

OFFICIAL

TOWN COUNCIL MINUTES Regular Meeting Wednesday, March 25, 2009

CALL TO ORDER

D. Dickson called the meeting to order at 6:30 pm.

ROLL CALL

Chairman D. Dickson, B. Gahara, J. Gorton, G. Longfellow, P. Loiselle, D. Ross, N. VanScoy
M. Pischetola, P. Rueppel and C. Granfield (Interim Town Administrator)

D. Ross motioned to put forth a resolution to offer a proclamation of gratitude in honor of Charles Humphries by the Council. The complete copy of the proclamation will remain on file at the Town Hall.

APPROVAL OF MINUTES

March 5, 2009

N. VanScoy motioned to approve the minutes as presented. Seconded by B. Gahara. Vote unanimously in favor as amended.

P. Loiselle, G. Longfellow, and M. Pischetola abstained

March 11, 2009

P. Loiselle motioned to approve the minutes as presented. Seconded by N. VanScoy. Vote unanimously in favor as amended.

P. Rueppel abstained

PUBLIC INPUT:

H. Murray: Arleigh Green's reference to this letter from Bart Mayer; I hear that it has not arrived. Would it be possible to have the Town Administrator contact him in writing asking for that letter so that it becomes part of a trail that we can follow? Also, I think you will find that the letter is really for an article or a project that he wanted to put down there before.

J. Pieroni, Budget Committee Chairman: It has come to my attention that you passed a policy on conflict of interest and conduct. I have a number of problems with that policy. First of all, the way it is structured and written, I think it is very broad, very vague, and very imprecise. It sets up some procedures that are very questionable. Personally, I would recommend that you withdraw that policy. I see it creating more problems than it will solve. Number 2, there is within the Town Charter, provisions for conflict of interest and disqualification from decision-making. It begs the question, why does this Council decide that it has to create provisions separate from what the citizens approved in the Charter. I would even question its legality, if the Charter specifically states a conflict of interest policy, then it would seem the law of the land, so to speak, and any policy derived from this Council, it would be inappropriate to exceed that to which the voters have approved. So I have questions as to the legality of it. I would wonder whether the town's attorney reviewed that policy, because I think there are numerous issues with it. Thirdly, the reason I'm here as chairman of the Budget Committee, is to say while the Budget Committee certainly is concerned about good ethics and avoiding conflict of interests and good behavior; this policy has no influence or authority over the Budget Committee. The Budget Committee is an elected committee separate from the Town Council and Town Government. It is analogous to separation of powers. We are a body, a subcommittee if you will, of the legislative body, which are the voters of Hooksett. The members of Council do not appoint us in anyway. So, there is no regulation or oversight of the Budget Committee by the Council. Again, if you look at the Charter, the Charter does speak to the ability of the Council to hold hearings, but it is specific to members that it appoints or approves. It specifically leaves out elected officials. There is no ability for the Council to have any oversight over the Budget Committee. I bring this to your attention because I want to make sure, and I would ask the Council to inform the Human Resources Director, who I believe is, according to your policy, is the contact person, and the initial person to handle complaints brought forth, that they cannot receive complaints about the Budget Committee and it is not appropriate. They cannot do any review as the policy calls for, which is one of the great problems

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I have with an employee of the Town, investigating, if you will, citizens, volunteers on committees. I think that's wrong. And doing this with the Budget Committee it's totally inappropriate. So I would ask that you inform that person that if anyone has any issues against the Budget Committee or a member of the Budget Committee, it needs to be brought directly to the Budget Committee. It would be taken into consideration there.

B. Ehlers: Supervisor of the Checklist: The checklist has a full compliment of Supervisors with the recent appointment of Michael Horn and Joan Lydon.

M. Miville, 42 Main Street: I want to bring the Council's attention an incident that happened at the last Police Commission's meeting on March 17th. The Police Commission meetings are generally scheduled every third Tuesday of the month, posted officially for 5:30 at night. Posted a week in advance. On March 17th, I arrived at 5:29 pm according to my cell phone watch and I stepped into the room at 5:29. The meeting, come to find out had already started and it already started much before that. I presented the agenda to the Town Administrator several days later, and acquired one of those agendas on the seat in front of me on the way in. The agenda had several things on it, and the last thing on the agenda was the thing they were talking about and only had two sentences left to discuss, the Communications Tower. They had already gone through the Pledge of Allegiance, the Roll Call and all the other things on their agenda prior to me walking in a 5:29 pm. This is an official posted meeting at 5:30 pm. When I walked in and sat down, they called for a non-public meeting at that point and I was asked to leave. The Hooksett Banner reporter Lauren Sausser arrived at 5:30 pm and she was told they were done already as well. She couldn't believe it either. Town Councilor, Paul Loiselle then walked in at 5:33 pm and was equally shocked but demanded public input to pass on information to the commission and to the chief relating to votes that happened at a previous Town Council meeting. Commissioner Gagnon reluctantly reopened the public session, but asked if anyone in the audience was audio taping the meeting before we started the public meeting. The public meeting was reinstated but only for public input. We did not discuss or go over any information that was previously gone over prior to anyone walking in before 5:30 pm. He had asked if anyone in the audience was audio taping the meeting, he asked me specifically as I started my public input. We all said no, I looked at Lauren Sausser, she said no, Mr. Loiselle said no, but I stated that the meeting was already being taped by the Police Commission and asked if that did not mean that it is still a public's right to tape anyway, as well, and that the taping was inherently, by definition, a public meeting. Commissioner Gagnon said, "that others have been taping meetings without our knowledge or approval and that they just want to know if that is occurring". Again, I stated that the same statements that I am making or anyone else in the meeting is making are still being recorded by the Commission in front of the meeting. Mr. Loiselle also stated his public input as it related to what I believe you will be discussing tonight about the Police Commission's application process and the \$35.00 fees being waived. I had my own input and I won't get into the other public input that was discussed at that time. I want to stress to this Council that what the Police Commission did was a violation of the Right to Know Laws and a violation of the RSAs specifically, 91-A. I demand so attention to this matter. These meetings are held at a posted 5:30 time, and must be held at that time and not prior to that. I definitely walked in at 5:29. These other people walked in two or three minutes later. That meeting was held prior to posted time.

D. Dickson: Ethics will be on an upcoming meeting.

NOMINATIONS/APPOINTMENTS

Available Positions:

Parks & Recreation Advisory Board, (1) Full member, exp. 6/2009 & (1) Alt. member, exp. 6/2010.

SCHEDULED APPOINTMENTS

Economic Development Committee Update

B. Sirak, Chair of Economic Development Committee, and J. Duffy, Town Planner

B. Sirak handed out folders of information to members of the Council.

In the folder presented, on the right is an agenda of the items we would like to cover. Behind the presentation agenda are the minutes of the last meeting, February 11th. Those meetings are held here in this facility. They were moved from Manchester Chamber of Commerce to prevent any appearance of doing anything in secret. Our next meeting is Wednesday, April 8th at noon, and those are open meetings and all are invited to attend. On the left is the EDC annual report. The next document is entitled Hooksett Economic Development Commission missions, goals, objectives and strategies. We present this to you for your consideration and approval. Couple key words under the mission, *retaining existing*

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businesses and attracting new business. From the beginning we said that our greatest potential is with existing business. The other key word is *balanced and sustainable economic growth*. Every project we look at comes under that general banner. Our general goal is *to establish a strong rapport with existing businesses*. Later, I will talk to you about our ambassador program that Fred Bishop has initiated. This has given us the tools to go out and talk with area businesses.

Item C under goals is *to provide support to the Town Council*. Our goal is to support you, support the planning and zoning boards and to be a resource. We have no power. We don't pretend to have any power. We are advisory in nature. Some basic objections are refining the website and our contract with DRED. I will turn it over to Jo Ann who will give you the website update and the status of the contract with Southern New Hampshire Planning.

J. Duffy: We have contracted, when David was here, with a company called Tracy Edwards & Company to do overall work on the entire Town's website, including the Economic Development page. I distributed a sample of the home page for Economic Development. There are also other links as well. We received the sample from Tracy Edwards two weeks ago and I gave them some feedback as to what I thought should change and made some corrections, and I'm now waiting to hear back from them so that we can move this along. What you see under the current business listing will be an actual listing of all businesses in town, which is part of the contract that Southern New Hampshire has with the town to provide that information as well as an atlas. This is what we have so far. We are waiting to hear back from them at this point.

