

**Town of Haverhill
SELECTBOARD MEETING
DRAFT MINUTES
March 10, 2025, 6:00 p.m.
Robert E. Clifford Memorial Building**

Approved

Zoom link to the recording:

https://us06web.zoom.us/rec/share/VQSmEjPDGGy5JerF1yd8hd6P_b8J4p-dpgvqu-iAm6iY4tE0Ur9wtRFa-GAPbsYm.EAQF0uJStJDcKd9V

Passcode: J2P1BkX^

Selectboard Members Present:

Rod O'Shana, Kevin Knapp, Ron Hurlburt, Theresa Paige, and Joe Longacre. A quorum was met.

Selectboard Members Absent:

None

Attendees In Person:

Ron Willoughby, Margo Longacre, Vickie Wyman, Dawn Lavoie, Darwin Clogston, Gary Scruton, Ray Martin, Regis Roy, Evelyn Elms, Ed Paige, Matthew Bjelobrk, Howard Hatch, Alex Nuti-de Biasi (Journal Opinion)

Attendees Online:

Joanne Young, Katie Huggard, Jessica Moody, Guy Mitchell, Lorraine Prescott, Carolyn Hofmann, Jess Young, Bridget Lanctot, Delcia Vinnacombe

CALL TO ORDER

Chair O'Shana called the meeting to order at 6:00 p.m.

ATTENDANCE/ROLL CALL

PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

AGENDA APPROVAL

Chair O'Shana added items to the Agenda, including a non-public session.

MOTION #1: J. Longacre made a motion to approve the Agenda as amended. R. Hurlburt seconded the motion.

Voice Vote: The motion carried 5-0-0.

LEAVE PUBLIC MEETING AND ENTER PUBLIC HEARING

MOTION #2: R. O'Shana made a motion to leave the public meeting at 6:03 p.m. and enter into a public hearing. The motion was seconded.

Voice Vote: The motion carried 5-0-0.

Lorie Aldrich – Haverhill Police Department

Chair O'Shana explained this was presented at the last Board meeting, but since it was not properly noticed, it has to be done again.

Lorie Aldrich explained the Haverhill Police Department requested and was granted funding in the amount of \$42,564 to purchase a TruNarc handheld drug analyzer. She explained the benefits of using this device.

Chair O'Shana asked for public comment; there was none.

Chair O'Shana closed public comment.

MOTION #3: R. O'Shana made a motion to go back into public comment. J. Longacre seconded the motion.

Voice Vote: The motion carried 5-0-0.

MOTION #4: R. O'Shana made a motion to accept \$42,564 to purchase the TruNarc device and accept the funds for training. J. Longacre seconded the motion.

Voice Vote: The motion carried 5-0-0.

CONSENT AGENDA

MOTION #5: K. Knapp made a motion to approve the Consent Agenda as written. J. Longacre seconded the motion.

Voice Vote: The motion carried 5-0-0.

APPROVAL OF MINUTES

February 24, 2025

MOTION #6: J. Longacre made a motion to approve the meeting minutes from February 24, 2025, R. Hurlburt seconded the motion.

Voice Vote: The motion carried 5-0-0.

SCHEDULED APPEARANCE

Erik White

Chair O'Shana reported Erik White has placed a bid of \$12,000 for the property adjacent to his in the business park. Mr. White plans to build another repair facility and possibly storage for RVs. There is a \$25,000 hookup fee, which he is aware of. The property is listed on the Town website for \$18,750.

Chair O'Shana said they are trying to bring businesses to the business park. He supported selling this property to ensure perpetual tax revenue.

R. Hurlburt asked E. White to review his plans for the property, which is to grow his business and employ more people. R. Hurlburt noted property prices in the area have doubled since COVID and questioned E. White's offer. A discussion followed regarding the value and condition of the property, including the \$25,000 hookup fee. E. White added that he has not received a receipt for the \$25,000 paid for hookup on his current property.

J. Longacre said the Town is not enforcing the existing covenants in the business park: stop signs have not been installed at the egress points and there is no landscaping. E. White did not realize the covenants had been amended in 2019 but will look into this.

The Board discussed whether this offer should be accepted and the amount of tax the Town will receive from the improvements E. White makes to the property. They also discussed the feasibility of selling the property at a higher rate.

MOTION #7: T. Paige made a motion to accept Erik White's offer of \$12,000 for the sale of this property. R. Hurlburt seconded the motion.

Discussion: Howard Hatch said the covenants should be enforced. He noted a large number of cars on the lot and mentioned having a lease on the land.

T. Paige retracted her motion to accept Erik White's offer until the Board deals with the lease.

MOTION #8: R. O'Shana made a motion to table the purchase and sale of the lot next to Erik White's autobody shop until the Board figures out the ramifications of breaking the lease. J. Longacre seconded the motion.

Discussion: R. Hurlburt suggested the Board take a more active role in enforcing the covenants.

Voice Vote: The motion carried 5-0-0.

NEW BUSINESS

Charter Account Contract

MOTION #9: R. O'Shana made a motion to table the charter account contract until he receives legal advice. K. Knapp seconded the motion.

Voice Vote: The motion carried 5-0-0.

