**\*ATTENTION: THIS MEETING WAS CONDUCTED TELEPHONICALLY.**

**AN AUDIO RECORDING OF THE MEETING CAN BE ACCESSED IN REAL TIME BY LOGGING ONTO WHITMAN-HANSON CABLE ACCESS TV:**

**(http://whca.tv/watch/live-hanson)**

***Hanson Board of Selectmen***

Tuesday, July 7, 2020

6:00 p.m.

***Virtual Meeting***

**I CALL TO ORDER**

At 6:00 p.m., Chairman Mitchell called the meeting to order and led the Pledge of Allegiance.

**II**  **PUBLIC ANNOUNCEMENTS & UPCOMING MEETINGS**

Mr. Dyer read the public announcements and upcoming meeting dates.

**III** **OLD BUSINESS (taken out of order)**

***Kate Feodoroff, Town Counsel, re: Review and vote on Host Community Agreement Amendment for Impressed LLC, for marijuana product manufacturing at 15 Commercial Way***

Town Counsel Kate Feodorff explained that the Host Community Agreement (HCA) Amendment with Impressed LLC amends the existing Host Community Agreement to include manufacturing in addition to cultivation of marijuana.

In response to Mr. Dyer, Mr. Greenberg stated that a virtual community outreach meeting is being planned.

Ms. Feodoroff affirmed that she is satisfied with the amended HCA, saying that it captures all sales from the facility, from raw product to manufactured.

***MOTION*** by Mr. Dyer, seconded by Mr. Hickey, to approve the amended Host Community Agreement with Impressed LLC. ***Roll call vote Dyer aye, Hickey aye, FitzGerald-Kemmett aye, Blauss aye and Mitchell aye. Voted 5 – 0***

***Kate Feodoroff, Town Counsel, re: Review, approval of Virtual Community Outreach Meeting for Impressed LLC and authorization for Town Administrator to notify***

Ms. Feodoroff stated that the Cannabis Control Commission has offered strict guidelines for virtual community outreach meetings. She said that one meeting is required per application. Mr. Greenberg estimated that following notification requirements, the meeting is expected to take place in about a month. In response to Mr. Blauss, Ms. Feodoroff said that the community outreach meeting notice will be posted with the Town Clerk’s office.

Ms. Greenberg assured Mr. Dyer that capability to attend the virtual meeting via land line will be incorporated in to the community outreach meeting.

Mr. Greenberg addressed question from Ms. FitzGerald-Kemmett to say that his contact information will appear in the Whitman-Hanson Express for those who have questions in advance of the outreach meeting. He also affirmed the meeting’s viewing availability on the local cable channel and that he will share meeting details with the Selectmen’s Office to allow posting on the Town website and Facebook page.

***MOTION*** by Ms. FitzGerald-Kemmett, seconded by Mr. Hickey, to approve a Virtual Community Outreach Meeting by Impressed LLC and to authorize the Town Administrator to notify. ***Roll call vote Dyer aye, Hickey aye, Blauss aye, FitzGerald-Kemmett aye and Mitchell aye. Voted 5 – 0***

**IV NEW BUSINESS**

***2020 Annual & Special Town Meeting warrants - Vote to place articles & make recommendations***

Mr. Stanbrook presented for the Board, Special and Annual Town Meeting articles to review for warrant placement and/or recommendation votes.

Mr. Stanbrook read the articles, with each presented in brief form below followed by the Board’s votes.

**2020 Special Town Meeting Articles:**

**Article 1** – Transfer $1,296.50 from Free Cash for payment of prior fiscal year unpaid bills.

***MOTION*** by Mr. Dyer, seconded by Mr. Hickey, to place and recommend Special Town Meeting Article 1 on the warrant. ***Roll call vote Dyer aye, Hickey aye, FitzGerald-Kemmett aye, Blauss aye and Mitchell aye. Voted 5 – 0***

**Article 2** – Transfer $6,262.00 from Free Cash to reimburse the Whitman-Hanson Regional School District for elevator repairs at the Indian Head Elementary School.