B. Sirak: This is something that all the towns in this area are working very hard on. This comes from the recommendation from DRED. The most powerful tool we have is a website that very quickly enables outside developers to very quickly get to that Economic Development page. That will be an important aspect. We are also working very closely with another organization called Metro that will have a regional approach to economic development and will have links between our website and their website.

J. Duffy: If we are successful in obtaining the funding this year in the budget for the Site Finder Program, there will also be a link on this home page to go to the site finder. If you remember Amy from Southern New Hampshire gave you a presentation about that. That would be two clicks to get from the Town's home page website, a click to get into Economic Development, and a click to get into the site finder. Hopefully, that will become useful for developers. The other thing I wanted to discuss was an update on the Economic Development Plan that SNHP has undertaken. In the agreement, there were 10 tasks that they were going to complete. They have completed a majority of them, and they include:

- Meeting with Economic Development Committee to complete a work plan.
- Conducted several business forums with various business owners. Initially, they were going to do a mail survey and just send it out to all the business owners in town, but due to a lack of funding for postage, etc, they decided it would be better to have smaller meetings with the actual business owners. The report that I handed out was the Executive Summary of those actual findings from the meetings with the business owners. You may have received the entire report when Jack Munn was here but if not just contact me and I will get you copies.
- Compile the results from the study and provided the executive summary which I've given to you. They then compiled a spreadsheet of all the local businesses in town so we now have a listing of every business, the name of the owner, the address, etc. What we don't have on many of them are their websites, which would be really wonderful, because if we could include their websites on our websites, it would be great for people to be able to link to those businesses. We are hoping to get that when we meet through the Ambassador Program.
- They've also created a GIS database and map of all of the businesses in town so that will be included in the website.

The tasks to be completed include:

- The creation of an atlas of commercial and industrially zoned land. This will include aerial photos, tax parcel data, acreage, current use, number and size of existing buildings, availability of existing municipal water and sewer, current zoning and frontage, and they would calculate the amount of building space and acreage available for future development and give us an idea of what is actually out there.
- Coming up with a recommendation for the Planning Board to adopt an update to the chapter of the Master Plan for Economic Development.

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B. Sirak: The information learned in the focus group was inspiring. We discovered, for example, one business that needed some assistance in expanding, another business that was thinking of leaving, which we can probably be of some assistance to. Reaching out to the businesses with the Ambassador Program is going to be key. On the agenda for our next agenda is the update of the Master Plan, especially as it relates to economic development. To really do that, we are suggesting a working session with the Planning Board. We need to put our heads together, prioritize those parcels of land that we think have the greatest potential and drill down and get very specific about it. In the next few months, we will have specific things for you and obviously, that will be weaved into the website. Another issue was we had some concerns with the image that Hooksett was portraying at the various entrances to the community. Alden Beauchemin, a member of the Economic Development Committee, volunteered to put together a preliminary plan of how we could address the ideas at the various entrances of the town.

Alden Beauchemin: We would like ideas from the Council and we want to make you aware of some of the things we are working on. Obviously, this whole idea of improving the gateways has been brought up by several others in town in the past. We want to be proactive. We want to highlight where we are going with this program and we are looking to solicit and get connected with other civic groups and organizations in town. Several businesses have already stepped up to the plate and are willing to take over the key intersections in town. The second page is just a map of the main gateway areas that we see as a priority. The third page is some of the gateways to the Village area itself. These areas on the third page were highlighted in the Village Charet back in 2004. We see those as areas of importance as well. The fourth page is a list of some of the businesses and groups that are already involved.

B. Sirak: This is a volunteer effort. We are not going to spend any money at this point in time. Alden is on the agenda for our next meeting. He will drill down further and we will get some cost estimates of what this will cost. We want to be sensitive to the maintenance of this and we will work closely with Dale and his staff to be sure whatever we are suggesting is do able and we will keep you updated on that.

N. VanScoy: We keep hearing about the web page. Do we have an expectation of when will we really see it?

J. Duffy: I wish I did but I don't. I'm having some problems contacting the individuals that we've been working with to get a response back from them. I don't know if Carol has heard anything.

C. Granfield: I've been trying to contact them as well because we've had an issue trying to get everything up on line for the actual town website. They have all the information from both of us now, so it should be worked on so we will keep you updated.

N. VanScoy: I have a concern. I've been hearing about the web page since before I was thinking about running for Council. I've been here and we are coming up on a new election and I'm still hearing about a new web page so I have a real concern with that.

D. Ross: Just a suggestion, I know that website design is a competitive field; there are high school kids that can do awesome work. I would think that you might find someone like that.

N. VanScoy: We have talked a lot about the survey. I believe whoever wrote up your summary provided some inaccurate information. I won't go into the nuts and bolts but I think the number of businesses that were seen in these meetings were inaccurate. I did find many flaws in that. With that, I have a real concern that we are contacting our big companies and perhaps the ones that will speak up and we are not contacting all of our business and particularly the small businesses and the ones that aren't going to speak up. I understand the cost of postage, but I encourage you to find ways to contact all of our businesses, the ones that are in the offices upstairs. There are a lot of businesses and things going on in Hooksett. I have a concern with that.

B. Sirak: With the Ambassador's Program, hopefully we can hit some of those people.

N. VanScoy: We talk about money a lot and we all really hope we get our return back. That's why we are so concerned with the web page, because we do understand the importance of that. We have put a lot of money towards that web page already.

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B. Sirak: What have we spent on that so far, \$10,000?

J. Duffy: I don't know, I know we had received a Grant from the State for the Economic Development portion and I believe, I don't know the details, but I believe we are locked in with this company to finish that work.

C. Granfield: I think that's one of the issues. Once we want to insure we get what was allocated for and paid for and then clearly as was indicated looking at other resources. As was indicated, there are a lot of other entities out there, but we want to receive what we paid for.

J. Duffy: To answer Nancy's concern regarding the length of time that this is taking, the Economic Development website was actually being handled by the former Town Administrator and he was taking care of the whole thing. After he left, it sort of just fell into my lap, so there has been a gap in time between the time he left and the time we caught back up with these people. It was almost re learning what had already been done. We had to almost start over from the beginning.

N. VanScoy: Is it common for you not to hear back from them?

J. Duffy: When I first met them, after David had left, they were very anxious to get going because they wanted a monthly contract with the town to maintain the website. I don't believe that contract was given. So now that they are not getting that monthly contract, which was \$500 a month, they have sort of disappeared out of the picture.

B. Sirak: We will take Nancy's point and contact the smaller businesses. We are going out to meet with some of these businesses with some department heads.

Under action items, we would like your approval to move forward with the Ambassador Program. The next action item is the Old Town Hall Study. We couldn't go further with the study of the old town hall until we could determine whether we had any real options. P. Loiselle, at one of our meeting, suggested, before we proceed to probate court to research and determine if we had any options, we should get consensus and discuss this issue with the Council. Our purpose in coming to you today is in making a recommendation, we have some volunteer legal counsel who have agreed to assist us in making that proposal to probate court to see if we have any option in using the old town hall for anything other than a community center as stated in the deed dated 1825. Once we have that, obviously we can put together people from the historic society and perhaps some of you would want to take a look at that, and look seriously at what would be the best use. I think the other issue here is I know Carol has talked about a situation audit of all town properties. Obviously, that would be included to see what would be the most appropriate use for that. That is the action item that we are asking from you today, is permission to proceed with probate court. If they said we had options, we would bring whatever information they gave us back to you. Then you could make whatever decision you wanted to make at that point. It doesn't bind you into going into any particular direction.

P. Loiselle motioned to allow the Economic Development Committee move forward to process the deed through probate court. Seconded by D. Ross.

M. Pischetola: Have we tried to contact the heirs?

B. Sirak: We have not at this point in time. We don't think there are any but that would be part of the process. We are certain that the judge is going to ask us to do that. At this time, we don't have any leads about the heirs.

