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*Tuesday, April 5, 2022*

***Hanson Board of Selectmen***

*Selectmen's meeting room, Town Hall  
542 Liberty Street, Hanson, MA 02341*

***Members Present:*** James Hickey, Matthew Dyer, Laura FitzGerald-Kemmett, Joseph Weeks, Kenny Mitchell

***Members Absent:***

***Others Present:*** Lisa Green, Town Administrator; Lucia Silveira, Executive Assistant

***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***

***DANGEROUS DOG HEARING***

Mr. Coates described the morning of 3/24/22 when his dog, Shelby, was attacked by a neighbor's dog, a large brown dog. It was approximately 6:00am when Mr. Coates took his mini Australian Shepherd out for a walk. Without provocation, the large dog quickly attacked Shelby and had a firm hold. Mr. Coates tried to get the larger dog to stop by yelling and kick it, but he was unsuccessful. He eventually was able to hit the dog with a leash until it let go. Mr. Coates was able to run to his front door with Shelby to call the police. Shelby was severely injured (as evidenced by submitted pictures to the Board). Shelby was transported to the Weymouth VCA. She had severe puncture wounds and stayed in the hospital for two days. The owners were visibly distraught and stated that along with the trauma of seeing their dog brutally injured, there were also mounting vet bills. The owners are both afraid that the neighbor's dog will attack again, especially since it attacked without warning or provocation.

The owner of the dangerous dog, Mr. Hassan Prashkov of 808 West Washington Street, approached the podium and said that he recently moved to Hanson. He said that his dog managed to get over the garden fence which was recently fixed. He mentioned that his dog is an Anatolian Turkish Shepherd that is bred to protect

livestock. Farms typically have these kind of dogs to protect the small farm animals. He further mentioned that they are not typical pets in this country. Mr. Prashkov expressed remorse and feels horrible for the neighbors. He never expected for his dog to behave in this manner. The dog that he referenced as "Papi" is 2 years old and is still a puppy. He said that Papi is very friendly with kids and people, but is really protective of small animals. Mr. Prashkov said that Papi might have thought that Shelby was a coyote or fox. He further stated that Papi has never exhibited aggression.

Officer Rodday described the dog as a large dog, approximately 125lbs. He stated that Papi didn't appear aggressive when he went on scene. He further stated that the dog was even calm around him and other officers. Papi didn't want to get in the cruiser, so Officer Rodday had a leash that he put on him. Mr. Hickey asked Officer Rodday how he knew which home that the dog belonged, Mr. Rodday mentioned that there was another call over the summer about a puppy being loose at Mr. Prashkov's residence. After further discussions, it was brought attention that Mr. Prashkov has additional dogs on his property. There were discussions as to the length of time Mr. Prashkov has lived in town. While Mr. Prashkov said he moved into his residence in November 2021, he mentioned that he bought the property 2 years prior. He said that he had a female Anatolian Shepherd (a different dog) on the property when he had brought small animals to the farm.

Mr. Kenny, Animal Control Officer, stated that he was not there when the incident happened, but was at Mr. Prashkov's resident on another occasion when the puppy was found by the front yard. Mr. Kenney also mentioned that Mr. Prashkov's dog is a guardian dog that protects livestock. He recommends that anyone that owns an animal should have it spade or neutered to prevent behavioral issues or aggression. He also recommends that gates/fences are secured to prevent escape. Mr. Kenney believes it was in the nature of the dog to protect his property. Because the dog escaped and attacked the neighbor's dog, the issue is with security of the fence.

Although the Board can't enforce this recommendation, Mr. Mitchell asked Mr. Prashkov if he would be willing to cover the vet bills for the victim. Mr. Prashkov indicated that he would pay for those bills. He continued to express remorse to the victims and indicated that he wants to pay for the vet bills. He also mentioned he only found out the details and extent of damages to Shelby prior to the Town Hall Hearing.

Mr. Hickey acknowledged Mr. and Mrs. Coates and asked them what they would ultimately like to happen. Mrs. Coates mentioned that she would like the dog

removed from the home. She stated that she is very afraid now. The Board of Selectman sympathized with Mr. and Mrs. Coates. The Board agreed to the recommendations made by the Animal Control Officer, which is mentioned in the motion below. There will be an update on April 26, 2022 to make sure that Mr. Prashkov has followed all orders. All dogs must be licensed on property as well. Lisa Green will send a follow-up letter with order discussed in today's meeting.

***MOTION*** by Laura Kemmett, seconded by Jim Hickey to have Mr. Prashkov a six-foot chain link fence around the property by April 26, 2022. The dog would need to be contained in kennel until fence is up. A follow up will be discussed on April 26, 2022.  
***Voted 5-0***

***MOTION*** by Jim Hickey, seconded by Kenny Mitchell to close hearing.  
***Voted 5-0***

### **RECREATION BUSINESS PLAN**

Mr. Milisi presented to the Board a business plan for FY2023 – FY2024, which indicated an objective and mission statement. Mr. Milisi discussed the fiscal impact of COVID-19 on Camp Kiwannee. He further mentioned that costs of material and labor have risen substantially. Since 3/20/20 the prices increased over 400%. Mr. Milisi further discussed salary expenses, as printed on the business plan booklet. Mr. Mentioned that Camp Kiwannee is being operated at full capacity at half the budget currently. Another goal for the Recreation Commission is to have the beach opened back up to the public. The plan is to renovate the beach into a more natural habitat (recommendation of Conservation). This will hopefully will be done by using CPC funds. The following potential revenue increases were also discussed:

- *Selling Cove passes to subsidize the hired cove staff*
- *Renting out campsites and cabins online*
- *Rolling increase of wedding prices potentially 2-5% per year (FY24-FY28).*
- *Food truck rentals during summer beach season*
- *Community theatre*
- *Recreational Programming*

There will be upcoming projects which include the Cove Renovation, Gatekeepers House and cabin renovations. All will require funding.

