

**FINAL**

**BOARD OF SELECTMEN'S MEETING**

**DECEMBER 6, 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, Brian Walsh. Present were: Brian Walsh, Chairman; Marilyn Black, Vice Chairman; Katherine S. Connolly; John Manchester; John Colligan; Julia Griffin, Town Manager; and members of the public.

Mr. Walsh 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 OF DOWNTOWN VISIONING PROPOSAL**

A quorum of the Planning Board was in attendance.

Ms. Griffin explained that a memo was prepared and distributed to the both the Board of Selectmen and the Planning Board in response to questions raised at the last discussion of the Selectmen regarding the Downtown Visioning Proposal.

Mr. Walsh stated that the Board of Selectmen first heard two weeks ago a proposal by the College and the Chamber of Commerce for the College to hire a consultant, and for the Town, the Chamber and the College to jointly participate in a planning effort to look at possible alternatives for the commercial district in Town. He explained that there has been a modification since then to start with an open meeting to obtain public input to begin the process, and to end it with a public session to look at what came out of the effort.

Mr. Colligan referred to the memo and asked if the downtown piece of the bicycle path would be included as a part of the Downtown Visioning Proposal. Ms. Griffin answered that the Bike Path Committee has met twice recently and are looking at downtown bike path routes; however, she would not suggest trying to include plans for such a path in a Downtown Visioning Study that could conflict with the recommendations of the Bike Path Committee. The Committee's intention is to report back to the Board in January or February with a recommendation for a downtown bike path. Mr. Colligan suggested that the Bike Path Committee be made aware of meeting schedules with regard to the proposal.

Mr. Colligan referred to a section in the memo with regard to reducing traffic congestion and improving driver orientation. He asked if the shuttle bus would be any part of this discussion. Ms. Griffin answered that shuttle parking locations and downtown signage will be a part of the discussion.

Mr. Colligan stated that he was very pleased to see that there will be opportunity for public input in connection with the Downtown Visioning Proposal. He added that his idea would be to have a more comprehensive public input using the model of the Guiding Rural Growth Committee. This Committee had the opportunity to get a comprehensive response from the community as opposed to having them just show up at a Planning Board working group session. Mr. Colligan indicated that he was very impressed with the presentation given by Bill Baschnagel and the group. He stated that his biggest concern in this effort is to have the necessary and appropriate community input; he feels that this could not be accomplished in just one evening.

Ms. Griffin asked if Mr. Colligan envisioned a survey for the Visioning Proposal similar to the survey done by the Guiding Rural Growth Committee. Mr. Colligan answered that he was very impressed with that survey and added that it received a very comprehensive response from a part of the community. The Visioning Proposal would concern a different part of the community with a whole host of unique elements that could lend itself to such a survey.

Bill Baschnagel strongly encouraged the Selectmen and the Planning Board not to participate in this proposal. His concern is that there is a potential conflict of interest. He raised the example of a scenario in which Rite Aid might have bought the downtown properties rather than the College, and two weeks later came in with the proposal now before the Board. He noted that he could not imagine that anyone would not look very long and hard before they participated in a joint effort that was being paid for by the developer. Mr. Baschnagle indicated that he does not question that the College's interests are positive, and he does not think any games are being played; however, he raised the issue that where there is a major landowner in town funding the study, the study by definition focuses on that landowner's interests and needs. The fact of the matter is that the person who pays the bill is the one whose interests are going to have to play a major role, and he believes that this introduces a question as to where the outputs of the study are and how they stand and get treated by public bodies and the public as a whole. Mr. Baschnagle added that he feels a study such as the one proposed is really needed, but he believes that it should be the Town who is taking leadership in that study and not one of the major landowners. He suggested that the Town take a step back from the process; the College will go ahead with it, and he feels that the Town can certainly take the benefit of that; however, he questioned as to whether the Town ought to be going in as a joint venture in the process.

Ms. Black asked if Mr. Baschnagle would rather have the Chamber and Dartmouth College do the planning for the downtown without the Town being a part of it. Mr. Baschnagle answered that there is no way the Town would not be a part of it. The fact of the matter is that things cannot go on in Town without the review and participation on the part of a variety of Town boards.

