

***ATTENTION: THIS MEETING WILL BE CONDUCTED TELEPHONICALLY. AN AUDIO RECORDING OF THE MEETING WILL BE AVAILABLE DURING OR AS SOON AS POSSIBLE AFTER THE MEETING BY LOGGING ON TO THE WHITMANHANSON CABLE ACCESS TV'S YOUTUBE SITE:
[HTTPS://WWW.YOUTUBE.COM/USER/WHCA9TV](https://www.youtube.com/user/WHCA9TV)**

Tuesday, February 2, 2021, at 6:00 p.m.

**Virtual Meeting
Regular meeting**

Members Present: Matthew Dyer, James Hickey, Wesley Blauss, Laura FitzGerald-Kemmett
Others Present: John Stanbrook, Town Administrator; Greer Getzen, Executive Assistant; Jerome Thompson, Fire Chief; Jason Talerman, Town Counsel; Donald Howard, Water Department; Bill Cushing, Appeals Board
Members Absent: Kenny Mitchell

I CALL TO ORDER

Chairman Dyer called the meeting to order and led the Pledge of Allegiance.

II Public Announcements & Upcoming Meetings

Ms. FitzGerald-Kemmett read the public announcements and the upcoming meetings.

III NEW BUSINESS

FY22 Town budget update

Mr. Stanbrook provided the Board with an update on the FY22 Town budget as some of the numbers had changed. The first number that changed since the last update is related to state aid and is called the Cherry Sheet, and this is both the amount the state will provide the Town in aid and how much they will charge the Town. The Cherry Sheet from Governor Baker had come out, and the total amount in receipts for the Town of Hanson was a \$36,086 increase, and the assessments were a savings of \$818 from what was thought in the original budget.

A preliminary number came in from South Shore Vocational Tech., and they had initially thought the budget would be an increase of only 5%, however it is an 8.16%. While this is only a preliminary number that was provided, Mr. Stanbrook suggests accepting this almost as fact to work with. This puts the deficit for the budget at about \$1.985M instead of the initially prepared budget deficit.

Update on outstanding Selectmen's article(s)

Mr. Stanbrook thought it would be in the Board's best interest to review a few outstanding Selectmen's articles every week to address what to do with the articles. The first he selected for review was Article 19 from the Special Town Meeting of October 7, 2019, and this was subject to award of a Mass Tree Grant to transfer \$10,000 from Free Cash as the Town's 50/50 share of a Mass Tree Grant to replace trees around the town. Mr. Stanbrook then referred to the options for these articles that he provided at the previous meeting. Mr. Dyer provided an update on this project and proposed that instead of opting into the 50/50 grant, the Town takes the initiative to use the money to plant trees on their own. After discussion from the Board, it was decided that the article would be reworded to account for these changes, and the article will be brought to Town Meeting after which the project can continue.

MOTION by Ms. FitzGerald-Kemmett, seconded by Mr. Hickey, to apply the above listed changes to the article and to bring the article to Town Meeting. ***Roll call vote Ms. FitzGerald-Kemmett aye, Mr. Hickey aye, Mr. Blauss aye, Chairman Dyer aye. Voted 4 – 0***

Discussion of Covid-19 vaccination staging & distribution in Town

Fire Chief Thompson gave an update to the Board and public regarding the possibility of vaccination distribution in the Town of Hanson. After a lengthy application process, they were

able to be accepted and have since signed a vaccine agreement and have received some vaccines through Brockton Hospital for approximately 50 first responders.

After some struggle obtaining more vaccines from the state, they were able to put an order in and received several vaccines for members of the population over 75 years of age. They will continue to order vaccines weekly, although it may continue to be difficult obtaining vaccines.

The Board thanked Chief Thompson and all those involved in the process for their continuous support and hard work in obtaining vaccines for the Town of Hanson.

