

1 **Town of Sandown, NH**
2 **Board of Selectmen**
3 **Minutes**
4

5 Meeting Date: Monday, June 16, 2014
6 Type of Meeting: Regular Meeting
7 Method of Notification: Public Posting – Two locations at Town Hall
8 Meeting Location: Sandown Town Hall
9 Present: Selectpersons: Terry Treanor (Treanor), Stephen Brown (Brown),
10 Hans Nicolaisen (Nicolaisen), Cindy Buco (Buco), James Devine
11 (Devine), Lynne Blaisdell, Town Administrator
12 Absent:
13 Late to Arrive:
14 Departed Meeting:
15 Call to Order: Chairman Nicolaisen called the meeting to order at 7:00 P.M.
16 Pledge of Allegiance
17

18 **Review of minutes of previous meetings**
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- 20 • Board members reviewed the minutes of June 2, 2014. **MOTION:** Selectmen Brown
21 made a motion to accept the minutes of the regular meeting of June 2, 2014 as written.
22 Selectmen Buco seconded. Motion passed unanimously. **MOTION:** Selectmen Brown
23 made a motion to accept the non-public minutes of June 2, 2014 as written. Selectman
24 Buco seconded. Motion passed unanimously.
25

26 **Public Comment**
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- 28 • Paula Gulla came before the Board regarding Old Home Days. The Old Home Day
29 Committee is in full force planning this year's event. Ms. Gulla wanted to remind
30 everyone that even though the town meeting voted to change the date of future Old
31 Home Days, this year it will remain August 8, 9 and 10. The Committee is looking for
32 volunteers, not necessarily to serve on the committee but to help out with the actual
33 events. If anyone has a few hours to donate – it doesn't have to be an all-day
34 commitment – it would be appreciated. Teenagers could use it for community service
35 hours. People can contact the Old Home Days Committee through the web site or
36 through the Town Offices.
37
38 • Ms. Gulla also announced that nominations for the Citizen of the Year award are open.
39 Nomination boxes are set up in the Town Hall, at the Library, at Bruschetti's, and on the
40 web site. Nominations are accepted anytime before July 18.

- 41 • Ms. Blaisdell announced that a representative from Kelly Ayotte’s office will be in the
42 Town Office on June 24 from 9 to 10 A.M. Anyone is welcome to stop in and ask
43 questions or raise concerns.
44
- 45 • Ms. Blaisdell announced that Aquatic Control Technology will be treating Phillips Pond
46 this year. They will be doing a treatment on Thursday, June 19. There should be no
47 swimming for 24 hours after the treatment and within a 200 foot area of the treatment.
48 Further information is available on the town web site or call the Town Office.
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50 **Sandown School Budget Committee and School Board Representatives Monthly Update**
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- 52 • Kathy Gorman is a School Budget Committee member but is addressing the Board as a
53 representative for the town and not acting officially as a School Budget Committee
54 member. Arthur Green is also acting in the capacity of a member of the Timberlane
55 Budget Committee, but not speaking for the budget committee tonight. Mr. Green
56 stated that Ms. Gorman, Ms. Green and himself have been working to have the monthly
57 financial expenditure and revenue reports reviewed by the School Board. Mr. Green
58 feels it is important to review this information to prevent large tax increases. Mr. Green
59 reported that Timberlane deliberately carries forward a surplus from year to year. Most
60 recently it has consistently been about \$2,000,000. This surplus becomes an offset
61 against taxes in the following year. Last December, Sandown had a 9% increase in taxes
62 and without the surplus it could have been double. The surplus is crucial to mitigating
63 the tax impact. An approved budget gives the administration the legal authority to
64 spend up to the full amount of the budget. There are no built in protections for the
65 surplus. If the administration uses its authority to spend the full appropriation that was
66 voted, it could cause a tax catastrophe in the following year. Mr. Green stated it is
67 important that a surplus of at least \$1.9 million is returned to prevent a hit on the tax
68 rate like we had last year. Mr. Green is also concerned regarding a statement by Dr.
69 Metzler on March 14, 2014 that said the 2013-2014 year would not be passing on a
70 surplus to the 2014-2015 year. Since every dollar of surplus spent in the coming year is
71 equal to an additional dollar to be raised in taxes the following year, if what Dr. Metzler
72 said is true, the impact on the 2015 tax year could be severe. That is why Ms. Gorman,
73 Ms. Green and Mr. Green want to watch the monthly financials. Selectman Bucu asked
74 when the financial will be available. Mr. Green said the March financials were received
75 a few days into May after some intense Right To Know requests to get them. Dr Metzler
76 provided the April financials after a verbal request from Mr. Green. Subsequent verbal
77 requests for information have gone unanswered. Mr. Green submitted another formal
78 Right To Know request that has gone unanswered at this point as well. Under the RSA, if
79 the information is on hand it should be provided. These are standard financial reports
80 being requested. Ms. Gorman added that there are people on the Budget Committee
81 and School Board that are interested in seeing the info. She added that there doesn't

