



**TOWN COUNCIL MINUTES UNOFFICIAL**  
**Regular Meeting**  
**Wednesday, February 24, 2016**  
**6:30 PM**  
**Council Chambers**

**1. CALL TO ORDER**

Chairman Sullivan called the meeting to order at 6:00 p.m.

**2. ROLL CALL #1**

In attendance: Councilors Donald Winterton, Tim Tsantoulis, Robert Duhaime, Marc Miville, David Ross, James Sullivan. Councilor Nancy Comai arrived at 6:05 p.m. Councilor Adam Jennings arrived at 6:20 p.m. and Councilor James Levesque arrived at 6:21 p.m.

**3. PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE**

**4. LILAC BRIDGE - PUBLIC INPUT - 30 MINUTES**

4.a Public input for the following Boards/Commissions to make their recommendations on the Lilac Bridge Preliminary Design: Village Water Commission, Sewer Commission, Heritage Commission, Historical Society. Also for general public to provide their input on the Lilac Bridge.

Chairman Sullivan indicated that following the Boards, Commissions, and public input, the Council will discuss and an additional 15 minutes of public input will follow. Town Engineer, Jim Donison stated that he had traveled around the state to local bridges and shared photos of pedestrian bridges in Manchester, Keene, Claremont and Windham.

The first photo was a bridge in Manchester, pony truss, weathered, wood, 160 feet in length, 8 feet in width and 5 feet in height. There is a left and right abutment and the steel bridge doesn't allow snowmobiles. The Keene bridge, built in 2012, is a through truss, weathered steel, 600 feet long. There are concrete abutments on each side and an arch in the middle. The objective was to look like a railroad and because it goes over a highway, they were required to include safety fencing. The weathering showed staining.

The Claremont bridge is a semi-pony with a truss on top for aesthetics. It's painted and approximately 200 feet long, 10 feet in width. A wooden deck has been in place at least six years. One end goes to a park and a nice job has been done enhancing the park. The other side is a commercial area and it swings up at the ends. No motorized vehicles allowed.

In Windham, they have a multi use pony bridge, 200 feet in length, 12 feet wide, concrete deck and weathered steel. The bridge crosses a highway so the rails are higher, full length, and includes safety fencing. The photo showed staining of the concrete

Mr. Donison put up a number of pictures of Contech pedestrian bridges indicating that multiple styles are available, including utility bridges with water and sewer running across the bridge. Different side rails and finishes are available.

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Bob Durfee, Vice President at DuBois & King (D&K), and project manager, presented a condensed version of a presentation made at the Council's workshop of February 17<sup>th</sup> with a focus on options being considered tonight. Mr. Durfee summarized the options below. An asterisk \* denotes DuBois & King's recommendation. D&K recommends both truss types.

	Alternate A		Alternate B	
<b>Truss Type</b>	<b>Pony Truss *</b>	<b>\$1,060,000</b>	<b>Through Truss *</b>	<b>+ \$150,000</b>
	lowest cost; open appearance; easier utility access but not similar to existing in appearance		second lowest cost; similar to existing in appearance; tunnel vision effect for long spans; difficult utility access	
<b>Coating</b>	<b>Weathering</b>	<b>-0-</b>	<b>Painted *</b>	<b>+ \$ 70,000</b>
	lowest cost; low maintenance; rusty appearance; rust stains on concrete; difficult to clean		visually attractive; 40-year protection; easily touched up; upfront and future maintenance costs	
<b>Decking</b>	<b>Timber</b>	<b>-0-</b>	<b>Concrete *</b>	<b>+ \$160,000</b>
	lowest initial cost; easy to replace (15-20 years); short life span; plow damage in winter; high maintenance		durable, lowest long term costs; adaptable for multi-purpose use; low maintenance; upfront cost	
<b>Bridge Width</b>	<b>10-Feet</b>	<b>-0-</b>	<b>12-Feet *</b>	<b>+ \$110,000</b>
	lowest cost; tunnel vision; limited maintenance vehicle access; restrictive for bicycle use		Comfortable; adequate for bicycle and snowmobile traffic; no maintenance vehicle restrictions; higher cost	
<b>Utility Placement</b>	<b>Hung Below *</b>	<b>\$ 370,000</b>	<b>Side Mounted</b>	<b>+ \$130,000</b>
	lowest cost; standard practice; aesthetically pleasing; protects utilities from weather and vandalism; limited access for maintenance		partial access for maintenance; more expensive; different appearance than existing historic structure; exposure to weather and vandalism	
<b>Security Fencing</b>	Not Selected	-0-	If Selected	+ \$ 25,000
	D&K believes fencing is not necessary but is something the town must consider			
<b>Lighting</b>	Not Selected	-0-	If Selected	+ \$ 75,000
	Mr. Durfee said lighting is not required for this design but is an option			
		\$1,930,000		\$1,930,000
<b>TOTAL</b>		<b>\$3,360,000</b>		<b>\$4,080,000</b>
Base Cost: repairs, demolition, approaches, engineering, and contingencies				

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58 Total project cost as recommended by D&K is \$3.7 million and would likely get approval from  
59 the NH Department of Transportation.

