

FINAL

BOARD OF SELECTMEN'S MEETING

MARCH 8, 2000

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; Julia Griffin, Town Manager; Michael Gilbar, Finance Director; 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.

Matt Marshall, Chairman of the Trustees of the Howe Corporation, apologized for his behavior and comments at a previous meeting. He stated that he hoped the Board would give due consideration to the request of the Howe Library for additional hours to staff the children's programs at the library. He feels that as the library moves forward it might be able to interest someone in potentially funding the children's librarian position. He also pointed out that there has been some planning done in terms of fund raising. The present plan is to expand the library on its present site, which is a fairly expensive plan. He feels that care should be taken not to proceed too quickly. Mr. Marshall informed the Board that a fundraising consultant has been hired who has been very helpful. This consultant has recommended that an annual fund be started before a capital campaign is undertaken. Therefore, it is hoped that something can be started in April in conjunction with the 100th anniversary of the Howe Library. One thing which needs to be made clear is that this will be an annual campaign rather than the capital campaign. Mr. Marshall noted that some donations have already been collected with regard to the capital campaign.

Mr. Marshall stated that at the upcoming board meeting on March 9th it is anticipated a motion will come forward from the trustees, which hopefully will be seconded and approved, that the board write a letter to Dartmouth College inquiring about the possibility of relocating the library on one of the new pieces of property which the College has now acquired. It is known that the cost of renovation at the current site will be very expensive and the trustees would like to investigate the possibility that a new library might be less expensive than the current renovation plan. There are several zoning issues that need to be investigated as well as parking issues.

Mr. Manchester asked if the theory is that fundraising would be easier with a new building rather than a renovation of the existing building. Mr. Marshall answered that the consultants have indicated that this is the case, although it is not the primary reason for the trustees considering it. One of the other issues is that the current renovation plan in which almost half of the library would need to be come down would cause operations to be

at a virtual standstill for a year. Building a new library would cause no disruption in service and may be somewhat more cost efficient.

Mr. Walsh changed the order of the Board's agenda as follows.

3. 3RD BUDGET HEARING:

Public Works

Ms. Griffin indicated that the Public Works budget has primarily two significant items to discuss. One is the consolidation of Water Company staff with Public Works staff so that the Water Company would essentially contract for the entire operation of the company rather than just management from the Town of Hanover, and the second is a wish list item regarding beginning to infuse capital into the Water Company for upgrading of its infrastructure. She explained that for years the Water Company has paid taxes and dividends to the Town, and the Water Company now has a number of capital improvement needs and limited funds.

Ms. Griffin explained that other than the modifications regarding staff consolidation, the Public Works Department budget proposed for next year contains nothing new or particularly radical being proposed. She added that there are a number of items on the wish list related to Public Works operation. One wish list item is a calcium chloride program at a cost of approximately \$8,500. She explained that the department experimented with calcium chloride this past summer and found some interesting benefits accruing from its use. It not only minimized dust but also proved to reduce the frequency with which roads had to be graded, and some roads seemed to hold up better during mud season. Keith Southworth noted that the \$8,500 would not cover all of the roads in Town, but only selected roads. He estimated that it would cost over \$20,000 to apply the chemical on all of the gravel roads in town using the recommended application rates.

Ms. Griffin stated that the other key item which appears fairly high on the wish list for this department is that only half of the amount of money has been able to be budgeted for the North College Street reconstruction which is proposed for the summer of 2001. She noted that the work was originally planned to be done last summer, but a quick overlay was done two seasons ago to buy some extra time before actual reconstruction needed to be tackled. Ms. Griffin added that there has been work with the College on the project, and some discussion has taken place regarding the sharing of expenses.

Ms. Griffin noted that the administration division of the budget is essentially responsible for the oversight of the Department. There are several areas of chargeouts from this division to the Wastewater Treatment Plant Fund, for example, and the Housing Fund in recognition of time spent overseeing activities in those two fund areas. Also budgeted centrally in this division are funds for educational opportunities for all departments employees at a cost of \$3,200, which has been reduced from prior years because the departments have more experience regarding the time they actually have available to take advantage of training.

