted that Charlie Sullivan did an energy audit with bar graphs that showed total consumption per building and it showed that the public safety building used considerably less energy than the Howe or the Black Center. Mr. Austin noted that the Public Safety building was not up and running and now all the rooms are up and running. Ms. McClain noted that there is a single meter than runs both the Police Department and the Fire Department.

Vice Chairman Connolly asked about the Howe Library and the electricity expense amounts that have tripled. Mr. Austin stated that there may be a way to pin this down to come up with the air conditioning figures and it was his thought that there are a few areas that they can work on efficiency wise. Chairman Walsh does not believe the numbers as presented and he feels that they have spent a lot of money on HVAC which will continue to waste irreplaceable resources.

Selectman Christie asked if there are any suggested standards for heating and for cooling. Mr. Austin reported that 65 to 76 is acceptable for a person to work in an office area. Selectman Christie would like to see what the Cool Cities Coalition would recommend. Selectman Rassias feels that there is a lot written on this topic including suggested temperature ranges. Mr. Austin called the system control technicians and depending on the range of the temperature, it may set the system into alarm. Chairman Walsh noted that the costs went up to \$44,000/year and they probably bought a system that was built for the last century. Selectman Christie noted that they are talking about a footprint impact and he does not want to make these limits so that the buildings are dysfunctional. Mr. Kulbacki stated that they can run the systems based on what really is needed. Mr. Austin stated that the Town has the ability to set the systems at a certain level but some of the deficiencies lie in the insulation of these properties.

Selectman Rassias question the temperature levels of the buildings currently and what they are set at. Mr. Austin stated the for wintertime daytime the temperature is set at 74 degrees and in the summer it is set at 65. Selectman Baschnagel suggested switching these around. Chairman Walsh would like a program from the Town administration which gives a set of

**Board of Selectmen  
March 12, 2008**

recommendations to acquire data and options for next year to head in the right direction for the environment, the workers and the residents of the Town. Chairman Walsh suggested that they look at this in May with recommendations for the rest of the summer.

Selectman Baschnagel asked about burning the recycled oil at DPW. Mr. Austin noted that they are the only building burning that because of the way they are set up. Selectman Christie asked if they accept oil from the public. Mr. Kulbacki noted that they do not accept oil from the public because things could be mixed in with it and it then affects the operation of the furnace.

Chairman Walsh asked about the Municipal Telecom Infrastructure item. Ms. McClain noted that this is the fiber project and the Town was awarded \$92,000 from the Homeland Security Grant so the actual spending is the grant money along with what was appropriated. This is the fiber run that is going to be connecting the Lebanon Dispatch Center with the Hanover Dispatch Center and they are also going to be using that network system to improve the public safety infrastructure and the schools will be included as well. The project has been slowed through litigation so they have not been able to turn the network on. Chairman Walsh clarified that it would take \$34,000 to complete all Town facilities (except the Etna Road garage, the cemeteries and the schools) all being fiber connected including the connection to Lebanon. Ms. McClain advised that they can't get the money until the system is put in place and this can not go forward until the litigation is over.

Selectman Baschnagel looked at the actuals to date and he felt that the estimates are high by 10 to 20% for heating and electricity. Ms. McClain advised that this does not include the January bill and noted that with the change in National Grid's billing system could be the difference in the actuals.

Vice Chairman Connolly asked about the telephone bills generated from the Black Center. Ms. McClain noted that they are currently paying for extra lines which will not be needed when they get the fiber network.

Chairman Walsh would like to look at the buildings and see what they are costing on a dollar per square foot basis in next year's budget.

Chairman Walsh closed the hearing.

**3. APPROVAL OF MINUTES**  
- February 25 and 27, 2008

**Selectman Baschnagel MOVED to approve the Minutes of February 25, 2008 with minor changes. Vice Chairman Connolly SECONDED the motion.**

**THE BOARD VOTED UNANIMOUSLY TO APPROVE THE MINUTES OF FEBRUARY 25, 2008 WITH MINOR CHANGES.**

**Board of Selectmen  
March 12, 2008**

**Selectman Baschnagel MOVED to approve the Minutes of February 27, 2008 with minor changes. Vice Chairman Connolly SECONDED the motion.**

**THE BOARD VOTED UNANIMOUSLY TO APPROVE THE MINUTES OF FEBRUARY 27, 2008 WITH MINOR CHANGES.**

**4. ADMINISTRATIVE REPORTS.**

There were no Administrative Reports.

**SELECTMEN'S REPORTS**

**Peter Christie**

Selectman Christie had nothing to report.

**Kate Connolly**

Vice Chairman Connolly reported that the Planning Board met and discussed possible changes to the site plan regulations. The Planning Board also had a chance to examine the Rivercrest application for the second time and made one minor lot line adjustment.

**Bill Baschnagel**

Selectman Baschnagel attended the Planning Board meeting and they reviewed a proposal to add beds to a fraternity and in turn required the College to add 3 parking spaces to cover it.

Selectman Baschnagel reported that the Planning Board requested that the proposal for the new soccer field include a provision that in the next two years, they must report on the progress to drill a well as opposed to using Town water for irrigation.

Selectman Baschnagel reported that the Conservation Commission met tonight and they reviewed and resolved questions regarding the Chieftain Motel dock to be installed this spring. There were discussions regarding Rivercrest with regard to open space and they will provide feedback to the Planning Board on that.

**Athos Rassias**

Selectman Rassias had nothing to report.

**Brian Walsh**

Chairman Walsh had nothing to report.

**Board of Selectmen  
March 12, 2008**

**6. OTHER BUSINESS.**

There was no Other Business reported.

**7. ADJOURNMENT.**

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

**THE BOARD VOTED UNANIMOUSLY TO ADJOURN THE MEETING AT 9:37 P.M.**

Respectfully Submitted,

Athos Rassias, Secretary

Minutes prepared by Elizabeth S. Rathburn.

**SUMMARY**

- 1. Selectman Baschnagel MOVED to approve the Minutes of February 25, 2008 with minor changes. Vice Chairman Connolly SECONDED the motion.**

**THE BOARD VOTED UNANIMOUSLY TO APPROVE THE MINUTES OF FEBRUARY 25, 2008 WITH MINOR CHANGES.**

- 2. Selectman Baschnagel MOVED to approve the Minutes of February 27, 2008 with minor changes. Vice Chairman Connolly SECONDED the motion.**

**THE BOARD VOTED UNANIMOUSLY TO APPROVE THE MINUTES OF FEBRUARY 27, 2008 WITH MINOR CHANGES.**

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

**THE BOARD VOTED UNANIMOUSLY TO ADJOURN THE MEETING AT 9:37 P.M.**

**FINAL**

**BOARD OF SELECTMEN'S MEETING**

**February 27, 2008**

**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; Katherine Connolly, Vice Chairman; Peter Christie, Selectman; Bill Baschnagel, Selectman; Athos Rassias, Selectman; and Julia Griffin, Town Manager.

**1. PUBLIC COMMENT.**

There were no comments from the public.

**2. 2<sup>nd</sup> BUDGET HEARING:**

- Fire
- Ambulance
- Parks and Recreation

Chairman Walsh invited Ms. Griffin and Chief Bradley to address the Board. Captain Gilbert, Captain Hinsley and Captain Clark were also in attendance to speak to the Board.

Ms. Griffin noted that the Town is being weaned off the SAFER grant and the salaries budget item will be going up to reflect that.

Chief Bradley advised that this is the leanest budget that he has presented in many years.

Selectman Rassias asked for clarification on the SAFER Grant. Ms. Griffin noted that each year the federal funding for the 4 firefighter positions is reduced and the responsibility lies with the Town. Captain Hinsley noted that this grant covered a 5 year period with the amounts applied to salaries reduced each year.

Ms. Griffin noted that the Town was really fortunate to get the grant funding. Captain Hinsley reported that of the thousands of applicants, less than 1% actually receive funding.

Selectman Baschnagel asked about the reporting software and whether it will give them a better capability to pull numbers. Captain Gilbert stated that as more information is put into it, more information can be pulled out of it.

Selectman Christie asked about the new Fire District rates and why District 1 isn't going down when Districts 2 and 3 go up. Ms. McClain stated that the way the rates are structured and the transition time. The rate in District 1 doesn't increase at all and it really should decrease by a large amount but does not because of the reallocation. Selectman Christie clarified that the potential rate decrease is being offset by the increased costs in this budget.

**Board of Selectmen  
February 27, 2008**

Selectman Baschnagel noted that they raised the rate for the call personnel and asked if the hourly call firefighter rate is on par with the full time rate. Chief Bradley advised that it is not quite on par.

Chairman Walsh asked about the part-time Fire Inspector and whether this is just for new construction. Chief Bradley advised that 95% of this amount is spent on plan review for fire alarms and sprinkler systems and then testing them which takes the bulk of his time. Ms. Griffin noted that part of the building permit revenue is being applied to the Fire Fund for this service. Chairman Walsh would like this put on the list for further review (the possibility of putting more money into the Fire Fund from building permit revenue).

Questions were raised about the decibel reader that was being requested for the Fire Department. Ms. Griffin noted that this was for testing fire alarms. Chairman Walsh would like to know if this is the same equipment that the Planning Office uses and how this equipment is different or exactly the same.

Selectman Rassias asked about the amount being transferred to reserve and what is driving these costs. Ms. Griffin reported that this is due to scheduled vehicle replacement and other equipment and in looking out to 2013, Engine 3 needs to be replaced so they opted to increase the reserve contribution for this upcoming expense.

Selectman Christie clarified with Betsy McClain that when the Town financed the ladder truck they handled part of this through a loan and the other part through reserve. Ms. McClain stated that there are still several years that need to be built up to fund the ladder truck.

Vice Chairman Connolly asked about the building equipment renovations line item for locker replacement? Chief Bradley advised that the lockers were original from 1973. Captain Gilbert advised that one set rusted and fell on a truck.

Ms. Griffin noted that there was a cost to repaint the old Etna Fire Station (across from the station) that was cut from the budget (in the amount around \$3,000). The building is really cold storage at this point and the Town needs to decide whether to put additional money into this building. Selectman Baschnagel is generally against getting rid of any Town properties. He would like to see about getting a community of volunteers to paint it. Captain Clark stated that this has come up in the past but there are safety issues with the back of the building. Selectman Baschnagel would like to see about getting the old 1931 engine restored.

Vice Chairman Connolly asked about hydrant revenue. Chief Bradley advised that this item is for revenue generated by private hydrants such as Dartmouth College, CRREL, etc.

Selectman Baschnagel asked about the false alarm charges. Captain Gilbert took last year's figures and applied the new rates that are now in effect. Ms. Griffin stated that it is unclear whether this is a sustainable amount.

**Board of Selectmen  
February 27, 2008**

Chairman Walsh asked if the hydrant rentals line absorbed the Water Company increase. Ms. Griffin confirmed that it did. Chairman Walsh confirmed that there are no anticipated increases.

Selectman Baschnagel asked about the telephone charges. Ms. Griffin explained that the telephone charges at the fire station have nothing to do with the dispatching services so it is now a separate expense charged to the Fire Department. Ms. McClain noted that this is the actual fee and when fiber is up and running, the cost will go down.

Chairman Walsh asked if there were any trends with the Fire Department statistics that should be noted. Chief Bradley stated that the numbers were pretty much in line year to year.

Vice Chairman Connolly noted that there is a significant increase in ambulance calls versus fire calls. Captain Hinsley stated that the percentage of calls to the percentage of the population is not far off and there are a lot of calls at the College but more so for the assisted living facilities.

Selectman Baschnagel asked about surcharging some of the high use entities to reflect the capacity. Chief Bradley didn't feel that this could be done legally (penalizing a certain population). Selectman Baschnagel stated that it had to be tied to something real. Captain Hinsley stated that if they were looking at eventually funding another ambulance, they could possibly charge an impact fee legally but to treat people differently could be illegal.

Ms. Griffin stated in a previous conversation with Walter Mitchell about Hanover Terrace, it was determined that they could charge the ambulance fees but not another surcharge because they are a heavy user.

**AMBULANCE**

Vice Chairman Connolly asked when TB testing began. Captain Hinsley stated that this has been done by the Fire Department for quite some time.

Selectman Baschnagel asked about the overtime. Ms. Griffin stated that there are discussions as to what percentage of firefighters' salaries should be allocated to the Ambulance Fund and what percentage of overtime. They are also looking at what the Towns of Norwich and Lyme could sustain for charges.

