

TOWN COUNCIL MINUTES
REGULAR MEETING
JANUARY 10, 2001

The meeting was called to order at 6:30pm.

PRESENT: Chairman R. Dion, S. Sheidow, T. Young, D. Pichette-Volk, P. Rueppel, R. Holley, M. Jolin, P. Ganley, D. Duford and M. Farrell – Town Administrator.

There was a moment of silence in remembrance of Paul Carrier, Central Hooksett Water Precinct Superintendent.

MINUTES: P. Ganley moved to approve the minutes of December 27, 2001 as amended. Motion seconded by M. Jolin. **MOTION CARRIED.** R. Dion and P. Rueppel abstained due to absence.

NOMINATIONS/APPOINTMENTS:

COUNCIL VICE CHAIR: S. Sheidow nominated P. Ganley.

P. Rueppel nominated T. Young.

D. Pichette-Volk questioned if the Council has to accept S. Sheidow's resignation from Chairman and appoint R. Dion as the new Chairman.

M. Farrell replied he and R. Dion discussed this and he couldn't find anywhere in the Charter or the Administrative Code that speaks to this issue. He did find that it says the Council organizes themselves at the first meeting and elects officers.

ROLL CALL VOTE FOR VICE CHAIR:

D. Pichette-Volk	Young	P. Ganley	Young
D. Duford	Young	S. Sheidow	Ganley
R. Holley	Young	P. Rueppel	Young
M. Jolin	Ganley	R. Dion	Young
T. Young	Young		

MOTION CARRIED FOR YOUNG – 7 TO 2.

SUBCOMMITTEE REPORTS:

AMBULANCE: D. Pichette-Volk reported they have a four-phase charge in which phase 1 and 2 are completed. They are hoping to have a preliminary report by the end of February. At that point they will need some advice and assistance from the Council.

S. Sheidow stated her name needs to be added to the Subcommittee list as the liaison to the Tri-Town Ambulance Committee.

M. Farrell asked if the Ambulance Subcommittee still wants to do a survey.

D. Pichette-Volk replied the Subcommittee is still discussing it but they still want to do one.

M. Farrell asked if the Subcommittee has considered the costs of doing a survey and where the funds would come from.

D. Pichette-Volk replied they are discussing this now and they will be coming back to the Council with their report at the end of February.

M. Farrell stated there is a letter in the reading file from Tri-Town's Executive Committee stating they held their organizational meeting on January 7, 2001. Nina Catano is the new chairman. He received a letter from Tri Town's first vice-chair Rob Cole informing us of the change in leadership and that Rick Bilodeau is no longer on the Executive Committee. The letter also stated they will be contacting us in the future to reopen discussions on the ambulance at the Safety Center. M. Farrell stated he sent a letter to Tri Town requesting they let him know what their difficulties were directly and to please respond. He hasn't heard back from them in over a month.

ADMINISTRATIVE CODE: T. Young reported there is a meeting scheduled for January 18, 2001.

BOARD OF ASSESSORS: T. Young reported there is a meeting later this month.

BUDGET COMMITTEE: D. Pichette-Volk reported the Budget Committee's Hearing on the School Budget is tomorrow night. The Committee has reduced the School's Operating Budget by \$262,000 and this is the figure that will be going to the hearing tomorrow night.

CHARTER REVIEW: T. Young reported he contacted the Subcommittee members and they have gone back to Attorney Bart Mayer and provided him with the direction they want and they have asked him to draft a document for them. They should have that document by the end of the week.

COUNCIL NEWSLETTER: R. Dion received feedback on the newsletter that was just mailed out from Library Trustees Chairman Mary Farwell saying the newsletter wasn't detailed enough but the rest of it was very good.

HERITAGE COMMISSION: P. Ganley asked since the new Heritage and Land Conservation Commission has just started up then should that Commission be tasked to get on the list for the Lilac Bridge.

