

1 DRAFT

2 BOARD OF SELECTMEN

3 TOWN OF SANDOWN, NH

4 SANDOWN, NH 03873

5
6 **Meeting Date: March 26, 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 Selectman Hudgins and Selectman Brown

14 **Office Assistant:** Paula Gulla

15 **Not Present: Town Administrator:** Lynne Blaisdell

16 **Recording Secretary:** Sue Reynolds

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18
19 Selectman Goldman opened the meeting at 7pm with the Pledge of Allegiance.

20
21 Selectman Goldman asked the Board to review the minutes of Monday, March 12, 2018.

22 **Motion by** Selectman Tombarello to accept the minutes of Monday, March 12, 2018 as
23 written.

24 **Seconded by** Selectman Brown

25 **In Favor,** Selectman Tombarello, Selectman Brown, Selectman Cleveland and Selectman
26 Goldman.

27 **Abstain,** Selectman Hudgins

28 **Motion passes 4-0-1**

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32 **Public Comment**

33 Dave Solomon resident of Sandown is here to address the fact that Selectman Goldman
34 feels that the town is in a good place. He feels that this couldn't be further from the truth as
35 both the town and school budgets did not pass as well as important articles to preserve the
36 town's future. He feels the town needs to be unified with the TRSD and until that happens
37 he feels the no votes will continue. He is concerned with the BOS being leaders of the town

38 and not acting on the concerns they have with the school district. He feels the message that
39 was sent by the voters at the past election is being ignored by some of the selectmen and
40 both of the School Board representatives. He would like to see the residents of Sandown
41 take back their town and understands it would be a collective effort on many residents. He
42 is asking the Board to become part of the solution or to kindly step aside.

43

44 Erica Olsen, resident of Sandown came to speak to the Board to encourage them not to
45 remove the Firework expense from the budget. She said this is a community event that
46 means a lot to the town. They pay \$4,500.00 for an \$8,000.00 show.

47 Selectman Brown stated that he has been thinking of this all week and said that if a vote
48 was to take place again tonight he would not be in favor of removing this amount from the
49 budget.

50

51 Kathleen Gorman, resident of Sandown came to speak to the Board regarding the changes
52 the Board is faced with regarding the default budget. She feels it was a disservice to the
53 town and to the employees without the funds being available, to give the employee raises
54 in January and especially now that we are in a default budget and feels these should be
55 rescinded. She also stated she feels the salary survey was skewed. She said there is a
56 \$46,500.00 savings to the town if the raises were rescinded. She said if they were just
57 given a 3% increase there would be a savings of \$34,000. She then suggested an
58 incremental increase to bring the employees where they need to be. She also feels the
59 recreation budget is too large and should be revenue neutral.

60

61 John Donohue, resident of Sandown came to the table to dispute the previous comment
62 made by Kathy Gorman regarding the recreation budget. He said unless you have actually
63 done the job you don't know what it takes to do it. He also said that over the past 10 years
64 the recreation department has turned over \$500,000.00 back to the town in revenue.

65

66 Kathleen Gorman came back to the table to state that she feels the programs should be
67 revenue neutral and was not suggesting cutting the recreation director's hours. She also
68 stated that they need to do better advertising to market the older community, so they are
69 aware of events that take place for them. This will also increase revenue.

70

71 Deb Brown, Recreation Director, since 2005 they have turned back over \$543,000.00 in
72 revenue to the town. She said the recreation department also contributed \$160,000.00 to
73 the implementation of the recreation building. She also stated that back in 1999 - 2001 the
74 recreation department asked for and operating budget from the town of \$10,000.00 and
75 feels they are revenue neutral at this point.

76

77 Selectman Cleveland asked the amount of money that was spent out in order for the
78 revenue to be returned and Deb said she would have to have Cheryl (Finance Director) run
79 the numbers.

80

81 Kathleen Gorman came back to the table to say that the recreation budget is \$170,000.00
82 and the anticipated revenue is about \$50,000.00. She also stated she is not trying to target
83 one specific budget.