60  
61 Councilor Ross said that based on the span height, both designs show arches, with the pony  
62 arch more exaggerated. He asked how big a difference the arch would have to be. Mr.  
63 Durfee said the arch can be specified and the profile shows a slight arch, not more than a few  
64 inches. They need to keep a flat bridge because of the utilities. Mr. Durfee said a through  
65 truss and pony truss can be flat. Councilor Ross asked if there was a significant cost  
66 difference between controlled blast versus a cut and remove price. Based on the type of  
67 demolition or removal that has been done on the last three bridges in New Hampshire, Mr.  
68 Durfee said there is a price difference but they did not find any definitive cost for removing the

69 existing bridge. Councilor Ross then asked if there was any movement on salvage? Mr.  
70 Durfee said they had not yet advertised the sale. They are waiting for review comments from  
71 the Department of Transportation (DOT) before that can be done. Mr. Donison said the  
72 original schedule was to put it out for sale on February 22<sup>nd</sup> but must await DOT's okay.

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74 Councilor Tsantoulis asked if Mr. Durfee was aware that Comcast and FairPoint lines are  
75 attached to the bridge. Mr. Durfee said he was aware and indicated that they want to be  
76 back on the new bridge.

77  
78 In follow up to last week's discussion, Councilor Miville again brought up saving a portion of  
79 the bridge and asked if the town would have to pay for it. Mr. Durfee indicated that the  
80 Memorandum of Understanding (MOU) requires that the town do some historical presentation  
81 which could entail salvaging parts of the bridge and re-installing in the park. That will not be  
82 possible if all three spans are sold. Mr. Durfee said "we'll have to see how the 'for sale'  
83 goes". If there are no takers, parts can be salvaged for that purpose

84  
85 Chairman Sullivan opened up the discussion to Boards and Commissions. Todd Smith for  
86 the Water Precinct came forward. Councilor Winterton mentioned that it was acceptable for  
87 anyone to make no particular recommendation. Mr. Smith said the Water Precinct had no  
88 preference on truss, fencing or lighting. They would like concrete, weathered steel, outside  
89 placement of the utilities, 12 foot width, and no additional options. Mr. Smith said the  
90 Precinct took a look at the wood deck and accessibility is not as easy as it sounds. Mr. Smith  
91 also stated that the Precinct can contribute \$100,000 toward the project. If the project  
92 doesn't include connection, than their contribution would be \$80,000. Councilor Comai asked  
93 what kind of maintenance would be required to make it worthwhile to recommend side  
94 mounting of utilities. Councilor Comai suggested that very little maintenance may be required  
95 and may not be worth exposing the utilities 365 days a year. Mr. Smith was unable to  
96 provide specifics on maintenance. Town Administrator, Dean Shankle, said the cost of  
97 including a water line is \$250,000 and the Precinct is kicking in \$100,000.

98  
99 Sewer Commissioners Sidney Baines and Frank Kotowsky said "everything he [Todd Smith]  
100 said is what we want as well" -- weathered concrete, 12 feet wide, side mounted utilities.  
101 Security fencing would be a good idea. They have no preference on lighting and want to  
102 leave that to safety people. Mr. Baines said that even if decking is wood, somebody has to  
103 go underneath to unleash bolts. Mr. Donison said fasteners can be maintained from the top.  
104 Councilor Duhaime asked if the sewer and water lines could be placed on the same side of  
105 the bridge. Mr. Durfee said he did not believe there was any code requirement but putting  
106 the lines side-by-side would increase the cost for lopsided loading. In response to Councilor  
107 Tsantoulis, Mr. Baines said the sewer line has been there for 47 years and has never been  
108 maintained. Councilor Tsantoulis questioned why the Commissioners would be opposed to  
109 having the lines underneath since today's technology is probably better and maintenance  
110 hasn't been required over 47 years with the current technology. Mr. Baines said that utilities  
111 do have to be maintained and it's the rate payers that pay for it. Side mounting would be best  
112 according to the Sewer Commission. Councilor Miville asked how often the lines inspected.  
113 Mr. Baines said every five years. Councilor Miville also asked for those who say they would  
114 prefer a fence, is there a preference on how high the fence should be and is there a state  
115 preference. Chairman Sullivan said Mr. Donison "showed us many designs" and all such  
116 details can be worked out later. Mr. Durfee said D&K is recommending 4.5 foot railings which  
117 is required if the bridge is to be opened to bicyclers. Mr. Baines said the Commission agrees  
118 with D&K's recommendation but will leave that decision for the Council to decide. Councilor

119 Winterton asked if there was a fence on the Lilac Bridge now. The response was “no” and  
120 the pipes have been on the outside. Councilor Comai noted that side mounting adds an  
121 additional \$130,000 to the cost. Mr. Baines said the Sewer Commission is donating  
122 \$500,000 to this project. In response to Councilor Duhaime who asked whether \$130,000  
123 was the total for both lines, Mr. Durfee said “yes”.