M. Farrell replied he was contacted by the Department of Transportation saying they want to begin the process of closing the grant. They gave us some time to look for some more money but they need to take it back so they can give the money to someone else. However, the Town is welcome to apply again and since we did receive it once, chances are we will receive it again. It would be better to line up the additional money first and then go to them.

P. Ganley stated he will call the director to see how to get onto the list and report back to the Council.

PLANNING BOARD: P. Rueppel submitted a written report to the Council on the January 8, 2001 Planning Board Meeting.

POLICE COMMISSION: R. Dion reported the Commission at their last meeting voted to contract with Ossipee Mountain Electronics (O.M.E.) to coordinate the communications project. Gary Sleeper did an excellent presentation to the Police Commission.

ROAD CONNECTOR: M. Farrell reported we lost our Commissioner, Leon Kennison, and he called the Assistant Commissioner today to restart the discussions and he hasn't received a call back.

TOWN ADMINISTRATOR'S CONTRACT: P. Ganley reported they are just waiting for an e-mail from M. Jolin.

ZONING BOARD: R. Dion reported they had a meeting last night. The issue with 7-Eleven and the Conservation Commission and Zoning Board is coming up. There is a big development going up in the Misery Hill area off of Morrill Road. A water tower may be going up there also. They received approval from the Zoning Board to cross the wetlands for the road going in. The Board had a heated exchange with an appeal with a resident on Castle Drive who had a business at their home. Complaints were received from the neighborhood. A letter was sent to the resident stating they cannot have their business there or their commercial vehicles. There was an appeal but it was denied. They will probably re-appeal.

COMMERCE ALLIANCE: P. Ganley reported he attended the last meeting. They are looking to get public input. He suggested to them that perhaps they could put an article in the next Council Newsletter to let residents know it is in our Town. He was very impressed at the meeting and he will probably join.

SCHEDULED APPOINTMENTS:

DEPARTMENT BUDGET PRESENTATIONS: R. Dion thanked the department heads for all of their hard work preparing the budget. He knows how hard they work at their other responsibilities and how they do this over and above their responsibilities and also present their budgets.

D. Duford stated the memorandum from M. Farrell to the Council dated December 27, 2000 bothered him. He asked M. Farrell who the irresponsible people are that he is referring to.

M. Farrell replied that was his opinion and he doesn't feel he has to answer. He explained when he made his address last week, he went out of his way to say this didn't apply to the Council because, in his opinion, the Council and the Budget Committee did the right thing by approving the budget as presented.

D. Duford stated it was a very harsh statement and he should respond to who he is referring to. There are people out there who do take an interest in all of this and do get upset about it. By making these kind of statements, we could go the same route as last year. The statements in the memo were not appropriate and out of line. There is definitely blame being put on somebody or someone on something the people themselves voted on. They voted on it for a purpose and he thinks the purpose was to send a message. He shouldn't make these statements to influence people. You have to cooperate with these people and not try to antagonize them. He has received calls on this memorandum. He had to have had someone in mind when he made those comments.

M. Farrell stated for the Council's information, the Hooksett Banner will be reprinting his memorandum in tomorrow's issue of the Banner. It is a public document and they asked for it.

S. Sheidow stated citizens have approached her and she wants to bring forward that the Council in the past have asked that anything that goes out to the press go through the Chairman of the Council. No one is to speak on behalf of the Council unless they are speaking on their own. Things get misconstrued and it is very important. Last year's Council did work on the budget and they and the Budget Committee were in favor of the budget.

M. Farrell replied it is a public document.

R. Dion stated M. Farrell did tell him the memorandum was going in the Banner and he didn't personally have a problem with it because it is his opinion. If there are people who feel we should have a default budget then that would be irresponsible in M. Farrell's view. There is nothing wrong with it as long as people understand it is his opinion. We hired him for his advice and he is allowed to give his opinion.