***MOTION*** by Mr. Dyer, seconded by Mr. Hickey, to place and recommend Special Town Meeting Article 2 on the warrant. ***Roll call vote Dyer aye, Hickey aye, FitzGerald-Kemmett aye, Bluass aye and Mitchell aye. Voted 5 – 0***

**Article 3** – Transfer $25,000.00 from Free Cash to pay for the removal and replacement of sidewalks at the Indian Head School and/or Hanson Middle School.

***MOTION*** by Mr. Dyer, seconded by Mr. Hickey, to place and recommend Special Town Meeting Article 3 on the warrant. ***Roll call vote Dyer aye, Hickey aye, FitzGerald-Kemmett aye, Blauss aye and Mitchell aye. Voted 5 – 0***

**Article 4** – Transfer $3,750.00 from Free Cash to purchase a walk-behind blower.

***MOTION*** by Mr. Dyer, seconded by Mr. Hickey, to place Special Town Meeting Article 4 on the warrant. ***Roll call vote Dyer aye, Hickey aye, FitzGerald-Kemmett aye, Blauss aye and Mitchell aye. Voted 5 – 0***

**Article 5** – Transfer $11,250.00 from Free Cash to purchase a highway berm curber.

***MOTION*** by Mr. Dyer, seconded by Mr. Hickey, to place Special Town Meeting Article 5 on the warrant. ***Roll call vote Dyer aye, Hickey aye, FitzGerald-Kemmett aye, Blauss aye and Mitchell aye. Voted 5 – 0***

**Article 6** – Transfer $10,000.00 from Free Cash to pay to improve private gravel roads.

***MOTION*** by Mr. Dyer, seconded by Mr. Hickey, to place Special Town Meeting Article 6 on the warrant. ***Roll call vote Dyer aye, Hickey aye, FitzGerald-Kemmett aye, Blauss aye and Mitchell aye. Voted 5 – 0***

**Article 7** – Amend the Wage & Personnel By-Laws, Article 1-12, Classification and Compensation, by deleting Sections 11A-11E and inserting new Sections 11A-11E, as printed in the warrant.

***MOTION*** by Mr. Dyer, seconded by Mr. Hickey, to place Special Town Meeting Article 7 on the warrant. ***Roll call vote Dyer aye, Hickey aye, FitzGerald-Kemmett aye, Blauss aye and Mitchell aye. Voted 5 – 0***

**2020 Annual Town Meeting Warrant articles:**

**Article 1** – To hear reports, published in the 2019 Annual Town Report, of various Town Officers, Committees, Special Committees, and act thereon.

***MOTION*** by Mr. Dyer, seconded by Mr. Hickey, to place and recommend Annual Town Meeting Article 1 on the warrant. ***Roll call vote Dyer aye, Hickey aye, FitzGerald-Kemmett aye, Blauss aye and Mitchell aye. Voted 5 – 0***

**Article 2** – Authorize the Treasurer/Collector to enter into compensating balance agreements during FY2021.

***MOTION*** by Mr. Dyer, seconded by Mr. Hickey, to place and recommend Annual Town Meeting Article 2 on the warrant. ***Roll call vote Dyer aye, Hickey aye, FitzGerald-Kemmett aye, Blauss aye and Mitchell aye. Voted 5 – 0***

**Article 3** – Transfer $20,000.00 from Overlay Surplus to fund the Treasurer/Collector’s tax title account.

***MOTION*** by Mr. Dyer, seconded by Mr. Hickey, to place and recommend Annual Town Meeting Article 3 on the warrant. ***Roll call vote Dyer aye, Hickey aye, FitzGerald-Kemmett aye, Blauss aye and Mitchell aye. Voted 5 – 0***

**Article 4** – Fix the salary and compensation of paid elected officers and committees of the Town, as printed in the warrant.

