

Selectboard
April 3, 2023
FINAL

SELECTBOARD MEETING
April 3, 2023
7:30 P.M. - MUNICIPAL OFFICE BUILDING - HANOVER, NH

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

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 read into the record an affidavit by Chair Christie following an arrest. He accused the Selectboard of being criminals. He is not happy the Town Manager hasn't returned any of his calls. He believes federal authorities should come and investigate the allegations against the board members.

2. Public Hearing for Issuance of Bonds and Notes related to Water Capital Improvement Replacement Plan

A Memorandum from Peter Kulbacki was provided to the board which outlines the project, the required financial obligations and payment options of previous bonds and loans to facilitate this requested project.

Action Requested: Hold the Public Hearing and determine next steps for this request including placement on the Warrant for Town Meeting on May 9, 2023.

Public hearing opened.

DPW Director Peter Kulbacki presented the item to the board and explained the details of the request. It was clarified that there will be about \$2M in grants to cover costs so the \$7.8M maximum bond request will not all be needed. Only residents who use town water will be charged fees to help pay back the bond.

Public Comment:

None

Public hearing closed.

At 7:42pm, Chair Christie MOVED to include a \$7.8M bond for Water Capital Improvement Replacement Plan to the warrant for Town Meeting. Selectboard Member Whitcomb SECONDED the Motion. All in favor

3. Public Hearing for Issuance of Bonds and Notes related to Wastewater Treatment Facility Proposed Capital Project

A Memorandum from Peter Kulbacki was provided to the board which outlines this project, the required financial obligations and payment options of previous bonds and loans to facilitate this requested project.

Action Requested: Hold the Public Hearing and determine next steps for this request including placement on the Warrant for Town Meeting on May 9, 2023.

Public hearing opened.

DPW Director Peter Kulbacki presented the item to the board and explained the details of the request including the pay back timeline. There are also grant funds for this project and rate increases to fees will be determined annually as part of the rates and fees discussions.

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Mr. Kulbacki clarified for Selectboard Member Geraghty that Hanover fees are currently lower than other towns and even with the anticipated rate increases, they would still be lower than the 2019 state average.

Public Comment:

None

Public hearing closed.

At 7:51pm, Chair Christie MOVED to include a \$22M bond for Wastewater Treatment Facility to the warrant for Town Meeting. Selectboard Member Geraghty SECONDED the Motion. All in favor

4. Public Hearing for Issuance of Bonds and Notes related to Fire Engine Purchase

As has been discussed during the budget process, the Fire Department has an opportunity to secure today's prices for a Fire Engine that, due to a manufacturing delay, will not be delivered for approximately three years. By securing this financing, the Town will save approximately \$200,000.00 on this piece of equipment which is already scheduled in the CIP.

Action Requested: Hold the Public Hearing for Issuance of Bonds and Notes related to Fire Engine Purchase and determine next steps for this request including placement on the Warrant for Town Meeting on May 9, 2023.

Public hearing opened.

Fire Chief McMillan and Captain Letson presented the item to the board and explained the details of the request.

Selectboard Member Whitcomb noted staff should look into options regarding carbon footprint in order to meet goals that have been set. Chief McMillan detailed some costs related to electric fire engines. They also noted the technology is getting cleaner and cleaner.

Public Comment:

None

Public hearing closed.

At 8pm, Chair Christie MOVED to include a \$1.2M bond for Fire Engine Purchase to the warrant for Town Meeting. Selectboard Member Carter SECONDED the Motion. All in favor

5. Request to Review and Approve Administrative Abatement of Interest

Due to the relocation of the Corporate Treasurer of the Trustees of the Alpha Omega Chapter of Beta Theta Pi Fraternity, a delay in receiving the 2nd Half FY2022 Property Tax bill for 6 Webster Avenue occurred.

Jeff Sassorossi, the Corporate Treasurer has made arrangements so this does not happen in the future and has indicated there have been no delinquent tax payments in 35 years for this property.

The amount of \$129.11 is requested for this abatement. As the amount is over the Tax Collector's authority of \$25.00, the Selectboard must determine if this abatement is granted.

Action Requested: Town Staff requested the Selectboard grant the request to abate the amount \$129.11 for the 2nd Half FY2022 Property Tax bill for 6 Webster Avenue.

Selectboard Member Whitcomb recused herself from this item.

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At 8:01pm, Selectboard Member Geraghty MOVED to approve the request to abate \$129.11 for 6 Webster Ave. Selectboard Member Carter SECONDED the Motion. All in favor with Whitcomb abstaining

6. Appointment – Sustainable Hanover Committee

Chris Kennedy, a long-term member of the Sustainable Hanover Committee has requested re-appointment for a 3 year term.