D. Duford stated he brought up last year the fact that as much as we are in a crisis financially, he cannot understand why we keep wasting so much money on paper, forms, binders, etc. The documents in the budget are printed on one side. We have two two-sides copiers. It is a waste of time, paper and ultimately money. If we have problems with financing something, we should be looking at all aspects trying to save money. This is irresponsible.

P. Ganley replied he would go as far as to call D. Duford, "The Paper Don".

D. Duford stated office supplies and other supplies go up every year. Most of this stuff you look at one time and then throw it away. He sits here to serve the people and he looks out for their dollars, not to satisfy any particular department or person and certainly not himself.

TAX DEPARTMENT: M. Farrell stated Town Clerk/Tax Collector Leslie Nepveu has been working very hard on our web page. She is the Town's Webmaster and has done an excellent job. Our goal is to get the Town inter-connected. We want to be able to connect with the citizens. The first step is E-Commerce and L. Nepveu brings great ideas.

Town Clerk/Tax Collector Leslie Nepveu presented the Tax Department Budget. She made a presentation on E-Commerce.

M. Jolin moved to accept the Tax Department Budget as presented. Motion seconded by R. Holley.

MOTION CARRIED.

ACCOUNT NUMBER	ACCOUNT DESCRIPTION	1999-00 APPROP.	1999-00 ACTUAL	Council & Budget Comm	Default Budget	2001-02 ADMIN REQUEST	2001-02 COUNCIL REQUEST	2001-02 BUDGET COMM RECOMM.
				Approved 2000-01	2000-01 APPROP.			
TAX DEPARTMENT								
1- 414- 01- 111	TAX DEPARTMENT WAGES	100,101	92,391	94,401	94,401	96,165		
1- 414- 01- 241	STATE FEES	3,250	0	3,250	3,250	3,250		
1- 414- 01- 243	REGISTRY OF DEEDS	2,300	1,706	1,500	1,500	1,750		
1- 414- 01- 251	PRINTING	3,897	3,177	4,250	4,250	4,375		
1- 414- 01- 433	TELEPHONE	950	1,487	1,350	1,350	1,800		
1- 414- 01- 531	MILEAGE	150	0	150	150	150		
1- 414- 01- 541	EDUCATION	1,200	1,081	1,200	1,200	1,200		
1- 414- 01- 713	NEW EQUIPMENT	500	665	100	100	475		
1- 414- 01- 715	RECORDS PRESERVATION	1,700	0	1,700	0	1,700		
1- 414- 01- 716	COMPUTER UPGRADE	0	0	1,995	1,995	0		
1- 414- 01- 811	GENERAL OPERATING EXPENSES	1,900	1,945	1,900	1,900	2,100		
1- 414- 01- 812	TOWN OF HOOKSETT AUTOMATION	1	0	0	0	11,222		
TOTAL TAX DEPARTMENT		115,949	102,452	111,796	110,096	124,187	0	0

ASSESSING DEPARTMENT: Assessing Director Sandy Piper presented the Assessing Department Budget.

D. Duford moved to accept the Assessing Department Budget as presented. Motion seconded by M. Jolin. **MOTION CARRIED.**

ACCOUNT NUMBER	ACCOUNT DESCRIPTION	1999-00 APPROP.	1999-00 ACTUAL	Council & Budget Comm Approved 2000-01	Default Budget 2000-01 APPROP.	2001-02 ADMIN REQUEST	2001-02 COUNCIL REQUEST	2001-02 BUDGET COMM RECOMM.
ASSESSING DEPARTMENT								
1- 407- 01- 111	ASSESSING WAGES	94,565	96,778	96,663	96,663	98,366		
1- 407- 01- 531	MILEAGE	150	722	700	650	850		
1- 407- 01- 541	EDUCATION	1,000	700	1,000	1,000	1,000		
1- 407- 01- 527	GAS	500	0	0	0	0		
1- 407- 01- 713	NEW EQUIPMENT	1,000	836	200	200	800		
1- 407- 01- 811	GENERAL OPERATING EXPENSES	3,300	1,819	3,000	3,000	3,100		
1- 407- 01- 433	TELEPHONE	1,700	2,072	1,700	1,700	2,100		
TOTAL ASSESSING DEPARTMENT		102,215	102,927	103,263	103,213	106,216	0	0

BUILDING DEPARTMENT: Building Inspector and Code Enforcement Officer Ken Andrews presented the Building Department Budget.

