

1 DRAFT

2 BOARD OF SELECTMEN

3 TOWN OF SANDOWN, NH

4 SANDOWN, NH 03873

5  
6 **Meeting Date: October 26, 2015**

7 **Type of Meeting: Regular Meeting**

8 **Method of Notification: Public Posting at Town Hall**

9 **Meeting Location: Town Hall**

10  
11 **Members Present:** Selectman Devine, Selectman Treanor, Selectwoman Buco  
12 and Selectman Tombarello.

13 **Not Present:** Selectman Goldman  
14 Town Administrator: Lynne Blaisell

15 **Recording Secretary:** Sue Reynolds

16  
17 Selectman Devine called the meeting to order at 7:00pm.

18  
19 Pledge of Allegiance was done and a moment of silence was observed in  
20 memory of Christopher Chester.

21  
22 Selectman Devine asked the Board to review the minutes of Monday, October  
23 5, 2015.

24 **Motion by** Selectman Tombarello to accept the minutes of Monday, October 5,  
25 2015 as written.

26 **Seconded by** Selectman Treanor.

27 **In favor,** Selectman Devine, Selectman Tombarello, Selectman Treanor and  
28 Selectwoman Buco.

29 **Motion passes unanimously.**

32 **Motion by** Selectman Tombarello to accept minutes of Monday, October 15,  
33 2015 as written.

34 **Seconded by** Selectman Treanor.

35 **In favor,** Selectman Devine, Selectman Tombarello, Selectman Treanor and  
36 Selectwoman Buco.

37 **Motion passes unanimously.**

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#### 40 **PUBLIC COMMENT**

41 Diana True, Library Trustee asked that when the BOS are considering raises  
42 for the town employees she asked that they take a 2 tiered approach as full  
43 time employees receive town benefits and part time employees do not. She  
44 doesn't feel part time employees should be penalized if the insurance rates go  
45 up and therefore raises are effected accordingly as part time employees aren't  
46 offered insurance through the town.

47

48 Lynne Blaisdell stated that there will be a voter registration session at the  
49 Town Hall on Friday, October 30<sup>th</sup> from 7:00 – 7:30pm, which will an  
50 opportunity for new voters to register or to change your party affiliation prior  
51 to the Presidential Primary. You can also register at the Town Clerk/Tax  
52 Collector's office during regular business hours and on voting day. You will  
53 need proper id to register such as a license, passport or a photo id with proof  
54 of residency.

55

56 Chief Gordon stated he has received funding from the Fish & Game which will  
57 allow them to monitor the trails and off road areas throughout the Town.  
58 They were awarded \$2,160.00 which needs to be used by June 30, 2016. Chief  
59 Gordon asked the Board to make a motion to accept the grant and for the  
60 Chairman to sign the appropriate paperwork.

61 **Motion by** Selectman Tombarello to accept the law enforcement grant from  
62 NH Fish & Game in the amount of \$2,160.00 to be used by June 30, 2016.

63 **Seconded by** Selectman Treanor.

64 **In Favor,** Selectman Tombarello, Selectman Treanor, Selectman Devine and  
65 Selectwoman Buco.

66 **Motion passes unanimously.**

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68

69 **Jay Barrett and the Historical Society Members to discuss the Train**  
70 **Depot Museum renovations.**

