

BOARD OF SELECTMEN'S MEETING

MARCH 24, 2003

7:30 PM – MUNICIPAL OFFICE BUILDING – HANOVER, NH

The meeting of the Board of Selectmen was called to order at 7:30 pm by the Chairman, Brian Walsh. Present were: Brian Walsh, Chairman; Katherine Connolly, Vice-Chairman; William "Bill" Baschnagel; Peter Christie; Julia Griffin, Town Manager; and members of the public.

1. PUBLIC COMMENT

There was no public comment.

2. SPECIAL STUDY SESSION ON THE HANOVER WASTEWATER TREATMENT PLANT

Town Manager Griffin explained that the intent of this study session was to bring the Selectboard up to speed on the Wastewater Treatment Plant (WWTP) issues that would be voted on at Town Meeting.

Ed Rushbrook, of Underwood Engineers, and Pete Kulbacki, Director of Hanover's Public Works Department, walked the Selectmen through a list of questions and answers on the proposed improvements.

1. **Why do we need to upgrade the plant?** Hydraulically the plant is running at 65% capacity; organically it is running close to 95% capacity. The plant is fairly bare-boned and is limited in functionality. It does not have the flexibility it should to handle the dramatic change in flows that it experiences. The equipment is at year 14 of its 15 to 20 year lifespan.

Hanover's biggest problem is that its wastewater strength is much greater than was originally anticipated, when the plant was designed. The organic capacity has gotten used up much more quickly than the hydraulic capacity.

2. **What will it cost and how much time will it buy us?** Approximately \$2 million will buy additional capacity and \$2.7 million will replace aged equipment. The goal is to improve the treatment process to enable the plant to deal with its current waste treatment. The biological capacity will reduce from 95% to 85%; the hydraulic capacity will not change. The only process that will really improve is the Selector's Zone, which will control the bacteria growth. The waste stream will be cleaned up to enable the UV Disinfection System to work more efficiently.
3. **What will the rate impact be?** It was noted that the WWTP Fund had \$895,000 in Capital Reserve funds and \$385,000 in its Undesignated Fund Balance. Hanover's

current wastewater service rate is \$268 per year per Equivalent User (EU), or household. The State average was \$361 per year per EU. Based on Hanover's current rate system, there would be a \$1.00 increase per year per EU for every \$70,000 spent. Also based on Hanover's current rate structure, 20% of the \$4.7 million would be eligible for grant funding.

The rate impact was considered under three scenarios:

- FIRST:** funding all of the improvements from low interest State Revolving Fund Loans (SRF);
- SECOND:** using all but 10% of the WWTP's Undesignated Fund Balance and using all of its Capital Reserve funds; and
- THIRD:** using all but 10% of the WWTP's Undesignated Fund Balance but using none of its Capital Reserve funds.

Based on Hanover's current rates and assuming the same service area:

- The FIRST funding scenario would equate to a \$54 increase per year per EU.
- The SECOND funding scenario would equate to a \$34 increase per year per EU.
- The THIRD funding scenario would equate to a \$46 increase per year per EU.

Eliminating all of the flow from Lebanon:

- The FIRST funding scenario would equate to a \$63 increase per year per EU.
- The SECOND funding scenario would equate to a \$43 increase per year per EU.
- The THIRD funding scenario would equate to a \$55 increase per year per EU.

Eliminating the flow from the Gile Tract, Centerra and DHMC:

- The FIRST funding scenario would equate to a \$60 increase per year per EU.
- The SECOND funding scenario would equate to a \$40 increase per year per EU.
- The THIRD funding scenario would equate to a \$52 increase per year per EU.

Selectman Walsh recapped that the decision to continue to serve Lebanon was a \$9 to \$10 per year per EU decision.

Town Manager Griffin explained that Bond rating agencies encourage setting aside 5% to 10% of the total operating budget for emergencies. As such, staff was suggesting funding the \$4.7 million using three funding sources including: \$160,000 from the WWTP's Undesignated Fund Balance, up to \$895,000 from the WWTP's Capital Reserve Fund, and taking advantage of the very low interest SRF Loans.