Ms. Griffin explained that Highway Summer Maintenance covers the operation of the Highway Division for 31 weeks of the year, the longest period of maintenance time during the calendar year. The budget for this division shows a very modest decrease. Ms. Griffin noted that one of the only places to effect cuts in this budget short of eliminating staff is in the supplies and materials account. One of the things she has tried to do is not to hit that number too significantly. She pointed out that part of what sets Hanover apart from many communities in the State has been its diligent maintenance of roads, including adhering to a very carefully thought out pavement management plan for overlay and shim pave.

Ms. Black stated that she would find it interesting to see what roads are slated for work and what their condition is. Mr. Southworth stated that he had submitted a request to reorganize the paving program, but that he could supply Ms. Black with the present schedule.

Ms. Griffin noted that money had been taken from two different places in this budget. Some funds were taken out associated with paving West Street, as well as funds for the calcium chloride program.

Ms. Black commented that she feels a terrible mistake would be made in not keeping the programs up; she added that it could cost twice as much to catch up.

Ms. Black referred to pavement markings which are budgeted for approximately \$21,000 this year, and commented that a breakout of expenses would be helpful. Mr. Southworth noted that last year the lowest bid received was not for the total pavement marking program, but rather just for long lines. Regular pavement marking were done in-house. He stated that a price of \$20,900 was received this year for the complete pavement marking program including crosswalks, arrows and lane dividers. He added that it would be impossible to make an accurate comparison to last year's costs because a good deal of the work was done in-house.

Ms. Griffin pointed out that last year they tried to do the crosswalks twice in season. Ms. Black indicated that this may be something that is necessary for safety. Ms. Griffin stated that if the paving company can do this once a year perhaps the internal staff could touch up the markings in the fall.

Ms. Connolly asked if an increase for asphalt was anticipated because of the rise in oil prices. Mr. Southworth answered that he would believe there would be an increase.

Ms. Connolly asked if any savings had been realized from joining forces with surrounding towns in terms of contracts. Ms. Griffin answered that there is no proof yet of savings, but she feels that will come in the second year. A decision has been made to continue joining forces in this regard for one more year with Hartford and Lebanon, working on refining the strategy. The problem with this procedure this past year was that the bids were compiled fairly later in the season than had been anticipated.

It was decided that the bids would be simplified to contain only items that all three communities needed to have done to see if better unit costs could be realized.

Mr. Walsh recalled that the bids were late and the pavers who bid on the contract had already lined up 2/3 or 3/4 of their capacity. Ms. Griffin added that also built into the bid requirement was that whoever got the bid needed to get the work done within a fixed period of time, otherwise penalties would be assessed.

Ms. Griffin noted that the Winter Maintenance budget includes salaries for 11 staff for 21 weeks in the winter season. The budget has remained fairly constant even though the winter weather fluctuates. She noted that she has never been comfortable cutting this budget because of the unpredictability of the weather and its effect on sand, salt and overtime.

Ms. Black asked for an explanation of the rationale for using salt but no sand on residential streets during the winter. Mr. Southworth answered that this was not the case; he had instructed drivers to exercise their judgment regarding the condition of the residential streets and to decide if they needed sand applied. He explained that less application of sand results in less cleanup costs in the spring. Mr. Southworth added that literature would indicate that sand is more of a mental thing, and that it does not improve conditions very much. Ms. Black commented that people need to know this, and suggested that in the fall before the winter season a notice be put in the paper outlining the Town's policy regarding sand and salt application.

Regarding cleanup of sand in the spring, Mr. Manchester noted that there is a street sweeper; he asked what would be done with the street sweeper if there was no sand to clean up. Mr. Southworth answered that the street sweeper would still be used to clean out catch basins, and there is always a certain amount of sweeping to do all summer long in the business district.

