

Tuesday, October 13, 2020, at:5:45 p.m.
Middle School auditorium
Regular meeting/Special Permit Hearing

ATTENDANCE: Kenny Mitchell, Laura FitzGerald-Kemmett, Matt Dyer, Jim Hickey & Wes Blauss, Board of Seectmen; John Stanbrook, Town Administrator; Greer Getzen, Executive Assistant; Mike Miksch, Police Chief; Joshua Pratti; Bryce Parkinson:

I CALL TO ORDER
Pledge of Allegiance

II EXECUTIVE SESSION

To discuss strategy with respect to collective bargaining or litigation if an open meeting may have a detrimental effect on the bargaining or litigating position of the public body in the chair so declares.

MOTION by Mrs. FitzGerald-Kemmett, seconded by Mr. Dyer, to go into executive session to discuss strategy with respect to collective bargaining or litigation if an open meeting may have a detrimental effect on the bargaining or litigation position of the body in the chair so declares.
Voted 5 – 0 Roll call Mitchell-aye, FitzGerald-Kemmett-aye, Dyer-aye, Hickey-aye, Blauss-aye

Once the executive session adjourned, the Board returned to open session, which began with the Board of Selectmen reciting the Pledge of Allegiance.

III Public Announcements & Upcoming Meetings

Mrs. FitzGerald-Kemmett proceeded by reading the public announcements and the upcoming meetings to the Board of Selectmen.

IV SPECIAL PERMIT APPLICATION HEARING (cont'd.from 9/22/20)
Open Special Permit application hearing & continue to 7:00 p.m.
this evening in joint session with Zoning Board of Appeals

MOTION by Mrs. FitzGerald-Kemmett, seconded by Mr. Dyer, to open the hearing. ***Voted 5 – 0***

Chairman Mitchell explained that this hearing is going to be continued until November 17th at 6pm.

MOTION by Mrs. FitzGerald-Kemmett, seconded by Mr. Dyer, to close the hearing.
Voted 5 – 0

V NEW BUSINESS
Police Department update

Chief Miksch is in attendance. Chairman Mitchell gave Chief Miksch the floor.

Chief Miksch began with the officers:

Approved by BOS 9-13-20

"We put in for another full-time officer. You recall when we outsourced the communications, the 911 center, to Duxbury, we had five civilian positions. On those we lost those five civilian positions to Duxbury and to keep the station open I needed four. I do not want to call new officers because everything is hiring like new bodies. They are new to us but there are four officers coming in to replace the five civilian positions which still brought me in less of a budget than I had before they left. One of the candidates did not make the requirements that was going to go the academy in January. Unfortunately, so we lost that candidate. That left me another opening, and we decided we would see what for what was out there we call a lateral; to see if there is an already trained officer out there that'd be willing to come to us.

As you know from the news and everything, there are not a lot of people exactly banging down the doors anymore, but we got about 30 applicants. Out of the 30, there were only about 5 or 6 that met the requirements that we advertised. That was that they had a full-time academy. What we did, because we are always recruiting, as well to look for possible part-timers, they brought in 10 individuals and interviewed. This one individual, Robert Mansfield, stood out for a couple reasons. He grew up in Whitman (Whitman-Hanson graduate). He worked on the Cape, the Yarmouth Police Department. His wife got an opportunity at a job on Martha's Vineyard. He left Yarmouth after a short period of time and went over to Oak Bluffs. This would be the second officer that we have had transfer from Oak Bluffs to us. So, the Oak Bluffs Chief, who I know very well, probably is not liking me at the moment. But Robert Mansfield, he has a full-time police academy. He went to the Randolph Academy. He has got five years of experience as a police officer. Like I said, he grew up in the area.