T. Young moved to accept the Building Department Budget as presented. Motion seconded by M. Jolin. **MOTION CARRIED.**

ACCOUNT NUMBER	ACCOUNT DESCRIPTION	1999-00 APPROP.	1999-00 ACTUAL	Council & Budget Comm Approved 2000-01	Default Budget 2000-01 APPROP.	2001-02 ADMIN REQUEST	2001-02 COUNCIL REQUEST	2001-02 BUDGET COMM RECOMM.
BUILDING DEPARTMENT								
1- 411- 01- 111	BUILDING WAGES	72,037	51,632	73,024	73,024	74,611		
1- 417- 01- 114	HEALTH OFFICER	1,200	1,230	1,200	1,200	1,200		
1- 411- 01- 222	CONTRACTED SERVICES	1,400	45	1,400	1,400	1,400		
1- 411- 01- 229	TAX MAP MAINTENANCE	6,000	3,592	6,000	6,000	6,000		
1- 411- 01- 251	PRINTING & FORMS	1,000	1,382	1,000	1,000	1,000		
1- 411- 01- 433	TELEPHONE	1,900	2,582	1,900	1,900	2,000		
1- 411- 01- 527	GAS	969	940	969	969	1,169		
1- 411- 01- 541	EDUCATION	1,500	1,951	1,500	1,500	1,700		
1- 411- 01- 542	BOCA MEETING	2,500	2,507	2,500	2,500	2,500		
1- 411- 01- 713	NEW EQUIPMENT	7,000	2,107	3,000	3,000	3,000		
1- 411- 01- 811	GENERAL OPERATING EXPENSES	1,500	1,076	1,500	1,500	2,700		
TOTAL BUILDING DEPARTMENT		97,006	69,044	93,993	93,993	97,280	0	0

FAMILY SERVICES DEPARTMENT: Family Services Director Joy Buzzell presented the Family Services Department Budget.

D. Duford moved to accept the Family Services Department Budget as presented. Motion seconded by T. Young. **MOTION CARRIED.**

ACCOUNT NUMBER	ACCOUNT DESCRIPTION	1999-00 APPROP.	1999-00 ACTUAL	Council & Budget Comm Approved 2000-01	Default Budget 2000-01 APPROP.	2001-02 ADMIN REQUEST	2001-02 COUNCIL REQUEST	2001-02 BUDGET COMM RECOMM.
FAMILY SERVICES								
1- 420 01- 111	FAMILY SERVICES WAGES	35,626	35,879	36,338	36,338	37,065		
1- 420 01- 433	TELEPHONE	1,700	1,443	1,628	1,628	1,628		
1- 420 01- 531	MILEAGE	600	361	600	600	500		
1- 420 01- 541	EDUCATION	600	705	600	600	700		
1- 420 01- 713	EQUIPMENT	500	96	500	500	500		
1- 420 01- 941	TOWN WELFARE	75,000	33,969	50,000	50,000	60,000		
1- 420 01- 943	PROGRAM DEVELOPMENT	5,000	409	5,000	5,000	5,000		
TOTAL FAMILY SERVICES		119,026	72,862	94,666	94,666	105,393	0	0

PLANNING/ZONING DEPARTMENT: Town Planner Charles Watson presented the Planning/Zoning Department Budget.