Ms. Griffin stated that the bulk of the Line Maintenance budget is charged out to the Wastewater Treatment Plant Fund. Much of the work of this division has to do with maintaining the sewer lines as well as winter operations and other non-sewer related functions. Of the total \$150,000 division budget, almost \$120,000 is charged back to the Wastewater Treatment Plant Fund. She added that she continues to look at the actual cost of staff time devoted to wastewater related functions; one of the things done this year for the first time was to charge out a larger share of the department head's salary to the Wastewater Fund in recognition of the fact that Mr. Kulbacki spends more time on wastewater related issues, particularly the industrial pre-treatment program planning.

Ms. Black asked if fuel was budgeted high enough taking into account the increased costs. Ms. Griffin explained that fuel costs will be discussed in the Town Properties division budget. She referred to a memo from Michael Gilbar with regard to the rise in fuel prices. She noted that a 30% increase in fuel prices has been built into the 2000 budget.

Ms. Griffin stated that Frank Austin has done a terrific job in continuing to determine the true costs to maintain the fleet. One area where reductions have been seen each year in expenditures has been in the parts budget; this is a demonstrable benefit of consolidating the Fleet Maintenance budget under this division. She added that fleet maintenance costs are charged back to the enterprise funds to reflect the costs of parts, fuel, tires and maintenance.

Also included in this budget is a recommendation to appropriate \$135,000 to capital reserve, which reflects the annual contribution to the reserve and an expenditure from the reserve of \$162,500 for specific vehicles which are recommended for replacement. The expenditure for these vehicles will not have an impact on the tax rate because they are appropriated from capital reserve.

Ms. Griffin noted that the clerk's position in Fleet Maintenance is proposed to be upgraded from part-time to full-time, and is connected with consolidation of staff at the Water Company. She pointed out that Mr. Gilbar has prepared a chart indicating what is intended; the goal of the proposal was not to require that the Water Company, the Wastewater Fund or the General Fund spend any more money than what is currently being spent on staff. The notion was whether there was a way to consolidate without costing anyone more money, and that has been done.

Ms. Black commented that there are prices listed for various pieces of equipment; she assumes that competitive bids are always sought, and that hopefully the budget reflects the high-end of those bids.

Mr. Austin explained that he looks at a piece of equipment that comes up due for replacement and calls different vendors and manufacturers to be sure that his numbers will work when the bid actually comes through. He explained that the money included in the budget for the tanker is money set aside on the known versus the unknown. His goal is to come before the Board with a proposed piece of machinery that is a good piece of machinery that will result in reduced maintenance and longevity, and to spread the cost for these pieces of equipment over a period of years.

Ms. Black commented that she has read where other towns get equipment at much lower rates, buying used equipment or simpler equipment. Mr. Austin answered that he has gone to different towns to look at fire engines; so far no decision has been made. Some criteria that need to be reviewed are grades and remote areas that may need to be serviced a little differently than areas within a town.

Mr. Austin reviewed the list of vehicles planned for replacement in Public Works this year; they include a 1990 Caterpillar backhoe loader, a 1988 rubber-wheeled loader, and a 3/4 ton pickup unit that the Grounds Department uses which was deferred for replacement from last year to this year.

Ms. Black indicated that she would prefer to see the Town vehicles yellow rather than a neutral color so that they would be more easily identified.

Mr. Austin explained that a neutral color is worth more upon trade-in than a color such as yellow.

Mr. Austin stated that within the fleet there are 96 pieces of equipment that are serviced on three levels of service. In addition, there are another 60 pieces of small equipment. He noted that the Department performs preventive maintenance as opposed to reactive maintenance. This is associated with reductions in parts costs and tracking of all parts as well as keeping the equipment maintained properly. Another issue is keeping the equipment a little newer so that it is easier to maintain rather than doing large repair jobs or rebuilding. The balance is trying to find a useful life of a vehicle to allow a residual at the end that balances out and helps offset the initial cost. Mr. Southworth stated that he is working on a more analytical aspect of this. He pointed out 30% can be deducted off the top of a new vehicle, and an additional 20% each year thereafter.

Ms. Griffin noted that \$2,500 which had been requested for tree care has been put on the wish list. She reviewed previous years' expenditures and noted that there has sometimes been some savings in this account.

