

Selectboard
January 9, 2023
FINAL

SELECTBOARD MEETING
January 9, 2023
7:30 P.M. - MUNICIPAL OFFICE BUILDING - HANOVER, NH

The meeting of the Selectboard was called to order at 7:30p.m. by Vice Chair Rassias. Also present were: Bill Geraghty, Selectboard Member, Joanna Whitcomb, Selectboard Member, Nancy Carter, Selectboard Member, Alex Torpey, Town Manager

Absent: Chair Peter Christie

Vice chair Rassias noted the procedure for public comment.

1. Public Comment

David Vincelette, 93 Lebanon St noted he has been arrested three times recently during the public comment portion of Selectboard meetings. He watched back the videos of the past 5 years of public comment and there was not mention of a 5-minute time limit until Oct 8, 2022. There is some discrepancy between Chair Christie's affidavit and the police affidavit regarding how much time he was given to speak.

There has also been a discrepancy as to whether he has been allowed to speak during other business items on the agenda over the years depending who was chairing the meeting.

He mentioned again topics he has mentioned before such as accusing the Town and Selectboard of criminal acts.

He noted his opinion that the meeting minutes are not descriptive enough.

He was asked by the Vice Chair to wrap up his comments after five minutes, but he continued.

He commented he has asked questions of the board and the Town Manager that have not been answered.

The Vice Chair asked several more times for Mr. Vincelette to wrap up his comments and step aside so the meeting could continue. He refused to do so initially, but eventually did with the intention of coming back to the table during other business.

2. Review and Consideration of CPCNH Cost Share Agreement

CPCNH will be launching Wave 1 of the Hanover Community Power as of April 1, 2023.

Board members received the following documents:

Cost Share Agreement which include Amendments to the Hanover Energy Aggregation Plan, CPCNH Data Security and Privacy Policy, Energy Portfolio Risk Management Policy, Retail Rates Policy and Financial Reserves Policy

The Selectboard must act on the above on January 9th for the Hanover Community Power to launch with Wave 1 in April of 2023.

Action Requested: Authorize the Town Manager to enter into a Cost Sharing Agreement and Member Services Contract for the Complete Service Bundle with the Community Power Coalition of New Hampshire (CPCNH) with a delegation of an Authorized Officer and with the elections on Page 19 of the Agreement being "Yes";

1) approve the CPCNH's Date Security and Privacy, Energy Portfolio Risk Management, Rates, and Financial Reserves Policies, and

2) approve the amendments to the Electric Aggregation Plan for Hanover Community Power as presented in the Agenda packet.

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Pete Kulbacki, Public Works Director, presented the item. Two members of Sustainable Hanover were also in attendance. The essence of the project is the Town will launch aggregate power for the residents. These documents provided need to be adopted for Hanover to join the group that will handle the launch.

Mr. Kulbacki gave the board a lengthy presentation on the item.

Selectboard Member Geraghty commented on the immense work that has gone into this project. July 13, 2021 Town Meeting approved a document and Selectboard has since approved it, but in the one supplied this week there have been changes. When were the changes made- before or after the vote?

Mr. Kulbacki explained the changes and why they were made after the vote.

He also clarified the opt-out vs the opt-in option for Hanover residents.

Mr. Kulbacki clarified for the board "Authorized Officer" is not a full-time job, it is someone to act on behalf of the board with the Coalition.

At 8pm, Vice Chair Rassias MOVED to Authorize the Town Manager to enter into a Cost Sharing Agreement and Member Services Contract for the Complete Service Bundle with the Community Power Coalition of New Hampshire (CPCNH) with Peter Kulbacki as Authorized Officer and with the elections on Page 19 of the Agreement being "Yes"; 1) approve the CPCNH's Data Security and Privacy, Energy Portfolio Risk Management, Rates, and Financial Reserves Policies, and 2) approve the amendments to the Electric Aggregation Plan for Hanover Community Power as presented in the Agenda packet. Selectboard Member Whitcomb SECONDED the Motion. All in favor

Yolanda Bumgardner of sustainable Hanover gave reasons why this is a positive benefit to the Town.