D. Pichette-Volk moved to accept the Planning/Zoning Department Budget as presented. Motion seconded by T. Young. **MOTION CARRIED.**

ACCOUNT NUMBER	ACCOUNT DESCRIPTION	1999-00 APPROP.	1999-00 ACTUAL	Council & Budget Comm Approved 2000-01	Default Budget 2000-01 APPROP.	2001-02 ADMIN REQUEST	2001-02 COUNCIL REQUEST	2001-02 BUDGET COMM RECOMM.
PLANNING & ZONING DEPARTMENT								
1- 454- 01- 111	WAGES	65,276	30,179	71,714	67,874	75,853		
1- 451- 01- 223	PROF. SERVICES	1	0	1	1	1		
1- 454- 01- 424	OFFICE SUPPLIES	5,660	5,293	5,700	5,660	5,478		
1- 454- 01- 433	TELEPHONE	1,500	1,184	1,500	1,500	1,800		
1- 454- 01- 431	POSTAGE	2,625	3,401	4,500	5,100	6,151		
1- 454- 01- 443	TRAINING	2,130	324	1,655	1,655	3,920		
1- 454- 01- 543	TRAVEL EXPENSE	4,676	3,752	4,320	4,320	5,022		
1- 454- 01- 829	HEARING EXPENSE	4,110	2,196	2,000	2,000	5,150		
1- 454- 01- 850	FISCAL IMPACT ANALYSIS	0	0	0	0	15,000		
1- 454- 01- 860	MASTER PLAN UPDATE	15,000	1,081	15,000	15,000	10,000		
1- 454- 01- 870	GIS MAINTENANCE					10,000		
TOTAL PLANNING & ZONING DEPART.		100,978	47,410	106,390	103,110	138,375	0	0

FINANCE DEPARTMENT: Finance Director Diane Savoie presented the Finance Department Budget.

D. Pichette-Volk moved to accept the Finance Department Budget as presented. Motion seconded by R. Holley. **MOTION CARRIED.**

ACCOUNT NUMBER	ACCOUNT DESCRIPTION	1999-00 APPROP.	1999-00 ACTUAL	Council & Budget Comm Approved 2000-01	Default Budget 2000-01 APPROP.	2001-02 ADMIN REQUEST	2001-02 COUNCIL REQUEST	2001-02 BUDGET COMM RECOMM.
FINANCE DEPARTMENT								
1- 404- 01- 111	FINANCE WAGES	67,494	67,591	68,486	68,486	70,615		
1- 404- 01- 227	AUDIT	10,610	4,808	10,610	10,610	15,000		
1- 404- 01- 251	PRINTING & FORMS	2,000	2,149	2,420	2,000	2,500		
1- 404- 01- 531	MILEAGE	200	101	200	200	200		
1- 404- 01- 541	EDUCATION	425	239	425	425	425		
1- 404- 01- 433	TELEPHONE		1,287	1,350	1,350	1,680		
1- 404- 01- 713	NEW EQUIPMENT	1,000	1,323	1	1	300		
TOTAL FINANCE DEPARTMENT		81,729	77,498	83,492	83,072	90,720	0	0

PRINCIPAL AND INTEREST ON LONG-TERM DEBT: Finance Director Diane Savoie presented the Principal and Interest on Long-term Debt Budget.

M. Jolin moved to accept the Principal and Interest on Long-term Debt Budget as presented. Motion seconded by T. Young. **MOTION CARRIED.**

ACCOUNT NUMBER	ACCOUNT DESCRIPTION	1999-00 APPROP.	1999-00 ACTUAL	Council & Budget Comm Approved 2000-01	Default Budget 2000-01 APPROP.	2001-02 ADMIN REQUEST	2001-02 COUNCIL REQUEST	2001-02 BUDGET COMM RECOMM.
DEBT SERVICE								
BOND PRINCIPLE PAYMENTS								
1- 401- 51- 843	1985 SEWER	125,000	125,000	125,000	125,000	125,000		
1- 401- 51- 845	1996 SAFETY CENTER	115,000	115,000	115,000	115,000	115,000		
TOTAL BOND PRINCIPLE		240,000	240,000	240,000	240,000	240,000	0	0
BOND INTEREST PAYMENTS								
1- 401- 56- 843	1985 SEWER	64,014	64,014	52,837	52,837	42,043		
1- 401- 56- 845	1996 SAFETY CENTER	79,811	79,811	73,342	73,342	66,864		
TOTAL BOND INTEREST		143,825	143,825	126,179	126,179	108,907	0	0
TOTAL DEBT SERVICE		383,825	383,825	366,179	366,179	348,907	0	0

