

FINAL

BOARD OF SELECTMEN'S MEETING

May 20, 2002

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

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

Brian Walsh welcomed Peter Christie, the Town's newest Selectman and read a note from Marilyn Black thanking the Selectmen for the chair she was given at Town Meeting and for making her twenty-one years of service to the Town of Hanover so enjoyable.

1. PUBLIC COMMENT

There was no public comment.

2. ORGANIZATIONAL MEETING OF 2002-2003 BOARD OF SELECTMEN

Katherine Connolly NOMINATED Brian Walsh as Chairman of the Board of Selectmen. Judson Pierson SECONDED THE NOMINATION. THE SELECTMEN VOTED UNANIMOUSLY TO ELECT BRIAN WALSH AS CHAIRMAN OF THE BOARD OF SELECTMEN.

Brian Walsh NOMINATED Katherine Connolly as Vice-Chairman of the Board of Selectmen. THE SELECTMEN VOTED UNANIMOUSLY TO ELECT KATHERINE CONNOLLY AS VICE-CHAIRMAN OF THE BOARD OF SELECTMEN.

Judson Pierson NOMINATED Peter Christie as Secretary of the Board of Selectmen. THE SELECTMEN VOTED UNANIMOUSLY TO ELECT PETER CHRISTIE AS SECRETARY OF THE BOARD OF SELECTMEN.

SELECTMEN LIAISON APPOINTMENTS:

Advisory Board of Assessors: Judson Pierson, Katherine Connolly (alternate)

CATV Board: This appointment was continued to the next Selectboard meeting.

Julia Griffin will research whether the CATV Board bylaws require a Selectman representative. Brian Walsh advised of Marilyn Black's request to remain as Treasurer to the CATV Board.

Chamber of Commerce: Peter Christie

Community/Senior Center Taskforce: Brian Walsh

Julia Griffin believed a Selectman's liaison was no longer needed for this Taskforce, as the project would now move into the construction phase. Brian Walsh said if it was found that the liaison was necessary he would accept this appointment.

Community Substance Abuse Advisory Committee: Brian Walsh

Conservation Commission: William Baschnagel

Finance Committee: Peter Christie

Hanover Improvement Society: Brian Walsh

Hanover Waterworks Company: Judson Pierson

Brian Walsh questioned if additional representation was needed. Julia Griffin did not think so and explained the this Board consisted of one Selectman; Bill Boyle; Peter Kulbacki, Director of Public Works; Jack Nelson and herself.

Katherine Connolly NOMINATED Judson Pierson as a board member of the Hanover Waterworks Company. William Baschnagel SECONDED THE NOMINATION. THE SELECTMEN VOTED UNANIMOUSLY TO ELECT JUDSON PIERSON AS A BOARD MEMBER OF THE HANOVER WATERWORKS COMPANY.

Howe Library Board of Trustees: Brian Walsh

Joigny, France - Sister City Advisory Committee: Brian Walsh

Julia Griffin pointed out that the Joigny local group organized everything for their visits to Hanover and suggested a Selectman representative was not needed. Brian Walsh stated his role with this Committee had been of an official greeter. He also presented a motion at a Town Meeting held two years ago when funding for Joigny Sister City activities had not been voted three times in a row.

Nihonmatsu, Japan - Sister City Advisory Committee: Katherine Connolly

Parking and Transportation Board: William Baschnagel

Parks and Recreation Board: Judson Pierson

Planning Board: Katherine Connolly; William Baschnagel and Peter Christie (alternates)

Recycling Committee: Peter Christie

Senior Citizen Steering Committee: Peter Christie

Upper Valley Lake Sunapee Regional Planning Commission: Katherine Connolly

Upper Valley Transportation Advisory Committee: William Baschnagel

Brian Walsh questioned if the Affordable Housing Commission needed a formal Selectman's liaison and suggested discussing the matter further at their next scheduled Selectboard meeting.