4. **What is the risk that the planned upgrade will not provide the intended benefits?**
There is a very low risk that the Town would not receive the intended benefits, but there was always the chance that unforeseen, impossible to anticipate, problems could occur. The suggested improvements were based on sound technology and natural processes that have been refined over many years of experimentation. They are

intended to improve the current process to enable the plant to handle all of its waste all of the time. DHMC's engineer was in agreement that all of the work proposed was appropriate and necessary.

If the improvements were not implemented, regardless of whether the flow changed or not, the bacteria violations would continue relative to the UV Disinfection System's inadequacies. At some point BOD and TSS levels would exceed their limits and other violations would result. Selectman Walsh said violations aside, the Town did not want to be in the position of polluting the Connecticut River.

5. **Is the Hospital/Lebanon use costing me money?** Eliminating flow from Lebanon would be cheaper to treat, as there would be less flow. Some plant life would be gained but not a lot. Hanover's rate structure was strictly based on meter size and the amount of flow that passed through each meter, but flow is only one component of the demand of service in the plant; the quality of effluent is another. The Town will be working with Underwood Engineers to conduct a rate study focusing specifically on characteristics of flow from individual households and large institutional customers. It might make sense to begin to bill uses that send more complex wastewater a higher rate than households.
6. **Should I be happy, sad, or indifferent to their use?** Hanover taxpayers should be happy, in that accepting flow from Lebanon increases the rate base to which the treatment costs are spread over. They should be indifferent, in that Lebanon's waste stream is not difficult to treat but is more than Hanover's plant can handle at the moment. They should be sad, in that by continuing to accept wastewater generated in Lebanon another upgrade, beyond the \$4.7 million proposed, will be necessary in the near future due to changes in technology or Discharge Permit requirements.
7. **What are our longer term expectations?** It is not known when Hanover's plant will reach capacity. It is necessary to look at possibly phasing improvements.
8. **When will the plant need to be replaced?** Plant upgrades are driven by Discharge Permit requirements, not facility deterioration. Hanover's physical equipment (tankage) could last quite a long time depending on which Permit requirements are imposed. Some requirements necessitate process changes. The Town renews its Discharge Permit every four years.
9. **What role does the State or Feds play in all this?** The Federal Government issues the Discharge Permits; the State of New Hampshire enforces them. The State provides grant funds and low interest loans for improvements; acts as the main contact and is a good resource.

Mr. Rushbrook said the next phase of study would be of the longer term future improvements that will also be necessary to accommodate the future anticipated flow.

This will be based on projected population growth figures that are being developed, assuming the flow continues in the same direction.

Selectman Walsh asked staff to explain how the WWTP was originally funded. Mr. Kulbacki said 75% of the funding was provided by the Federal Government, 20% came from the State and 5% was paid by the Town. Mr. Walsh believed that the theory behind the Federal and State funding was based on the fact that water runs downhill and that town and city boundaries were not geographical. He noted that those funding practices had changed and that now Hanover would be required to pay 80% of the funding. This had created a "Hanover versus Lebanon" type mentality, but he reiterated that that was not how it was when this plant was designed or paid for. Selectman Christie asked of Hanover's current investment in the plant. John Dumas, Assistant Water & Wastewater Treatment Superintendent, said the original design upgrade was about \$12 million and the secondary treatment upgrade was done for \$7.5 million.

Comments on Question/Answer sheet review

Duncan MacKintosh, of 3 Pleasant Street, asked if Mr. Kulbacki was proactive in his approach to the plant or reactive. Mr. Kulbacki said he could not be proactive at this plant. Mr. MacKintosh asked why the Town waited for the equipment to age to this degree before discussing this issue. Selectman Walsh said the Town had tracked carefully the hydraulic capacity of the WWTP over the years. There had been a major change in the last two to three years, in terms of water conservation, that had affected the organic capacity, which was not tracked.

