

FINAL

BOARD OF SELECTMEN'S MEETING

MAY 19, 2003

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

The meeting of the Board of Selectmen was called to order at 7:33 pm by the Vice-Chairman, Katherine Connolly. Present were: Katherine Connolly, Vice-Chairman; William "Bill" Baschnagel; Peter Christie; Judson "Jay" Pierson; Julia Griffin, Town Manager; and members of the public. Selectman Brian Walsh joined the meeting during the discussion of agenda item number 2.

1. PUBLIC COMMENT

There was no public comment.

2. PUBLIC HEARING TO CONSIDER AND ADOPT AN AMENDMENT OF ORDINANCE #6, PARKING ORDINANCE TO LIMIT OR ELIMINATE PARKING ON LEWIN ROAD AND WEATHERBY ROAD.

Patrick O'Neill, Parking Division Supervisor, read a petition he received from residents of Lewin Road and Weatherby Road dated April 24, 2003.

"The following homeowners on Lewin and Weatherby Roads would like to petition the Town of Hanover to install "No Parking" signs. We have had an increase of both daytime and overnight parking by non-residents. Cars from in-town employees are now being parked on both Lewin and Weatherby from 9:00 am to 5:00 pm presumably to avoid metered parking closer to Main Street. Cars park overnight in front of the Hanover Court Condominiums on a routine basis (except during the winter). These cars park partially on the grass and partially on the street, as there is no curb. This damages homeowner's property and is also dangerous due to the narrow road width and the sharp curve where Lewin changes to Weatherby. The low railing and no shoulder at the steep bank to the south of Weatherby further compounds this dangerous condition. The only time homeowners use the street for parking is when they are entertaining. We understand as homeowners we still have the right to have visitors park on the street on an occasional basis in front of our own homes, but in no case will this be permanent or overnight parking. We understand an individual permit can be issued for this purpose. We would like the Town of Hanover to consider our Petition and to advise us as to the next steps to provide for no parking or limited parking on Lewin and Weatherby Roads."

Mr. O'Neill noted that five residents of the Lewin Road/Weatherby Road neighborhood had signed the petition. He explained that currently there were no parking restrictions on these two roads, as they were not mentioned in the Parking Ordinance. Selectman Connolly asked about an existing "No Parking" sign located on the west side of Lewin

Road that was embedded into some hedges. Mr. O'Neill acknowledged the sign but stated that he was unaware as to why it was there.

Mr. O'Neill advised of proposed wording that Jonathan Rose, of 7 Lewin Road, had submitted on behalf of his neighbors to be inserted into the Parking Ordinance. These suggestions were forwarded to Town Manager Griffin in a Memorandum from Mr. O'Neill dated May 19, 2003 and read as follows:

"LEWIN ROAD

Between Maple Street and Weatherby Road parking is prohibited on both sides, except by temporary permit issued to guests of Lewin Road residents by Hanover Parking Operations.

Lewin Road residents may request temporary guest event parking permits by providing at least 72 hours notice to Hanover Parking Operations prior to the event. Guest permits are valid between the hours of 7:00 a.m. and midnight.

WEATHERBY ROAD

Between Lewin Road and River Ridge Road parking is prohibited on both sides, except by temporary permit issued to guests of Weatherby Road residents by Hanover Parking Operations.

Weatherby Road residents may request temporary guest event parking permits by providing at least 72 hours notice to Hanover Parking Operations prior to the event. Guest permits are valid between the hours of 7:00 a.m. and midnight."

Jonathan Rose reiterated points from the petition of the current parking problems and points of the proposed ordinance amendment that would alleviate these issues. He also advised the Selectboard of photos that were submitted with the petition that depicted the area in general and where the problem parking occurred.

Reinhart Sonnenburg, of 3 Lewin Road, spoke in support of the ordinance amendment.

Selectman Walsh joined the meeting at this point.

Ann Holloway, of 3 Weatherby Road, suggested the source of the parking problems was the many rental units in this area that were over occupied and brought too many cars to the neighborhood. Mr. O'Neill suggested this could be an issue for the Hanover Court Condominium tenants as well. Ms. Holloway thought the Zoning Ordinance restricting parking on front or side lawns, which was another recurring problem in this neighborhood.

