

1 DRAFT

2 BOARD OF SELECTMEN

3 TOWN OF SANDOWN, NH

4 SANDOWN, NH 03873

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6 **Meeting Date: November 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 Brown, Selectman Goldman, Selectman
13 Hudgins and Selectman Tombarello

14 **Town Administrator:** Lynne Blaisdell

15 **Recording Secretary** – Sue Reynolds

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18 Selectman Goldman called the meeting to order at 7pm and the Pledge of Allegiance was
19 done.

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22 **PUBLIC COMMENT**

23 Lynne stated this Friday 6:30pm is the Annual Tree Lighting with a visit from Santa and she
24 encourages the public to attend.

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27 Selectman Goldman stated this is the second Public Hearing and the first one took place on
28 Tuesday, November 13th. He continued to explain the requirements to hold the Public
29 Hearing and explained the Board is prepared to vote on the sale of the property on Monday,
30 December 10th to Mr. Richard Moussa at the regularly scheduled meeting.

31 **Motion by** Selectman Tombarello to open the Public Hearing according to RSA 41:14-a to
32 discuss the sale of Town owned land. Parcels identified as 10 Birch Drive, Tax Map/Lot 28-
33 57 and 12 Birch Drive, Tax Map/Lot 28-58.

34 **Seconded by** Selectman Cleveland

35 **In Favor** Selectman Tombarello, Selectman Cleveland, Selectman Goldman, Selectman
36 Brown and Selectman Hudgins.

37 **Motion passes unanimously**

38 Dave Solomon, resident of the town came to the table and asked the Board how the sale
39 price came to be, and Selectman Goldman said it was a negotiated between the Board and a
40 potential buyer. Selectman Goldman explained anyone that is interested in purchasing
41 town owned property can let the office know and it will be brought to the BOS for
42 discussion. He continued to explain that you the price will be negotiated between the
43 Board and the potential buyer until an amount is agreed upon, and if not, then the property
44 wouldn't be purchased.

45 Selectman Brown said he is surprised that there are no other comments regarding this
46 based on the discussion that took place during the first Public Hearing.

47 Selectman Brown also stated there are good comments on Facebook regarding the validity
48 of selling the property and asked the Board if they have had discussions with any residents
49 and would they be in favor of discussing this further. Selectman Tombarello said he has not
50 heard from anyone stating the Board is wrong for selling this property. And he also
51 thought there would be more representation in the audience regarding this sale. Selectman
52 Brown said some of the comments were regarding the amount it would cost the town if a
53 family with a few kids moved in. Selectman Goldman said the law allows enough
54 opportunity for those to come forward and speak with the Board and reminds the public
55 that just because the property is purchased doesn't mean that he will be able to build on it.
56 All the Board is doing is selling the property as is, where is.

57 He also explains that tonight is the last night for any comments and when the decision is
58 made on December 10th it will be too late for the residents to come forward.

59 Selectman Tombarello explains that if a petition is brought before the Board on December
60 10th with 50 registered voters then the sale of the property will be placed on a warrant
61 article for the town to vote on.

62 Selectman Brown explained there were good comments on Facebook and he encourages
63 the people to come tonight to voice their opinions, however he will have no choice but to be
64 in favor of the sale if the comments aren't brought forward this evening.

65

66 **Review of 2019 budget proposals for Planning Board, Zoning Board of Adjustment,** 67 **Conservation and Library**

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69 **Conservation Commission**

70 Paul Carey and Terry Knuuttunen are presenting this budget. Paul said the Environmental
71 Consultant line is based on the number of meetings they anticipate having and feels
72 comfortable with the number presented.

73 **Motion by** Selectman Tombarello to recommend this budget to the Budget Committee with
74 Gross Expenses of \$8,921.00, Revenue of \$210.00 and Net Expenses of \$8,681.00.

75 **Seconded by** Selectman Brown.

76 **In Favor** Selectman Tombarello, Selectman Cleveland, Selectman Goldman, Selectman
77 Brown and Selectman Hudgins.

78 **Motion passes unanimously**

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84 **Planning Board**

85 Ed Mencis and Ernie Brown are presenting this budget.

86 There is no increase in this budget and there is a decrease in Revenue.

87 Selectman Tombarello asked why the Revenue was so high in 2017 and Ernie said this is
88 due to the building on Wells Village Rd.

