

***Hanson Board of Selectmen
Selectmen's Meeting Room, Hanson Town Hall
Tuesday, November 19, 2019
Regular Meeting 7:00 P.M.***

I CALL TO ORDER

At 7:00 p.m., Chairman FitzGerald-Kemmett called the meeting to order and led the Pledge of Allegiance. She asked for a Moment of Silence for former Zoning Board of Appeals member Lila Coyle who passed away on Nov. 12th. Mr. Blauss read the public announcements and upcoming meeting dates.

II NEW BUSINESS

Appoint Highway Director – Matthew Cahill

Mr. Cahill was present with his wife and other family members this evening to hear the discussion regarding his possible appointment to the newly created position of Highway Director for the Town of Hanson. The Board looked to Town Administrator Merry Marini for her recommendation. Mrs. Marini said one internal and six external applications were received for this position. She, Interim Highway Surveyor Curt MacLean and Selectman Wesley Blauss conducted interviews with four candidates. She told the Board that while each of the applicants would bring varying skills and experience to the position, one clearly possessed a higher level of technical qualifications, including certification as a Civil Engineer. Consequently, she recommended the appointment of Matthew Cahill of Duxbury, Massachusetts as Hanson's Highway Director. Mr. Cahill has over ten years with MassDOT in the capacity of Geotechnical Engineer to Highway Design Engineer, and most recently as Resident Engineer working in both the maintenance and construction divisions. He also has extensive experience with snow and ice operations, and comes highly recommended by his former supervisors.

MOTION by Mr. Dyer, seconded by Mr. Mitchell to affirm the Town Administrator's recommendation of Matt Cahill as Highway Director. ***Voted 5 - 0***

Mr. Cahill thanked the Board and Mrs. Marini, and says he looks forward to working for the Town of Hanson (subject to contract negotiations).

Highway Update – Interim Highway Surveyor Curt MacLean

Interim Highway Surveyor Curt MacLean updated the Board on Highway operations: He said that the sanders, plows and snowplow contractors are ready to go for this season's snow and ice operations. A recent windstorm downed numerous trees and branches around town, leaving the Highway crew busy removing trees and collecting brush. Seven aged trees alongside the Library/Senior Center have been taken down by Highway personnel, a cost savings to the town, which has cleared the way for new trees to be planted in that area. Mr. MacLean expects roadways to be graded on Friday, and for catch basins to be repaired next week to alleviate some area drainage issues. He is also handling a number of requests for signage, and explained to the Board the various protocols which are used in determining whether signage is appropriate (e.g., speed limits are set by state law, and the Federal Highway Administration's Manual on Uniform Traffic Control Devices, which sets federal regulations related to crosswalks, stop signs, school

zones, etc.) The Board thanked Mr. MacLean for his willingness to step in temporarily to oversee the Highway Department, and for his excellent work to date.

Vote Recommendation of Hire - Supportive Day Coordinator Carol Jensen

Mrs. Marini stated that this position has been advertised both internally and externally, and while both applicants are well qualified, she is recommending the appointment of Carol Jensen as the Elder Affairs Supportive Day Coordinator due to her extensive knowledge of and experience working with dementia and Alzheimer's patients at Braintree Hospital.

MOTION by Mr. Hickey, seconded by Mr. Dyer to appoint Carol Jensen as the new Supportive Day Coordinator. ***Voted 5 - 0***

Police Chief Request for appointments: Full-time Student Police Officer Mario Thompson & Part-time Police Officer Bryan Rodday

Chief Michael Miksch expressed his interest in promoting Mario Thompson from part-time to full-time Police Officer with the Hanson Police Department, and also promoting current Hanson P.D. dispatcher Bryan Rodday to part-time Police Officer. If Officer Thompson fills this position at this time, it would allow him to attend the Plymouth Police Academy in July of 2020. The Chief further explained that the two openings are due to the upcoming transfer of dispatch services.