84 **Motion by** Selectman Brown to accept the non-public minutes from Monday, March 12,
85 2018 as written.

86 **Seconded by** Selectman Cleveland

87 **In Favor,** Selectman Tombarello, Selectman Cleveland, Selectman Tombarello and
88 Selectman Goldman.

89 **Abstain,** Selectman Hudgins

90 **Motion passes 4-0-1**

91

92 **Further review of 2018 operating budget**

93 Cheryl Eastman came to the table to review the 5 budget options that the Board has asked
94 her to put for review. She explained the different options that are in front of the Board.

95 Selectman Brown asked how the proration was done and Cheryl said this was done

96 according to the percentage of their budget and how it affects the entire operating budget.

97 Selectman Cleveland handed out what he came up with regarding the potential changes.

98 He said there are some highlighted areas on his proposal that may need to be looked into.

99

100 Cheryl explained the CBA article for the police contract and the dollar amount was a worse-
101 case scenario cost for the increased items. She said there \$32,725 in that article that will
102 fund payroll costs and anything associated with the collective bargaining agreement.

103

104 With Selectman Cleveland's proposal they are still short \$17,000.00 but he feels the Board
105 should do what affects the least amount of people the least.

106

107 Selectman Goldman asked what the difference is between option 5 and Selectman
108 Cleveland's proposal. Selectman Cleveland's proposal include the parking lot and the
109 cemetery wall.

110 Selectman Goldman said he spoke with the Fire Chief and he feels the roof should be dome
111 this year as it is leaking.

112

113 There was discussion about removing the paving of the parking lot because it failed in
114 warrant articles in years past.

115

116 Selectman Brown said he's been looking at the 5 options for the week, but he just received
117 the proposal from Selectman Cleveland and would need to take more time to look at it in
118 detail. His assumption is that other departments would be affected very differently than
119 what option 5 proposes and Selectman Cleveland agreed with this.

120

121 Selectman Tombarello said the Board could have waited to make the raises effective April
122 1st but isn't in favor of taking them away at this point, however he feels there should be an
123 adjustment made in the healthcare contribution from a 10% contribution to 15%, which
124 would create a savings for the town of \$9,000.00.

125

126 Selectman Goldman stated a few years ago the Board approved a \$50,000.00 increase it to
127 3 employees and nobody said anything and this year they gave 12 employees about the
128 same amount and a big deal is being made of it. He feels the Board should look at the

129 employee contribution for the insurance but doesn't feel the employees should pay for the
130 Board's mistake of awarding raises in January.

131

132 Selectman Goldman said he is in favor of option 5 and asked Cheryl what would the impact
133 be if the Board takes one more week to decide and Cheryl said there are some employees
134 that are due to get a raise April 1st, and if this isn't decided on tonight they would just wait
135 one more week to get their raise, however it would be retroactive back to April 1.

136

137 Selectman Brown said he agrees that the insurance should be increased but not at this
138 point because he feels it would be penalizing the 13 employees that take the insurance for
139 the Board's mistake. He would be in favor of discussing this at a later date. He also said he
140 came tonight prepared to make a decision with the options that were presented to him last
141 week. He is not in favor of a 6th option being presented this evening, although Selectman
142 Cleveland has a good presentation and would like to move forward with a decision on one
143 of the first five options, but he will do what the consensus of the Board is.

144

145 Selectman Tombarello feels because they are in a default budget now it might continue
146 year after year. He understands there are a lot of concerned residents out there.

147

148 Selectman Goldman said he feels like the tax issue lies within the School District and is in
149 favor of meeting with the school district reps to solve these problems. He understands the
150 anger in the town but feels that it is being directed in the wrong place. He said the town
151 has been scrimping on the infrastructure and employees raises for many years and they are
152 now paying for it. When looking at the default budget he feels the order should be public
153 safety, employees and infrastructure. He also said he would be happy to have the
154 insurance contribution discussion but doesn't feel this is the time to do it.

