

BOARD OF SELECTMEN'S MEETING

Selectmen present: Mark Le Doux, Frank Cadwell, Vahrij Manoukian and Peter Band
Selectmen absent: David Petry
Staff present: Troy Brown, Town Administrator and Paul Armstrong, Volunteer Camera Operator.

COMMUNITY ROOM

Chairman Le Doux convened the June 22, 2015, Selectmen's meeting at 7:00 PM in the Town Hall Community Room.

PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

The Pledge of Allegiance was recited.

AGENDA REVIEW

Troy Brown reviewed the Selectmen's agenda.

PUBLIC COMMENT

The Board of Selectmen and audience bowed their heads for a moment of silence for the nine people that were murdered in South Carolina.

Bob Labednick, Truell Road, mentioned the negative publicity that is surrounding police departments. He wondered what steps are being taken to make sure that Hollis police officers remain in control. He stated that Hollis officers do a pretty good job but you never know if you have an officer on your roster that will lose control. He asked if the Hollis officers are tested for psychiatric issues every year. M. Le Doux thanked B. Labednick for his questions. M. Le Doux stated that the Town has multiple standards required by RSA for testing and recertification of police personnel. The police department is going through a process that requires higher standards for testing than the RSA's. M. Le Doux mentioned that the Board has received many commendations from surrounding communities regarding the quality of the Hollis officers. F. Cadwell stated that the accreditation process Mark Le Doux spoke of earlier was budgeted for last year and will begin this year.

B. Labednick asked if the Town has insurance coverage to protect the taxpayers if a police officer does spin out of control. B. Labednick asked why the officers do not wear cameras. He felt that when they stop vehicles it could be recorded. M. Le Doux felt that the discussion of body cameras for officers is a worthy discussion that would benefit all parties. T. Brown believes that the police department is in the process of asking for grant funding for body cameras. V. Manoukian asked the Chair to halt the conversation. M. Le Doux heard what Bob Labednick was asking and summarized his request. He thanked B. Labednick for asking great questions.

Dr. Benjamin Kaplan, Nartoff Road, approached the Board. He is a neighboring home to Rickety Ranch. He stated that his complaint surrounded water runoff. He produced two water bottles filled with water that is running off the driveway at 103 Nartoff Road (Rickety Ranch) and the bottom of his driveway. B. Kaplan has not tested the water but felt the Board may test the water if desired. The bottle collected at the bottom of 103 Nartoff Road looked considerably darker in color. B. Kaplan approached the Board and showed them a photo of the driveway at 103 Nartoff Road. B. Kaplan took the photograph because there was what appeared to be a long black streak running down the driveway. He explained the direction of the runoff and stated that it eventually ends at the pond. He showed the Board pictures of puddles on various locations on the street to prove that the puddles were considerably darker at 103 Nartoff Road.

He also mentioned that the property had an illegal driveway. It was stated that the long black streak could be oil or animal refuse. B. Kaplan thinks the water should be tested to see why it is black. M. Le Doux stated that the Town and the owners of the property are in contact and the points raised tonight will be added to the points of discussion the Town has already engaged in. The Board will ask the Health Officer to test the water although because of the chain of custody issue it might need to be a different water test. B. Kaplan felt that if it rains again he is confident that the Town can collect a similar water sample because the problem is not going away. The Board thanked B. Kaplan for his comments.

Ann Surwell, 85 Nartoff Road, stated the pond mentioned earlier resides on her property. The runoff water has been dumping into her pond for years and has killed everything in the pond. She brought this up at a different meeting and she stated that the Town has done nothing to stop this. She corrected herself by stating that she misspoke and the Town has done something. The Department of Public Works (DPW) has changed the grade of the road to compensate for the water accumulation at 103 Nartoff Road. The DPW cut along the sides of her property line, created a gulley and filled it with stone to catch the runoff and redirect the water to her pond. She has already explained to DPW that her pond is not a catch basin.

A. Surwell stated that she called the Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) because her dug pond that was meant to be a fire pond is being polluted. She is no longer able to use the pond to water her gardens. She stated the problems began when an extra driveway was cut in at 103 Nartoff Road. She stated that the driveway is illegal but the Town continues to allow the property owner (Bergeron's) to use it. A. Surwell asked why the Town would grade the road to change the direction of runoff to enter her pond. She is considering filling in the pond and building a six foot berm so the water will become somebody else's problem. A. Surwell stated that she will no longer allow the runoff to enter her pond.