Ms. Connolly stated that she feels the proposal is an excellent idea. She noted, however, that she does not see how the Town can envision anything until both the parking garage and planned retail space are up and

running. She feels that this is too large of a project which will have a major effect on the entire business district.

Paul Olsen from Dartmouth College stated that the point of view of the College is that they would most like to see the Town undertake some sort of study of the downtown, and to think about what the options are in the long-term for improving the quality of the downtown. The College's point of view is that they are getting ready to purchase 19 properties downtown; they need to understand how those properties fit into the character of the downtown and what people would like to see generally done with those properties or their best use. He feels that the benefits of having this discussion now would be to have a better way of getting input as to what the Town's interest would be in those properties and how they fit in with the rest of the plan. His concern with the proposal is that people would view it as more of a final product rather than a chance to get together and brainstorm on a variety of issues.

Shawn Donovan of the Planning Board stated that Nancy Collier had asked him to convey that she is very supportive of the study. He added that he had expressed some of the same concerns as Mr. Baschnagel, and feels that the way to resolve the perception problems of having the College paying for and selecting a consultant and setting the scope of work was to have the Town participate financially and increase the length of the time of the study, as well as to have the Town invite selected urban design firms to propose for the study. If the study is perceived only as a Dartmouth College study for the Town of Hanover's downtown he feels it will not have the credibility it might otherwise have. He stated that he would support having this type of study done, but suggested that the starting of the study should be improved upon. He also feels that the study as proposed is probably underfunded at this point, and thinks that the Town should financially participate in the study and have the ability to select a consultant.

Mr. Colligan indicated that he feels the study needs to be done, and has no problem with the College paying for all of it as long as there is public input and participation from the beginning. He added that he has always believed that while the College does quality projects, there are times when the College's best interests are not necessarily identical to Hanover's best interests. He pointed out that there is no time pressure on the Town, so it would make sense to take some time to do thoughtful planning. Mr. Colligan added that he feels the time table as proposed is too aggressive.

Steve Crory stated that he feels the issue of the study being tainted could definitely arise. He added that he is not against the proposal; he feels that it is a good proposal and that there needs to be a better master plan for development in the business district. Mr. Crory indicated that he does not feel the Planning Board should be involved in the proposal because they will be facing future applications regarding developments and changes in the areas involved in the proposal. He feels that it would be nice if Dartmouth College could fund the study, and that the Town could take advantage of their funding and ideas and study them for future proposals. He stated that he would hope that the proposal is not rushed into, suggesting that several different designs and ideas be brought up to come

up with an idea that hopefully will fix the traffic and parking gridlock.

Mr. Manchester stated that he thinks the proposal is good, but seems to point to just the B-2 district. Mr. Edwards explained that he understands that the proposal would be limited to B-2 or just slightly over the edges of B-2, but not to include B-1.

Mr. Manchester asked if the Chamber of Commerce is involved financially in this proposal; as they will be a recipient of the good results of the proposal, he wondered if they should contribute something financially. Ms. Griffin answered that a financial contribution from the Chamber could be proposed to them, but the biggest difficulty is that their budget is so fixed it would probably not be feasible.

Mr. Baschnagel suggested a scenario which might address both the potential apparent conflict and what everyone recognizes would be a very popular thing to accomplish. This would be to have the College proceed with the study, encourage Dartmouth to get involved with all of the participants on an individual basis rather than an organizational basis, put together a working group, and to solicit participation from business people in town and from residents in the downtown and outlying areas to support the planning effort. The study would then proceed and address issues which have been raised, would get valuable input on behalf of a broad spectrum of Town and at the same time be in a situation where at the completion of the study the Town and Planning Board would be able to look at the study from the outside rather than having been sworn by the process.

Nancy Tierney stated that she disagreed with Mr. Baschnagel for a variety of reasons, the first being that it seems as if he is suggesting the college prepare a plan and the Town will shoot it down if it does not like it. It seems to her that this proposal would be an opportunity to work together on something, and she suggested that the committee could be constructed so as to have equal members with equal participation. She pointed out that the College is soon to be the largest landowner in the downtown area, and she would like to make sure that the voice and vision of the plan provides for members of the public and Town to have a voice. She feels it will be much more effective if everyone can work together.