124  
125 Kathie Northrup, Chair of the Heritage Commission, said that the Commission’s preferences  
126 are through truss, weathering steel, timber, 12 feet width. They are in favor of security  
127 fencing up to the top rail of the through truss (approximately 54”) because they want to keep  
128 river views open. They would prefer utilities be placed below the bridge not just for aesthetics  
129 but also because it protects the utilities and is lower cost. The Commission has no  
130 preference on lighting. Ms. Northrup said she visited one of each type of truss and the  
131 Commission’s concern was the size and scale and located adjacent to Memorial Bridge. The  
132 location of the bridge is such a high visibility spot and they want to maintain a similarity to the  
133 Lilac Bridge. She said the Keene bridge is 600 feet long; Hooksett’s bridge is 480 feet. The  
134 Singer Bridge in Manchester is three times as long. Proximity to the other bridge needs  
135 consideration. Ms. Northrup said “we don’t take advantage of the river as we should”, and  
136 the through truss is more open and creates more access. She thanked Jim Donison for  
137 getting photos of a number of bridges throughout the state. Ms. Northrup still would like to  
138 see some drawings or renderings of some kind and she would like to get another name for  
139 the bridge and not just “new bridge”. It was noted that the Memorial Bridge was built in 1976.

140  
141 Bob Thinnes, Acting President of the Historical Society, said the existing bridge name plate  
142 notes that it was built by the American Bridge Company and that plate should be part of  
143 portions to save. The Historical Society is in favor of a through truss, weathered steel, wood,  
144 12 feet but they can live with 10 feet width. They would prefer utilities on the bottom for  
145 aesthetical reasons. Fencing and lighting is up to the Council so long as it resembles the  
146 existing bridge as much as possible.

147  
148 Dr. Dean Shankle provided staff input: through truss, weathering steel, timber, and 12 feet in  
149 width are preferred. On the matter of whether utilities should be side mounted or hung below,  
150 Dr. Shankle suggested that given the money that the Sewer Commission is putting into the  
151 project, perhaps the state Division of Historic Resources could be consulted to find out if they  
152 care about the placement of utilities. It seems that would be fair. No lighting is required since  
153 “we don’t want to encourage” night time visitors. Chairman Sullivan said the state was  
154 kicking in \$600,000. Councilor Ross asked if the Sewer Commission’s financial input is  
155 contingent on the placement of the pipes. Mr. Baines said they made a commitment of  
156 \$500,000. Dr. Shankle suggested going to the state before March 10<sup>th</sup> to inquire whether or  
157 not they had a preference. He further stated that the Sewer Commission has gone over and  
158 above trying to get this done and “if the state people don’t care, it would be a nice thing to  
159 do”.

160  
161 Peter Farwell asked if this was going to be placed on the warrant. Chairman Sullivan said  
162 that it would not, and referenced the cost breakdown listed on the Council minutes of  
163 12/17/14. Mr. Farwell feels that \$3.3 million is too much and there is no reason to create a  
164 pedestrian bridge that could create security problems. He stated that the bridge has been  
165 closed for many years and no one has missed it. He said “we have a beautiful bridge that  
166 pictures can be taken from”. He suggested taking \$1.8 million, the estimated cost of a sewer-  
167 only bridge and providing it to the Conservation Commission for a park along the river.

168

169 Chairman Sullivan asked if state funds are available for the \$1.8 million sewer bridge. Dr.  
170 Shankle said the state is giving the town money to take down the old bridge. Councilor  
171 Comai noted that \$1.8 of the \$3.3 million has to be spent anyway.

172  
173 Brian Tilton, a resident who was recently appointed to the Budget Committee, said he is an  
174 avid bicyclist and rides on roads, trails. He said people have wanted this for a long time and  
175 it will be an asset to the community and improve accessibility. There will be more walking  
176 and biking. People can go from Veterans Drive to Robie's. The bridge will provide a safe,  
177 quiet connection. Mr. Tilton agrees that the bridge should be 12 feet wide. He is partial  
178 toward concrete decking and asked if composite material was considered. Mr. Durfee said a  
179 composite material is more costly than timber, probably same cost as concrete. Mr. Tilton  
180 had no preference on timber or concrete but suggested strongly that utilities be placed under  
181 the bridge to protect from the weather and vandalism. He said weathered steel is pretty  
182 universal and that fencing and lighting are not necessary and can be added at some point. Mr.  
183 Tilton asked if bollards would be placed at the entrance to the bridge and gated. Chairman  
184 Sullivan said the bollards will be removable for maintenance vehicles.

185  
186 Dennis Desrocher asked about the size of the pipes. Mr. Durfee said the current pipes are  
187 10 inches; plans are to install 12 inch pipes for future growth. Todd Smith asked about the  
188 cost. Mr. Durfee said that both Comcast and FairPoint have easement rights to be on the  
189 existing bridge and they have informed D&K that they intend to exercise that easement to be  
190 put on the new bridge. Councilor Ross said easements apply to existing things and don't  
191 transfer. A new bridge would require that a new easement be renegotiated. Dr. Shankle will  
192 find out what is required.