William Desch pointed out that the total amount is fairly small for the work that is done town-wide; each large tree that is taken out is approximately \$1,000.

With relation to Grounds Maintenance, Ms. Griffin noted that the increase in this division is related largely to Mr. Desch's request to budget a higher hourly rate so that he has better luck in recruiting summer seasonal staff. She added that funds of \$9,000 a year are received from the Hanover Improvement Society to hire a summer gardener to maintain many of the flower beds in Town and to do other work of the Garden Club.

Ms. Black stressed that the Highway Department requires more help; she commented that people can be made to work harder each year but a decline in efficiency will be seen. She hopes that in the budget next year a new full-time employee can be added to the Highway Department.

Ms. Black stated that she had sent all Board members an analysis of what the curbside program in Recycling is actually costing the town. She noted by 2001 there will be a new contract coming due for this program, and that the prices in next year's budget will probably be different from those contained in this year's budget. She added that the costs may possibly go down.

Mr. Walsh noted that Recycling program has established a very positive habit in Town and is well used.

Ms. Griffin stated that she had noticed that there was very little increase noted between this year's budget and next year's proposed budget. She stated that things have really stabilized in the budget, although on the revenue side there are fluctuations seen year to year. She tends to be very conservative in what is projected in revenue from this program because there is no idea where prices will be for cardboard or aluminum, for example, in the coming months.

Ms. Griffin commented that the Solid Waste Disposal division is the cost for the public trash cans and participation in the Regional Household Hazardous Waste Collection Program on a quarterly basis. Hanover is quite active in the Hazardous Waste Collection Program with a significant number of households participating at least once a year. There are also monitoring wells which have to be maintained at the closed landfill. Ms. Griffin noted that Hanover buys landfill tickets from the City of Lebanon, but there is revenue reflected in the budget to offset this expenditure of \$18,000 when the landfill tickets are sold to those who choose to use the landfill rather than have their solid waste picked up at curbside. She added that the demand for these landfill tickets is fairly consistent.

Regarding Capital Costs, Ms. Griffin noted that the capital reserve budget for the Public Works Department this year is fairly lean. She is recommending under the Public Works Department setting aside \$30,000 for College Street reconstruction, with an additional \$30,000 placed on the wish list. In addition, there are 8 culverts and 4 bridges on Ruddsboro Road which are all on the "red list" that need to be upgraded. She noted that these are the type of projects that, in many cases, the Town staff can do and in other cases it makes sense to contract out the work. Mr. Southworth explained that the work described above is the type of work that Town staff will be able to do. Ms. Griffin explained that \$31,885 has been placed on the wish list, representing one-quarter of the total amount of money required to upgrade these culverts and bridges. "Red list" means that the bridges are in need of repair, and posting road limits might be considered with a red listed bridge. She noted that the State inspects bridges every two years and provides copies of inspection reports to the Town. She indicated that these particular bridges have been red listed for quite awhile, and it is not unusual for a community to have red listed bridges.

Ms. Black recalled that 12 or 15 years ago the Town made a concerted effort to get all of its bridges off the red list, and that it troubles her to now have them back on. She feels it is the Town's responsibility to keep the bridges up to par and maintained. Ms. Griffin explained that these particular bridges may never have been off the red list.

Mr. Walsh asked if the records could be reviewed before the next Board meeting to be sure these four bridges are the only ones on the red list. Mr. Kulbacki explained that the State had identified five bridges as being on a red list, but one of those bridges which is located at Storrs' Pond is actually the responsibility of the Hanover Improvement Society.

Ms. Black questioned the increase in revenue from driveway permits. Ms. Griffin explained that the increase is the result of better permitting procedures from a stepped-up effort in the Planning and Zoning Department. Mr. Walsh wished to put this item on the list for further discussion. Mr. Kulbacki explained that the figure is based on the actual number of permits, which he estimates is roughly 35 per year. The cost per permit is \$50.

Mr. Manchester asked for an explanation of Highway Summer Special Services. Ms. Griffin explained that the Town is hired by Streetfest, etc. to provide support. She pointed out that revenue is brought in to offset the expense.