**3. DISCUSSION REGARDING OPTIONS FOR SELECTBOARD ACTION
RELATIVE TO LOCATION OF SCHOOLS**

Brian Walsh said for the past years there had been a lot of conversation about the schools, where they should be in relation to town planning and how they should be financed. Mr. Walsh believed the decisions made relative to these options would be the most important financial and town planning events to happen in this next generation. Mr. Walsh said it was very clear the Town was divided on the issues. There was also a very strong set of stresses that put Norwich and Hanover in very different places. Mr. Walsh said the Hanover Selectboard had done what most Selectboard's do, which is to leave school decisions to the Schools Board and voters. Mr. Walsh said he would like the Selectmen to discuss whether they should become involved in this issue and what their involvement should be. He believed the Selectmen had a unique opportunity to find some middle ground to get people working toward something that meets a lot of common needs.

Kari Asmus of Etna expressed support that the Selectmen were having this discussion. Ms. Asmus believed this to be an issue they could not avoid getting involved with. She asked that the Selectmen be as open as they could be with the public of their involvement. Brian Walsh said he was in favor of that but at the same time was a little reticent. Mr. Walsh expressed concerned that the issues had become very charged and very positional. He did not believe it was the Selectmen's role to weigh in with one side or another but should play a positive role, visible to public scrutiny.

Maureen Winthrop questioned what would happen financially if the Dresden School District dissolved. Brian Walsh sensed that a plan for dissolution would have to be passed by both towns and probably both state legislatures. This plan would include details of the financial fallout. Ms. Winthrop questioned specifically the \$18 million the land is worth. William Baschnagel said in the simplest sense, Norwich would be reimbursed for the portion of the property they purchased when the District began but that the issue of reimbursement would be only a very small piece of some very broad questions.

Deborah Solomon expressed support for the Selectmen participating in the issue. Ms. Solomon noted the importance of a town center having schools, a library and town offices. Ms. Solomon suggested the Selectmen could perhaps slow the process down while trying to bring the parties together, as there seems to be a rush to judgment on the part of the Dresden School Board to get a school built. Brian Walsh said the Dresden Board's enthusiasm for addressing the physical plant needs of both of these schools was driven by real needs that have been on the table for at least six years. The deterioration of these buildings continues as the School Board and voters work toward a solution.

Hilary Pridgen of Etna advised of her attendance at the most recent School Board meeting where they announced their intentions to choose a site by July 1st, 2002, then establish a building committee and move forward. Ms. Pridgen endorsed the idea of the Selectmen getting involved and encouraged them to act quickly or to slow the process down. Ms. Pridgen spoke of the value of keeping the high school in the downtown and hoped the Selectmen could find a creative way to communicate this to the School Board. Brian Walsh spoke of conversations he had with School Board members relative to the fact that the objective at the start of this project was to keep both schools on their current site. What has warped that objective is the tax impact and the potential of the \$18 million in property value. Mr. Walsh said the School Board has been trying to consider the tax picture for both towns and the costs of the schools to come to a resolution that they think meets consensus. Ms. Pridgen suggested the complications of the bi-state district might be such that it would be in Hanover's interest to have its own school district and suggested discussing that issue further before Hanover goes to great lengths to compromise on future school plans.

Judson Pierson suggested Norwich Selectmen should also be brought into the process, as the decisions that are made will impact both communities.

Deborah Solomon questioned if it would be worthwhile to look at creating a larger place that would serve as a center for the Town of Hanover much like the Norwich Town Hall does for Norwich.

Judson Pierson questioned how Mr. Walsh would proceed from here. Mr. Walsh suggested he and the Selectmen discuss the matter further at a non-public session.

4. DISCUSSION REGARDING PROPOSED NOISE ORDINANCE

Julia Griffin advised of comments submitted by the Town's attorney relative to the two proposed Ordinances. Ms. Griffin said the Ordinance Regulating Noise Within the Town of Hanover would essentially limit the hours of construction and noisy activity to make it less likely that someone would deal with them in the middle of the night or wee hours of the morning. The Regulation of Outdoor Activities Ordinance would limit excessive noise created by noisy assemblies from the hours of 10:00 pm to 7:00 am Sunday through Thursday and from 11:00 pm to 7:00 am Friday and Saturday. Ms. Griffin said both Ordinances would be companions to the enforcement of the state statute with respect to

unruly behavior. Ms. Griffin said she planned to incorporate the Town's attorney's minor changes into the text of the proposed Ordinances and suggested the Selectmen review the final drafts at their next scheduled meeting.