P. Loiselle: What was the year?

B. Sirak: 1825

D. Ross: I have a huge concern with trying to remove these covenants in probate. I think it is unnecessary, because personally, I think this goes against the spirit of the agreement. I'm a firm believer in if you make an agreement, you keep the agreement. This property was gifted to the town, the property belongs to the town, not just to us, and it belongs to the future residents of the town. This was something

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that was intended to be part of the town in perpetuity. I think anything that would alter that, or take the protection away from it, so that it could be altered from that, would be a bad idea. I certainly don't agree with going through the probate action to remove the covenants because it hinders the town from making good use of that building for town benefit. My serious concern is if these covenants are moved, a future Council could take this historical piece of Hooksett and sell it. It goes against the spirit of the agreement. I think it would be a good example for us to set for others that an agreement is an agreement, regardless. Probate is really just advertising in the newspaper. It's not a diligent search of heirs; therefore it would probably be an easy thing to do. I don't agree with it. I don't think it is necessary. I think we can find uses for that building that will benefit the community without leaving the ownership of Hooksett.

G. Longfellow: I disagree, any future Council could run to probate and do the same thing.

N. VanScoy: I have a concern with changing the agreement, 100%. I think what bothers me the most about it, seems to be what our rushing is towards. We are not looking at this old rock and looking at how we can shine it up, and keep it what it is. But at the same time making it a shining part and an economic benefit to our town without removing it out of its intent. The intent could be discussed all night long. I think if those conversations are had, we can turn it into the shining center of our town and not necessarily have to bother with this at all. It was originally a very beautiful building and still could be. It's the rush to that. I believe in hearing all ideas, and if one idea is something that could come out of it, then that idea should be presented with the rest, but it does feel like we are rushing to that decision.

P. Loiselle: I understand there are a number of concerns relevant to that building. I personally do agree we want to keep the historic value to the town in place, but at the same time the cost of maintenance of buildings like that, especially of that age, requires significant dollars to bring it up to reasonable, presentable level. To reinstate that building will take an exceptional amount of money. By removing the restrictions to the deed, we're able to utilize that building as some form of combination of a historic museum along with some functional offices that generate some revenue to help maintain the cost of that building and improve it. I think there is some value to looking at that avenue.

D. Ross: In Belmont, I was involved with preserving the Fenwick Hosiery Building which came into the town's possession and they almost torn it down. It is now the center of town in Belmont and the town didn't spend a dime on it. They used a Federal Grant of over a million dollars. It is a beautiful building now and it is historic. Our town hall is a beautiful historic building. It is part of the structure of Hooksett. We would possibly cut ourselves out of the opportunity for some grant money if it were in a position to be sold perhaps, or unprotected. The town can lease buildings. The courthouse is an example. It could be used as a meeting center for gatherings of different corporate executives like they do at different resorts. We do have the riverfront there and there are people that have grand ideas for that riverfront, which I think are awesome. Maintaining it as a town possession is important, and that will actually give us more opportunities to get more money to do the things that building needs done, without having to get it from the taxpayers.

B. Sirak: I have had exchange of emails with members of the historical society, which might be of value for the Councilors to see.

K. Northrup: I have no preconceived idea of what should be done. In July '08 the feasibility study, when the EDC came, and you gave them that job, I understood it to be looking at all options that might be available. And like Nancy, I'm concerned that the first step taken is to break the covenant in the deed. When I do the Village tour, when I take people and walk around the Village, it is great to tell that story, when you talk about town hall that for 180 years we've honored the gift of this family. It is a nice story and history is a compellation of stories. Not so much fun in a couple of years to tell people we honored the promise for 180 years, but a couple of years not so much, we broke the covenant. If the options are first explored, and nothing else works, then can you do this? I'm concerned this is the first option.

B. Sirak: I understand the passion and concern over continued public use, and we respect that. At this time we are simply looking for options. At some time, there will be some mixed use for that facility and a public use will most likely be a part of that. We're just looking for options and we would involve members of the historical society and people from this group and others to further explore that. If you don't want to look at the options then make it a part of your situation audit for the town or perhaps turn it over to the Historical Society and perhaps they can tap into their endowments.

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Roll Call:

P. Loiselle	Y	G. Longfellow	Y
J. Gorton	N	D. Ross	N
D. Dickson	Y	P. Rueppel	N
W. Gahara	N	N. VanScoy	N
M. Pischetola	N		

Vote 3:6 motion failed

N. VanScoy: I think the EDC, as a volunteer group is doing a great job. You did speak of looking at the Master Plan. I have a concern with the Master Plan and I would like to see it updated on a rotating schedule.

B. Sirak: We are working with Jack Munn and will overlay their work with the Master Plan. We plan to meet with the Planning Board for a workshop to update the Economic Development portion.

N. VanScoy: There have been discussions at the Planning Board regarding the Performance Zone and the old hotels that are along Route 3. There is a lot of talk of mixed use and the need for affordable housing. I would like Jo Ann Duffy to get Mr. Sirak's input on these properties. Also, there are many empty buildings in town.

B. Sirak: We would like to add 3 members to the Economic Development Committee, one from the education community and 2 other members. If approved by the Council, we will bring forward nominations.

P. Loiselle motioned to add 3 members to the Economic Development Committee. Seconded by D. Ross.

Vote unanimously in favor.

N. VanScoy motioned to approve the Ambassador Program. Seconded by B. Gahara

Vote unanimously in favor

Recycling & Transfer Advisory Committee Update

R. Duhaime: We have a good turnout at our meeting for the Recycling & Transfer Committee. With the economy, waste is down. That is one thing that is good. Recycling is up. This is not necessarily a result of what we are doing as a board, but more economy driven. As far as recycling, everyone is pitching in. Green is popular now. We thought the taxpayers weren't ready for single stream and automated collections. After seeing what happened in Pembroke, we may have been wrong. We have some older truck in town that we realize on the Board will need to be replaced. The newest truck is a 2004, and when that truck comes up for replacement, the board agrees that the truck should be an automated truck. We are looking at researching that now and putting it earlier than planned. It was originally planned to be phased out in 2012. I think it should probably be phased out earlier than that. With the situation, taxpayers will be willing to do that. It is a lot of upfront cost but the return is good. The people in Pembroke did it, and I would really be happy to see it here in Hooksett so we are going to work to get that done.

D. Ross: Didn't the town actually buy a truck like that at one point?

D. Boyce: We did buy the truck but it wasn't at all like the trucks are now. It wasn't really built for the purpose it was intended. They were trying to knock down the collections to two people.

D. Hemeon: It was a side packer that was bought with no arms and no barrels. It was a three-man operation that they turned down to a two-man operation, but it caused more workmen comp claims. The town paid \$138,000 and we got \$50,000 for it.

D. Ross: We lost a lot of money with this endeavor once because it couldn't work some of the streets in town.

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R. Duhaime: I don't know if you're informed but up in Granite Heights they have very narrow roads and Pinard picks up there with automated collections and you can go up there and see it. It's very fast and very tight. They are not your common roads. They are small roads and they do a very nice job. I suggest you go up there and watch that. I think that would change your mind.

D. Ross: Because I have watched the packers and timed them, I cannot imagine an automated truck coming anywhere near the times those guys make. I challenge anyone to show me that the three guys on that packer that runs right now, you could do my neighborhood with that and then you do it with one of those automated trucks, it would take at least three or four times as long.

R. Duhaime: I think that is what people think, but it is not what happens. That is not the case. I don't have the exact facts, but in Goffstown, they pick up in four days, basically more than what we pick up in five days in Hooksett with fewer men.

G. Longfellow: Those are 10 hours days.

P. Loiselle: Are they using automated trucks in Manchester? I've noticed they've had truck that picks up garbage on one half of the truck and recyclables on the second half of the truck. The truck is actually divided in two.

D. Boyce: That is the truck they actually just bought in Pembroke. It is called a split body. You pull up to one stop and there's a shoot that goes both ways so you can flip it and get recycling on one side and flip it and get trash on the other.

P. Loiselle: Are you looking into that?

D. Boyce: It is way more expensive. We had talked about it, but we feel it will save us time and money to have the trucks go out. If we send out the split truck, it would have to come all the way back and empty out and have to go all the way back out. We feel we could do one truck for trash and one truck for recycling.

