

BOARD OF SELECTMEN'S MEETING

MONDAY, OCTOBER 16, 1995

7:30 P.M. - FIRE STATION, LYME ROAD, HANOVER, NH

The meeting of the Board of Selectmen was called to order at 7:30 p.m. by the Chairman, Marilyn W. Black. Present were: Marilyn W. Black, Chairman; Jack H. Nelson, Vice Chairman, Katherine S. Connolly, Dorothy Behlen Heinrichs, Dorothy C. King, Clifford R. Vermilya, Town Manager and members of the public.

Chairman Black announced that this meeting was being taped by CATV6 personnel for airing at a later date. Chairman Black also announced that assistive listening devices were available for anyone who wished to use them.

1. PUBLIC COMMENT

There were no public comments.

2. JOIGNY VISITORS

Chairman Black welcomed two visitors from the City of Joigny France, Hanover's Twin City.

3. DISCUSSION WITH THE DISABLED ACCESSIBILITY ADVISORY COMMITTEE

Greg Simpson, Chairman of the Disabled Accessibility Advisory Committee, told the Board of Selectmen that his Committee was very pleased to see that the assistive listening devices that they had encouraged the Town to purchase were available for use at public meetings held by the Town.

Mr. Simpson thanked and recognized the other members of the Disabled Accessibility Advisory Committee who volunteer their time to serve on this Committee.

Mr. Simpson reported that during the past year his Committee has been working with members of the Howe Library staff to compile a list of books that address issues that would be of interest to people who have various disabilities. This list of books would include a wide variety of subjects ranging all the way from information on the Americans With Disabilities Act to ways to take an accessible vacation and everything in between.

Mr. Simpson reported that one of the Committee's on-going projects is the Accessibility Brochure. Mr. Simpson also reported that the Committee is currently working on a Resources Manual. Mr. Simpson reported that with Howe Library Director

Marlene McGonigle's help the Disabled Accessibility Advisory Committee is now part of the "Information Super Highway" and is now listed on the ValleyNet. The Committee is currently working on an updated map of downtown Hanover showing handicapped parking spaces, accessible buildings, etc. which they would like to include, along with the Resources Manual, with the next updated Accessibility Brochure.

Chairman Black stated that someone had asked her recently where someone could obtain a temporary handicapped parking permit. She asked Mr. Simpson as Chairman Black did not know. Mr. Simpson reported that someone could obtain an application from the Department of Motor Vehicles and would then need to have the physician complete the form. Once the form has been completed the Department of Motor Vehicles would then issue a temporary permit. Mr. Vermilya stated that the Police Department could issue a limited temporary permit, such as for a week or just a few days.

Mr. Simpson reported that a few years ago members of his Committee toured the Town owned buildings and found most of them to be in very good shape as far as accessibility goes. He also reported that the Disabled Accessibility Advisory Committee was able to review plans for the new Ray School addition and then was able to make recommendations.

Mrs. Heinrichs reported that the Board of Selectmen had considered installing a beeper at the traffic lights at the intersection of Wheelock Street and Main Street to let the visually impaired know that it was safe to cross. She asked Mr. Simpson if that was an issue that his Committee would like to have input on. Mr. Simpson reported that he was not aware of any towns that had this device. Chairman Black stated that there is such a device in Montpelier, Vermont.

4. CHAMBER OF COMMERCE REQUESTS RE: DICKENS HOLIDAY CELEBRATION

The Chamber of Commerce has requested the following:

- 1) suspension of parking meter enforcement from Thursday, November 30, 1995 thru Saturday, December 2, 1995
- 2) suspension of parking meter enforcement from Saturday, December 16, 1995 thru Saturday, December 23, 1995
- 3) closing of South Main Street from the Hanover Inn corner to Lebanon Street on Friday, December 1, 1995 from 4 p.m. to 8:30 p.m.

Chairman Black reported that this year the Chamber is requesting that the businesses donate a percentage of their profits to children's charities.