William Baschnagel questioned how successful the Town had been responding to community concerns following the state statute since December. Ms. Griffin could not recall an activity of the sort of nighttime party where the police department had actually written violations of the state statute. Mr. Baschnagel stated he was not looking for a violation count but whether the police were able to calm or quiet a situation down.

Brian Walsh noted the time of year as being the beginning of the party season and suggested the next five weeks would be the best time to test whether state law provides what Hanover is looking for. Mr. Walsh said it was the policy of the Town to enforce the state law and to use it. He asked Ms. Griffin to communicate that message to the Chief of Police with the Selectmen's backing. Mr. Walsh further suggested the Selectmen revisit the issue after Dartmouth graduation, finals and reunions to see if more needs to be done.

Ann MacKintosh of Hanover spoke of a jackhammering incident that occurred at an unacceptable hour recently. She questioned how the proposed Ordinances would address this situation. Julia Griffin advised the Ordinance Regulating Noise Within the Town of Hanover listed specifically what noises were restricted in what hours. Katherine Connolly said when the equipment operators Ms. MacKintosh spoke of realized they were disturbing the neighbors they reacted immediately to curtail their noise and rectify the situation. Ms. Connolly thanked them for their quick responses.

Julia Griffin verified that the Ordinances would be on the agenda for final adoption the evening of June 3, 2002 after which point both Ordinances would take effect immediately.

Jeannie Childs spoke of a party that erupted in June 2001 at 30 Lebanon Street where the Hanover Police were unable to break up a group of 300 partygoers. Ms. Childs said as the party spilled onto her rental properties at 32 and 34 Lebanon Street, construction pieces were stolen and the partygoers desecrating her property in numerous ways. Ms. Childs said the fact that the police could not do anything was seriously disturbing to her. She suggested advising Nick Giaccone, Chief of Police of the proposed test of New Hampshire law because it did not work last year. Ms. Childs said she does not want this situation to happen again and further suggested the Hanover Police find ways to disperse a crowd of 300 by using the resources of neighboring towns and Dartmouth College.

5. COALITION COMMUNITIES UPDATE

Julia Griffin alerted the Board that the Coalition would hold a gubernatorial forum at Portsmouth City Hall the evening of June 13, 2002. All of the gubernatorial candidates have agreed to participate. Ms. Griffin announced she would be attending the forum and suggested it would be worthwhile for the Selectmen to attend also.

Ms. Griffin said in some sense the Coalition was coming of age in terms of considering the various places where they need to query elected officials. One obviously is with those running for office this fall. Ms. Griffin suspected the Coalition would sponsor a series of forums involving candidates for the legislature as individuals declare themselves for public office. Ms. Griffin said putting the gubernatorial candidates on notices that there are some serious concerns about the statewide property tax was probably an important function the Coalition could play at this point. Katherine Connolly questioned if the Selectmen would formulate questions for the candidates. Ms. Griffin said the Coalition was asking that questions be submitted to them in an effort to find a group of well-rounded questions to submit to the candidates. Brian Walsh asked to add this issue to the June 3, 2002 agenda and for the Selectmen to get their candidate questions on the table then.

Judson Pierson questioned the status of the Town of Hanover's listing in the Coalition letterhead. Ms. Griffin said the Coalition put Hanover back on their letterhead after the constitutional amendment issue was dead, as they figured that was why Hanover wanted to ease themselves out. Ms. Griffin said she emailed the Coalition to say she was not sure the Hanover Selectmen had made the decision to be back on the letterhead. Brian Walsh said he was more comfortable with being a Coalition member having moved from litigation to now influencing the electoral process. William Baschnagel expressed concern that it appeared as though Hanover's request to appear or not appear on Coalition letterhead was associated with costs; when it was free Hanover agreed to be on the letterhead, when there was a cost involved Hanover asked to be removed from the letterhead. Ms. Griffin said she had adopted the, "Take it one day at a time" attitude with the Coalition. She tries to stay involved, lends her opinion when it is sought and attends meetings.