***MOTION*** by Mr. Dyer, seconded by Mr. Hickey, to place and recommend Annual Town Meeting Article 4 on the warrant. ***Roll call vote Dyer aye, Hickey aye, FitzGerald-Kemmett aye, Blauss aye and Mitchell aye. Voted 5 – 0***

**Article 5** – Approve the amended Whitman-Hanson Regional School District Agreement, which is outlined and printed in the warrant. Ms. Feodoroff urged the Board to modify the article language to reference the amended Agreement as on file with the Town Clerk.

After discussion, the Board expressed the desire to place the article on the warrant but to postpone vote on a recommendation until a later date.

***MOTION*** by Mr. Blauss, seconded by Mr. Hickey, to place Annual Town Meeting Article 5 on the warrant. ***Roll call vote Dyer aye, Hickey aye, FitzGerald-Kemmett aye, Blauss aye and Mitchell aye. Voted 5 – 0***

**Article 6** – Mr. Stanton explained that this article is the standard budget article for the General Fund and the Water Fund.

***MOTION*** by Mr. Dyer, seconded by Mr. Hickey, to place and recommend Annual Town Meeting Article 6 on the warrant. ***Roll call vote Dyer aye, Hickey aye, FitzGerald-Kemmett aye, Blauss aye and Mitchell aye. Voted 5 – 0***

**Article 7** – Raise and appropriate sums of money to operate the Recreation Department for FY2021, as outlined and printed in the warrant. Mr. Stanbrook said that this is the Recreation Budget for FY2021 as presented by the Recreation Commission. The Board of Selectmen will postpone its recommendation vote until after the Finance Committee weighs in.

***MOTION*** by Mr. Dyer, seconded by Mr. Hickey, to place Annual Town Meeting Article 7 on the warrant. ***Roll call vote Dyer aye, Hickey aye, FitzGerald-Kemmett aye, Blauss aye and Mitchell aye. Voted 5 – 0***

**Article 8** – Raise and appropriate sums of money to operate the Transfer Station for FY2021, as outlined and printed in the warrant. The Board of Selectmen will postpone its recommendation vote until after the Finance Committee weighs in.

***MOTION*** by Mr. Dyer, seconded by Mr. Hickey, to place Annual Town Meeting Article 8 on the warrant. ***Roll call vote Dyer aye, Hickey aye, FitzGerald-Kemmett aye, Blauss aye and Mitchell aye. Voted 5 – 0***

**Article 9** – Appropriate or reserve from the FY2021 Community Preservation Fund, estimated annual revenues as recommended by the Community Preservation Committee, for expenses and projects, as printed in the warrant. This article assures that Community Preservation Accounts are compliant with the Community Preservation Act.

***MOTION*** by Mr. Dyer, seconded by Mr. Hickey, to place and recommend Annual Town Meeting Article 9 on the warrant. ***Roll call vote Dyer aye, Hickey aye, FitzGerald-Kemmett aye, Blauss aye and Mitchell aye. Voted 5 – 0***

**Article 10** – Annual article to adopt the Capital Improvements Program matrix as presented by the Capital Improvement Committee.

***MOTION*** by Mr. Dyer, seconded by Mr. Hickey, to place and recommend Annual Town Meeting Article 10 on the warrant. ***Roll call vote Dyer aye, Hickey aye, FitzGerald-Kemmett aye, Blauss aye and Mitchell aye. Voted 5 – 0***

**Article 11** – Appropriate and/or transfer from available funds to various department capital accounts, as outlined and printed in the warrant.

***MOTION*** by Mr. Dyer, seconded by Mr. Hickey, to place Annual Town Meeting Article 11 on the warrant. ***Roll call vote Dyer aye, Hickey aye, FitzGerald-Kemmett aye, Blauss aye and Mitchell aye. Voted 5 – 0***

**Article 12** – Raise and appropriate and/or transfer from available funds a sum of money to Capital Accounts for Whitman-Hanson High School to reconfigure Guidance and Special Education areas. Mr. Dyer suggested that more information be obtained about this action ahead of the Board’s vote to recommend.