Declare mixer at Camp Kiwanee surplus

MOTION by Ms. FitzGerald-Kemmett, seconded by Mr. Blauss, to declare the mixer at Camp Kiwanee as surplus. *Roll call vote Ms. FitzGerald-Kemmett aye, Mr. Hickey aye, Mr. Blauss aye, Chairman Dyer aye. Voted 4 – 0*

Declare Water Dept. 2011 Ford F350 (1FTRF3B60BED08557) surplus

MOTION by Ms. FitzGerald-Kemmett, seconded by Mr. Hickey, to declare Water Department 2011 Ford F350 (1FTRF3B60BED08557) as surplus. *Roll call vote Ms. FitzGerald-Kemmett aye, Mr. Hickey aye, Mr. Blauss aye, Chairman Dyer aye. Voted 4 – 0*

Appointments:

Appoint John Gray as Full-Time Waste Disposal Attendant

Mr. Stanbrook informed the Board that after receiving 4 applications for the Full-Time Waste Disposal Attendant, it became apparent that John Gray Jr. of Hanson stood out above the rest. He is confident that Mr. Gray will be an asset for the Town, and he will be a good fit for this position.

MOTION by Ms. FitzGerald-Kemmett, seconded by Mr. Hickey, to appoint John Gray Jr. as the Full-Time Waste Disposal Attendant for the Town of Hanson for a term to begin February 8, 2021. *Roll call vote Ms. FitzGerald-Kemmett aye, Mr. Hickey aye, Mr. Blauss aye, Chairman Dyer aye. Voted 4 – 0*

IV

OLD BUSINESS

MassHousing request for comments on site approval application for Cushing Trails (C.40B)

Mr. Stanbrook informed the Board that the deadline for comments to MassHousing regarding the site approval application for Cushing Trails was approaching. He then turned the conversation over to Attorney Talerma to discuss the next steps in this process.

Attorney Talerma explained that this current step is most important for the Board to advocate for or against a specific project through the submission of their comments. He noted that Kate Feodoroff drafted for the Board a template letter to submit that addresses the concerns previously discussed, and Mr. Stanbrook read this letter to the Board. Some of the concerns outlined in the letter are as follows: diversity in Affordable Housing, access to water supply and cost of construction, proximity to landfill, environmental impacts, etc.

Ms. Kemmett noted that the letter addressed many of the major concerns that they had previously discussed, but also noted that the letter did not address the lack of septic in the area, and the lack of information regarding the amenities that will be -- or will not be -- supplied. She also voiced the concerns over traffic in the area that had been mentioned by residents. Mr. Hickey's main concern for this project was the amount of money it could potentially cost the town instead of the developer. Chairman Dyer emphasized the importance of vegetation in the area and wanted the letter to address this as well.

Following this further feedback from the Board, Attorney Talerma suggested the Board either show support of the project if all the concerns were favorably addressed, or not take a stand and reiterate that these concerns must be addressed. Bill Cushing, a member working on the proposal,

had joined the meeting and wanted to provide responses to some of the concerns that were raised. He was able to directly address concerns regarding traffic, amenities, distribution of affordable housing, and water supply.

MOTION by Mr. Hickey seconded by Ms. FitzGerald-Kemmett, to neither support nor reject the proposal, but emphasize to MassHousing the concerns that they wanted addressed in the letter Kate Feodoroff drafted. **Roll call vote Ms. FitzGerald-Kemmett aye, Mr. Hickey aye, Mr. Blauss aye, Chairman Dyer aye. Voted 4 – 0**

Whitman-Hanson Regional School District De-Regionalization Study bid discussion

Mr. Stanbrook updated the Board on the WHRSD De-Regionalization Study and reiterated that two of the ten companies Mr. Stanbrook reached out to responded with quotes for the project. Typically, they would prefer receiving 3 bids and opt to choose the lowest of the bids determined to be responsive and responsible. However, only receiving two bids and having drastically different quotes, they are currently in the same position as the last time this was discussed.

Mr. Sullivan reviewed both proposals and noted that the main difference between the two proposals was that one company offered a fixed price while the other could increase in cost over time for essentially the same service. Mr. Sullivan stated that his suggestion would be to go with the TMS proposal as it offers a fixed cost.

MOTION by Mr. Blauss, seconded by Ms. FitzGerald-Kemmett, to accept the proposal submitted by TMS for the Whitman-Hanson Regional School District De-Regionalization Study bid. **Roll call vote Ms. FitzGerald-Kemmett aye, Mr. Hickey aye, Mr. Blauss aye, Chairman Dyer aye. Voted 4 – 0**

Discuss Maquan School Redevelopment request for proposals results

Mr. Stanbrook provided an update on the Maquan School Redevelopment request for proposals. The Committee had received 3 responses and would meet in the next few days to discuss the next steps in this process.

