

***Hanson Board of Selectmen
Selectmen's Meeting Room***

Tuesday, July 27, 2021

6:00 P.M.

Members Present: Chairman Matt Dyer, Laura FitzGerald-Kemmett, Joseph Weeks, Kenny Mitchell, James Hickey
Others Present: Lisa Green, Town Administrator; Greer Getzen, Executive Assistant; Mike Miksch, Police Chief;
Frank Serretti, Powers & Sullivan

I CALL TO ORDER

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

II PUBLIC ANNOUNCEMENTS AND UPCOMING MEETINGS

Mr. Weeks read the public announcements and upcoming meetings.

III NEW BUSINESS

Requests from Police Chief Miksch

Chief Miksch first informed the Board that Police Officer Kevin McCarthy was retiring after 22 years of service with the Town of Hanson Police Force. He offered Officer McCarthy the opportunity to stay on as a part-time Special Police Officer as is common with retirees of the force, and Chief Miksch asked the Board to issue a motion to accept this position effective August 1st.

MOTION by Ms. FitzGerald-Kemmett, seconded by Mr. Hickey, to appoint Kevin McCarthy as a Special Police Officer in the Town of Hanson effective August 1st, 2021. ***Voted 4 - 0 - 1 with Mr. Weeks abstaining.***

Chief Miksch then informed the Board that he had a potential candidate in mind to fill the vacancy that this retirement will create from a list of candidates the department had compiled previously. The candidate, Ryan Shaughnessy, has the knowledge and experience to fill this position with little to no trouble and Chief Miksch commends Mr. Shaughnessy's character and dedication.

MOTION by Mr. Mitchell, seconded by Joseph Weeks, to appoint Ryan Shaughnessy as a student Police Officer effective September 20, 2021 upon the successful completion of the academy. Officer Shaughnessy will be appointed as a full-time officer in the Town of Hanson. Appointment is contingent upon successfully passing medical and psychological exams, and a background check. ***Voted 5 - 0***

FY19 and FY20 Audits

Mr. Serretti gave a presentation to the Board regarding the FY20 Audit results. He first commented on the Town's accuracy in reporting financial information and how Hanson had done an exceptional job on this aspect. They also found that Hanson had good reconciliation procedures in place to protect against the possibility of theft with cash, and all transactions were appropriately authorized and approved.

He also commented on other positives that they found in the town's financial statements from the audit including the town's increase in free cash and other funds indicating a positive influx of reserve money for the town, a considerably good collection rate, surpluses in budgets indicating good budgeting processes in place for Hanson, and continued participation in an OPEB fund demonstrating positive rates. He then noted some of the old and new debt that the town worked with during the year including debt related to the Police Station and the Water Enterprise Fund.

He then moved on to discuss the management letter, which is designed by nature to be critical and focused on a few of the things from FY19 and FY20 that needed to be addressed. He wanted to emphasize to the Board that there were no significant deficiencies or material weaknesses in the letter, and that what is included are meant to be improvements. The first of three comments that they had for the Board was related to the delay in posting the meeting minutes from the Board of Selectmen meetings. The next comment was relating to adopting a cash and investment policy. The final comment related to the ambulance receivable and how it was much larger than expected for a town of Hanson's size. Each of these comments were addressed as needed, and a few more minor comments were given regarding the other year.

Mr. Hickey and Ms. FitzGerald-Kemmett shared the idea that they should have an itemized list to follow to ensure that the Board addresses each of the comments made by the audit.

Discuss adopting special legislation to allow the Town Administrator to sign all one-day liquor licenses

Chairman Dyer explained that their decision to meet bi-weekly isn't sufficient for signing off on the one-day liquor licenses that are requested. He suggested having Kate Feodoroff draft special legislation for the Board that would allow the Town Administrator to sign off on these licenses.

MOTION by Ms. FitzGerald-Kemmett, seconded by Mr. Mitchell, to approve the request for Ms. Feodoroff drafted special legislation that would allow the Town Administrator to sign off on one-day liquor licenses on behalf of the Board. *Voted 5 - 0*

Review proposal for codification services

Town Administrator Lisa Green reminded the Board of previous discussion to have a third-party company review the Town's by-laws and zoning by-laws and codify and update them as needed before posting them to the town website for early access. Ms. Green reached out to General Code, who would provide a legal analysis of the language and wording of each by-law before sending the by-laws back to the town with comments and suggestions on how to update them. As Ms. Green had worked with this company before, she is confident that their services will be worth the time and money invested.

After discussion from the Board regarding some concerns over the process and the fees involved, Ms. Green confirmed that she would reach out to the company regarding some of the questions and get back to the Board with more information.