Ms. Connolly asked for an explanation of the amount budgeted for electricity. Mr. Kulbacki explained that although new street lights were added, there seems to be some confusion regarding Hanover being charged for stop lights in Norwich in the vicinity of Ledyard Bridge. He added that he has been in contact with NH DOT regarding this issue.

Ms. Black indicated that she would prefer to level fund Property Services - Summer Maintenance, cutting it back to \$23,500 from \$24,000. Mr. Walsh stated that this would be put on the list for further discussion.

Town Properties

Ms. Griffin explained that this division covers the maintenance of all of the Town's buildings and related facilities, and is the area where Paul Jordan spends the bulk of his time, together with the department heads in the particular facilities. In this division the worst case scenario for fuel cost impacts has also been taken into account. She indicated that the best guess of the impact on the General Fund of increased fuel costs is \$31,229. Mr. Walsh stated that this figure represents about 3/4 of 1% on the tax rate.

Ms. Griffin added that for the first time this year costs associated with Paul Jordan's salary have been shifted to the Town Properties section of the budget to reflect what staffing costs are associated with managing the Town facilities.

Regarding the Municipal Building, Ms. Griffin stated that there is money included to allow completion of the work on the Courtroom. One last item in conjunction with this work would be to improve the seating. Additional money has been put on the wish list for this item, but is fairly far down on the list of priorities. The goal would be to see how much could be squeaked out of the budget as proposed without the wish list money.

Ms. Griffin noted that with regard to the Community Center building, the attitude is to spend as little as possible, although the exterior was painted last summer. The only significant problem encountered in the Community Center building is that the heating system is less than reliable.

Ms. Griffin stated that it has been possible to get a better handle on the true costs to maintain the heating system in the Richard Hauger Public Works Facility as well as in Town Hall. One improvement being recommended in the Public Works Department Facility is to replace the heating system. This heating system was not upgraded when the building was renovated and was originally installed in 1965 or 1966.

Ms. Griffin stated that there was an error in the Howe Library budget. The maintenance and repair account was cut down to \$2,000, and her recommendation is to increase that by \$2,500 for a total of \$4,500. She

pointed out that the attitude is not to do too much with that building until its future is known. Ms. Black stated, however, that the building will be used for something, so it would not be wise to be too frugal over too many years. Mr. Kulbacki stated that what is there presently in the Howe Library building is enough to make sure that things do not fall apart, but the proposal is to not do any new improvements or changes.

Ms. Black indicated that she would like to run all of the supplies and materials lines throughout the budget. She asked if there was Town-wide purchasing of paper goods, etc. Ms. Griffin answered that there is currently Town-wide buying, with purchasing going through the Public Works Department. The items are purchased centrally but their cost is allocated to the various buildings.

Mr. Manchester asked if one cleaning company was used throughout all of the Town facilities. Ms. Griffin answered that one cleaning service is used, and that the Town goes out to bid for this service. She stated that she has discovered that trying to find quality cleaning services is a challenge, and she has even looked at the trade-off of contracting out versus hiring a custodial staff. Her experience has been that whatever approach is taken is never good enough. Ms. Griffin pointed out that the cost of cleaning service was definitely under-budgeted for this year, so the estimate has been increased for next year to be realistic. A new cleaning service has been hired beginning this fiscal year based on a bidding process.

Regarding the proposed paving of Pine Knoll Cemetery Road, Ms. Black commented that she would rather see North College Street improvements done and delay the paving of the cemetery road. Mr. Walsh indicated that this item would be put on the list for further discussion.

Ms. Connolly asked how much of the cost for the cemetery would be attributed to the proposed gate. Mr. Desch answered that the proposed wrought iron gate would cost approximately \$4,000 to \$5,000. Ms. Griffin added that there will be three or four designs for the gate brought before the Board later in the spring. Both the paving and the wrought iron gate are on the list for further discussion.

Sidewalk

Ms. Griffin noted that the Sidewalk budget is fairly straightforward this year.