V

APPROVE MEETING MINUTES

MOTION by Ms. FitzGerald-Kemmett, seconded by Mr. Hickey, to approve the meeting minutes for August 27, 2019. **Roll call vote Ms. FitzGerald-Kemmett aye, Mr. Hickey aye, Mr. Blauss abstain, Chairman Dyer aye. Voted 3 – 0**

VI

TOWN ADMINISTRATOR REPORT

Mr. Stanbrook updated the Board on recent events, as follows:

Old Business:

At the January 26th, 2021, Board of Selectmen meeting, the Board authorized Mr. Stanbrook to sign payroll, vendor, and withholding warrants on behalf of the Board through February 28th, 2021. Mr Stanbrook signed the following warrants on behalf of the Board of Selectmen since the last meeting:

1/21/21	Warrant 30	\$510,910.33	Vendor Warrant (\$460,000 water debt)
1/21/21	Warrant 30PR	\$138,079.83	Payroll Warrant
1/21/21	Warrant 30WH	\$26,322.93	Payroll Withholding Warrant
1/28/21	Warrant 31	\$510,735.07	Vendor Warrant (\$265,000 general fund debt service, \$223,000 fire/self-contained breathing apparatus gear - \$200,000 funded by state grant)
1/28/21	Warrant 31PR	\$137,875.50	Payroll Warrant

1/28/21	Warrant 31WH	\$25,919.42	Payroll Withholding Warrant
1/25/21	Warrant W18V012521	-\$782.40	Correction to a Chapter 90 Highway

New Business:

1. Mr. Stanbrook received a letter from the American Federal State/County Municipal Employees Council 93 Local 17. It was a letter to bargain that begins the formal process of beginning the union negotiations with the Highway Union and the Town Hall Clerical Union. The existing agreement expires on June 30th, 2021.
2. Mr. Stanbrook received information from Mr. Talerman regarding some new zoning rules at Town Meeting. He briefly summarized some of the main rules for the Board.
3. Coming attractions: next scheduled meeting is 2/9/21 at 6:00 P.M.

++ *Any other items not reasonably known by the Chairman within 48 hours prior to the meeting*

VII

ADJOURNMENT

MOTION by Ms. FitzGerald-Kemmett, seconded by Mr. Hickey, to adjourn the meeting. ***Ms. FitzGerald-Kemmett aye, Mr. Hickey aye, Mr. Blauss aye, Chairman Dyer aye. Voted 4 – 0***

Respectfully submitted,

Amanda Guindon

Minutes Clerk

Announcements

Nomination papers for the May 15th Town of Hanson Annual Election are now available at the Hanson Town Clerk's office. Nomination papers can be obtained by contacting the Hanson Town Clerk's office at (781) 293-2772 and making an appointment.

The Treasurer/Collector for the Town of Hanson wishes to inform residents that the 3RD and 4TH quarter real estate and personal property tax bills for Fiscal Year 2021 were mailed on December 30, 2020 and will be due on February 1, 2021 and May 3, 2021.

We urge any taxpayer who has NOT received a bill to contact our office at (781) 293-2422. Thank you.

Green Hanson will be holding two Listening Sessions for Hanson resident to learn about community choice aggregation. Each session will take place on Zoom and will begin with an overview of the process followed by a chance to ask questions or to raise any concerns about community choice aggregation. The first Listening Session took place on Thursday, January 28th and the second will be on Thursday, February 11th. The second session will begin at 7:00 p.m. and last about 1 hour. For more information, call Marianne DiMascio of Green Hanson at 603-340-1352.

Volunteers are needed on the following committees: Face Book Upkeep Committee, Conservation Commission Associate members, Cultural Council, Disabilities, Economic Development, Highway Building Committee, Historical Commission, Memorial Day Patriotic Observance, Memorial Field Trustees and North River Commission. Applications for Appointment and info on the committee are available on the town website www.hanson-ma.gov

UPCOMING MEETINGS

Board of Selectmen – February 9, 2021 at 6:00 p.m.

Board of Selectmen – February 23, 2021 at 6:00 p.m.