71 J. Barrett is here with Robert Brooder from the Historical Society. J. Barrett  
72 said his full name for the record is Frank J. Barrett, Jr., and his office is located  
73 in White River Junction, VT. Robert Brooder explained that J. Barrett is an  
74 architect and is an expert in the field and would like him to guide the  
75 Historical Society in future restorations of the Train Depot and would like to  
76 know if the BOS would like to utilize his services. J. Barrett explains that his  
77 company is a second generation and has been in existence since 1945 and he  
78 has been there since graduating from Wentworth in Boston in 1973. He said  
79 he specialized is historic preservation and he restored his home in 1994 and  
80 placed it on the National Register and he has been involved in a variety of  
81 railroad restorations. J. stated he first came down to look at the building in  
82 March of 2014 and understood that there were a lot of different ideas to  
83 restoring the building. He said that because the building is on the National  
84 Register this is a voluntary listing of a building and anyone can add to the  
85 building but the person in charge of the National Register can say that they  
86 don't agree with the changes and can delist the building from the register as it  
87 no longer has significance. He said if he puts preservation easements on a  
88 building this would put restrictions on what can be done to the building and  
89 the Train Depot does not have these restrictions at this time. He said he is  
90 looking to help the Town and the Historical Society come up with a plan that  
91 can be reviewed, what needs to be addressed and how it should be addressed.  
92 He said he is also willing to help with budgets and the timeline of the projects.  
93 J. said he would be willing to put together a small report that would that  
94 would evaluate the condition of the building and determine what needs to be  
95 done. Selectman Tombarello asked J. Barrett what his fee would be and J.  
96 stated he works on an hourly rate if he has to involve office staff to help him  
97 and a flat rate if he is the only working on this and for the initial project he  
98 would charge the town a flat rate of \$500 - \$600.00. Selectman Tombarello  
99 said this would have to come from the Government Building budget or it could  
100 be a warrant article but he said he would be in favor of the initial study. J. said  
101 he could provide Lynne an email stating what the cost would be and what he  
102 would be willing to do for the initial cost. Lynne suggested looking at the  
103 existing budget closer to December to see if there will be money left over in  
104 this year's budget or possibly budget for this in January. The consensus of the  
105 Board is ok to move forward with the initial plan with J. Barrett.

107 **Further Discussion regarding 2016 Health Insurance Rates.**

108 Paula Argulla from Foy Insurance is here to discuss the renewal of the current  
109 plan and also some new options. Paula explains the current policy is going up  
110 12.5% and the current HMO has a 25/50 copay with a \$3,000.00 deductible  
111 with a prescription drug plan with a \$500.00 deductible with copays of  
112 15/50/up to 250. She explains this is the third year for the Affordable Care  
113 Act and explains the new community health options with a co-op plan. She  
114 said there is not a lot of history with this plan as it is only 2 years old, but  
115 there have been no issues that she is aware of. She explains this is a PPO plan  
116 with premiums slightly higher but the deductible is \$250.00 annually with a  
117 coinsurance up to \$1,000.00 with a 2 person per family max which totals  
118 \$2,500.00 max spent for the year. Paula said she can provide a quote for a  
119 higher deductible with the HRA account. She said there is a chronic support  
120 rider which covers 100% of quarterly testing, test strips and counseling. She  
121 said the copays for this plan are covered in full or at a reduced rate. If you use  
122 Hannaford as your pharmacy the copay for generic drugs is zero. Paula Gulla  
123 asked about the community preferred plan and the 30% instead of a set fee  
124 and Paula Argulla said the deductible is \$2,300.00 then claims are paid 70%  
125 with an out of pocket max of 5,500.00 and all claims would pay at 100%.  
126 Paula Gulla then asked about the out of pocket family plan of \$11,000.00 and  
127 asked if the \$2,300.00 was part of the \$11,000.00 and Paula from Foy  
128 Insurance said yes. Michelle Short asked how much is the difference for each  
129 employee and Paula said an employee at the age of 43 would pay \$1,033.00  
130 for a family plan, vs a 51 year old would pay \$1,395.00. Paula said you can  
131 aggregate costs so all employees would pay the same rate. She also said that  
132 these companies are locked into you and you are not locked into them so if  
133 you change your mind in 6 months to change plans you can. Cheryl Eastman  
134 expressed her concern about older employees paying more and contributing  
135 the 15% and asked the Board to consider the aggregate cost so it is fair to all  
136 of the employees. Cindy Buco asked if the Community Plans are restricted to  
137 health care providers or facilities and Paula said there are out of network  
138 benefits. Paula offered to come back and allow employees to ask questions or  
139 she would show them how to search for providers. Selectman Devine asked  
140 what was the percent of the benefit used in 2015 and Paula said they don't  
141 track that information for businesses with under 50 employees so she wasn't  
142 able to provide this information. Tony Piemonte asked if you are 65 or over  
143 are you able to use this insurance and Paula said no, once you are over 65 you  
144 are required to use Medicare Part A which is actually a better plan. Cheryl

