

***Hanson Board of Selectmen
Selectmen's Meeting Room, Hanson Town Hall
Tuesday, February 7, 2017
Regular Meeting 7:00 P.M.***

Members Present: Donald Howard, Bruce Young, James McGahan, Kenny Mitchell & William Scott

Members Absent:

Others Present: Town Administrator, Michael McCue
Executive Assistant Meredith Marini

7:00 p.m. Chairman McGahan called the meeting to order, led the Pledge of Allegiance. Chairman McGahan indicated that he will be taking the agenda out of order and will be going into Executive Session. He read announcements and upcoming meeting schedule.

VII EXECUTIVE SESSION - Chairman McGahan announced that the Board would be going into Executive Session to discuss the discipline or dismissal of, or complaints or charges brought against, a public officer, employee, staff member or individual.

So Moved by Howard, second by Mitchell to go into Executive Session. ***Roll Call Howard aye, Young Aye, McGahan aye, Mitchell aye and Scott aye. Voted 5 – 0***

7:04 brief recess

7:30 pm. Returned to Open Session.

Chairman McGahan announced Dollars for Scholars 10th Annual Taste of Whitman and Hanson on Thursday, March 2nd at the Whitman VFW.

II NEW BUSINESS

Vote Acceptance of Donations –

Chairman McGahan read the donations by Millie Lyons in the amount of \$50.00 and Paula Smith in the amount \$200.00 for the Elder Affairs.

MOTION by Mitchell, second by Howard to accept the donations by Millie Lyon and Paula Smith to the Elder Affairs. ***Voted 5 – 0***

Review and vote Town Administrator's FY2018 Budget Recommendations

Mr. McCue presented the budget as it currently stands. He noted that School Committee Chairman Bob Hayes will attend a future meeting to discuss the School Budget.

Mr. McCue indicated that the budget is not final as the State budget has not been received, the school budget is not complete and union contracts are still in negotiations. Mr. McCue highlight some of the increases.

Fire Department – Increase \$27,000 for overtime which has been a realized cost. There is an increase in medical supplies as the hospitals are no longer replenishing the medical supplies. Training has increased due to the number of new hires.

Highway – Increased the equipment repairs by \$60,000 which is reflective of trends.

Police – Mr. McCue reported a slight decrease in police budget.

Recreation – The project line has been slightly increased. The funds will come out of the Enterprise.

Engineering line – Mr. McCue reported he has added \$5,000 back into the budget for various projects. The line was zeroed out in the FY2017 budget.

Mr. McCue reported that utilities have been increased from \$84,000 to \$90,000 noting he just signed a new energy service agreement and the fees have increased. Debt has increased due to the removal of the Plymouth County Hospital. Retirement assessment increased \$75,000.

Group insurance – Mr. McCue indicated a major spike of 25% at a cost of \$271,000. He is working with the Town Accountant and Treasurer/Collector to find ways to reduce and save money.

Water - An increase to fund the water salary line.

Mr. McCue explained the departments kept most of the lines level. He requested the Board forward any questions to him. Chairman McGahan asked that a column be added reflecting the percentage change.

Bruce Young asked when the solid waste contracts expire. Mr. McCue believes it is this year.

MOTION by Young, second by Howard to accept the budget as presented and authorize the Town Administrator to forward to the Finance Committee. **Voted 5 – 0**

Appointments:

200th Anniversary Committee – Kathy Jo Boss, Boss Academy 782 Main Street

MOTION by Howard, second by Young to appoint Kathy Jo Boss to the 200th Anniversary Committee. **Voted 5 – 0**

Mass. Association of Regional Schools – Vote Selectmen Representative

Chairman McGahan indicated that the School Committee is seeking a representative from the Board of Selectmen to work on the regional agreement with the Town Administrator, school representatives and representatives from Whitman. The meetings would be held in the late afternoon during the week. Mr. McGahan is willing to volunteer.

Mr. Mitchell nominated Mr. McGahan, second by Howard to appoint Mr. McGahan to the Mass. Association of Regional School. **Voted 5 – 0**

III OLD BUSINESS

Bob Hayes – Vote bid award for Maquan School roof – Mr. McCue indicated that Mr. Hayes could not make it tonight. Mr. McCue reported that Almar LLC was the low bidder with a base bid of \$44,747.00 and an alternate bid of \$9,500 for a total of \$54,247.00 for the second phase of the Maquan Roof Repair. The flat portion of the roof and flashing which was not included in the initial repairs.

MOTION by Howard, second by Mitchell to award the bid to Almar LLC in the amount of \$54,247.00 for the second phase of the Maquan School roof repair. ***Voted 5 – 0***

Mr. McCue indicated that Gale Associate handled the bid process and will oversee the second phase of the Maquan Roof repairs. Mr. McCue requested the Board approve a Change Order for Gale in the amount of \$7,610.00 for the second phase of the Maquan Roof repairs.