***MOTION*** by Mr. Dyer, seconded by Mr. Hickey, to place Annual Town Meeting Article 12 on the warrant. ***Roll call vote Dyer aye, Hickey aye, FitzGerald-Kemmett aye, Blauss aye and Mitchell aye. Voted 5 – 0***

**Article 13** – Transfer $7,000.00 from the Community Preservation Committee’s Historical Resources Reserve Fund to purchase and place historical markers in town.

***MOTION*** by Ms. FitzGerald-Kemmett seconded by Mr. Hickey, to place and recommend Annual Town Meeting Article 13 on the warrant. ***Roll call vote Dyer aye, Hickey aye, FitzGerald-Kemmett aye, Blauss aye and Mitchell aye. Voted 5 – 0***

**Article 14** – Authorize the Board of Selectmen to enter into contracts pursuant to Mass. General Laws Chapter 90 for the construction, reconstruction and improvement of Town roads.

***MOTION*** by Mr. Dyer, seconded by Mr. Hickey, to place and recommend Annual Town Meeting Article 14 on the warrant. ***Roll call vote Dyer aye, Hickey aye, FitzGerald-Kemmett aye, Blauss aye and Mitchell aye. Voted 5 – 0***

**Article 15** – Set spending limits on revolving accounts, as outlined and printed in the warrant.

***MOTION*** by Mr. Dyer, seconded by Mr. Hickey, to place and recommend Annual Town Meeting Article 15 on the warrant. ***Roll call vote Dyer aye, Hickey aye, FitzGerald-Kemmett aye, Blauss aye and Mitchell aye. Voted 5 – 0***

**Article 16** – Accept the provisions of the Massachusetts BRAVE Act, which provides certain property tax exemptions relating to qualifying Veterans.

***MOTION*** by Mr. Dyer, seconded by Mr. Hickey, to place and recommend Annual Town Meeting Article 16 on the warrant. ***Roll call vote Dyer aye, Hickey aye, FitzGerald-Kemmett aye, Blauss aye and Mitchell aye. Voted 5 – 0***

**Article 17** – Authorize the Board of Selectmen to enter into a Community Choice Program and contract for electric supply for Hanson residents and/or businesses. Mr. Dyer suggested that Board recommendation be deferred to Town Meeting to allow better explanation of the program’s implementation.

***MOTION*** by Mr. Dyer, seconded by Mr. Hickey, to place Annual Town Meeting Article 17 on the warrant. ***Roll call vote Dyer aye, Hickey aye, FitzGerald-Kemmett aye, Blauss aye and Mitchell aye. Voted 5 – 0***

**Article 18** – Delete “Highway Surveyor” references in the Town’s ByLaws to “Highway Director.”

***MOTION*** by Mr. Dyer, seconded by Mr. Hickey, to place and recommend Annual Town Meeting Article 18 on the warrant. ***Roll call vote Dyer aye, Hickey aye, FitzGerald-Kemmett aye, Blauss aye and Mitchell aye. Voted 5 – 0***

**Article 19** – Amend the Wage and Personnel ByLaws for the revision of Section 12E, Item A, as printed in the warrant.

***MOTION*** by Mr. Dyer, seconded by Mr. Hickey, to place and recommend Annual Town Meeting Article 19 on the warrant. ***Roll call vote Dyer aye, Hickey aye, FitzGerald-Kemmett aye, Blauss aye and Mitchell aye. Voted 5 – 0***

**Article 20** – Amend the General Bylaws to insert a section entitled “Non-Substantive Renumbering,” as printed in the warrant.