145 Eastman said if the town went with the Community Premier Plan that would  
146 give employees an out of pocket max of \$2,500.00 per family per year and the  
147 town would still be saving money with the rates being aggregated. Lynne said  
148 this would be keeping the HRA at the \$2,500.00 per family. Michelle Short  
149 asked that the BOS not aggregate the rates because the younger employees  
150 would end up paying more than they should if they paid the rates based on  
151 age. Selectman Treanor left the meeting temporarily at this time. Lynne  
152 asked the employees present if they would rather pay a lower percentage into  
153 the plan and have the HRA reduced. Some of the employees asked to keep the  
154 HRA where it is. Lynne asked what the latest date is that they have to decide  
155 and Paula said they need to know by November 31<sup>st</sup>. Paula also said again  
156 that she would be willing to sit with employees.  
157 Selectman Treanor returned.

158  
159

## 160 **NEW BUSINESS**

### 161 **Annual Town Report**

162 Paula Gulla said the RFP went out to 13-14 vendors and they received 4 back.  
163 She said they have used Country Press for the last 3 years and again they are  
164 the lowest bidder. She said they had to increase the pages by 60 or 70 as they  
165 have to include the full property listings. Lynne also said they are adding  
166 \$200.00 for graphic design for the cover and some pages inside the book. The  
167 total from Country Press was \$1,892.00.

168 **Motion by** Selectman Tombarello to award the bid for the Town Report to  
169 Country Press not to exceed the cost of \$2,000.00.

170 **Seconded by** Selectman Treanor.

171 **In Favor**, Selectman Tombarello, Selectman Treanor, Selectman Devine and  
172 Selectwoman Buco.

173 **Motion passes unanimously.**

174

### 175 **2016 Tax Rate**

176 Lynne said the preliminary rate from DOR taking into consideration as to how  
177 much of the fund balance they want to use and how much would go into  
178 overlay. Lynne said the overlay is the amount the feel they may give out for  
179 abatements. Lynne stated in option A the tax rate is \$26.64 per thousand and  
180 the unassigned fund balance is currently \$1,068,048 .00. She continued to  
181 review the other options B-E. Lynne's recommendation is to leave the  
182 unassigned fund balance where it is and not use any money from it. She feels

183 the fund needs to grow as in 2018 there is another revaluation coming. After  
184 the Board reviewed all of the options Selectman Tombarello is ok with option  
185 A with a tax rate of \$26.64 and Selectwoman Buco agreed.

186 **Motion by** Selectman Tombarello to accept the preliminary rate of \$26.64 per  
187 thousand, leaving the unassigned fund balance at \$1,068,048.00, and to leave  
188 the overlay at \$30,000.00 for the upcoming year.

189 **Seconded by** Selectman Treanor.

190 **In Favor,** Selectman Tombarello, Selectman Treanor, Selectman Devine and  
191 Selectwoman Buco.

192 **Motion passes unanimously.**

193

#### 194 **Review quotes received for 2015 Audit**

195 Lynne said RFP's went out to 5 companies and she received 2 back. She asked  
196 the BOS to open the bids. Lynne said she will take the information received  
197 and create a spreadsheet for the Board to review at an upcoming meeting.

198

199

#### 200 **OLD BUSINESS**

##### 201 **Discussion regarding the Minority Report**

202 Selectwoman asked that the document she read from be added into the  
203 minutes for public record. That is listed below. The document was scanned  
204 and sent to me so I couldn't cut and paste it into the minutes, however I will  
205 copy it and make it part of the hard copies I provide and post.