Chairman Black asked if the meters will be "bagged". Mr. Vermilya stated that details have not yet been worked out.

Mrs. Connolly MOVED that the Board of Selectmen APPROVE the Chamber of Commerce's request to:

- 1) **suspend parking meter enforcement from Thursday, November 30, 1995 thru Saturday, December 2, 1995**
- 2) **suspend parking meter enforcement from Saturday, December 16, 1995 thru Saturday, December 23, 1995**
- 3) **close South Main Street from the Hanover Inn corner to Lebanon Street on Friday, December 1, 1995 from 4 p.m. to 8:30 p.m.**

as well as hang a banner across Main Street for a maximum of two weeks. Mrs. King SECONDED THE MOTION. There was no discussion and the SELECTMEN VOTED UNANIMOUSLY TO APPROVE these requests.

5. AGREEMENT WITH NH DOT RE: WEST WHEELOCK STREET

Mr. Vermilya stated that basically this agreement enumerates the conditions that the Town will maintain the portion of West Wheelock Street that will be reconstructed along with the Ledyard Bridge project and it specifies it will maintain it, it will prevent any encroachments within the right-of-way. The Town agrees that if the Town decides to add a third lane of pavement it will be at the Town's expense and then maintain it. The Town also agrees to do their best to prevent any damages to the lighting and sidewalks that are installed by the State. Mr. Vermilya stated that the State also needs a Resolution signed by the Board of Selectmen stating that the Board of Selectmen of the Town of Hanover has reviewed the Agreement.

After a brief discussion Mr. Nelson MOVED that the Board of Selectmen APPROVE the Agreement with NH DOT re: West Wheelock Street and the Resolution to accompany the Agreement. Mrs. Black SECONDED THE MOTION. There was no further discussion and the SELECTMEN VOTED UNANIMOUSLY TO APPROVE this Agreement and the Resolution to accompany the Agreement.

6. ADMINISTRATIVE REPORT

Mr. Vermilya stated that he had three items to report on.

- 1) The Town has received the official documents from the DRA setting the tax rates for the 1995 tax bill. The Town General Fund rate has been set at \$5.00, which is an 11 cent or 2.2% increase over last year. The Fire District has been set at an average rate of \$1.80, which is a 1 cent or .6/10% over last year. The Sidewalk District has been set at 12 cents, which is a 4 cent increase over last year. If you add the three together, it is a total of 16 cents or 2.4% increase over last year.

The School Funds tax rate for the Hanover District is an increase of 91 cents or 16.4%. The Dresden District is an increase of 9 cents or 1.6%. The total is an increase of \$1 or 9%. The County Tax is up 4 cents to \$1.50 or a 2.7% increase. The subtotal of all of those which everybody pays is an increase of \$1.20 per thousand or 6.2%. In addition, both Parking Districts have taxes this year. They will be at 27 cents. Leaving out the Parking Districts the highest rate that anybody in the Sidewalk District and in Fire District 4 would pay is \$21.00. The lowest rate which would not be in the Sidewalk District and would be in Fire District 1 is \$19.08.

The tax bills will be going out at the end of the week of October 23rd.

- 2) Mr. Vermilya stated that the Town has two of the three easements needed for the trail to be constructed on the old Highway 38 area. The deeds that the Town has are the deeds involving Dartmouth College and Roger and Eleanor Shepard. The Berrill Farms deed(s) should be available for signing at the next Selectmen's meeting.

Mrs. Heinrichs MADE THE MOTION to approve and sign the deeds needed for the trail to be constructed on the old Highway 38 area. Mr. Nelson SECONDED THE MOTION. There was no further discussion and the SELECTMEN VOTED UNANIMOUSLY TO APPROVE AND SIGN THE DEEDS.