193

## 194 **5. LILAC BRIDGE - TOWN COUNCIL DISCUSSION**

195

196 Councilor Tsantoulis asked if the bridge would be accessible year-round and whether any  
197 thought had been given to winter maintenance. Dr. Shankle said no motorized vehicles will  
198 be allowed on the bridge. Mr. Donison said the plan would be to let the snow accumulate.  
199 Councilor Ross noted that emergency vehicles will need access. Councilor Winterton  
200 followed up on Mr. Donison's comments and felt the bridge should not be plowed. He said  
201 "people can walk over it or cross country ski to Robie's and back, and it could be a nice  
202 winter activity. Councilor Comai echoed that sentiment.

203

204 Councilors expressed their preferences as follows:

205

206 Councilor Tsantoulis prefers a pony truss because it is less expensive, weathering, timber, 12  
207 feet, utilities hung below. Councilor Tsantoulis said he looked at the pipes and they look  
208 good so maintenance can be handled as needed. Fencing and lighting can be dealt with at a  
209 later date.

210

211 Councilor Jennings likes a pony truss, weathering, concrete that has three life spans of  
212 wood., utilities on bottom, 12 feet width, no fencing, and lighting can be done later.

213

214 Councilor Duhaime prefers a through truss since it mimics the current bridge, weathering,  
215 timber, 12 foot width, utilities hung below. He feels fencing is not money well spent.  
216 Councilor Duhaime thinks that foot LED lighting might be appropriate and if the bridge re-  
217 build doesn't lead to other projects, it would be a shame. People could enjoy this. It's  
218 expensive but is an investment in the future.

219  
 220 Councilor Miville is in favor of a pony truss because it is more aesthetically pleasing and it is  
 221 time for a change, weathering coating, concrete because timber is problematic and he would  
 222 prefer the utilities be hung below, 12 foot width, no fencing, no lighting.

223  
 224 Councilor Comai would like to see a rendering of the bridge as requested by Kathie Northrup  
 225 before deciding on the truss. Other preferences include weathering, timber, for ease of  
 226 maintenance, 12 feet wide, and she likes the idea of LED lighting.

227  
 228 Chairman Sullivan would prefer a through truss with fewer cross beams on the top which  
 229 would provide the feel of the old bridge, weathering, timber, 12 feet wide. The Chairman  
 230 prefers timber if the utilities are hung below. If mounted on the side, he would prefer concrete  
 231 but it would be worth asking the state their preference. Some fencing may be necessary.

232  
 233 Councilor Winterton is in favor of a through truss and cautioned against underestimating the  
 234 power of the state on the Council's decision. It is a historical bridge. Other preferences  
 235 include weathering steel, 12-feet, timber which is \$160,000 less than concrete. Councilor  
 236 Winterton suggested establishing a Capital Reserve Fund (CRF) of \$110,000 a year, costing  
 237 taxpayers one cent apiece to accumulate funds that will become necessary in the future.  
 238 Councilor Winterton would prefer utilities hung below but agrees with Dr. Shankle that if the  
 239 state has no preference, consideration should be provided to the Sewer Commission's  
 240 preference given their generous contribution to the project. No fencing and he likes the idea  
 241 of LED lighting especially when combined with Ms. Northrup's comments about approaches  
 242 leading up to the park. Park and Recreation fees could be available.

243  
 244 Councilor Ross favors a through truss because the height will be less and it is more stable,  
 245 weathering steel, and timber which will allow "doing maintenance ourselves". He'd prefer  
 246 utilities be hung below, no fencing, and 12 foot width. Councilor Ross said this is a signature  
 247 bridge and how it looks should be the Council's main objective. He also believes there  
 248 should be lighting which would inhibit vandalism and make it safer with many boats out in the  
 249 summertime.

250  
 251 Councilor Levesque prefers a pony truss, weathering, 12 foot width, no fencing. Councilor  
 252 Levesque prefers timber decking and likes Councilor Winterton's idea of creating a fund and  
 253 having the funds necessary to replace the deck 15 or 20 years down the road. Utilities below  
 254 can be inspected in the Spring and Fall during good weather and can be done by boat.  
 255 Lighting would be nice.

256  
 257 Councilor Miville totaled the vote as follows:

	TT	AJ	RD	MM	NC	JS	DW	DR	JL	TOTAL
<b>Truss</b>										
Pony	X	X		X					X	4
Through			X		X	X	X	X		5
<b>Coating</b>										
Weathering	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	9
Painted										0
<b>Decking</b>										
Timber	X		X		X	X	X	X	X	7

Concrete		X		X						2
<b>Width</b>										
10-Foot										0
12-Foot	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	9
<b>Utility</b>										
Below	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	9
Side-Mount										0
<b>Fencing</b>	No	No	No	No	X	Some	No	No	No	7 No 2 Yes
<b>Lighting</b>	No	No	Yes	No	Yes	N/A	Yes	Yes	Yes	5 Yes 3 No 1 N/A

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**6. LILAC BRIDGE - PUBLIC INPUT - 15 MINUTES**

In response to Chairman Sullivan, Mr. Durfee said they could raise the deck if the utility pipes get side mounted. Mr. Thinnes suggested putting a deck along side the piping so that the timber would not have to be torn up when maintenance is required.