Selectman Rassias asked about Comstar. Chief Bradley advised that they are well into the 90% range for collecting fees. Ms. Griffin noted that so far, there have been no complaints from residents or users.

Chairman Walsh asked about ambulance billing supplies and with Comstar taking care of the billing, what are the supplies that are needed. Captain Hinsley noted that this is for the required forms that the department needs to be signed to submit to Medicare and Medicaid and this is the software that enables them to use the tablets. It is all electronic and they can perform the service, submit the form and get the money.



**Board of Selectmen  
February 27, 2008**

Vice Chairman Connolly asked about contractual obligations and disallowed patient billings. Ms. McClain advised that Medicare and Medicaid are very strict about what they cover. This amount shows the correlation between what Medicaid will pay for a fixed amount and our billed rates are higher than that. Ms. Griffin pointed out that the Towns of Lyme and Norwich contributed toward that disallowed amount.

Vice Chairman Connolly asked about the capital reserve amount of \$110,960 which has increased almost 50%. Ms. McClain advised that they will be replacing an ambulance and the cost for replacement has increased.

Chairman Walsh would like to have a list of the run charge rates for different services; charges to Hanover, Lyme and Norwich and the Medicare and Medicaid maximums. He would like to be able to look at the fees and where the Town sits versus the other Towns and what the State and the Federal government are doing. Captain Hinsley advised that they look at this regularly and this is done at the time that the rates and fees are being set. Chairman Walsh would like to see this in conjunction with the budget in the future.

Selectman Baschnagel wanted to get a better understanding of how the costs incurred by the low reimbursements from Medicare are being flowed down. Ms. McClain noted that the President of Comstar, Rick Martin, has offered to come speak to the fees and look at the bigger picture. Captain Hinsley cautioned that Mr. Martin could come speak to the Board about what is happening but he is unable to give the Board information about surrounding communities and what they charge or make any suggestion about what the Town of Hanover should charge. Chairman Walsh would like to see surrounding communities, rate and fee schedule and Medicare and Medicaid figures. Ms. Griffin felt that this might be helpful when setting rates and fees. Selectman Rassias felt that a discussion about the big picture might be helpful also.

Chairman Walsh would also like to see the percentage of runs that are Medicare and the percentage that are Medicaid. Captain Hinsley stated that this could all be broken down by Comstar.

**PARKS AND RECREATION**

Chairman Walsh invited Hank Tenney to speak to the Board. Mr. Tenney advised that they increased their revenue line items and cut some of the expenditures.

Chairman Walsh thanked Mr. Tenney for being willing to try to cut expenses. Ms. Griffin stated that in spending time with the various Boards to show them the 5 year projections, they were encouraged to look at areas where they could increase revenue. The School District significantly increased the user fees for using the basketball courts and it was felt that these costs should be passed along to the people who use the gym. Basketball registrations would require 2 checks, one to the Recreation Dept and one to the School District to pay for the fees and so that residents understand exactly where the money is going and why.

**Board of Selectmen  
February 27, 2008**

Mr. Tenney reported that Sherry Colfer, Facility Manager, offered to work Tuesday to Saturday to keep the building open and help the budget. They are proposing to not increase the registration fees until next year and this would be done in a 2 year phase. Chairman Walsh asked for Mr. Tenney to thank Sherry Colfer for her willingness to change her schedule.

Selectman Christie asked how they help those people who cannot afford to play. Mr. Tenney advised that they have scholarships.

Vice Chairman Connolly asked where the gym rentals are reflected. Mr. Tenney stated that they were under property services. These would be for the youth activities and then the basketball tournaments.

Chairman Walsh asked about the After School Program. Ms. Griffin stated that Dartmouth College Child Care has approached the Town to see if they would reconsider reinstating the HOST program. Ms. Griffin advised that the response to them was that there needed to be a subsidy from the College and coverage of costs through fees. The Town will not subsidize the program, it must be self sufficient. Chairman Walsh asked what happened previously. Mr. Tenney stated that there are so many programs for kids and they did not keep consistent numbers. For this program to be successful, it should target kids in grades 4<sup>th</sup>, 5<sup>th</sup> and 6<sup>th</sup> versus 6<sup>th</sup>, 7<sup>th</sup> and 8<sup>th</sup>.

Chairman Walsh stated that he added all the numbers together and the Recreation Department served nearly 2,000 participants. Mr. Tenney noted that this didn't include public events such as the Pond Party. Mr. Tenney stated that this event is made possible with the efforts of Bill Young, the Occom Pond Community, and Dartmouth College, who provide support and in addition to the donations. He also mentioned that Jack Stinson donates all of their profits to the program on that day.

Chairman Walsh thanked Mr. Tenney and the Parks and Recreation Board. He would like to determine if air conditioning was stopped on each Town building, what the environmental impact would be. Vice Chairman Connolly asked if the building was an all or nothing issue. Mr. Tenney noted that he believes that everything is done in zones. Selectman Baschnagel noted that what prompted this discussion was the report from Charlie Sullivan. Mr. Tenney didn't doubt that his building used a lot of energy.

Chairman Walsh moved on to a general discussion of the tax percentage increase.

Selectman Christie stated that he feels that the presentation needs to start with a factual statement about the increase with an explanation of the impacts that influenced it. He was concerned about confusing the residents if the factual statement was not presented first.

Selectman Baschnagel noted that Ruddsboro Road is in need of repair and he questioned whether the repairs from the damage from this winter will be outside the norm for repaving. Ms. Griffin noted that when Public Works does their mud season survey, she has asked them to keep her apprised at how much the impact will be on the paving budget. Selectman Baschnagel had concerns about the condition of the roads currently and whether it will be a matter of rebuilding

**Board of Selectmen  
February 27, 2008**

the roads versus paving the roads. Ms. Griffin noted that this same issue occurred about 3 years ago and right now it is too soon to tell. With this budget continuing to commit to rebuild the investment in the paving fund, it will hopefully help with this. The paving price trends are a bigger issue and a greater potential to impact the budget more than frost heaves.

Chairman Walsh noted that UNH is studying porous surfaces and alternate road treatments. Ms. Griffin advised that the State is monitoring this project over the next 5 years to see how this study holds up. Vice Chairman Connolly feels that whatever needs to be done should be done this year in anticipation of future year impacts on the taxpayers.

**3. ADMINISTRATIVE REPORTS.**

Ms. Griffin had nothing to report.

**4. SELECTMEN'S REPORTS.**

**Peter Christie**

Selectman Christie had nothing new to report.

**Kate Connolly**

Vice Chairman Connolly advised that there was a zoning hearing last night and it is possible that there may be about seven articles for the Warrant. There will be another meeting on April 1<sup>st</sup> to make a final decision about these articles.

**Bill Baschnagel**

Selectman Baschnagel had nothing new to report.

**Athos Rassias**

Selectman Rassias had nothing new to report.

**Brian Walsh**

Chairman Walsh had nothing new to report.

**5. OTHER BUSINESS.**

There was no Other Business reported.

**Board of Selectmen  
February 27, 2008**

**6. ADJOURNMENT.**

**Selectman Baschnagel MOVED to adjourn the meeting. Selectman Rassias SECONDED the motion.**

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

Respectfully submitted,

Athos Rassias, Secretary

Minutes prepared by Elizabeth S. Rathburn.

**SUMMARY**

- 1. Selectman Baschnagel MOVED to adjourn the meeting. Selectman Rassias SECONDED the motion.**

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

**FINAL**

**BOARD OF SELECTMEN'S MEETING**

**February 25, 2008**

**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; 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 public comments. There were no comments from the public.

**2. 1<sup>st</sup> BUDGET HEARING:**

- Town Manager's Presentation of Proposed FY 2008-2009 Budget
- Parking
- Police
- Water Reclamation – Sewer Fund

Chairman Walsh invited Ms. Griffin to present the Town Manager's report.

Ms. Griffin gave an overview of the Board's review of the 5 year projections last fall. Based on those discussions, they arrived at a tax increase of just over 1%. Ms. Griffin reported that they were able to package the budget utilizing funds available in the budget to reach the goals of the Board without needing an additional tax increase. Ms. Griffin noted that if they removed the amount of money needed to be collected to repair Reservoir Road over 2 years, the actual increase would be around 5%. Ms. Griffin also pointed out that there were items in the budget that opened up more expenditure capacity such as the police facility bond which expired and the growth in the tax base enabled them to contain the costs while maintaining existing services.

**GENERAL FUND**

Ms. Griffin provided the Board with the highlights of this budget. There were several price pressures in certain areas of expenditures such as oil, paving materials, etc. There are concerns about what will happen to the overall Hanover tax rate when the school bond hits. The on-going uncertainty over financial fix for the NH Retirement System. Employers will most likely be asked to contribute more. There are concerns over the Grafton County Jail proposal and the operating expenses that will be forthcoming. Ms. Griffin stated that they took a very conservative approach to this year's budget proposal.

Ms. Griffin reported that there were a number of areas of expenditures that need to be absorbed. They anticipated \$218,000 in additional negotiated merit and wage scale increases. The Town received a guaranteed maximum rate for Health Insurance of 11.3% but Ms. McClain was able to estimate the benefit requirements for each person to reduce the increase by 4.4%. They

**Board of Selectmen  
February 25, 2008**

increased the overlay by \$30,000 to \$70,000. Mr. Ryan is concerned with the instability of the real estate market and would like to ensure they are covered for the abatement reserve. Ms. Griffin noted that they budgeted an additional \$30,000 in legal fees. Fiscal year 2008-2009 marks the last year for the 3 year undesignated fund replenishment plan. No undesignated fund balance is being used to help balance the budget this year. There is an increase in expense of \$45,000 for fuel oil and gasoline which is above the initial \$35,000 to handle fuel price increases. Ms. Griffin reported that they have returned to fully funding the vehicle reserve contribution which was another goal set by the Board.

Ms. Griffin reported that there were no proposed staff additions except a part-time grounds maintenance person for Public Works.

Betsy McClain, Finance Director, addressed a question that was brought up previously by Chairman Walsh about where the tax rate would have been if the money had not been spent on storm repairs. Ms. McClain provided the Board with an overview of the tax impacts of the June 2005 storm. Ms. McClain provided the schedule reflecting a trajectory of municipal tax rates without the impact of the June 2005 storm. As noted on the schedule (during tax year 2006) 18 cents (per \$1,000) to the tax rate was storm related with the current rate of 20 cents (per \$1,000) and the proposed budget reflects 3 cents (per \$1,000) which is storm related. The 5% comes in when the impact of the storm repair is taken out of the equation. Ms. McClain also provided the Board with a list of options for reducing expenditures and thus the corresponding percentage decrease.

Chairman Walsh asked about what the CPI rate was for the years that the repairs were being done. Selectman Christie noted that the percentage was left the way it was in order to replenish the funds for the paving program because historically, the Town had been underfunding this item. Ms. McClain stated that she did not compare the percentage increase to the tax rate benchmark which would have been the November/December CPI.

Selectman Christie felt that this issue was more of a function of how it should be presented and articulated and did not want to present the budget as a no increase budget. He would like to see it articulated that the Town would have been looking at a 5.3% increase but because of the reduction in the storm expense it is down to 0. Selectman Christie noted that the target was set at 1.05% net of the storm increases and staff came back with an increase of 0.0%. Ms. Griffin noted that other than the storm repairs (\$336,000), there was a slight increase in the tax base, the bond for the police department expired and the additional \$83,000 was plugged back into the building reserve.

Chairman Walsh would like to go for after this budget as a 5.3% increase which is better than the Board asked for in November. Selectman Christie stated that he would state that storm damage repairs are fully funded in the '07-'08 appropriation "freeing up" \$336,000 in FY '08-'09 which the Town did not spend. Vice Chairman Connolly noted that the capital reserve still needs to be dealt with. Selectman Christie gave an overview of the amounts that will be going into the capital reserve versus the amount that has been spent.

**Board of Selectmen  
February 25, 2008**

Ms. Griffin noted that next year the money will not need to be spent on road repairs. Selectman Christie went over the breakdown of the items that opened up the expenditure capacity in FY '08-'09 budget and the items that will require increases and the difference comes to around 3.5%.

