

**Town of Haverhill**  
**Emergency Select Board Meeting**  
**MINUTES**  
**Monday January 9, 2022, at 5:00 PM**  
**James R. Morrill Building**

**CALL TO ORDER:** Chair Fred Garofalo called the meeting to order at 5:03 PM.

**Select Board Attendance:** Kevin Knapp (Present), Katie Williams (Excused), Mike Graham (Present), Vice Chair Steve Robbins (Present), Chair Fred Garofalo (Present). A quorum was met.

**Town Employees Present:**

**Town Manager (TM):** Brigitte Codling

**Assistant Town Manager (ATM):** Jennifer Boucher

**Members of the Public Present**

***In Person:***

None

**New Business:**

**MOTION #1:** Chair Garofalo made the motion and Graham seconded the motion to rescind the Select Board's vote to send the Woodsville District a letter asking them to consider postponing the second Woodsville vs. Town of Haverhill lawsuit settlement payment, and instead to agree to have Town Administration issue and send the second settlement payment of \$245,000 by the due date of January 10, 2023.

**Discussion:**

Discussion ensued about why the Select Board needed to rescind their original vote to have Town Administration have the Town's attorneys draft and send the letter to Woodsville asking them to postpone the second settlement payment of \$245,000. It was agreed that rescinding the vote was necessary so Town Administration was no longer obligated to pursue sending the letter.

Discussion ensued about the board's and Town Administration's displeasure with the Drummond Woodsum Attorneys promise to draft and send a letter to the DRA on the Town's behalf by January 4<sup>th</sup>, but instead notified Town Administration there was a conflict of interest that needed to be resolved, because DW represents the School District and the Mountain Lake's District who are also impacted by the DRA not setting the tax rates. After internal discussions DW notified the Town that they didn't believe the conflict will keep them from representing all parties and sent the Town a waiver late Friday Jan 6, 2023 to be signed and sent to them, which the Town did.

Discussion ensued about the possibility of finding alternative legal representation if the School District refuses to sign the waiver, or if we believe we might be better served in this matter by another firm.

Town Administration expressed that Drummond Woodsum are very good municipal attorneys and have represented and still represent the Town in many other municipal matters, not just matters involving the Woodsville District.

**Voice Vote:** All approved, none opposed, none abstained. The motion passed unanimously.

**MOTION #2:** Graham made the motion and Garofalo seconded the motion to have Town Administration draft a letter to the DRA and the Governor of New Hampshire asking the DRA to set the Town, School, and all four District tax rates immediately.

**Discussion:**

The SB scheduled another Emergency Meeting for Tuesday night at 4:00 pm at the JRM building to review the letter and vote to approve the final version for distribution to the DRA, Governor, and other representatives.

**Voice Vote:** All approved, none opposed, none abstained. The motion passed unanimously.

**MOTION #3:** Garofalo made the motion and Mike seconded the motion to adjourn the meeting.

**Voice Vote:** All approved, none opposed, none abstained. The motion passed unanimously.

**Adjourned at 5:45pm**

*Minutes produced by Brigitte M. Codling, Town Manager*