Kathie Northrup said the Heritage Commission wants fencing as low as possible if it gets put in. Chairman Sullivan said the details can be worked out later. The Council discussed whether to include the water pipe now or later given the Water Precinct's inability to fund the full cost at this time. Mike Heidorn, Superintendent of the Water Precinct, asked if there was an alternative to run a secondary line since they don't have the ability to come up with more funds and are "giving everything we can". Discussion ensued on water limits and access. Chairman Sullivan suggested that perhaps arrangements could be made to have the Water Precinct reimburse the town. Mr. Heidorn said if the Water Precinct's contribution is not enough, could construction allow to put the water line at a later date. Chairman Sullivan asked if pipes go under the bridge, could the water pipe be attached later. Mr. Durfee said yes it could. Councilor Ross said it's the Council's responsibility to do what is best for the town. Mr. Durfee said they can eliminate the connections but it would not constitute a large savings, maybe \$20,000. Todd Smith stated that he had no issue if it can be engineered at a later date at the Water Precinct's expense but the most they can do right now is \$100,000. Councilor Ross said it is a town wide issue whether everyone benefits or not. The town, as a whole, benefits.

**7. LILAC BRIDGE - TOWN COUNCIL VOTE ON PRELIMINARY DESIGN**

Councilor Comai asked the Sewer Commissioners if today the Council voted to have the utilities hung below the bridge, would that change the \$500,000 contribution committed to a while back. Mr. Baines said they have lived with the pipes on the side for 47 years without an issue. Councilor Miville pointed out that the funds are not the Sewer Commissions but the ratepayers and citizens money. Chairman Sullivan again stated that the town still has to go to the state. The type of bridge and utility placement is the state's main concern.

Mr. Durfee said he did not need votes taken on fencing and lighting right now but will need it during the final design stage.

*Councilor Ross moved, second by Councilor Winterton, to the bridge being 12-feet wide. Roll*

296 Call #2 – Duhaime-yes, Miville-yes, Ross-yes, Levesque-yes, Jennings-yes, Comai-yes,  
297 Winterton-yes, Tsantoulis-yes, Sullivan-yes. Motion passed unanimously, 9-0.

298  
299 Councilor Winterton moved, second by Councilor Tsantoulis, to weathering steel coating.  
300 Roll Call #3 – Comai-yes, Ross-yes, Jennings-yes, Miville-yes, Duhaime-yes, Tsantoulis-yes,  
301 Levesque-yes, Winterton-yes, Sullivan-yes. Motion passed unanimously, 9-0.

302  
303 Councilor Winterton moved, second by Councilor Levesque, to timber decking. Roll Call #4 –  
304 Jennings-yes, Levesque-yes, Ross-yes, Duhaime-yes, Miville-no, Winterton-yes, Tsantoulis-  
305 yes, Comai-yes, Sullivan-yes. Motion passed 8-1 (Councilor Miville opposed).

306  
307 Councilor Comai moved, second by Councilor Duhaime, to a Through Truss. Roll Call #5 –  
308 Tsantoulis-no, Ross-yes, Duhaime-yes, Jennings-no, Levesque-no, Winterton-yes, Miville-no,  
309 Comai-yes, Sullivan-yes. Motion passed 5-4 (Councilors Tsantoulis, Jennings, Levesque,  
310 and Miville opposed).

311  
312 Councilor Ross moved, second by Councilor Levesque, to have utilities placed under the  
313 bridge. Roll Call #6 – Miville-yes, Levesque-yes, Winterton-yes, Comai-yes, Ross-yes,  
314 Tsantoulis-yes, Jennings-yes, Duhaime-yes, Sullivan-yes. Motion passed unanimously, 9-0.

315  
316 Councilor Ross moved, second by Councilor Jennings, to exclude fencing and lighting from  
317 the bids. Roll Call #7 – Ross-yes, Winterton-yes, Levesque-yes, Duhaime-yes, Jennings-  
318 yes, Miville-yes, Tsantoulis-yes, Comai-yes, Sullivan-yes. Motion passed unanimously, 9-0.

319  
320 Mr. Durfee said the contract could be designed to include the water line and connection for  
321 the contractor to bid on and see what pricing comes back. It may come in less than  
322 \$190,000. At that time negotiations could be had with the contractor on details. Councilor  
323 Winterton said the Sewer Commission set a high bar but he would like the Water Precinct's  
324 contribution made whole and suggested the Town Administrator negotiate with the Water  
325 Precinct some sort of payback to the town. Dr. Shankle said if "we bid the whole thing, we'll  
326 know the whole case scenario -- \$100,000 stays locked in". Councilor Ross said the Water  
327 Precinct is not for profit. Councilor Comai said the water department hasn't used the Lilac  
328 Bridge; sewer has used it for 47 years.

329  
330 Councilor Tsantoulis felt it would appear as irresponsible on the Council's part to not make  
331 provisions for water. It needs to be done now. Dr. Shankle pointed out that the Sewer  
332 Commission is a department of the town; water is not part of town government and it would  
333 be irresponsible for them not to come up with the money necessary. Perhaps they need to  
334 try harder.