Ms. Griffin noted that the Fire Fund and Ambulance Fund are very conservative this year. The Fire Fund is slowly being weaned off the SAFER grant for the additional 4 firefighters. The Ambulance Fund saw no significant increase in expense. The cost allocation to the other communities (Norwich and Lyme) are about as high as they can go in terms of shifting firefighters salaries out of the Fire Fund and into the Ambulance Fund. The increases may push these Towns to seek services from other towns. Ms. Griffin noted that Hanover is one of the few communities in the State that have separate funds for Fire and Ambulance. Selectman Baschnagel stated that in looking at where the runs are generated from, about 75% of the calls are from the Town of Hanover. Ms. Griffin noted that Windsor is getting away from dispatching and the Town of Hartford may be looking at increasing their service area and Norwich may be considering dispatch services through Hartford dispatch.

Ms. Griffin reported that for the Water Reclamation Facility, discussions will continue with the proposed capital and improvement projects. There will be less of an increase this year compared to next year due to the size of the capital projects that are proposed to be undertaken this year.

**PARKING FUND**

Ms. Griffin reported that the Parking Fund is very stable and there will be a decrease in expenditure for this budget. Based on this proposal, there does not need to be a parking tax reinstated in FY '08-'09. The Selectman's Advisory Committee of the DMA will make a presentation to the Board on March 12<sup>th</sup>.

Chairman Walsh invited Lt. O'Neill to speak to the Board about the Parking Fund budget. Lt. O'Neill reported that the Parking Fund anticipates revenue and expenditures of \$1,479,000. There is a \$10,000 draw to from fund balance proposed to balance revenue and expenditures which is earmarked to fund any unscheduled capital maintenance in the facility. There is no parking district tax included in the budget. There are several decreases in the expenditure line items. There are notable expenditure increases in charges from Police and Public Works for their services to Parking. Electricity and Advance Transit shuttle charges are up for FY '09. Lt. O'Neill stated that for performance indicators for the parking facility, short term customer use for the facility is up.

Ms. Griffin noted that Van Chesnut could not attend this budget meeting but he provided the Board with an overview of information related to the increases for Advanced Transit.

Chairman Walsh would like to see how many spaces were available to the Town for parking before the facility was open. Approximately all the spaces made available for short term parking have been consumed by people closing parking lots which were previously available. Chairman Walsh would like to be able to answer residents' questions about why parking is short in Town

**Board of Selectmen  
February 25, 2008**

now. Vice Chairman Connolly would also like a breakdown between leased spaces and metered spaces.

Selectman Christie asked about the \$10,000 draw and whether it was being taken from the Capital Reserve Fund. Ms. Griffin stated that this amount would be taken from the undesignated fund balance. The Parking Fund is currently at 10.76% in undesignated fund balance for the parking garage.

Vice Chairman Connolly asked about the status of using credit cards. Lt. O'Neill stated that in the past year's budget, they set aside \$23,000 to purchase three machines for the back parking lot. Lt. O'Neill stated he was uncomfortable in purchasing the machines because they had trouble with the two similar machines that were in lots 6 and 7. There is a reduction because those machines were not purchased. There would have been additional fees built in if they had purchased the machines because a percentage of each transaction goes to the credit card company.

Chairman Walsh has received complaints about tickets being issued late at night. He would like to see additional advertising that if people park in the parking facility, they are not going to get ticketed or towed.

Chairman Walsh noted that there was \$191,000 set aside to Advance Transit and would like to see this funded out of meter revenues and fines but he would like to see the totality of the operating budgets of Advance Transit and compare relationships with Dartmouth, the Hospital, etc.

Selectman Rassias asked about the rentals line item for Dartmouth College. Ms. Griffin noted that the College leases back from the Town a guaranteed number of spaces each year. This was part of the funding formula developed within the Town for the parking facility and Dartmouth College owns the building located at 7 Lebanon Street is required to have a certain number of parking spaces and they lease spaces at the Parking Facility from the Town.

Selectman Baschnagel and the Board reviewed the information provided by Van Chesnut. The ridership is growing and the Lebanon City Council did approve the \$185,000 charge in their budget. Chairman Walsh would like to see the figures for ridership over a 10 year span.

**POLICE**

Chairman Walsh invited Chief Nicholas Giaccone to introduce himself and make his budget presentation. Chief Giaccone stated that this is the year to roll over the fleet which is a major purchase out of the reserve to replace cruisers. Normally, they replace the cruisers every 3 years and the administrative car, detectives' car and the SUV are normally replaced on a 6 year basis. The SUV will be kept an extra year, maybe longer. Chief Giaccone reported that it was requested that the department evaluate the possibility of replacing the administrative car and the detectives' car with hybrids. Initially, the cost of the hybrid vehicle is above what is normally spent on the vehicles and whether the increase in cost would be offset by a decrease in gas has



**Board of Selectmen  
February 25, 2008**

yet to be determined. There is an additional cost of putting all of the police equipment in the vehicle.

Chairman Walsh would like to see a process whereby when alternatives are being looked at from a functional point of view, cost point of view, from a carbon footprint point of view, and from a gas consumption point of view over time, then those alternatives are to be brought to the Board of Selectmen to counsel on these decisions. Ms. Griffin noted that there is a big difference in looking at this for the admin and detectives' cars versus the police road cruiser.

Chief Giaccone noted that the way the industry rates police service vehicles is different than the average public person. Vice Chairman Connolly asked about keeping the cruisers longer than 3 years. Chief Giaccone noted that there were problems with this including expiring warranties and problems with maintenance issues.

Ms. Griffin noted that there will be a report this spring relative to vehicle replacement and schedules. Selectman Baschnagel noted that the manufacturers are bringing the hybrid technology to the smaller vehicles and are not putting it into the trucks and SUVs.

Selectman Rassias asked about the average miles for the cruisers. Chief Giaccone reported that at the time that they turn in the vehicles, there are around 100,000 miles on the cruisers. In the replacement there are additional costs including mobile data systems and video systems. Chairman Walsh asked if this other equipment needs to be replaced every 3 years with the car. Chief Giaccone reported that the mobile data needs to be replaced every 3 years. The video equipment uses tapes and they are experiencing problems with the old technology.

Selectman Christie asked about staffing. Chief Giaccone reported that the department has extreme difficulty with hiring police officers. Retention of younger officers is a problem. Chief Giaccone noted that a neighboring department is in the process of trying to hire one of the newer Hanover Police Officers and the difference in pay is an issue. Chief Giaccone suggested that a contract may be needed in the future if the department becomes a training ground.

Chief Giaccone noted that technically the department is at full manpower although due to illness and deployment, they have been down in numbers. Ms. Griffin asked about the last time they were full staff. Chief Giaccone stated that they were full staff for about 12 to 14 months since September 11<sup>th</sup>. When up to full staff they try to circulate an officer through detectives and dedicate one officer to traffic control.

Selectman Baschnagel asked whether the department will be coming to the Board looking to change the layout of the progression of step increases. Ms. Griffin noted that this is being looked at through the Union negotiations.

Selectman Baschnagel asked about Valley Court Diversion. Chief Giaccone noted that Valley Court Diversion will be taking over the Administrative functions of Diversion in place of the volunteer that the PD had taking on these duties. The project is basically cost neutral.

**Board of Selectmen  
February 25, 2008**

Ms. Griffin reported that Doug Hackett, Dispatch Coordinator, alerted her that the Town of Cornish Fire/Rescue has approached Hanover to explore the possibility of the Town dispatching for them. If the Dispatch Center were to see an increase in revenue, Coordinator Hackett would like to put the funds toward the overtime budget.

Doug Hackett, Dispatch Coordinator, reported that this started when the Town of Windsor decided that they were going to cease operating a regional dispatch center as of June 30<sup>th</sup>. The Town chose to contract with the Town of Hartford for their dispatching which left a number of outside towns without dispatching services. Cornish Fire approached Coordinator Hackett about dispatching since the Hanover Dispatch Center already handles Plainfield and Meriden. Cornish Fire/Rescue generates about 200 calls a year. One issue is that the current radio system would not reach down there but the State of NH will fund, through the fire radio program started a few years ago, the addition of new radios at no charge to the dispatch center. This will help provide better radio coverage for Plainfield and Meriden than they currently have. This will generate a \$10,000/year fee which is not currently included in this year's budget. One of the issues in dispatch is the overtime budget trying to cover the shifts that they currently have. In this fiscal year, they are almost 82% spent in the overtime budget. In the budget hearing, Coordinator Hackett asked for an increase and received part of what he asked for. He is hoping that with the additional \$10,000 in revenue, \$5,000 could be used for overtime.

Ms. Griffin reported that the Norwich Fire Department has approached dispatch along with Norwich police which would trigger the need for another full time dispatcher. She is not interested in taking business from the Hartford dispatch center.

Selectman Baschnagel asked how many people work on each of the shifts. Coordinator Hackett advised that the midnight shift is the only shift that has one person although there is some overlap. Selectman Baschnagel felt that very soon the dispatch center is going to be at capacity.

Coordinator Hackett noted that there have been continual discussions about having a Regional Dispatch Center incorporating the surrounding dispatch centers. Chairman Walsh would like to see some alternatives and look at whether to get bigger or tie together with other surrounding communities in May or June. Coordinator Hackett has been reluctant to consider the Norwich Police Department because it would be much harder to absorb due to the volume.

Selectman Baschnagel asked about the prospect of fiber. Ms. Griffin noted that they are still involved in the lawsuit. Chairman Walsh outlined that this lawsuit is affecting everything from phone lines to emergency services. Ms. Griffin stated that this has been a frustrating and expensive delay. The estimation of the costs incurred have been added as information to the Court. The phone system hasn't been activated so the projection for potential savings has not been achieved and the price discount has been lost (\$6,000).

Selectman Baschnagel asked about the cost for computer upgrades. Coordinator Hackett explained that it is not just computers. There are 3 computers that run the radio software in 3 positions. They have been run for 5 years solid and he would like to replace the computers and pointed out that some of the video cards are not supported with the software upgrades. The radio

**Board of Selectmen  
February 25, 2008**

software will not run on a Windows XP system. Coordinator Hackett reported that a complete upgrade of the radio software at this point would be a proactive approach. He does not want to have a failure mid-year. Ms. Griffin noted that this is being proposed to be funded with \$20,000 out of the reserve. They did not want to add it to the operating budget as an expense. Coordinator Hackett noted that this upgrade does increase the lifetime of the radio system.

Chairman Walsh proposed that instead of having the Humane Society as a special warrant article asking for \$2,500, have half of that money set aside in the police department budget in addition to the \$600.00 that is currently in the budget. Chairman Walsh isn't sure that this should be part of the social services budget.

Chief Giaccone noted that the \$600.00 currently in the police department budget came after eliminating the Animal Control position and this money goes to pay for the cost of a stray that is unclaimed is ultimately euthanized. The Humane Society provides the Town with a service that the police department cannot perform and they take animals any time and the money pays for the unusual circumstances. Ms. Griffin noted that these amounts the Town pays to the Humane Society can be linked to ensure that the Town can continue to have the ability to take the animals to the shelter as they do now. Chief Giaccone noted that they would need to work out a contract on this. The contract reflects their costs and the budget is in anticipation based on past usage.

Chairman Walsh noted that it is not his intent to change the valuable relationship between the PD and the Humane Society. He would rather deal with this issue in the police department portion of the budget versus the social services portion.

Selectman Baschnagel asked about the drop in Adult Diversion intake numbers. Chief Giaccone advised that there have been internal debates about the drop-off of the numbers in the last few months of 2007 but since the beginning of the year there has been a normal pick up in the number of cases. He doesn't think that there has been a decrease in the amount of drinking but perhaps students have been more careful in avoiding getting in trouble with the police.

Vice Chairman Connolly asked about the decrease in amounts for the court fines. Chief Giaccone stated that this is based on actuals and so far, year-to-date, they will not be keeping up with the projections.

Selectman Baschnagel asked about the patrol officer overtime. Chief Giaccone advised that a lot of the increase was due to being down 2 or 3 positions with military deployment or sickness. It was originally \$60,000 in his request and it was cut back by \$2,000 to \$58,000. Ms. Griffin noted that with the overtime budget, if he is down by a few officers, overtime may go up but it can be made up in full time salaries that are not being used. Chief Giaccone noted that the Department has 2 very good part time police officers which may take up some of the work.

Chairman Walsh asked about any known trends with regard to the statistics. Chief Giaccone noted that they are usually dealing with low numbers. Accident fatalities should have been 0. The number of sexual assaults has increased greatly and 99.9% of them involve an alcohol component so they take up a great deal of investigations time.