OLD BUSINESS

Police Commission Appointment Procedure

C. Granfield: This was a result of a request made to Council Loiselle from an incumbent police commissioner regarding the possibility of waiving their procedures for incumbents. In addition, I provided the provisions for the residency requirements because there was some question of that. I included the procedures as well as the statute that established the Hooksett Police Commission. The request was made in confirming with the Police Commissioner was if they were an incumbent, could the rest of the process be waived because they were already serving in that capacity.

G. Longfellow motioned to waive the background check for any incumbent Police Commissioner. Seconded by J. Gorton

B. Gahara: My only concern is, and I would see why you would want to do that for someone already on the commission and already in the process. But the fact is, if you look at it from the prospective of people's lives changing, and things happen, and I think it behooves us to make sure we are doing the appropriate thing, which is to do a check on folks. I will give you an example, take Kid Safe, a Kid Safe form when you are a coach is only good for two years. Because something could happen within those two years. I understand where she's coming from, and we might be setting precedence here if we go along with this because we should do due diligence and do background checks.

P. Rueppel: I happen to agree with Bill. Hooksett is changing considerably. Maryann has lived in Hooksett most of her life but it is no longer a small town. People are moving in. As he said, things can change in a three-year period and someone can run astray of the law.

D. Ross: We need to comply with all the requirements each time the appointment is made. I'm sure that would be something that would come up to bite us if we didn't. We have to follow the procedure that's

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already been there until we modify the procedure. The fees, however, I don't have a problem with those being waived.

G. Longfellow: This is a unique situation with the Police Commission. I'm sure if she (the police commissioner) robbed a bank while she was on the commission, she wouldn't be on the commission much longer. I don't think that every three years someone has to go through a criminal background check, especially with the Police Department. If they've done something wrong, the Police Department is going to know about it.

M. Pischetola: If someone was arrested for drunk driving or domestic assault in Berlin, there would be no reason to notify Hooksett Police of that. Also, it would be very embarrassing and I wouldn't want to respond to the newspaper if we had a police commissioner who had been involved in some type of criminal activity and we didn't do a criminal background check and we put them back as police commissioner. How would we answer to people?

Roll Call:

P. Loiselle	N	G. Longfellow	Y
J. Gorton	N	D. Ross	N
D. Dickson	N	P. Rueppel	N
W. Gahara	N	N. VanScoy	N
M. Pischetola	N		

Vote 1:8 motion failed

P. Loiselle motioned to waive the fee (\$35.00 for finger printing) for all police commission candidates. Seconded by J. Gorton.

N. VanScoy: I want to understand the fee that we are saying no to. The \$35.00 finger printing...

P. Loiselle: It is a \$35.00 fingerprinting and background check.

N. VanScoy: They would still be providing their background check?

P. Loiselle: The police do the background check and the fingerprinting.

N. VanScoy: The Council directs all respondents to obtain a current copy of the criminal and motor vehicles history, so they're going to get that from our police department and we're not going to charge them? Is that what we're saying?

D. Dickson: Yes.

G. Longfellow: Would you accept an amendment that we do the background check after the appointment? We could make the appointment providing they pass the background check.

B. Gahara: That \$35.00 is pretty cheap, and if you are out in the private sector, hiring candidates costs a lot more than that.

N. VanScoy: I'm still not reading that right. #2, "Upon receipt of letters of interest, the Council directs all respondents to obtain a current copy of their criminal and motor vehicle history and they ask that they sign an authorization to the background check". So we are asking them to go out and get a copy of their record and then we are asking them to authorize us to do a background check. Am I mistaken in that? Are we having them sign an authorization, which then means we will dot a criminal and motor vehicle history, which **is** the background check?

D. Ross: What they do is they go to the local authorities, because they're the only one that can release the criminal, there local and state criminal checks. But then the police are authorized to go one step further and check the federal records, much like when you go to get a firearms permit. That's where they can check further. That's the way I read it. You can go in and ask for a copy of their history.

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N. VanScoy: So they provide you a copy, and there's probably a fee for that.

B. Gahara: Yes, there is and you have to get it notarized and I think it's \$35.00 to send in your motor vehicle background check.

N. VanScoy: So then the cost of the fingerprinting and the background check is separate.

P. Loiselle: The total charge is \$35.00 per candidate.

D. Dickson: To your point Nancy, if this does pass, it will have to be rewritten, and someone will have to take that on.

M. Pischetola: Why are we changing something that already works?

P. Loiselle: Because it was requested by one of the candidates.

P. Rueppel: Do you really think it is fair to ask volunteers to pay for that when that's a requirement. Let us pay for it.

M. Pischetola: I paid for it when I was police commissioner. It was one of the requirements.

M. Miville: We understand that any background check would have to come through Concord and not through the local departments and it probably would be a conflict of interest if that wasn't the case.

Roll Call:

P. Loiselle	Y	G. Longfellow	Y
J. Gorton	Y	D. Ross	Y
D. Dickson	Y	P. Rueppel	Y
W. Gahara	Y	N. VanScoy	Y
M. Pischetola	Y		

Vote unanimously in favor

Beauchesne Development Drainage Study

P. Loiselle motioned to reconsider the motion regarding the Beauchesne ground water drainage study. Seconded by B. Gahara.

C. Granfield: I provided an updated proposal, which the cost of the ground water study is now \$23,219. Stantec provided the scope of work. It's been verified that the town has sufficient funds to cover the costs up to that amount, should the town decide to go forth and participate. It was also asked if Dan Tatem, from Stantec be available for questions and update on the discussion of the dam. Also I can provide the Council with an updated map with additional information from the residents.

D. Tatem: Now that we are past the drainage study that we discussed two weeks ago, this is a revised plan which you have in front of you. There is a key indicator in the top right hand corner, which shows, which lots in the Beauchesne development that have been reported with either issues, no issues, surface issues or no water issues. The white lots indicate the data was either not collected or the owners chose to not participate in the collection of data. You can see where people have reported more or less issues and that is the only update we have on the map. As far as the update on the scope, there were many questions two weeks ago about what is the point of determining where the ground water is because we have enough data from residents that it's in their basements. So we revised the scope to spend considerably more time looking for possible solutions to the individual's problems. One of those being checking sill elevations of these houses, which was a request of Dale's to see if certain under drains could be tied into the town's drainage system, and we would be spending a lot more time looking for solutions rather than where the ground water is. We do want to spend a little bit of time doing test pits and checking historical data from monitoring wells in surrounding towns and possibly into northern Mass. to look to see if there's a historical rise in the seasonal high water table, which would basically say it's happening in lots of places and this is an example of why. The numbers are about the same, the last time

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it was \$23,400. It has gone down a little. We removed the monitoring wells, which is a significant cost to the original estimate and replaced it with more time doing recommendations to try and solve the problems.

P. Rueppel: How long would the studies take?

D. Tatem: I estimate a total of 184 hours. If this were approved for the test pits immediately, it would a day or two and then probably one to two months collecting data and then describing possible solutions. Then probably be able to have a report back to you in two to three months.

P. Rueppel: Coming into spring, what can we do as the town to help alleviate problems from the spring rains?

D. Tatem: The spring rains, in our opinion, has a lot more to do with the surface water issues, which I think we are on the right track to resolving with Sunny Sell who is here offering to fix or finance one of the legs, the one that goes down Beauchesne to get that water to a controllable level and to the river without being in people's yards. The other side, on Pleasant View, is still up in the air as far as funding it, talking to developers, and looking for solutions on that side. The ground water is not really tied into the spring rains as much as it is the annual rainfall and a longer duration.

G. Longfellow: We could study this to death but you have two things you're going to find out with the study I guess, whether it's ground water or whether it's surface water. In each case, you have to change the piping system. No matter whether it's ground water or surface water, you still need to change all the drainage system in the Beauchesne development. I would rather see this \$23,000 put toward some of that piping rather than a study that the results aren't really going to change anything.

N. VanScoy: Where did you find the money?

C. Granfield: That was a result of talking with the Finance Director and looking at where we are now based on funds that have not been spent based on some of the insurance and some other line item accounts. There were two items we were looking for, the \$23,000 and there was a \$5000 amount and there are sufficient funds within that, so it isn't just one line item.