Credit Card Request

Chair O'Shana explained a credit card is needed in Bridget Lanctot's name as the Finance Administrator to replace the card in the former Town Manager's name.

MOTION #10: J. Longacre made a motion to approve a credit card to Bridget Lanctot for \$6,500. R. Hurlburt seconded the motion.

Voice Vote: The motion carried 5-0-0.

Haverhill Commons Rental Agreement

MOTION #11: J. Longacre made a motion to approve the rental agreement for the use of both Commons in Haverhill Corner. R. Hurlburt seconded the motion.

Voice Vote: The motion carried 5-0-0.

Recruitment Assistance

Chair O'Shana said the Hiring Committee submitted two names for the Town Administrator position. The Board conducted interviews and then negotiations with an individual, but he has removed himself from consideration for the third time. The Board is reaching out to other municipalities and recruitment organizations as they continue to attempt to fill this position.

Woodsville Bond Requirement

Chair O'Shana said this issue was tabled at the last meeting. He was asked to submit information to counsel, which he did, and received a response.

R. Hurlburt disagreed with counsel and gave his reasons. He would like an agreement signed by the Commissioners and the Administrator verifying that every dollar is going where it is supposed to go.

J. Longacre said the Board has been given differing opinions, which is confusing. He contacted the sponsor of SB26 for clarification, which he received and read. He said nothing has been received from Woodsville, which does not satisfy the intent of the bill.

The Board had an extended discussion about the situation with Woodsville.

MOTION #12: R. O'Shana made a motion that with the audits that are required from Woodsville and in relation to RSA 231:65, that Woodsville satisfies the bond requirement for their Highway Block Grant Funds and the petition warrant article funds as voted on by the legislative body of Haverhill. T. Paige seconded the motion.

Chair O'Shana allowed public comment.

A member of the public agreed with R. Hurlburt regarding the need for accountability. He asked for a guarantee that funds being appropriated by the Town and designated for a certain group are going to that group. Chair O'Shana explained how this is being done.

Vickie Wyman asked if line items in the budget stay with that line item and was told they do not. She noted that taxpayers don't get money back when the road budget is used elsewhere. She asked about this issue relating to Woodsville.

Darwin Clogston referred to contractors doing work for the Town that are required to be bonded, and spoke about the need for transparency.

Matthew Bjelobrk reviewed the genesis of SB26 and noted the need for accountability.

Regis Roy noted the need to consider Woodsville and Haverhill as a single unit instead of speaking about "we" and "they."

Voice Vote: The motion carried 3-2-0.

Roger's Rangers Pull-Off

Chair O'Shana said overnight parking is no longer allowed at this pull-off and a sign is needed. The Commissioners of Woodsville voted on this, as traffic has been blocked by vehicles parking here overnight. Daytime parking is still permitted.

Blood Drive April 25, 2025

Chair O'Shana reported there is a blood drive at the Morrill Building on April 25th.

Airport Resealing and Marking

Chair O'Shana explained there is a past-due bill from 2022 and 2023 for the airport resealing and marking project for \$46,269. There is money in the airport account from the grant for this project.

MOTION #13: R. O'Shana made a motion to pay the bill for \$46,269 from the airport account. The motion was seconded.

Voice Vote: The motion carried 5-0-0.

COMMISSION / COMMITTEE EX-OFFICIO REPORTS:

R. Hurlburt – Conservation Commission

R. Hurlburt reported on recent Commission activities.

Joe Longacre – Planning Board

J. Longacre reported on cases being presented to the Planning Board.

Kevin Knapp - Parks & Recreation Commission

K. Knapp said the next meeting is March 12th.

Rod O'Shana – Airport Zoning Commission

There has not been a meeting.

Joe Longacre - Zoning Board

There has been no need to meet.

SELECTBOARD MEMBER FINAL COMMENTS

K. Knapp thanked the residents of Haverhill for allowing him to serve as a member of the Selectboard, and that it has been an honor.

R. Hurlburt said he tries not to differentiate between Woodsville and Haverhill, per R. Roy's comments. However in this case, they are discussing two different entities. He does not want further division.

Chair O'Shana offered a shoutout to the boys' basketball team for winning the State championship. He noted March 11th is Election Day for Town officials.

PUBLIC WANTING TO ADDRESS THE SELECT BOARD REGARDING ITEMS ON THE AGENDA (3 minutes maximum)

Darwin Clogston offered compliments to Bridget Lanctot and her responsiveness to a request he made for a document.

Vickie Wyman criticized the Town for setting the price of the lot in the business park at \$18,000. She questioned the Town spending \$100,000 with KRT Appraisals and referred to the assessed value of homes being put on the Town website.

Ray Martin asked about representation on the Board from other districts. The Board discussed the benefits of having representatives from the other districts attend Board meetings as well.

NON-PUBLIC MEETING

MOTION #14: K. Knapp made a motion to exit the public meeting and enter non-public session. J. Longacre seconded the motion.

Voice Vote: The motion carried 5-0-0.

The cameras were turned off at 7:35 p.m.
The Board returned to public meeting.

ADJOURN MEETING

The meeting was adjourned.

Respectfully submitted,
Beth Hanggeli