- 3) Mr. Vermilya stated that the next item the Board needed to act on was the Kendal Tax Agreement. Mr. Vermilya reported that the Town now has a final agreement on a stipulation for the court cases which ends all of the court cases to the extent that they are involved with valuation. At this point Kendal still reserves the right to appeal to the Supreme Court the question of their charitability or non-charitability but the agreement provides that even if they are found to be charitable and therefore, exempt from taxes they will pay taxes on all residential units which was a part of the original stipulation when the complex was approved. What the agreement provides is if the appeal to the Supreme Court continues and the Town position, which is that they are not charitable and not exempt, prevails they will pay based on a valuation of \$35,000,000 which includes the residential units plus the community center and medical center. If the Supreme Court should find that they are charitable and therefore exempt, they will pay based on a valuation of \$28,847,000 which is our agreed value for the residential units. The agreement provides that they will continue to pay on that basis forever. If the Town should revalue the property, the discussion of what that revalued amount is will go thru the normal Town procedure which is the assessment committee and then to the Board of Selectmen. If there is no agreement, the issue will be settled by non-binding arbitration or appeal to the BLTA.

Mr. Vermilya stated that there are two provisions in this agreement to be considered. One is that if there is a natural event which destroys part of the complex then the property would be revalued depending on what was left of the complex. The other provision is if the State law on property taxes changes in general there would be a revisiting of the subject between the Board of Selectmen and Kendal.

Mr. Vermilya reported that he is expecting the Kendal Board to approve this agreement on Tuesday, October 17, 1995.

Mr. Nelson MADE THE MOTION to authorize the Town's Attorney to execute the agreement between the Town of Hanover and Kendal regarding taxes. Mrs. Heinrichs SECONDED THE MOTION.

Mrs. Connolly questioned if the sums would rise as the tax rates rise. Mr. Vermilya replied that yes, they would.

After a brief discussion the SELECTMEN VOTED UNANIMOUSLY TO AUTHORIZE THE TOWN'S ATTORNEY TO EXECUTE THE AGREEMENT BETWEEN THE TOWN OF HANOVER AND KENDAL.

7. SELECTMEN'S REPORTS

Mrs. King

Mrs. King did not have a report as she has been ill.

Mrs. Heinrichs

Mrs. Heinrichs reported that the Recycling Committee is working on obtaining a new location for the Christmas tree recycling project. The Christmas tree recycling project will hopefully take place at the Town Highway Garage this year.

Mr. Nelson

Mr. Nelson reported that since the last meeting of the Board of Selectmen he had sat in on two Planning Board meetings.

Mr. Nelson reported that the Ledyard Bridge Landscaping Committee had met at 5:30 on October 16, 1995. Plans are tabled for the time being as it is anticipated that landscaping will not be done until 1998 or 1999.

Mr. Nelson reported that he had had some conversations with various people and organizations involved with trying to purchase the Barrett/Ransmeier land. It is Mr. Nelson's feeling that for all intents and purposes the issue of purchasing the land is "dead in the water".

Mr. Nelson went on to explain that the Upper Valley Land Trust is in no position to head up this effort. They are an organization that is for hire to help in matters such as this; however, there is no money available to hire them. It is Mr. Nelson's understanding that the Conservation Commission does not regard the "core land" as a high priority for conservation.

Mr. Nelson stated that it is also his understanding that the Barretts and Ransmeiers have two possible plans for the land at this point. The first is to sell all of the land for conservation. The second plan is to develop a core piece of about 30 acres and conserve the remaining 80 or so acres in some fashion. Therefore, that is the reason the Conservation Commission does not put the conservation of the 30 acres as a top priority.

In talking with Ms. Aggie Kurtz, Mr. Nelson is under the impression that the Conservation Council is not in a position to take this project on because of their organizational structure and because it is a much larger fundraising project than they have ever taken on before. Mr. Nelson reported that there are some mixed feelings in the neighborhood about what is best. Mr. Nelson stated that the most energetic people involved in this conservation effort are Allen and Nan King, who would like to see the whole parcel conserved. Mr. Nelson stated that at this point in time, beyond the Kings, he does not see that much money or energy to get it done. Therefore, Mr. Nelson feels that the purchase of the entire parcel will not happen because of the lack of energy and leadership in this effort.