206

207 Selectman Devine stated that he asked for an opinion of the attorney as to  
208 whether or not the state rules or the BOS rules and said he the attorney said  
209 he didn't know the answer to that. Selectman Devine said they could go to  
210 court with this, however he feels it is not necessary to continue to spend  
211 money to interpret what the law is and he feels there is no need to pursue this.  
212 He continues to say that he feels the School Board set up the Minority  
213 Committee and if Mrs. Buco wants to file a Minority Report of withdrawal then  
214 it is within her rights to do so as a member of the School Board Investigation  
215 Committee.

216

217 Lynne states there is an application from a resident in town to voluntarily  
218 change their address. She said the resident at 29 Tacoma Drive would like to  
219 change their address to 3 Tacoma Drive. Lynne said this needs to be a motion  
220 by the BOS for this to happen.

221 **Motion by** Selectman Tombarello to approve the address change of 29  
222 Tacoma Drive to number 3 Tacoma Drive for emergency responders to locate  
223 the property easily.

224 **Seconded by** Selectman Treanor.

225 **In Favor,** Selectman Tombarello, Selectman Treanor, Selectman Devine and  
226 Selectwoman Buco.

227 **Motion passes unanimously.**

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### 230 **CORRESPONDENCE**

231 Lynne said this is from the Newington BOS and if you agree with them they  
232 are requesting a letter. Lynne said if the BOS need more information she can  
233 get it.

234

235

236 Lynne said there is a reimbursement request from the Historical Society in the  
237 amount of \$75.36 out of pocket cost for repairs to the Train Depot. The  
238 consensus of the Board is to pay it.

239

240

### 241 **LIAISON REPORT**

242 Selectman Tombarello said the ZBA meets this week.

243 Selectwoman Buco had nothing to report.

244 Selectman Devine had nothing to report.

245 Selectman Treanor had nothing to report.

246

247 Public Comment – Mark Sherwood, resident of the town states that he agrees  
248 with the freedom to choose, however he also believes in the power of  
249 representation and there have been many residents showing up week after  
250 week. He states that the BOS have voted on 3 separate occasions to squash  
251 the Minority Report, not to send it and to let the Bd of Ed know there would be  
252 no Minority Report and there is no Minority Committee so there is no  
253 Minority Report. Mark also refers to the letter from the attorney on April 1<sup>st</sup>  
254 and feels there should not be a Minority Report submitted. He stated if  
255 Selectwoman Buco insists on submitting a report then it should be entitled  
256 Alternative Solutions for Sandown and asks the Board that this not be  
257 associated with a Minority Committee or Minority Report as there is none by

258 definition. He also feels that quoting from the Bible to achieve political ends is  
259 mildly insulting.

260

261 ***Motion by*** Selectman Tombarello to adjourn.

262

263

264 Meeting adjourned at 8:30pm

265

266 Respectfully submitted

267 Sue Reynolds



Board of Selectman Meeting  
Selectman Cindy Buco

October 26, 2015

I reviewed the meeting minutes from last week 10/19 when I was not present. After reviewing the minutes it was clear that since the 10/15 meeting of not only the decision to move forward with a Minority Report had taken out of the hands of the people of Sandown but it was clear that this Board and a resident in Public comment also wanted to prevent the information of the Minority Report from being shared with the public in a forum in which they can interact and ask questions.

I would like to clarify that at the last special meeting the BOS had, it was to be the first part of a two part walk through of the Minority Report. The first part was laying out the foundation and potential choices. The second part was to lay out the details of education including special education and the financials. All the BOS members knew this and were provided the breakdown of what that meeting was to consist of prior to the 10/15 meeting.

Cindy Buco <cindybuco@yahoo.com>

To

Lynne Blaisdell

CC

James Devine

Oct 13 at 12:41 PM

Hi Lynne,

Just getting back to you on the presentation for Thursday.