James Mills, of 19 Haskins Road, asked if the proposed improvements would directly impact Hanover's drinking water supply. Selectman Walsh said no.

Jack Lovelace, of 8 Lewin Road, complained of septic odor at his home and asked if this was a result of the bacteria growth issues. Mr. Kulbacki said it could be. He noted the natural off gassing of waterbodies that occurred in the spring and suggested it could be a combination of things. Mr. Lovelace asked if odor emitted from perfectly running plants. Mr. Rushbrook said there would be very few plants that would be odor free. Selectman Walsh asked if Hanover's WWTP were at 75% of capacity, or if its peaks stayed under 90% of capacity, would it make a difference odor wise. Mr. Rushbrook said probably yes. He said Hanover's plant had some design deficiencies where items were reduced or taken out of the plant's design that could be adding to the odor problems. He said part of the improvements proposed would eliminate these design deficiencies and an additional evaluation would be conducted to focus on odor control alone.

Mr. Mills asked if the treatment rates would be reduced once the loan payments were completed. Town Manager Griffin said the decision to either lower rates or retain the charge to contribute toward a Capital Reserve for any future improvements would be up to the Selectmen. She argued that the Town had not been planning prudently for plant upgrades, as they should have been. Mr. Walsh, defensively reacting to Mr. Mills'

question, said that he felt that the Hanover Selectboard had for a number of years done an exemplary job in managing budgets supported at Town Meeting in order to minimize property tax impacts. Mr. MacKintosh asked how much funding was reserved for the Town's water system. Ms. Griffin said the water system funding was separate from the WWTP funding. The Water Company was a private utility. The WWTP was a municipal utility. Funds could not be mingled between the two entities legally.

Mr. MacKintosh asked how DHMC was charged for the wastewater Hanover treated. Town Manager Griffin said the charge was based on the water meter readings in Lebanon. Mr. MacKintosh asked if the hospital was given any break in rates from Hanover. Ms. Griffin said no. Mr. MacKintosh asked of funding DHMC and Dartmouth College would provide for these improvements. Ms. Griffin said DHMC and Dartmouth College agreed to contribute \$620,000 toward "quick fix" improvements. These would open up additional biological capacity in the short-term to enable the Town to comfortably accept additional flows or loadings. These were fixes Hanover would not have to make if they were not trying to accommodate a specific generator over the short term. Mr. Lovelace asked of the capacity impact from DHMC's expansion. Mr. Rushbrook said it would be roughly a 3% increase or 47,000 gallons per day. Mr. Lovelace suggested DHMC should pay that percentage of the improvements as well as the rate increase. Selectman Christie said if everyone was paying their fair share the financing issue of plant improvements would be moot. He felt that the Town would be better off having a larger user base than a smaller one. Town Manager Griffin said it would be important for Hanover to look at the plant's footprint, determine the maximum capacity the plant could treat in the future, determine the cost to treat that amount, and how that would impacts the rates. Another factor to consider and compare is how much it would cost Lebanon to treat all of its wastewater. Selectman Connolly asked if it would be known how limiting the plant's footprint was at the end of the next analysis. Mr. Kulbacki said yes.

Mr. MacKintosh asked how much capacity had been reserved for Hanover's future growth. Mr. Kulbacki said none; the plant was at 95% of its organic capacity. The issue of reserve capacity would be part of the next phase of the evaluation. Selectman Baschnagel pointed out that it had only been within the last year and a half that either Hanover or Lebanon had any figures to contribute to this discussion relative to projected population growths.

Selectman Baschnagel asked when the Discharge Permit requirements were likely to increase. Mr. Rushbrook believed it would be unlikely that any new requirements would be added to the Town's Discharge Permit that would be issued in 2004. He suspected that possibly in 2009, phosphorus removal or nitrogen, in the form of ammonium limitations, might be imposed.