**WATER RECLAMATION FACILITY**

Chairman Walsh asked about the lists of projects totaling over \$7 million and asked which portion is part of this year's budget. Ms. McClain stated the plan as proposed is to apply and receive a \$6 million SRF (State Revolving Fund) loan which would be brought before Town Meeting in May to try to get authority to bond \$6 million worth of the projects. The debt service for this note would not kick in until the note is closed, similar to a construction loan. The earliest that the Town would begin to see debt service payments is 2011. Because they are only proposing to bond \$6 million, there is a proposal to transfer to reserve \$567,080.

Ms. Griffin noted that the information on the projects that was reviewed by the Board last May would be provided to the Board again with the projects in the order that it is suggested that they be handled. This information that was compiled distinguishes between projects which include the replacement of equipment and those projects that deal with capacity. Ms. Griffin noted that the Board made it clear that sustainability was a priority with this project and they will need to work with consultants to work on the timing sequence of these projects. Selectman Christie clarified that this would be done with the rates that are currently being charged.

Vice Chairman Connolly asked about the current \$250,000 per year that they are paying on. Ms. McClain noted that the total projected debt service would be about \$750,000. Ms. McClain noted that the money would be bonded for a shorter period of time (15 years).

Chairman Walsh wants to consider how to put the information together. The Board discussed some options for this and Ms. Griffin will put together a mock up of a presentation for the Town Report and prior to Town Meeting so that the Board could give staff some feedback and this may make the Board more comfortable in talking with residents about it.

Chairman Walsh expressed concern that the approval of the proposed budget might be at risk because of an inability to adequately explain the proposed projects. Selectman Baschnagel felt that the best approach would be to address the operations requirement and then address the capital requirement. Ms. Griffin felt that it would be helpful to show the Board what staff can come up with for a presentation of the proposed pieces of the project, financing proposal and a timeline. Chairman Walsh would like to see one or two public hearings on this prior to Town Meeting.

Selectman Rassias asked about the methane recapture and whether it is viable. Mr. Kulbacki explained that the pipes are corroded and it was being used until about 5 or 6 years ago. It generated plenty of methane. Selectman Rassias asked whether there would be a savings if they used it. Mr. Kulbacki stated that they would realize a savings in heating oil which would realize a savings of \$30,000. Ms. Griffin noted that \$67,000 is spent on heat for the treatment plant including \$48,000 for digester heat.

Selectman Baschnagel asked about what is driving the supplies number up in the proposed budget. Kevin Maclean explained that this was directly related to the increase in the raw costs for materials. Mr. Kulbacki noted that the polymer increase is a significant increase. Mr.

**Board of Selectmen  
February 25, 2008**

Maclean noted that the industrial pretreatment program was a large expense that was added which would be used to keep tabs on the contributors to the system. Mr. Kulbacki advised that there will be a proposal for an updated sewer use ordinance in the future.

Chairman Walsh questioned the sewer user fees and saw that they fell by over \$390,000. Ms. McClain noted that the flow data was incorrect in the past for buildings that were not yet completed so the 2009 projected revenues are based on the flow data from last year with a very conservative increase.

- 3. BANNER REQUESTS:**  
- American Red Cross – Blood Drives

**Vice Chairman Connolly MOVED to approve the Banner Request of the American Red Cross. Selectman Rassias SECONDED the motion.**

**THE BOARD VOTED UNANIMOUSLY TO APPROVE THE BANNER REQUEST OF THE AMERICAN RED CROSS.**

- 4. APPROVAL OF MINUTES:**  
- February 11, 2008

Chairman Walsh moved on to the approval of the Minutes. Vice Chairman Connolly and Selectman Christie forwarded some minor changes were recommended.

Selectman Baschnagel noted that he spoke with a person from a construction company who is in the business of building jails and they have a list price of \$70,000 per bed which was in large contrast from the proposed Grafton County Jail. Ms. Griffin noted that the procedure of the vote of the Jail is being called into question.

**Selectman Baschnagel MOVED to approve the Minutes of February 11, 2008 with the recommended corrections. Vice Chairman Connolly SECONDED the motion.**

**THE BOARD VOTED IN FAVOR TO APPROVE THE MINUTES OF FEBRUARY 11, 2008, 4 IN FAVOR, 0 OPPOSED AND 1 ABSTAINED. SELECTMAN RASSIAS ABSTAINED FROM THE VOTE.**

- 5. ADMINISTRATIVE REPORTS.**

Ms. Griffin noted that there is movement in the Legislature around pieces of labor legislation and she wanted to make sure the Board is in agreement that she will continue to urge the delegation to vote against the items and she will send an e-mail to the Board members to confirm this.

**Board of Selectmen  
February 25, 2008**

Ms. Griffin reported that The Technology Advisory Board which is administered by the Department of Resources and Economic Development, received an appropriation to do a broadband study in the State and have contracted with a consulting firm to prepare the assessment. There are some listening sessions being held around the State to get public input. There will be a listening session next Monday at 4:00 in the Lebanon City Council Chambers just prior to the NHMA dinner.

**6. SELECTMEN'S REPORTS.**

**Peter Christie**

Selectman Christie reported that the Finance Committee met today. He noted that they were appreciative of the budget package that they received and he did not sense any concerns about the budget as presented.

**Kate Connolly**

Vice Chairman Connolly reported that the Planning Board had a discussion about zoning and the first public hearing will be held tomorrow night for the batch of proposed zoning amendments. There was also a meeting about the proposal for the Rivercrest area but neither Vice Chairman Connolly nor Selectman Baschnagel attended so they were unable to report on the outcome of those discussions.

**Bill Baschnagel**

Selectman Baschnagel reported that the Conservation Commission is teaming up with the Lebanon Conservation Commission to talk to the State about having a wildlife corridor study to compliment the Route 120 study.

Selectman Baschnagel reported that the TMA will be holding a public education session on March 13 at the Howe Library to discuss parking and traffic solutions.

**Athos Rassias**

Selectman Rassias had nothing new to report.

**Brian Walsh**

Chairman Walsh had nothing to report.

**7. OTHER BUSINESS.**

There was no Other Business.

**Board of Selectmen  
February 25, 2008**

**8. ADJOURNMENT.**

**Selectman Baschnagel MOVED to adjourn the meeting. Vice Chairman Connolly 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. Vice Chairman Connolly MOVED to approve the Banner Request of the American Red Cross. Selectman Rassias SECONDED the motion.**

**THE BOARD VOTED UNANIMOUSLY TO APPROVE THE BANNER REQUEST OF THE AMERICAN RED CROSS.**

- 2. Selectman Baschnagel MOVED to approve the Minutes of February 11, 2008 with the recommended corrections. Vice Chairman Connolly SECONDED the motion.**

**THE BOARD VOTED IN FAVOR TO APPROVE THE MINUTES OF FEBRUARY 11, 2008, 4 IN FAVOR, 0 OPPOSED AND 1 ABSTAINED. SELECTMAN RASSIAS ABSTAINED FROM THE VOTE.**

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

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



**FINAL**

**BOARD OF SELECTMEN'S MEETING**

**February 11, 2008**

**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; and Julia Griffin, Town Manager. Members absent: Athos Rassias.

**1. PUBLIC COMMENT.**

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

**2. DISCUSSION OF FINANCING OPTIONS FOR PHASE II WATER RECLAMATION FACILITY IMPROVEMENTS.**

Chairman Walsh invited Selectman Christie to review financing options with the Board. Selectman Christie gave an overview of the work that went on behind the scenes in looking at financing options for the Water Reclamation Facility improvements. Selectman Christie reported that one of the first things that the group had to do was to determine a rationale behind the charges. There is an additional \$7.4 million in expense and it appears that the best way to pay for this is with a bond of 15 years. They looked at various options including a 20 year bond but with a bond of 15 years, they avoid running into end of useful life issues. In looking at user fees, and how to rationalize those, there are several things that impact costs at the facility. A structure based upon different categories of customer based service and charge those entities accordingly. The group looked at the readiness component and put a minimum on each of the categories. In looking at the connect fees, it appears that these charges are not always fair and more work needs to be done to work on the rationale behind the fees. The Town needs to establish a fee for a new user for assets that are already in place and they make the recommendation that they change the connect fees in a more arbitrary way for next year.

Chairman Walsh had questions about the amount of money and how it relates to the specific projects on the list. Selectman Christie noted that they didn't determine the validity of any of the projects while looking at financing options.

Selectman Christie noted that they are going to try to quantify what assets exist and what the fair share buy-in is to the facility. Chairman Walsh felt that there is logic in something that is different from buying in where you are, if there's been a substantial amount of capacity that has been sitting for a substantial period of time essentially waiting to be used and he would think of this as a revolving fund or a future's fund.

Selectman Christie noted that the bond issue represents the useful life of the asset that is being put into place. Chairman Walsh felt that in some cases, the capacity has been sitting and waiting to be used, and he feels that useful life is measured in time.

Selectman Baschnagel noted that if there was a depreciation system in place, it would serve as a surrogate. The rate this year would be part of the depreciation expenses and it would be carried forward.

Chairman Walsh was in agreement with the principles behind lining up the user fees to the cost of treatment and the work to be done relative to the connection fee to deal with the capital that has been there waiting to be used.

Vice Chairman Connolly would be unwilling to go to Town Meeting with yet another bond without sufficient review. Ms. Griffin noted that the Board went over the first look of improvements in 2005 and some of the projects were taken off the list. Vice Chairman Connolly questioned what the Town ends up with at the end of this. Ms. Griffin noted that the proposal doesn't include a rate increase and Ms. McClain stated that it is a matter of restructuring the rates. Ms. Griffin noted that the \$500,000/year to pay for the bond is already built into the budget. Ms. McClain explained that with the increase in rates last June, a portion of the increase is going toward paying for the improvements.

Chairman Walsh clarified that the total amount being charged to users is enough to fund the current operations of the plant and to service the debt of \$7.4 million for the next 15 years. Ms. McClain noted that in the budget that is being proposed in the next couple of weeks, they will be able to raise \$441,000 that will be transferred into capital reserve because there will no debt service on any loan next year, in the out years it translates into the debt service of approximately \$500,000. Ms. McClain stated that because of the way that the State SRF loan process works, it requires authorization from Town Meeting to pursue the loan.

Selectman Baschnagel had concerns about the timing of the request. Selectman Christie stated that they are proposing to create a different rationale and different rates and would like to do this by this spring. If not, they will carry on with the rates that are already established and look into options next year.

Chairman Walsh asked how the Town of Hanover charges compare with the State average. Ms. McClain noted that the average resident bill was \$448.00 and the average in the State was \$428.00. Chairman Walsh confirmed that the Board would be more supportive of a 15 year bond versus waiting 5 years and then saving for this. Chairman Walsh noted that with the amounts that are being charged to the users, the Town would be covered in those rates. Ms. Griffin noted that the Committee felt that this was the best option. Chairman Walsh wants to make sure that the Board is as clear as they can about the revenue structure and the fee structure.

Selectman Baschnagel feels that stability in payments is the most important piece. Selectman Christie doesn't feel comfortable with locking in any user fees but to base the rates on a rationale and it is unclear what changes they may be facing.

Ms. Griffin felt that there needs to be a very clear rate table that people can react to with regard to borrowing money to make the improvements. Selectman Christie felt that there were two very separate issues at hand. The need to make the improvements; what the right project is and what the total cost is and the financing option of a bond. A potentially different rate structure is a completely different issue.

Chairman Walsh wanted to discuss the projects being proposed at the Water Reclamation Facility. Ms. Griffin noted that this was going to be discussed during the budget meeting for the Water Reclamation Facility. Ms. Griffin stated that the two projects that the Board committed to working on this year were the permanent selector tank construction and the aeration system and blower replacement. The projects can still be visited year by year as they approach them. The Committee decided that it made the most sense to do one SRF loan, get commitments for those loan funds and then go from there. Mr. Kulbacki noted that the projects are meant to replace aging equipment and to deal with future capacity.

Chairman Walsh wanted to see more information about what needs to be done for the facility to be able to go back to burning methane. Mr. Kulbacki noted that it is part of the digester project. Chairman Walsh would like this looked at again and would like this to be improved with sustainability in mind. He anticipates that when Charlie Sullivan returns with his information about this project, it will probably show that the methane is a bigger problem than the CO2.

Vice Chairman Connolly would like to know what the capacity will be in 10 years. Ms. Griffin advised that she can give the Board the summary sheets about these various projects and nothing has changed from their last look at it one year ago.

Ms. Griffin noted that when they prioritized the projects, they grouped some of them around affordability within certain years using reserves versus SRF funds and Selectman Christie noted that those concerns go away if the Town decides to bond the project. Mr. Kulbacki stated that part of planning the projects are balancing how things should be handled logically versus financially.

