

Official

TOWN COUNCIL MINUTES Regular Meeting Wednesday, September 12, 2012

CALL TO ORDER: Chair J. Sullivan called the meeting to order at 6:30 pm.

PRESENT: Leslie Boswak, Nancy Comai, John Danforth, Michael Downer (excused), Vincent Lembo, James Levesque (excused), Todd Lizotte, Susan Lovas Orr, Chairman James Sullivan and Dr. Dean E. Shankle, Jr. (Town Administrator)

PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

APPROVAL OF MINUTES

August 22, 2012 – *V. Lembo moved to approve the August 22, 2012 minutes as amended. Motion seconded by T. Lizotte . Motion carried.*

August 22, 2012 Non-Public – *V. Lembo moved to approve the August 22, 2012 non-public minutes. Motion seconded by T. Lizotte. Motion carried.*

CONSENT AGENDA

Surety Bond Releases

1. SNHU North River Road Sidewalk - \$19,481.40
2. SNHU Softball Parking Lot - \$26,039.88
3. SNHU Maintenance Facility - \$316,405.80

T. Lizotte moved to approve the consent agenda. Motion seconded by J. Danforth. Motion carried unanimously.

TOWN ADMINISTRATOR'S REPORT

Dr. Shankle informed the Council of the following:

1. Mosquito spraying will not be done on Saturday, September 15th as announced earlier. One of the people that need to sign the permit is out on vacation. An announcement will be made.
2. Tax Collector Kim Blichmann became a certified Tax Collector.
3. Union negotiation is ongoing, next meeting is scheduled on Monday, September 17th.
4. Working on reorganization, specifically, Town Clerk.
5. Economic Development Committee met today.
6. Cable Franchise Advisory Committee will meet on September 20th.
7. The Historical Society building/Arah Prescott Library will be made handicap accessible.

N. Comai asked about the timeline on the Hackett Hill intersection project.

Dr. Shankle stated he will have an idea after the meeting with DOT sometime this week.

T. Lizotte requested for something in writing stating that Walmart impact fees will be used to pay for a portion of the Route 3A improvement project.

PUBLIC INPUT

Frank Kotowski, State Representative (with Rep. Todd Smith): We are here tonight because we felt we need to provide some input relative to the PSSG presentation that was going to be made tonight. We would like to be put on notice as to when will you be hearing that. We think we have good information to offer you. We keep things very much to ourselves until such time as we feel you need to know about

things. Please notify Todd and I when you will be hearing that issue. We think we have some words of advice for the Council.

Chair Sullivan explained that Police Commission and PSSG was kept on the agenda so the Council could have a discussion on the matter.

James Gorton, 150 W. River Road: A quick update on Councilor James Levesque. He was transferred from Dartmouth Hitchcock to Catholic Medical Center. They feel they have the infection causing pain under control. He is at CMC to start physical therapy.

On behalf of the Council, Chair Sullivan wished Councilor Levesque the best.

NOMINATIONS AND APPOINTMENTS

Nomination

Town Hall Preservation Committee – ***J. Danforth nominated Kathie Northrup.***

Appointments

Conservation Commission

T. Lizotte moved to appoint JoCarol Gau as an alternate member exp. 6/2014. Motion seconded by V. Lembo. Motion carried unanimously.

Parks & Recreation Advisory Board

N. Comai moved to appoint Thomas R. Prasol. Motion seconded by T. Lizotte. Motion carried unanimously.

Planning Board

Thomas R. Prasol was nominated at the last meeting and was scheduled to be appointed this evening. The Planning Board asked to review the application before appointing Mr. Prasol.

V. Lembo moved to table the appointment. Motion seconded by T. Lizotte. Motion carried.

SCHEDULED APPOINTMENTS

Public Hearing

Acceptance of Grant from NH State Council on the Arts in the amount of \$6,300 per RSA 31:95-b.

The public hearing was opened at 6:57 pm.