Selectman Walsh asked what big new items were being added for capacity. Mr. Kulbacki pointed out the location of two aeration basins and said he was looking to add a Selector's Zone into one of the basins to give additional capacity. Mr. Rushbrook said to

expand this plant significantly would require an additional clarifier or a change in the overall treatment process. The big challenge would be locating a site for a new clarifier.

Selectman Baschnagel expressed concern for timing relative to a deal that would have to be negotiated with Lebanon within the next few months. Ms. Griffin argue that Hanover needed to take the time to carefully evaluate the cost for future upgrades and connect those costs to what they anticipated for growth in the service area.

Decision-Making for Long-Term Improvements

Ms. Griffin asked to address the decision-making process the Selectboard would undertake to determine the longer-term goals for this plant. This would include determining an amount that would have to be saved for future renovations, considering from whom that money should be received from, and what parameters the Inter-Municipal Agreement needs to address. Selectman Walsh said it could be argued that reserving for the future was the right thing to do. It could also be argued that with 3% financing available maybe it would be better to leave some of that money in the taxpayers' pockets. Ms. Griffin cautioned the Selectmen from relying on the availability of SRF funds in the future. She said she would prefer to build up the WWTP's Capital Reserve rather than rely on the SRF Loans. Mr. Rushbrook said the problem of not having adequate reserve was acute throughout the country within the wastewater industry. It was to the point that the Federal Government had seen fit to impose a new requirement that towns develop a more reasonable Capital Reserve to eliminate this problem. Mr. Kulbacki pointed out that the current bond would be paid in full in 2008. This repayment funding would become available for Capital Reserve savings.

Review of "Hanover, NH WWTF Improvement Projects" sheet

Mr. Rushbrook said the items listed under "DHMC/Dartmouth Improvements" would be done in 2003. The items listed under "Interim Improvements" would occur in 2004. Those listed under "Future Improvements" would occur in 2005 and beyond. The items specifically marked with "X" were included in the short-term improvements, which would also be done in 2003. He reiterated that of the \$4.7 million expenditure proposed, \$2.7 million would cover repair and replacement of equipment and the remaining \$2 million would buy additional capacity.

DHMC/Dartmouth improvements:

1. Influent Flow Meter:
2. Poor Man's Selector (in existing tankage): a temporary improvement to create walls within the tank and shut off air in certain portions to control the biology.
3. Pace RAS (Return Activated Sludge) pumps to influent flow meter: would follow a signal from an influent flow meter to pace the RAS pumps.

4. Install D.O. (Dissolved Oxygen) Probe System to drive aeration blowers: to regulate the amount of air put into the system which will serve the biological system in accordance with its needs. (This was identified as a design deficiency.)
5. Blower and aeration upgrade: adding a variable speed drive but using the existing blowers and motors.
6. Clarifier modifications: full surface skimming will reduce the frequency of having larger materials enter into the UV System.
7. Sludge Blanket Detector: will be installed within the secondary clarifiers to serve as an early warning system to alert plant staff to change something in the process when the blanket rises.
8. On-Line effluent turbidity meter: another early warning system; will be placed at the head of the UV Disinfection unit and will monitor turbidity coming out of the process.
9. Influent baffle at UV unit: to try to get as much turbulence in the flow as possible to expose as much of the bacteria as possible to the UV light.

The following would be included in the \$4.7 million "INTERIM IMPROVEMENTS":