Ms. Black commented that the best things are accomplished when people work together. The proposal represents an opportunity to sit down with the business community, Town government and Dartmouth College, the largest landowner in Town and now the largest landowner in the business district, and to work collaboratively. She feels that there cannot be a better scenario from her point of view than to have all of the players sit down at the table together. Regarding funding, she believes that the Town should be thankful that Dartmouth College wants to fund the proposal rather than using taxpayer money. She feels that to argue over the composition of the committee and what is going to happen is very destructive for the Town. She applauds the College for offering the proposal and feels that it should move ahead.

Mr. Walsh pointed out that the dilemma of planning in the United States since the turn of the century has been whether to put planning boards in a position where they are reactive, or to allow them to get out and plan. This proposal represents an opportunity to sit down and look at the downtown area, much of which is under the control of the Town's zoning and site plan regulations, and the parking and land ownership which is represented mainly in the Chamber and the College. He feels that this is a very unique and positive situation. Mr. Walsh stated that his problems with the study is that it is looking at five months and a small amount of money which will basically define the issues, and there will need to be another year or two and some real money from the Town, the College, the Chamber and hopefully other landowners downtown spent to figure out what a real plan for downtown Hanover in the future will look like. He sees this proposal as a great start, but added if representatives of the Town's official bodies are not involved a great opportunity will be lost. He feels that it is the job of the citizens and elected officials to try to move whatever needs to go in front of the Town Meeting or Planning Board to be something that is very positive and constructive for the Town in the long run.

Jim Hornig stated that after listening to all of the various views presented, he agrees with everything except with the final conclusion that the proposal should proceed the way it is. He feels that Hanover is not a poor town and should not have to allow the major landowner to pay the bill on such a study which everyone agrees is desperately needed. He feels that the Town should be one of the major payors of the study; otherwise, it would compromise its position.

Mr. Walsh stated that he feels the Town contributing \$10,000 to the study, provided it can be found in the budget, would be a good thing to do. He is also convinced, however, that the Town will have that same opportunity coming out of the proposal.

**Ms. Black MADE THE MOTION that the Board of Selectmen accept the Downtown Visioning Proposal working group consisting of the College, the Chamber of Commerce and the Town of Hanover, and that the Town appropriate the sum of \$5,000 toward its cost. Ms. Connolly SECONDED THE MOTION.**

Mr. Colligan asked if Ms. Black's motion was meant to accept everything as presented in the proposal. He asked if she would accept his suggestion that a more comprehensive Town input piece be included on the front end of the proposal. Ms. Black answered that if more comprehensive Town input were included it would push up the cost considerably.

Mr. Colligan asked how much money was spent on the Guiding Rural Growth committee. Ms. Griffin answered that \$1,000 was given to the committee, and that it was not an adequate amount.

Mr. Edwards stated that the process done in rural Hanover, which was exemplary, would need to be done in urban Hanover. He feels that this kind of a process regarding comprehensive public input would be more readily and accurately done after the vision is complete than it would be

going into it. He noted that he appreciated Mr. Colligan's concerns about being sure there is public participation in the process, but he honestly believes that the study will help solicit gaining better public input after the study to result in a downtown master plan.

Mr. Walsh stated that he believes the study will end up with an agenda and a set of options for discussion that will take place over the next 12 or 18 months. He would not have trouble going forward with the process with the public input phases as indicated, but with the clear understanding that the next phase should have that kind of front end participation. Mr. Colligan indicated that he would like to see included in the process the step of addressing concerns which are valid concerns, and also to facilitate people buying into where the study ends up. He noted that Mr. Edwards described the primary purpose of the study as leading into a master plan for the downtown, and that is why he sees it as critical that it be done in a way that the community feels they are an equal partner in the process.

Mr. Walsh stated that the process would start with a public meeting. He feels that Mr. Edwards could put together a very simple questionnaire to be handed out to people at that public meeting. This questionnaire would not be given to a random sample, but to people that are interested.

Mr. Colligan called the question.