M. Le Doux asked when the grading occurred. A. Surwell stated a few weeks ago. She stated that DPW is always grading the road to try and fix the problem. V. Manoukian will contact the DPW Director to discuss the road grading. F. Cadwell mentioned that the water issues are being addressed in a violation letter to the property owner. T. Brown reviewed the two most recent violation letters that were mailed to the property owner. One letter informed the property owner that he may not conduct a summer camp without going through the Town's permitting process and the other was a follow up from a violation letter sent last fall. This letter addressed the use of the property, an accessory dwelling unit, illegal driveway, planning board approval and water runoff. T. Brown stated that if the Town is unable to come to a resolution with the property owner the Town is ready to take court action. The Board offered a copy of the letters to the residents. M. Le Doux explained the appeal process.

A. Surwell felt that the DPW action of grading the road meant that the Town was assisting the property owner with their runoff. The Town should not be redirecting water from his property to her pond. V. Manoukian stated that the DPW would not assist a resident unless it was in the best interest of the Town. V. Manoukian agreed to meet A. Surwell at her property at 7:00am the next day to discuss the issues.

MEETINGS

1. Robert Heyer, Volunteer Photographer

The Board again thanked Robert Heyer for taking the remarkable photos of the Memorial Day Ceremony. R. Heyer approached the Board.

V. Manoukian invited R. Heyer to the meeting because he officially volunteered to become the Town Photographer. V. Manoukian stated that Town hosts so many events but a rare few are photographed so they become only a memory. The events can now be captured.

The Town Administrator created an ID badge for him so that he may officially represent the Town to take photos at events. The Board thanked Robert Heyer for volunteering.

MOVED by Peter Band seconded by Vahrij Manoukian that the Selectmen appoint Robert Heyer to serve as the official Town Photographer as discussed. Voting in favor of the motion were Le Doux, Cadwell, Manoukian and Band. No one was opposed. The motion PASSED 4-0-0.

2. Land Protection Study Committee (LPSC), Land & Community Heritage Investment Program (LCHIP) Grant Application

Paul Edmunds, LPSC Commission Chair approached the Board. At Town meeting, the taxpayers voted to support a warrant article to purchase and preserve 43 acres of land. The preliminary assessed value of the land is \$600,000.00. The LPSC has been awarded a federal grant (Department of Agriculture and Land and Ranch) to fund approximately half the cost of the purchase price or \$278,550.00. The rest of the funding will come from the Board's discretionary fund, the Conservation Commission and from taxation (up to 100,000 each).

The LPSC has also applied for an LCHIP grant from the State of New Hampshire in the amount of \$140,000.00. The deadline for the LCHIP grant application is Friday, June 26, 2015. P. Edmunds requested Chairman Le Doux's signature on the LCHIP application. P. Band asked when the anticipated date of award is. P. Edmunds felt a preliminary decision will be made in the fall and a final decision by next spring.

P. Edmunds sincerely thanked Town Hall staff for being extremely cooperative and helpful to the LPSC during this process. He also thanked Attorney William Drescher. The Board thanked all members of the LPSC for their effort preserving another piece of property.

MOVED by Vahrij Manoukian seconded by Frank Cadwell that the Selectmen authorize the chairman to sign the Land & Community Heritage Investment Program grant application and formally support RSA 227-M. Voting in favor of the motion were Le Doux, Cadwell, Manoukian and Band. No one was opposed. The motion PASSED 4-0-0.

NEW /OLD BUSINESS

1. 2015 Dog Registration Warrant

The Board reviewed the unlicensed dog warrant. T. Brown stated the next step will be police enforcement action.

MOVED by Vahrij Manoukian, seconded by Frank Cadwell that the Selectmen approve and sign the 2015 Dog Warrant, as presented. Voting in favor of the motion were Le Doux, Manoukian, Band and Cadwell. No one was opposed. The motion PASSED 4-0-0.

2. New Hampshire Department of Agriculture Grant

The Agricultural Commission received a grant in the amount of \$1,000.00 for the "Welcome to Hollis" signs. P. Band asked if the Selectmen have given final approval of the sign design and location. T. Brown stated that the Agricultural Commission will return to the Board for final approval.

MOVED by Vahrij Manoukian, seconded by Peter Band that the Selectmen authorize Chairman Le Doux to sign the "Certificate of Authority" granting Troy Brown, Town Administrator permission, on behalf of the Board of Selectmen, to execute and administer the 2015 New Hampshire Department of Agriculture Mini-Grant awarded to the Hollis Agricultural Commission to purchase and install "Welcome to Hollis" signs. Voting in favor of the motion were Le Doux, Cadwell, Manoukian and Band. No one was opposed. The motion PASSED 4-0-0.