MOTION by Howard, second by Mitchell to approve the Change Order for Gale Associates in the amount of \$7,610.00 for the second phase of the Maquan Roof repairs. ***Voted 5 – 0***

Update and possible vote on Animal Control Services Appointment of William Hart – Animal Control Officer 3-31-2018

Mr. McCue indicated the service agreement before the Board is a pending agreement with Pembroke for regional animal control services. The Pembroke Selectmen and Pembroke Town Counsel are reviewing the proposed agreement. Mr. McCue expects an approved agreement when the Pembroke Selectmen meet next Monday. As Pembroke is a much larger community, Mr. McCue has proposed at 63/37 percent split for the costs of the services.

Mr. McCue requested the Board table the matter until the next meeting. Mr. Scott inquired whether the Board could move forward pending Pembroke's Agreement. Chairman McGahan would prefer to see the details of the agreement prior to moving forward.

Chairman McGahan indicated that attachments are referenced in the agreement. He requested copies of the attachments to the agreement. Mr. McCue indicated that he is still working on those items.

Final Plymouth County Hospital Reuse – Recommendations

Chairman McGahan reviewed the documents provided by the Final Plymouth County Hospital Reuse Committee "Why a Park at PCH"

Strong desire for a park at this site came through a 2016 survey of citizens for Hanson's Open Space and Recreation Plan. Further support was voiced at a Community Preservation Committee public forum in October 2016. The current Committee continues to hear numerous informal requests on the "park theme".

The central portion of the Plymouth County Hospital campus (22 acres, "Parcel 2", the "Municipal Area") has long been seen as a resource that can serve the town in many ways. Desirable functions already in place: public water supply tower, Hanson Food Pantry,

community garden, historic Bonney House renovations. And sufficient room still remains to host another desirable function: a MUNICIPAL PARK, open and accessible all day/every day, for people of all ages, who desire a quiet, green, close-to-home recreational destination.

Features to consider for a park could include:

- *Large mowed green lawn or “common” suitable for informal recreation*
- *Gathering space for community functions (e.g., farmer’s market, fairs, etc.)*
- *Walking trails, linked to other trails on adjacent protected open space*
- *Connections to regional (200-mile) Bay Circuit Trail and Greenway*
- *Benches, picnic tables, bandstand*
- *Retention of mature shade trees and planting of new ones*
- *Low-maintenance playground*
- *Educational signage interpreting site’s cultural and natural history, Community Garden*
- *Possible “dog park”*
- *Other? – further public input would be invited*

Advantages of this location include...

- *Hilltop location on quiet street*
- *Geographically central to town*
- *Numerous mature trees*
- *Sufficient space for optimizing parking/traffic patterns*
- *Not subject to school-hour restrictions*
- *Park is consistent with current residential zoning*
- *Removal of old, obsolete buildings soon to be completed*

Chairman McGahan also noted sections of the “Concept and Ideas for Plymouth County Hospital” which included sections” Park? What park? What would this park look like? So who *would* design it? Where could design funds come from? When could they be available? So the Town could design its park this spring, instead of waiting another year?

8:07 p.m. Brief Recess for IT setup.

8:11 p.m. Returned to open session

Committee Member Phil Clemons was present and reviewed a power point presentation. He provided a progress report of the committee. He highlighted the map of the parcel, Parcel 1 noting 8 acres where the former hospital sits, Parcel 2 a section where other building lie and the water tower and Section 3 northern section of trails and meadows.

Mr. Clemons noted the committee has met over 45 times with a variety of groups and individuals during the past year reviewing various options. Several site walks have been conducted. They suggested a dedicated an account for site re-investment using the proceeds from the sale of the Superintendent’s building, which they recommended that an appraisal be conducted prior to sale.

He reviewed the finances for the demolition of the hospital which came in much lower than the 1.8 Million dollars appropriated for the project.

The committee recommends designating a section of the parcel for a park which would be part of the open space plan. Mr. Clemons noted that students from the Conway School have created designs for other local communities. The Committee has requested that Hanson be added to the Conway project list. The estimated cost for the design is \$7,000.00. The design would be complete by June. Mr. Clemons feels that funds could come from the Open Space Plan funds and Conservation funds. Conservation will be addressing the project at its next meeting.

The park would consist of public open space, picnic areas, low maintenance playgrounds, band stand, walking trail, community garden and possible dog park.

The committee has anticipated a second water tower. Mr. Clemons noted that there is a well on the property which could be used for irrigation.