82 seem to be any accountability of how the money is being spent, especially if a large sum
83 is approved for one purpose and it doesn't go through. The money is then spent on
84 something else. The money is spent on something that was not budgeted for, was not
85 something that was discussed, and wasn't voted on. Ms. Gorman feels this is pertinent
86 information that a lot of people don't seem to want to look at. Selectman Bucu asked
87 what would be the timeframe that the impact of spending this money would be
88 irreversible. Ms. Gorman replied that once the money is spent, it is spent. It is
89 important to know the amount of money that is available to be spent and not keep
90 giving it to them every year. That is what they are trying to hone in on. Ms. Green in
91 her capacity of Budget Committee member last year wanted to decrease the amount of
92 surplus and was told repeatedly that she didn't have to worry about it. It was stated
93 that it goes back into the general fund and is used to reduce taxes. They are seeing that
94 this is not what is happening this year. It is being spent in other places. She added that
95 on Thursday there is a School Board meeting with an agenda item to discuss some gym
96 renovations. The school wanted to do the renovations next year, but it is not budgeted
97 for in the default budget. So, they want to encumber the funds from this year to do the
98 renovations for next year. Ms. Gorman feels the public should be aware of this and
99 have a voice in it because we will be bound by contracts the School Board may enter
100 into for this work.

- 101
- 102 • Ms. Gorman also wanted to let the town know that the Budget Committee e-mail policy
103 has changed. If a citizen e-mails the Budget Committee through the link on the website,
104 it will go only to the Chairman not the entire committee like it had in the past. This was
105 voted on at the School Board meeting. This issue was never discussed by the Budget
106 Committee. An SAU employee sent an e-mail to the Budget Committee informing them
107 that the policy had changed. At the School Board meeting it was said it would be
108 presented to the Budget Committee, but they were never allowed to discuss it and vote
109 on it. Ms. Gorman has requested a Budget Committee meeting immediately to discuss
110 and vote on this. She is disappointed that an SAU employee was allowed to change the
111 way an elected body conducts its meetings. Ms. Gorman and Mr. Green wanted to
112 make sure that people are aware that committee members won't be aware of the
113 existence of an e-mail until their next meeting in September. At that point, all e-mails
114 will be presented in a folder of correspondence.
115
 - 116 • Selectman Devine asked if the school is voting on transfers between budget lines. Mr.
117 Green replied that there is a policy that any transfer over \$5,000 requires a vote of the
118 School Board. Those votes are not being held. Ms. Green attempted to bring up this
119 subject at a meeting and was unable to get a second to put the item on the agenda for
120 discussion. Mr. Green recommended everyone attend the school board meetings and
121 stay informed of what it happening.
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123 **New Business**

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Discussion regarding employee increases for 2015

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Review request for hiring for Summer Recreation

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Review and possible approval of contract for Old Home day Event

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153 **Old Business**

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Review of correspondence

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- Chief Gordon introduced Kurtis Boissonneault to the Board. Mr. Boissonneault is the candidate that Chief Gordon would like to hire for the part time officer position that was previously approved by the Board. His background check is being completed currently. Mr. Boissonneault works full time for Fremont PD and is currently leaving a part time position in New Castle. He lives in Pelham, holds a Bachelor's Degree and has been an officer since 2008. Due to his years of service, Chief Gordon requested beginning Mr. Boissonneault on a Step 6 pay level, which is a pay rate of \$14.92. **MOTION:** Selectman