Selectman Connolly asked if any of the residents of Lewin or Weatherby Road disagreed with the proposed ordinance amendment. Mr. O'Neill said notices were sent to the property owners on these streets stating that the Selectmen would address this issue at the current meeting.

Selectman Baschnagel asked if prohibiting parking on these streets would create parking problems on adjacent streets. Mr. O'Neill said he did not know if any other streets in this area were experiencing similar problems. Selectman Connolly stated that Pleasant Street used to have parking problems before a two-hour parking restriction was imposed. Ann Rose, of 7 Lewin Road, suggested that the parking problems on Lewin and Weatherby Roads were caused by the parking restrictions on the more in-town streets like Pleasant Street. Town Manager Griffin said beyond Lewin Road, traveling west, the only other viable place to park within close proximity to downtown was West Street, which was signed "No Parking" on both sides. She said Allen Street Extension experienced parking problems on occasion. Selectman Walsh suggested that parking on the neighboring streets could be monitored and subsequently addressed if necessary.

Selectman Baschnagel MOVED to accept the proposed changes. Selectman Christie SECONDED. THE SELECTMEN VOTED UNANIMOUSLY TO ACCEPT THE PROPOSED CHANGES.

3. ORGANIZATIONAL MEETING OF THE 2003-2004 BOARD OF SELECTMEN

Selectman Walsh chaired the remainder of the meeting.

Selectman Connolly MOVED to elect Peter Christie as Secretary. Selectman Pierson SECONDED. THE SELECTMEN VOTED UNANIMOUSLY TO ELECT PETER CHRISTIE AS SECRETARY.

Selectman Pierson MOVED to elect Brian Walsh as Chair and Kate Connolly as Vice-Chair. Selectman Baschnagel SECONDED. THE SELECTMEN VOTED UNANIMOUSLY TO ELECT BRIAN WALSH AS CHAIR AND KATE CONNOLLY AS VICE-CHAIR.

Selectman Walsh advised of Selectman Baschnagel's request for a change in liaison assignment. He said Mr. Baschnagel was feeling overloaded and had asked that someone else act as the Liaison to the Affordable Housing Commission. Mr. Walsh suggested deferring this discussion to June 2, 2003 when the affordable housing issue could be expanded to include considering an attorney who might best represent the Town in the purchase and sales agreement in this project.

It was agreed that all other assignments would remain the same. They are as follows:

Advisory Board of Assessors

CATV Board

Chamber of Commerce

Community/Senior Center Taskforce

Community Substance Abuse Advisory Committee

Conservation Commission

Jay Pierson

Kate Connolly alternate

Marilyn Black

Peter Christie

Brian Walsh

Brian Walsh

Bill Baschnagel

Finance Committee	Peter Christie
Hanover Improvement Society	Brian Walsh
Hanover Water Works Company	Jay Pierson
Howe Library Board of Trustees	Brian Walsh
	Kate Connolly alternate
Joigny, France – Sister City Advisory Committee	Brian Walsh
Nihonmatsu, Japan – Sister City Advisory Committee	Kate Connolly
Parking and Transportation Board	Bill Baschnagel
Parks and Recreation Board	Jay Pierson
Planning Board	Kate Connolly
	Bill Baschnagel alternate
	Peter Christie, alternate
Recycling Committee	Peter Christie
Senior Citizen Steering Committee	Peter Christie
Upper Valley Lake Sunapee Regional Planning Commission	Kate Connolly
Upper Valley Transportation Advisory Committee	Bill Baschnagel

Selectman Walsh MOVED to continue the Selectboard assignments to Boards and Commissions with the exception of the Affordable Housing Commission.

It was noted that the CATV By-Laws did not require a Selectman Liaison. The Selectmen agreed to continue to allow Marilyn Black to represent the Town on the CATV Board given her tenure with this Board.

Selectman Pierson SECONDED. THE SELECTMEN VOTED UNANIMOUSLY TO CONTINUE THE SELECTBOARD ASSIGNMENTS TO BOARDS AND COMMISSION WITH THE EXCEPTION OF THE AFFORDABLE HOUSING COMMISSION.

Selectman Walsh asked that copies of the Selectmen's Objectives for the past year and an audit of what they have accomplished be provided to the Selectboard before their next meeting.