His wife and he decided that they wanted to get off the island and get a house and start a family. He is very excited and looking forward to coming over to us. When we did a background on him: nobody said a bad word. Everybody spoke very highly of him. I am very close with the Yarmouth Chief who he worked for about a year and had nothing but good things to say about him. Mr. Mansfield, if you would be willing to take him on, I think he would make a great addition to the department, and he will also be saving us quite a bit of money because he will not be in an academy for six months. I can have him up and running probably shortly after the holidays. I do not believe I requested a date but a date I would request for his appointment would be November 1st. We need an official start date. Other background with him, he is married. He is looking forward to starting a family. He graduated from UMASS Boston and he also attended Mass Maritime and majored in Emergency Management. Again, he has got a lot of in-house training especially with some of the traffic enforcement things, drug recognition."

Police Chief requests (two appointments, one title change):

- **PT Officer Nick Karnarski to Student Police Officer, then to Full Time Officer upon completion of police academy, effective February 1, 2021**

"Nick has been a part-time officer for Hanson. You probably do not know this but for over 10 years, he worked in IT for Whitman-Hanson. When he worked for IT at Whitman-Hanson, that is when the previous chief put him as a part-time officer, and he would do some details. He was not overly active in the department, but he has been hanging around and doing the training he needs to do every year to keep up, and he has been great because although he has had a full-time job,

he's working during the day. If we called him at night for an emergency detail or something, he stepped up... when we needed help. Nick would be a great full-time now. He is kind of looked at. Now he wants kind of a career change. He is the director of sales at JLC Tech. He does lighting for inside stores and office buildings. Prior to that he worked for a football fit club. He was a personal trainer and then of course he was a support technician Whitman Hanson so he does have a fair amount of IT background which if I can get somebody to just fix the printers. He worked for the federal government too at one point and he actually worked for the secret service. What I am looking to do with Nick is put him in a police academy, hopefully the next Plymouth Academy. I am still trying to get an academy in January for him at the Cape, but they only opened so many slots".

PT Office Kyle Barsani to Student Police Officer, then to Full Time Officer upon completion of the police academy, effective January 4, 2021

"Kyle came to us in the past year, actually in the past six months as a part time officer. He grew up in East Bridgewater. He is just finishing college at Bridgewater State with a bachelor's degree in Criminal Justice. He has been an auxiliary officer in Whitman for the past year and prior to that he worked at the Y in the East Bridgewater as a personal trainer and fitness instructor. Kyle, the field training officers dealing with him have nothing but positive, great things to say about him. I have already gotten a couple of citizens comments on him on his politeness, how he's interacted with people on some calls... So, Kyle I have actually managed to secure a spot in the Cape Cod Police Academy signed January 4th. He is all set to go. I have got him. All I need is your blessing to appoint him as a student police officer and he will be good to go".

MOTION by Mr. Dyer, seconded by Mrs. FitzGerald-Kemmett, that part-time Officer Kyle Barsani be appointed as a Student Police Officer effective January 4th, 2021. Upon successful completion of the Cape Cod Police Academy. student officer Barsani will be appointed as a full-time Police Officer in the Town of Hanson. **Voted 5 – 0**

MOTION by Mr. Dyer, seconded by Mrs. Kemmett, that part-time officer Nick Karnarski be appointed as student police officer effective February 1st, 2021. Upon successful completion of the Police Academy, student officer Karnarski will be appointed as a full-time police officer in the Town of Hanson. **Voted 5- 0**

MOTION by Mr. Dyer, seconded by Mrs. Kemmett, that Robert Mansfield be appointed as a full -time police officer in the Town of Hanson contingent upon successfully passing a medical exam, psychological exam, and a background check the date of November 1st. **Voted 5 – 0**

To name Lt. Michael Casey to Deputy Police Chief, effective immediately

"In the department, the second in command in the department historically has been in town. What has been happening in the area, and I will look to my neighbors in East Bridgewater and West Bridgewater, New Orleans has the same thing. Carver is in the process of trying to do this as well. They are renaming their number two officer their executive officer as a deputy chief, and I had not thought about it in the past for a couple reasons. One, historically that is the way it's been here. Two, I did not have the right person in there to necessarily give the title. As you know,

Lieutenant Casey is going into his third year as lieutenant. I am overly impressed with the amount he's picked up. I am very impressed with his enthusiasm. He has a great way of dealing with the officers. He has just been doing an outstanding job. The reason why it came up to me to make him Deputy Chief is a few things that I have noticed.

