

FINAL

BOARD OF SELECTMEN'S MEETING

FEBRUARY 15, 1999

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 the Chairman, Marilyn W. Black. Present were: Marilyn W. Black, Chairman; Brian Walsh, Vice Chairman; Katherine S. Connolly; John Manchester; John Colligan; Julia Griffin, Town Manager; and members of the public.

Ms. Black announced that this meeting was being taped by CATV 6 and that hearing enhancement equipment was available for anyone who wished to use it.

1. PUBLIC COMMENT.

There was no public comment.

2. DISCUSSION WITH STATE REPRESENTATIVES RELATIVE TO SCHOOL FUNDING OPTIONS.

Ms. Black indicated that in speaking with the State Representatives it was felt that because the House has not taken any action it would be more important for the delegates to come to the next Board of Selectmen's meeting. At that time there will be action on the floor and more definitive information for the Board, as well as a feeling as to what direction the Senate might go.

3. EXECUTION OF \$5.1 MILLION BOND AND RELATED DOCUMENTS FOR PARKING STRUCTURE.

Ms. Griffin explained that the execution of the bond and related documents represents the end of the bond approval process. She distributed the actual parking facility bond document and copies of the certificate which accompanies the bond. Both of these documents have been reviewed by the Town attorney, and are absolutely standard form for this type of municipal bond issue. Ms. Griffin added that the Bond Bank uses standard boiler plate language; Walter Mitchell has read the documents several times and has said there are no changes that he would recommend. She also indicated that there is a tax form which needs to be signed by the Town Treasurer which indicates that the Town is eligible to receive the municipal bond financing rate as a municipal organization.

Before signing the documents, Mr. Walsh wished Ms. Griffin to acknowledge that 1) There has been no substantial change in agreement relating to the parking facility since January 6, 1999; 2) The Town has no by-laws or standing votes affecting in any way the authorization, sale or issue of these bonds or notes; 3) The Town has not adopted a home rule charter and the Town has not amended or repealed any special law relating to the Town through the use of home rule procedures, nor did it ever adopt the provisions of RSA 40-A; 4) The town has not adopted sections 14 to 23 of the Municipal Budget Law (RSA 32); and 5) at least 75% of these proceeds will be

used to pay the costs of construction, reconstruction, or rehabilitation of property owned by the Town. Ms. Griffin agreed that the above statements are correct.

Mr. Manchester asked when the Town could expect to receive the check. Ms. Griffin answered that the check should be received in early March.

4. ADMINISTRATIVE REPORTS

Ms. Griffin reported that she is almost finished with the budget, and is busy finalizing the classification and compensation study recommendations. She will provide the Board with a spread sheet showing what would not have to be spent if the Board stayed with the exact status quo in terms of classification and compensation. Ms. Griffin pointed out that her goal has been to figure out a way to fund what is being recommended, while still achieving the general fund tax rate target of a 1 1/2% increase. She pointed out that the CPI has actually moved down to 1.2%, and commented that she will give the Board enough items on its list so that it could get to 1.2% without much difficulty.

Ms. Griffin explained that the budget which will be received by the Board will include assumptions about implementing the classification and compensation study program that has been recommended by the consultants, but has been significantly tweaked by staff to make it affordable. Regarding the Waste Water Treatment Plant Fund, otherwise known as the Sewer Fund, Ms. Griffin noted that Mike Chase, Peter Kulbacki, Mike Gilbar and Bill Matthews have completed a comprehensive assessment of the fees, which have not been raised in three years. She indicated that Mr. Kulbacki had done a superb job of putting together a spread sheet that tracks both usage by user and also the cost for every gallon that is treated. He has come up with a fairly significant overhaul of the rate setting system which will be recommended to the Board. This rate setting results in additional revenue flowing into the sewer fund and reallocates charges between different user groups. Ms. Griffin pointed out that the budget that will be presented will recognize additional revenue under the assumption that the Board would implement the recommended new fees which are being suggested.