**The Board of Selectmen VOTED UNANIMOUSLY TO ACCEPT THE DOWNTOWN VISIONING PROPOSAL WORKING GROUP CONSISTING OF THE COLLEGE, THE CHAMBER OF COMMERCE AND THE TOWN OF HANOVER, AND THAT THE TOWN APPROPRIATE THE SUM OF \$5,000 TOWARD ITS COST.**

### **3. REVIEW AND APPROVAL OF ETNA LIBRARY LONG-RANGE PLAN**

Patti Hardenberg, the Etna librarian, explained that there were eleven committee members representing Etna and downtown Hanover working on the Etna Library's long-range plan.

Ms. Black congratulated Ms. Hardenberg on obtaining her Library Technician Certificate, adding that the Town appreciated her efforts.

Ms. Connolly stated that if what Ms. Hardenberg has done with the Library thus far is any example of the future, it is in excellent hands. She particularly appreciates Ms. Hardenberg's dedication to the history of the building itself.

Ms. Black commented that one problem of the Library is the parking issue. She feels that this might be something that needs to be done, and suggested that an Etna working group could help address the problem. Ms. Griffin added that there is also a problem at the Library with handicapped accessibility.

Ms. Hardenberg stated that parking impacts everything else at the Library, making programs limited to a certain number of people. She pointed out that she had just cancelled the toddler story time for the winter months

due to the parking situation.

With regard to acquiring additional property, Ms. Griffin noted that the Town does not own the property the Library sits on, it only owns the building as long as it remains a library. If it were to revert to anything else, the Town would lose the building as well.

Ms. Black suggested that the time has come to do something to ease the parking situation, and asked if someone might talk to the Hayes family about acquiring additional adjacent land. Ms. Griffin noted that it would be helpful if there were an interested group of Etna residents with a particular fondness for the Library to get together with the Etna Trustees to talk about acquisition possibilities which might exist, including a re-subdivision of the property to include a portion of the parcel just north of the Library to create a gravel parking lot.

Amy Stevens, one of the Trustees involved with long-range planning, stated that there actually is a committee that will be addressing that issue as well as building maintenance and handicapped accessibility.

Mr. Baschnagel pointed out that in the past the Hayes family had been talked to about locating additional property, and at that time they were very unenthusiastic about any expansion of the Library property. Ms. Griffin noted that although there have been no discussions, she feels there is some now some interest on the part of the family to talk about it.

**Ms. Black MADE THE MOTION that the Board of Selectmen accept the Etna Library Long-Range Plan. Mr. Manchester SECONDED THE MOTION and the Board of Selectmen VOTED UNANIMOUSLY TO ACCEPT THE ETNA LIBRARY LONG-RANGE PLAN.**

**4. REVIEW OF DRAFT DEVELOPMENT AGREEMENT WITH SEVEN LEBANON STREET, L.L.C.**

Ms. Griffin asked the Board for any concerns they might have regarding the current draft of the Development Agreement, and requested the Board's authorization to sign the agreement on behalf of the Town.

Mr. Colligan asked for an explanation of Section 8.1.2 - Easement on SLS Parcel Terminable After Seventy-Five Years, and asked why the entire paragraph on Page 11, Section 8.3.3. had been struck. Ms. Griffin answered that the paragraph in Section 8.3.3. had been struck in error.

Mr. Colligan referred to page 14, Section 8.6.2. He noted that the blanks were not filled in regarding terms of exemption, and that he understood there was a commitment never to seek a tax exemption for educational or other use. Ms. Griffin explained that there was a commitment never to seek an exemption such that the amount of property tax the property is supposed to produce would not be sufficient to provide funding for the tax increment financing district. The letter agreement with the College indicated that the development agreement requires that there be \$85,000 in tax increment financing yielding from the building. If at some point after the building's full value is taken into account, she wanted to be sure

that the maximum taxable value was not captured until she was convinced that the building had been fully fitted up for tenants. This is why the additional one year is included to calculate the total assessed valuation. What was agreed to with Dartmouth is that they would not come in and ask for any exemption for space in the building that might be rented for educational uses as long as they would end up paying less tax than was required to finance the tax increment financing district.