Ms. Griffin stated that she would like to abolish the Sidewalk District and asked if it could be on the Warrant for Town Meeting. Ms. Griffin explained that this issue may require more time and legal research than can be accomplished to get it on this year's Warrant.

Mr. Walsh asked Ms. Griffin if between now and March 27th she would be able to find out whether this can put on the Warrant in an effective way. He added that he would not want to go through the task of having it on the Warrant on an advisory basis this year and then have the issue re-

debated next year. Ms. Griffin will put this matter on the agenda for March 27th.

Ms. Griffin noted that a significant item in the Sidewalk Fund budget is the proposed purchase of a third sidewalk machine. Both Mr. Southworth and Mr. Austin have spent considerable time reviewing this issue, and they have recommended the purchase of the third sidewalk machine for next year.

Mr. Kulbacki explained that problems were encountered this winter in trying to maintain the new bridge. Snow removal is now done by hand with snowblowers, etc. He added that they had a hard time in the downtown area and also the campus area keeping on top of the sidewalks to prevent people from falling. The only way to do without the third machine would be to clean up the campus area first and leave everything else for later.

Mr. Southworth noted that 3 hours is required during each storm to keep the bridge clean. He also gave an example of a typical personal request to clear a sidewalk by a certain time.

Ms. Black stated that she hoped the Town did not cater to individual requests. Ms. Griffin answered that it is surprising what people expect the Town to do in terms of catering to them.

Mr. Southworth indicated that the existing sidewalk machine is a little too large for the Ledyard Bridge; the new machine that is being contemplated is a little smaller. He added that even with two snowblowers clearing the bridge it still takes three hours.

Ms. Griffin stated that the vast majority of complaints that reach her office after a winter storm are sidewalk related. Therefore, when areas are looked at to improve service, sidewalk plowing is discussed including getting the routes accomplished more quickly after a storm by reducing the length of a route. This would happen if the third sidewalk machine is added, but she pointed out that the new machine would also have to be staffed.

Mr. Walsh stated that the additional sidewalk machine will be put on the list for further discussion.

Ms. Black asked why two sidewalks were required on Currier Street. Ms. Griffin answered that there are not two sidewalks on Currier Street; she asked Mr. Southworth if a sidewalk segment is planned on the east side of Currier Street between Lebanon Street and East South Street. Mr. Southworth answered that the sidewalk on the north side of Currier Place or old South College Street is a part of the new parking structure.

Ms. Griffin noted that the other significant sidewalk segment is on the Howe Library side of Currier from East South Street down to South Main Street. She was unsure when writing the text for the budget whether a sidewalk segment was also contemplated on the High School side of Currier opposite the parking garage which would connect with the segment of

Currier from Howe Library down to South Main Street. Also, she noted that there have been recent requests to consider a sidewalk on the south side of East South Street between Currier and Main Street.

Wastewater Treatment Plant Fund

Ms. Griffin stated that the significant issue for the Wastewater Treatment Plant Fund is the increase that is recommended to budget in an appropriation for disposal of sludge. She noted that she is worried about the potential moratorium on land application of sludge compared with the issue of how successful the composting will be. Ms. Griffin indicated that currently one-third of Hanover's sludge goes to the composting facility with two-thirds being land applied, and that this varies seasonally. She feels that from a fiduciary standpoint Hanover needs to budget for the worst case scenario in the event that land application of sludge is prohibited. The increase is built into the rates, and if the moratorium does not come to pass legislatively it will go into fund balance.

Ms. Black asked if the septage fees will be increased. Ms. Griffin answered that the revenue reflects the fact that the septage fees were increased last year and were based on the worst case scenario of having to landfill Hanover's septage.

Ms. Connolly noted that Lebanon's fees are much larger than in previous years. Ms. Griffin explained that this is a result of the modification of the wastewater fees, and that there have been discussions with Lebanon about the infiltration on the Route 10 line.

Mr. Kulbacki stated that there has also been a request from Quail Hollow for an additional 104 units which would connect to the pump station; he added that there is concern about the capacity of the pumps with these added units.