89 **Motion by** Selectman Brown to recommend this budget to the Budget Committee with
90 Gross Expenses of \$25,854.00, Revenue of \$2,000.00 and Net Expenses of \$23,854.00.

91 **Seconded by** Selectman Cleveland

92 **In Favor** Selectman Tombarello, Selectman Cleveland, Selectman Goldman, Selectman
93 Brown and Selectman Hudgins.

94 **Motion passes unanimously**

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97 **Zoning Board of Adjustments**

98 Steve Misner is presenting this budget.

99 Selectman Goldman stated this budget has an increase of 10.29% but it is on a \$2,400
100 budget.

101 **Motion by** Selectman Tombarello to recommend this budget to the Budget Committee with
102 Gross Expenses of \$2,680.00, Revenue of \$2,000.00 and Net Expenses of \$680.00.

103 **Seconded by** Selectman Cleveland

104 **In Favor** Selectman Tombarello, Selectman Cleveland, Selectman Goldman, Selectman
105 Brown and Selectman Hudgins.

106 **Motion passes unanimously**

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108 **Library budget**

109 Tina Owens, Diana True, Deb Hoadley, Peter Stock and Carol Fouriner are presenting this
110 budget.

111 Selectman Goldman stated the Board didn't receive any year to date information, back up
112 information and what they did receive isn't what all of the other departments have been
113 submitting. He said he is disappointed that on the budget presented it stated that the
114 library is a bottom line budget and anyone wanting additional information may obtain it at
115 the library. He agrees that the library is a bottom line budget, and also states that the
116 Board is responsible for the bottom line of the town budget. He said he can't justify a 6.6%
117 increase and the implementation of a full-time employee without any back up information.

118 Selectman Goldman said he is disappointed in the manner that this budget is being
119 presented especially with the fact the Board worked very closely with the library on last
120 year's budget. Tina stated the trustees prepared their information the way they did
121 because they are a bottom line budget and have the authority to move money to different
122 line as they see the need. She explained they put the budget into categories and the only
123 one that has an increase is the personnel category, most of the others are decreased.

124 Deb said there were challenges with the budget worksheet last year and if they reduced
125 line items it was essentially coming from a particular category. She continued to say
126 Last year's budget the BOS approved 4% and the BC approved a slightly higher budget.

127 She said they are not trying to hide anything, and they would like to put their resources
128 into their staff this year. She also said they met with the Budget Committee in September

129 with their actuals and the Budget Committee appreciated the format in which the budget
130 was presented.

131 Selectman Brown said the only line that has increased is the Personnel line and others have
132 decreased. Deb said these are the benefits for the Assistant Library Director, which totals
133 about \$20,000.00.

134 Selectman Tombarello said he was insulted when he received this information with a lot
135 less detail and is very upset.

136 Selectman Goldman explained the 6 additional hours per week will cost the town an
137 additional \$20,000.00 which equals \$85.00 per hour, which is a lot of money per hour for 1
138 employee and there isn't any way he can support this.

139

140 Deb stated the Salary/Wages line will be increased to \$197,352.00 because of the increase
141 in benefits.

142 Selectman Goldman said he is used to seeing the breakdown per employee and that is
143 missing from this proposal. Deb said by doing this they are also looking at the future as she
144 will never get a quality part time assistant director. She said they are a very busy library
145 and are limited with the staffing they currently have, without having 2 full-time positions.

146

147 Selectman Cleveland appreciates the work the library has done and is making a difference.
148 He feels that if this service isn't serving everyone then this becomes a want to have service
149 vs. a need to have service. He said according to their handout only 60% of the population
150 use the library and he would support a 1 – 2% increase for a non-essential budget but can't
151 support the 6.6% increase.

152 Tina Owens explains they are not trying to be deceitful or malicious. She stated that over
153 the years of sitting in front of the Budget Committee they have been asked to reduce lines
154 such as office supplies, materials, etc. and being a bottom line budget the trustees are able
155 to move money where it is needed so they thought in the essence of saving the time of the
156 trustees they would put together a budget with categories and work from there. She said
157 they are also looking out for the best way to use Deb's time and felt this was the best way to
158 show the BOS exactly what they need.