N. VanScoy: You had said no monitoring wells, so with the change, no monitoring wells at all?

D. Tatem: Yes

N. VanScoy: But you would still be looking at local wells, local as in the development?

D. Tatem: No, it's not a water source well, like for a residential home. You would need to find the wells that have been monitored over the last 10 to 15 years. The elevation of that well, has it risen in the last 5 to 10 years vs. a local wells, which most of the time are not monitored enough to have accurate data.

N. VanScoy: So your study would mainly be looking at the individual houses and yards?

D. Tatem: And it would be looking at the drainage system that is in place. Dale and I drove the subdivision a few days ago. It appears, with a quick analysis, that a lot of the houses will be high enough that you could use the existing systems that's there without having to replace all the system. But what we don't know is, those systems, as old as they are, a lot of the ones that we looked at, the pipes are rotted out and will need to be worked on anyway. That would be part of the analysis, to see the sill elevations vs. the existing drainage in the street vs. the existing wetlands possibly in the backyard to see where an under drain around the house could be laid out.

N. VanScoy: Would you identify existing under drains?

D. Tatem: To the best of our ability, yes. Obviously, they are subsurface, so we would be dependent on the data that the homeowner had.

N. VanScoy: Is it appropriate to go to the dam conversation?

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D. Dickson: That will be discussed as a separate item.

N. VanScoy: This study would just be a 2-3 month thing? There would be nothing looking to see if any improvements made actually improved anything or changed anything? And that's because we are not having monitoring wells?

D. Tatem: I don't think those are related. The monitoring wells would give you the water tables. Say we put them in tomorrow, and took them out in August; you would be able to measure that water table from now to then. Where as, if we did test pits instead, in 10 to 12 different locations, you would be able to get the seasonal high water table historical and that day's elevation that day. The monitoring wells would be more of a comparison to what's going on with historical elevations vs. now and where is it at the worst situation. And that seems, from what we got from you folks, less valuable because those issues are known because of the data that was retrieved from the residents.

N. VanScoy: And we are talking about test pits?

D. Tatem: Yes, we've included 8 hours in there for test pits.

P. Loiselle: Dale, I would like to get some input from your perspective as to the position that George is looking at. I'm leaning towards it relative to spending \$23,000 on a study, which I understand has value, but I'm concerned about the actual function of taking care of specific issues that we've identified at this point, and the cost of doing that.

D. Hemeon: I think Dan's right that as we go through Beauchesne, we're going to find that over 90% of the pipes are probably in rough shape or are galvanized and the bottoms are rotted out. At some time, I'm going to have to bite the bullet and do that. We did Short Ave. last year. When Dan and I went through the neighborhood a few days ago, my mother lives up here on Main Street and she's had water in her cellar for 40 years. A lot of the water collects from in back of my mother's house and the back of Mary Farwell's. If you want to walk it and if you want to walk it with us, I know my mother would give me an easement to go through, there is a natural drain line through there and I think everything has gotten plugged up over the years. Another one comes out behind Steve Agrafiotis' old house. If we can get everyone to talk to us, we could relieve a lot that water and it's just ditching out that ditch. If we get permission, we could help a lot of people on the back side of Beauchesne, even if they did have cellar drains, if they pumped it directly out, it would go right into that swale.

P. Loiselle: Just to reiterate that, I'm concerned that the concept of doing the study will lead to a whole rash of questions as to where the line is drawn where the town is involved. Looking at the piping situation, which is an town issue, which is something the town can address and not be caught up in establishing a precedent where people on Goonan Road or Whitehall Terrace come back and say we have the same issue. These issues are extremely costly. This is not a \$25,000 fix. This will run into the hundreds of thousands of dollars. There is a legitimate concern as to the precedence as to where is the line drawn where the town is responsible and the resident is responsible. I think what Dale is proposing is the direction that I would like to see us go. It's to take care of these issues that he's been able to address that are town issues.

J. Gorton: My feeling is without the study, you may not know what the problem is and what the potential fix is for the problem. Until you do the study, any action you take would be dealing with a lack of information. That's the reason I feel this study should be done.

Vote on the motion to reconsideration
Vote unanimously in favor

D. Ross motioned to authorize the Planning Board to expend \$23,219.00. Seconded by B. Gahara

D. Ross: The RSA states that the money must be expended by the land use board, which is the Planning Board.

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C. Granfield: I think the RSAs that were provided and Jo Ann may be able to address that, were provided based on the bidding process that came up regarding the Planning Board utilizing Stantec. The agreement for the study, the Council would authorize the Town Administrator to enter into the contract. That was provided more in the fashion of the Planning Board is already in agreement with Stantec doing work of this nature.

D. Ross: It is just housekeeping because in Part D it says "shall be paid out by the municipal treasurer only upon order of the local land use board or its designated agent for such purpose." What we're doing is authorizing the Planning Board to enter into this agreement and then the Planning Board would order the treasurer to spend the money. In other words, we're not spending the money, the Planning Board is.

J. Duffy: The Planning Board has the authority to hire employees or independent consultants for various work. They chose to hire Stantec to do consulting work as the town engineering. The Planning Board is not the only one that hires Stantec; the Highway Department uses them as well as the Building Department and the Planning Department. The reason the RSAs were provided to you was because at the last meeting there was a question as to whether or not you needed three bids for this work. The only thing we were trying to point out was that we felt that three bids were not required. Back in the summer, we had discussions with developers as to whether the town wanted to enter into a formal agreement with an engineering company. I had contacted the town's attorney at that time to find out the details of this. The way it was explained to me, it's the same situation that the town has with the attorney, you have an informal agreement that you use Upton and Sanders as your town attorney. Whenever you need to go and get a legal opinion, you don't put it out for bid. It's the same type of situation. We were just giving you that as an example to understand how that portion of the process works. I don't know if the Planning Board would be the ones to actually sign the agreement. We were of the understanding that it would be the Town Administrator that would actually sign on behalf of the Town.

D. Ross: I was just clarifying the motion with that and again I advise everyone to read 673:16, it's pretty clear. "*Each local land use board may appoint such employee as it deems necessary for this work who shall be subject....*" so it is them that's doing it. The point being, that's where the three-bid rule doesn't count, because we're not spending the money, they are. We're authorizing them to do it. The other issue I have with this is similar to Councilor Gorton is that planning is good when you take on any project and obviously you want to have as much information as you can. But I believe that part of it has been done. We do have the surface water drainage plan here. You did study that. You don't have to be an engineer to see why. The places that are red are where the river runs through it. Hooksett is a river community. It is under almost every building on Hooksett Road. It is a fact of life in a river community. All the water is heading towards the Merrimack. Right now the water tables are high, so everyone has this problem. But also, we cannot ignore the overwhelming outpouring of our constituents and if you total up the number of people that want us to do something about it, I'm sure their tax dollars more than cover it. Even though I think that this might be better put to more construction rather than studying, I can't ignore the fact that good planning requires some study so I'm going to change my vote this time and support it.

N. VanScoy: The test pits say the town to perform test pits. What does that mean?

D. Tatem: The town would provide the machine, a backhoe.

N. VanScoy: I think I heard Dale say that you thought the study would help determine what needs to be fixed with the existing infrastructure? Is this the time to discuss the dam?

D. Dickson: We will take that up separately

D. Hemeon: You can take the \$23,000 and replace the pipes in the ground but that's not going to solve people's water problems. This plan that Stantec presented in Beauchesne is to run stubs to property lines. That is why it's so important that we know the sill levels so we can bring our mainline over to the property line so if the home owner has any water problems they can connect their cellar to our pipes. We're not going into private property and digging up everyone's yard, we're just going to the property line. But without knowing the elevation of the cellars, I would just put the pipes in the ground and just keep going.

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B. Gahara: Based on the last discussion, I support the study and concur with fellow Councilors, Ross and Gorton, that the best laid plans are making sure we do the planning so we can move forward and have a good solution that will be minimal on our budgets.

Marlene Holmes, 18 Grant Drive: I think you need to listen to Dale, he knows this land because he's lived here all his life but I'm living in quit a situation. I have a sump pump that is just sitting there. I have water overflowing. I have mold, and I have COPD. I don't expect the town to pay for it but I did get my tax bill and it went up to \$200,000 and if you know where Grant Drive is, I couldn't sell it and I need to have Dale or somebody that knows how this works to do something about the pipes. The town is not responsible for fixing my house up, I realize that, I can get a plumber to do that, but if he has nowhere to attach the hole, he can't do that. That's all I'm asking for.