CEMETERY: Finance Director Diane Savoie presented the Cemetery Budget.

S. Sheidow moved to accept the Cemetery Budget as presented. Motion seconded by P. Rueppel.

MOTION CARRIED.

ACCOUNT NUMBER	ACCOUNT DESCRIPTION	1999-00 APPROP.	1999-00 ACTUAL	Council & Budget Comm		2001-02 ADMIN REQUEST	2001-02 COUNCIL REQUEST	2001-02 BUDGET COMM RECOMM.
				Approved 2000-01	Default Budget 2000-01			
CEMETERY COMMISSION								
1- 464- 01- 222	CONTRACTED SERVICES	411	0	411	411	411		
1- 464- 01- 223	SURVEY	1,000	0	1,000	1,000	1,000		
1- 464- 01- 424	OFFICE SUPPLIES	630	0	630	630	630		
TOTAL CEMETERY COMMISSION		2,041	0	2,041	2,041	2,041	0	0

BUDGET COMMITTEE: Finance Director Diane Savoie presented the Budget Committee Budget.

P. Rueppel moved to accept the Budget Committee Budget as presented. Motion seconded by R. Holley. **MOTION CARRIED.**

ACCOUNT NUMBER	ACCOUNT DESCRIPTION	1999-00 APPROP.	1999-00 ACTUAL	Council & Budget Comm		2001-02 ADMIN REQUEST	2001-02 COUNCIL REQUEST	2001-02 BUDGET COMM RECOMM.
				Approved 2000-01	Default Budget 2000-01			
BUDGET COMMITTEE								
1- 474- 01- 224	SECRETARIAL	2,292	1,389	2,292	2,292	2,292		
1- 474- 01- 424	OFFICE SUPPLIES	400	541	450	400	500		
1- 474- 01- 431	POSTAGE	54	45	54	54	54		
1- 474- 01- 543	SEMINARS	250	0	100	250	250		
1- 474- 01- 829	HEARINGS	300	222	550	300	300		
TOTAL BUDGET COMMITTEE		3,296	2,197	3,446	3,296	3,396	0	0

The Council took a five-minute break at 8:30pm.

TOWN ADMINISTRATOR'S REPORT: M. Farrell reported on the following items:

1. In regards to the TIF (Tax Increment Financing), M. Farrell stated he is continuously working with a developer. The developer will be coming to the first Council Meeting in February. Generic information will be sent to the Council on the TIF.

- 2. School Superintendent Robert Suprenant will be coming to the next Council Meeting as a scheduled appointment. The Hooksett School District is interested in acquiring town owned property adjacent to the land they own on Farmer Road.
- 3. M. Farrell completed R. Holley's orientation. They reviewed all of the Town documents. Yesterday they toured all of the Town facilities.
- 4. The Council was asked if they can come to the January 24, 2001 Council Meeting a half hour earlier, at 6:00pm, to meet with legal counsel regarding a lawsuit.

The Council consensus was they would come for 6:00pm to meet with legal counsel.

- 5. Central Hooksett Water Precinct Superintendent Paul Carrier's funeral will be held tomorrow at 10:00am at St. Jean's Church in Allentown. The Municipal Building will not be closing but anyone who wants to attend can. There will be a skeleton crew.
- 6. He received a notice of resignation from Highway Manager Robert Pantel today. He will be leaving at the end of the month. He is taking a job in Vermont as a public works director. At the January 22, 2001 Council Budget Workshop Meeting he will be presenting a reorganization plan at the same time as the Highway Department Budget presentation.