Both gentlemen bring a wealth of experience to these positions. Officer Thompson is a graduate of the MPTC Reserve Intermittent Police Academy and he also serves as a full-time Assistant Harbor Master in Duxbury, A graduate of Whitman-Hanson Regional High School, he has a bachelor's degree in Criminal Justice from Bridgewater State College. He has coached youth football in Hanson and has been a coach for the Special Olympics basketball team. Mr. Rodday is also a graduate of the MPTC Reserve Intermittent Police Academy, and he also holds a bachelor's degree in Criminal Justice from Bridgewater State College. He was a full-time dispatcher in Scituate prior to joining Hanson, and he has extensive experience working with individuals with special needs. He comes from a law enforcement family and was a Special Education teacher in Hanover, as well as working with home school based programs.

MOTION by Mr. Dyer, seconded by Mr. Hickey to appoint Mario Thompson as a full-time Student Police Officer and Bryan Rodday as a part-time Police Officer. ***Voted 5 - 0***

Vote and Approve October donations

Mrs. Marini asked the Board to approve the October gifts and donations, comprising receipts from swag sales sponsored by the 200th Anniversary Committee.

Motion by Mr. Dyer, seconded by Mr. Mitchell to accept the \$361.00 for the month of October. ***Voted 5 - 0***

***7:30 p.m. – Hanson Market & Liquors, 12 Monponsett Street
Alteration of Premises application Hearing***

MOTION by Mr. Mitchell, seconded by Mr. Dyer to open the hearing for a request for approval of Alteration of Premises. Chairman FitzGerald-Kemmett polled the Board and by

unanimous roll call vote the hearing was opened. The Chairman read the legal notice, as follows:

The Board of Selectmen will hold a hearing on Tuesday, November 19, 2019 at 7:30 p.m. in the Selectmen's Meeting Room at the Hanson Town Hall on the application of Nilesch Patel of Hanson, MA for an alteration of premises of Kaival Hanson, LLC dba Hanson Market & Liquors. Premises to be altered is located at 12 Monponsett Street, Hanson, MA and described as follows: Approximately, 2,400 SF of retail space. Alteration to the premises includes additional 1,225 SF resulting in a total of 3,600 SF of retail space, 1 main entrance/exit and emergency exit in rear.

Attorney John Mooradian spoke on behalf of his client. He told the Board that the alteration to Hanson Market would essentially entail, if standing in the main doorway, removal of the left wall to allow the market to expand into the vacant, adjoining space. Chairman FitzGerald-Kemmett was very pleased to see a local business expanding in Hanson.

MOTION by Mr. Hickey, seconded by Mr. Dyer to approve this alteration to the Hanson Market. **Voted 5 – 0**

MOTION by Mr. Mitchell, seconded by Mr. Dyer to close the hearing. Chairman FitzGerald-Kemmett polled the Board and by unanimous roll call vote the hearing was closed.

Review Board of Selectmen's Capital Improvement Plan

Mrs. Marini has prepared the Selectmen's draft 6-year Capital Improvement Plan for the Board's review. It includes:

FY2021 – Highway Building Facility upgrade for \$5m; Maquan School demolition for \$1m; Town Server/Switch upgrade for the fiber-optic networking for \$200,000; and \$150,000 for the Plymouth County Hospital Committee, with some monies through a grant of CPC funds to also be used.

FY2022 - \$75,000 as a placeholder for the Plymouth County Hospital Committee; Town Hall roof replacement for \$100,000; Town Hall furnace replacement for \$75,000 (possible funding through Green Communities); and sidewalks for \$150,000 as part of the revitalization of Main Street and South Hanson to allow for walkability/recreational trails near the MBTA station (the Town Planner is meeting with MassWorks representatives in the near future to discuss a possible grant). Mr. Dyer added that Hanson could potentially be eligible for matching grants related to installation of recreational trails.

FY 2023 – \$75,000 placeholder for the Plymouth County Hospital Committee; and another \$150,000 for sidewalks.

FY2024 & 2025 - \$150,000 in each year for sidewalks.

FY2026 – No capital requests at this time.

It was the sense of the Board to submit the Capital Improvement Plan as drafted, with adjustments in the future to more accurately reflect costs for various projects. The Board also discussed building projects with the roof and furnace replacement as Town Hall improvements, such as painting benches, work to the rear of the building and in the entryway, covering the generator, etc.