1. Influent flow meter: (to be paid for by DHMC/Dartmouth College)
2. Digester repairs: one of the two digesters that treats the solids in the treatment process is in disrepair and needs replacing.
3. Seepage improvements: will reduce the impact to seepage on the process.
4. Tank drains: to improve the overall efficiency, maintenance and operation of the plant.
5. RAS pump modifications: to regulate the flow of RAS in proportion to the flow that is entering the plant. (This was identified as a design deficiency.)
6. WAS (Waste Activated Sludge) thickener/belt filter press modifications: equipment replacement.
7. Polymer system upgrade: equipment replacement due to age; would add chemical materials as the flow goes through the thickener.
8. UV Disinfection System replacement: equipment replacement due to age, advances in technology, design capacity, change of standards.
9. D.O. Probe System for aeration tanks: to regulate the amount of air put into the system which will serve the biological system in accordance with its needs. (This was identified as a design deficiency.) (To be paid for by DHMC/Dartmouth College)
10. Upgrade blower, motor, and provide VFD's (Variable Frequency Drives): replace blower and motor and provide VFD's to regulate the amount of air from the D.O. Probe System. (to be paid partially by DHMC/Dartmouth College)
11. Clarifier modifications: in the secondary clarifiers to improve the efficiency so that fewer particles of suspended solids exit out into the UV Disinfection System. (to be paid for by DHMC/Dartmouth College)
12. Construct full-scale selector: to control the environment to further control the biology that will grow and flourish in the treatment plant.

Mr. Kulbacki said DHMC and Dartmouth's joint contribution of \$400,000 for the improvements to be done in 2003 would reduce the total cost from \$4.7 million to \$4.3 million and would drop the EU cost by \$5.00 per year.

Selectman Walsh noted that four of the items listed under "Future Improvements" had not yet been determined or were not available. He said as Hanover was not sure of the loads it would need to handle or design for he would prefer not to review these items until more was known. Selectman Baschnagel suggested some type of budgetary number should be calculated of these future improvements to alert people at Town Meeting what more will be necessary in WWTP improvements. He further suggested that some type of graph should be developed to chart the relationship between capacity, time and capital investments. Mr. Rushbrook said it would be good to keep in mind that the solids handling equipment would be 20 years old in five years and would require replacement. Selectman Walsh agreed that a very round number should be provided. Mr. Rushbrook said within the next two years the Town would have to decide between choosing another treatment process and adding an additional clarifier to the existing plant.

Selectman Walsh outlined important decisions that would still have to be made as:

- Determining the service area Hanover's plant would cover (to be decided in consultation with the City of Lebanon);
- Determining what percentage of the projected build out the future upgrade should be designed for; and
- Determining which method of treatment the plant should provide given its physical site limitations and the demand.

1. UPDATE ON CONVERSION OF CURRENT SENIOR CENTER TO AFFORDABLE HOUSING

Selectman Baschnagel said the Affordable Housing Commission voted to withdraw their plan to convert the current Senior Center into two units of affordable housing. He said there were questions relative to the amount of investment the Commission would have to make. There were also a number of other issues against the project.

Town Manager Griffin asked for and received the Selectboard's permission to advertise the house's availability to be moved or salvaged. Selectman Walsh asked that the Hanover Historical Society be informed first.

2. AFFORDABLE HOUSING COMMISSION REQUEST FOR SUPPORT

Town Manager Griffin said the Affordable Housing Commission had asked that the Selectboard provide a written statement in support of their concept of providing affordable housing on the Gile Tract. This was necessary for them to accept a \$30,000 grant from the New Hampshire Housing Authority, which would be used to continue the feasibility work on the Gile Tract.

It was **MOVED** by Selectman Walsh and **SECONDED** by Selectman Baschnagel to approve the following statement of support: "The Board of Selectmen of the Town of Hanover has viewed favorably the development of concept plans by the Hanover Affordable Housing Commission for providing mixed-income housing on a parcel of town-owned land known as the Gile Tract. The Selectboard endorsed the Commission's successful effort last spring to have the property rezoned so as to allow such housing. The Board is currently entertaining an article for the Warrant of our Annual Town Meeting to be held in May that would allow the land to be subdivided and conveyed for construction and operation of the proposed affordable housing development. Furthermore, the Selectboard recognizes that the Commission has demonstrated preliminarily that such a development could be financially feasible. For purposes of ensuring that no topographical, legal, or financial factors could yet jeopardize this concept, and to further advance the concept expeditiously toward fruition, the Selectboard wishes to inform you of our support of the Technical Assistance Grant application made by the Twin Pines Housing Trust for this project on behalf of the Hanover Affordable Housing Commission." **THE BOARD VOTED UNANIMOUSLY TO APPROVE THE ABOVE STATEMENT OF SUPPORT.**

3. ADMINISTRATIVE REPORTS

Ms. Griffin did not have anything to report.