155

156 Selectman Brown said if they change the employee contribution from 90% to 85% the
157 additional payments to the town will be \$9,850.00 and doesn't feel that is fair to the 13
158 employees to absorb this cost. Selectman Goldman also stated the employees that opt not
159 to take the insurance through the town will still get the buyout.

160

161 Selectman Brown stated that a few years ago the owner of the general store wanted to put
162 gas pumps in and they were told that Sandown was too small and would not create enough
163 business.

164

165 **Motion by** Selectman Brown to accept default option 5, which eliminates the parking lot
166 paving and cemetery wall and puts fireworks back in which meets the default budget at
167 \$4,019,521.00.

168 **Seconded by** Selectman Tombarello for discussion

169 Selectman Tombarello asked about the library budget with the proposal of changing a part
170 time position to a full-time position and what happens with this. Selectman Goldman said
171 they are now running on their default budget as well. Cheryl said she prorated their
172 budget like she did with the rest of the departments.

173 Selectman Cleveland said this is why he went from the prorated method to what he
174 proposed.

175 Selectman Cleveland feels like the Board should look through the budgets individually and
176 make changes accordingly.

177 Selectman Tombarello asks again what the ramification would be by waiting and Cheryl
178 said April 1st raises will be put off for 1 more week.

179 Cheryl said her option 1 is pretty much what Selectman Cleveland has proposed.

180 Selectman Goldman said they are faced with 3 options, which are waiting 1 week, option 5
181 or Selectman Cleveland's option and removing the parking lot.

182 Cheryl said she can make a comparison the 3 options discussed above for the Board to
183 review during the week.

184 Selectman Brown said if it is the consensus of the Board to wait one more week to make a
185 decision he will withdraw his motion.

186

187 ***Selectman Tombarello withdrew his second***

188 ***Selectman Brown withdrew his motion.***

189

190 The consensus of the Board is to wait one more week and make a decision next week.

191

192 Paula said this will not be the first item on the agenda next week as there will be a public
193 hearing for the address changes on Showell Pond.

194

195

196

197 **NEW BUSINESS**

198 **Discussion regarding police detail rate**

199 Paula Gulla stated with the police bargaining agreement the detail amount is increasing to
200 \$60.00 per hour. The hourly rate is \$54.00 per hour and the detail amount is \$6.00 per
201 hour.

202 ***Motion by*** Selectman Tombarello to increase the detail rate effective 4/1/18 through to
203 3/31/2021 to \$60.00 per hour with 6.00 per hour going towards the cruiser.

204 ***Seconded by*** Selectman Cleveland

205 Selectman Brown asked where the income came from and Cheryl said because of the
206 collective bargaining agreement being increased in order to keep detail in the black the
207 Chief requested the increase to offset the cost.

208 ***In Favor,*** Selectman Tombarello, Selectman Cleveland, Selectman Goldman, Selectman
209 Brown and Selectman Hudgins.

210 ***Motion passes unanimously***

211

212

213 **Review of engagement letter with Melanson Heath to conduct audit of Tax Collector**
214 **records as required by law with a change in position**

215 Selectman Goldman said this is protocol when a tax collector leaves. He asked the Board if
216 they had any questions and hearing none he asked for a motion.

217 ***Motion by*** Selectman Tombarello to grant Melanson Heath up to \$1,500.00 to do an audit
218 of the tax collector's office effective immediately, and to allow the chairman to sign all
219 necessary documents.

220 ***Seconded by*** Selectman Cleveland

221 Selectman Cleveland asked if anything is done about safe combinations and door locks.
222 Selectman Goldman said this makes sense and asked Paula to look into this.
223 Cheryl stated computer access has been addressed but isn't sure about actual locks.
224 ***In Favor***, Selectman Tombarello, Selectman Cleveland, Selectman Goldman, Selectman
225 Brown and Selectman Hudgins.
226 ***Motion passes unanimously***

227
228

229 **Appointment of Deputy Town Clerk/Tax Collector**

230 Paula stated when a new Town Clerk is in place the Deputy needs to be appointed as the
231 new Town Clerk's Deputy.

232 ***Motion by*** Selectman Brown to appoint Tanya Gaynor as the Deputy Town Clerk/Tax
233 Collector effective immediately.

