

Hanson Board of Selectmen
Selectmen's Meeting Room, Hanson Town Hall
Tuesday, February 26, 2019
Regular Meeting 7:00 P.M.

Members Present: Wesley Blauss, Matthew Dyer, James Hickey, Laura FitzGerald-Kemmett, and Kenny Mitchell

Members Absent:

Others Present: Town Administrator Michael McCue
Executive Assistant Meredith Marini

7:02 p.m. Chairman Mitchell called the meeting to order. Chairman Mitchell requested a Moment of Silence for Wallace Darsch former Water Superintendent. Clerk Dyer read the announcements and upcoming meeting schedule.

II NEW BUSINESS

Swear in Police Sgt. Elisha Sullivan – Chief Miksch was present and explained that a Sergeant's vacancy occurred when Michael Casey was promoted to Lieutenant. Chief Miksch explained the assessment process for selecting the Sergeant. He provided background on Sgt. Sullivan who received the top score in the assessment. He introduced Sgt. Sullivan, her husband Bryan Durgin, daughter and parents. Town Clerk Elizabeth Sloan sworn in Sgt. Sullivan who was pinned by her husband and daughter.

Introduction of FXM Associates – Economic Development Consultants – Mr. McCue introduced Mr. Frank Mahady, principal of FXM Associates. FXM Associates have worked in several area communities including Carver, Wareham, Fairhaven, Cohasset. Mr. Mahady grew up in Weymouth and is familiar with the area. FXM will look at trends within the local business. They will focus on South Hanson. He was seeking input from the Town. Mrs. FitzGerald-Kemmett explained the area of interest is in close proximity to the wetlands. She suggested he review the OCPC assessment.

Mrs. Fitz-Gerald inquired what the Town could expect from the assessment. FXM will consider all the resources the Town has to offer. He suggested that the Board members contact him. Co-working space is a hot market right now. A mixed use with retail and housing is something to be considered. Mr. Hickey pointed out the lack of a sewerage system in Town.

Mr. Dyer recommended that the Board members meet with Mr. Mahady to provide background on the property. Mr. Mahady suggested a focus group. Mr. McCue will provide Mr. Mahady with the members' contact information.

Mr. Hickey inquired as to the completion date of April 30th. Mr. Mahady indicated it would be tight. The Board recommended extending the completion date to May 15th.

MOTION by Hickey, second by FitzGerald-Kemmett to amend the contract completion date from April 30, 2019 to May 15, 2019. **Voted 5 – 0**

Review and Vote Recreation rate increases – John Zucco and Diane Cohen were present to review the increase in rates. Mr. Zucco read the changes for the Wedding Package which included a \$500.00 increase to the wedding rates from \$3,500 to \$4,000 on Friday and Sunday and from \$5,000 to \$5,500 on Saturday. The security deposits for weddings will remain \$1,000 with a reduction to \$500 for non-wedding events. There is a ten percent discount for Hanson residents.

Mrs. FitzGerald-Kemmett inquired as to the process used and if an analysis was conducted. Ms. Cohen explained that there are very few comparables. They lowered the rates for the off season. They have not done an analysis for next year. Ms. Cohen indicated that they are on target for rentals for the current year. Mr. Zucco noted that 2020 isn't bad and they are getting rentals. The wedding page had been taken off the website. It has been put back on the site.

Mr. Hickey pointed out that June 2019 only 2 weddings. In 2018 there had been 7 weddings. Mr. Hickey questioned why the Commission wants to increase the rates when the wedding rentals are down. Mrs. Cohen noted there are several non-wedding events. Mr. Hickey reviewed the number of weddings for each year from 2013 to 2019 noting that the rates in 2013 were \$2,500 on Friday and Sunday and \$2,750 on Saturday. The Commission increased the rates in 2014 to \$4,000 on Friday and Sunday and \$5,000 on Saturday.

Mrs. FitzGerald-Kemmett asked how the Town can determine what are the causes of the decline. Mr. Dyer indicated he has heard from friends who would not book at \$5,000 because it is too expensive. The town needs to consider the people who will be using the facility and their financial situation.

Mr. Hickey suggested going to a lower rate and booking more weddings. Ms. Cohen pointed out that funds are needed to improve the appearance of the facility.

Chairman Mitchell does not want to vote on the matter tonight and requested additional information.

Cove Rates – Mr. Zucco reviewed the rates noting a \$10.00 increase to \$90.00 for a family season pass and a \$15.00 increase to \$165.00 for a non-resident season pass. Non-resident season pass with swim lessons increased \$10.00 to \$115.00. The Commission added new rate categories for single season pass holders at \$40.00 for residents and \$55.00 for non-residents. Senior single person pass holders will receive a 10% discount as will military family season pass holders. All category of swim lesson and swim team rates increased by \$10.00.