Selectman Christie felt that the budget meetings would be too long to handle this subject. Selectman Baschnagel would like a 'crib sheet' to be able to discuss these details with residents. Chairman Walsh would like to look at this against, CO2, methane, oil and the environment. He doesn't feel that any of the Board members can speak about which project should be done in which order. Chairman Walsh also wants to determine whether \$7.5 million is the right number or should it be \$8.5 million or \$6.5 million.

Ms. Griffin will provide the Board members with an overview prior to budget meeting for the Water Reclamation Facility.

Dennis Goodman, 472 Hanover Center Road, asked if the projects that are being considered have already been approved by the Town. Ms. Griffin gave an overview of the projects that are needed at the plant; the equipment's useful life, upgrading of equipment, and the issue of

capacity at the plant. Ms. Griffin offered to send Mr. Goodman more information on these projects.

**3. DISCUSSION OF RECOMMENDED CHANGES TO ELDERLY, DISABLED AND BLIND EXEMPTIONS.**

Ms. Griffin noted that Mike Ryan was present at the meeting to answer any questions. The Board looked at this 5 years ago and it is time to implement the next update this coming August. By State Law, the Board must set a public hearing to discuss the recommended changes to the exemptions.

**Vice Chairman Connolly MOVED to set a public hearing for April 21<sup>st</sup> as recommended for changes to the elderly, disabled and blind exemptions. Chairman Walsh SECONDED.**

**THE BOARD VOTED UNANIMOUSLY TO SET A PUBLIC HEARING FOR APRIL 21<sup>ST</sup> FOR THE RECOMMNEDED CHANGES TO ELDERLY, DISABLED AND BLIND EXEMPTIONS.**

**4. DISCUSSION OF POSSIBLE ENACTMENT OF SOLAR, WOOD HEATING AND WIND ENERGY EXEMPTIONS PURSUANT TO RSA 72.**

Ms. Griffin noted that there is a lot of discussion around the State about these exemptions and she has concerns about the ethicacy of these exemptions. At this point she is not recommending that they put this on the Warrant but wanted to get the Board to think about this issue. Ms. Griffin noted that these components do not necessarily increase people's property value and although that may be something that comes forward in the future but from an assessing perspective, they do not add value. There are residents who feel that their property values should be reduced because they do not have high speed internet. Selectman Baschnagel stated that almost everyone has access to high speed but it's a matter of what people are willing to pay for it.

Ms. Griffin just wanted to put this issue in front of the Board for discussion in case it comes up in the future when asking if Hanover has taken in tax exemptions for wood-heating, solar energy and wind powered tax exemptions.

Selectman Baschnagel doesn't feel that the Town has a right to discriminate between a pot boiler and an efficient pellet stove. Ms. Griffin noted that some communities are seeing this as something to consider with regard to sustainability. Chairman Walsh doesn't feel that the Town should move away from taxing properties based on market values and not on what's inside the property.

**5. APPOINTMENTS: Recycling Committee**

Ms. Griffin noted that Chris Hoskin expressed an interest in being appointed to the Recycling Committee.

**Selectman Christie MOVED to appoint Chris Hoskin to the Recycling Committee. Selectman Baschnagel SECONDED the motion.**

**THE BOARD VOTED UNANIMOUSLY IN FAVOR OF APPOINTING CHRIS HOSKIN TO THE RECYCLING COMMITTEE.**

**6. BANNER REQUESTS:**

- American Cancer Society – Annual Relay for Life at Dartmouth College
- Prouty

Ms. Griffin noted that the Annual Relay for Life has requested to have the banners displayed for two weeks but the policy is one week so she will advise them of that. She also noted that they didn't want to give long range permission for the streetlight banners.

Chairman Walsh would like to consider additional pennants on poles on Lebanon Street. Ms. Griffin noted that there have been more requests for hanging baskets of plants and she asked William Desch to provide estimates for this. The Garden Club would need to decide if they would be willing to donate additional hanging baskets which are maintained by the Town. Ms. Griffin felt that there may only be an additional 6 or 8 lampposts available that they would be looking at adding baskets too.

**Selectman Baschnagel MOVED to approve the banner requests of the American Cancer Society and The Prouty. Vice Chairman Connolly SECONDED the motion.**

**THE BOARD VOTED UNANIMOUSLY TO APPROVE THE BANNER REQUESTS OF THE AMERICAN CANCER SOCIETY AND THE PROUTY.**

**7. APPROVAL OF MINUTES:**

- January 28, 2008

Vice Chairman Connolly advised that she had a couple of minor changes to the Minutes. Ms. Griffin noted that the Board could adopt the Minutes pending input from Selectman Rassias.

**Chairman Walsh MOVED to adopt the Minutes pending any input from Selectman Rassias with the changes recommended by Vice Chairman Connolly. Vice Chairman Connolly SECONDED.**

**THE BOARD VOTED UNANIMOUSLY TO ADOPT THE MINUTES, PENDING ANY INPUT FROM SELECTMAN RASSIAS, WITH THE CHANGES RECOMMENDED BY VICE CHAIRMAN CONNOLLY.**

**8. ADMINISTRATIVE REPORTS.**

Ms. Griffin noted that the proposed budget is done and the production of the books are underway.

Ms. Griffin noted that the last couple of weeks have been very busy within the Legislature. There is a major joint hearing on Thursday regarding the Retirement System Bill before the joint finance committee of the Senate and the House. The Retirement System Bill was submitted by members of the House who were on the Governor's working group. They are looking to overhaul the retirement system this session. There have been a number of labor related bills that have been heard. Chairman Walsh confirmed that the legislators clearly understand the position of the Town on these items.

Ms. Griffin reported that the proposal for the new Grafton County Jail was voted on this morning and the final vote reduced the amount by \$2 million (to \$38 million) and it was approved by 1 vote. The vote failed on the first vote 17 to 9 and then after a caucus, one member changed their vote and it was then approved. The operating budget increases will be requested once constructed and this was a concern due to the significance in the increase from \$3.1 million this year to \$7.48 million when fully implemented in 2011.

Selectman Baschnagel stated that the design in the building will drive up the operating costs. There are a certain number of people required to man the building whether there is one person in the cell or whether there is fifty. Ms. Griffin noted that the full impact will not be felt until 2011 and it is a large bond issue for the County. Selectman Baschnagel stated that the discussion needs to happen now while they can still change the things that will drive the cost up.

Ms. Griffin stated that the Municipal Association dinner is scheduled for this week but may be changed due to impending weather.

**9. SELECTMEN'S REPORTS.**

**Peter Christie**

Selectman Christie reported that he has been working on the financing options for the Water Reclamation Facility as previously discussed.

**Kate Connolly**

Vice Chairman Connolly reported that she attended the Planning Board meeting where they heard about the proposed new Co-op store that will be replacing the existing store and gas station. The gas pumps will be eliminated.

Vice Chairman Connolly reported that the Planning Board also approved proposed additions to The Greens which includes the addition of a sidewalk on Lyme Road.

**Bill Baschnagel**

Selectman Baschnagel reported that the Planning Board reviewed a request by Dartmouth College to put artificial turf on Chase Field #3. The improvements include the artificial turf, bleachers, irrigation, fence, etc. Chase Field is becoming highly developed with specific facilities for specific sports. There was a condition for approval stating that they will be allowed to use Town water for 2 years with anticipation of putting in a new well to irrigate their fields. Selectman Baschnagel noted that he was uncomfortable with the discussion and with the issues of capacity and use of potable water to irrigate the fields.

Selectman Baschnagel reported that he missed the Parking and Transportation Board meeting this afternoon.

**Brian Walsh**

Chairman Walsh reported that Saturday was a beautiful day and he heard that there were 2,000 to 3,000 people at the Occom Pond Party. Chairman Walsh noted that he was unable to attend. Ms. Griffin noted that she was there and it was not too cold. The last half hour it snowed and it was very festive with kids and families. She reported that there were wonderful ice sculptures and activities on the north end of the pond.

**10. OTHER BUSINESS.**

No Other Business was reported.

**11. ADJOURNMENT.**

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

**THE BOARD VOTED UNANIMOUSLY IN FAVOR OF ADJOURNING THE MEETING AT 8:50 P.M.**

Respectfully Submitted,

Peter Christie, Selectman

Minutes prepared by Elizabeth S. Rathburn.

**SUMMARY**

1. Vice Chairman Connolly **MOVED** to set a public hearing for April 21<sup>st</sup> as recommended for changes to the elderly, disabled and blind exemptions. Chairman Walsh **SECONDED**.

**THE BOARD VOTED UNANIMOUSLY TO SET A PUBLIC HEARING FOR APRIL 21<sup>ST</sup> FOR THE RECOMMENDED CHANGES TO ELDERLY, DISABLED AND BLIND EXEMPTIONS.**

2. Selectman Christie **MOVED** to appoint Chris Hoskin to the Recycling Committee. Selectman Baschnagel **SECONDED** the motion.

**THE BOARD VOTED UNANIMOUSLY IN FAVOR OF APPOINTING CHRIS HOSKIN TO THE RECYCLING COMMITTEE.**

3. Selectman Baschnagel **MOVED** to approve the banner requests of the American Cancer Society and The Prouty. Vice Chairman Connolly **SECONDED** the motion.

**THE BOARD VOTED UNANIMOUSLY TO APPROVE THE BANNER REQUESTS OF THE AMERICAN CANCER SOCIETY AND THE PROUTY.**

4. Chairman Walsh **MOVED** to adopt the Minutes pending any input from Selectman Rassias with the changes recommended by Vice Chairman Connolly. Vice Chairman Connolly **SECONDED**.

**THE BOARD VOTED UNANIMOUSLY TO ADOPT THE MINUTES, PENDING ANY INPUT FROM SELECTMAN RASSIAS, WITH THE CHANGES RECOMMENDED BY VICE CHAIRMAN CONNOLLY.**

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

**THE BOARD VOTED UNANIMOUSLY IN FAVOR OF ADJOURNING THE MEETING AT 8:50 P.M.**



**FINAL**

**BOARD OF SELECTMEN'S MEETING**

**January 28, 2008**

**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. QUESTION AND ANSWER SESSION REGARDING PROPOSED COUNTY JAIL PROJECT – LEGISLATIVE DELEGATION, COUNTY COMMISSIONER CRYANS AND COUNTY STAFF.**

Chairman Walsh introduced Julie Clough (County Executive), Michael Cryans (County Commissioner), Glen Libby (Superintendent County Jail), and Legislation Delegates Bernie Benn, Sharon Nordgren and David Pierce. Chairman Walsh also introduced Lyme Select Board Members Dick Jones and Charles Ragan.

Chairman Walsh invited Michael Cryans, Glen Libby and Julie Clough to answer questions of the Board.

Mr. Cryans noted that there was a detailed article in the *Valley News* on Sunday. The 26 members of the delegation will be voting on behalf of the citizens of the County. A two-thirds majority is required for the project to pass on February 11<sup>th</sup>. To clarify, the NH House of Representatives will be voting on this issue, not the residents within the County. Mr. Cryans gave a brief history of the County Jail and the County Nursing Home. The Nursing Home was built and improved in 2002 and the County has made 5 payments on the 20 year bond. The Jail is currently 111 years old. They had a consultant review the Jail and it is reportedly in deplorable condition. The ventilation and lighting are poor. The Jail was built for 70 people and last summer there were 148 people staying at the facility. Food is being brought in from the Nursing Home to feed the residents because there are no food prep facilities on site. With these current conditions, it was decided that they should look at a new jail. The National Corrections Institute analyzed the building and they scored the building very low. They have tweaked and downgraded different portions of the proposal to bring the cost down and it is currently at \$40 million dollars which is still a huge amount of money.

Chairman Walsh invited questions from the Board. Selectman Baschnagel asked if Mr. Cryans had a chance to address Mrs. McIlroy's questions which had been submitted previously. Mr. Libby noted that the answers to her questions were available in the Needs Assessment that was

**Board of Selectmen  
January 28, 2008**

done which is available on-line at [www.graftoncountynh.us](http://www.graftoncountynh.us) or at the Grafton County Department of Corrections website at [www.graftoncountydoc.org](http://www.graftoncountydoc.org).