Roll Call:

P. Loiselle	Y	G. Longfellow	N
J. Gorton	Y	D. Ross	Y
D. Dickson	Y	P. Rueppel	Y
W. Gahara	Y	N. VanScoy	Y
M. Pischetola	Y		

8:1 vote approved

J. Duffy: Could I ask for clarification? Mr. Sonny Sell is here tonight with his engineer and at the last Planning Board meeting, the Planning Board approved his site plan with the condition that the Council agree that he could go ahead and either go head and do the work on the drainage pipes or have Dale's men do it. I understand that he met with Dale yesterday and Dale is still figuring out whether he wants to do it or not. Mr. Sell just needs verification from Council to say that you're in agreement for him to go ahead with this work and let him work out the details with Dale as to who actually winds up doing the work.

D. Dickson: We understand what is going on but if we could get a report from the Town Administrator and you on how to proceed, we would put it on our agenda in two weeks.

D. Hemeon: We met and I still have to run a few more numbers. I just don't want to put the town at risk.

D. Dickson: We should also have legal review the agreement.

NIMS Resolution

Adoption of the Resolution –

C. Granfield: This item was brought before you at the last meeting and it is adopting the resolution for the National Incident Management Systems. You have it before you and it could be read into the record to adopt it and it allows Emergency Management to move forward and comply with the requirements and move forward with the training element. This is one piece that's requested, to have the resolution adopted.

N. VanScoy motioned to adopt the attached resolution. Seconded by G. Longfellow.

Fiscal Impact:

C. Granfield: The training is provided by FEMA, here, so the town is not expending funds. Emergency Management, some department heads and perhaps some Councilors will attend training but the Town is not expending funds. My understanding is it is one of the requirements we have to meet. Al Dionne is going forth to check off what we need and this is on thing that the Town hasn't done as of yet, to participate. This will make grant funds available.

H. Murray: It does have an impact on grants coming back. You must have NIMS compliant training in order to get a lot of the grants that we go after. It costs nothing. Everyone that comes to the Emergency Command Center has to be trained in that method.

Vote unanimously in favor

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Acceptance of Unanticipated Funds

2,000 Donation for Volunteers' Appreciation Night

G. Longfellow motioned to accept the \$2000.00 donated for the Volunteer Appreciation Night. Seconded by D. Ross.

N. VanScoy: I don't think it is right to accept funds for people that don't necessarily need food. There are a number of charities that could use that money. For that reason, I will be voting against this motion.

M. Pischetola recommended inviting the person that donated the money to the event.

G. Longfellow: All year, we attempt to get the different boards and committees together to talk to each other. This is the only time in the whole year that they do that.

Roll Call:

P. Loiselle	Y	G. Longfellow	Y
J. Gorton	Y	D. Ross	Y
D. Dickson	Y	P. Rueppel	Y
W. Gahara	Y	N. VanScoy	N
M. Pischetola	Y		

Vote 8:1 motion passes

P. Loiselle recommended a thank you letter be sent on behalf of the Council to the person who made the donation and an invitation be extended as well.

D. Dickson so ordered.

B. Gahara motioned to reconsider the vote to hold the Volunteer dinner. Seconded by J. Gorton.

Vote 8:1 (N. VanScoy)

D. Ross motioned to hold the Volunteer Dinner not to exceed \$2000 as donated. Seconded by P. Loiselle.

N. VanScoy: It is too bad it cost \$2000 dollars to get the boards together.

Roll Call:

P. Loiselle	Y	G. Longfellow	Y
J. Gorton	Y	D. Ross	Y
D. Dickson	Y	P. Rueppel	Y
W. Gahara	Y	N. VanScoy	N
M. Pischetola	Y		

Vote 8:1 motion passes

Impact Fee Overage

Impact fee overage of \$198.00 was paid by Green View Builders and they have agreed to donate those funds to the Town.

P. Loiselle motioned to accept the \$198.00 from Green View Builders. Seconded by J. Gorton. Vote unanimously in favor

NEW BUSINESS

Warrant Articles Motions & Seconds

TOWN WARRANTS
Motions & Seconds
2009

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Article #3

To see if the Town will vote to raise and appropriate the sum of \$6,224,375 (Six Million Two Hundred Twenty Four Thousand Three Hundred Seventy Five Dollars) for the purpose of construction, replacement, and expansion of a portion of the Wastewater Treatment plant, and to authorize the issuance up to \$6,224,375 of bonds or notes in accordance with the provisions of the Municipal Finance Act RSA 33, and to authorize the Town Council to issue and negotiate such bonds or notes and determine the rate of interest thereon; furthermore to authorize Town Council to enter into a grant agreement with the State Revolving Loan Program whereas 50% of this bond\note will be repaid by the State of New Hampshire through the Federal STIMULUS package and the balance of not more than 50% will be paid for by sewer system development fees and sewer ratepayers. No money is to be raised by taxation. (3/5 ballot vote required) This article is contingent on the Federal Stimulus grant and if the grant is not received, this article will be null and void. RECOMMENDED BY TOWN COUNCIL (6-0), RECOMMENDED BY THE BUDGET COMMITTEE (10-0)

Note 1. This article will utilize federal stimulus funds to increase the capacity and include provisions to meet more stringent Federal and State permit requirements in the future.

Motion: Bill Sirak
Second: J. Pieroni, Budget Committee Chair
Speaker: Sid Baines, Sewer Commissioner

Article #4

Shall the Town raise and appropriate as an operating budget, not including appropriations by special warrant articles and other appropriations voted separately, the amount set forth on the budget posted with this warrant or as amended by vote of the first session, for the purposes set forth therein, totaling \$15,878,857? Should this article be defeated, the default budget shall be \$15,937,590, which is the same as last year, with certain adjustments required by previous action of Town Meeting or by law; or the governing body may hold one special meeting, in accordance with RSA 40:13, X and XVI, to take up the issue of a revised operating budget only. Note: This Article does not include special warrant articles #5 through #19. RECOMMENDED BY THE BUDGET COMMITTEE (10-0)

Note 1. The operating budget is \$58,733 less than the default budget.

Motion: J. Pieroni, Budget Committee Chair
Second: Councilor Gahara
Speaker: J. Pieroni, Budget Committee Chair

Article #5

To see if the Town will vote to approve the cost item included in the collective bargaining agreement reached between the Town of Hooksett and the Hooksett Permanent Firefighters Association Local 3264, IAFF which calls for the following increases in salaries and benefits at the current staffing level:

Estimated increase over prior year

<u>Fiscal Year</u>	<u>Salaries</u>	<u>Taxes</u>	<u>Benefits</u>
2009-10	\$48,412	\$1,053	\$54,441
2010-11	\$38,871	\$ 571	\$ 6,885

and further to raise and appropriate the sum of \$103,906 (One Hundred Three Thousand Nine Hundred Six Dollars) for the current fiscal year, such sum representing the additional costs attributable to the increase in salaries and benefits over those of the appropriation at current staffing levels paid in the prior fiscal year. RECOMMENDED BY TOWN COUNCIL (6-0), RECOMMENDED BY THE BUDGET COMMITTEE (10-0)

Note 1. Estimated tax increase is \$0.07

Motion: Councilor Dickson
Second: Councilor Loiselle
Speaker: Councilor Dickson

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Article #6

Shall the Town, if article #5 is defeated, authorize the governing body to call one special meeting, at its option, to address article #5 cost items only?

Note 1. This article is required if Article 5 is defeated.

Motion: Councilor Gahara

Second: Councilor Ross

Speaker: Councilor Gahara

Article #7

To see if the Town will vote to raise and appropriate the sum of \$75,918 (Seventy Five Thousand Nine Hundred Eighteen Dollars) for salaries and benefits to be set aside in a merit wage pool for non union full-time and part-time Town personnel.

<u>Fiscal Year</u>	<u>Salaries</u>	<u>Benefits</u>
2009-10	\$64,972	\$10,946

RECOMMENDED BY TOWN COUNCIL (8-0), RECOMMENDED BY THE BUDGET COMMITTEE (9-1)

Note 1. Estimated tax increase is \$0.05

Note 2. This article provides an average increase of 2.5% based on merit to non-union personnel.