234 ***Seconded by*** Selectman Cleveland

235 Selectman Tombarello said Tanya and Judy are doing a great job in the office and the town
236 is fortunate to have them.

237 ***In Favor***, Selectman Tombarello, Selectman Cleveland, Selectman Goldman, Selectman
238 Brown and Selectman Hudgins.

239 ***Motion passes unanimously***

240

241 **Review request by Reach the Beach to use Town Hall for annual road race**

242 Paula said they are asking to use town hall as their check point on September 15th. Paula
243 said Chief Gordon is okay with this as well.

244 The consensus of the Board is okay with this and is in favor of Selectman Goldman signing
245 the appropriate paperwork.

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247

248 **Review request by Rockingham County to participate in request for proposal of
249 electric supplier pricing**

250 Paula said the county is proposing an RFP for electric supplier pricing collectively with
251 local towns. Paula said we already in a contract with Neighborhood Energy and First Point
252 Power for our electricity. She said this RFP doesn't commit the town to anything, it is
253 simply getting a quote to allow the town to decide if they want to move forward with it.
254 One of the contracts that the town has doesn't end until October 2020 which is 2 years after
255 the original contract ends.

256 Paula said the next time the county will be doing this is April 2020.

257 Selectman Tombarello said the county has received a great rate from White Collins and
258 they are looking to offer this to all of the towns in the county.

259 Selectman Cleveland is in favor of looking into this as well.

260 Selectman Brown asked why we have 2 contracts and Selectman Goldman asked Paula to
261 research this with Tad.

262 The consensus of the Board is to move forward with the proposed RFP to see what they
263 could get for rates.

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266 **CORRESPONDENCE**

267 Letter to the Board from Little Mill Woods Board of Directors stating they have all the
268 documents of their residents stating they meet all of the occupation requirements.

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270

271 **LIAISON REPORT**

272 Selectman Tombarello – Town Clerk things are going well and they are going well with the
273 fire dept. too. He has an upcoming Cable TV meeting.

274 Selectman Cleveland – Finance busy with default budget, Planning – voluntary lot merger
275 submitted for 25 & 29 Birch Drive.

276 Selectman Goldman – ZBA meeting this Thursday

277 Selectman Brown – Library will be inviting him to their next meeting as well as SSATP. He
278 has also spoken with the Public Works Director and they will work out a schedule for them
279 to meet.

280 Selectman Hudgins – Recreation – met with rec and for April they have several cooking
281 classes for kids, a first aide class on April 14th, Lions Club Dinner on April 21st and a kids
282 program for April vacation. He also said there are beach passes available to residents this
283 year to help with the non-residents using this area. He said recreation is proud that they
284 are able to give back over \$543,000.00 to the town in revenues. He also said he sat with
285 conservation – Fishing Derby coming up the end of April at Sal’s Pond and doing a geo
286 casking event on Earth Day. The are looking to distribute blue trash bags. Paula said the
287 town is partnering with the Girl Scouts and they have plenty of blue bags.

288
289 Selectman Tombarello asked what prevention is being taken when trash is being picked up,
290 especially due to the fact they could be picking up needles.

291 Selectman Goldman said the police department has a sharps container and he offered to
292 have his number given out and he will contact the police department.

293 Erica Olsen came to the table to say that she is part of the Lion’s Club and they use gloves
294 and the needles they have seen have been capped.

295 Conservation can reach out to Selectman Hudgins and he will contact Selectman Goldman
296 to come pick them up.

297
298 Selectman Goldman stated if you see a soda bottle with metal or something inside, don’t
299 touch it and call for help with it.

300

301 **Motion by** Selectman Tombarello

302 **Seconded by** Selectman Brown

303 **In Favor,** Selectman Tombarello, Selectman Cleveland, Selectman Goldman, Selectman
304 Brown and Selectman Hudgins.

305 **Motion passes unanimously**

306

307 Respectfully Submitted

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309

310

311 Sue Reynolds