Kathie Northrup, Heritage Commission Chair: I wrote the grant so obviously, I would ask you to accept. Just a quick update, the conservators from Chicago may be able to start the work as soon as October 11th.

The public hearing will remain open until the 2nd public input portion of the meeting.

Acceptance of Donation from Hooksett Kiwanis in the form of an air conditioner system for the Food Pantry valued at \$7,299 per RSA 31:95-e.

The public hearing was opened at 7:00 pm.

Thomas Young, Kiwanis President stated they received an anonymous donation for the air conditioning system for the Food Pantry after The Council denied Kiwanis' request to encumber funds for this purpose. They are in turn donating the system to the Town.

The public hearing will remain open until the 2nd public input portion of the meeting.

Police Department Update

The Police Commission and Public Safety Strategies Group (PSSG) were invited to attend tonight's meeting.

Chair Sullivan stated he received a call on Monday from Commissioner McHugh to let him know the Police Commission will not be able to attend the meeting. She also indicated, *“Coming to the council at this point would take away their ability to concentrate on the task at hand, which is to find a permanent Police Chief.”*

Kym Craven, Public Safety Strategies Group (PSSG) also sent an e-mail saying she was asked by the Police Commission to delay the presentation to the Council.

S. Lovas Orr: Last night at the polls, Mrs. McHugh came up to me and apologized for not being able to come and I suggested to her that the Council would very much appreciate getting some type of an update even if it was in writing or via e-mail. She said she would do that but unfortunately it won't be able to make it in time for this meeting. She would work on it as quickly as she could.

L. Boswak: I have a concern with them not appearing. It's not even the commission because they were not the ones invited, it's PSSG. The reason why I brought this up is that this has been a controversial subject that has divided this Town very deeply. PSSG is done in 3 months. My understanding is that they will be working with the new Chief. We're being put off until probably October. If you look at their minutes, they are falling further and further behind. I attended their August 21st meeting. They had 8 public meeting minutes to be approved. They approved 2 or 3. They have 24 unapproved non-public minutes going back to 9/20/11. We are nine people and we're able to get the business done. The SOP's being just made current. 12 SOP's were tabled. It seems everything is just being put off. We see action being taken but no discussion leading up to this is happening in a public meeting. The search for the Police Chief was never discussed and all of a sudden we have LGC appearing before the commission to discuss the search. This is not non-public stuff. Another thing is they changed the authority for the Police Chief. They took away authorities from the Chief and the commission approves policies for day to day operations. This is not standard. The way they are taking away authority from the Police Chief, there's no way we can attract a high quality Police Chief. You're going to end up with someone who will put their feet up on the desk and let the Police Commission micro-manage them. There are only 6 towns in the state with a Police Commission. I think the work has become too much for them. I have a lot of concerns. At the meeting, at one point Commissioner Karolian passed a note to Chair McHugh then she passed it to Commissioner Scherer. You can't have conversations out of the public eye. We're here to do public business. Everything has to be public.

V. Lembo: PSSG was invited. They sent us the report. They were ready, willing and able to present a report. They were told not to come. Just like last meeting, the commission was asked to attend a non-public meeting with the Town Attorney to discuss a case, not one of them showed up. I've been asking for the last 2 years to have the commission come before the Council to share what's going on over there. They have refused and now they're refusing again. I think it's a slap in the face for this Council. It's an insult to the citizens and taxpayers of this Town.

N. Comai: If there are that many non-public issues, then we do have a problem over there. It may not be the commission. It appears to me that Kym Craven (PSSG) sent an e-mail on 8/22 stating she would be happy to come and what time would be good. Through the string of e-mail it doesn't appear the commission and PSSG did not coordinate on what time they are coming in. Then we get an e-mail saying that the commission was not able to come. We do need to have these things in public. We cannot be having all these discussion and blanket e-mails.

