

Tuesday, August 10, 2021 at 6:00 p.m.

Hanson Board of Selectmen

Selectmen's meeting room, Town Hall

Executive session/Open session

Members Present: Jim Hickey, Kenny Mitchell, Matt Dyer, Laura FitzGerald-Kemmett, Joe Weeks
Others Present: Lisa Green, Interim Town Administrator; Greer Getzen, Executive Assistant; Audrey Flanagan, 200 Anniversary Committee; Kurt Tarvis, Pat Wheeler

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 upcoming meetings.

III NEW BUSINESS

Vote to appoint the Interim Town Administrator and/or Town Administrator as the official applicant for and recipient of CARES ACT funds

MOTION by Mr. Mitchell, seconded by Mr. Hickey, to appoint the Interim Town Administrator and/or Town Administrator as the official applicant for and recipient of CARES Act funds. ***Voted 4 – 0 (Mr. Weeks not yet present)***

Vote to authorize the 200th Anniversary Committee to use the Maquan Elementary School property for a five (5) hour carnival on October 2, 2021

Ms. Flanagan, Chairman of the 200th Anniversary Committee, spoke to the Board briefly about her request to use the Maquan Elementary School property to host a carnival. The plan includes a parade with the time capsule, a ceremony, food trucks, local music and local vendors. The carnival would take place from 11 a.m. – 4 p.m., and this event is rain or shine.

MOTION by Mr. Hickey, seconded by Ms. FitzGerald-Kemmett, to authorize the 200th Anniversary Committee to use the Maquan Elementary School property for a five-hour carnival on October 2, 2021. ***Voted 4 – 0***

Vote to authorize the Holiday Committee to hold the Holiday Festival/Tree Lighting on December 4, 2021, at the Hanson Green

MOTION by Mr. Mitchell, seconded by Ms. FitzGerald-Kemmett, to authorize the Holiday Committee to hold the Holiday Festival/Tree Lighting on December 4, 2021, at the Hanson Green. ***Voted 4 – 0***

Vote to authorize Attorney William Solomon to represent the Town with the Comcast cable license renewal process

Ms. Green reminded the Board that Attorney Solomon had represented the Town in the past with Comcast cable license renewals and noted that he had reached out and asked if the Board wanted a quote on his services again. She recommended they bring him on for the process.

MOTION by Ms. FitzGerald-Kemmett, seconded by Mr. Mitchell, to authorize Attorney William Solomon to represent the Town with the Comcast cable renewal process. *Voted 4 – 0*

Discuss WHRSD request to remove six Rinnai tankless water heaters from the Maquan School and relocate them to the Indian Head and Hanson Middle Schools

Ms. Green informed the Board that Ernie Sandland had requested permission to remove the six water heaters as they are likely to degenerate sitting unused at the Maquan School. He wants to split the water heaters between Indian Head and Hanson Middle Schools to make use of the equipment and increase the hot water capacity of both schools.

MOTION by Ms. FitzGerald-Kemmett, seconded by Mr. Mitchell, to approve the WHRSD request to remove six Rinnai tankless water heaters from the Maquan School and relocate them to the Indian Head and Hanson Middle Schools. *Voted 4 – 0*

Appoint Election Workers, exp. 8-15-22

MOTION by Mr. Mitchell, seconded by Ms. FitzGerald-Kemmett, to appoint Election Workers [see attached list], exp. 8-15-22. *Voted 4 – 0*

Act to accept the resignation of Emer M. McDonough as a member of the Hanson Board of Assessors

MOTION by Ms. FitzGerald-Kemmett, seconded by Mr. Mitchell, to accept the resignation of Emer M. McDonough as a member of the Hanson Board of Assessors with regret. *Voted 4 – 0*

Following a question from Ms. FitzGerald-Kemmett, Ms. Green informed the Board that the Board of Assessors are looking for a volunteer to fill this position until next May's Town Election.

Discuss Fire Chief's request for a Town debit card to make purchases

Chairman Dyer informed the Board that he had spoken with Fire Chief Thompson regarding past availability of store cards provided by corporations to make supply

purchases at places like Walmart or Shaw's, however unfortunately these cards are no longer available. This Town debit card would be used to make emergency and non-emergency purchases to supplement between supply shipments, and there would be a spending limit of \$5,000. It was brought up that the Police Department had also expressed interest in a similar card.