Selectman Baschnagel felt it was important to get a feel for the actual populations and demands which were part of the questions that Mrs. McIlroy had submitted. Mr. Libby noted that the article on the front page of the *Valley News* on Sunday spoke of the NH Court system which portrayed a lot of people that they deal with that have mental illness and one of the biggest issues is how to deal with this section of the population and the proposed medical and mental health unit is meant to put them ahead of the curve in the State. Selectman Baschnagel felt that it was important to put the specifics together to inform the public. Mr. Libby felt that this information is included in the Needs Assessment.

Selectman Baschnagel noted that there are two ways to deal with the Needs Assessment which is to look at the perceived needs of the staff and the population statistics. This information needs to be dug out of the Needs Assessment and looked at because there isn't this kind of perspective with the Jail that is needed to inform the public.

Selectman Christie asked about the population that has mental disabilities and whether this is the right solution to the problem or if it is the pragmatic solution. Mr. Libby felt that these services should be handled either in the community or in the State system but historically this has not been the way that it's been handled. As the need for the services increased in the State, the State mental health system became burdened and they end up in corrections. This is a trend and he is unable to forecast with certainty that it's something that the State is going to come up with the money to treat the mentally ill. The cheaper solution is to incarcerate people.

Chairman Walsh noted that he agrees that 100 years is long enough for the Jail but he questions the size and the program proposed in this project. The current facility has about 100 person capacity and the new facility will have a capacity of 200 people. Mr. Libby advised the proposal is for 150 male beds and 56 female beds. Mr. Libby noted that in dealing with people with mental illness, the toughest times to deal with these people is when they are medical crisis. There are currently transitory beds and once stabilized, these people transition into the general population units so there are currently 3 crisis beds in the mental health crisis units and 6 regular beds for those people that can not transition into the general population.

Chairman Walsh confirmed that the number of mentally ill is a small number of people. Mr. Libby stated that some of the problems they are currently dealing with are inmates that are getting older and have more complicated health issues. The Jail is not equipped to deal with these people. Mr. Libby gave some examples of the health issues that they have dealt with and their lack of ability to do so.

Chairman Walsh feels that some of these people do not belong in Corrections instead of Health and Human Services. Part of his issue with the proposal isn't what needs to be done but where should it be funded. He has a functional problem as to the responsibility of some of these issues.

Mr. Cryans noted that if a person is sent to jail, it is not the Jail's ability to determine who goes to Jail and if a presiding Judge sends a person to Jail, they are required to take the person.

**Board of Selectmen  
January 28, 2008**

Chairman Walsh noted that there were fascinating numbers with regard to population and corrections is one of the largest areas in growth and numbers in Mental Health were cut. He felt that the population in corrections has grown much more rapidly than the population in the State or the crime rate in the State. Fundamentally, the only person who pays for this issue is the taxpayer.

Vice Chairman Connolly asked about the length of stay. Mr. Libby advised that it varies as some are pre-trial awaiting their trial and then a sentence population for those who are sentenced for a year or less and then some are sentenced to stay at the facility. The average length of stay for pre-trial inmates is about 3 weeks and for sentencing the length of stay is around 30 days.

Vice Chairman Connolly asked what, in addition to food and laundry, is going to be provided in the new facility. Mr. Libby advised that in terms of programs for inmates they currently have programs geared toward substance abuse. Mr. Libby reported that 80-90% of inmates have some kind of substance abuse problem whether it is drugs or alcohol. The current facility is lacking space to provide space for these programs. Mr. Libby stated that the Grafton County Jail is working very hard to put people back into the community.

Mr. Libby noted that a lot of the programs are driven to get people out of jail as soon as possible. The philosophy is to get people back into the community as productive members of society. As far as recidivism, those that do not participate in the programs come back to the Grafton County Jail around 40-45% of the time. Those who participate in the programs come back 20-25% of the time.

Mr. Cryans noted that the Farm Stand in Haverhill has been very successful and of the 12 people that participated, only 1 has come back. Mr. Libby noted that most of the people that come to the County Jail are Grafton County residents. When inmates go back into the community as productive members of society, they are paying their child support, they're paying their restitution and are not a drain on the community.

Selectman Christie asked what groups have been overseeing the progress of the proposal which started at \$50 million. Mr. Cryans noted that there is a small steering committee and then a larger committee including local residents. They hired someone to help steer them through this huge project. The real oversight comes from the Executive Committee which consists of the following people in District 1: Susan Almy, Catherine Mulholland and Susan Laliberte. At the beginning, the Executive Committee made it clear that they did not want to see just a Jail but a Corrections Facility. One County Commissioner, Martha Richards, is on the Steering Committee.

Julie Clough reported that the Core Committee consists of County Commissioner Martha Richards, the Superintendent, the Sheriff, the Maintenance Superintendent., and the Lieutenant of the Jail and then there is a larger Steering Committee that is made up of a number of different members of the Communities. Police Chiefs from Lebanon and Haverhill, Judges, members of the Superior Court, District Court, mental health community, and educational community. Mr. Libby added that each Commissioner appointed a citizen representative from their District. Mr. Cryans appointed a resident who works for West Central Services, Chief Jim Alexander

**Board of Selectmen  
January 28, 2008**

(Lebanon), Chief Jeff Williams (North Haverhill), State Police, Probation and Parole and most of the oversight comes from those three different areas; Consultant, Executive Committee, Core/Steering Committee. Mr. Libby noted that they had to go back to the Executive Committee and the delegation to update them on the status of the project. The cost came in at \$62 million and was brought down to \$45 million and then it was brought down again to \$40 million.

Selectman Rassias asked about staffing projections. If the inmate population does not change significantly, how does it increase from 18 to over 40 corrections officers? Mr. Libby stated that the facility is not operated safely and with the new facility, there will be officers supervising the pods. Currently there is not enough room for additional staff. The original plan was for about 98 staff people and it has been cut back. A lot of the increase is in correctional staff and the other is for ancillary improvements such as the kitchen and maintenance.

Chairman Walsh noted that roughly 1/3 of the cost is 100 new beds, 1/3 of the cost is the additional 100 beds and 1/3 of the cost is the increase in staff. Mr. Libby noted that these are hard costs of what it will cost to build the facility over a 20 year period but the operational costs are a very significant increase which will go on forever.

Chairman Walsh stated that the Hanover Select Board works really hard to put together a budget to present to the residents at Town Meeting. It's difficult to justify this increase for the taxpayers and he feels that this shouldn't be something that the taxpayers should shoulder. He feels that this is a State responsibility. Mr. Cryans noted that they are left to shoulder the burden from the State to deal with this Jail. Chairman Walsh noted that the people who vote on the bond issue and the budget are the legislators. Until the Counties and Towns and Cities look at this carefully, there are going to be increased demands on property taxes. Chairman Walsh also believes that there is work to be done on the judicial side with sentencing guidelines and decisions. When you have a small increase in the population and a very low increase in the crime rate, but yet double the inmate populations.

Mr. Cryans noted that he took a look at his taxes from 1994 to compare to his 2007 taxes and the rate remained the same at 8.14% for the County portion of the tax and there were huge expenses during those years.

Vice Chairman Connolly calculated that if this project goes through, they will need \$7 million more per year by 2011 to run the Department of Corrections. She questioned the issues with the water and energy issues and asked whether the price had gone up. Julie Clough noted that there are no issues with sewage. There will be no additional costs. Vice Chairman Connolly asked if the responsibility would lie with Corrections when the Wastewater Treatment Facility needs improvements. Julie Clough noted that the County bought and paid for the allocation to the Woodsville Water Treatment Plant when it was built in 1980 and they have been assured that they do not come anywhere near the allocation and will remain at 50,000 gal per day allotment. Ms. Clough advised that for the water side, they are currently in the process for a basis for design for a water tank for fire suppression and potable water for the complex. Currently they are hoping that the project will be done in collaboration with Woodsville Water and Light and there may be grant funding but there are no estimates for this project at this point in time. They are looking at energy alternatives and the Commissioners have decided to appoint a committee to

**Board of Selectmen  
January 28, 2008**

study the options for alternative energy. Vice Chairman Connolly suggested that they consult with Dartmouth College especially in terms of air conditioning.

Selectman Christie thanked the group for coming and feels that the issue is that if the residents say no to this project, he is doubtful that the State would take up this issue. He feels that the State needs to take a different approach to these problems.

Ms. Griffin handed out information to the delegates and members of the County staff to show the Town's 5 year projection with regard to budget tax rate increases. Ms. Griffin would like to give the residents an overall picture for the next 4 years and what the increases would look like. It would be helpful to project the increases through all portions of the County budget. She noted that the Hanover Select Board does this and they do not agree to the tax rate increase until they see the projections. Hanover's increase for this project will be \$136.31 over a four year period on a \$200,000 home but since the average value is over \$400,000 they are facing a minimum of \$273 increased expense and it is unclear what other efforts are going to be coming from the County that will affect the increase. In 2009, the biggest increase for the taxpayers will be the \$40 million bond from the school. Dartmouth's contribution end next year and Hanover and Norwich are going to be hit with a significant increase.

Mr. Cryans noted that the nursing home was a \$14 million project. With 39 towns in one County, there are always projects in the works in each community. Mr. Cryans noted that no matter what you do it is going to be a huge number and the only way to make a monumental change to the overall pricetag would be to take out all of the services and just put it back as just a Jail. No one appears to want to do this.

Selectman Baschnagel thanked Mr. Cryans, Mr. Libby and Ms. Clough for coming to speak to the Board and voiced appreciation for all of their efforts. He doesn't question the need for an upgraded facility but he has a hard time building a facility that will be underutilized for the next 20 years based on the projections. He suggested pricing out a jail facility versus a correctional facility. Selectman Baschnagel noted that if it was put to a vote before the taxpayers, the voters would decide between what their pocketbooks could afford and what their social conscience can live with.

Dick Jones, Chairman Lyme Select Board, voiced concern that the County spends the money and the taxpayers are left paying the bill. In looking at the facility, it's 1/3 larger than the current enrollment and he is concerned that if they 'build it, they'll come' and he has a problem with the County getting into the mental health business.

Barbara McIlroy, Etna, heard that Sullivan County just approved \$4 million for a treatment center instead of a new jail. Mr. Libby advised that it appears to be a stopgap for Sullivan County to avoid having to build a \$44 million facility to give them more time to plan for a future facility. Mr. Libby wanted to project their needs out a certain number of years so that they don't come back in 5 years looking to expand.

Bernie Benn, State Representative, noted that a lot of the questions that have been brought up are things that they have been dealing with and trying to come up with a reasonable answer. There

**Board of Selectmen  
January 28, 2008**

are a lot of conflicts of interest with Representatives trying to solve State budget problems and also trying to solve the County budget problems. The question of constructing Correction Facilities versus a Jail and with a desire to treat the inmates but given the limited amount of time that they are in the facility, can they really benefit from the programs that will be provided? How much of the project is rehabilitation versus housing? Mr. Libby noted that the most costly areas to construct are the housing areas. If you eliminate the treatment areas, it would save some money but he thinks it would only save about \$2.6 million.

Mr. Benn asked if the programs are mandatory and if pre-trial inmates are eligible for services. Mr. Libby noted that sometimes the Judges mandate an inmate to attend certain programs. If the inmates participate in the programs, they are less likely to come back to the facility. The statistics generated from the programs show that the inmates are half as likely to come back. Today the pretrial inmates do not have the services and very little resources.

Selectman Baschnagel would like the community to have a better understanding of the tradeoffs in building a Corrections Facility versus an Incarceration Facility which are tradeoffs in terms of services and in terms of costs. Selectman Baschnagel doesn't know what the square footage is for the current facility and the difference in size with the proposal for the new facility.

Selectman Rassias is trying to balance what the Hanover taxpayers are looking at balancing over the next 5 to 10 years. Based on discussions tonight, he is supportive of this as there is a demonstrated need.

Vice Chairman Connolly felt she had a lack of knowledge of the particulars. She is not clear about what is needed, how much is needed and it is a huge amount of money to be distributed around Grafton County. She feels that the information is incomplete; it's not broken down between what exists and what should exist.

Selectman Christie stated that he doesn't feel he knows enough about this area and even if you build just a prison, that is an expense. He was skeptical at the beginning of the meeting about the services and doubling of staff to provide those services, but feels that this project may ultimately save the taxpayers in other services and feels more comfortable after hearing more information.

Chairman Walsh stated that with mental health and substance abuse forced on the Jail, he feels that those facilities need to stay. He would feel more comfortable with a proposal that called for fewer beds with options to expand in the future. As to the additional staffing, he thinks it should be as few people as possible to do that job and would like the Representatives to think that this should be State money and not property tax money every time it is voted on. Chairman Walsh would like to work with the judiciary about sentencing guidelines and look to find out why the cost is growing the way it is.