M. Jolin asked the status of the Quarry Road bond situation.

M. Farrell replied the paperwork was submitted and we are waiting to hear back. We are anticipating that the company is going to give the money to the Town and we would fix it ourselves.

OLD BUSINESS:

COUNCIL'S RULES OF PROCEDURE: The Council reviewed the final draft of the Council's Rules of Procedure.

T. Young moved to adopt the draft of the Council's Rules of Procedure dated 12/27/00 (see attachment #1). Motion seconded by P. Ganley.

D. Duford moved to amend the above motion to eliminate Section 1B of the Council's Rules of Procedure and to substitute with an 11B as read, "The rules may be amended or new rules adopted by a two-thirds vote of all members of the Council. Any such proposed alteration or amendment by any Councilor shall be submitted in writing at a regular Council Meeting and shall be placed on the agenda at the next regular Council Meeting under the order of new business". Motion seconded by M. Jolin.

ROLL CALL VOTE ON AMENDMENT:	D. Duford	yes	S. Sheidow	yes
	R. Holley	no	P. Rueppel	yes
	M. Jolin	yes	D. Pichette-Volk	yes
	T. Young	no	R. Dion	yes
	P. Ganley	no		

MOTION CARRIED ON AMENDMENT – 6 TO 3.

T. Young moved to amend the above amended motion to add back into the Council's Rules of Procedure 1B. Motion seconded by P. Ganley.

ROLL CALL VOTE ON AMENDMENT:	R. Holley	yes	P. Rueppel	no
	M. Jolin	no	D. Pichette-Volk	no
	T. Young	yes	D. Duford	no
	P. Ganley	no	R. Dion	no
	S. Sheidow	no		

MOTION FAILED ON AMENDMENT – 7 TO 2.

ROLL CALL VOTE ON AMENDED MOTION:

M. Jolin	yes	D. Pichette-Volk	yes
T. Young	yes	D. Duford	yes
P. Ganley	no	R. Holley	yes
S. Sheidow	yes	R. Dion	yes
P. Rueppel	yes		

MOTION CARRIED ON AMENDED MOTION – 8 TO 1.

PAY GRADE PLAN: The Council reviewed the Pay Grade Plan that was originally handed out at the December 13, 2000 Council Meeting (see attachment #2). M. Farrell passed out a corrected step increase chart for salaried employees, which is included in attachment #2.

D. Pichette-Volk asked if the wages are reviewed annually.

M. Farrell replied no and that the last review was done back in the fall of 1998, which at that time only the salaried individuals were addressed. The major changes in this plan are in the hourly employees.

D. Pichette-Volk questioned if this plan is approved then what happens and when.

M. Farrell replied by Town Charter, he sets the wages. The Council would see the wages in the budget readjusted across the board. The Wage Scale Subcommittee did a comparison of the wages in all of the other towns. He would place the employees on the new scale in relation to everyone else in other towns. It would take place July 1, 2001.

D. Pichette-Volk questioned, when this plan is approved, if the budget figures would be generated based on the market adjustment and if it would be independent of employees' merit increases or any other increases they would be entitled to.

M. Farrell replied yes.

D. Pichette-Volk questioned if everyone will be reviewed so there are no exemptions.

M. Farrell replied everyone will be reviewed but there may be some employees who are already at the right step on the chart. However, he does not think anyone is already at the right step so everyone will be reviewed. If there are employees in-between steps, they will be moved to the next higher step.

D. Duford stated he brought up to the Wage Scale Subcommittee that there are employees who were represented by the unions at some time in the past who were not adjusted by the same 2% raises that everyone else received. They were not adjusted upwards in steps in the line laterally to indicate or reflect where they should have been compared to other employees in the Town. If there is money in the budget, these people should be taken care of first.