4. RECOMMENDATION TO SET A PUBLIC HEARING FOR JUNE 2, 2003 TO CONSIDER AMENDMENT TO THE ORDINANCE #6, PARKING ORDINANCE RELATIVE TO IMMOBILIZATION OF VEHICLES

Town Manager Griffin said this would fine-tune the Immobilization Section, which was added to the Parking Ordinance a year ago. She said the suggested changes were fairly minor.

Selectman Pierson MOVED to set a public hearing for June 2, 2003 to consider amendments to Ordinance #6, Parking Ordinance relative to immobilization of vehicles. Selectman Connolly SECONDED. THE SELECTMEN VOTED UNANIMOUSLY TO SET A PUBLIC HEARING FOR JUNE 2, 2003 TO

CONSIDER AMENDMENTS TO THE ORDINANCE #6, PARKING ORDINANCE RELATIVE TO IMMOBILIZATION OF VEHICLES.

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

Mike Ryan, Director of Assessing, explained that the Advisory Board of Assessors met on May 1, 2003 to review two abatement applications. Their recommendations were as follows:

- To deny Barbara H. Hall's application, and
- To grant Susan Knight Bank's application, as there was a data correction made associated with the number of baths.

Mr. Ryan said the Advisory Board of Assessors would consider two additional residential applications and three commercial applications at their June session. The largest case involved Hypertherm, which was brought before the Superior Court the previous year.

Selectman Christie asked why Mrs. Hall's application was denied. Mr. Ryan said the Board discussed points brought forth by Tom Hall, who appeared on behalf of the owner, and Mr. Ryan's recommendation. Selectman Connolly advised of her attendance at the May 1, 2003 hearing but added that she did not participate in the discussions. Xenia Heaton, John Hochreiter and Paul Young represented the Advisory Board of Assessors in the Hall case.

Tom Hall asked of the factors that the Board considered in making their decision. Mr. Ryan said the Board discussed the fact that a Building Permit had been taken out on the property to remodel a kitchen. The assessment was increased by \$25,800 to represent the enhancement in value from that work. He said it was the Board's opinion, after discussion, that the value had been enhanced and the increase was warranted. Town Manager Griffin added that Mr. Ryan reviewed Building Permits every year to track work done on residential and commercial properties. She said values were routinely updated on properties when reinvestments were made based on the values of the Building Permits that were pulled. This was actually a common practice for reassessing property in New Hampshire communities.

Selectman Christie asked if the owner's claim was that the work done did not enhance the value or that the enhanced value was too high. Mr. Hall said the kitchen remodel involved replacing a sink, the stove and the countertop and refinishing the floor. He said to raise the value over \$20,000 for that seemed excessive. He said his impression from the Board was that they did not take into account appliance upgrades when considering assessment values. Mr. Hall further argued that the Town's abatement process was very poor and needed clarification. It basically penalized a person for taking out a Building Permit, which was unfair. Mr. Hall said, as an applicant, he was unaware that he could

address the Selectboard on this issue. All he had received was a copy of Mr. Ryan's letter stating that the abatement request had been denied.

Selectman Walsh explained that it was not normal for applicants to address the Selectboard on these requests. Town Manager Griffin added that it was standard practice in New Hampshire for a Board of Assessors to review abatement requests in detail, deliberate and make decisions that then would become recommendations for the City Council or Board of Selectmen to adopt. She said she had never worked for a Selectboard or Council that had overturned a recommendation from a Board of Assessors. She further stated that the Town was not required to notice the Selectmen's adoption of the Board of Assessors recommendations as a public hearing. Mr. Hall said in other towns the Selectmen listen to the public. He said common sense says there should be more dialogue between the people that make the judgment and the applicants. In his case, he received no communication from the Board of Assessors after the hearing and no explanation for the denial. Selectman Walsh agreed, the level of communication between the Board and applicant should be looked into. Selectman Baschnagel suggested Mr. Hall should speak to the Board of Assessors to that regard.

Selectman Baschnagel MOVED to accept the recommendations. Selectman Christie SECONDED. THE SELECTMEN VOTED FOUR IN FAVOR, ONE OBSTAINING (CONNOLLY) TO ACCEPT THE RECOMMENDATIONS.