Motion: Councilor Pischetola

Second: Councilor Ross

Speaker: Councilor Pischetola

Article #8

To see if the Town will vote to raise and appropriate the sum of \$130,000 (One Hundred Thirty Thousand Dollars) to be placed in the Town Building Maintenance Capital Reserve Fund already established. This sum to come from the General fund balance and no amount to be raised from taxation. RECOMMENDED BY TOWN COUNCIL (8-0), RECOMMENDED BY THE BUDGET COMMITTEE (10-0)

Note 1. Estimated tax increase is \$0.00

Note 2. Balance held by the Trustees as of February 28, 2009 for this fund is \$87,922.30

Note 3. This reserve fund will be used for maintenance required at all town facilities to include preventive maintenance with focus on energy efficiency.

Motion: Councilor Loiselle

Second: Councilor Dickson

Speaker: Councilor Loiselle

Article #9

To see if the Town will vote to raise and appropriate the sum of \$64,000 (Sixty Four Thousand Dollars) for the completion of repairs to the northeast retaining wall located at the corner of Martins Ferry Road and North River Road. This sum to come from the General fund balance and no amount to be raised from taxation. RECOMMENDED BY TOWN COUNCIL (8-0), RECOMMENDED BY THE BUDGET COMMITTEE (10-0)

Note 1. Estimated tax increase is \$0.00

Note 2. This article is to repair the east side of the retaining wall of the Martins Ferry Bridge; the west side of the bridge was repaired in 2008.

Motion: Councilor Longfellow

Second: Councilor Gahara

Speaker: Councilor Longfellow

Article #10

To see if the Town will vote to raise and appropriate the sum of \$10,000 (Ten Thousand Dollars) to be placed in the Town-Wide Computer Development Capital Reserve Fund already established. RECOMMENDED BY TOWN COUNCIL (8-0), RECOMMENDED BY THE BUDGET COMMITTEE (10-0)

Note 1. Estimated tax increase is \$0.01

Note 2. Balance held by the Trustees as of February 28, 2009 for this fund is \$4,419.82

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Note 3. Funds required to address computer needs to include update of outdated DOS based financial system, proper computer licensing compliance and computer upgrades.

Motion: Councilor VanScoy
Second: Councilor Pischetola
Speaker: Councilor VanScoy

Article #11

To see if the Town will vote to raise and appropriate the sum of \$40,000 (Forty Thousand Dollars) to be placed in the Town Revaluation Capital Reserve Fund already established. RECOMMENDED BY TOWN COUNCIL (8-0), RECOMMENDED BY THE BUDGET COMMITTEE (10-0)

Note 1. Estimated tax increase is \$0.03

Note 2. Balance held by the Trustees as of February 28, 2009 for this fund is \$2,714.10.

Note 3. A town-wide revaluation is mandatory every five (5) years with a total cost of \$200,000.

This reserve fund saves \$40,000 per year towards the total cost.

Motion: Councilor Ross
Second: Councilor VanScoy
Speaker: Councilor Ross

Article #12

To see if the Town will vote to establish a capital reserve fund under the provision of RSA 35:1 for the purpose of updating the Town of Hooksett's Master Plan and to raise and appropriate the sum of \$10,000 (Ten Thousand Dollars) to be placed in this fund, and to name the Town Administrator as the agent to expend. RECOMMENDED BY TOWN COUNCIL (8-0), RECOMMENDED BY THE BUDGET COMMITTEE (9-1)

Note 1. Estimated tax increase is \$0.01

Note 2. The Master Plan was last updated in 2004; funds would be allocated to begin work on the next update; Grants are available for projects when they are in compliance with updated Master Plans.

Motion: Councilor VanScoy
Second: Councilor Pischetola
Speaker: Councilor VanScoy

Article #13

To see if the Town will vote to establish a capital reserve fund under the provision of RSA 35:1 for the purpose of a Road Impact Fee Traffic Study and to raise and appropriate the sum of \$34,000 (Thirty Four Thousand Dollars) to be placed in this fund, and to name the Town Administrator as the agent to expend. RECOMMENDED BY TOWN COUNCIL (8-0), RECOMMENDED BY THE BUDGET COMMITTEE (10-0)

Note 1. Estimated tax increase is \$0.02

Note 2. A study is required before roadway impact fees may be spent and the town must refund fees if they are not spent within (6) years.

Motion: Councilor Gahara
Second: Councilor VanScoy
Speaker: Councilor Gahara

Article #14

To see if the Town will vote to raise and appropriate the sum of \$10,000 (Ten Thousand Dollars) to be placed in the Fire Cistern Capital Reserve Fund already established. RECOMMENDED BY TOWN COUNCIL (8-0), RECOMMENDED BY THE BUDGET COMMITTEE (10-0)

Note 1. Estimated tax increase is \$0.01

Note 2. Balance held by the Trustees as of February 28, 2009 for this fund is \$10,199.95

Note 3. This reserve fund is for major repairs to the fire cisterns that provide water in remote areas of the community.

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Motion: Councilor Dickson

Second: Councilor Gahara

Speaker: Councilor Dickson

Article #15

To see if the Town will vote to raise and appropriate the sum of \$10,000 (Ten Thousand Dollars) to be placed in the Parks and Recreation Facilities Development Capital Reserve Fund already established. RECOMMENDED BY TOWN COUNCIL (8-0), NOT RECOMMENDED BY THE BUDGET COMMITTEE (2-8)

Note 1. Estimated tax increase is \$0.01

Note 2. Balance held by the Trustees as of February 28, 2009 for this fund is \$81,222.55

Note 3. This reserve fund is utilized for improvement of facilities or to create additional facilities.

Motion: Councilor Longfellow

Second: Councilor Loiselle

Speaker: Councilor Longfellow

Article #16

To see if the Town will vote to raise and appropriate the sum of \$10,000 (Ten Thousand Dollars) to be placed in the Emergency Radio Communication Development Capital Reserve Fund already established. RECOMMENDED BY TOWN COUNCIL (8-0), NOT RECOMMENDED BY THE BUDGET COMMITTEE (1-9)

Note 1. Estimated tax increase is \$0.01

Note 2. Balance held by the Trustees as of February 28, 2009 for this fund is \$168,521.2.

Note 3. The purpose is to replace obsolete equipment and expand the system as it pertains to community growth.

Motion: Councilor Pischetola

Second: Councilor VanScoy

Speaker: Councilor Pischetola

Article #17

To see if the Town will vote to raise and appropriate the sum of \$140,000 (One Hundred Forty Thousand Dollars) to purchase a Plow Dump Truck for the Highway Department. RECOMMENDED BY TOWN COUNCIL (7-1), RECOMMENDED BY THE BUDGET COMMITTEE (6-4)

Note 1. Estimated tax increase is \$0.07

Note 2. This will replace a 2000 Freightliner Plow truck that has had two transmissions replaced and various other mechanical issues.

Motion: Councilor Loiselle

Second: Councilor Gahara

Speaker: Councilor Loiselle

Article #18

To see if the Town will vote to raise and appropriate the sum of \$31,955 (Thirty One Thousand Nine Hundred Fifty Five Dollars) for the salary, benefits and taxes for a full-time Children's Librarian for the Hooksett Public Library. This appropriation is for six months of the first year's wages, as the employee will be hired in the last six months of the 2009-10 fiscal year. Should this warrant article pass, the full annual amount for salary and benefits will be included in subsequent operating budgets.

<u>Fiscal Year</u>	<u>Salaries</u>	<u>Taxes</u>	<u>Benefits</u>
2009-10	\$19,500	\$1,492	\$10,963

RECOMMENDED BY TOWN COUNCIL (6-2), RECOMMENDED BY THE BUDGET COMMITTEE (10-0)

Note 1. Estimated tax increase is \$0.02

Note 2. This is a new position that will not be hired until January and then be funded for a full year the next year.

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Motion: Councilor Ross

Second: Councilor VanScoy

Speaker: Councilor Ross

Article #19

To see if the Town will vote to raise and appropriate the sum of \$20,000 (Twenty Thousand Dollars) to be placed in the Fire Air Packs & Bottles Capital Reserve Fund already established.