3. Recommendation to Set Public Hearing on Monday, January 23, 2023 to Accept Unanticipated Funds from InvestNH Municipal Planning and Zoning Grant Program in the amount of \$75,000.00

The Planning and Zoning Department has applied for a Housing Opportunity Planning Grant in the amount of \$75,000 to implement a campaign of public outreach to educate the community on the need for additional affordable housing and show how affordable housing can be done in a way that doesn't reduce property values or have adverse effects on the local neighborhood or the town as a whole.

Action Requested: Set Public Hearing on Monday, January 23, 2023 to accept these funds.

At 8:04 pm, Selectboard Member Geraghty MOVED to Set Public Hearing on Monday, January 23, 2023 to Accept Unanticipated Funds from InvestNH Municipal Planning and Zoning Grant Program in the amount of \$75,000.00. Selectboard Member Whitcomb SECONDED the Motion. All in favor

4. Recommendation to Set Public hearing on Monday, January 23, 2023 to Accept Unanticipated Funds from the State of New Hampshire in the amount of \$81,384.71 representing FY 2022 employer contribution reimbursements for the New Hampshire Retirement System

The State of New Hampshire has begun issuing employer contribution reimbursements to New Hampshire Retirement System participating employers. The Town of Hanover is expected to receive \$81,384.71 in reimbursement. As these are unanticipated funds, a public hearing must be held.

Action Requested: Set a Public Hearing on Monday, January 23, 2023 to accept these funds.

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At 8:05 pm, Selectboard Member Whitcomb MOVED to approve to Set Public hearing on Monday, January 23, 2023 to Accept Unanticipated Funds from the State of New Hampshire in the amount of \$81,384.71 representing FY 2022 employer contribution reimbursements for the New Hampshire Retirement System. Selectboard Member Carter SECONDED the Motion.

Selectboard Member Geraghty commented that at the meeting on the 23rd, he would like to have someone present to explain why Hanover is getting a refund when other towns are not.

Vote: All in favor

5. Recommendation to Set Public Hearing on Monday, January 23, 2023 to Accept Unanticipated Funds from ReVision Energy, Inc. in the amount of \$6,655.00 representing 1% of their receipts for the Solarize campaign

ReVision Energy agreed to provide 1% of their solar installation sales to the Town of Hanover for their Solarize efforts for the 2022 season. These funds are to be held in a town reserve account designated for installing renewable energy systems at affordable housing units in Hanover.

Action Requested: Set a Public Hearing on Monday, January 23, 2023 to accept these funds.

At 8:07 pm, Selectboard Member Geraghty MOVED to Set Public Hearing on Monday, January 23, 2023 to Accept Unanticipated Funds from ReVision Energy, Inc. in the amount of \$6,655.00 representing 1% of their receipts for the Solarize campaign. Vice Chair Rassias SECONDED the Motion. All in favor

6. Recommendation to Set Public Hearing on Monday, January 23, 2023 to Amend the Rates and Fees Schedule Regarding City of Lebanon Landfill Punch Cards to increase to \$20.00 per card

The City of Lebanon has increased the price for their landfill punch cards from \$15.00 per card to \$20.00 per card. Town Staff requests a Public Hearing be scheduled on Monday, January 23, 2023 to amend our current Rates and Fees Schedule to reflect this increase.

Action Requested: Set a Public Hearing on Monday, January 23, 2023 to amend the Rates and Fees Schedule.

At 8:08 pm, Selectboard Member Geraghty MOVED to Set Public Hearing on Monday, January 23, 2023 to Amend the Rates and Fees Schedule Regarding City of Lebanon Landfill Punch Cards to increase to \$20.00 per card. Selectboard Member Whitcomb SECONDED the Motion. All in favor

7. Donations – Etna Library

The Etna Library has received three donations, one from Virginia Stillman-Kirschner in the amount of \$500.00, one from Daniel and Deborah Jantzen in the amount of \$100.00 and one from Victoria and Reid Drucker in the amount of \$100.00. Action Requested: Accept the donation to the Etna Library from Virginia Stillman-Kirschner in the amount of \$500.00, the donation from Daniel and Deborah Jantzen in the amount of \$100.00 and the donation from Victoria and Reid Drucker in the amount of \$100.00.