Mr. Pierson questioned if being a Coalition member still involved potential financial contributions. Ms. Griffin said the Coalition was always looking for financial contributions but there was no expectation that every community would pony up more money in order to maintain membership. Ms. Griffin said the City of Portsmouth continues to employ one part-time individual to keep the communication lines filled with information from the Coalition. Ms. Griffin said if the Coalition decided to tackle more litigation they would come back to the members for feedback and funding. Ms. Griffin said she was continually chided at Coalition meetings that Hanover has not sent more money than they have because the presumption is that Hanover can afford to send more money. Brian Walsh suggested she point out that Hanover is the only town in the state where the school board is also litigating.

6. APPOINTMENTS: SENIOR CITIZEN STEERING COMMITTEE

Brian Walsh NOMINATED Marilyn Black as a citizen representative to the Senior Citizen Steering Committee. Katherine Connolly SECONDED THE NOMINATION. THE SELECTMEN VOTED UNANIMOUSLY TO ELECT

MARILYN BLACK AS A CITIZEN REPRESENTATIVE TO THE SENIOR CITIZEN STEERING COMMITTEE.

7. APPROVAL OF MINUTES: MAY 6, 2002

Judson Pierson MOVED to accept the minutes of May 6, 2002 as amended. Katherine Connolly SECONDED THE MOTION. WILLIAM BASCHNAGEL, KATHERINE CONNOLLY AND JUDSON PIERSON VOTED IN FAVOR OF ACCEPTING THE MINUTES AS AMENDED. PETER CHRISTIE AND BRIAN WALSH ABSTAINED.

Julia Griffin provided the Selectmen copies of the draft minutes from Town Meeting. Ms. Griffin said as the Moderator presided over the meeting he would be required to approve the minutes. She added that Moderator Bird was always eager for the Selectmen's input of items missing or differing recollection of discussions noted. Ms. Griffin asked the Selectmen to submit any comments to her directly.

8. ADMINISTRATIVE REPORTS

Community/Senior Center

Julia Griffin reported the first job meeting for the Community/Senior Center was held earlier in the day. The Planning Board is scheduled to review the site plan application of this project June 18, 2002. Ms. Griffin suggested the Selectmen attend that meeting if they are available and further suggested the Selectmen appointed to the Planning Board step down from review of this project. The Selectmen agreed. Ms. Griffin said if the Planning Board approved the plans a building permit would be issued around July 5, 2002. A groundbreaking event is tentatively scheduled for Wednesday July 10, 2002 at 10:00 am. Brian Walsh suggested scheduling the groundbreaking for the morning of Saturday, July 13, 2002 to kick off Streetfest. Ms. Griffin said she would suggest that to the committee.

Future Agenda Items

Ms. Griffin reported she would provide copies of the Selectmen's current goals and objectives to assist them in choosing new ones.

A Sewer Use Ordinance would soon be ready for Selectmen review. This would include an industrial pretreatment component and will lead later in the summer to a review of the consultants' report on the status of the wastewater plant and suggested improvements for that process.

Ms. Griffin was also working on a Water Company report for the Selectboard and anticipated bringing that to them shortly for initial discussion. The report would include

a series of thoughts and recommendations for the Selectmen to consider and also a potential timeline for consideration of the municipalization suggestion.

9. SELECTMEN'S REPORTS

Katherine Connolly

Ms. Connolly announced the Planning Board would host a discussion with the School Board on possible site plan issues the following evening; a community forum is scheduled for Thursday evening on the issue of school sites and the ramifications of the sites; and two Planning Board Master Plan Workshops are scheduled for May 28, 2002 at the Howe Library and June 11, 2002 at Trumbull Hall. The Planning Board is looking for public feedback as to their progress on the Master Plan update.

Ms. Connolly reported the Planning Board recently approved a modular classroom for the Richmond School that will be visible from Lebanon Street and will be about 1,000 square feet in size. The Board also waived a few site plans.

William Baschnagel

Mr. Baschnagel reported a joint Planning Board and Zoning Board of Adjustment meeting was held Thursday, May 16, 2002 at the requested of Dartmouth College to address their Dewey Field application. The College requested a continuance that was granted. The next scheduled joint meeting is set for June 2002.

