

1 DRAFT

2 BOARD OF SELECTMEN

3 TOWN OF SANDOWN, NH

4 SANDOWN, NH 03873

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6 **Meeting Date: January 22, 2018**
7 **Type of Meeting: Regular**
8 **Method of Notification: Public Posting at Town Hall**
9 **Meeting Location: Town Hall**

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12 **Members Present:** Selectman Cleveland, Selectman Goldman, Selectman Tombarello,
13 Selectwoman Buco and Selectman Brown
14 **Town Administrator:** Lynne Blaisdell
15 **Recording Secretary:** Sue Reynolds
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18 Selectman Goldman opened the meeting at 7pm with the Pledge of Allegiance.
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20 Selectman Goldman asked the Board to review the minutes of December 18, 2017.
21 Selectman Tombarello stated line 54 should read the Board thanked Paul and Susan for
22 involvement instead of investment. Selectman Cleveland said line 64 should read Storm
23 Water Management and line 83 should read Selectman Cleveland is not happy with the
24 Federal Government. Selectman Tombarello said line 355 should read Elizabeth Larocca
25 from Eversource.

26 **Motion by** Selectman Tombarello to accept these minutes as amended.

27 **Seconded by** Selectman Cleveland

28 **In Favor** Selectman Brown, Selectman Cleveland, Selectman Tombarello, Selectman
29 Goldman and Selectwoman Buco.

30 **Abstain** Selectman Brown

31 **Motion passes 4-0-1**
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38 **PUBLIC COMMENT**

39 There was no public comment this evening.

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42 **Police Chief Joseph Gordon Discussion regarding disposition of retired police cruiser**

43 Chief Gordon said usually Chicago Motors will take the town's police vehicles but this year
44 they weren't interested because they weren't offered to bid on a new vehicle.

45 Selectman Goldman said he would like to know if the Fire Department can use it for any
46 reason or he'd like to see the Town keep it for a pool vehicle for an employee to use while
47 working. Lynne said this has come up in the past and the age and the wear and tear of the

48 vehicle should be considered. There would also be a cost to the insurance line and vehicle
49 maintenance line as well that they didn't budget for. She said they also need to take into

50 considerations where it will be housed, etc. Lynne explained there are 3 positions in town
51 that generate the most mileage and how would it be determined who uses it on what day.

52 Selectman Cleveland said he likes the idea but would want to do a cost analysis to be sure it
53 is worth it. Selectman Tombarello asked about offering it to the SSATP. Selectman

54 Goldman said he would like to research the feasibility of keeping it as a town vehicle.

55 Selectman Goldman and Selectman Cleveland will work on this with Lynne.

56 Chief Gordon said he is sending a few officers to CT for school and is asking to use the

57 town's credit card to secure the rooms and the Board is okay with that. Chief Gordon said

58 Alex passed his police academy physical fitness test.

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61 **Discussion regarding Town Clerk/Tax Collector salary and benefits**

62 Lynne said she has been asked to gather information regarding the Town Clerk/Tax
63 Collector's position. She said the current Town Clerk/Tax Collector has been in this
64 position for 15 years and she was asked to see if the salary of this position can be reduced,
65 as well as benefits changed.

66 Lynne reached out to the town attorney and asked if they can reduce the salary for this
67 position and the attorney said usually the change is done by the voters. Lynne reviewed

68 the warrant articles in the past years that were passed to make the position what it is today
69 regarding hours and benefits. Lynne said there was never an article regarding the amount

70 of salary for the Town Clerk/Tax Collector position. However, one of the articles was to

71 increase the vacation time to 4 weeks per year, which passed. Lynne said per the attorney,

72 the best way to make a change is to do it now because there will be someone new in the

73 position in March and it should be done through a warrant article. Selectman Tombarello

74 feels that this is an elected position and would be in favor of leaving it alone and hopes they

75 get a qualified person. Selectman Brown said he is not in favor of offering a new employee

76 in the town 4 weeks vacation and is in favor of lowering the salary of this position. Some of

77 the Board voiced a concern as to having this be on the agenda this evening and not having

