

**Minutes of Haverhill Selectboard Regular Meeting
Tuesday October 28th, 2019
6:00 PM**

Draft subject to review, correction and approval at the next meeting.

Board Members Present: Tom Friel, Chairman Clogston, Fred Garofalo, Howard Hatch and Matthew Bjelobrk.

Town Manager: Brigitte Codling

Finance Officer: Jennifer Collins

Town Clerk: Tina Hebert

Deputy Town Clerk: Leigh Reney

Police Chief: Brandon Ailing

Recreation Director: Sherri Sargent

Admin. Assistant: Connie Sleath

Members of the Public Present: Karina Snow, Gail Bishop, Elizabeth Bayne, Roy Firschbauch, Tina Firschbauch, Mark Lang, Bob Long, Mary Patridge, Marilyn Blaisdell, Doug Henson, Lois Henson, Doug Dutile, Keisha Luce, Melissa Roy, Paul Kidder, Steve Wheeler, Gary Hebert, Dick Guy, Barb Warren, Roger Warren, Alex Nuti-de Biasi, Dan Boutin and Melinda Boutin.

Call Meeting to Order: Chairman Clogston called the meeting to order at 6:00 P.M.

Pledge of Allegiance

Agenda Approval: Tom made a motion to accept the agenda as written. Matt seconded the motion and it carried unanimously.

Consent Agenda: Matt made a motion to accept the consent agenda. Tom seconded the motion and it carried unanimously.

Town Employee Appearances: None scheduled.

Pending (Old) Business:

- **Business Park Covenants:** Chairman Clogston asked if it would be helpful to have a list of hazardous materials from business owners, regarding Page 5 Section 3 which dictates hazardous materials must be in secondary containment. Board members agreed it's a good idea and this requirement will be added to the next draft. Chairman Clogston asked if the verbiage is strong enough in the enforcement section. The Board will have a second reading of the policy at the next meeting.

New Business:

- **Committee/Commission Resignations:** Marie Bjelobrk has resigned from the Heritage Commission, Ezra (Bart) Mann resigned from the Conservation Commission and Peter Kimball resigned from the Airport Commission. Fred made a motion to accept the resignations from the three people mentioned above. Matt seconded the motion and it carried unanimously.
- **Removal of Stuart McDanolds from Airport Commission for Cause:** Chairman Clogston read the policy which read that the Selectboard can remove

individuals from Commissions/Committees for cause if they miss 25% of meetings and are unexcused absences. McDanolds was present for five out of the last ten Airport Commission meetings, which is 50%. Chairman Clogston made a motion to remove Stuart McDanolds from the Airport Commission for cause. Matt seconded the motion and it carried unanimously.

- **Woodsville Highway Fund Discussion:** TM Codling explained that a few months ago a Woodsville Commissioner requested that the Office reevaluate the Woodsville Highway Funding Formula and how it was applied the last few years. The current funding formula was established in 2009 and though complicated, it can be broken down into two parts. The first part provides the Woodsville Precinct with a sum of money between 23 and 25% of the Highway Budget and is based on a ratio of property values and a ratio of population. The second part provides the Woodsville Precinct a sum of money equivalent to 18.84% of the Highway Budget which is based on a ratio of population and a ratio of classified road mileage. TM Codling stated that the current formula does not appear to be equitable to all resident tax payers in Haverhill and hopes the precincts and commissioners can come up with a new formula that is more equitable. Draft legislations must be submitted to the Senate by 10/30/19 for review. TM Codling read the proposed language. Howard made a motion to move forward with the proposed language to revise the law. Matt seconded the motion. Dick Guy clarified that he did not request a recalculation. Guy stated the legislation was written with the theory that Haverhill should raise funds for Haverhill's roads and Woodsville should raise funds for Woodsville's roads. Guy explained that Woodsville's roads are dramatically more expensive per mile to maintain because they are more complicated and it's border-line ridiculous to base it on a per-mile rate. Jennifer stated that Woodsville's assessed evaluation is approximately 23% of the total assessed evaluation of Haverhill. Paul Kidder requested that the Board be more transparent with their information, as this topic was not previously discussed. Dick Guy suggests that the Highway funding be segregated and have Haverhill residents raise their funds and Woodsville residents raise their funds. The motion carried unanimously.

Scheduled Public Appearances: None scheduled.