Referring to page 18, Mr. Colligan asked if it was unusual for an option price on a real estate transaction to have financial value. He assumes that there is financial value for the purchase option, even if it is something that is in-kind, and wondered if this issue was ever discussed. Mr. Walsh answered that an option price was not contemplated, adding that they had tried to make sure everything balanced all the way through.

Mr. Olsen noted that what is really being talked about is a right of first refusal rather than an option. Ms. Griffin explained that it would not be unusual for a community to want to sell a parking garage. They are not the easiest things to operate, and can be a very lucrative sale if an aggressive parking company believes they would be able to make money from a parking operation. Therefore, the College wanted to be sure that if the parking garage, which includes a layer under their building in that 75 year easement zone, were to be offered for sale by the Town, that they would want to have the right to purchase it if they so desired.

Ms. Griffin explained that the draft Development Agreement now before the Board was arrived out by working from a development proposal outline that was made available at Town Meeting. The current document took that development proposal outline and turned it into a development agreement. All of the key pieces of the development proposal are highlighted in the development agreement.

Regarding Mr. Colligan's question relating to the reason for the 75 year easement, Ms. Griffin explained that there are 62 spaces of parking which are on Dartmouth College property layered underneath their building. There were a couple of options, one of which was condominiumizing the building and the other was a very long-term easement. There was a strong feeling on the part of Dartmouth College and Attorney Mitchell that the 75 year easement made sense, particularly when language was added referring to what happens at the end of that easement period. Another thing to highlight with respect to the easement is that the Town owns the parking spaces. That portion of the building will not be subject to taxation because it is publicly owned.

**Ms. Connolly MADE THE MOTION to approve in outline the Development Agreement, and to authorize Ms. Griffin to finalize the agreement with the College and sign it on behalf of the Town. Mr. Colligan SECONDED THE MOTION and the Board of Selectmen VOTED UNANIMOUSLY TO APPROVE IN OUTLINE THE DEVELOPMENT AGREEMENT, AND TO AUTHORIZE MS. GRIFFIN TO FINALIZE THE AGREEMENT WITH THE COLLEGE AND SIGN IT ON BEHALF OF THE TOWN.**



**5. DISCUSSION OF WASTEWATER TREATMENT PLANT CAPITAL BUDGET PROPOSAL**

Ms. Griffin referred to a memo from Peter Kulbacki which indicates that there was a slight shift in the capital budget priorities to address the generator concern at the Wastewater Treatment Plant. She stated that she had conferred with Mike Gilbar to be sure that from the Department of Revenue Administration's standpoint there was no problem with the Board shifting priorities, and there is no problem statutorily. She recommended that the Board authorize shifting the emphasis a little to work on first getting a generator replacement for the Wastewater Treatment Plant, and then move down through the list and fund as much of the grit removal system replacement as possible with the funds remaining. She explained that she would probably end up coming back to the Board with Phase 2 for next year's capital budget in the Wastewater Treatment Plant fund. Ms. Griffin noted that the fund has a very hefty capital reserve. Mr. Kulbacki explained that the total approved by Town Meeting was \$296,000.

**Mr. Colligan MADE THE MOTION that the Board of Selectmen accept the staff recommendation to shift the emphasis in capital budget priorities to replace the generator for the Wastewater Treatment Plant, and then fund as much of the grit removal system replacement as possible with the funds remaining. Ms. Black SECONDED THE MOTION and the Board of Selectmen VOTED UNANIMOUSLY TO ACCEPT THE STAFF RECOMMENDATION TO SHIFT THE EMPHASIS IN CAPITAL BUDGET PRIORITIES TO REPLACE THE GENERATOR FOR THE WASTEWATER TREATMENT PLANT, AND THEN FUND AS MUCH OF THE GRIT REMOVAL SYSTEM REPLACEMENT AS POSSIBLE WITH THE FUNDS REMAINING.**

**6. DISCUSSION OF ADDITIONAL FUNDING REQUEST FROM THE COALITION COMMUNITIES**

Ms. Griffin presented an update on the coalition communities, stating that they have essentially completed the data collection component of the consulting study. As of November 24th there was \$93,500 taken in as donations, and since then they have taken in another \$20,000. She feels that Hanover can wait awhile longer before deciding if they should make an additional contribution because there are a lot of coalition communities that have either not given anything or have given less than \$10,000. Ms. Griffin noted that she had taken it upon herself to suggest to Portsmouth that Hanover will certainly take their request under advisement, but that the Town wishes to wait to see what other activity is generated in terms of contributions to the coalition before making an ultimate decision. She suggested that the request from the coalition communities be tabled at this point, and that an updated accounting with additional costs and anticipated expenditures be requested.