159 Selectman Tombarello said there is nothing that lets the Board know where they are with
160 their 2018 expenditures.

161 Selectman Goldman understands what the library is doing for the community but continues
162 to say the town pinching pennies because of the school budget and feels this is not the year
163 for this amount of increase in this budget. He said if the hours were eliminated, he could
164 support this but not at the expense of the technology line suffering.

165 Tina Owens feels they have been doing zero based budgeting on the backs of the schools
166 but if they need to hire a new Asst. Director, they would not be able to do it with what is
167 currently in the budget.

168 Diana True said they have been presenting this to the Board for the past 3 – 4 years. Deb is
169 very well known and is doing a lot of good things for the community and isn't able to be at
170 the library all the time and they are at a tipping point.

171 Tina said in the past 25 years the local schools have never wanted to participate in story
172 hour and such and Sandown schools are now looking to partner with the library.

173

174 Selectman Brown said that he is the liaison to the Library, attends their meetings and
175 understands how hard everyone works. He despises the word non-essential and feels it is
176 demeaning to the hard-working library staff. He said Deb spends a lot of time out of the
177 library and in the community, but he also has a responsibility to the voters as to not to go to
178 a default and would like to see something less than a 6.6% increase. He understands the
179 need but can't support this increase. He suggested the library trustees to come back with
180 an adjusted budget.

181 Selectman Tombarello said he would like to see where the figures currently stand and can't
182 see that from what was presented tonight.

183 Selectman Goldman recapped and said the BOS could vote on this tonight or the trustees
184 and library director can come back to a future meeting with YDT numbers. He said the
185 budget currently has increased by \$22,000.00 and doesn't want the resources of the library
186 to be forgotten because of the increase in the payroll line.

187 Deb said she can email the information to Lynne and they will come back to the Board on
188 December 10th. Deb will also email the information to the Budget Committee to review
189 prior to their meeting.

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191

192 **NEW BUSINESS**

193 **Acceptance of donation to Senior Affairs Transportation Donation Fund**

194 **Motion by** Selectman Tombarello to accept the donation of \$70.00 to be deposited into the
195 SSATP fund account.

196 **Seconded by** Selectman Cleveland

197 **In Favor** Selectman Tombarello, Selectman Cleveland, Selectman Goldman, Selectman
198 Brown and Selectman Hudgins.

199 **Motion passes unanimously**

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202 **OLD BUSINESS**

203 **Further discussion regarding town website options**

204 Lynne reminded the Board of the presentation that took place last month and a custom
205 design is \$4,5000.00 and \$3,500.00 for a basic website and either cost can be split over the
206 next 3 years.

207 Selectman Brown likes the custom website and would like to spread it over the 3 years.

208 Selectman Tombarello agrees and Selectman Cleveland said he would like to go with the
209 custom one and look to see if money is available in this year's budget. Selectman Hudgins
210 agrees. Selectman Goldman said through this week they will have \$150,000.00 in the
211 budget if they only pay the necessary expenses. Selectman Cleveland suggested waiting
212 until they get closer to the end of the year to see if the money is available. The Board
213 agrees.

214 Lynne explained they have their website until April 30th and she can let the company know
215 they are planning to move forward with the \$4,500.00 custom website.

216 They will look to the end of the year with where they are with the expenses.

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220 **TOWN ADMINISTRATOR'S REPORT**

221 Getting ready for the tree lighting ceremony and doesn't have much to report it was a light
222 week last week.

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224

225 **CORRESPONDENCE**

226 NH Electric coop letting the Town know they will be cutting trees on the main electric lines
227 in this area.

228

229 Letter from Xfinity stating service changes as well as rate increases.

230

231 Letter from Conservation stating that Katie Palladino will be resigning from the committee
232 and the Board wishes her well and thanked her for her service.

233

234 Letter from NH Electric Co-op advising effective January 19th they will no longer pay for
235 traffic control when working to install, repair or remove outdoor lights in the town. If the
236 town requires a detail while this is taking place it will be paid for by the responsible party.
237 Chief Gordon's response to this information is that he feels there are certain streets that
238 require a detail and believes the Co-op should be paying for this.

