

***Hanson Board of Selectmen
Selectmen's Meeting Room, Hanson Town Hall
Tuesday, April 30, 2019
Regular Meeting 7:00 P.M.***

Members Present: Wesley Blauss, Matthew Dyer, James Hickey, Laura FitzGerald-Kemmett,
and Kenny Mitchell

Members Absent:

Others Present: Town Administrator Michael McCue
Executive Assistant Meredith Marini

7:04 p.m. Chairman Mitchell called the meeting to order. Clerk Dyer read the announcements and upcoming meeting schedule.

II NEW BUSINESS

Library Trustees ~ Building Update Presentation – Library Director Karen Stolfer was present with the Board of Trustees to discuss the building project. A planning committee was created. They conducted a survey and focus groups regarding the services. They developed a list of services the residents requested. The committee created a strategic plan. They need to look out 20 years for the plan. Residents want a library which is a gathering place. They requested small meeting rooms, technology training. The current building is too small with aging systems. Option one is expansion. The current facility is 8,000 square feet and should be 16,000 square feet. Option 2 is construction of a new facility. They will hold a public forum on May 14th at 6:30 p.m. There will be a presentation at Town Meeting.

Town Meeting preview – Chairman Mitchell explained that the Board will skip over the articles which the Selectmen have not recommended and will discuss them at the end of the preview. Town Counsel Kate Feodoroff, Town Clerk Elizabeth Sloan, Moderator Sean Kealy and the Finance Committee were present for the Town Meeting Preview as were various department heads and committee chairs. The articles were moved by the proponents.

Special Town Meeting

Article 2 – Supplemental Budget

MOTION by FitzGerald-Kemmett, second by Hickey to recommend Article 2. ***Voted 5 – 0***

Annual

Article 5 – Budget. Chairman Mitchell noted that the Selectmen voted 5 – 0 on April 23rd to recommend the budget which included a 6 1/2 % increase in the School budget. The Finance Committee also voted 6 1/2% . The School Committee is requesting 12 1/2%.

School Committee member Robert Hayes was hoping the Town will increase the amount of funding. The School Committee will be meeting on Wednesday. Mr. McCue explained that the Finance Committee will recommend no taxation for the Solid Waste and Recreation free up \$180,000 in taxation. According to the Finance Committee an additional \$20,000 will be needed to reach 8 1/2%. Whitman Finance has voted 8 1/2% for the school budget.

Chairman Mitchell recommended increasing to 8 ½ to meet the Whitman Finance Committee. Finance Chairman Kevin Sullivan noted that the Finance Committee has recommended 6 1/2% for months. He explained that the enterprise funds have had a significant decline in revenues. The Town continues to subsidize the Recreation and Solid Waste budgets. The Finance Committee recommends reviewing all the costs for the Transfer Station. The current funding will get them through October. Mr. Sullivan noted that Recreation can operate for nine months with the funding Finance Committee is currently recommending. The Transfer Station is a non-essential service.

In October the Finance Committee will recommend dissolving the enterprise funds for the Recreation and Transfer Station to simplify the accounting to the departments. Neither of the enterprise funds has been self-sustaining. The accounts need to be part of the operating budget and the revenues should be added to the general fund.

Board of Health Arlene Dias noted that the amount requested by the Board of Health is only \$10.00 more than they had requested last year.

MOTION by Hickey, second by Dyer to increase the school budget to 8 ½%. **Voted 5 – 0**

Mrs. FitzGerald-Kemmett appreciates the work of the volunteers for all the committees.

Mr. Hayes discussed the process of budgeting for the schools. Public education is critical. He doesn't feel that the Towns should worry about what the other Town is doing. He agrees there should be a meeting at after Town Meeting to work on the process.

Article 23 – TIF article – Mr. McCue indicated that the TIF Committee is recommending the article which will give a graduated tax break on the value of the new building which will be built on the site. The Town will defer the new value to the future. The Town is not losing any money. It is an incentive to keep the company in business. If the developer fails to live up to their agreement, the State can cancel the agreement.

MOTION by Blauss, second by Hickey to recommend **Article 23**. **Voted 5 – 0**

Article 9 – Capital Improvement Matrix – Mr. Dyer inquired about the cost of the track. The total cost for the track resurface is \$225,000.00

MOTION by Fitzgerald-Kemmett, second by Hickey to Refer to Town meeting. **Voted 5 – 0**

Article 11 – High School Capital

MOTION by Blauss, second by FitzGerald-Kemmett to recommend **Article 11**. **Voted 4 – 1 Dyer**

Article 16 – Stabilization \$50,000

MOTION by FitzGerald-Kemmett, second by Blauss to recommend **Article 16**. **Voted 5 - 0**

Article 17 – School Stabilization - \$40,000

MOTION by Blauss, second by Dyer to Recommend **Article 17**. **Voted 5 – 0**

Article 21 – Stormwater Management \$50,000 –

MOTION by FitzGerald-Kemmett, second by Dyer to recommend **Article 21**. **Voted 5 – 0**

Article 22 – Accept the additional Lite Control land

Mrs. FitzGerald-Kemmett acknowledges that the Highway Department needs a new building. The second issue is the acceptance of the Lite Control Land and the potential hazardous site where Town employees will be working. She noted that there are restrictions to the uses of the property. She feels it is a liability. The former owners will have no responsibility if some contamination is discovered. The Town is aware there had been contamination and the Town will be responsible. She is unsure whether the Townspeople will vote for moving the Highway Department to that location. She feels it is a liability.