Action Requested: Re-appoint Chris Kennedy to a 3 year appointment on the Sustainable Hanover Committee.

At 8:02pm, Selectboard Member Carter MOVED to Re-appoint Chris Kennedy to a 3 year term on the Sustainable Hanover Committee. Selectboard Member Geraghty SECONDED the Motion. All in favor

7. Banner Requests – Dartmouth College

Dartmouth College has requested an overhead banner to be hung to promote The Call to Lead from May 14, 2023 to May 21, 2023. If approved, we can accommodate this request.

Action Requested: Approve The Call to Lead banner request from Dartmouth College to be hung from May 14, 2023 to May 21, 2023.

At 8:03pm, Selectboard Member Geraghty MOVED to approve the banner request. Selectboard Member Carter SECONDED the Motion. All in favor with Whitcomb abstaining

8. Donations – Etna Library

The Etna Library has received a donation from Robert Silverman in the amount of \$50.00 and an anonymous donation in the amount of \$300.00.

Action Requested: Town staff recommends accepting the donation from Robert Silverman in the amount of \$50.00 and the anonymous donation in the amount of \$300.00.

At 8:04pm, Selectboard Member Carter MOVED to accept the donations to the Etna Library. Selectboard Member Geraghty SECONDED the Motion. All in favor

9. Approval of Minutes – March 20, 2023

At 8:08pm, Chair Christie MOVED to approve the minutes of March 20, 2023 as amended. Selectboard Member Carter SECONDED the Motion. All in favor

10. Administrative Reports

A. Torpey will give his report on April 10th.

Selectboard upcoming schedule was discussed. There will be a meeting on the 10th with public hearing for warrants and then no other meetings should be needed in April.

11. Selectboard Reports

Selectboard Member Joanna Whitcomb

Selectboard Member Whitcomb met with Bike Walk committee and they will be reaching out to present a summary to the Selectboard and Planning Board.

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- Bike/Walk to school day in May
- April 30 bike rodeo

Selectboard Member Nancy Carter

Selectboard Member Carter noted the Planning board will meet tomorrow and she highlighted agenda items such as private development on West Wheelock and Dresden track.

Chair Peter Christie

Chair Peter Christie had nothing to report.

Selectboard Member Bill Geraghty

Selectboard Member Geraghty noted the Finance committee met and voted in the end to support the proposed FY24 budget.

12. Other Business

None

13. Adjournment

Per NH RSA 91-A:3 L and E, the Selectboard needed to attend a non-public session. The board took a roll call vote to enter the non-public session.

Roll call vote: P. Christie- yes, , J. Whitcomb- yes, B. Geraghty-yes, N. Carter-yes

The board entered non-public session at 8:14pm.

Respectfully Submitted,

Joanna Whitcomb, Secretary

SUMMARY

Item 2

At 7:42pm, Chair Christie MOVED to include a \$7.8M bond for Water Capital Improvement Replacement Plan to the warrant for Town Meeting. Selectboard Member Whitcomb SECONDED the Motion. All in favor

Item 3

At 7:51pm, Chair Christie MOVED to include a \$22M bond for Wastewater Treatment Facility to the warrant for Town Meeting. Selectboard Member Geraghty SECONDED the Motion. All in favor

Item 4

At 8pm, Chair Christie MOVED to include a \$1.2M bond for Fire Engine Purchase to the warrant for Town Meeting. Selectboard Member Carter SECONDED the Motion. All in favor

Item 5

At 8:01pm, Selectboard Member Geraghty MOVED to approve the request to abate \$129.11 for 6 Webster Ave. Selectboard Member Carter SECONDED the Motion. All in favor with Whitcomb abstaining

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Item 6

At 8:02pm, Selectboard Member Carter MOVED to Re-appoint Chris Kennedy to a 3 year term on the Sustainable Hanover Committee. Selectboard Member Geraghty SECONDED the Motion. All in favor

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At 8:03pm, Selectboard Member Geraghty MOVED to approve the banner request. Selectboard Member Carter SECONDED the Motion. All in favor with Whitcomb abstaining

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At 8:04pm, Selectboard Member Carter MOVED to accept the donations to the Etna Library. Selectboard Member Geraghty SECONDED the Motion. All in favor

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At 8:08pm, Chair Christie MOVED to approve the minutes of March 20, 2023 as amended. Selectboard Member Carter SECONDED the Motion. All in favor

Item 13

Per NH RSA 91-A:3 L and E, the Selectboard needed to attend a non-public session. The board took a roll call vote to enter the non-public session.

Roll call vote: P. Christie- yes, , J. Whitcomb- yes, B. Geraghty-yes, N. Carter-yes

The board entered non-public session at 8:14pm.