6. BANNER REQUEST

Selectman Connolly MOVED to allow the Hanover Recreation Department to install a 4th of July banner over Main Street from June 25, 2003 to July 5, 2003. Selectman Pierson SECONDED. THE SELECTMEN VOTED UNANIMOUSLY TO ALLOW THE HANOVER RECREATION DEPARTMENT TO INSTALL A 4TH OF JULY BANNER OVER MAIN STREET FROM JUNE 25, 2003 TO JULY 5, 2003.

7. APPOINTMENTS: PLANNING BOARD & FENCE VIEWER

Selectman Connolly MOVED to appoint Sylvia Richards and Peter Owens as alternates to the Planning Board. Selectman Baschnagel SECONDED. THE SELECTMEN VOTED UNANIMOUSLY TO APPOINT SYLVIA RICHARDS AND PETER OWENS AS ALTERNATES TO THE PLANNING BOARD.

Selectman Walsh added that he and Planning Board Chair, Nancy Collier had a chance to meet with each applicant and discuss Planning Board membership and the amount of time it demands. Selectman Connolly added that both were eminently qualified.

Selectman Walsh MOVED to nominate Lucie Minsk as a Fence Viewer. Selectman Pierson SECONDED. THE SELECTMEN VOTED UNANIMOUSLY TO NOMINATE LUCIE MINSK AS A FENCE VIEWER.

8. APPROVAL OF MINUTES: MARCH 24TH AND MAY 5TH, 2003

Review of the minutes from March 24, 2003 was again postponed.

Selectman Connolly MOVED to approve the minutes of May 5, 2003 as amended. Selectman Pierson SECONDED. THE SELECTMEN VOTED FOUR IN FAVOR, ONE OBSTAINING (BASCHNAGEL) TO APPROVE THE MINUTES OF MAY 5, 2003 AS AMENDED.

9. ADMINISTRATIVE REPORTS

Town Manager Griffin reported on the State Senate Finance Committee's four to one vote against the Coalition Communities' statewide property tax bill. She said a new piece of legislation, being proposed by Senator Gatsas, had yet another theme to reduce the statewide property tax but not eliminate it. She said a key reason the Senate was reluctant to eliminate the statewide property tax this session was related to their concern for the State deficit. She said Senator Gatsas' bill would take Hanover's statewide property tax payment down from \$1,908,723 to \$805,621, but as the statewide property tax reduces the local contribution would have to increase. Ms. Griffin said she had emailed Senator Below for his take on this new bill and would keep the Selectmen informed as it progressed.

10. SELECTMEN'S REPORTS

Peter Christie

Mr. Christie reported on the Chamber of Commerce's Annual Retreat, which was held on May 13, 2003. He said their theme was to look at ways to increase membership including those associated with Dartmouth and to look at services that could be provided.

Katherine Connolly

Ms. Connolly reported on the Planning Board's approval of a Site Plan Review for the rebuilding of the backend of the Caldwell Banker building. She said the Planning Board was also continuing their efforts on the Master Plan in preparation for two public hearings: June 17th at the Ray School and June 24th at Trumbull Hall. Mr. Walsh encouraged the Planning Board to make the draft document available on the Town's web site prior to the public hearings.

Bill Baschnagel

Mr. Baschnagel reported on the Conservation Commission's review of five wetland applications. One involved a proposed development of 75 high-end condominiums on a 10-acre parcel on Buck Road just down from Hanover East and adjacent to the Town's

proposed Gile Tract project. Another project involved the creation of two ponds on the Bailey property in Hanover Center.

Mr. Baschnagel asked to thank Betsy McClain and Kari Asmus for their work on tracking the flow of money into and out of the Town's Capital Reserve Accounts including the Conservation Fund.

Mr. Baschnagel reported on the Affordable Housing Commission's work to establish a subcommittee to begin drafting a proposal that would be presented to the Selectboard in the near future. He added that the Commission was not interested in reusing the existing Senior Center building.

Jay Pierson

Mr. Pierson reported on the Recreation Board's work to prepare for the opening of the new Community/Senior Center. Full move-in will not occur until after June, when the site work is completed. A grand opening is planned for the fall. It was noted that the Board of Selectmen would ultimately decide when the grand opening would be held. A suggestion was made to hold it the weekend following Labor Day weekend. Ms. Griffin said she would research that weekend and report back to the Board at a later date. She added that the existing Senior Center Building would be demolished in late July and the subsequent site work completed in August. Mr. Pierson said various subcommittees were working on a time capsule, a proposed fee structure, building usage, and staffing.