335  
336 Councilor Ross moved, second by Councilor Jennings, to include water pipe placement  
337 under the bridge. Roll Call #8 – Levesque-yes, Duhaime-yes, Tsantoulis-yes, Jennings-yes,  
338 Miville-yes, Ross-yes, Comai-yes, Winterton-yes, Sullivan-yes. Motion passed unanimously,  
339 9-0.

340  
341 Chairman Sullivan mentioned that the meeting with the state is scheduled for March 10<sup>th</sup>. He  
342 would like a list of attendees, where the meeting will be held and the time. Mr. Durfee said  
343 that assuming the state approves the preliminary design, no further action will be required of  
344 the Council until DuBois & King bring in the final design for review and input from the Council.

345



346 **8. SPECIAL RECOGNITIONS**

347  
348 **9. APPROVAL OF MINUTES**

349  
350 9.a Public: 02/10/2016  
351 [TC Minutes 021016.pdf](#)

352  
353 Council Secretary Miville reviewed the vote tallies and confirmed their accuracy. *Councilor*  
354 *Winterton moved, second by Councilor Levesque, to approve the February 10,2016 Council*  
355 *meeting minutes, as amended. Motion passed 8-0-1 (Councilor Ross abstained).*

356  
357 **10. AGENDA OVERVIEW**

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359 **11. PUBLIC HEARINGS**

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361 **12. CONSENT AGENDA**

362  
363 **13. TOWN ADMINISTRATOR'S REPORT**

364  
365 Dr. Shankle read a letter received from Chief Bartlett indicating that he was invited to  
366 participate in the FBI's National Academy from April 4<sup>th</sup> through June 10<sup>th</sup> in Quantico,  
367 Virginia. The Academy began in 1935 and provides professional development courses for  
368 law enforcement leaders. Classes are offered in law, behavioral science, forensic science,  
369 communication, health and fitness, to name a few. Participation is by invitation only through  
370 a nomination process. Dr. Shankle said no one from Hooksett has ever attended. It is an  
371 excellent program and provided at no cost to the town. Councilor Levesque said he saw the  
372 Chief recently and he was really excited about being able to attend the program.

373  
374 Dr. Shankle reported that Robie's Country store is having an opening this Saturday and are  
375 planning a ribbon cutting event sometime next week. More information will be passed along  
376 as it becomes available. Councilor Levesque and other Councilors will likely be available to  
377 attend the Ribbon Cutting Ceremony.

378  
379 Recreation staff has been meeting with different groups and are working on doing an after-  
380 school program in the schools run by the town. The School Superintendent is behind the  
381 idea and more information will come back to the Council as details get fleshed out.

382  
383 There was discussion about having a volunteer appreciation breakfast prior to the  
384 deliberative session but it doesn't seem like it will be practical. The school does not want the  
385 town to use the gym and breakfast would have to be served in the same area as where the  
386 session will take place.

387  
388 **14. PUBLIC INPUT - 15 MINUTES**

389  
390 **15. NOMINATIONS AND APPOINTMENTS**

391  
392 15.a Nomination for Planning Board Alternate  
393 [Stelmach PB App.pdf](#)

394  
395 [Sorensen PB App.pdf](#)

396  
397 Councilor Winterton stated that two people submitted their applications to serve as Alternate  
398 Planning Board members. The Planning Board has recommended Christopher Stelmach to  
399 serve in that capacity. Councilor Winterton abstained from the vote. Mr. Stelmach came  
400 forward and said he had been a resident of Hooksett his whole life and commented that his  
401 6<sup>th</sup> grade class was in the current Council room. Mr. Stelmach said he had construction  
402 background experience in excavating and site planning. Councilor Winterton said "the things  
403 that Chris just mentioned caught the attention of the Planning Board to have that kind of  
404 expertise on the Board". Councilor Levesque said he has known Chris for a number of years  
405 and supports his nomination. Councilor Levesque said that "he has common sense which is  
406 something you can't teach". Dr. Shankle encouraged Mr. Stelmach to take courses offered  
407 for municipal leaders which would be paid for by the town. A number of Councilors have  
408 attended such courses and have found them very helpful. Councilor Miville said he loves to  
409 see new faces and commented on Mr. Stelmach's statement on the town's growth and that  
410 some dispassionate decisions may have to be made as an Alternate on the Planning Board.

411  
412 Chairman Sullivan noted that no second was needed for nominations; Mr. Stelmach's  
413 appointment will be made at the next Council meeting. Councilor Comai suggested reaching  
414 out to the second candidate, Anne Sorensen, when there is another opening. Councilor  
415 Winterton said Ms. Sorensen did appear before the Planning Board and is very interested in  
416 serving. Council members expressed concern that Boards and Commissions are "making  
417 their own appointments". Dr. Shankle reminded Council members that they've asked Boards  
418 and Commissions to do this. Available volunteer positions is attached.