MOTION by Mr. Mitchell, seconded by Mr. Dyer to provisionally approve the submission of the Capital Improvements Plan. **Voted 5 - 0**

Requests: Camp Kiwanee

***Cove only - Polar Plunge to support Hanson PTO, Sunday, Jan. 26th (2020)
with \$60.00 fee for caretaker staff***

Hanson PTO member Melissa Valachovic enthusiastically invited residents to join in the fun at Cranberry Cove on Sunday, January 26, 2020 with an inclement weather date of February 2, 2020. Residents who take the plunge will be Freezin' for a Reason: Pre-registration of \$30.00 is required along with \$35.00 in monies raised by each participant to benefit the PTO. Last year over \$12,000.00 was raised. Spectators of all ages are welcome to stop by. Pre-registration can be made through Eventbrite.com.

MOTION by Mr. Dyer, seconded by Mr. Mitchell to waive the fee for holding the Polar Plunge at Cranberry Cove. **Voted 5 - 0**

***Waive lodge fee - Hanson Fire Department Breakfast with Santa, Saturday Dec. 7th
with \$120.00 fee for caretaker staff***

The Hanson firefighters will hold Breakfast with Santa on Saturday, December 7th, at Camp Kiwanee. Seatings are at 8:00 a.m., 9:30 a.m. and 11:00 a.m. Tickets are available for \$8.00 per person online at www.HansonFirefighters.com/Tickets. The Fire Department is requesting a waiver of the lodge fee.

Waive lodge fee – Hanson Community Christmas, December 18th and 19th

The Hanson Community Christmas Committee is also requesting a waiver of the lodge fee for their annual Christmas celebration.

***Waive lodge fee – Hanson Green, Movie Night, February 29th (2020)
with \$60.00 fee for caretaker staff***

Hanson Green Community is asking for the lodge fee to be waived; a \$60.00 fee for caretaker staff will be charged.

MOTION by Mr. Mitchell, seconded by Mr. Hickey to waive the lodge fees for these [above listed] three events. **Voted 5- 0**

Appointments/Resignations

Resignation – Iris Morway, Education Committee

MOTION by Mr. Mitchell, seconded by Mr. Dyer to accept with regret Iris Morway's resignation from the Education Committee. **Voted 5 - 0**

III OLD BUSINESS

Discussion regarding School Assessment and possible School Agreement Committee

Chairman FitzGerald-Kemmett said that she, Selectman Dyer and Town Administrator Marini had a meeting last Tuesday with Whitman Selectmen Randy Lamattina, Justin Evans and Town Administrator Frank Lynam to discuss the school assessment issue, and thanked them for their collegiality. She would have liked for Whitman to have a dialogue around their town's financial constraints as an impetus for wanting to change the regional school agreement from the population-based assessment methodology to the statutory assessment methodology. She added that what is needed at this time is complete transparency, meaning clarification regarding the costs to educate Hanson children and other associated figures, so that the two communities can have a path to begin moving forward. During this meeting it was suggested that Whitman and Hanson Boards of Selectmen request an audit of the Regional School District.

Mr. Dyer added that the group discussed whether an audit would be performed by the Department of Early and Secondary Education (DESE) or a private firm. Mr. Lynam thought it would be important to have an impartial third party conduct an audit.

Chairman FitzGerald-Kemmett estimated that a private audit would cost somewhere in the range of \$45,000 to \$50,000, which could be split between the two towns. This would be overseen by a newly formed subcommittee consisting of two selectmen from each town, two school committee members and the Town Administrators to keep this process agile. She told WHRSC Chairman Bob Hayes that an independent audit would look at the current financials through a different lens than the requisite annual school audit. Further, DESE will be asked to run the numbers to de-regionalize so that everyone has the same complete information.