78 and prior discussion about it and Selectman Goldman reminded the Board of the many non-

79 public discussions the Board has had in the past few months regarding the resignation of

80 the current Town Clerk/Tax Collector and how they needed to do something, so they are

81 not in this position again. Selectman Goldman feels the currently have an elected position

82 and the employee can come and go as she pleases and the Board posed the question, what

83 do the changes that are being proposed have to do with the problem they are facing? They

84 don't feel that reducing the salary or benefits is going to change the hours that the elected
85 official works.
86 Selectwoman Buco asked if the position was adjusted as a result of the salary survey and
87 Selectman Goldman said yes, but it is an average and Selectwoman Buco said she is
88 comfortable leaving the salary amount where it is.
89 Selectman Brown feels that the Board needs to focus on what salary they are going to pay
90 and how much vacation time they are going to offer. Selectman Goldman said he is willing
91 to keep the rate of pay the same but would like to see the benefits follow other town
92 employee benefits, such as not receiving 4 weeks vacation as soon as the person is elected.
93 Selectman Cleveland feels the benefits should be equal to all employees and feels like this
94 should be changed.
95 The consensus of the Board is to allow Lynne to reach out to the town attorney to draft a
96 warrant article regarding the Town Clerk/Tax Collector's benefits to be in line with other
97 town employee's benefits. Selectman Cleveland asked if a town employee of 15 years was
98 elected to this position would they get their same benefits because of their longevity in the
99 town and the answer was yes.

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102 **Review of 2018 warrant articles after review by Dept. of Revenue**

103 Paula Gulla came to the table to discuss the articles. Paula said DRA did their review and
104 there were a few small changes. Article 10 & 14 have a line added that say this is a special
105 warrant article, because these are articles that the Board chose to make special warrant
106 articles. Lynne stated that Article 2 and 3 only have recommendations from 4 members of
107 the Board and asked Selectman Goldman if he wanted to put his recommendation on them,
108 if so they will have to revote the articles.

109 Selectman Cleveland had a question about the land purchase article and wanted to know if
110 they would be able to do anything with the property prior to the 5 years being up and
111 Lynne said she thinks it is just like a mortgage. The property would belong to the town but
112 the builder would hold the deed until final payment is made.

113

114 **Motion by** Selectman Cleveland to recommend Special Warrant Article 2.

115 **Seconded by** Selectman Tombarello

116 **The BOS recommend this article 5-0-0**

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118 **Motion by** Selectman Tombarello to recommend article 3 as written.

119 **Seconded by** Selectman Cleveland

120 **The BOS recommend this article 5-0-0**

121

122 The following articles will be read by the Board as listed.

123 Article 2 – Selectman Goldman will read this article and Selectman Cleveland will give a
124 presentation

125 Article 3 – Selectman Brown will read this article

126 Article 4 – Selectwoman Buco

127 Article 5 – Selectwoman Buco

128 Article 6 – Selectman Tombarello

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- 130 Article 7 – Selectman Cleveland
- 131 Article 8 – Selectman Cleveland
- 132 Article 9 - Selectman Tombarello
- 133 Article 10 – Selectman Brown
- 134 Article 11 – Selectman Brown
- 135 Article 12 – Selectman Cleveland
- 136 Article 13 – Selectman Goldman
- 137 Article 14 – Selectman Brown
- 138 Article 15 – Selectman Tombarello
- 139 Article 16 – Selectman Cleveland
- 140 Article 17 – Selectman Tombarello
- 141 Article 18 - Selectwoman Buco
- 142 Article 19 – Selectwoman Buco
- 143 Article 20 – Selectman Tombarello

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145 Selectman Brown asked if anyone is planning to attend the meeting with the moderator
146 this week and Selectman Cleveland said he may be able to go and Selectman Brown said he
147 will attend as well. Lynne said it's not necessary for anyone to attend as it's more of an
148 organizational meeting for the staff during election day, however if the Board would like to
149 attend they may. She said that there will be one member of the Budget Committee in
150 attendance as well.