Chairman Black reported that the Town has received a letter from the State Wetlands Board announcing that they will make a decision on October 17, 1995 as to whether there will be a rehearing or not. If they decide to have a rehearing, it will take place on November 14, 1995.

Mr. Nelson reported that the Parking and Transportation Board will meet on October 18, 1995. A representative from Resource Systems Group will make a presentation on redesign plans for the parking lot behind the Municipal Building.

Mrs. Connolly

Mrs. Connolly stated that she would like the Parking and Transportation Board to consider a revision to the fees charged for the 10 hour meters in the Marshall Lot. She does not feel that the 10 hour meters are being used to their capacity with the present fees as they are.

Mrs. Connolly reported that the Galleria and adjacent parking lot cases have been completed by the Planning Board. She also reported that she had attended an informal meeting on Hypertherm's plan for a large expansion.

Mrs. Connolly stated that the Planning Board is still working on updating the Master Plan. They will also work on updating the Subdivision Regulations.

Mrs. Connolly raised the question of whether the schools should be listed under the new heading of Institutional Facilities or should they be under Community Facilities. After a brief discussion the Selectmen decided that the schools should be listed under Institutional Facilities.

8. OTHER BUSINESS

Chairman Black suggested that the Selectmen attend the NHMA Conference which will be held on November 15, 16, and 17. A copy of the information will be sent to each of the Selectmen.

Chairman Black also reported that the 2001 Goals Committee will be meeting on October 28 and encouraged Mrs. Connolly to attend this meeting.

9. APPROVAL OF MINUTES

After a brief discussion Mrs. Connolly MADE THE MOTION to accept the minutes of September 11, 1995 as corrected. Mr. Nelson SECONDED THE MOTION and the Board of Selectmen UNANIMOUSLY ACCEPTED THE MINUTES OF SEPTEMBER 11 AS CORRECTED.

10. PRESENTATION BY CHIEF ROGER BRADLEY RE: FIRE DEPARTMENT

Fire Training Program

Chief Bradley showed an outline of the current personnel and certification levels to the Selectmen. Chief Bradley outlined the incentive programs available for the various groups of firefighters.

During the last fiscal budget there were: 3 personnel who obtained the Certified Company Officer certification, 17 personnel who completed the Fire Apparatus Driver/Operator course, 1 person who attended a course at the National Fire Academy to become an instructor, 4 personnel who attended a workshop in Hartford, and 2 personnel who attended a conference in New York. The Fire Department received a \$3,000 grant from the Office of Emergency Management and used it to purchase a subscription television network training program.

Under the current fiscal year budget Chief Bradley intends to do much of the same training and conferences. There are 2 personnel who are currently enrolled in the Certified Company Officer certification course. Chief Bradley plans on continuing to purchase training videos. Fire personnel have attended an all day training course on ATVs. Chief Bradley hopes to be able to continue the subscription for the television network training program.

Public Education

Money in this budget category is used for fire extinguisher training and public education. Approximately 360 people from the community were trained during the last year in the use of portable fire extinguishers. Fire personnel also trained chemistry students at Dartmouth, selected College employees, 35 Town employees, and close to 100 CRREL employees in the use of fire extinguishers.

Municipal Fire Alarm

Chief Bradley plans to maintain the existing fire alarm system. In the future they do not see a large expansion of this system.

Emergency Medical Services

Chief Bradley will continue the education process. The Department receives monthly training videos from PULSE. The refresher training program for basic EMT licenses for the ambulance that is required every two years has just been satisfactorily completed.

Emergency Medical Services Public Education

The money in this budget category is used to hold public CPR courses. Fire personnel have trained Dartmouth College Safety and Security personnel, selected CRREL employees, and Town employees.

Stations and Apparatus

Main Station

In the current budget there is money available for maintenance and upkeep on the Main Station. This will include: retiling the shower upstairs, replacing some carpeting, and replacing 4 exterior dormitory windows.

Etna Station

The old Etna station project is finally completed and within the funds allotted to this project.