Ms. Griffin reported that another big issue regarding the budget is the Fire and Ambulance Fund where the focus has been on developing a very detailed equipment reserve schedule for the Fire Department. She stated that the Ambulance Fund is in much better shape this year at this time than last year, largely because of increased revenues. For the first time in several years the Ambulance Fund is looking fairly healthy; 19% of the benefit costs were able to be shifted out of the Fire Fund and into the Ambulance Fund.

Ms. Black asked if the ambulance was actually doing some transports or was it handling mostly emergencies. Ms. Griffin answered that the ambulance handles almost all emergencies, with a very small amount of transports. Mr. Manchester asked why the ambulance did not handle many transports. Ms. Griffin answered that it was a station coverage issue.

5. SELECTMEN'S REPORTS.

Mr. Colligan

Mr. Colligan reported that there will be meeting of the Conservation Commission on February 17th at 5:00. He added that the Conservation Commission continues to be quite active on everything from their By-Laws to wanting to have recommendations on current use tax and in terms of allocation and land acquisition programs.

Mr. Colligan also reported that he had received a letter from the Upper Valley Lake Sunapee Regional Planning Commission asking for contributions to a study on the Mascoma watershed. Ms. Griffin explained that she had asked Jonathan Edwards to generate a letter of support, which is the first step they need to do to submit the grant application.

Mr. Manchester

Mr. Manchester had nothing to report.

Ms. Connolly

Ms. Connolly reported that the Planning Board is enjoying the fruits of the newly employed Planning Director and Senior Planner, as well as the Zoning Administrator. She added that it is a pleasure to do the work at the Planning Board, and she is enjoying being able to be fully prepared for a meeting. Ms. Connolly indicated that the next Planning Board meeting will include a Dartmouth College application for an additional dormitory. The Board will also work on the senior assisted living housing project on Buck Road.

Mr. Walsh

Mr. Walsh reported that the Joint Facilities Study Committee had met with the Dresden Board recently in Norwich. The result of the meeting was two conclusions, one was that the Dresden Board going after the Co-op land in Norwich was a wise and important thing to do, and secondly that the Dresden Board would decide which of the four alternatives it wanted to pursue, how to get public input into that decision, and how to fit the Community Center and Howe Library Expansion into the plan.

Mr. Walsh also reported that he has heard from a few people regarding their frustrations of parking downtown. He has suggested to them that they attend the next PTB meeting, and has indicated that his sense as a Selectman is that the Board will support whatever changes in the interim the PTB recommends. Mr. Walsh explained that the PTB needs to wrestle with the question of lease spaces, employee spaces in close proximity to shopping versus shoppers being in close proximity to shopping, and also needs to figure out how to deal with where leased spaces should be and whether the Marshall Lot should return to two hour meters.

Lastly, Mr. Walsh reported that the Community Substance Abuse Advisory Committee is having a workshop on Healthy Communities on March 29th, and would like the Town to be an official sponsor of that workshop.

Mr. Walsh MADE THE MOTION that the Town of Hanover be an official sponsor of the Community Substance Abuse Advisory Committee workshop on Healthy Communities to be held March 29, 1999. Ms. Black SECONDED THE MOTION and the Board of Selectmen VOTED UNANIMOUSLY THAT THE TOWN OF HANOVER BE AN OFFICIAL SPONSOR OF THE COMMUNITY SUBSTANCE ABUSE ADVISORY COMMITTEE WORKSHOP ON HEALTHY COMMUNITIES TO BE HELD MARCH 29, 1999.

Ms. Black

Ms. Black reported on the success of the recent Pond Party held on Occum Pond. She indicated that it was enjoyable day, and recommended that Sue Young, Bill Young and Chris Vitale all receive Tips of the Hat for their efforts.

Ms. Connolly added that she had enjoyed the League of Women Voters Forum which was televised on CATV. She thanked Mr. Walsh and Ms. Griffin for representing the Town and being able to answer all of the questions that were raised. Mr. Walsh indicated that there was a request that his notes be made available to the League of Women Voters and be included in the Town Report.