One, he is really doing the job of a Deputy Chief. If you look at the job descriptions of some of those in the area, he is doing everything. More importantly, in the past few months, I have had him start working on policies and procedures. So, if he is at the point where he is starting to make policy for the department, then I think he deserves the title. And that is all it is right now, the title”.

The Chief also pointed that having this change in the name of his title is a much more efficient way of doing police work with other towns. Different police departments from different towns have different structures. Therefore, it is difficult sometimes to know who are the high up police officers that need to be talked to. For instance, if the Chief is not there or if a town needs to talk to somebody high up in the Hanson police department, other towns will know the high capabilities of a person named “Deputy Police Chief”. He also wanted to point out that this will not cost any extra money. There is no pay raise. It is simply just a change in the name of Lieutenant Casey’s job description. The Chief also added that if Lieutenant Casey’s job description is officially changed, he does not plan to replace the Lieutenant title position that is being left vacated.

Chairman Mitchell expressed his support for the title change. Mrs. FitzGerald-Kemmett expressed her support as well. However, she just wants to make sure that this name change corresponds with the laws and wishes of the Labor Counsel. She would like to have this vote be postponed for a couple of weeks so that they could get an opinion on the matter. A second option would be to have the vote contingent upon Labor Counsel saying that this can be done.

MOTION by Mr. Dyer, seconded by Mrs. FitzGerald-Kemmett, to name Lieutenant Casey to Deputy Chief. His current contract shall remain in effect until June 30th, 2021. This is only a title change upon review of labor council and subject to review of labor. **Voted 5 - 0**

Discuss Halloween activities in Hanson

Chairman Mitchell opened the discussion into Halloween. He said that he thinks we should still have Halloween. However, there need to be some safeguards. The rest of the Board of Selectmen also agrees that Hanson should not cancel Halloween. Certain safeguards proposed have been to possibly leave candy on tables spread out at the end of people’s driveways. The candy can be set there and can be spread out so that kids are not all putting their hands into a bowl.

Obviously, there is a need for socially distancing and wearing masks. Mr. Hickey proposed that once the candy is taken by the kids, they should wait about 24 hours or more. His reasoning is that we do not know how long Covid lives on the surface of objects. Mr. Dyer agreed with these assertions and brought up concern about mosquitoes and EEE. He said that it is important for people to wear bug spray.

In response to these ideas, the Police Chief said that he will give a notice and put up information in order for the town of Hanson to be safe with Covid. Also, there is concern about middle

schoolers being in large groups during Halloween. Mrs. FitzGerald-Kemmett said that it would be a good thing for the schools and the superintendent to remind the kids to be safe and not travel in big groups.

Vote and Approve September donations

MOTION by Mr. Dyer, seconded by Mrs. FitzGerald-Kemmett, to accept the September donations. *Voted 5 - 0*

Execute November 3, 2020 State Election warrant

MOTION by Mrs. FitzGerald-Kemmett, seconded by Mr. Dyer, to execute the warrant. *Voted 5 – 0*

Vote to place the following question on the May 15, 2021 Town Election ballot:

“Shall the town vote to have its elected Tree Warden become an appointed Tree Warden of the town?”

MOTION by Mrs. FitzGerald-Kemmett, seconded by Mr. Dyer, to place the question on the May 15, 2021 Town Election Ballot. *Voted 5 – 0*

Appointments:

Srikiran Kodali, 80 Sawmill Lane – Cultural Council and Economic Development, Memorial Day & Patriotic Observance Committees

Since Mr. Kodali was unable to be at this Board of Selectmen Meeting, Chairman Mitchell and Greer determined that they would have Mr. Kodali come to the next meeting where they would officially appoint him as a member of the three committees.