S. Sheidow brought up how last year the Police Union received their wage increases from their warrant article that was passed because they were able to speak to it and address it on the floor at Town Meeting. Her concern is if we put these wage increases in this budget and it fails these people will not receive their raises. She asked if it could be put into a warrant article so that we can defend it. Pay raises in warrant articles do not get turned down. As far as giving pay raises to people on top of this Pay Grade Plan, they can be put in the budget.

R. Dion replied he has a problem with putting the raises in a warrant article. If the warrant article doesn't pass then what do you do? If the raises are in the budget and the budget fails, you at least have discretion to move the money around in the budget; in a warrant article you can't.

D. Duford agreed with S. Sheidow and stated they should be in a warrant article.

M. Farrell stated if they are in a warrant article and you have a pool only used for wages and the budget fails, you won't have the money in the budget for the current salaries.

T. Young stated there are Councilors who are saying we shouldn't let the public have input and he is now hearing the public can decide on what we do with the funds. He agrees with R. Dion that we can move money around in the budget and we can't do it in a warrant article.

S. Sheidow stated if we put them in the budget and not in a warrant article, is there a way we can do something so we don't lose people if the budget fails.

D. Pichette-Volk asked if we could agree to approve the Pay Grade Plan first and then discuss where it goes later.

M. Farrell stated he and Finance Director Diane Savoie can come back to the Council with options.

D. Duford stated we don't deserve any requests if we cannot defend it on the floor at the Deliberative Session.

M. Farrell replied there is no floor at the Deliberative Session anymore. There are very few who even attend.

D. Duford stated the word gets out in the newspapers and by word of mouth.

D. Duford moved to adopt the Pay Grade Plan as amended. Motion seconded by S. Sheidow.

MOTION CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY.

PRICES: D. Duford stated last October he made a motion for obtaining prices for a sound system and sound proof doors for Council Chambers and to make improvements to the air conditioning system. He asked if this has been done.

M. Farrell replied it is in the budget.

D. Duford stated his motion wasn't contingent on the budget. He just wanted to obtain prices.

M. Farrell replied we don't have the money in the budget for these things.

MARCH 20, 2000 NONPUBLIC MINUTES: D. Duford brought up again that he still wants the March 20, 2000 nonpublic minutes. They have to be generated.

M. Farrell suggested for the present Councilors who were at that meeting to get together and generate them from memory.

D. Duford, S. Sheidow and T. Young were the Councilors present at that meeting.

D. Pichette-Volk moved to have the Councilors who were at that meeting generate the March 20, 2000 nonpublic minutes and invite the former councilors who were on the Council at that time. Motion seconded by P. Rueppel.

ROLL CALL VOTE: P. Ganley no R. Holley no
S. Sheidow yes M. Jolin no
P. Rueppel yes R. Dion yes
D. Pichette-Volk yes T. Young no
D. Duford yes

MOTION CARRIED – 5 TO 4.

HOOKSETT PUBLIC LIBRARY: T. Young asked for the Council to consider having the Council Meetings at the Hooksett Public Library because of the tough seating in Council Chambers and before we put money into renovating Chambers.

R. Dion stated the Library closes at 8:00pm and the photocopiers are shut off so it might be difficult to hold our meetings there.

S. Sheidow stated the Council in the past heard from department heads that it is easier to meet at the Municipal Building because all of their information is in the building.

NEW BUSINESS: P. Ganley brought up how he mentioned to the Council in the past how a resident in town complaining about noise approached him and wanted him to develop a noise ordinance in Town. He hasn't heard back on this.

M. Farrell replied Assistant Town Administrator Elizabeth Dinwoodie developed a draft for a noise ordinance. We don't currently have a noise ordinance in Town.

R. Dion adjourned the meeting at 9:26pm.

Respectfully Submitted,

Jennifer A. Martel
Administrative Assistant
Hooksett Town Council

Denise E. Pichette-Volk
Town Council Secretary
Hooksett Town Council