419  
420 [BOARDS COMMITTEES Open January 2016.pdf](#)

421  
422 **16. SCHEDULED APPOINTMENTS**

423  
424 **17. 15 MINUTE RECESS**

425  
426 **18. OLD BUSINESS**

427  
428 18.a 15-092 Budgets, CIP and Warrant Articles

429  
430 [RENEWABLE ENERGY WARRANT.pdf](#)

431  
432 Councilor Winterton moved, second by Chairman Sullivan, to place a renewable energy  
433 warrant on the ballot. Councilor Winterton said the article reads "To see if the town will vote  
434 to adopt the provisions of RSA 72:61 through RSA 72:72 inclusively, which provide for an  
435 optional property tax exemption from the property's assessed value, for property tax  
436 purposes, for persons owning real property, which is equipped with solar energy systems,  
437 wind-powered energy systems or wood heating energy systems intended for use at the  
438 immediate site. Such property tax exemption shall be in the amount equal to 100% of the  
439 assessed value of qualifying equipment under these statutes."

440  
441 Councilor Winterton said the warrant puts the town in line with being a "green" community.  
442 Dr. Shankle said the issue does not need to be put on the ballot; this is something the  
443 Council can do. Councilor Comai asked if there was an ordinance in effect. Councilor  
444 Winterton said it is in zoning. Chairman Sullivan said it is "up to us under charter". Councilor  
445 Ross said "we dealt with this and don't have any mechanism to put value on this other than

446 what the owner tells us. All we're doing is putting more work on assessors who ignore it  
447 unless it becomes a problem". Councilor Winterton withdrew his motion and Chairman  
448 Sullivan withdrew his second. Councilor Duhaime felt it took away taxable income from the  
449 town. Councilor Winterton said the effect is if he puts solar panels on his house, it does not  
450 increase the value of his house. Many towns have adopted such a measure to ensure they  
451 are viewed as environmentally "green". Chairman Sullivan said the pattern of homes selling  
452 at an increased value is not yet in place.

453

454 [Default Budget.pdf](#)

455

456 Christine Soucie, Director of Finance, presented the FY 2016-17 default budget of  
457 \$17,206,826 which is \$54,466, or 0.32%, less than the Council's recommended budget of  
458 \$17,261,292. Chairman Sullivan said the default budget should be lowered by an additional  
459 \$52,000 given the contract with the new Fire Chief. *Chairman Sullivan moved, second by*  
460 *Councilor Comai, to approve a FY 2016-17 default budget of \$17,154,826. Motion passed*  
461 *unanimously, 9-0.*

462

463 Dr. Shankle asked the Council to consider removing the \$50,000 warrant article for a new car  
464 for the fire department. In 2013, the department came before the Council and asked for a  
465 new car because their car was rusted out and couldn't be inspected. Council gave the  
466 department \$30,000. The voters' guide indicated that the old car would be sold for scrap. It  
467 turns out that the red car that the town got for the code enforcement officer was the old car  
468 that was to be sold for scrap. Instead, they put the car at the highway garage and put \$2,400  
469 worth of work on it and is now being used by the Code Enforcement Officers. It's a repeat of  
470 what happened in 2013.

471

472 *Councilor Levesque moved, second by Councilor Duhaime, that an itemized inventory of all*  
473 *department vehicles be prepared and presented to the Council annually. Motion passed*  
474 *unanimously, 9-0.*

475

476 *Councilor Winterton moved, second by Councilor Duhaime, to reconsider the*  
477 *recommendation of Article 10 being placed on the warrant. Motion passed unanimously, 9-0.*

478

479 *Councilor Winterton moved, second by Councilor Jennings, to remove Article 10 from the*  
480 *warrant. Motion passed 8-1 (Councilor Ross opposed).*

481

482 Councilor Comai likes the inventory idea and suggested that a mechanic should take a look  
483 at any vehicle being purchased. Dr. Shankle said that one of the issues that came up was  
484 that according to a mechanic, no amount of money would fix it.

485

486 *Chairman Sullivan moved to extend the meeting by ten minutes. Motion was seconded by*  
487 *Councilor Jennings and passed unanimously, 9-0.*

488

489 [Default.xlsx](#)

490

## 491 **19. NEW BUSINESS**

492

493 19.a 16-006 Quarterly Financial Report for December 31, 2015

494 [Quarterly Financial Report for Dec 31, 2015.pdf](#)

495

496 Director Soucie presented the second quarterly financial report ending December 31, 2015.  
497 She said the operating budget is doing fine with 49 percent being spent and is where you'd  
498 expect it to be. Revenue reflects 58% being collected and is consistent over the last three  
499 years. The fluctuation in Administration is due to the property liability and workers'  
500 compensation insurance coverage, and changed vendors. Fire-Rescue is 47% spent,  
501 primarily due to staff turnover. The Police Department is also 47% spent. The Department of  
502 Public Works still has several vacant positions. Recycling and Transfer Department is 42%  
503 spent which is consistent with the prior years. Even though the winter has not been as harsh  
504 as some, storms have occurred on weekends where overtime had to be paid and contract  
505 drivers were hired to remove snow from the school parking lots.