Joshua Pratti, 267 Brook Street – Board of Appeals, Alternate

Joshua Pratti came up to the stage and discussed with the Board of Selectmen why he would like to be on the Board of Appeals. He says that he has been in the construction field all his life and has worked within the restrictions of the zoning board before. He does a lot of site work and a lot of residential building design.

MOTION by Mrs. Kemmett, seconded by Mr. Dyer, to appoint Joshua Pratti to the Board of Appeals, Alternate, expiring June 30, 2021. *Voted 5 – 0*

Requests:

Bryce Parkinson re: Town Hall beautification Eagle Scout project

Bryce came up to the podium to tell his plans for his Eagle Scout project. He proceeded by saying that he will be taking part in a communication project that seeks to beautify the town hall. To do that, he was planning on installing a couple of picnic benches out back by the lamp posts. He also wants to clean up this area a bit because he noticed that there was ground bark underneath some of the soil there and then there was stuff going through it. He would clean it and then dispose of it. He plans on using his own funding for the project. He has been collecting

bottles and cans. He is also going to be working in the winter months as well. The Board of Selectmen has also said, if needed, that they can support him in his efforts to get bottles and cans. He was planning on making the benches with somebody else. They also must get a couple of picnic tables put out back there. Other than that, Bryce just needs equipment for removing the ground tarp and removing any foliage out there. He plans on starting the project in March and then to get it done by the end of April.

MOTION by Mrs. FitzGerald-Kemmett, seconded by Mr. Dyer, to grant Bryce Parkinson's request to move forward with his Town Hall beautification Eagle Scout project. *Voted 5 - 0*

Recreation request to discount Boy Scout overnight camping fees on Nov. 5th

One of the big issues and reasons for a discount being essential is the fact that each boy scout must now sleep in his own tent. This because of Covid.

MOTION by Mrs. FitzGerald-Kemmett, seconded by Mr. Dyer, to grant the discount to the Boy Scouts. *Voted 5 - 0*

VI OLD BUSINESS

Discuss Recreation vote re: YMCA offer to lease Needles Lodge for day program

The Recreation Commission has voted it down. They have sent a letter detailing their reasoning. They have said that the bills for the camp are \$1,000 a month just for heat to keep the lodge at a minimum so that the pipes do not freeze. This does not include electricity. Overall, it is a situation where they would lose money on the subject. Also, if the Recreation Commission has voted it down, the Board of Selectmen cannot justify approving it.

VII TOWN ADMINISTRATOR REPORT

Mr. Stanbrook began reading the Town Administrator Report:

October 3rd Town Meeting

He thanked those who attended the Town Meeting held on October 3rd. It was a great success.

Fiscal Year 2021 Articles

Mr. Stanbrook has given the Board of Selectmen the first quarter of the fiscal year 2021 articles list. The Hanson Town Administrator Act requires Mr. Stanbrook to provide the Selectmen with written progress reports quarterly on the status of implementation of all prior year town meeting votes.

There are 65 active articles in fiscal year 2021 with a total of \$1.7 million dollars. There are 27 town articles outstanding with a balance of \$411,700. There are 19 school related articles outstanding with a balance of \$514,000. There are 8 community preservation committee related articles left outstanding. Their outstanding balance is \$186,000. Also, there are nine water related articles with a balance of \$565,800.

All outstanding legal matters

Mr. Stanbrook is required by law to notify the Board of Selectmen about this. It is not a public document because it may contain personnel information. However, he has complied with the

Town Administrator Act. He must also provide financial reports and has complied with the act by providing the financial reports for July, August, and September.

Cares Act Reimbursement Check

First reimbursement check for Cares Act funds was received from Plymouth County. The amount of the check was \$34,280.75.

VIII SPECIAL PERMIT APPLICATION HEARING

7:00 p.m. - Marijuana Cultivation/Manufacturing Special Permit Hearing

Chairman Mitchell opened this hearing and then closed it by stating that it will be continued until November 17th at 6pm.

IX ADJOURNMENT

MOTION by Mrs. Kemmett, seconded by Mr. Dyer, to adjourn the meeting. *Voted 5 - 0*