Ms. Griffin noted that at the March 20th meeting the other significant issue related to this budget regarding Water Company staffing consolidations will be discussed. These recommendations impact the General Fund, the Wastewater Fund, and the Water Company budget without increasing costs.

Ms. Black asked for a description of the status regarding digital base mapping and GIS mapping. Mr. Kulbacki answered that base mapping of all utilities has been started. He explained that the Global Positioning System will allow precise location of all utilities within a meter and is crucial to the overall GIS program. He indicated that the tax maps are based on best guesses, and are as good as they can get unless there is some accurate field work and aerial measurements done. The base map will be the map that all of the tax maps will be adjusted to.

Ms. Black requested a printout of all mortgages and when the debt service is ended.

Ms. Black asked when the ultra violet lights are replaced in the Wastewater Treatment Plant whether it will cause the system to be more efficient. Mr. Kulbacki explained that currently approximately \$7,500 is spent per year

replacing the bulbs and ballasts, in addition to two days a week year round cleaning and fixing them. He indicated that the proposed new system will clean itself routinely as opposed to using manpower, is more efficient and uses fewer connections.

Capital Improvement Program

Ms. Griffin indicated that most of the Capital Improvement Program has been discussed division by division, and she had nothing else to add to the discussion of this program.

2. RECOMMENDATION TO ADOPT RESOLUTION IN SUPPORT OF HOME RULE CONSTITUTIONAL AMENDMENT.

Ms. Black MADE THE MOTION to adopt the Resolution in support of Home Rule Constitutional Amendment. Ms. Connolly SECONDED THE MOTION and the Board of Selectmen VOTED UNANIMOUSLY TO ADOPT THE RESOLUTION IN SUPPORT OF HOME RULE CONSTITUTIONAL AMENDMENT.

4. ADMINISTRATIVE REPORTS.

Ms. Griffin had nothing to report.

5. SELECTMEN'S REPORTS.

Ms. Connolly

Ms. Connolly reported that Kendal's extension of their health care facility was approved at the last Planning Board meeting. There was also a presentation by Simpson Development Corporation; their plans have changed and they are beginning to redevelop the property differently, using approximately the same number of units but in a different layout. In addition, the March 21st meeting will be the second hearing on the Zoning Amendments.

Ms. Black

Ms. Black reported that while watching some of the Norwich Town Meeting the Board member from Norwich on the Advance Transit board stated that Norwich will now be included in the free fare zone, and that Hanover would be paying for this service. Ms. Griffin noted that she had a meeting with representatives of Advance Transit scheduled and will discuss this issue with them at that time.

Mr. Manchester

Mr. Manchester reported that the Planning Board recently heard a case involving Dartmouth College and the Park and Wheelock proposed housing development. He noted that the topic of conversation during this hearing is that it may have come to a point in Hanover where there is too much parking, the logic being that developments within walking distance of employment may not require so many parking spots. The Board felt that the type of plan proposed by the College is part of the Master Plan and

will help reduce sprawl. There will be another hearing on this issue on April 4th.

Mr. Walsh

Mr. Walsh noted that the Selectmen's meeting of March 20th will deal with the Water Company and the Parking Fund. Ms. Griffin added that there are a number of other agenda items included as well. Mr. Walsh stated that he would also like to discuss the wish list at that meeting.

6. OTHER BUSINESS.

There was no other business to come before the meeting.

7. ADJOURNMENT.

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

SUMMARY

- 1) **Ms. Black MADE THE MOTION to adopt the Resolution in support of Home Rule Constitutional Amendment. Ms. Connolly SECONDED THE MOTION and the Board of Selectmen VOTED UNANIMOUSLY TO ADOPT THE RESOLUTION IN SUPPORT OF HOME RULE CONSTITUTIONAL AMENDMENT.**
- 2) **Ms. Black MADE THE MOTION to adjourn the meeting. Ms. Connolly SECONDED THE MOTION and the Board of Selectmen VOTED UNANIMOUSLY TO ADJOURN THE MEETING.**

The meeting was adjourned at 9:45 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,


John Colligan, Secretary

These minutes were taken and transcribed by Nancy Richards.