T. Lizotte: I've got a little bit different view of this. I try to extract myself away from the politics and look at the events. The Town Council shouldn't be shocked about the timeline. When they came before the Council for the budget, the Council was told they were going to hire PSSG, utilize the Chief's salary and put an Acting Chief into place in order to implement the audit, which in itself is a pretty substantial task. They are basically bringing it from the ground up. They came before us and said that the timeline would be this year. I've read the minutes from 2000 to try to get an idea of how we got to where we are. The Chief resigned in January. They couldn't do anything until they settle that. We gave them 2 possible dates, the 12th and the 26th. They can't make it tonight. The next meeting is the 26th. Is it really that pressing of an issue? I think we should step back, get our questions down. I think pointed questions are

on the table when they come before us. We owe it to them to at least explain it to us. Why don't we set up a special meeting?

Chair Sullivan: We ran for Council because we want to make sure things are done properly. When questions are asked and there are no answers, people starts wondering what's going on. The original request was 8/22. The Town Administrator sent 2 possible dates. Kym responded on the 23rd that the 12th would work. In all these e-mails, Mrs. McHugh was always cc'd. Then two weeks later, two days before the meeting, Mrs. McHugh said they couldn't make it and PSSG could not make it as well. Mrs. McHugh was not out of the loop. We need to get them in here. There has been very little discussion. The last time they were here, I remember asking Chair McHugh about the search for the new Police Chief. I believe her answer was, "*We have not discussed that yet.*" Discussion of that magnitude needs to be out in public. If we had waited nine months to start discussion on hiring a new Town Administrator, I don't think that would have gone well. I assume many of these people came to get some answers. And the questions can't be answered by us. It needs to be answered by the Police Commission.

L. Boswak: At the Police Commission meeting of 8/21, I mentioned to them about this PSSG presentation and they were all supportive of it. When they came before the Council on 3/28, I asked what was going on with the command staff. Commissioner Karolian completely side stepped that. The commission had a meeting that day and adjourned at 6:35 pm. They left that meeting and came here. At that meeting they promoted a couple of officers. They have taken care of the command staff at that meeting. They couldn't even tell us that. I don't understand the secrecy. It is unacceptable.

V. Lembo: I disagree with Councilor Lizotte. First of all, the Police Commission was not invited, PSSG was invited. They accepted the invitation and said they were looking forward to updating the Council. They submitted a report. I've got a lot of questions. Two days before this meeting, Mrs. McHugh told them not to come. That is ridiculous. I feel sorry for Captain Daigle. He's the reason morale is high again. I don't care about the commission anymore. They are not going to share anything with us.

T. Lizotte: We've had them before us a number of times. You can check the minutes. They said 3rd quarter, they are going to be here.

Chair Sullivan: They were given 2 dates to come and attend. That's the thing that bothers me. Yes, they are very busy. I'm busy too. I don't walk very well. If they don't have time, then they can take over my position and I'll take theirs. I think we need to get them in here sooner than later. Until they come in we can't get those answers. If they are not willing to come in, it creates tension here at the Council.

J. Danforth: What has come up that is more important than filling the position of the Police Chief. I have to respectfully disagree. It's not their consultant, it's our consultant. There's no reason they can't come here. I want to know what's more important that the leader of the department.

S. Lovas Orr: I agree 100% it was kind of a slap to say they will be here and at the last minute, they can't make it. My intent on having the commission and PSSG is so we can work together. If they are overworked, as a Council we would offer our help. Where is our place with the Police Commission? Do we have authority over them, other than appointing them? Who oversees them after they are appointed? If we have these concerns, we need to figure out how we can fix it.

N. Comai: I would like clarification that Mrs. McHugh confirmed she was coming and cancelled at the last minute? Based on the e-mails, it was never stated she accepted the invitation.

T. Lizotte moved to request Dr. Shankle to work with the Chair of the Police Commission and PSSG to find a date between today, September 12th and September 26th for a special meeting to cover the status of the Police Department, including the progress of the consulting party, PSSG in carrying out rebuilding efforts outlined in the audit as well as the Police Commission's timing on selecting an interim or permanent Police Chief. Motion seconded by L. Boswak.