Public Wanting to Address Board:

- **Tina Firschbauch:** Tina explained that she serves on the Board of Haverhill Heritage Inc. Tina discussed the 16 School Street property and explained it is classified as one of New Hampshire's "Seven to Save" and is also the recipient of an L-Chip Grant. Tina stated that the tax-status has not been updated to recognize that a non-profit organization owns the property and would like the Selectboard to work with the organization to correct this. The taxes owed create a hardship to the organization, as \$50,000 needs to be raised to match the L-Chip Grant. Chairman Clogston explained that State Statute dictates that organizations must apply for the tax abatement every year and that it needs to happen by April 1st. Keisha explained she was told by the Charitable Trust that the Selectboard should have the power to work with the organization. Keisha Luce will provide the Board with contact information on who she spoke with and the organizations 501 status and TM Codling will make a few calls before the Board moves forward with the request.
- **Mark Lang:** Mark explained that the ATV road trail will be closed effective 10/31/19 and signs will be removed for the year. Mark asked the Board if they would reinstate the beginning of the season in March. Chairman Clogston

requested he come back when it's a little closer to March. Mark asked about the status of the trails and TM Codling stated that the trails have not been addressed yet, as other items have taken precedence, but it is on her radar. TM Codling explained that some property owners have easements that will need to be looked at.

- **Mary Patridge:** Mary explained that a lot of people are concerned about the location of the proposed Solar Farm project on Mace Hill and would like it to be put on a future agenda so people can voice these concerns. Chairman Clogston stated when more information is obtained, it will be put on an agenda. Mary asked if she can write a petition and it was stated she can.

Town Manager's Report/Comments: Departments have developed a vision and mission statement for Town Government and the Vision Statement reads: "To be a community that holds dearly its heritage and prolific history while continually striving to progress." The Mission Statement is "To provide fiscally responsible accessible governance to all residents and visitors to our municipality with the enduring goal of improving the quality of life for all residents and fostering a unified sense of community." The Chapel Street property is scheduled to be sold on 11/12/19. TM Codling will be putting together a review team to choose an engineering firm based on qualifications to assist the Town in its Capital Improvement Plan projects in the coming years at the Airport. The Town applied for an AIM grant to install a fuel pump credit card reader at the airport. The Airport House will be burned by the North Haverhill Fire Department on 11/9/19 and Airport Road will be closed during the training burn. FEMA performed a cost benefit analysis and has determined that the project is acceptable. FEMA has not yet approved the \$150,000 engineering cost but will give the Town an answer in the next few weeks. Sections of re-paving on Lily Pond Road was completed under warranty by Pike Industries. Trees have also been planted. Alliance Mechanical began taking measurements to replace the heating system in the James Morrill Building. The SAU has relocated the 25 granite blocks that were gifted to them for use at the high school. The sale of the remaining blocks will take place soon. TM Codling will be "poking" the State regarding the excavation permit she submitted for the Central Street traffic issue. The Mace Hill Solar Project has been reviewed by several Committees and Commissions and the Town is currently waiting to hear back from the developer. TM Codling attended the JAG ceremony at the Woodsville High School. The first Haverhill Happenings is scheduled for 10/30 at the Cider House Café and TM Codling and Jennifer Boucher will be present to answer any questions. The HEEC is hosting a public forum on improving cell phone and high-speed broadband services in Haverhill on 11/5/19 at 7:00 P.M. at HCMS. TM Codling discussed the need for commission/committee members as well as a Trustee of Trust Funds. The Town Clerk's office reported business is as usual. Tax deed letters have been mailed and the sale of unresolved tax deeded properties is scheduled for 6/6/20. Maintenance department reported they've been assisting with roof repairs at the Police Department and the Clifford Building, working with Powers Generators to ensure generators are working, working with Alliance Mechanical as they take measurements at the JRM building, overseeing custodial services at the JRM and CMB, painting the interior at the JRM building and preparing for Haunted Happenings at the CMB. New culverts were installed along a portion of Lime Kiln Road, as previous culverts were installed incorrectly. Drainage work was completed on a section of County Road which included ditching and new culverts. Scoping has begun for drainage work within the right-of-way at Haverhill Corner in front of the Court Street Arts building. Several HPD officers had trainings on the firing range and Office Admin Aldrich attended a training. Sargent Elliott graduated from the Emergent Leaders program. The P.D. participated in the Touch-A-Truck event at the library and a Trunk-Or-Treat event at Mountain Lakes. Chairman Clogston

requested the dollar amount spent on the Lime Kiln Road project. Chairman Clogston asked that the Health Officer come in to discuss the Garbage Ordinance policy at an upcoming meeting.

Finance Officer's Report/Comments: Chairman Clogston requested a copy of the Heritage Commission's finances before their next meeting.

Commission/Committee Reports: Tom mentioned that Howard questioned the material being brought into the Blaisdell Pit at the last Planning Board meeting. Austin was directed to contact the Department of Revenue and D.E.S. about the concern and depending on the answers given, the Planning Board may hold a special meeting in 11/5/19. The widening of Sand Road was discussed as well.

Correspondence: Email from Marilyn Blaisdell regarding the Solar Farm Project.

Comments of Selectboard Members: None at this time.

Adjourn Meeting: Tom made a motion to adjourn the meeting at 7:28 P.M. Matt seconded the motion and it carried unanimously.

Minutes produced by Katie J. Williams.