Chairman Walsh thanked everyone for participating and listening to the discussion.

**Board of Selectmen  
January 28, 2008**

**3. HANOVER CLIMATE PROTECTION COMMITTEE FOLLOW-UP DISCUSSION.**

Chairman Walsh invited Charlie Sullivan to speak to the Board with regard to information that the Board requested at their last meeting from the Hanover Climate Protection Committee.

Charlie Sullivan stated that he has been working with the Climate Protection Committee (CPC) to analyze carbon dioxide emissions from the operations of the Town of Hanover. The total for 2005-2006 came to 3,250 metric tons which includes burning fuel for heating buildings and powering town vehicles and for electricity use. As an example, 3,250 tons of carbon dioxide is equal to 370,000 gallons of gasoline or household emissions of 100 to 200 typical New England households. The largest portion of usage is buildings, then WWTP and then vehicles, streetlights and then water. Buildings account for 35% of the usage in propane and fuel oil and 65% is electricity.

Chairman Walsh confirmed that they still have electric heat in Senior Housing. Mr. Sullivan reported that the Summer Park residents all have electric heat.

Mr. Sullivan reported that the Howe Library, The R.W. Black Center, Summer Park, Police and Fire are the top producers of emissions. Selectman Baschnagel noted that the two newer buildings are the worst. Mr. Sullivan noted that it was higher ventilation rates that are typical in newer buildings but this is something that could be dealt with.

Mr. Sullivan noted that in looking at the WWTP, it is the next biggest producer at 25%; 510 tons are from electricity and 300 tons from fuel oil use which is equivalent to burning 92,000 gallons of gasoline. Mr. Sullivan noted that it's not clear to him as to how to improve that area. Vice Chairman Connolly noted that years back the WWTP used to burn the methane it created and would like to explore this possibility. Ms. Griffin noted that she received an e-mail from Energy Star announcing that there will be an on-line training program on Water and Wastewater Plant energy reduction opportunities. It is her intention to send one representative from each facility to this training session.

Ms. Griffin noted that the issue regarding burning methane will be brought forth again in the proposed Capital Improvements Plan that the Board will get a chance to look at in the future.

Mr. Sullivan noted that there are opportunities to purchase higher efficiency vehicles as replacement comes up and other initiatives to change the way the fleet is managed including adding smaller vehicles to transport people to locations versus using the larger trucks. With regard to streetlights and traffic lights, there were areas that could be changed that would realize significant savings. Ms. Griffin stated that one option would be to try to work with National Grid to determine where there could be some savings and initiatives to eliminate some streetlights.

Mr. Sullivan stated that the CPC recommendations are to focus first on building energy use and proceed with energy audits. The other recommendation is to set aside a minimum of \$100,000 in

**Board of Selectmen  
January 28, 2008**

the budget to make the shortest payback time measures identified by the audits. They recommend that the Town only pursue the efforts that will be truly effective.

Chairman Walsh asked if the methane issue would create a significant difference. Mr. Sullivan felt that this would be helpful especially since that system was in place in the past. Ms. Griffin will work on getting the methane numbers to Mr. Sullivan to analyze.

Chairman Walsh would like to use the savings by shutting off air conditioning to pay for some of the recommendations and would also like to see if these items fit in the Land and Capital Improvements Fund as far as budgeting.

Chairman Walsh thanked Mr. Sullivan for his presentation.

Marjorie Rogalski, Hanover, noted that the energy audits were to take place this week and Ms. Griffin confirmed that they had started. Ms. Rogalski also reported that the City of Portsmouth received a rebate from PSNH and wondered if there is a program through National Grid that might decrease the energy costs of the WWTP. Ms. Griffin would look at the Portsmouth website to see what the rebate was and whether National Grid State has any similar incentives.

**4. REVIEW OF PROPOSED FY 2008-2009 BUDGET HEARING SCHEDULE.**

Ms. Griffin went over the proposed budget hearing schedule. A few minor changes were made and the following departments will be heard on the dates listed below:

Monday, February 25<sup>th</sup> - Police, Parking, Water Reclamation, and Sewer Fund

Weds, February 27<sup>th</sup> – Fire, Ambulance, and Parks & Recreation

Weds March 12<sup>th</sup> – Public Works, Town Properties, and CIP

Thurs March 13<sup>th</sup> – small budget items, Libraries, HR, Planning & Zoning, Admin Services, etc.

**5. RECOMMENDATION TO ACCEPT SIDEWALK EASEMENT DEED FROM HONES, LLC RELATIVE TO 12 SOUTH STREET.**

Chairman Walsh confirmed that the Town Attorney had reviewed the easement.

**Vice Chairman Connolly MOVED to accept the sidewalk easement deed from Hones, LLC relative to 12 South Street. Selectman Baschnagel SECONDED the motion.**

**THE BOARD VOTED UNANIMOUSLY TO ACCEPT THE SIDEWALK EASEMENT DEED FROM HONES, LLC RELATIVE TO 12 SOUTH STREET.**

**6. BANNER REQUESTS:**

- Hanover Parks and Recreation – Occom Pond Party

**Chairman Walsh MOVED to approve the Banner Request from Hanover Parks and Recreation for the Occom Pond Party. Vice Chairman Connolly SECONDED the motion.**



**Board of Selectmen  
January 28, 2008**

**THE BOARD VOTED UNANIMOUSLY TO APPROVE THE BANNER REQUEST FROM HANOVER PARKS AND RECREATION FOR THE OCCOMPOND PARTY.**

- 7. APPROVAL OF MINUTES:**  
- January 7, 2008

**Selectman Rassias MOVED to approve the Minutes of January 7, 2008. Selectman Baschnagel SECONDED the motion.**

**THE BOARD VOTED UNANIMOUSLY TO APPROVE THE MINUTES OF JANUARY 7, 2008.**

**8. ADMINISTRATIVE REPORTS.**

Ms. Griffin noted that she will finish with the budget later this week. Ms. Griffin received the LGC Regional Dinner announcement (this year the topic is the State Retirement System) to be held Wednesday, February 13<sup>th</sup> at the Fireside Inn. Ms. Griffin will be there.

**9. SELECTMEN'S REPORTS.**

**Peter Christie**

Selectman Christie reported that the Affordable Housing Committee met and the Gile Community continues with good progress and on schedule. There are several town and school staff members who have shown interest and are on the priority list. There are other smaller opportunities that the group is looking at which will be reported on as they become more real.

Selectman Christie reported that the Finance Committee has met quite often to review both the Town and School District budgets and noted that this has been a particularly difficult year. The teacher's contract and proposed budget were voted in favor 9-3 at the Dresden level and 5-1 at the Hanover level.

**Kate Connolly**

Vice Chairman Connolly advised that she missed the Planning Board meeting on the 8<sup>th</sup> and there were discussions on the proposed wetland amendments and the Minutes were unavailable for review, so she cannot report on that meeting. On January 15<sup>th</sup> a discussion of the Rural Overlay District took place at Trumbull Hall. At that meeting it was determined that this is not ready to be presented to the voters. The Rural Committee will need to do more study. On January 22<sup>nd</sup>, the Planning Board had their first preliminary review for Rivercrest which includes 273 units with an assortment of single family homes and duplexes.

**Bill Baschnagel**

Selectman Baschnagel reported that with regard to Rivercrest, the proposal as presented has 5 entrances in the front of Rivercrest entering onto Lyme Road and recommended that Peter

**Board of Selectmen  
January 28, 2008**

Kulbacki review some alternatives for this area. Ms. Griffin noted that Mr. Kulbacki did have some insights into this project and that the Planning Board would be hearing from him. Selectman Baschnagel noted that as part of the plan review, there was a virtual 'fly through' as to how the streets will look from an aerial view.

Selectman Baschnagel reported that the Conservation Commission met and had ongoing discussion regarding conservation easements. There were no wetlands permits to review.

Selectman Baschnagel attended the Parking and Transportation Board meeting and went through the Parking Fund budget with Betsy McClain and didn't have any trouble supporting it at all.

Selectman Baschnagel reported that he attended the Upper Valley Lake Sunapee Transportation Advisory Committee meeting where there were discussions regarding Park and Rides. The UVLSRPC received a grant from the State to review the Park and Ride situation in the Upper Valley. Selectman Baschnagel reported that \$2 billion was taken out of the 10 year plan which meant that approximately 30 projects were taken out.

Selectman Baschnagel reported that the Upper Valley Transportation Management Association had a meeting to work with Town staff on a zoning ordinance to incentivize transportation demand management by the larger employers in Town. They also announced that the State received a \$500,000 earmark for a large Park and Ride in the vicinity of Exit 18. The intent is to provide 500+ car parking facility with intermodal transit facility that would be lighted, heated with restrooms and would probably be managed by Dartmouth Coach to support all the other multi modal transit operators in town. This will also allow for Dartmouth Coach to serve the Manchester Airport.

**Athos Rassias**

Selectman Rassias attended the Howe Library meeting where Ms. Griffin spoke with regard to the budget.

**Brian Walsh**

Chairman Walsh announced that the Pond Party will be held on February 9<sup>th</sup>. The Chamber Annual meeting was held on January 15<sup>th</sup> and was well attended at the HOP.

Chairman Walsh noted that all involved in the Election did excellent work. Chairman Walsh felt that the report on carbon dioxide emissions should be included as insert in the Town Report. Selectman Baschnagel felt that there should be some sort of introduction included with that report.

**10. OTHER BUSINESS.**

There was no Other Business.

**Board of Selectmen  
January 28, 2008**

**11. ADJOURNMENT.**

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

**THE BOARD VOTED UNANIMOUSLY TO ADJOURN AT 9:40 P.M.**

Respectfully Submitted,

Athos Rassias, Secretary

Minutes prepared by Elizabeth S. Rathburn.

**SUMMARY**

- 1. Vice Chairman Connolly MOVED to accept the sidewalk easement deed from Hones, LLC relative to 12 South Street. Selectman Baschnagel SECONDED the motion.**

**THE BOARD VOTED UNANIMOUSLY TO ACCEPT THE SIDEWALK EASEMENT DEED FROM HONES, LLC RELATIVE TO 12 SOUTH STREET.**

- 2. Chairman Walsh MOVED to approve the Banner Request from Hanover Parks and Recreation for the Occom Pond Party. Vice Chairman Connolly SECONDED the motion.**

**THE BOARD VOTED UNANIMOUSLY TO APPROVE THE BANNER REQUEST FROM HANOVER PARKS AND RECREATION FOR THE OCCOM POND PARTY.**

- 3. Selectman Rassias MOVED to approve the Minutes of January 7, 2008. Selectman Baschnagel SECONDED the motion.**

**THE BOARD VOTED UNANIMOUSLY TO APPROVE THE MINUTES OF JANUARY 7, 2008.**

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

**THE BOARD VOTED UNANIMOUSLY TO ADJOURN AT 9:40 P.M.**

**FINAL**

**BOARD OF SELECTMEN'S MEETING**

**January 7, 2008**

**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. PRESENTATION BY THE HANOVER CLIMATE PROTECTION COMMITTEE (CPC) AND STAFF UPDATE.**

Chairman Walsh invited members of the Hanover Climate Protection Committee to come speak before the Board.

Miriam Osofsky, Chair of the Hanover Climate Protection Campaign, spoke to the Board about the initiatives of the Hanover Climate Protection Committee. Ms. Osofsky noted that they have a deadline in which to stabilize global emissions in order to prevent cataclysmic change. With increases in oil prices and the more efficient the Town becomes the more taxpayers can be insulated from the impact of driving oil costs.

Ms. Osofsky pointed out that some changes don't require much for an initial investment. Other initiatives do require some investment, such as installing LED traffic lights, but there is a quick payback period. They are happy that the CPC was able to identify potential auditors for heat loss in Town buildings and that audit will begin in a couple of weeks. The CPC is asking the Board to put a placeholder in the budget in the amount of \$100,000 to start the mediation of Town buildings and then for a bond in May, 2009 in order to follow the auditor's recommendations. The CPC is looking forward to working with the Select Board in upcoming discussions.

Chairman Walsh asked Ms. Osofsky to introduce the other members of the Climate Protection Committee. Ms. Osofsky introduced Audrey and Bob McCollum, Dennis Rydjeski (VT Chapter Sierra Club), Roger Lohr, John Trummel (Co-Chair of CPC), Doug Deaett, Carol Weingeist, Bob Norman and David Montgomery. Chairman Walsh thanked the members of the CPC for their hard work.