Chairman Dyer further addressed the concern over the precedent offering a card like this would set for other department heads, and he ensured that this would be monitored heavily to prevent any potential misuse. While each member of the Board expressed their trust in the department heads, they discussed methods to maintain proper use of the card at length.

After extensive discussion, the Board decided that the Fire, Police, and Highway departments, as well as Ms. Green, would have access to the card for emergency and non-emergency purchases. The card will have a limit of \$5,000, purchases will be monitored and approved by the Town Accountant and Treasurer/Collector, and they will continue to check in to ensure this is the best decision for the department heads and the Town.

MOTION by Ms. FitzGerald-Kemmett, seconded by Mr. Hickey, to approve the Fire Chief's request for a Town debit card to make purchases. ***Voted 5 – 0 (Mr. Weeks had joined the meeting)***

Discuss venue and format for October Town Meeting

Chairman Dyer suggested to the Board that they host the October Town Meeting in the High School gym as it had been done in previously, and the rest of the Board agreed to move forward with this idea.

Discuss articles collected to date and citizen petitions

Chairman Dyer briefly detailed each of the articles that would potentially be placed on the Special Town Meeting warrant, and it was further discussed how none of these articles are confirmed for the warrant - they are potential articles in a draft. Ms. FitzGerald-Kemmett expressed concern over a few of the articles and suggested further discussion. Chairman Dyer then informed the audience of the meeting of the steps required to create a citizens' petition, and Ms. FitzGerald-Kemmett further suggested a proof-reading system of potentially submitted citizen petitions to prevent any legality and accuracy issues.

Review amendment to Host Community Agreement to allow for marijuana delivery services at 15 Commercial Way

Ms. Green updated the Board on an amendment that would be made to the Host Community Agreement (HCA) that would allow Impressed LLC to begin delivery

to other businesses of their manufactured products following the approval of the delivery license. She further explained that the Town will still collect the sales tax.

MOTION by Mr. Mitchell, seconded by Ms. FitzGerald-Kemmett, to accept the amendment to the Host Community Agreement to allow for marijuana delivery services at 15 Commercial Way. *Voted 5 – 0*

Discuss Board of Selectmen goals & objectives

Chairman Dyer expressed interest in hosting an off-site “retreat” outside of the Board’s standard Tuesday meetings to discuss the Board of Selectmen’s goals and objectives as the year progresses. The rest of the Board agreed that this would be beneficial and following October Town Meeting they will meet to have further discussion.

Discuss and set timeline for Interim Town Administrator review

Ms. Green summarized a previous conversation she had with Chairman Dyer concerning the timeline for the Interim Town Administrator review and mentioned that her probationary period will conclude at the end of October. Mr. Weeks expressed concern over what exactly is being evaluated and the types of things the different members of the Board are “judging” in the performance review, and it was clarified that a rubric would be provided that each member of the Board will fill out to provide guidance in the review. Following discussion from the Board, it was concluded that Ms. Getzen would send out a rubric for the Board to fill out to begin the discussion on Ms. Green’s performance review.

Discuss volunteer application and appointment procedures

Following public feedback, Ms. FitzGerald-Kemmett wanted to address the volunteer application and appointment procedures for the Town with the Board. She noted that they often have open positions with few applicants and wanted to ensure immediate response to potential applicants when they do apply for positions, and she also wanted to ensure that proper guidance is provided to applicants once they have been appointed. Furthermore, Ms. FitzGerald-Kemmett asked for a check on the availability of positions that they are offering and potentially list any more that have not been listed yet. Ms. Getzen emphasized that she does follow up with applicants, and she also agreed to fact-check the listings for open positions on committees.

The Board along with a member from the audience discussed the lack of information of the Town of Hanson website about each committee and what they do, and it was emphasized that updating the information could potentially lead to increased engagement.

Accept July donations

Approved by BOS 9-13-21

MOTION by Ms. FitzGerald-Kemmett, seconded by Mr. Weeks, to accept the donation of \$25 to Elder Affairs. ***Voted 5 – 0***

One day licenses:

Wed., August 4 from 6 p.m. - 10 p.m. – UMass Medical School – medical student orientation

Thurs., August 5 from 6 p.m. to 10 p.m. – UMass Medical School – medical student orientation

Thurs., August 12 from 7 p.m. to 9 p.m. – Linda Wall, Hanson – Musical event

MOTION by Ms. FitzGerald-Kemmett, seconded by Mr. Mitchell, to approve the above listed one-day Licenses. ***Voted 5 – 0***

IV

OLD BUSINESS

Follow up on Mass Housing grant

Ms. Green clarified for the Board the types of technical assistance grants that MassHousing provides, and she noted that the specific grant they were looking at would provide engineering services as technical assistance to municipalities that are going through the C. 40B process. When Ms. Green spoke with the Administrative Assistant for the Zoning Board of Appeals (ZBA), she was informed that the ZBA already had a civil engineer who was overseeing the process, and they declined the option of the MassHousing grant.