MOTION by Ms. FitzGerald-Kemmett, seconded by Mr. Mitchell, to formulate an article for the October Town Meeting to approve this potential expenditure. *Voted 5 - 0*

Accept June Donations

MOTION by Mr. Mitchell, seconded by Mr. Hickey, to accept the June donations and read by Mr. Dyer. *Voted 4 - 0 - 1*

Appointments

MOTION by Mr. Hickey, seconded by Ms. FitzGerald-Kemmett, to appoint Joseph Marcos as Heavy Equipment Operator for the Highway Department. *Voted 5 - 0*

MOTION by Ms. FitzGerald-Kemmett, seconded by Mr. Mitchell, to appoint Steven Moburg as IT Director for the Town of Hanson. *Voted 5 - 0*

MOTION by Ms. FitzGerald-Kemmett, seconded by Mr. Hickey, to appoint Frank Mola as [unsaid] at South Shore Regional Technical/ Vocational High School. *Voted 5 - 0*

One-Day Liquor Licenses

MOTION by Mr. Mitchell, seconded by Ms. FitzGerald-Kemmett, to approve the one-day liquor licenses as listed to the Board. *Voted 5 - 0*

Requests

MOTION by Ms. FitzGerald-Kemmett, seconded by Mr. Mitchell, to approve Dollars for Scholars's request to use Maquan parking lot on September 11th from 9 a.m. to 1 p.m. *Voted 5 - 0*

IV OLD BUSINESS

Follow up on Mass. Housing Grant

Ms. Green followed up on a question from a previous meeting regarding grants from Mass. Housing and testing property next to a landfill. After speaking with a representative from Mass. Housing Partnership, Ms. Green reported that there aren't exactly grants available for land pollution technical systems, however the developer is technically responsible for having those types of studies (21E studies) done. Mass. Housing Partnership could however help with civil engineering types of technical systems, and this would help maintain and manage each group involved in the project.

The grant process isn't competitive as simply filling out the application awards the town the grant. Ms. Green will fill out the application for the town and start the process of getting this technical assistance.

Meal Tax Update

Ms. Green reminded the Board of a question that came up regarding the potential costs to the local businesses if the Meal Tax were to be adopted by the town. She spoke with a representative from the Department of Revenue who explained that there should be either no cost, or a small cost to the businesses in the impacted area, and the DOR will adjust as necessary to ensure this is the case.

V APPROVE JANUARY 12, 2021 MEETING MINUTES

MOTION by Ms. FitzGerald-Kemmett, seconded by Mr. Mitchell, to approve the January 12, 2021 meeting minutes. *Voted 4 - 0 - 1 with Mr. Weeks abstaining.*

VI TOWN ADMINISTRATOR REPORT

Ms. Green updated the Board on recent events, as follows:

1. There is a recent vacancy in the Hanson Board of Assessors, and Ms. Green wanted to note that anyone looking to apply to fill the vacancy should contact the Board of Selectmen's office.
2. Ms. Green and Ms. Getzen attended a bridge dedication the previous day for Mary "Gret" Lozeau Sh was a Hanson resident who passed away in 2018 after living in Hanson since 1950.
3. They will be interviewing candidates for the Town Planner position so Ms. Green will be able to provide an update to the Board on that soon.
4. Collective bargaining negotiation sessions are going well according to Ms. Green, and they hope to come to agreement with all the unions soon so that it can be put on the October Fall Meeting.
5. The Plymouth County BeeKeepers Association will be hosting a honey extraction workshop the following Saturday at the Hanson Clubhouse.

VII COMMITTEE REPORTS

Recreation Commission

Mr. Weeks informed the Board that the Recreation Commission met the previous day, and he summarized the few things that the Commission had addressed during their meeting as well as different things they have purchased recently. Ms. FitzGerald-Kemmett wanted to know how the new members were fitting in, and Mr. Weeks told her how they fit in perfectly and how things were running very well for the Commission at the moment.

Maquan Reuse Committee

Ms. FitzGerald-Kemmett mentioned that the Maquan Reuse Committee had met the previous week, and they had received 2 RFPs in response. She summarized the current issues they had been facing with the property, and noted that they had 2 responses and they will be prepared to present that to the Board soon.

Economic Development Committee

Ms. FitzGerald-Kemmett also informed the Board on how the Economic Development Committee was doing in terms of grants, and what exactly those grants would help pay for in benefit of the town. They also reaffirmed their commitment to supporting business along the strip of land in question.

Energy Committee

Chairman Dyer informed the Board that the Energy Committee had been interviewing candidates for brokers from community aggregation.

Plymouth County Hospital Reuse Committee

The PCHRC had reorganized the previous week according to Chairman Dyer, and they will continue moving forward with plans.

VIII RECESS

MOTION by Mr. Hickey, seconded by Mr. FitzGerald-Kemmett, to move to recess in order to conduct the Wage and Personnel meeting. . *Voted 5 - 0*

IX WAGE AND PERSONNEL MEETING

Mr. Weeks led the Board in a Wage and Personnel meeting.

X EXECUTIVE SESSION

MOTION by Mr. Mitchell, seconded by Ms. FitzGerald-Kemmett, to enter Executive Session, not to return to open session. *Roll call vote Mr. Weeks aye, Ms. FitzGerald-Kemmett aye, Chairman Dyer aye, Mr. Mitchell aye, Mr. Hickey aye. Voted 5 - 0*

Respectfully submitted,

Amanda Guindon
Minutes Clerk