In the current budget there is \$16,000 available to reroof the new Etna station. Bids and quotes were received. Mr. Wayne Tobiasson from CRREL reviewed this project. Mr. Tobiasson has recommended that the Town not replace the flat roof with another flat roof. Mr. Tobiasson is recommending a scheme which would include a pitched roof. Additional requests for proposals were sent out. Chief Bradley displayed a drawing to give the Board of Selectmen an idea of what the station might look like. The estimate is that the roof will cost approximately \$5,000, including insulation. Chief Bradley is proposing that the current funds be encumbered and that \$18,000 be added for a total of \$38,500 to do this project. Part of the funds that are being encumbered are to be used for doing some work to the overhead doors.

Chairman Black questioned the issue of snow falling off the roof in front of the doorway. Chief Bradley replied that they would plow this area. Mr. Vermilya stated that this is an area that is part of the normal plow route. Mr. Vermilya also stated that because of the problems with the original flat roof on the Police Department, the Town now has a policy that no roof work will be completed on Town buildings without the approval of a representative from CRREL.

Chairman Black asked if this would be a standing seam roof. Mr. Vermilya replied that it would be an asphalt roof.

Mr. Nelson asked how this flat roof differs from the Town Garage's flat roof. Mr. Vermilya replied that the Town Garage's roof does have a pitch to it and that one of the things that has been done during the renovation process is to add to the pitch at the back of the roof. The pitch is not as great as on the proposed roof for the Etna station but it is believed that it will be satisfactory.

Chairman Black asked if there would be usable space available in the Etna station after the new roof was put on. Chief Bradley replied that no, there would not be usable space. The question was raised as to whether there is insulation in the present roof. Chief Bradley replied that there was very little insulation presently.

Mr. Vermilya stated that one of the reasons work needed to be done on the doors was because the entrance was too tight for some of the equipment. A new pumper will be purchased at some point and will need to be stored there.

Apparatus

Chief Bradley stated that new apparatus will be discussed under the Capital Improvement section. In every budget there is always money appropriated for the maintenance of the equipment. The plan is to keep budgeting for that.

Capital Improvement Budget

The fuel tanks near the Main Station are due to be replaced in July of 1997 for a cost of \$75,000. Funds for this project are being appropriated this year and next year. Unit 150, the ambulance, is due to be replaced in July of 1996. The rescue unit is scheduled to be replaced in the year 1999. Chairman Black questioned whether these units were leased or not. Chief Bradley said that the Town leased the rescue unit until two years ago, at which time we purchased the unit. Chairman Black asked if monies had been appropriated for the new ambulance. Chief Bradley replied that they have been. A new pumper engine will be purchased in July of 1996.

In the current Capital Improvement Budget the Fire Department is in the process of having weekly meetings with a Committee of Fire Personnel and Finance Director Mike Gilbar to get a computer and software. There are funds available in the amount of \$26,000 for this project.

Incentive Program

Chief Bradley stated that he felt that the incentive program was one of the better programs they have had in quite awhile. However, he is finding that the majority of the firefighters have "maxed out" the program. This has not stopped the training or the initiative to keep up with the 90's. The Captain's incentive program is successful.

In-Service Inspections of Town Owned Buildings

Chief Bradley reported that all Town owned buildings are now having in-service inspections on a regular basis. In-service inspections involve a walk-thru, familiarization with the building and layout, and the fire protection features of it. Fire extinguishers are being checked. Also, the Fire personnel are checking the emergency lighting, exit signs, and blatant electrical violations. It is not a code compliance inspection per say.

Working Relationships

Chief Bradley stated that when it comes to a code compliance issue that he and the Fire personnel feel that the recent appointment of Frank "Jay" Barrett to the Code Administrator's position is a good choice and will enhance the working relationship between the Fire Department and the Code Department.

Chief Bradley stated also that he is very pleased with the recent renovations/additions to the Ray School. Again, they had a very good working relationship with the people involved and Chief Bradley is pleased to see the end result. He feels that the Ray School is well protected and that it was money well spent.