Ms. Griffin stated that she is waiting to hear when a briefing meeting will be held for coalition community members.

Ms. Black asked if anyone was tracking where the money goes in each community. Ms. Griffin indicated that she has suggested that the Municipal Association begin to tally how decisions are made about spending received

funds. Ms. Black suggested that the funds are not being used to equalize schools. Ms. Griffin referred to the Bartlett Society which has done a tally of the first sixteen towns to receive funds, and only Claremont has spent all of the money on their schools. She feels that it would be helpful for the two associations to put together a good factual spreadsheet showing distribution by district and how the funds are being utilized by each community.

Mr. Walsh recommended that as Ms. Griffin speaks to people in Portsmouth that she begin thinking about how to get a good briefing to the public on the results of this situation and what the potential wins and losses are of participating in the suggested lawsuit. He feels that getting good information in front of the public from the legislature and legal team will be very important, noting that an informed decision needs to be made rather than an emotional one.

Mr. Manchester commented that he had been asked why individuals cannot wait until March 15th to pay their taxes when the Town does not have to contribute until then. Ms. Griffin explained that the RSA states that taxes are due 30 days after the bills are made. The only reason the State delayed collection of the funds until March 15th was to provide an opportunity for abatement requests to be entertained by Boards of Assessors prior to the final mailing of the amount to the State.

Mr. Colligan noted that there was a poll done on November 29th which indicated that 59% of New Hampshire voters are dissatisfied with the statewide property tax. It indicated that 41% favor an income tax, which is up 3% from March; 50% oppose an income tax; and 9% are undecided. Looking at the breakdown between donor towns and receiving towns, 71% of the donor towns and 57% of the receiving towns are opposed to a statewide property tax; only 35% supported it.

**7. REVIEW AND APPROVAL OF LICENSE FOR THREE (3) EXISTING UTILITY POLES ON LYME ROAD**

**Ms. Black MADE THE MOTION to approve the license for three (3) existing utility poles on Lyme Road. Mr. Colligan SECONDED THE MOTION.**

Mr. Colligan asked if the poles in question affected any abutters, and Ms. Griffin answered that they did not.

**The Board of Selectmen VOTED UNANIMOUSLY TO APPROVE THE LICENSE FOR THREE (3) EXISTING UTILITY POLES ON LYME ROAD.**

**8. ADMINISTRATIVE REPORTS**

Ms. Griffin reported that her office was beginning to get immersed in budget development at this point in time with departments working on developing budget proposals with 0%, 2.5% and 5% reduction pieces. The departments' budgets are due to her office on December 15th, and budgets will begin being reviewed internally with the departments on December 20th. During the weeks of December 20th and January 3rd she will be in

budget meetings all day every day, with a goal of producing the document for the Board for the 3rd week in January.

Ms. Black asked if funds were being encumbered for the Courtroom, and Ms. Griffin answered that they are.

Ms. Connolly asked if monies were being encumbered for assistance in the manager's office. Ms. Griffin answered that she is working now on a couple of staff proposals that she feels may accommodate what is needed without adding additional part-time staff.

Mr. Walsh suggested that there needs to be some money for outside planning included on the wish list.

Ms. Black commented that if the Town wishes to maintain gardens there would have to be more garden help. Ms. Griffin noted that as Hanover has grown and developed a little, the Public Works budget is going to be a challenge in terms of added miles of roads and maintenance of grounds. She added that there will be some interesting new revenue opportunities for the Board to consider, but indicated that there is not a lot of luxury in terms of additional assessed valuation growth or resources of revenue to fund new additional staff people.