Mr. Dyer asked about the plans for advertising. Mr. Milisi indicated that for weddings, the Recreation Commission uses a couple of wedding sites called Wedding Knot and Wedding Wire to advertise. Facebook is mostly used for camp activities. Mr. Milisi

mentioned that it's more difficult to advertise to the older population in Hanson. The Board suggested Mr. Milisi use Mr. Hickey as a resource, as he is a liaison for the Council on Aging. Mr. Milisi further mentioned that there needs to be programs that cater to the older population. There were additional discussions regarding the amount of money the Recreation Commission would need to adequately sustain Camp Kiwannee. With the way projections are looking, there may not be a need to ask for additional money the following year. Mr. Milisi indicated that the goal is to be self-sufficient. \$60,000 is the amount that would be needed from the Town in order to make the budget work. The presentation concluded with the Board thanking Mr. Milisi and the Recreation Commission for working hard to present a business plan to the Board. (No Vote)

***MOTION*** by Laura Kemmett, seconded by Kenny Mitchell to recognize and approve donation in the amount of \$167.24 for the Poor Meadow Brook Trail that was accepted at the Conservation Commission's 3/16/22 meeting. ***Voted 5-0***

***MOTION*** by Kenny Mitchell, seconded by Joe Weeks to declare April 29<sup>th</sup> as Arbor Day – 150<sup>th</sup> Anniversary. ***Voted 5-0***

***MOTION*** by Joe Weeks, seconded by Kenny Mitchell to declare police cruiser as surplus to be used as a trade in (2016 Ford Utility Vehicle - Vin# 1FM5K8AR7GGA04765). ***Voted 5-0***

#### **Live Entertainment License**

There was no vote for the entertainment license. Ms. Green was asked to talk to Hanson Tavern, Inc. DBA J&R's Indian Head Pub to narrow down the hours for the Live Entertainment License. The current request is to have hours of noon to 12:30am on all days. These hours need to be well defined. They are up to date on all fees and have an active Sunday License.

#### **IV. OLD BUSINESS**

##### **Green Hanson Earth Fest Discussion**

Mr. Dyer indicated that there were donated dumpsters in the past for this event, so having a dumpster is fine. Ms. Green was asked to consult with Town Council regarding vendors on Town Hall green. The vendor discussion will resume next week.

##### **Ratify and Execute Town Administrator Contract**

The Board of Selectmen signed the Town Administrator's contract.

**V. APPOINTMENTS**

**MOTION** by Laura Kemmett, seconded by Kenny Mitchell to appoint Alexander Stewart to the Bylaw Review Committee. **Voted 5-0**

**MOTION** by Laura Kemmett, seconded by Kenny Mitchell to provisionally appoint Diane Frehill to the North River Commission, pending vacancy status. **Voted 5-0 – NO VOTE – Mr. Mitchell wanted to make sure there is a vacancy before voting. Will vote next week.**

**MOTION** by Laura Kemmett, seconded by Kenny Mitchell to reappoint Mary V. Foley as Board of Registrar for a four –year term ending 3/31/26. **Voted 5-0**

**ONE DAY LICENSES:**

**MOTION** by Joe Weeks, seconded by Laura Kemmett to approve the one-day liquor licenses as printed on the agenda. **Voted 5 - 0**

**VI. APPROVE OPEN SESSION MEETING MINUTES**

**MOTION** by Joe Weeks, seconded by Laura Kemmett, to approve open session minutes for March 8, 2022 **Voted 4-0-1 (Matt Dyer Absent)**

**MOTION** by Joe Weeks, seconded by Laura Kemmett, to approve open session minutes for March 15, 2022 (amended to reflect Mr. Mitchell's absence. **Voted 4-0-1 (Kenny Mitchell Absent)**

**VII. TOWN ADMINISTRATOR REPORT**

1. Ms. Green mentioned that stated that 140 calls were answered in the Town Administrator's office. She further emphasized how busy the office is dealing with phones, residents and employees.
2. Ms. Green updated the board on the bylaw codification process. All the town bylaws have been successfully forwarded to general code. The review and editing process has commenced.
3. Ms. Green updated the board on the One Stop grant program. She mentioned that she had a zoom meeting with the Town Planner, Tracy Costa and Jeff Laplant from Environmental Strategies to discuss the grants and start working on the applications. She stated that the application is 39 pages long. Each grant will require an application. Application submission starts May 3<sup>rd</sup>.
4. Ms. Green mentioned that she and Ms. Kemmet had a zoom meeting with Ann Donner from Ann Donner Consultants to discuss the strategic plan for the Town

of Hanson. She has worked a number of municipalities. She is working on a proposal to submit to the Town within the next two weeks.

5. Ms. Green stated that the pole for the cell tower has been installed at the Hanson Middle School.
6. Ms. Green mentioned the economic development manual that we received the Community Compact grant is finally underway. One proposal has been received. Ms. Green mentioned that the contract has been signed and sent back.

#### **ADJOURNMENT**

**MOTION** by Kenny Mitchell, seconded by Mr. Hickey, to adjourn to Executive Session in accordance with M.G.L., Chapter 30A, Section 21a, Exception (2) To conduct strategy session in preparation for negotiations with non-union personnel or to conduct collective bargaining sessions or contract negotiations with non-union personnel; Exception (3) 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 declares.

To wit: Town Administrator, Police union FLSA Agreement

Exception (2) Town Administrator contract

Exception 3: Discuss and vote on Hanson Police Relief Association/MassCOP Local 408, FLSA Overtime Payment Agreement.

Respectfully submitted,

*Lucia Silveira*

*Executive Assistant*