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153 **Discussion regarding permit for exotic plant control on Phillips Pond**

154 Paula said there is a special permit that needs to be filed ahead of time in the amount of
155 \$1,032.50. She said the company that will be doing this work is highly suggesting that the
156 permit be filed now so that they are able to do the job in the spring. If they wait, then the
157 job won't be done until late summer or early fall and Lynne said if this is not done in the
158 spring there is a good chance they will lose the pond. The Board is in agreement to allow
159 the permitting to take place. Lynne said there may be some funds coming for 2 houses that
160 are left to be built in this area and could possibly be used for this purpose. Selectman
161 Cleveland cautions Lynne not to count on this money because he is on the Planning Board
162 and in reviewing something like this recently he found out that the money that Lynne is
163 referring to is a donation from the purchase of the property and the amount could be as
164 low as \$500.00.

165 **Motion by** Selectman Tombarello to allow Selectman Goldman to sign the special permit
166 for exotic plant control.

167 **Seconded by** Selectman Brown

168 **In Favor,** Selectman Brown, Selectman Cleveland, Selectman Goldman, Selectman
169 Tombarello and Selectwoman Buco.

170 **Motion passes unanimously**

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175 **Motion by** Selectman Tombarello to go into Nonpublic discussion under RSA 91-A:3 II (d)
176 property.

177 **Seconded by** Selectman Cleveland

178 **Roll Call** – Selectman Brown – yes, Selectman Cleveland – yes, Selectman Goldman – yes,
179 Selectman Tombarello – yes and Selectwoman Buco – yes.

180 **Motion passes unanimously**

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182 **Motion by** Selectman Brown to seal the minutes of this non-public session.

183 **Seconded by** Selectman Tombarello

184 **In Favor**, Selectman Brown, Selectman Cleveland, Selectman Goldman, Selectman
185 Tombarello and Selectwoman Buco.

186 **Motion passes unanimously**

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190 **OLD BUSINESS**

191 **Further discussion regarding 2017 budget and encumbrances**

192 Lynne explained the total operating budget surplus is \$18,690.34, which includes the
193 encumbrances already voted on by the Board. Lynne asked the Board if they are okay with
194 this amount and is she able to move forward with the previous encumbrances. The Board
195 is okay with this figure. Lynne also said the revenue of \$240,418.00 is additional revenue
196 received.

197

198 **TOWN ADMINISTRATOR’S REPORT**

199 Lynne said she’s been busy with the public hearings and final hearings.

200 Generator has been put in place and the electrician is planning to come this week to install
201 and the propane company will be here at the end of the month.

202 Lynne said she will be working on the Annual Report and would like to know if the Board
203 has any key points they would like to add to the Selectman’s page.

204 Lynne is looking for the final reports for department heads as well.

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208 **CORRESPONDENCE**

209 Packet from DES regarding Little River Water Services. She said they are responding to this
210 being submitted and she will be speaking with Conservation regarding this.

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212 Two notices of decision were received from the Planning Board regarding Vantage Point
213 and Sullivan subdivision. Selectman Cleveland said these are the normal conditions for the
214 developments and there isn’t anything out of the ordinary regarding this.

215

216 Information from the County Commissioners 2018/19 budget request. Selectman
217 Tombarello said they are proposing an 18 month budget, which is a 1.04% increase.

218 Lowest the county has had in decades. He said there are 3 new positions, 2 county
219 attorneys and another deputy sheriff.

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221 **LIAISON REPORT**
222 Selectman Brown – Budget Committee met for the last time at the public hearing.
223 Selectman Cleveland had nothing to report
224 Selectman Goldman – code enforcement had one incident that the code enforcement officer
225 is following up on.
226 Selectwoman Buco – Highway keeping things cleaned up.
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229 ***Motion by*** Selectman Tombarello to adjourn
230 ***Seconded by Selectwoman Buco***
231 ***In Favor,*** Selectman Brown, Selectman Cleveland, Selectman Goldman, Selectman
232 Tombarello and Selectwoman Buco.
233 ***Motion passes unanimously***
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237 Respectfully Submitted,
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241 Sue Reynolds