Presenters-

Michael Costanzo will present on the education piece and Arthur Greene on the financials. Bruce Cleveland would have presented but is not available on Thursday's.

Length of Meeting-

The meeting should be kept to 1/2 hour but no more than 45 minutes.

Agenda-

An executive summary will be presented and there will be packets handed to each Selectman which will contain more detail.

Purpose-

The Selectman are to take these packets and review them over the next week and half and then on the 26th a full presentation to the Selectman can be done. This will allow the Selectman enough time to review the information and look for any gaps or holes as well as provide feedback.

Next Steps-

Another agenda item for Selectman's meeting on October 26th, full presentation of minority report.

Let me know if you have any questions.

Thanks!

Jim was adamant about having a public hearing today 10/26 based on the original plan.

One of the key qualifiers in the Minority Report was that withdrawal would not be suitable if the Town of Sandown could not vote. Regardless of how the town would want to move forward the information would have been provided and the power to choose would have been in the hands of the people.

As it was mentioned at the 10/15 meeting, knowledge is power and the freedom to choose is equally as powerful. I would like to illustrate just how powerful choices are: I spent the last week in Guatemala with my church helping severely poverty stricken children and it really caused me to soul search and look at what my goal was on this study and what my convictions are, so I looked up Genesis 2:15-17 And the Lord God took the man, and put him in the Garden of Eden to dress it and to keep it. And the Lord

God commanded the man, saying, Of every tree of the garden thou mayest feely eat: but of the tree of the knowledge of good and evil, thou shalt not eat of it: for in the day that thou eatest thereof thou shalt surely die.

God provided everything that was necessary for man to live, so why would God place a tree in the Garden of Eden and then forbid Adam to eat from it? God wanted Adam to obey but gave him the freedom to choose. God doesn't restrict us from choosing, he didn't want robots and to make us prisoners making us follow him he wanted to follow him out of our own free will. Adam and Eve made the wrong choice and caused us to be separated from God but because God cannot be in the presence of sin, God loved us so much that he provided a way for us to be reconciled with him, he sent his only son Jesus to die on the cross that we can now make a choice on our own to either believe and accept him or reject him. If we accept him we can have eternal life with him, if we reject him we be forever separated from God. Again, not restricting us but giving us the freedom to choose. (*John 3:16 For God so loved the world that he gave his only begotten Son that whosoever believeth in him should not perish but have everlasting life.*) This information is provided to all in the Bible, it is very powerful and gives you the opportunity to make appropriate choices for your life.

Our country is built on these principals, giving us the freedom of information and the ability to choose, we don't live in a communist country, we live in a Republic. What is a Republic vs. Democracy?

A Republic is representative government ruled by law (the Constitution). A democracy is direct government ruled by the majority (mob rule). A Republic recognizes the inalienable rights of individuals while democracies are only concerned with group wants or needs (the public good).

My goal has been to bring a comprehensive study with options that the Town can vote on. The Majority Committee has always been biased from the beginning and had limited the options so it would not be found Feasible or Suitable at the end of the study.

I have confirmed with Salem HS that based on the original request I placed with them when starting this study they would have room to take our students, Pinkerton had also said they would reconfirm as well, they never said no but I asked for them to reconfirm the request and they said they would.

Since the BOS has voted to not submit a report regardless of the warrant article, and made a decision not based on all the information in the Minority Report, but only the premise of what they personally want. I expected that the BOS would have made a decision with all the information presented before voting and in fact that was the original request.

Instead of presenting the Minority Report at a BOS meeting, I can hold a Town Hall meeting and all those that want the information from the Town can come to the meeting and see the presentation and ask questions. I can then submit it to Lynne for posting on the Town website.

This should provide a compromise so all those that want the information can attend and those that don't want it won't have to show up.

I will work with Paula to find a day on the calendar that would work best, possibly a Saturday.