164 Devine made a motion, pending a satisfactory background check, Kurtis Boissonneault
165 be hired for the part time police officer position with a pay rate of \$14.92 (Step 6 on the
166 matrix). Selectmen Treanor seconded. Motion carried unanimously.
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168 • Chief Gordon has a draft of a potential contract for review for the bid process for the
169 new police station from Dave McCloud. The Building Committee had 8 items of
170 concern. All 8 have been addressed and the info has been gathered and forwarded to
171 the architect to make changes to the plan. The Board discussed whether the town
172 attorney should look at the contract. Ms. Blaisdell also asked about insurance issues
173 surrounding the renovations and recommended have Property Liability review the
174 contract as well. There was general discussion of the procedure and steps in the RFP
175 process. Ms. Blaisdell and Chief Gordon will meet and finalize the RFP. Chief Gordon
176 also reported that the electric meters in the building were looked at and it was
177 determined which ones can be removed immediately.
178

179 • Letter from NHDES – wetland permit for Wells village rd culvert has been conditional
180 accepted. Some more information will be given to complete the process. The bidding
181 on this project will go out this week. RFP's will be put on the website. The bids will be
182 opened in 3 weeks.
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184 • Letter from Family Promise thanking the Town for support even though no funds were
185 voted.
186

187 • Required notification from Comcast regarding changes in field collection charges and
188 returned payment charges from \$20 to \$25 per occurrence.
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190 • Letter from UNH Technology Transfer Center informing the Town that Michael Devine
191 has achieved the 1st level of the Road Scholar program.
192

193 • The SAU sent a schedule of payments for July through December.
194

195 • The Property Liability Trust (formerly known as the Local Government Center) has been
196 broken out from the LGC. This correspondence is notification of the changes taking
197 place. The Town will still have all our coverage and will be receiving a return of surplus
198 from HealthTrust due to legal suit.
199

200 • Renewal for our Property Liability insurance was received. The cost for 2014 is
201 \$41,899.70. Selectman Devine asked if payments could be made monthly. Ms. Blaisdell
202 will look into it.
203

- 204 • White Columns Office Solution sent a status update of the savings on the electric plan.
205 \$124 was saved in May with a total savings of \$4,185 so far. Selectman Devine asked if
206 other vendors would be researched. Ms. Blaisdell said that the contract is up in
207 November so she will be looking into other vendors.
208
- 209 • A memo was received from a resident on Elizabeth Road. The resident is not satisfied
210 with progress made in the condemned property on Elizabeth Road and will be seeking
211 legal advice for a suit against the town. Ms. Blaisdell reported that the homeowner of
212 the condemned property is currently working with several agencies for options with the
213 property.
214
- 215 • Anonymous person upset about the hydrant being pulled from Meghan Drive. They are
216 concerned there is not enough fire protection in that neighborhood. Chief Tapley is
217 working with the Governor's office to get the hydrant put back up there.
218
- 219 • May progress report from Dragon Mosquito. Selectman Devine commented that the
220 corner of Hampstead and Little Mill Road is a cedar swamp with lots of mosquitoes. Ms.
221 Blaisdell will inform Dragon Mosquito.
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223 **Department Liaison Report**

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- 225 • Selectman Devine stated that Chief Tapley is in touch with the State and Governor's
226 Office to get the pipe put back into the culvert on Meghan Drive. Selectman Devine
227 missed the Conservation Committee meeting.
228
- 229 • Selectman Bucu reported that all lines on the roads are done. The Little Mill Extension is
230 done with the exception of the lines. All town-owned lawns were done today. All
231 employee reviews for Highway and Sanitation have been completed. Mr. Genuardo
232 met with his employees last week regarding the evaluations.
233
- 234 • Selectman Brown stated the Budget Committee met to interview and unanimously
235 recommend the appointment of 3 candidates. They will be sending the names to the
236 Board for approval. The Committee will not meet again until September, but will have
237 a full board this year. The Planning Board did not have a quorum at their past meeting.
238 Therefore, a scheduled public hearing could not be held and was re-scheduled.
239
- 240 • Selectman Nicolaisen stated the Recreation Committee had met briefly to recommend
241 the hiring of the two life guards. They will have a regular meeting on Wednesday.
242
- 243 • Ms. Blaisdell reminded Selectman Devine to attend the upcoming Court of Honor for Jim
244 Beucler.

245
246 Chairman Nicolaisen read the following statement: At the conclusion of tonight's meeting the
247 Board conducted a non-meeting to discuss the details of the Police Union Contract
248 Negotiations. Under the Right To Know Law discussion regarding collective bargaining
249 agreements are not subject to the Right To Know law and therefore no minutes or recordings
250 will be taken of this portion of the meeting.

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252 Chairman Nicolaisen adjourned the meeting at 8:22 P.M.

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255 Respectfully Submitted,

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258 Cheryl Eastman
259 Recording Secretary

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