***MOTION*** by Mr. Dyer, seconded by Mr. Hickey, to place and recommend Annual Town Meeting Article 20 on the warrant. ***Roll call vote Dyer aye, Hickey aye, FitzGerald-Kemmett aye, Mr. Blauss aye and Mitchell aye. Voted 5 – 0***

**Article 21** – Amend the General ByLaw, Article 1-1, Articles Relating to Town Meeting, Section 1A, for deletions outlined and printed in the warrant. Ms. Feodoroff explained for Ms. FitzGerald-Kemmett that the deletions are intended to provide flexibility going forward allowing for the Annual Town Meeting and election to be posted separately.

***MOTION*** by Mr. Dyer, seconded by Mr. Hickey, to place and recommend Annual Town Meeting Article 21 on the warrant. ***Roll call vote Dyer aye, Hickey aye, FitzGerald-Kemmett aye, Blauss aye and Mitchell aye. Voted 5 – 0***

**Article 22** – Authorize the Board of Selectmen to petition for amendment to Chapter 41, An Act Establishing a Town Administrator in the Town of Hanson, as printed in the warrant. Ms. Feodoroff said that the proposed changes modernize the process and delegates the Board of Selectmen to make appointments.

***MOTION*** by Mr. Dyer, seconded by Mr. Hickey, to place and recommend Annual Town Meeting Article 22 on the warrant. ***Roll call vote Dyer aye, Hickey aye, FitzGerald-Kemmett aye, Blauss aye and Mitchell aye. Voted 5 – 0***

**Article 23** – Petition of the Massachusetts General Court to allow the Whitman-Hanson Regional School District to continue its cost assessment method as “per pupil” “alternative.”

***MOTION*** by Mr. Dyer, seconded by Mr. Hickey, to place and recommend Annual Town Meeting Article 23 on the warrant. ***Roll call vote Dyer aye, Hickey aye, FitzGerald-Kemmett aye, Blauss aye and Mitchell aye. Voted 5 – 0***

***Discuss formation of De-Regionalization Committee***

The Board discussed the formation of a De-Regionalization feasibility committee suggesting a five-member panel made up of one Board of Selectmen member, one Finance Committee member and three at-large members. Mr. Hickey stepped forward to represent the Board of Selectmen. Chairman Mitchell asked Ms. Getzen to email the Finance Committee Chair to request a volunteer from their committee.

In response to Ms. FitzGerald-Kemmett, Chairman Mitchell stated that resources for the committee will be identified at a later date.

***MOTION*** by Ms. FitzGerald-Kemmett, seconded by Mr. Hickey, to form a five-member De-Regionalization Feasibility Committee consisting of one Selectman, one Finance Committee member and three citizens-at-large. ***Roll call vote Dyer aye, Hickey aye, FitzGerald-Kemmett aye, Blauss aye and Mitchell aye. Voted 5 – 0***

Chairman Mitchell called for citizens-at-large member applications to be returned by August 4.

***Review Opioid class action Litigation settlement offer with Purdue***

Mr. Stanbrook explained that the Town received a letter from the law firm representing National Opiate Litigation in regard to a class action suit concerning the bankruptcy of Purdue Pharma over opioid litigation. He said that the Town of Hanson is listed among those represented in the class action and is being asked if they want to continue being represented. Mr. Stanbrook said that if the Town prefers to opt-out, it must do so by July 15. Board members were in agreement that the Town continue its participation in the lawsuit. Mr. Stanbrook confirmed to Chairman Mitchell that there is no cost to the Town in doing so.

**V APPROVE MAY 19, 2020 MEETING MINUTES**

Chairman Mitchell asked that approval of the May 19 meeting minutes be passed over to allow all members time to review them.