Mr. Dyer questioned why the Corporation is donating the land to the Town instead of developing it.

Conservation Commission Chairman Phil Clemons noted that the committee has had regular meetings with DEP and individuals who were cleaning up the property. He has high confidence that the area that is being donated to the Town is sufficiently cleaned up. The section the Town would acquire is on a higher elevation than the remainder of the site. He feels that agencies dealing with the clean up are all the right agencies. He feels the town is getting the clean side of the hill.

Attorney Kate Feodoroff said the Town would assume the property as is. She spoke with the engineer for Lite Control who indicated that the remaining property which will be going to Fisheries and Wildlife is almost fully cleaned up and additional testing is being conducted.

Attorney Feodoroff indicated that the Hubbell has been approached by several companies to acquire the property. But Hubbell has committed donating to Hanson.

Highway Supervisor Dave Hanlon explained that the property was not sold to another company because there were several building on the site.

Mrs. FitzGerald-Kemmett pointed out that the presentation made at the 2015 Town Meeting indicated that the project would cost \$1.5 million dollars. The cost is much higher than that.

Mr. Hanlon said there is a lot of equipment at the Highway Department which stays outside.

Mr. Blauss, noting that Mr. Clemons is a scientist, asked Mr. Clemons whether he would take the property if he were on the Board of Selectmen. Mr. Clemons indicated he would sign on tomorrow if offered to him.

Mr. Hickey noted he is looking out for the Townspeople who voted in 2015 to accept the 2.5 acres.

MOTION by Hickey, second Blauss to recommend Article 22 ***Voted 4 – 1 (FitzGerald-Kemmett)***

Discussion and possible vote to support Municipal Vulnerability Preparedness Grant

Mr. Dyer explained the purpose of the grant to prepare for climate change. It will have an effect on water table and culverts which need to be designed for climate change. He noted the grant is similar to Green Communities Designation.

MOTION by Dyer, second by FitzGerald-Kemmett to support the Vulnerability Preparedness Grant and further authorize the Town Administrator to draft a letter of support. ***Vote 5 – 0***

Appointments/Resignation:

Barbara Ferguson resignation from Board of Registrars effective May 31, 2019

MOTION by Blauss, second by Dyer to accept with regret Barbara Ferguson's resignation. ***Voted 5 – 0***

Requests:

Pembroke Chamber of Commerce – Request for Waiver of Family Season Pass as a raffle item. Mr. Dyer pointed out that this was an event which has already occurred.

MOTION by FitzGerald-Kemmett, second by Dyer to approve the waiver for the Pembroke Chamber of Commerce for a Family Season Pass. ***Voted 5 – 0***

Finance Committee Chairman Kevin Sullivan returned to the meeting and reported that the Finance Committee recommended an 8 1/2 % increase for School budget. They decreased the Snow and Ice budget by \$17,000 to fund the school budget.

III OLD BUSINESS – None Heard

IV TOWN ADMINISTRATOR'S REPORT

Mr. McCue reported that the clean up at JJ's started yesterday. The entire pile was contaminated. DEP has been supervising and issued the permit. There is continued reporting to DEP. The clean up did not cost the Town any money but it took longer than anticipated.

The Selectmen soon will be discussing a Host Agreement with a company for recreational marijuana cultivation. On May 15th the company will hold an informational public forum to answer questions about the facility. Mr. McCue has worked with Town Counsel in drafting a Host Agreement. The Town will get a 3% of the sales to retailers.

Andrea Cabral will be in Brockton on May 8th to discuss and hold a Q&A for host communities.

Mr. McCue informed that Board that the Complete Streets project at County Road and Liberty Street has been granted an extension. The arm for the street lights is back ordered.

Mr. McCue reported Recreation Commission made an offer of employment to another candidate as the first candidate did not take the position.

Mr. McCue will be distributing an update from Keller-Williams to the Maquan Reuse Committee at Wednesday's meeting.

Mr. McCue suggested doing his quarterly review on June 4th. The evaluation tool is in the Board's packet.

Mr. McCue reported there was an oil spill last week from a business on Winter Street. He is working with representatives from Hanover as to the next steps.

Mr. Dyer asked about follow up with the Building Inspector as to the Class II License at 169A Franklin Street. Mrs. FitzGerald-Kemmett requested that the Building Inspector check all the Class II dealers regularly.

V APPROVE MINUTES

April 9, 2019 Reg.

April 16, 2019 Reg. & Executive Session

April 23, 2019

MOTION by Dyer, second by Hickey to approve all the minutes as presented and hold the Executive Session minutes of April 16th. ***Voted 5 – 0***

VI COMMITTEE REPORTS

200th Anniversary Committee - Mrs. FitzGerald-Kemmett – Nothing to report
Final Plymouth County Hospital Reuse Comm. – Mr. Dyer - Meeting next week
Maquan School Reuse Committee – Mrs. FitzGerald-Kemmett – Nothing to report
Hanson School Repair Committee –Mr. Blauss - No quorum at the last meeting. The next meeting is May 16th. The Committee may want to reduce the membership from 7 to 5.

VII ADJOURNMENT

MOTION by Dyer, second by Hickey to adjourn. ***Voted 5 – 0***

9:20 p.m. Meeting Adjourned.

Respectfully submitted,

Meredith Marini,
Executive Assistant
Approved and Voted 5 – 0
May 21, 2019