RECOMMENDED BY TOWN COUNCIL (6-2), RECOMMENDED BY THE BUDGET COMMITTEE (7-3)

Note 1 Estimated tax increase is \$0.01

Note 2. Balance held by the Trustees as of February 28, 2009 for this fund is \$69,289.63

Note 3. Life expectancy for Air Packs are 15 years and are replaced to meet new standards, total cost to replace entire department inventory is approximately \$250,000.

Motion: Councilor Gahara

Second: Councilor Ross

Speaker: Councilor Gahara

Article #20

Shall we adopt provisions of RSA 31:95-c to restrict 100% of revenue from the Town of Hooksett Comcast Franchise fees to expenditures for the purpose of establishing and operating Public Access (PEG) television service for Hooksett. Such revenues and expenditures shall be accounted for in a special revenue fund to be known as the "Town of Hooksett Public TV Access" fund separate from the general fund. Any surplus in said funds shall be expended only after a vote of the legislative body to appropriate a specific amount from said fund for a specific purpose related to the purpose of the fund or source of revenue. SUBMITTED BY PETITION.

Note 1. This petitioned article designates funds to a specific account to be used to establish Public Access. Franchise fees are currently put into the General Fund.

Motion: N. VanScoy

Second: M. Pischetola

Speaker: N. VanScoy

Bond Reduction – MTS Associates

C. Granfield: MTS Associates provided a bond in the amount of \$102,909.60 for site work completion. It's recommended it be reduce from \$102,909.60 to \$82,164.00 by Stantec.

G. Longfellow motioned to reduce the MTS Associates bond for Site Work Compliance by \$20,745.60. Seconded by N. VanScoy.

Vote unanimously in favor

Other New Business

N. VanScoy: We never came back to talking about the dam work on Route 3 and the work to be done in the Beauchesne Development. I particularly wanted to talk about the dam that was brought up earlier but not discussed. Now Dale has left, have you had a chance to talk to him about that?

C. Granfield: No, I have not. I thought it was going to be discussed earlier while he was here.

N. VanScoy: This is a sewer line on Route 3, which is a newer sewer line than what is in the Beauchesne development now. As it was explained to me, when the new sewer line was put down, it was put down with the clean rock underneath and wrapping of landscaping fiber and it is running into a wall of dirt because we did not use to require this nice flow of rock. The water runs through the rock and hits the dirt and there is no place for the water to go. It was recommended by Stantec to look into, and not so much to spend the money to research whether or not this was causing a problem because the likelihood was high that it was contributing to the problem. Dan said, I hate to minimize it, but he did say it was a half-day job. To be realistic, it's probably a day job. I think it's something to consider. If it can ease that water and be done immediately, we should at least consider it.

D. Dickson: I recommended that we have C. Granfield speak with Dale and include it in her next update to the Council.

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D. Ross: I want to clarify; it is not really a dam. It is just stopping the water from entering the gravel sleeve that the pipe is in. There is no real damming. They just call it damming. Also, I wanted to let the people know that if there is anything that could be done easily, and within his (Dale's) parameter of time, if there were any quick fixes that could help some of these people out, it would be good to have him do so. He talked about the back of his mother's house, if there is something he can do to help these people in anyway, it would be good.

P. Loiselle: The issue that we are addressing at Beauchesne's needs to be discussed at length with this Council. Certain portions of that development will take \$300,000 to well over half a million dollars to correct. Once the study is done, there will be a question of if we don't have the money to correct this, why did we do the study. We may have to put it in a warrant article. If we go down this road, I have a real concern that we're establishing precedence.

TOWN ADMINISTRATOR'S REPORT – C. Granfield

- The Council requested a letter be sent to the Planning Board asking them to remove one of the amendments pertaining to signage. The Planning Board reviewed that at their last meeting and made a motion, which failed so that is staying on the ballot.
- Information regarding the property at 9 Granite St. was given to the Council. We have been contacted by the foreclosure company who would like to deed it to the Town. We reviewed it and I can provide the Council with information but it is something that isn't in the best interest of the Town. The house needs to be demolished and they should consider doing a lot line adjustment and deed the property to the surrounding neighbors. The Town really doesn't have any use for it. More information can be provided
- I want to report that I brought up the Metro PCS cell tower that was interested in leasing land from the Town. Dale and I are meeting this Friday to review the site. I will provide the Council with the exact location if anyone is interested in coming. An email will be sent to the Councilors. I'm getting information from Manchester on their current leases.
- Today (March 25) is the first day for filing for open position. The filing deadline is April 3rd. We have notified all incumbents. The following positions are open:
 - Town Councilor District 1
 - Town Councilor District 4
 - Town Councilor At Large

 - Budget Committee (3) 3 year terms
 - Budget Committee (2) 2 year terms
 - Cemetery Commission (1)
 - Library Trustee (2)
 - Town Moderator
 - Sewer Commissioner (1)
 - Supervisor of Checklist (2)
 - Trustee of Trust Fund

Anyone interested can file with the Town Clerk. The Administrators Office has a booklet, which explains the duties and responsibilities of the positions.

N. VanScoy asked about Al Dionne's medical condition.

H. Murray reported that he is home and doing better.

D. Ross asked to have the issue regarding 9 Granite Street placed on the next agenda.

P. Rueppel asked if there was any new information regarding interns from St. Anslms

C. Granfield stated she has been in contact with the college and is waiting for a response.

P. Loiselle asked if we had heard anything from the disable individual who had inquired about tax relief at a prior meeting.

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C. Granfield stated that he has provided information to the Assessing Office.

SUB-COMMITTEE REPORTS

D. Ross: A public hearing is coming up on the Conservation Commission on property soon.

J. Gorton: I want to report that the ZBA has a total of three (3) members, plus the Council Rep. that signed up for this year's Land Use Seminar in Manchester.

N. VanScoy: The Planning Board did vote to send the sign amendment back. I wanted to report that the EDC stated they didn't have a problem with the sign ordinance amendment. There was a lot going on with the CIP. Much was discussed with regard to responsibility and reporting to Council and how it reads in the Charter. There is concern with the existing CIP and they wanted to be reappointed to make changes to the handbook. They were not reappointed but they plan to meet as an unofficial group and discuss changes and present them to the Planning Board. The CIP Committee is an Advisory Committee of the Planning Board. With that in mind, there was concern with how much time the CIP Committee had and how many meetings they had. There seems to be a need to look at scheduling meetings and the timetable. They did appoint Mike Sorel to be the Planning Board Rep to the Conservation Commission. Harmony Place was approved. I mentioned to the EDC but I wanted to bring it up to this Council about this property, that we all know as Park Place and Peterbrook, which are the two hotels that sit on Route 3. Both lots have people interested in developing on them. It will bring Mixed Use in the Performance Zone, having some residential and commercial use. It is something I support because it would like to see those lots look better than they do now. If someone is willing to invest in those properties, it should be considered. I ask that you to support that, if you have a strong opinion, I would like to hear it as the Council Rep. to the Planning Board. If you look at that particular site, there is a duplex on the corner and they want to renovate and rent it out. In the back, there are 8 apartments, which they would like to use as well, and putting a commercial building in the front. They both have Mixed Use in common in the PZ zone. It is worth looking at. I certainly would like to see our town look better.

J. Gorton: Did I understand you to say that they did not reappoint the CIP?

N. VanScoy: That is correct. They felt it was a little early to reappoint that Committee.

J. Gorton: Regarding the letter, there was a question asked by the chair why I was opposed to the amendment. Was that answered?

N. VanScoy: I thought it was because people brought it up to you as a concern.

G. Longfellow: I got a call from K. Northrup and someone appointed her to a subcommittee of the EDC and she hasn't heard anything from anyone.

P. Loiselle: I think she was asked to provide some information. It wasn't a committee appointment.

M. Pischetola: Why did we receive this packet of information from the Police?

C. Granfield: I will look into it.

Public Input
None

ADJOURNMENT

***P. Loiselle motioned to adjourn the meeting. Seconded by B. Gahara.
Vote unanimously in favor***

Respectfully submitted,

Lee Ann Moynihan

Nancy VanScoy
Town Council Secretary