**VI TOWN ADMINISTRATOR’S REPORT**

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

1. Mr. Stanbrook itemized warrants that he has signed on behalf of the BOS:

|  |  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- | --- |
| 6/29/20 | Warrant 33VO62920 | ($1,512.50) | Vendor Warrant (Reissue of stale checks) |
| 6/30/20 | Warrant 53 | $101,127.79 | Vendor Warrant |
| 6/30/20 | Warrant 53-PR | $189,442.57 | Payroll Warrant (includes the final payouts to the communication center dispatchers) |
| 7/2/20 | Warrant 1 | $1,908,228.98 | Vendor Warrant ($1.7M is related to Plymouth County tax for FY2021, which is paid upfront) |
| 7/2/20 | Warrant 1-WH | $42,763.31 | Payroll Withholding Warrant |

1. Mr. Stanbrook said that he authorized the following end-of-year transfers on behalf of the BOS:

|  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- |
| FY20-05 | $174.00 | Transfer from Planning Board Salaries to various other departments (corrects unbudgeted “leap day” discrepancy across six departments) |
| FY20-06 | $10,000.00 | Transfer from Public Buildings Expenses to Legal Services Expenses (add’l legal services due to COVID-19, with Mr. Stanbrook mentioning that total FY2020 legal expenses were about $150,000) |
| FY20-07 | $7,500.00 | Transfer from Veterans Assistance to Board of Health VMA Services (re: COVID-19) |

1. Mr. Stanbrook noted inquiries about the opening of the Camp Kiwanee Cove. Chairman Mitchell said that he reviewed Recreation’s recently received plan for re-opening, has discussed it with Commission Chairman Diane Cohen and Health Agent Gil Amado, and is mostly satisfied with its content. He said that he anticipates its appearance on the Board’s next meeting agenda. In response to Ms. FitzGerald-Kemmett, Chairman Mitchell said that he was told that the water will be tested.
2. Mr. Stanbrook said that he has complied with the Town Administrators Special Act and completed an updated report of outstanding legal matters for June. He said that he will mail it to Board members as it is not a public document.
3. Mr. Stanbrook said that he has been working with Health Agent Gil Amado concerning the re-opening of Town Hall and they have specifically discussed the use of the Selectmen’s Meeting Room for meetings since it is the largest room available. Mr. Stanbrook said that the Governor’s guidance dictates a limit of eight persons per 1,000 square feet, but defers decision to the local health department. He said that Mr. Amado believes that fourteen people could safely occupy the Selectmen’s Meeting Room while maintaining social distancing.

Mr. Stanbrook said that meetings anticipating greater than fourteen people in attendance would be scheduled at the Hanson Middle School. In response to Ms. FitzGerald-Kemmett, Mr. Stanbrook said that if more than fourteen persons were to arrive for a meeting at Town Hall, it may need to be moved outdoors or postponed.

Mr. Stanbrook said that Town Hall will re-open on July 13 and will be available to the public Monday-Thursday from 8AM-4PM by appointment only. He said that he and Mr. Amado have spent much time establishing protocol for a safe re-opening.

In order to test out an in-person meeting, Chairman Mitchell suggested that the July 14 meeting be held in-person in the Selectmen’s Meeting Room and the Town Meeting preview meeting on July 21 be scheduled at the Hanson Middle School. Mr. Dyer pointed out that there will be a large expected attendance at the July 14 meeting for the discussion of the Cove, suggesting that Hanson Middle School would better accommodate the large group. Mr. Stanbrook said that he will look in to it.

Chairman Mitchell commented on the $150,000 in legal expenses that were incurred during FY2020, as previously noted by Mr. Stanbrook in his report. There was discussion that while legal expenses were likely increased this year due to the school assessment, the Town’s policy on requests for legal counsel should be examined, a flat fee payment option should be considered and town counsel performance/cost review should be studied. Mr. Stanbrook said that he will determine if such a discussion would be scheduled in executive or open session.

**VII. ADJOURNMENT**

***MOTION*** at 8:04 p.m. by Ms. FitzGerald-Kemmett, seconded by Mr. Dyer, to adjourn the meeting. ***Roll call vote Dyer aye, Hickey aye, FitzGerald-Kemmett aye, Blauss aye and Mitchell aye. Voted 5 - 0***

Respectfully submitted,

Shirley Schindler

Minutes Clerk