Mr. Manchester asked if there was any Federal funding available for the Police Department. Ms. Griffin answered that Chief Giaccone is always looking for new funding opportunities, but she does not feel there will be anything significant this year for the Department. She is seeing more monies available in the conservation/planning/facilities area than in public safety. From a staffing standpoint, the Police Department is in good shape with the new officer funded by the COPS program. Referring to the dispatch area, she indicated that there have been a number of additional communities that have asked to become clients of Hanover. Prices have increased significantly in Newport and Lebanon for this service. Doug Hackett, the dispatch coordinator, is looking at creative ways to generate more revenue in that area in exchange for taking on some of the additional communities. The pros and cons of this are being considered in a cost benefit analysis to come up with something that will work and be in the Town's best interests.

Mr. Walsh noted that CSAC is applying for two grants basically to enable high school students to put on three or four substance free events between the opening barbecue and the closing graduation party. Ms. Griffin added that they are also applying for a staff person for support at the high school level for CSAC work from funds available through the State Community Development. There is also a source of money available which is Charitable Foundation money. Ms. Black commented that the information she has seen seems to focus mostly on high school students; she added that she does not see these students as much of a problem as their parents in some respects, and would hope to see some role modeling information as well.

**9. SELECTMEN'S REPORTS**

**Ms. Connolly**

Ms. Connolly reported that the Grasse Road subdivision is already on the Planning Board's docket, and that the Board will be reviewing at its next meeting the lighting plan at the Moore Psychology Building as well as a proposal for a housing development on the corner of Wheelock and Park Streets. The basketball court application modification was completed at the last Planning Board meeting and should be up in a couple of months.

**Ms. Black**

Ms. Black reported that the Senior Center Advisory Committee met recently, and their annual Christmas Party will be held December 20th. She added that there are more people coming each month to the programs, and there is not enough room for those who are attending.

Ms. Black also reported that the Recycling Committee has met and is doing a survey of the business community to determine their recycling habits.

**Mr. Manchester Black MADE THE MOTION that the Board of Selectmen present a Tip of the Hat to Michael Hinsley for being the first in-house trained paramedic within the Fire Department. Ms. Connolly SECONDED THE MOTION and the Board of Selectmen VOTED UNANIMOUSLY TO PRESENT A TIP OF THE HAT TO MICHAEL HINSLEY FOR BEING THE FIRST IN-HOUSE TRAINED PARAMEDIC WITHIN THE FIRE DEPARTMENT.**

**Mr. Manchester**

Mr. Manchester reported that the Howe Library Trustees will meet on December 9th, and added that the Building Committee presented an informative talk to the Rotary Club recently.

**Mr. Colligan**

Mr. Colligan reported on and distributed to the Board an article from the Boston Globe on November 14th regarding the new Ledyard Bridge.

**Mr. Walsh**

**Mr. Walsh MADE THE MOTION that the Board of Selectmen present a Tip of the Hat to Patti Hardenberg and the Trustees of the Etna Library on the completion of their Long-Range Plan. Ms. Connolly SECONDED THE MOTION and the Board of Selectmen VOTED UNANIMOUSLY TO PRESENT A TIP OF THE HAT TO PATTI HARDENBERG AND THE TRUSTEES OF THE ETNA LIBRARY ON THE COMPLETION OF THEIR LONG-RANGE PLAN.**

**10. APPROVAL OF MINUTES: NOVEMBER 15, 1999**

**Ms. Connolly MADE THE MOTION that the Board of Selectmen approve the minutes of November 15, 1999, as amended. Mr. Colligan SECONDED THE MOTION and the Board of Selectmen VOTED FOUR IN FAVOR, ONE (MS.**

**BLACK) ABSTAINING TO APPROVE THE MINUTES OF NOVEMBER 15, 1999, AS AMENDED.**

**11. OTHER BUSINESS**

There was no other business to come before the Board.