L. Boswak: I would like to change that to the next Council meeting and we will just clear the agenda because if we are unable to attend that puts us in unfair advantage. Joanne McHugh was copied on that 8/23 e-mail. There's no way that she did not see that e-mail from August 23rd until September 10th. Waiting until Monday to notify us is not proper. They know we only meet twice a month.

L. Boswak amended the motion to offer the meeting date of September 26th. Motion seconded by S. Lovas Orr. Motion carried with V. Lembo opposed.

The original motion and second were removed.

T. Lizotte moved to request Dr. Shankle to contact the Chair of the Police Commission and PSSG to schedule their appearance on the Town Council September 26th meeting and to place it on the agenda as two separate agenda items to provide perspective on the Police Commission's overview of the progress of the consulting party, PSSG, PSSG's own view of their carrying out the rebuilding efforts outline in the audit as well as Police Commission's timing on selecting an interim or permanent Police Chief. Motion seconded by L. Boswak.

Dr. Shankle asked clarification that the Council would like him to contact each of them, separately and invite them independently to the meeting.

S. Lovas Orr: We should contact PSSG and invite them to attend the meeting to present a report whether the Police Commission is coming or not and we can cc the commission.

Motion carried unanimously.

N. Comai moved for the Town Administrator to collect questions from the Councilors to be answered by the Police Commission prior to the meeting. Motion seconded by T. Lizotte.

N. Comai: I think it's fair to give them the questions ahead of time to give them time to gather information.

Chair Sullivan: Councilors could send their questions ahead of time if they want to.

V. Lembo: They could answer any questions I have. I am against giving them the questions ahead of time.

S. Lovas Orr: They should be able to answer the questions I have. I'm not going to pre-submit any questions.

T. Lizotte removed his second. N. Comai removed her motion.

V. Lembo moved to make a no confidence vote in the Police Commission from the Council. Motion seconded by T. Lizotte.

T. Lizotte: I agree with Councilor Lembo. I would support a motion of "no confidence" in order to put them on notice that we're serious. However, if we do this, when they come forward, we're not here to attack them. We're here to find out the information and reach out.

S. Lovas Orr: What is the implication of this vote? Are we saying that we will act to dissolve the commission if we do not get the answers we want or if they don't meet with us.

N. Comai: I personally, am not willing as a Councilor to take more time to do what they're doing. I don't think we need these answers right now. We should allow the process to take its place. If we don't, it will be on our laps. I am not going to vote for this.

L. Boswak: I believe that a vote of no confidence means we're not confident in the work they are doing up to this point. It does not mean, we're asking for their resignations. We've hired PSSG. These people are

professional. We have a management in place. It's Captain Daigle who turned the department around. They have taken away authority from the Police Chief. We have to attract the best possible applicants.

T. Lizotte removed his second.

L. Boswak seconded the motion to make a no confidence vote in the Police Commission.

T. Lizotte moved to table the motion until the next meeting. Motion seconded by N. Comai.

Roll call vote

S. Lovas Orr	No		
L. Boswak	No		
N. Comai	Yes		
J. Danforth	No		
V. Lembo	No		
T. Lizotte	Yes		
Chair Sullivan	No	2-5	<u>Motion failed.</u>

Further discussion on the matter ensued.

L. Boswak moved to call the question. Motion seconded by V. Lembo.

Roll call vote

T. Lizotte	No		
S. Lovas Orr	No		
L. Boswak	Yes		
N. Comai	No		
J. Danforth	Yes		
V. Lembo	Yes		
Chair Sullivan	No	3-4	<u>Motion failed.</u>

T. Lizotte: Speaking to this particular motion. I offered to table it so we can have PSSG and the Police Commission come before us, with a hammer hanging over that if they don't provide the information, there will be ramifications. I hope we all understand the ramification of the vote. We could be 3 commissioners less but I'm willing to walk that.