At 8:11pm, Vice Chair Rassias MOVED to accept the donations to the Etna Library. Selectboard Member Geraghty SECONDED the Motion. All in favor

8. Approval of Minutes – December 19, 2022

This item was tabled until the three members present at that meeting could be in attendance to vote.

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9. Administrative Reports

A. Torpey gave his administrative report:

- The sixth episode of the monthly Hanover Happenings newsletter and podcast is online and available at hanovernh.org

Discussion occurred regarding the lack of snow, the new snow-making project and trails.

10. Selectboard Reports

Selectboard Member Joanna Whitcomb

Selectboard Member Whitcomb met with Bike Walk committee and discussed speed especially by the Richmond school and Dunster/Wyeth neighborhood safe-crossing.

High School council believe if the road behind the school was one-way, it would be safer. Not everyone agreed- discussion occurred. The Bike Walk masterplan has been reviewed by the committee and peer reviewed by the firm and changes have been made. Goal is to have that ready for Selectboard review and potential adoption in a few weeks.

Selectboard Member Nancy Carter

Selectboard Member Carter had nothing to report.

Vice Chair Athos Rassias

Vice Chair Rassias had nothing to report.

Selectboard Member Bill Geraghty

Selectboard Member Geraghty noted the Finance committee is very busy at this time of year reviewing school board budgets. At the January 17th meeting, Town Manager will update the committee on Town Budget process and plan.

11. Other Business

Continued Public comment:

Vice Chair Rassias noted that the premise of other business is to bring up items that are not on the agenda and haven't already been discussed during the meeting.

David Vincelette, 93 Lebanon began by repeating an earlier question: Has Town Manager contacted the President of Dartmouth?

Vice Chair Rassias clarified again the purpose of other business and once it was clear questions would not be answered, Mr. Vincelette left.

12. Adjournment

Per NH RSA 91-A:3- a, b, c and l, the Selectboard needed to attend a non-public session. At 8:25pm, the board took a roll call vote to enter the non-public session.

Roll call vote: J. Whitcomb-yes, N. Carter-yes, B. Geraghty-yes, A. Rassias-yes

The board entered non-public session at 8:25pm.

Respectfully Submitted,

Joanna Whitcomb, Secretary

SUMMARY

Item 2

At 8pm, Vice Chair Rassias MOVED to Authorize the Town Manager to enter into a Cost Sharing Agreement and Member Services Contract for the Complete Service Bundle with the Community Power Coalition of New Hampshire (CPCNH) with Peter Kulbacki as Authorized Officer and with the elections on Page 19 of the Agreement being “Yes”; 1) approve the CPCNH’s Data Security and Privacy, Energy Portfolio Risk Management, Rates, and Financial Reserves Policies, and 2) approve the amendments to the Electric Aggregation Plan for Hanover Community Power as presented in the Agenda packet. Selectboard Member Whitcomb SECONDED the Motion. All in favor

Item 3

At 8:04 pm, Selectboard Member Geraghty MOVED to Set Public Hearing on Monday, January 23, 2023 to Accept Unanticipated Funds from InvestNH Municipal Planning and Zoning Grant Program in the amount of \$75,000.00. Selectboard Member Whitcomb SECONDED the Motion. All in favor

Item 4

At 8:05 pm, Selectboard Member Whitcomb MOVED to approve to Set Public hearing on Monday, January 23, 2023 to Accept Unanticipated Funds from the State of New Hampshire in the amount of \$81,384.71 representing FY 2022 employer contribution reimbursements for the New Hampshire Retirement System. Selectboard Member Carter SECONDED the Motion.

Vote: All in favor

Item 5

At 8:07 pm, Selectboard Member Geraghty MOVED to Set Public Hearing on Monday, January 23, 2023 to Accept Unanticipated Funds from ReVision Energy, Inc. in the amount of \$6,655.00 representing 1% of their receipts for the Solarize campaign. Vice Chair Rassias SECONDED the Motion. All in favor

Item 6

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Item 7

At 8:11pm, Vice Chair Rassias MOVED to accept the donations to the Etna Library. Selectboard Member Geraghty SECONDED the Motion. All in favor

Item 12

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Roll call vote: J. Whitcomb-yes, N. Carter-yes, B. Geraghty-yes, A. Rassias-yes

The board entered non-public session at 8:25pm.