Mr. Pierson reported that Roger Lohr would soon present his findings and suggestions on the skateboard park issue to the Selectboard in the near future.

Mr. Walsh commented on the Recreation Board's award to Jack Stinson that was presented at Town Meeting. He said it was one of the high points of the night. Mr. Stinson has done a tremendous amount for Hanover and was always very helpful.

Mr. Pierson reported on the Water Company's pilot project to test different systems. From there they will work on designing and financing a system for Hanover.

Brian Walsh

Mr. Walsh complimented Mr. Christie for his efforts in explaining the wastewater issue to Town Meeting. He reported that 25% of the checklist voted during the day.

Mr. Walsh suggested the issues of future Town Meetings, their forums or substances and the question of future Warrants that focus more conversation on important issues and less on smaller issues should be added to the Selectmen's yearly objective list.

11. OLD BUSINESS

There was no old business discussed.

12. ADJOURNMENT

Selectman Connolly **MOVED** to adjourn the meeting. Selectman Baschnagel **SECONDED**. **THE SELECTMEN VOTED UNANIMOUSLY TO ADJOURN THE MEETING AT 9:48 PM.**

SUMMARY

- 1. Selectman Baschnagel MOVED to accept the proposed changes. Selectman Christie SECONDED. THE SELECTMEN VOTED UNANIMOUSLY TO ACCEPT THE PROPOSED CHANGES.**
- 2. Selectman Connolly MOVED to elect Peter Christie as Secretary. Selectman Pierson SECONDED. THE SELECTMEN VOTED UNANIMOUSLY TO ELECT PETER CHRISTIE AS SECRETARY.**
- 3. Selectman Pierson MOVED to elect Brian Walsh as Chair and Kate Connolly as Vice-Chair. Selectman Baschnagel SECONDED. THE SELECTMEN VOTED UNANIMOUSLY TO ELECT BRIAN WALSH AS CHAIR AND KATE CONNOLLY AS VICE-CHAIR.**
- 4. Selectman Walsh MOVED to continue the Selectboard assignments to Boards and Commissions with the exception of the Affordable Housing Commission. Selectman Pierson SECONDED. THE SELECTMEN VOTED UNANIMOUSLY TO CONTINUE THE SELECTBOARD ASSIGNMENTS TO BOARDS AND COMMISSION WITH THE EXCEPTION OF THE AFFORDABLE HOUSING COMMISSION.**
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- 6. Selectman Baschnagel MOVED to accept the recommendations. Selectman Christie SECONDED. THE SELECTMEN VOTED FOUR IN FAVOR, ONE OBSTAINING (CONNOLLY) TO ACCEPT THE RECOMMENDATIONS.**
- 7. Selectman Connolly MOVED to allow the Hanover Recreation Department to install a 4th of July banner over Main Street from June 25, 2003 to July 5, 2003. Selectman Pierson SECONDED. THE SELECTMEN VOTED UNANIMOUSLY**

TO ALLOW THE HANOVER RECREATION DEPARTMENT TO INSTALL A 4TH OF JULY BANNER OVER MAIN STREET FROM JUNE 25, 2003 TO JULY 5, 2003.

- 8. Selectman Connolly MOVED to appoint Sylvia Richards and Peter Owens as alternates to the Planning Board. Selectman Baschnagel SECONDED. THE SELECTMEN VOTED UNANIMOUSLY TO APPOINT SYLVIA RICHARDS AND PETER OWENS AS ALTERNATES TO THE PLANNING BOARD.**
- 9. Selectman Walsh MOVED to nominate Lucie Minsk as a Fence Viewer. Selectman Pierson SECONDED. THE SELECTMEN VOTED UNANIMOUSLY TO NOMINATE LUCIE MINSK AS A FENCE VIEWER.**
- 10. Selectman Connolly MOVED to adjourn the meeting. Selectman Baschnagel SECONDED. THE SELECTMEN VOTED UNANIMOUSLY TO ADJOURN THE MEETING AT 9:48 PM.**

Respectfully submitted,



Peter Christie, Secretary

These minutes were transcribed by Beth Rivard.