L. Boswak: As far as the motion, I believe we're voting on the confidence on the job they have done up to this point. They are not doing public business in public. They are keeping the citizens out of the loop. They are doing thing to damage the position of the Chief. They are micro-managing the department. That's not their job. Their job is to govern, no different than us. I'm not confident on what they're doing.

S. Lovas Orr: I'm concerned about all those non-public meetings. I'd like to hear their reasoning before I place a no confidence vote.

S. Lovas Orr referred to the AOM's, which was read into the record.

July 1, 2009

Rules and regulations for the government of the Town of Hooksett Police Department are promulgated by the Police Commission as authorized in State Law Chapter 412, acts of 1975. These rules and regulations are found in Chapter 1 of the Administration and Operations Manual, known as AOM. The effective dates of these rules and regulations shall be indicated by the signature date. The rules and regulations remain in force and effect until amended or rescinded. The Chief of Police in accordance to RSA 105:2-a, shall have full authority to implement and in directive system and to issue any directive or order as is deemed necessary for the proper administration and operation of the Police Department. Signed by Commissioners, Gagnon, Roy and McHugh, dated August 4, 2009.

July 17, 2012

Pursuant to 1975 NH Law 412, a special legislative act establishing the Police Commission for the Town of Hooksett, the Hooksett Police Commission shall promulgate and enforce all rules of the government of the Police Force. The effective date of these rules shall be indicated by the signature date. These rules and regulations shall remain in force and effect until amended or rescinded. The Chief of Police may issue lawful orders consistent with these rules and regulations as necessary for the proper administration and operation of the department. Any such order shall not become part of these rules and regulations until approved by the Police Commission. Signed by Commissioners McHugh (7/17/12), Karolian (7/20/12) and Scherer (7/17/12).

V. Lembo moved to call the question. Motion seconded by T. Lizotte. Roll call vote carried unanimously.

Roll call vote on the motion to vote “no confidence”.

V. Lembo	Yes		
T. Lizotte	No		
S. Lovas Orr	No		
L. Boswak	Yes		
N. Comai	No		
J. Danforth	Yes		
Chair Sullivan	Yes	4-3	<u>Motion carried.</u>

Hale Avenue Drainage Issue

Miles Gerrish, 31 Hale Avenue and Scott Dearborn, 30 Hale Avenue informed the Council of the drainage issue on their property that has been going on for some period of time and has gotten progressively worse. The issue started years ago when a culvert and a drainage system was installed in the area.

Dr. Shankle stated the area is jurisdictional wetlands. The property owner was bringing fill into wetlands, which is a violation. He added it would be a mistake for the Town to get involved in this issue.

Leo Lessard, DPW Director stated he could bring the drain pipe to the edge of Mr. Gerrish's grass line, which is already encroaching into the wetlands. Mr. Gerrish wanted to bring it further. The reason why the water is coming up from the catch basin now and going over their land is because they filled the 12" outlet pipe the Town installed years ago. The grass line is as far as they can go.

L. Boswak suggested for the Town Administrator and DPW Director to talk to DES and check into what can be done.

Dr. Shankle: It is on the record that you guys filled the wetlands there. DES may reconstruct the wetlands that were taken. We'll spend the money to do tests and when we give it to DES, that's going to be out of our hands.

L. Lessard: The Town caused the problem when the catch basins were put in years ago in front of the house and outlet it out. It was done that way years ago when permits and easements were not needed. Towns were able put a drain pipe and get away with it. Today, you can replace them but not add to them. The work on Mammoth road made the problem worse.

Dr. Shankle: Just to clarify, the Town did not cause the problem. It was whoever put the houses there that caused the problem. The Town tried to fix it when they put the drain pipes in.

L. Lessard: I would weld that grate down to the frame until we get the quotes, which could take up to 5 months. The engineering firm (Keach Nordstrom) that worked on the development would have more information on this. I'd like to go through them instead of Stantec with the Council's permission.

The Council consensus was to put a temporary fix on the grate and move forward to get some quotes on a permanent fix.