MOTION by Mr. Mitchell, seconded by Mr. Hickey for Hanson to participate in an assessment subcommittee. ***Voted 5 – 0***

MOTION by Mr. Dyer, seconded by Mr. Mitchell to engage in an audit of the school district in an amount not to exceed \$30,000 [Hanson's share] based on approval of an audit by the Whitman Board of Selectmen, with all information reported to both towns in the same manner. ***Voted 5 - 0***

Declare Recreation cots and kayaks as surplus

MOTION by Mr. Hickey, seconded by Mr. Mitchell to declare the Recreation Department cots and kayaks as surplus. ***Voted 5 - 0***

Set minimum bid for 0 Liberty Street

Mr. Dyer recused himself from this discussion because he has family members who are abutters to this property. Assessor Lee Gamache has indicated that the parcel located at 0 Liberty Street, Town-owned property that was purchased a number of years ago to locate the middle school septic system, which ultimately was unnecessary, is currently assessed at \$132,600. The Board had decided to dispose of this parcel, and originally put it out to bid in January 2019, but only two bids were received – one for \$10,000 and the other for \$20,000. Both bids were rejected as it was determined that it was not in the Town's best interest to sell the

parcel that much below market value. The Board is ready to rebid 0 Liberty Street, and after discussion, arrived at a minimum bid that would be acceptable of \$80,000.

MOTION by Mr. Mitchell, seconded by Mr. Hickey to go back out to bid to dispose of 0 Liberty Street for a minimum acceptable bid amount of \$80,000. **Voted 4 – 0. Mr. Dyer abstained due to a conflict of interest.**

IV TOWN ADMINISTRATOR'S REPORT

Personnel Matters:

Health Agent – Town Administrator Marini informed the Board that two applications were submitted. She made a recommendation to the Board of Health to hire a Hanover resident who is a licensed Civil Engineer, licensed Soil Evaluator, Title V System Inspector and Unrestricted Construction Supervisor. However, the Board of Health voted to appoint Gil Amado who is a former member of the Board of Health and a current Water Commissioner. During the last year and half when there was no Health Agent, in his role as a Board of Health member, Gil assisted with various health and septic issues. He started his duties on Tuesday, November 12th.

Conservation Administrative Assistant – Lan Woodward also started her duties on November 12th. She has already attended Conservation Administrative Assistant training today.

Recreation Administrative Assistant – No in-house candidates. The position was posted and applications were due November 15th. Twelve applications were received.

Planning Administrative Assistant – There were no in-house candidates for this part-time position. Applications were due November 15th, with one application received. Currently the Town Administrator is reviewing them with the Planner.

Budget & Capital improvement:

The FY2021 Budget and Capital Improvement message and request was sent out today. The budgets and CIC plans are due on Friday, November 22nd.

Meetings:

Maquan Reuse – Mrs. Marini said that a recent meeting with Keller Williams was held, which included input from Assessing, Finance and Town Counsel. Keller Williams will be sending out a Request for Information (RFI). She plans to set up a schedule to meet every two weeks to stay on track. There is a meeting tomorrow to review the draft Request for Information.

Library – The seven aged trees at Library have been removed by the Highway Department.

Food pantry – Mrs. Marini has toured the building housing the Food Pantry with Town Custodian Brian Clemons. Mrs. Marini has asked the Building Inspector to look into that. Interim Highway Surveyor Curt MacLean has gotten prices for surfacing the parking lot at that location to make it level.

Veterans – The Town Administrator attended the Veteran’s Day Breakfast at the Senior Center. She reported that Veteran’s Agent Tim White and Elder Affairs Director Mary Collins did a great job, including a very moving presentation.

Recreation – On November 4th, Mrs. Marini attended a Recreation Commission meeting to discuss roles, the budget process, as well as hiring and setting schedules for the coming year.

Cell Tower – The Zoning Board of Appeals continued hearing was held on November 12th, and continued to January 7th. Verizon is seeking to move the tower 100’ south away from the abutter’s property line. Town Counsel is reviewing and revising the lease.

Mike Mahoney of Regional Dispatch - He has set up a meeting schedule starting on December 11th for all the stakeholders. He would like to meet on a biweekly basis with the various groups.

Cranberry Building – Deb Pettey set up a meeting on Thursday with representatives from MassWorks to meet with the property owner of the Cranberry building. Mrs. Marini will be attending this meeting.