Vice Chairman Connolly asked how the funds would be spent. She noted that streetlights have been a problem because there is room for reducing wattage and lowering use by other means and perhaps the power companies could help the Town with this initiative.

Ms. Osofsky noted that the immediate changes would be to remediate heat loss in Town buildings. Another initiative is to ensure that for new construction, buildings are being constructed to be as efficient as possible.

Chairman Walsh would like a perspective of all of the Town's activities to find out, for example, how many tons of carbon dioxide are being emitted and how many barrels of oil are being used. Ms. Osofsky noted that some of this information may be available through the Sustainable Energy Research Group and Bob Walker who could be a source of information for the Town.

Roger Lohr stated that Charlie Sullivan did a study on this and could put that information together. Selectman Baschnagel felt that there needed to be a feel for savings in trucks, cars, buildings, and where should they invest the money to get the biggest savings and return for their dollar.

Chairman Walsh would like an easy to read report showing how the Town can save and would like to see 'dollars to make a difference' as an item that can help the Board decide where to put the efforts. Chairman Walsh felt that by providing detailed information to Town Meeting they will be more likely to gain their support.

Audrey McCollum would like to put in a request to come back to the Board on January 28<sup>th</sup> to discuss the questions that the Board is raising tonight. Ms. Griffin felt that there was room in the agenda on January 28<sup>th</sup> to add this item.

Vice Chairman Connolly noted that if there was additional information regarding renovating the buildings, she would like the Board to encourage the group to present it to the Board.

Selectman Rassias noted that there appear to be two efforts taking place; Town education and public education and asked what the group's direction was for individual education.

Ms. Osofsky noted that a lot of time has been spent informing the public through the media and outreach within the community at public events. Her feeling is that by having these initiatives, it provides a public awareness.

Roger Lohr advised that he has been working on the Idling Awareness Campaign and would like the Town to spearhead this initiative as an example to the residents within the Town to provide awareness.

Dennis Rydjeski noted that one of the things they have done was to give away over 3,000 fluorescent light bulbs to lower income families and they have worked closely with the College to reduce their carbon emissions.

Selectman Christie noted that as the Presidential Campaigns continue, this problem needs to be addressed because if this problem isn't solved, we aren't going to be here to deal with any of the other issues. He felt that the Board is going to be supportive of this initiative.

Ms. Osofsky reported that the energy efficiency experts advise that the money that is invested in remediation of heat loss will actually be recovered within 5 years or less.

Chairman Walsh noted that part of the problem with the payback analysis is that it needs to be looked at in terms of dollars versus CO2 and dollars versus tons of oil.

Chairman Walsh thanked the members for coming before the Board.

**3. DISCUSSION OF REQUEST TO CONSIDER INCREASING THE VETERAN'S EXEMPTION.**

Ms. Griffin noted that the Town received a letter from Dick Birnie asking to consider raising the Veteran's Exemption. Ms. Griffin noted that at the 2004 Town Meeting, they voted to increase the optional tax credit for service connected to total disabilities and the tax credit for surviving spouse but they didn't recommend raising the Veteran's tax credit. Under State Law they have the authority to go up to \$500.00 for the Veteran's Tax Credit.

Ms. Griffin reported that the number of veterans eligible is down to 201 qualified veterans but to change the amount from \$50 to \$500 would impact the General Fund by \$100,500. The information provided with regard to the other towns and their handling of this tax credit indicates that many are not going up to \$500.00 but somewhere in between \$50 and \$250. Ms. Griffin also noted that the Board could get public input through a public hearing.

Selectman Christie remembered looking at this in the past and felt that \$50.00 is a nice token but he does not believe that Veterans have an economic need for a higher credit amount. He would be in favor of leaving the credit where it is and noted that he is a veteran and would benefit from the change.

Ms. Griffin noted that the Board did not have to make a decision on this and it could be decided by vote at Town Meeting.

Chairman Walsh noted that there are different groups looking for tax breaks for different reasons. The tax burden falls back on the residents that don't fall into a certain category. Selectman Baschnagel noted that he would also be a beneficiary of this but feels that it should remain at \$50.00.

Chairman Walsh asked Ms. Griffin to reach out to Mr. Birnie and express the wishes of the Board.

**4. UPDATE ON COUNTY JAIL PROJECT.**

Ms. Griffin reported that she continues to be concerned about the proposed project because of the increase in annual operating expense. The current plan is that the delegation will be looking to vote on this in February. She would like to invite the Town's Representatives to attend the

January 28<sup>th</sup> Board of Selectmen's meeting so that the Board could advise them of the Town's wishes with regard to this issue.

Selectman Baschnagel attended a briefing in Lebanon and noted that he was surprised that the County was proceeding with the request for a bond without specifics being carried through such as validating costs and looking at alternatives. He recognizes that the current facility is 100 years old that is housing a significant prison population and although he doesn't question the need for another facility, the new facility is significantly improved and will have its own laundry facility, its own kitchen, etc. Currently over one-third of the space is going to be spent on rehabilitation for people who are not housed there for significant periods of time. Although it's nice and desirable, it's unclear whether it is affordable or necessary. Selectman Baschnagel didn't feel that alternatives had been explored and expressed concern that the project is being built based on a projected 20 years out population.

Vice Chairman Connolly noted that the funding is unclear for the water system. She also expressed concerns over making the building more energy efficient over what is being proposed.

Chairman Walsh noted that the proposal has gone down from \$52 million to \$40 million. He has concerns over designing a building for a population 20 years from now. The change from 39 employees to 79 employees which would indicate that the operating budget would be doubled and he does not think that this was a well thought out plan.

Ms. Griffin noted that there has been a lot of emotional reaction from the towns that are going to be financially affected by this but there haven't been meaningful constructive discussions to resolve some of the concerns. There are no numbers available for the use of the current jail although it is referenced in the proposal. Ms. Griffin would suggest moving at a slower pace and looking closely at the issues.

Chairman Walsh stated that he believes in prevention with regard to the correctional system but he is not sure that this money should come from property taxes instead of the State.

Ms. Griffin noted that the County Jail is now holding people for a longer period of time than the jail was originally designed for. Selectman Baschnagel would like to see some population information with regard to the inmates and what the median stay is. He also felt that information about the difference between the State Jail and the County Jail would be useful.

Chairman Walsh stated that there are five areas that have increased in the State budget; Medicaid, Aid to Education Capital, Special Education, Retirement System and Corrections. Chairman Walsh advised that he is not confident in going forward with spending \$40 million for a new jail and this makes Corrections a bigger part of the County budget. He would like to express the concerns to the State representatives.

Selectman Christie felt that there needs to be a process in place for a review group to look at the request. Is \$40 million the right number or could it be \$30 million, etc.? He feels that there needs to be some kind of expert group that can advise in this area.



Ms. Griffin asked if they should invite their delegation at the next meeting. Ms. Griffin advised that they could urge the County Commissioners (with a copy to the delegation) to put together an independent review committee and ask that they slow this project down and that it is way too soon to vote for this. Selectman Christie noted that the proposal went from \$50 million to \$40 million which indicates that this was not well thought out.

Chairman Walsh felt that the County Commissioners should be invited to the next meeting.

Ms. Griffin noted that she and Betsy McClain have tried to work with some numbers to try to determine the tax impact based on the County tax with this proposal but they don't currently have accurate numbers to work with.

Chairman Walsh noted that everything that increased by long-term care is going to affect property tax and everything that is not going to be increased will sit in the State budget but these items are going to grow in parallel and should be looked at.

## **5. DISCUSSION REGARDING STATE RETIREMENT SYSTEM.**

Ms. Griffin stated that the Board received a large report regarding the NH State Retirement System. This information is important for the Board to understand for future labor and fiscal impacts. The Legislature will begin to deal with these recommendations this session. She encouraged the Board to continue to look at the report and noted that she was impressed with the amount of data provided by the report.

Ms. Griffin noted that the recommendations reflected the position of the entire commission and due to the conflicts within the commission there are minority reports included. Ms. Griffin noted that she received this report via e-mail from Dennis Logue who served on the Commission and it is now posted on the LGC website. The Legislature is receiving briefings on the commission reports this week.

Vice Chairman Connolly asked if a Legislative action would address the issue that the fund has not been professionally run or handled in the way that it should have. Ms. Griffin noted that the Legislature is going to have to deal with the make-up of the Retirement System Board, subcommittees that were created, and it highlights the issue that the Board members need to recognize their fiduciary responsibility versus loyalty to their interest groups.

Selectman Baschnagel felt that the report is well written and would encourage Mr. Logue to come in to give the Board the highlights of the recommendations. The members of the retirement system need to take some grass roots action to require appropriate fiduciary responsibility by the trustees. The problem has many causes but mostly that the employee's money has not been well monitored or managed.

Ms. Griffin felt that the recommendation that the Retirement Board meet with the Legislative leaders and the Governor twice a year is so critical. There have been a number of employees watching this and people are concerned about their retirement. Employers and employees are all

in this together and it is everyone's goal to make sure everything is adequately funded and how to restructure benefits going forward.

Selectman Baschnagel noted that the legislature has done things that are not fiscally responsible. Ms. Griffin noted that the state of the NH Retirement System is for the most part the norm. There are other retirement systems in other States that have been redeemed, so there is hope for system in the future.

Ms. Griffin feels that this will be a key issue in the next run for Governor. She feels that this is the most significant funding issue other than education that the State is dealing with.

Ms. Griffin stated that with preparing the budget, rate increases are in for July 1, 2009. The Board will want to educate the residents as to what the issue with the retirement system is for the Town's employees.

Chairman Walsh noted that Town and municipal employees should be thankful that they have not been wiped out as those who are in the private sector.

**6. APPROVAL OF MINUTES:**  
- December 17, 2007

**Vice Chairman Connolly MOVED to approve the Minutes of December 17, 2007. Selectman Baschnagel SECONDED the motion.**

**THE BOARD VOTED UNANIMOUSLY TO APPROVE THE MINUTES OF DECEMBER 17, 2007.**

**7. ADMINISTRATIVE REPORTS.**

Ms. Griffin reported that they are all set up for the Primary vote tomorrow at the Hanover High School gym. She noted that the Checklist is up considerably and the Town Clerk's office has been very busy with people registering to vote.

Chairman Walsh noted that the last election saw about 6,200 people and now the Checklist is over 8,000. Ms. Griffin noted that the State provided the Town with 3,500 democratic ballots which she was concerned would not be enough. There are now 5,000 democratic ballots and 3,000 republican ballots. Parking has been shifted to assist with voting for tomorrow. She is expecting a large turnout.

Ms. Griffin noted that the final General Fund bottom line should be in by the end of the week. Ms. Griffin noted that their legal budget has now hit \$100,000 and they are 6 months into the fiscal year and they have gone through most of their sand/salt budget. They will be looking at other areas of the Town in which to pull funds from.

**8. SELECTMEN'S REPORTS.**

**Peter Christie**

Selectman Christie had nothing new to report.

**Kate Connolly**

Vice Chairman Connolly attended a Planning Board meeting where the discussions continued regarding proposed zoning amendments, specifically the preliminary report from the Rural Study Group. There will be a public meeting on Tuesday, January 15<sup>th</sup> at Trumbull Hall regarding the amendments and will probably affect at least 70% of property owners in the rural area.

**Bill Baschnagel**

Selectman Baschnagel had nothing new to report.

**Athos Rassias**

Selectman Rassias had nothing new to report.

**Brian Walsh**

Chairman Walsh announced that the Chamber of Commerce annual meeting will be held on Tuesday, January 15<sup>th</sup> at the Hood.

Chairman Walsh reported that the Parks and Recreation Board met and discussed the Pond Party which will be held on the Feb 9<sup>th</sup>. Howl at the Moon is scheduled for February 23<sup>rd</sup> and is run by the Dartmouth Outing Club.

**9. OTHER BUSINESS.**

There was no Other Business.

**10. ADJOURNMENT.**

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

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

Respectfully Submitted,

Athos Rassias, Secretary

**SUMMARY**

- 1. Vice Chairman Connolly MOVED to approve the Minutes of December 17, 2007. Selectman Baschnagel SECONDED the motion.**

**THE BOARD VOTED UNANIMOUSLY TO APPROVE THE MINUTES OF DECEMBER 17, 2007.**

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

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

Minutes transcribed by Elizabeth S. Rathburn.