4. SELECTMEN'S REPORTS

Peter Christie

Mr. Christie did not have anything to report.

Katherine Connolly

Ms. Connolly reported on the Planning Board's action to approve a minor subdivision on Partridge Road. They were also given a presentation by the Affordable Housing Commission on their plans for the Gile Tract. The Howe Library Trustees also met with the Planning Board for an informal discussion on their addition and renovation project. Ms. Connolly said formal public hearings on a completed Master Plan would be held soon.

Ms. Connolly said the Upper Valley Lake Sunapee Regional Planning Commission sponsored a presentation by two representatives of FEMA on hazard mitigation plans for towns. Grant funding is available for said plans. Ms. Griffin said Hanover was working on a plan.

Ms. Connolly said the Howe Trustees met and discussed the progress of the Library addition and refurbishing.

Bill Baschnagel

Mr. Baschnagel reported on the Planning Board's approval of a Site Plan Waiver for Dartmouth College to construct an elevated walkway between Murdough and Cummings Halls. He said with respect to their discussion about the Gile Tract, it was noted that signalization at the Buck Road/Route 120 intersection would be an issue at some point.

Mr. Baschnagel said the Affordable Housing Commission was working to develop an outreach/education project on their Gile Tract work.

Brian Walsh

It was **MOVED** by Selectman Walsh and **SECONDED** by Selectman Baschnagel to proclaim the following to commemorate the 10th anniversary of Hanover's sister city relationship with Joigny, France, *"WHEREAS: Hanover, New Hampshire in the United States, and Joigny, France, chose to become twinned municipalities ten years ago, culminated by dual ceremonies in Hanover in 1993 and Joigny in 1994; AND WHEREAS: Both communities have benefited marvelously from the relationship initiated between them in the early 1990's, and continue to enjoy the mutual respect, affection and admiration that can only develop when citizens get to know each other; AND WHEREAS: Ten groups of Joigny high school students, ten groups of Hanover high school students, and several individual students have been afforded the opportunity to participate in the school exchange program the two communities have created, participating in week-long to semester-long visits; AND WHEREAS: The two communities have enjoyed the cultural bridge of musical and art, supporting three visits to Joigny by the Hanover High School Footnotes, art exhibits by Upper Valley artists in Joigny, musical exchanges involving a young musician from Norwich and three pianists from Joigny, and the opportunity to partake in the wonderful arts culture that thrives in Joigny; AND WHEREAS: Approximately 25 students from the Hanover area and 25 from Joigny have participated in independent home stays in both communities, fostering an ongoing connection between the two communities that is steeped in the energy that only young people can bring to the relationship; AND WHEREAS: The two communities have encouraged sports exchanges, including spirited tennis and soccer competitions; AND WHEREAS: Dozens of Hanover families have enjoyed visits to Joigny, lasting from a few days to several months, and have always been welcomed with generosity, affection and enthusiasm; AND WHEREAS: Given the current state of world affairs, the type of relationship that has been lovingly nurtured between Hanover and Joigny illustrates the essential value of people to people relationships and highlights the fact that cross cultural exchange can transcend world politics; THEREFORE: The Hanover Board of Selectmen does hereby express its gratitude to Joigny for the wonderful friendship cultivated over the last decade, and looks forward to continuing the relationship for many years to come."* **THE SELECTMEN VOTED UNANIMOUSLY TO PROCLAIM THE STATEMENTS ABOVE COMMEMORATING THE 10TH**

ANNIVERSARY OF HANOVER'S SISTER CITY RELATIONSHIP WITH JOIGNY, FRANCE.

5. OLD BUSINESS

Town Manager Griffin reminded the Selectmen that filing would open on Wednesday and would close on April 4.