MVP Meeting – Town Planner Deb Pettey scheduled an initial meeting for the Municipal Vulnerability Preparedness (MVP) task force next Tuesday at 1:00 p.m. to be attended by the Fire Department, Police Department, Water Commission, Highway Department, Conservation Commission, Board of Health, Council on Aging and Building Department to get that project off the ground.

Miscellaneous:

Main Street Revitalization Survey – Ms. Pettey has put the Main Street Revitalization on the home page of Town website at www.hanson-ma.gov. The deadline for responses is December 15th. Mrs. Marini encouraged residents to take the brief survey as their input is a very important component in revitalizing the South Hanson area.

Field Closure Lifted - In light of the recent weather, Mrs. Marini has removed the field closure notice on the website.

Town Hall Generator – Mrs. Marini has received permission to connect the gas to the recently installed generator. She expects the gas company to make the connection in the near future. Highway patched the Town Hall parking lot where it was cut into during the generator installation.

Boiler Project at Indian Head – Mrs. Marini is waiting for the project to be put out to bid.

Internet Essentials from Comcast – Comcast provides high speed internet service of \$9.95 per month plus tax with the option to purchase a desktop or laptop computer for \$149.99 and access free digital literacy training for qualified residents if they have at least one child who is eligible for the National School Lunch Program or if they receive assistance through housing assistance, Medicaid, SNAP or SSI. For more information call 855-846-8376 or visit www.internetessentials.com.

V APPROVE MINUTES

October 22 & November 5, 2019 Reg. session minutes

MOTION by Mr. Mitchell, seconded by Mr. Hickey to approve the meeting minutes of October 22 and November 5, 2019.

VI ONE DAY LIQUOR LICENSES – Camp Kiwanee

Gail Fusco, Hanson, Saturday, December 7th, 6:00-10:00 pm, Christmas party

MOTION by Mr. Mitchell, seconded by Mr. Mitchell to approve this one day liquor license. *Voted 5 – 0*

VII COMMITTEE REPORTS

200th Anniversary Committee – Chairman FitzGerald-Kemmett announced that Hanson's 200th Anniversary celebration will kick off with the Hanson Bicentennial Gala on Saturday, February 22, 2020. The cocktail hour is from 6:00-7:00 p.m. with dinner @ 7:00 p.m. It will be held at Lakeside Villa, 550 Monponsett Street, Halifax, MA. The theme of the evening is a formal-Roaring Twenties gathering with entertainment by Music N' Motion and Photo Booth. Attendees can also participate in Casino Night in a separate function room. Only 200 Tickets will be sold at \$40.00 per person online at <https://www.everbrite.com/e/roaring-20s-hanson-bicentennial-celebration>.

Final Plymouth County Hospital Reuse Committee-This committee will meet tomorrow.

Maquan School Reuse Committee – [See Town Administrator's report above].

Highway Building Committee – This committee will meet on Monday.

VIII EXECUTIVE SESSION

To conduct strategy sessions in preparation for negotiations for collective bargaining sessions with the Hanson Police Relief Association and further to conduct strategy sessions in preparation for negotiations with non-union personnel Highway Director and Town Administrator if the chair has declared that it would be detrimental to conduct in open session.

To conduct contract negotiations with nonunion personnel, if an open meeting may have a detrimental effect on the bargaining position of the public body and the chair so declares, to wit: Highway Director and Town Administrator.

So moved by Mr. Mitchell, seconded by Mr. Dyer to convene in executive session, not to return to open session. *Roll call vote Blauss aye, Hickey aye, FitzGerald-Kemmett aye, Mitchell aye and Dyer aye. Voted 5 - 0*

IX ADJOURNMENT

MOTION by Mr. Mitchell, seconded by Mr. Dyer to adjourn at 9:15 p.m. *Voted 5 - 0*

Respectfully submitted,

Greer Getzen
Executive Assistant

ADJOURNMENT

MOTION by Mr. Mitchell, seconded by Mr. Blauss to adjourn. ***Voted 5 – 0***

8:56 p.m. Meeting Adjourned

Respectfully submitted,

Greer Getzen,
Executive Assistant