506  
507 Councilor Comai noted that overtime was required because of vacant positions and asked  
508 how many positions were vacant. Director Soucie said 7 or 8 people. She continued her  
509 report stating that Recycling has spent 42%. Condos were reimbursed in December and are  
510 normally reimbursed in January. Revenues are all coming in as planned. The tax deeding  
511 process starts in the spring which will drive residents to pay off delinquent taxes. Building  
512 permits look good. The ambulance service fund is reported separately and shows 26%  
513 uncollected for the period. More was collected in 2015 with cash on hand as of December  
514 32, 2015 at \$431,012.72. The account still grew by \$100,000. Councilor Winterton asked  
515 why ambulance expenses were so different between December (\$8,200) and January  
516 (\$6,400). Director Soucie said December included holiday pay.

517  
518 19.b 16-007 TIF District

519  
520 Dr. Shankle suggested re-scheduling this agenda item.

521  
522 **20. SUB-COMMITTEE REPORTS**

523  
524 Councilor Winterton said the Planning Board spent much time talking about chickens and the  
525 draft ordinance was sent to staff to reword the new zoning ordinance. The recommendation  
526 is to not allow chickens unless in the low density zone and so long as the chickens are kept  
527 on one's own property.

528  
529 Councilor Miville said the Budget Committee has already gone over warrant articles and  
530 things are moving along. Two Budget Committee open seats have been filled – Brian Tilton  
531 and Steve Paroda who is an accountant.

532  
533 Councilor Jennings said lots of big ideas are being discussed for "Fun in the Sun".

534  
535 **21. PUBLIC INPUT**

536  
537 **22. NON-PUBLIC SESSION**

538  
539 **NH RSA 91-A:3 II (a)** The dismissal, promotion, or compensation of any public employee or the  
540 disciplining of such employee, or the investigation of any charges against him or her,

541  
542 **NH RSA 91-A:3 II (c)** Matters which, if discussed in public, would likely affect adversely the reputation  
543 of any person, other than a member of the public body itself.

544  
545 *D. Winterton motioned to enter non-public session at 9:55pm. Seconded by N. Comai.*

546

547 **Roll Call**  
548 D. Winterton – yes  
549 T. Tsantoulis – yes  
550 D. Ross – yes  
551 N. Comai – yes  
552 M. Miville – yes  
553 A. Jennings – yes  
554 R. Duhaime – yes  
555 J. Levesque – yes  
556 J. Sullivan - yes

557 ***Vote unanimously in favor.***

558

559 ***D. Ross motioned to exit non-public at 10:20pm. Seconded by D. Winterton.***

560 ***Vote unanimously in favor.***

561 ***D. Ross motioned to seal the non-public minutes of 02/24/16. Seconded by J. Sullivan.***

562 ***Vote unanimously in favor.***

563

### 564 **23. ADJOURNMENT**

565

566 ***D. Ross motioned to adjourn the public session at 10:20pm. Seconded by D. Winterton.***

567 ***Vote unanimously in favor.***

568

569 Respectfully submitted by,

570

571

572 Suzanne Beauchesne

573 Recording Clerk

574

575

576

577

# ACTION ITEMS

Action Items	Alternate A		Alternate B	
1. Truss Type	Pony Truss	\$1,060,000	Through Truss	+ \$150,000
2. Coating	Weathering	\$ 0	Painted*	+ \$ 70,000
3. Decking	Timber	\$ 0	Concrete*	+ \$160,000
4. Bridge Width	10-Foot	\$ 0	12-Foot*	+ \$110,000
5. Utility Placement	Hung Below*	\$ 370,000	Side Mounted	+ \$130,000
6. Security Fencing	Not Selected	\$ 0	If Selected	+ \$ 25,000
7. Lighting	Not Selected	\$ 0	If Selected	+ \$ 75,000
<b>Base Cost (Repairs, Demolition, Approaches, Engineering, Contingencies):</b>				
		\$ 1,930,000		\$ 1,930,000
<b>Total:</b>		\$ 3,360,000		\$ 4,080,000

\* D&K Recommended Items

**HOOKSETT HERITAGE COMMISSION  
 COMMENTS TO PRELIMINARY DESIGN  
 LILAC PEDESTRIAN BRIDGE  
 February 24, 2016**

Alternatives	Preference	Considerations
Superstructure Alternatives: Through truss (top bracing) vs pony (side trusses only)	Through truss (with opportunity for specific design specs in later phase, e.g. 12 high)	Location adjacent to other bridges in heart of historic area The look (most similar to others, but doesn't necessarily look pedestrian) Size, scale (480', substantial) More for the \$\$
Coating: Weathering steel, paint, galvanized	Weathering steel	The look for the area Lowest cost Low maintenance
Decking: wood or concrete	Wood	Cost The look Possible piecemeal replacement/repair
Width: 10 or 12 feet	12 feet	10' seems restrictive 12' better relative to length, versatility
Security Fencing:	Only up to top rail of through truss (approx 54")	"Open" look but still provides protection Keeps river views accessible
Utilities attached: Below or sides	Below	Aesthetics—too much impact on design Cost Protection for utilities Lots of "cons" listed for side placement
Approaches/Lights	Need not be determined right now	