Dr. Shankle clarified that a year ago the DPW Director checked into the issue and worked on it.

OLD BUSINESS

Town Clerk

Dr. Shankle presented a draft job description for the Town Clerk for their review.

L. Boswak requested for the Town Administrator to obtain a legal opinion if the Charter could be amended to add the additional responsibilities for the Town Clerk. The Town Clerk is not required to do more than what's stated on the RSA.

S. Lovas Orr moved to table until the next meeting. Motion seconded by T. Lizotte. Motion carried unanimously.

Pinnacle Park Rules & Regulations

The amended Park Rules and Regulations were presented to the Council.

S. Lovas Orr: I think “*No motorized vehicles are allowed on trails.*” is sufficient.

T. Lizotte moved to approve the Pinnacle Park Rules and Regulations as amended. Motions seconded by S. Lovas Orr. Motion carried unanimously.

Ehlers' Property

Dr. Shankle stated that the Ehlers, Conservation Commission and the Town Administrator all agreed to discontinue the use of the trail that is identified on the maps as “Old Pinnacle Road” and use signage and other natural means to re-route hikers.

The Conservation Commission will use funds earmarked for the fence to redirect trail.

Eileen Ehlers: We are very pleased with the resolution. I think it's going to be a good cost saving solution. My concern is the timeline, when will the old trail be closed? I hope it happens in a reasonable amount of time.

T. Lizotte: Conservation Commission voted to recommend this approach.

T. Lizotte moved to accept the Pinnacle solution concept agreed by the Town Administrator and Mr. and Mrs. Ehlers, which includes the formation of a new trail that will cross above the ledge and provide natural barriers to redirect people away from the existing perimeter trail that abuts the properties from the eastside of Ardon Drive, furthermore designating Dr. Shankle to work with the Conservation Commission to develop a detailed plan, list of tasks and timeline milestones for such a trail and barriers to be put in place and to provide the plan by the meeting of September 26th for approval of the Town Council. Motion seconded by S. Lovas Orr.

T. Lizotte: The Conservation Commission does not meet until the 26th. I am going to request for a special meeting to get a plan and timeline together.

Bob Ehlers: I want to thank everyone for all the hard work they put into this. I think people do not give you enough credit for what you do. I appreciate all you do. I just want to make sure that the ends and the caps of the trail are really noticeable and the redirecting of the trail does not become optional. We are in agreement with what you've come up with.

N. Comai moved to remove the original motion from table. Motion seconded by T. Lizotte. Motion carried unanimously.

V. Lembo removed his original motion. N. Comai removed her second.

Motion to accept the Pinnacle solution carried unanimously.

Veterans' Memorial Park

On August 22nd, Kathie Northrup of the Heritage Commission requested for the Council's approval to rename the park. No opposition was received from the public.

Chair Sullivan moved to rename the park, "Veterans' Park at Jacob Square". Motion seconded by T. Lizotte. Motion carried.

N. Comai moved to table the Town Charter Amendments, Media Relations Policy and Right to Know Law from the agenda. Motion seconded by L. Boswak. Motion carried unanimously.

NEW BUSINESS

Quarterly Financial Report

Christine Soucie, Finance Director presented the quarterly financial report for the final quarter of 2011-2012 fiscal year. These figures are not finalized. Total General Operating fund is under expended by \$445,550. Anticipated revenues came in at \$335,424 more than expected. Motor vehicles registration ended up with additional 400-500 vehicles registered this year, \$17,761 more than last year's. Building permits came in at 132%, \$12,887 more than expected. Interest on deposits came in at 86%, \$17,248.00. State revenues came in as projected.

N. Comai moved to table Cash Receipt Policy and Council Goals. Motion seconded by V. Lembo. Motion carried unanimously.

Budget Goals for FY 2013-2014

C. Soucie: My philosophy is that the Council should set goals for the Town Administrator for guidance. The department heads should prepare their budgets based on what they need and the Town Administrator can modify according to the goals that was set by the Council.