Other suggested uses include possible power purchase agreement for a solar array in the back portion parcel 1. He suggested consideration of crowdfunding, similar to “Go Fund Me” as an option for donated funds. Frontage on Pierce Avenue could be used for housing. Possible cell tower using a monopole or flagpole style tower. The Committee is considering the northern section Parcel 3 as conservation land.

The Board thanked Mr. Clemons and the Committee for the presentation.

Mr. Mitchell inquired as to the cost of the construction of the park. Mr. Clemons indicated that the cost cannot be determined until the plan is designed. He pointed out that there are park grants available which the group is researching.

Mr. Mitchell is concerned about maintenance costs and installation and upkeep of restroom facilities. Mr. Clemons indicated that the park will be designed with low maintenance options.

Brief discussion regarding the solar option.

MOTION by Young, second by Mitchell to support the PCH reuse committee to move forward with the park design project. **Voted 5 - 0**

Review and approve Board, Committee and Commission Handbook

Chairman McGahan reviewed the introduction to the Handbook:

This handbook has been developed to assist committee members in carrying out their duties on the various boards, committees and commissions that serve the Town of Hanson. The information in this handbook is meant to serve as a guideline. The specific duties and laws related to a particular board, committee or commission may be found in the Massachusetts General Laws (MGL) or in some case, in our Town By-laws. This Handbook is not intended to create a contractual relationship between the Town and any board, committee or commission member, and nothing herein shall be construed to grant any rights or privileges in or to an appointment or reappointment to any such board, committee or commission.

Mr. McCue indicated that if approved the Handbook will be made available to all boards and committees and its members.

MOTION by Howard, second by Mitchell to approve the Board, Committee and Commission Handbook. *Voted 5 – 0*

Mr. McCue thanked Town Clerk Beth Sloan for her work on the project.

IV TOWN ADMINISTRATOR'S REPORT

IT Services – Mr. McCue has been conducting interviews with vendors for outsourcing services. He has also received an inquiry for a contiguous community for regional services. He is considering all his options.

Whitman Hanson Cable Access contract has been completed and reviewed by WHCA Chair Arlene Dias. Some of the Board members are still reviewing the agreement. The matter will be taken up at the next meeting.

Mr. McCue met twice with the Recreation Commission. The Commission is reviewing the policies and procedures. The Commission Chair will bring the changes to the Town Administrator. The Commission appointed one of their members to work with Mr. McCue and Mr. Scott in selecting the Recreation Director.

Tax Title property. – Mr. McCue reported that the individual who has been assisting him with the properties has been delayed due to illness. She is reviewing the titles to the parcel.

Mr. McCue reported that Library Director position has been posted internally and the Health Agent's position has posted externally.

Community Preservation funds have been provided for roof repairs to the cabins at Recreation. He has checked with the State with respect to procurement through the State bid list. The roofing projects will move forward in the Spring.

Mr. McCue provided an update on the hospital demolition noting the Asbestos abatement 20% complete in PCH Main Building, utilities have been disconnected and salvage items have been identified and will be decontaminated and set aside. Earth Cam has been purchased and will be installed as a security measure. The Project is on schedule with no change orders to date.

Mr. McCue & Chairman McGahan met with Rep Cutler to discuss economic development on Main Street. Rep. Cutler will get a group from the State to make a presentation on economic development.

V COMMITTEE REPORTS

Monponsett Pond Committee – Mr. Howard – no report, but it does not appear that Brockton has taken water recently.

Indian Head & Maquan Priority Repair Comm. - Mr. Young noted the group will be meeting in the next few weeks.

Highway Building Committee – Mr. Scott no meeting, but work on the site are nearing completion including shrubs. Project cost between \$4 million and \$4.5 Million which includes the clean up of the current facility. Still waiting to hear when the property will be turned over to the Town.

Final Plymouth County Hospital Committee Update – Already given.

VI ONE DAY LIQUOR LICENSES

Hanson Library Foundation 132 Maquan Street, Friday, April 28th 7:00 – 9:00 p.m.
Chairman McGahan read the letter from the Library Foundation dated February 1, 2017 requesting permission for the *Jazz at the Library* event on April 28, 2017. The free cultural and social event will showcase the library in celebration of National Library Week. The Foundation Directors requested the Board waive the bar permit fee.

MOTION Howard, second by Mitchell to approve the One Day liquor license and waive the permit fee for the Hanson Public Library Foundation *Jazz at the Library* event on April 28, 2017 from 7:00 to 9:00 p.m.. ***Voted 5 – 0*** .

VIII ADJOURNMENT

MOTION by Mitchell, second by Howard to adjourn. ***Voted 5 – 0***

9:10 p.m. meeting adjourned.

Respectfully submitted,

Meredith Marini,
Executive Assistant
Approved and voted 5 – 0
February 28, 2017