6. ADJOURNMENT

Selectman Baschnagel MOVED to adjourn the meeting. Selectman Connolly SECONDED. THE SELECTMEN VOTED UNANIMOUSLY TO ADJOURN THE MEETING AT 10:02 PM.

SUMMARY

1. It was **MOVED** by Selectman Walsh and **SECONDED** by Selectman Baschnagel to approve the following statement of support: "The Board of Selectmen of the Town of Hanover has viewed favorably the development of concept plans by the Hanover Affordable Housing Commission for providing mixed-income housing on a parcel of town-owned land known as the Gile Tract. The Selectboard endorsed the Commission's successful effort last spring to have the property rezoned so as to allow such housing. The Board is currently entertaining an article for the Warrant of our Annual Town Meeting to be held in May that would allow the land to be subdivided and conveyed for construction and operation of the proposed affordable housing development. Furthermore, the Selectboard recognizes that the Commission has demonstrated preliminarily that such a development could be financially feasible. For purposes of ensuring that no topographical, legal, or financial factors could yet jeopardize this concept, and to further advance the concept expeditiously toward fruition, the Selectboard wishes to inform you of our support of the Technical Assistance Grant application made by the Twin Pines Housing Trust for this project on behalf of the Hanover Affordable Housing Commission." **THE BOARD VOTED UNANIMOUSLY TO APPROVE THE ABOVE STATEMENT OF SUPPORT.**

2. It was **MOVED** by Selectman Walsh and **SECONDED** by Selectman Baschnagel to proclaim the following to commemorate the 10th anniversary of Hanover's sister city relationship with Joigny, France, "*WHEREAS: Hanover, New Hampshire in the United States, and Joigny, France, chose to become twinned municipalities ten years ago, culminated by dual ceremonies in Hanover in 1993 and Joigny in 1994; AND WHEREAS: Both communities have benefited marvelously from the relationship initiated between them in the early 1990's, and continue to enjoy the mutual respect, affection and admiration that can only develop when citizens get to know each other; AND WHEREAS: Ten groups of Joigny high school students, ten groups of Hanover high school students, and*

several individual students have been afforded the opportunity to participate in the school exchange program the two communities have created, participating in week-long to semester-long visits; AND WHEREAS: The two communities have enjoyed the cultural bridge of musical and art, supporting three visits to Joigny by the Hanover High School Footnotes, art exhibits by Upper Valley artists in Joigny, musical exchanges involving a young musician from Norwich and three pianists from Joigny, and the opportunity to partake in the wonderful arts culture that thrives in Joigny; AND WHEREAS: Approximately 25 students from the Hanover area and 25 from Joigny have participated in independent home stays in both communities, fostering an ongoing connection between the two communities that is steeped in the energy that only young people can bring to the relationship; AND WHEREAS: The two communities have encouraged sports exchanges, including spirited tennis and soccer competitions; AND WHEREAS: Dozens of Hanover families have enjoyed visits to Joigny, lasting from a few days to several months, and have always been welcomed with generosity, affection and enthusiasm; AND WHEREAS: Given the current state of world affairs, the type of relationship that has been lovingly nurtured between Hanover and Joigny illustrates the essential value of people to people relationships and highlights the fact that cross cultural exchange can transcend world politics; THEREFORE: The Hanover Board of Selectmen does hereby express its gratitude to Joigny for the wonderful friendship cultivated over the last decade, and looks forward to continuing the relationship for many years to come.” THE SELECTMEN VOTED UNANIMOUSLY TO PROCLAIM THE STATEMENTS ABOVE COMMEMORATING THE 10TH ANNIVERSARY OF HANOVER’S SISTER CITY RELATIONSHIP WITH JOIGNY, FRANCE.

3. Selectman Baschnagel MOVED to adjourn the meeting. Selectman Connolly SECONDED. THE SELECTMEN VOTED UNANIMOUSLY TO ADJOURN THE MEETING AT 10:02 PM.

Respectfully submitted,



Peter Christie, Secretary

These minutes were transcribed by Beth Rivard.