C. Soucie presented some possible goals for the Council's review and consideration.

J. Sullivan: I heard that with the new affordable health act, the Town could be penalized for offering "Cadillac" plans.

C. Soucie: Not for another three years.

School Impact Fees Transfer

C. Soucie: Impact fees are collected at the time certificate of occupancy is issued. Every year we transfer funds to the school.

T. Lizotte moved to transfer \$85,964.17 from the School Impact Fee Special Revenue Fund to the Hooksett School District. Motion seconded by L. Boswak. Roll call vote carried unanimously.

NHMA Policy Recommendations

The conference will be held on Friday, September 21, 2012 at 9 am.

N. Comai will be representing the Council.

L. Boswak stated there are 17 other pages of policy recommendations not included in the packet.

Council consensus was to schedule a workshop on Wednesday, September 19th.

V. Lembo moved to table until September 19th. Motion seconded by S. Lovas Orr. Motion carried unanimously.

L. Boswak will send the list to the Council.

Right to Know Law

L. Boswak forwarded the Attorney General's memorandum on the Right to Know Law. She requested adding this item in a future agenda.

SUB-COMMITTEE REPORTS

Cable Franchise Advisory Board – N. Comai

The second meeting is scheduled for September 20th.

Perambulation Committee – N. Comai

Need to get some dates for perambulation.

PUBLIC INPUT

Marc Miville, 56 Main Street: It's been posted on several areas about the Budget Committee open position. It's stated on those postings that the term expires in 2014. This is an elected position it will have to expire next year. Regarding the Police Commission, we've lived through this for a long time. I've been to many, many years of Police Commission meetings. At this point, I also would like to have some type of report. I don't know why they did not show up tonight. It seems to me all of that hour and a half discussion could have been reduced to ten minutes without all the drama. The Town Council for years didn't want to have anything to do with the Police Commission. I just want to remind everybody that Chapter 412 gives exclusive authority to Police Commission to conduct their own procedures without interference from anyone including the Town Council. Whether the Council likes it or not, they can do whatever they want per the RSA. Whether they have years' worth of minutes, that's their business. There were times where the records of the minutes were atrocious. The minute taker ended up being removed. I believe they are trying to catch up ever since. Regarding the Pinnacle trail, I've been up there 3 times. It's not like Head's trail, which is flat. This one is more of a climb. The view is fantastic. The point is, the height is what matters, not the destination. Regarding the right to know, about 2 years ago, LGC was here and did a presentation.

J. Gorton: I came here for two reasons. One is because of one item on the agenda. There was a lot of discussion about it. I am very disappointed that you got a negative response from the Police Commission. I too spent a lot of times in meeting as a Council Rep to the Police Commission for a period of time. I brought back to the council a number of incidents that have occurred. It was all "poo pood" except in the eyes of a number of people. The first meeting I attended as a Council Rep I sat and listened to the Chair make a comment, "*When I was Chairman of the School Board, we used to conduct telephone polls.*" I brought that information back to the Council because to me, it's illegal. In reading their minutes, you come up with a lot of questions without any answers. When did they decide to hire LGC for the Police Chief search? I couldn't find in the minutes previous to when they announce they were going to hire LGC. Did they even have a discussion? Did they use a three bid process? I don't know. There was no mention in the minutes. I also wanted to listen to the questions to be asked of the people invited to this meeting. I'm very disappointed they didn't show up and it's not the first time they've said they weren't coming and always at the last minute. There were a number of occasions when past Councils asked the commission to attend meetings and at the last minute they say no. I just don't like that type of operation.

Public Hearing Cont.

The public hearings were closed at 10:50 pm.

The Council will officially accept the donations at the next meeting.

Chair Sullivan stated for future public hearings, we can add acceptance on the agenda.

NON-PUBLIC SESSION

No need for non-public session.

ADJOURNMENT

The meeting adjourned at 10:52 pm.

Respectfully submitted by,

Evelyn F. Horn
Administrative Assistant

John Danforth
Town Council Secretary