

**Minutes of Haverhill Selectboard Regular Meeting
Monday March 20, 2017
6:00 PM**

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

Board Members Present: Wayne Fortier, Mike Bonanno, Tom Friel, Chris Luurtsema, Fred Garofalo

Town Manager: Jo Lacaillade

Members of the Public Present: Howard Hatch, Raymond Thayer, Robert Stoddard, Ron Rhodes-Connecticut River Watershed Council, Kristi Garofalo, Susie Tann, Michael Thompson, and Ed Ballam-Journal Opinion.

Call Meeting to Order: The meeting was called to order at 6:00 P.M.

Pledge of Allegiance

Agenda Approval: Tom Friel made a motion to accept and approve the agenda as written. Mike Bonanno seconded the motion and it was carried unanimously.

Consent Agenda:

- **Approve Minutes of Previous Meeting: March 6, 2017:** Mike Bonanno made a motion to approve the minutes from consent agenda. The motion was seconded by Tom Friel and it was carried unanimously.

Scheduled Public Appearance(s):

Ron Rhodes: Clark Pond Dam removal and fish passage project through culvert

Ron gave an overview of the project that will remove the dam on the Stoddard property on Clark Brook Road. The project will be funded by grants and private monies. The purpose of his visit to the Selectboard is that part of the project includes placing rock weirs below the highway culvert, to ensure fish can continue traveling up through the culvert. Tom Friel asked Mr. Rhodes if NH Watershed Council would be held responsible if the culvert sustained any damage due to the project and Rhodes stated that yes, they would be held responsible. Mr. Rhodes stated that rock weirs are designed to last up to 100 years, but that time frame is dependent on Mother Nature. Once finished, Mr. Rhodes and/or an engineer will monitor the project annually. Mike Bonanno made a motion permitting Ron Rhodes access to remove do the rock work requested at the culvert on Clark Pond Road . Tom Friel seconded this motion and it carried unanimously.

Public Hearing:

No scheduled public hearing at this time.

Comments of the Public:

Susan Tann expressed her gratitude for the action being taken on the “neglected property” on County Road. Tann also stated that she is concerned with property values and environmental problems on County Road as a result of the property. The Board agreed that the progress made is less than desirable, and it would be beneficial for a photograph of the property weekly to effectively document it. Tann went on to mention that there are several cars sitting on the property and questioned if DES has become involved, as some vehicles appear old and could be

leaking fluid. Chairman Fortier stated that some of the vehicles are registered and residents that have more than one unregistered vehicle on their property require a junk yard permit.

Howard Hatch expressed concern with the amount of teacher and support staff that the three existing schools in Haverhill employ. He would also like the Board to continue discussing the Animal Control issue that was brought up at the meeting on 3/6/17.

Raymond Thayer questioned why Town Manager Lacaillade was given a salary raise before her three-year contract ended. Chairman Fortier stated that the Budget Committee voted on a 2% raise which was included in the budget approved at Town Meeting. Thayer went on to state that he disagreed with the Haverhill Police Chief's raise as well.

Town Manager's Report:

The Town Managers report covered the following topics: County Road Property; barking dog complaint; a Woodsville Business Owners meeting; information provided to the DRA and Secretary of State regarding the formation of Woodsville fire district; the Chapel Street property in Woodsville; a Friends of Haverill Corner meeting; a meeting with NH Historic Preservation for the Haverhill Corner Historic District; CEDS meeting at North Country Council; a noise complaint for shooting; the Grafton County sewer line project; and the property list with tax deeded properties listed.

Pending (Old) Business:

➤ **Drug and Alcohol Policy:**

There was discussion about the proposed Drug and Alcohol policy. The Board will meet on 3/27/17 at 6:00 P.M. for a work session to discuss the policy further.

➤ **Animal Control:**

Tom Friel expressed his concern with the Town government boarding animals and creating competition with small businesses. Chris Luurtsema suggested maintaining the Animal Control Officer position and ridding the boarding facility, as income is not meeting expenses. By obtaining a contract with another facility, the Town fills it's legal requirements and no longer would need to heat and maintain the current building and would also not need to pay for the Animal Control Officer to care for the boarded animals. The Board agreed to table the topic of boarding animals until next meeting since the Town holds a boarding license and it is not known now if it can be dropped before it expires. Mike Bonanno made a motion to raise the kennel fees to the maximum fine permitted by law. Chris Luurtsema seconded it and the motion was carried unanimously.

New Business:

- **Reorganization of Board:** Mike Bonanno nominated Wayne Fortier for Chairman, seconded by Tom Friel. Voting yes was Mike, Tom, Chris and Fred. Wayne abstained. Tom Friel nominated Mike Bonanno for Vice Chairman, seconded by Chris Luurtsema. Voting yes was Wayne, Tom, Chris and Fred. Mike abstained.

- **Board Assignments:** Planning Board-Chris Luurtsema; Recreation Commission-Tom Friel; Airport Commission-Mike Bonanno; Zoning Board of Adjustment-Wayne Fortier; Heritage Commission-Fred Garofalo; Highway Committee-Wayne Fortier and Fire Committee-Chris Luurtsema.

Resignation of Mike Roberts: Mike Bonanno made a motion to accept, with regret, the letter of resignation of Mike Roberts from the Airport Commission. The motion was seconded by Chris Luurtsema and carried unanimously.

Commission/Commission/Committee Reports:

None at this time.

Correspondence:

The Board received January and February reports from the Highway Road Agent. The Board received a letter sent by Jessica Desilets in regards to recycling, as she was in favor. Other correspondence included the weekly newsletter, the legislative bulletin and a letter written to Fire Chief Morris.

Comments of the Public:

Susan Tann stated that Ralph Wright has been parking his vehicle in the road in front of house, preventing two vehicles to drive by at the same time. Chairman Fortier stated that they will notify Haverhill Police Department so that they may monitor the issue.

Howard Hatch requested that the Highway Department reports be forwarded to the Highway Committee. Chairman Fortier stated that this would be possible.

The Board was questioned as to why the Food Bank pays \$5,000 in rent when the Town donated ~\$4,932 to the cause, almost creating a “wash” in funds. Chairman Fortier stated that this was the first time the Food Bank has requested funds and it is policy to charge rent. Along with that notion, the Board does not want to start a precedence of free rent.

Comments of the Town Manager:

None at this time.

Comments of Selectboard Members:

Adjourn Meeting:

A motion was made by Mike Bonanno to adjourn the meeting; seconded by Tom Friel and carried unanimously. The meeting adjourned at 7:45.

Minutes produced by Katie J. Moyse