Ms. FitzGerald-Kemmett expressed frustration over the rejection of the grant from the ZBA as she believes that bringing on another engineer would be more beneficial for the town and the project, and it is being paid for through the grant so it would be at no additional cost. Other members of the Board agreed with this sentiment, and Ms. Green noted that she would approach the ZBA again and move forward with the grant application.

V

APPROVE OPEN SESSION MEETING MINUTES

MOTION by Mr. Mitchell, seconded by Mr. Hickey, to approve the meeting minutes for the following dates: 3-12-20, 9-22-20, 11-17-20, 12-8-20, 1-12-21, 3-23-21. ***Voted 3 – 0 – 2 (Mr. Weeks & Ms. FitzGerald abstaining)***

VI

TOWN ADMINISTRATOR REPORT

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

1. Ms. Green wanted to congratulate the U.S. Women's Olympic Soccer Team, and more specifically the Mewis sisters of Hanson, on their bronze medal from the 2021 Summer Olympics.

2. Cranberry Cove unfortunately still has a sand wasp problem and Ms. Green wanted to emphasize that the Town cannot allow people on the beach because of the possibility of getting stung and having an allergic reaction. Camp Kiwanee is addressing this issue as quickly as they can.
3. Cooling centers that will be available moving forward are as follows: Counsel on Aging (Wed.-Fri. 8:30 a.m. – 3:30 p.m.), Hanson Public Library (Wed.-Thur. 12:00 p.m. – 8:00 p.m., Friday 9:00 a.m. – 5:00 p.m., Sat. 9:00 a.m. – 1:00 p.m.).
4. Ms. Green reached out to the Town Accountant and Treasurer/Collector following the comments made by the Auditor recently, and they have drafts for a fraud prevention policy and a cash and investment policy. Ms. Green also reached out to the Highway Director who is currently working on a timecard/punch policy for the Town.
5. Unfortunately, the individual who had been offered the position for Town Planner has since withdrawn their candidacy and they are back to square one with that process.
6. Ms. Green attended a lunch at the Counsel on Aging the previous week and met with a lot of the volunteers who offer their time to the COA, and she highly praised all the individuals who work in this department.
7. Hanson currently has less than 10 COVID cases throughout the Town.

Following Ms. Green's Town Administrator Report, Ms. FitzGerald-Kemmett asked for a further update on the Town's position with the forensic audit. Ms. Green informed the Board that they are simply waiting for the school year to start to move forward in order to allow certain individuals time to prioritize the De-Regionalization Study before diving into this process as well.

VII COMMITTEE REPORTS

Energy Committee

Chairman Dyer informed the Board that the Energy Committee met the previous week, and they are currently working on community aggregation. He hopes to bring something before the Board relatively soon to move forward.

200th Anniversary Committee

Mr. Hickey reminded those listening that October 2nd is the date of the 200th anniversary celebration and given that the Board was able to approve the site for the carnival, Mr. Hickey encouraged everyone to attend.

VIII EXECUTIVE SESSION

MOTION by Ms. FitzGerald-Kemmett, seconded by Mr. Mitchell, to enter Executive Session not to return to open session to discuss the following: to discuss strategy with respect to collective bargaining or litigation if an open session may

have a detrimental effect on the bargaining or litigating position of the public body & the chair so declares, to wit: Highway union, and to discuss strategy with respect to collective bargaining or litigation if an open meeting may have a detrimental effect on the bargaining or litigating position of the public body and the chair so declare, to wit: 751 Main Street. *Roll call vote Mr. Weeks aye, Ms. FitzGerald-Kemmett aye, Chairman Dyer aye, Mr. Mitchell aye, Mr. Hickey aye. Voted 5 – 0*

IX

ADJOURNMENT

Respectfully submitted,
Amanda Guindon
Minutes Clerk