Mr. Hickey noted that he received a 2% raise as have the Town employees. The Cove rates went up 8%. Ms. Cohen and Mr. Dyer noted that historically the lodge would cover and shortfall of the Cove. Mrs. Cohen pointed out that there were very large expenses for the camp. Mr. Dyer suggested providing a free Day Pass for Camp Kiwanee which would be available at the Library. Ms. Cohen explained the Commission is competing for lifeguards because the course is expensive and they need to be competitive. Mr. Dyer suggested the Cove be open on the 4th of July.

MOTION by FitzGerald-Kemmett, second by Dyer to approve the Cove rates with the stipulation of providing to Cove Passes available at the Library. **Voted 4 – 0 – 1 Hickey**

Review Selectmen Proposed Articles – Mr. McCue requested the Board review the proposed articles to be submitted by the Selectmen for the upcoming Town Meeting. He requested the members send him any items they would like to see on the warrant. Mrs. FitzGerald-Kemmett asked about an article for Maquan Reuse. Mr. Dyer feels the Board should be moving forward with plastic bags and polystyrene bans. He would attempt to organize a public forum prior to Town Meeting. Chairman Mitchell was concerned that the local businesses will need time to prepare for the change. Mr. McCue will draft the verbiage which would require implementation within six months.

Joint Meeting with Library Trustee appointment

Pamela Fager 167 Woodbine Avenue
Alexander Stewart 671 Liberty Street

Mrs. Marini explained that the successful appointed candidate would have to run for the position to stay on the Board. Chairman Mitchell inquired if the candidates were willing to run for the position . Both candidates are willing to run for the seat.

Library Trustees Linda Wall, Corrine Cafardo, Jen Hickey, and Diane McDevitt were present with Library Director Karen Stolfer.

Pam Fager introduced herself noting she is a long-time Hanson resident. She has been on the Library Foundation for over a year. Her kids volunteer at the Library. She is on the Library Building Planning committee. She wants to help as much as she can. She sees how the library brings in the community. She would like to bring the Middle School students into the library.

8:21 p.m. Library Trustee Corrine Carfardo called the meeting to order.

Trustee Wall asked what Ms. Fager sees as the role of a Library Trustee. Ms. Fager indicated the Trustee is more deeply involved with the community. They develop programs with the library staff. They check out other libraries and spread the word about library. They draw residents to the library. The Trustees develop the library into the future.

Trustee Carfardo asked about the top three skills Ms. Fager brings to the position. Ms. Fager noted her connection to the Town as she was born, raised and works in Town and her network with the business community.

Trustee McDevitt asked if Ms. Fager supports the library expansion within the community – Ms. Fager noted the project needs to be looked at it carefully with a review the demographics of the community. It needs to bring the generations together and uniting them for the common goal. She supports the expansion of the library.

Mr. Stewart noted he has lived in Hanson most of his life. His parents have lived in town several years. He spent the better part of his life in the library. He wants to give back to the

community and decided to go to a place he is comfortable. He developed skills while at college. He was president and secretary of several clubs at college.

Trustee Wall asked for his top three skills. Mr. Stewart noted his attention to detail, planning events and programs as well as his organizational and networking with the community.

Trustee Wall asked what he views as the role of a trustee – Mr. Stewart feels a trustee is somewhat of a managerial position rather than a volunteer.

Trustee McDevitt inquired if he supports the expansion of the library. Mr. Stewart supports the expansion. He has made a connection with the library attendees from all generations.

Trustee Wall said this is a very difficult decision but both candidates will have an opportunity to run for the position.

MOTION Carfardo, second by Wall to appoint Pam Fager as trustee until the May 18, 2019 election.

Trustee Wall feels Ms. Fager's experience on the Planning Committee and Foundation gives her an edge over Mr. Stewart.

Moved to the vote - Voted 4 – 0

Mrs. FitzGerald-Kemmett noted in spite of the motion, she encouraged Mr. Stewart to continue to seek opportunities in the town to volunteer.

MOTION by FitzGerald-Kemmett, second by Hickey to appoint Pam Fager with a term to expire on May 18, 2019. **Voted 4 – 1 (Dyer).**

Requests – Green Hanson - Green Up/Clean Up Annual Event – Mr. Dyer noted the event will be April 27th Town Hall 8:00 a.m. – 12:00 p.m. The annual event will have a dumpster delivered in advance and picnic tables for volunteers at the conclusion of the cleanup.