Judson Pierson

Mr. Pierson read a letter President Bush sent to the Recreation Board thanking Hanover and Hanover Recreation for raising the funds for Afghan kids. Brian Walsh suggested framing the letter for display in the Recreation Center and/or publishing it in the Valley News and/or sending copies to those who contributed to the Afghan kids' fund. William Baschnagel suggested adding it to the following year's Town Report. Mr. Pierson said the Recreation Board was an enthusiastic group of people who are always looking ahead to their next projects to tackle.

Mr. Pierson reported the Gile Tract playing fields were coming along nicely. The Little League Group was working to install fencing and a backstop.

Mr. Pierson reported the Water Company signed the refinancing papers to take care of loan payments. Mr. Pierson said the College was asked to sign on this issue but no one quite knew why. The bank was unable to determine why the College was part of the original document signing in 1993. Mr. Pierson said financial statements for the Water Company were a little behind schedule. The Water Company received an executive summary to the engineering report that deals with the filtration system; the final report is probably another month away. Mr. Pierson mentioned the plan to include something in

the newsletters sent to Water Company users advising that information will be forthcoming of possible changes to the Water Company. William Baschnagel spoke in favor of encouraging public education in this area. Mr. Pierson said there was a real sense of urgency at the meeting to put together a public relations piece for distribution sooner rather than later.

Peter Christie

Mr. Christie did not have anything to report.

Brian Walsh

Brian Walsh did not have anything to report.

10. OLD BUSINESS

There was no old business discussed.

11. ADJOURNMENT

Katherine Connolly MADE THE MOTION to adjourn the meeting. Peter Christie SECONDED THE MOTION. THE SELECTMEN VOTED UNANIMOUSLY TO ADJOURN THE MEETING AT 9:00 PM.

SUMMARY

- 1. Katherine Connolly NOMINATED Brian Walsh as Chairman of the Board of Selectmen. Judson Pierson SECONDED THE NOMINATION. THE SELECTMEN VOTED UNANIMOUSLY TO ELECT BRIAN WALSH AS CHAIRMAN OF THE BOARD OF SELECTMEN.**
- 2. Brian Walsh NOMINATED Katherine Connolly as Vice-Chairman of the Board of Selectmen. THE SELECTMEN VOTED UNANIMOUSLY TO ELECT KATHERINE CONNOLLY AS VICE-CHAIRMAN OF THE BOARD OF SELECTMEN.**
- 3. Judson Pierson NOMINATED Peter Christie as Secretary of the Board of Selectmen. THE SELECTMEN VOTED UNANIMOUSLY TO ELECT PETER CHRISTIE AS SECRETARY OF THE BOARD OF SELECTMEN.**
- 4. Katherine Connolly NOMINATED Judson Pierson as a Board member of the Hanover Waterworks Company. William Baschnagel SECONDED THE NOMINATION. THE SELECTMEN VOTED UNANIMOUSLY TO ELECT**

JUDSON PIERSON AS A BOARD MEMBER OF THE HANOVER WATERWORKS COMPANY.

5. **Brian Walsh NOMINATED Marilyn Black as a citizen representative to the Senior Citizen Steering Committee. Katherine Connolly SECONDED THE NOMINATION. THE SELECTMEN VOTED UNANIMOUSLY TO ELECT MARILYN BLACK AS A CITIZEN REPRESENTATIVE TO THE SENIOR CITIZEN STEERING COMMITTEE.**
6. **Judson Pierson MOVED to accept the minutes of May 6, 2002 as amended. Katherine Connolly SECONDED THE MOTION. WILLIAM BASCHNAGEL, KATHERINE CONNOLLY AND JUDSON PIERSON VOTED IN FAVOR OF ACCEPTING THE MINUTES AS AMENDED. PETER CHRISTIE AND BRIAN WALSH ABSTAINED.**
7. **Katherine Connolly MADE THE MOTION to adjourn the meeting. Peter Christie SECONDED THE MOTION. THE SELECTMEN VOTED UNANIMOUSLY TO ADJOURN THE MEETING AT 9:00 PM.**

Respectfully submitted,



Peter Christie, Secretary

These minutes were transcribed by Beth Rivard.