239 Selectman Cleveland agrees with Chief Gordon in that they are the companies poles and the
240 town leases them and feels they should fix them.

241 Selectman Cleveland asked Lynne to look into the rates for this.

242

243 Lynne asked if the Board is okay with signing the letter that talks about required details in
244 the town. Selectman Goldman feels like Chief Gordon has already taken care of this.

245 Lynne will check with Chief Gordon to see if he signed it, however, the Board is okay with
246 Selectman Goldman signing it as well.

247

248 **LIAISON REPORT**

249 Selectman Tombarello – Budget Committee meeting this week to review the highway
250 budgets.

251 Selectman Cleveland – worked on Planning Board budget – Planning Board asked if a
252 Heritage Commission member would like to be an Alternate Member of the Planning Board.

253 There is a new alternate member of the Planning Board and they are working on the MS4.

254 Planning Board meeting December 4th at 7pm.

255 Selectman Goldman – had nothing to report

256 Selectman Brown – library would like the town to know there is no a Notary on sight
257 during open hours. – Storytime with Santa Clause, Monday, December 10th at 6pm. Adopt a
258 book with recommendations and lots more going on listed on the website.

259 Selectman Hudgins – met with rec and reviewed their budget. Will be getting a material
260 quote for the front porch – pillars are rotted, and they are looking at the decking.

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265 Deb Brown, resident in town (not representing as the Recreation Director) wanted to
266 comment on the Public Hearing – referred to a number of years ago and Russ Collins did a
267 study on the properties that the town owns – 2 lots would be nice to use as access to Angle
268 Pond for residents – feels like this is taking away from the town in the future as there is
269 limited access at Phillips Pond.

270 She hopes that in the future the Board will let department heads know of properties that
271 they are looking to sell. She is a concerned resident regarding the amount of the sale of
272 \$30,000.00 and asked if it was assessed at \$100,00.00 and Lynne said they were assessed
273 at about \$50,000.00 each. Selectman Goldman said this was negotiated between the Board
274 and the potential buyer with no expectation that the lot is buildable, that is the gamble the
275 potential buyer takes.

276 Deb is concerned with what it will cost the town if a house gets built and students live
277 there, and it will cost the town more in the long run to educate the children. Then she
278 refers to the property that was just voted down in March to prevent building in town and
279 doesn't understand the Board is selling property that could potentially be built on.

280
281 Selectman Goldman agrees that the Board should let the department heads know of parcels
282 that they are potentially going to sell.

283
284 Recreation commercial - Deb stated Annual Holiday Senior Luncheon will be on December
285 12 for ages 60 plus at Zorvino Vineyards register by December 4th. The Greater Works will
286 be playing as well as raffles, etc. Holiday house lighting contest from Dec 10 & 13th 1st, 2nd
287 and 3rd place prizes will be awarded. You need to be registered by Sunday, December 9th.
288 There is a coloring contest for children age 3 – grade 5, need to be turned in by December
289 6th. Dec 17th announcement of the winners. Yoga class new session 10 weeks Tuesdays
290 12/11 – 3/5

291
292 Dave Solomon to comment again on the Public Hearing and agrees with some of what Deb
293 said and asked about current tax use so the town does not get the tax benefit for selling the
294 property. Selectman Goldman said there is a minimum amount of acreage to do this.
295 Selectman Goldman asked Dave if there was a warrant article to purchase property to
296 conserve open space would he support and he said no because he is on the Budget
297 Committee and sees what this year's operating budget is looking like this year compared to
298 last year.

299
300 Lynne said recommendation came from the Planning Board to do a voluntary lot merger.

301
302 **Motion by** Selectman Brown made a motion to close the Public Hearing.

303 **Seconded by** Selectman

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

306 **Motion passes unanimously**

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309 **Motion by** Selectman Tombarello to go into non-public session under RSA 91-A:3II (b)
310 employee matter

311 **Seconded by** Selectman Brown.
312 **Roll Call**, Selectman Cleveland – yes, Selectman Tombarello – yes, Selectman Goldman –
313 yes, Selectman Brown – yes and Selectman Hudgins – yes.
314 **Motion passes unanimously**
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317 Meeting adjourned.
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320 Respectfully Submitted,
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325 Sue Reynolds