**12. ADJOURNMENT**

**Ms. Black MADE THE MOTION to adjourn the meeting. Mr. Colligan SECONDED THE MOTION and the Board of Selectmen VOTED UNANIMOUSLY TO ADJOURN THE MEETING.**

**Ms. Connolly MADE THE MOTION to go to nonpublic session to discuss a matter which may affect the reputation of an individual. Ms. Black SECONDED THE MOTION and the Board of Selectmen VOTED UNANIMOUSLY TO GO TO NONPUBLIC SESSION TO DISCUSS A MATTER WHICH MAY AFFECT THE REPUTATION OF AN INDIVIDUAL.**


**SUMMARY**

- 1. Ms. Black MADE THE MOTION that the Board of Selectmen accept the Downtown Visioning Proposal working group consisting of the College, the Chamber of Commerce and the Town of Hanover, and that the Town appropriate the sum of \$5,000 toward its cost. Ms. Connolly SECONDED THE MOTION. The Board of Selectmen VOTED UNANIMOUSLY TO ACCEPT THE DOWNTOWN VISIONING PROPOSAL WORKING GROUP CONSISTING OF THE COLLEGE, THE CHAMBER OF COMMERCE AND THE TOWN OF HANOVER, AND THAT THE TOWN APPROPRIATE THE SUM OF \$5,000 TOWARD ITS COST.**
- 2. Ms. Black MADE THE MOTION that the Board of Selectmen accept the Etna Library Long-Range Plan. Mr. Manchester SECONDED THE MOTION and the Board of Selectmen VOTED UNANIMOUSLY TO ACCEPT THE ETNA LIBRARY LONG-RANGE PLAN.**
- 3. Ms. Connolly MADE THE MOTION to approve in outline the Development Agreement, and to authorize Ms. Griffin to finalize the agreement with the College and sign it on behalf of the Town. Mr. Colligan SECONDED THE MOTION and the Board of Selectmen VOTED UNANIMOUSLY TO APPROVE IN OUTLINE THE DEVELOPMENT AGREEMENT, AND TO AUTHORIZE MS. GRIFFIN TO FINALIZE THE AGREEMENT WITH THE COLLEGE AND SIGN IT ON BEHALF OF THE TOWN.**
- 4. Ms. Black MADE THE MOTION to approve the license for three (3) existing utility poles on Lyme Road. Mr. Colligan SECONDED THE MOTION. The Board of Selectmen VOTED UNANIMOUSLY TO APPROVE THE LICENSE FOR THREE (3) EXISTING UTILITY POLES ON LYME ROAD.**
- 5. Mr. Manchester Black MADE THE MOTION that the Board of Selectmen present a Tip of the Hat to Michael Hinsley for being the first in-house trained paramedic within the Fire Department. Ms. Connolly SECONDED THE MOTION and the Board of Selectmen VOTED UNANIMOUSLY TO PRESENT A TIP OF THE HAT TO MICHAEL HINSLEY FOR BEING THE FIRST IN-HOUSE TRAINED PARAMEDIC WITHIN THE FIRE DEPARTMENT.**

6. Mr. Walsh MADE THE MOTION that the Board of Selectmen present a Tip of the Hat to Patti Hardenberg and the Trustees of the Etna Library on the completion of their Long-Range Plan. Ms. Connolly SECONDED THE MOTION and the Board of Selectmen VOTED UNANIMOUSLY TO PRESENT A TIP OF THE HAT TO PATTI HARDENBERG AND THE TRUSTEES OF THE ETNA LIBRARY ON THE COMPLETION OF THEIR LONG-RANGE PLAN.
7. Ms. Connolly MADE THE MOTION that the Board of Selectmen approve the minutes of November 15, 1999, as amended. Mr. Colligan SECONDED THE MOTION and the Board of Selectmen VOTED FOUR IN FAVOR, ONE (MS. BLACK) ABSTAINING TO APPROVE THE MINUTES OF NOVEMBER 15, 1999, AS AMENDED.
8. Ms. Black MADE THE MOTION to adjourn the meeting. Mr. Colligan SECONDED THE MOTION and the Board of Selectmen VOTED UNANIMOUSLY TO ADJOURN THE MEETING.
9. Ms. Connolly MADE THE MOTION to go to nonpublic session to discuss a matter which may affect the reputation of an individual. Ms. Black SECONDED THE MOTION and the Board of Selectmen VOTED UNANIMOUSLY TO GO TO NONPUBLIC SESSION TO DISCUSS A MATTER WHICH MAY AFFECT THE REPUTATION OF AN INDIVIDUAL.

The meeting was adjourned at 9:20 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

  
John Colligan, Secretary

These minutes were taken and transcribed by Nancy A. Richards.