MOTION by FitzGerald-Kemmett, second by Hickey to approve the request for Green up Clean up on April 27th. **Voted 4 – 0 – 1 Dyer**

Resignations/Appointments -

School Repair Committee BOS Rep – Jim Hickey – resigned

MOTION by FitzGerald-Kemmett, second by Dyer to accept with regret Mr. Hickey's resignation. **Voted 4 – 0 – 1 (Hickey)**

School Repair Committee BOS Rep – Wes Blauss – Term to expire 6/30/20

MOTION by Hickey, second by FitzGerald-Kemmett to appoint Wes Blauss to the School Repair Committee term to expire June 30, 2020 **Voted 5 – 0**

III OLD BUSINESS

Review Town Administrator Goals – Mr. McCue requested the Board review the Goals, both objective and subjective. He noted the Board can provide additional goals as they come about. Mr. Blauss has not had an opportunity to sit down with Mr. McCue. He would like 4 or 5 specific goals which will be easy to judge. Chairman Mitchell suggested revising the evaluation tool. FitzGerald-Kemmett would like a quarterly review so that Mr. McCue doesn't wait for a year to find he isn't achieving the goals.

2019 Tax Title Auction – Conservation request to remove five parcels from auction list
Map 3, Lot 33 – Ocean Avenue
Map 3, Lot 35 – Ocean Avenue
Map 7, Lot 39 – Santos Court
Map 27, Lot 2 – Elm Street
Map 89, Lot 21D –Gorwin Drive

Conservation Chairman Phil Clemons was present to explain why Conservation is requesting the properties be held. Mr. Clemons explained if the parcel is adjacent to environmental properties and proximity to wetlands Conservation would be interested in the properties.

Mrs. FitzGerald-Kemmett supports the theory of holding the properties. Mr. Clemons noted that Highway is interested in holding a property for drainage issues.

Mr. McCue recommended that the Board pull the parcels from the auction list. He also recommended waiting on conveying to Conservation.

MOTION by FitzGerald-Kemmett, second by Hickey to remove the parcels as presented from the auction. **Vote 5 – 0**

Mr. McCue informed the Board that they will also offer the two parcels which did not sell during the Fall auction. He explained that he is looking into holding a separate auction for the Liberty Street parcel on the same day.

IV TOWN ADMINISTRATOR'S REPORT

Mr. McCue and Mr. Hassett and department heads continue to work on the budget. He will be meeting in Whitman on Tuesday to review the budget.

He noted that the bids for the improvements at County Road and Liberty Street have gone out. The consultants are handling the bid process.

He has placed the surplus COA Van out to auction.

The Fire Department is seeking a vendor to collect outstanding ambulance bills. Once one is found he will bring them to the Board.

Mr. McCue is trying to set up a joint meeting with several groups as it relates to recreation purposes. As well as set up a joint meeting with Planning for the Housing Production Plan.

He and Jim Hickey met with Josh Singer to discuss Hanson Day to be held in June. Mr. McCue was able to locate some historical information from a previous Hanson Day.

Mr. McCue, Mr. Hickey and Mr. Clemons have been reviewing with a property owner of a parcel of land on Arlene Street adjacent to Oldham Pond.

Mr. McCue reported the grant with the MAPC to retrofit the Street Lights reported back that the Town was eligible, but would have to fund a portion now to move forward. However, the Town is not in a position, but it appears that they will provide assistance. It is premature at this time.

V APPROVE MINUTES
February 19, 2019

MOTION by FitzGerald-Kemmett, second by Hickey to approve the minutes as presented.
Voted 5 – 0

VI ONE DAY LIQUOR LICENSES – Camp Kiwanee
Joshua Singer, Hanson Business Network, Hanson Sat., March 16th 6:00 – 10:00 p.m.
Fundraiser
Kim Anderson, SS Children’s Museum, Sat. March 23rd 7:00 – 9:00 p.m. - fundraiser
Newton Parks & Recreation, Newton, Wed., April 10th, 11:30 – 3:30 p.m. - Senior Luau
Suzanne Walsh, Hanson, Sunday, April 28th 12:00 – 4:00 p.m. – Baby Shower

MOTION by Dyer, second by Hickey to approve the One Day Liquor Licenses as presented.
Voted 4 – 0 – 1 (FitzGerald-Kemmett)

VII COMMITTEE REPORTS
200th Anniversary Committee – Mrs. FitzGerald-Kemmett – Nothing to Report
Final Plymouth County Hospital Reuse Comm. – Mr. Dyer – Nothing to Report
Maquan School Reuse Committee – Mrs. FitzGerald-Kemmett Meeting March 6th.
Hanson School Repair Committee - Mr. Blauss – Nothing to Report

VIII ADJOURNMENT

MOTION by Hickey, second FitzGerald-Kemmett. **Voted 5 – 0**

8:56 p.m. Meeting Adjourned

Respectfully submitted,

Meredith Marini,
Executive Assistant
Approved and Voted 5 – 0
March 12, 2019