Chief Bradley stated that there is also a good working relationship with the College.

Miscellaneous

Chief Bradley announced that last week, for the first time, he hosted the monthly meeting of the New Hampshire Fire Chiefs Association. Chief Bradley was very proud to report that it was a great success.

Mr. Vermilya made the announcement that Chief Bradley was recently appointed to the position of Second Vice President of the New England Division of the International Association of Fire Chiefs.

Mr. Nelson asked if money was being set aside for a new ladder truck. Chief Bradley replied no, it wasn't. Mr. Vermilya stated that this issue was discussed three years ago and the decision was made not to set money aside.

Mr. Nelson asked if the Ray School was hard-wired to the station. Chief Bradley replied that it was tied into the Municipal Alarm System. Mr. Nelson asked if the sprinkler system was hitched up as well. Chief Bradley replied that yes, it was.

Mr. Vermilya stated that one other thing that should be mentioned is that about five or six years ago the Town had a couple of discussions with the College regarding the improvement of the fire safety levels in the college dormitories. Since that time every time they refurb a dormitory they have been doing the kinds of things the Town recommended and are significantly improving the fire safety factors in the dormitories. Mr. Vermilya feels that the College deserves a great deal of credit for doing that.

11. ADJOURNMENT

The meeting was adjourned at 9:45 p.m. The Board of Selectmen toured the station after the meeting was adjourned.

SUMMARY

1. Mrs. Connolly MOVED that the Board of Selectmen APPROVE the Chamber of Commerce's request to:

- 1) suspend parking meter enforcement from Thursday, November 30, 1995 thru Saturday, December 2, 1995**
- 2) suspend parking meter enforcement from Saturday, December 16, 1995 thru Saturday, December 23, 1995**
- 3) close South Main Street from the Hanover Inn corner to Lebanon Street on Friday, December 1, 1995 from 4 p.m. to 8:30 p.m.**

as well as hang a banner across Main Street for a maximum of two weeks. Mrs. King **SECONDED THE MOTION**. There was no discussion and the **SELECTMEN VOTED UNANIMOUSLY TO APPROVE** these requests.

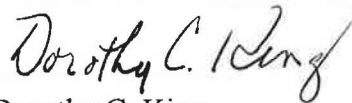
2. After a brief discussion Mr. Nelson **MOVED** that the Board of Selectmen **APPROVE** the Agreement with NH DOT re: West Wheelock Street and the Resolution to accompany the Agreement. Mrs. Black **SECONDED THE MOTION**. There was no further discussion and the **SELECTMEN VOTED UNANIMOUSLY TO APPROVE** this Agreement and the Resolution to accompany the Agreement.

3. Mrs. Heinrichs **MADE THE MOTION** to approve and sign the deeds needed for the trail to be constructed on the old Highway 38 area. Mr. Nelson **SECONDED THE MOTION**. There was no further discussion and the **SELECTMEN VOTED UNANIMOUSLY TO APPROVE AND SIGN THE DEEDS**.

4. Mr. Nelson **MADE THE MOTION** to authorize the Town's Attorney to execute the agreement between the Town of Hanover and Kendal regarding taxes. Mrs. Heinrichs **SECONDED THE MOTION**. After a brief discussion the **SELECTMEN VOTED UNANIMOUSLY TO AUTHORIZE THE TOWN'S ATTORNEY TO EXECUTE THE AGREEMENT BETWEEN THE TOWN OF HANOVER AND KENDAL**.

5. After a brief discussion Mrs. Connolly **MADE THE MOTION** to accept the minutes of September 11, 1995 as corrected. Mr. Nelson **SECONDED THE MOTION** and the Board of Selectmen **UNANIMOUSLY ACCEPTED THE MINUTES OF SEPTEMBER 11 AS CORRECTED**.

Respectfully submitted,



Dorothy C. King
Secretary

These minutes were recorded and then transcribed by Teresa M. Barrett.

These minutes were approved by the Board of Selectmen at their meeting held on November 6, 1995.