6. APPROVAL OF MINUTES - FEBRUARY 1, 1999.

Mr. Walsh MADE THE MOTION to approve the Minutes of the Board of Selectmen's meeting of February 1, 1999, as corrected. Ms. Connolly SECONDED THE MOTION and the Board of Selectmen VOTED UNANIMOUSLY TO APPROVE THE MINUTES OF THE BOARD OF SELECTMEN'S MEETING OF FEBRUARY 1, 1999, AS CORRECTED.

7. OTHER BUSINESS

Ms. Black suggested that the Board write a letter to the Town's legislative delegation and send a copy to NHMA stating that if a state-wide property tax is enacted that the State send out the bills and do the assessing to protect municipal staffs from all of the extra work that the tax would create.

Ms. Griffin stated that she has spoken with Mike Ryan, who is chairman of the State Assessing Association this year. He has indicated that they are very concerned, as are the Finance Directors, about the administrative workload impact of any of a number of these options at the local level.

Mr. Colligan agreed with the writing of the letter, and would like to add to the list the Tax Increment Financing District issue as well as state-wide building aid. He would also like to know how the legislators are going to vote, and what plan they are most excited about.

Mr. Walsh would be in agreement with a letter being sent to the legislative delegation.

In reading through the original line-up of proposals, Ms. Connolly pointed out that it was felt the state-wide property tax would be the easiest to administer. Ms. Griffin answered that there is actually a lot more work to administering a state-wide property tax than was originally thought. Mr. Colligan stated that it should not be the Town's responsibility to collect any state-wide property tax.

8. ADJOURNMENT.

Ms. Connolly **MADE THE MOTION** to adjourn the meeting of the Board of Selectmen. Mr. Manchester **SECONDED THE MOTION** and the Board of Selectmen **VOTED UNANIMOUSLY TO ADJOURN THE MEETING OF THE BOARD OF SELECTMEN.**

Mr. Walsh **MADE THE MOTION** to go to non-public session to discuss an issue which may affect the reputation of an individual. Ms. Connolly **SECONDED THE MOTION** and the Board of Selectmen **VOTED UNANIMOUSLY TO GO TO NON-PUBLIC SESSION TO DISCUSS AN ISSUE WHICH MAY AFFECT THE REPUTATION OF AN INDIVIDUAL.**

SUMMARY

1. Mr. Walsh **MADE THE MOTION** that the Town of Hanover be an official sponsor of the Community Substance Abuse Advisory Committee workshop on Healthy Communities to be held March 29, 1999. Ms. Black **SECONDED THE MOTION** and the Board of Selectmen **VOTED UNANIMOUSLY THAT THE TOWN OF HANOVER BE AN OFFICIAL SPONSOR OF THE COMMUNITY SUBSTANCE ABUSE ADVISORY COMMITTEE WORKSHOP ON HEALTHY COMMUNITIES TO BE HELD MARCH 29, 1999.**
2. Mr. Walsh **MADE THE MOTION** to approve the Minutes of the Board of Selectmen's meeting of February 1, 1999, as corrected. Ms. Connolly **SECONDED THE MOTION** and the Board of Selectmen **VOTED UNANIMOUSLY TO APPROVE THE MINUTES OF THE BOARD OF SELECTMEN'S MEETING OF FEBRUARY 1, 1999, AS CORRECTED.**
3. Ms. Connolly **MADE THE MOTION** to adjourn the meeting of the Board of Selectmen. Mr. Manchester **SECONDED THE MOTION** and the Board of Selectmen **VOTED UNANIMOUSLY TO ADJOURN THE MEETING OF THE BOARD OF SELECTMEN.**
4. Mr. Walsh **MADE THE MOTION** to go to non-public session to discuss an issue which may affect the reputation of an individual. Ms. Connolly **SECONDED THE MOTION** and the Board of Selectmen **VOTED UNANIMOUSLY TO GO TO NON-PUBLIC SESSION TO DISCUSS AN ISSUE WHICH MAY AFFECT THE REPUTATION OF AN INDIVIDUAL.**

Board of Selectmen's Meeting
Page 6
February 15, 1999

The meeting was adjourned at 8:00 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "John Colligan", written in a cursive style.

John Colligan, Secretary

These minutes were taken and transcribed by Nancy Richards.