3. Pole License

MOVED by Peter Band, seconded by Vahrij Manoukian that the Selectmen approve the pole license #21-1192, dated 06/08/2015, as presented. Voting in favor of the motion were Le Doux, Cadwell, Band and Manoukian. No one was opposed. The motion PASSED 4-0-0.

4. Committee Reports

Select Committee on Educational Review: M. Le Doux informed the Board that Tom Gehan, Budget Committee Chair, Deborah Padykula, Finance Officer and the forensic accountant the Town retained will be meeting in the next few days.

5. Other

Mark LeDoux stated he participated in a conference call with the Finance Officer and Moody's Investors Service. Moody's conducts a yearly review on Hollis's bond rating based on the financial aspects of the Town. Moody's noticed that the Town has been able to build the fund balance over the past few years and wanted to review the rating. The Town currently has a bond rating of Aa3 and the discussion was to determine if that rating should be improved to a Aa2 or possibly Aa1 rating. Aaa is the highest rating, however Hollis is not big enough to qualify for that rating.

Moody's was complimentary on the Town governance of improving the fund balance from \$150,000 to \$2,700,000 over the past few years and also the refinancing of \$6 million of the Town's debt from a 4% interest rate to an average interest rate of about 2%. The Town will receive the preliminary recommendation from the Moody's Committee by the end of this week or early next week.

ADMINISTRATIVE BUSINESS

1. Assessing/ Tax Collection

2015 Reimbursement to Towns & Cities in which Federal & State Forest is situated

The application is the annual accounting to the Dept. of Revenue Administration (DRA) for reimbursement for the forested portion of the Silver State Park owned by the State of NH. The reimbursement amount is about \$35 annually.

MOVED by Peter Band, seconded by Vahrij Manoukian that the Selectmen sign and submit the application to the DRA for reimbursement for the forested portion of the Silver Lake State Park owned by the State of NH. Voting in favor of the motion were Le Doux, Cadwell, Manoukian and Band. No one was opposed. The motion PASSED 4-0-0.

REPORT OF TIMBER CUT & TIMBER TAX LEVY

Operation #	MBLU	Owner	Timber Tax Levy
15-223-04	045-020	Sally Doran	\$150.36
14-223-18	056-021	Thomas & Suzanne Raisanen	\$901.58

MOVED by Peter Band, seconded by Vahrij Manoukian that the Selectmen sign the Certification of Timber Cut and authorize the Tax Collector to collect \$1,051.94 in Timber Tax, as presented. Voting in favor of the motion were Le Doux, Cadwell, Manoukian and Band. No one was opposed. The motion PASSED 4-0-0.

2014 ABATEMENTS**Approval**

Case #	MBLU	Owner	Refund+Interest
2014-003	028-001-005	Davis Bryant & Martha Fournier	\$213.42

MOVED by Peter Band, seconded by Vahrij Manoukian that the Selectmen approve the abatement, as presented, for a total refunded amount of \$213.42, as recommended by Municipal Resources Inc. Voting in favor of the motion were Le Doux, Cadwell, Band and Manoukian. No one was opposed. The motion PASSED 4-0-0.

Denial

Case #	MBLU	Owner	Refund+Interest
2014-006	056-027	Eversource Energy fka PSNH	N/A

M. Le Doux informed the public that Eversource (formerly PSNH) is seeking tax relief from the Board of Tax and Land Appeals (BTLA) in the State of New Hampshire. If Eversource wins their appeal for tax relief, it appears the Town of Hollis would refund Eversource about \$400,000 for taxes previously paid. M. Le Doux stated that \$400,000 is reserved in the unassigned fund balance for this purpose. If Eversource loses the appeal, the Board would most likely vote to reduce taxes by relieving the unassigned fund balance by what could be as much as \$400,000.

MOVED by Peter Band, seconded by Vahrij Manoukian that the Selectmen deny the abatement, as presented, for a total refunded amount of \$0.00, as recommended by Municipal Resources Inc. Voting in favor of the motion were Le Doux, Cadwell, Band and Manoukian. No one was opposed. The motion PASSED 4-0-0.

2. Approval of Warrants**a. Employee Reimbursements - 06/16/2015 (\$6,375.28)**

Moved by Frank Cadwell seconded by Vahrij Manoukian that the Selectmen approve the employee reimbursement warrant as submitted. Voting in favor of the motion were Le Doux, Cadwell, Manoukian and Band. No one was opposed. The motion PASSED 4-0-0.

b. Wages - 06/16/2015 (\$161,518.17)

Moved by Frank Cadwell seconded by Vahrij Manoukian that the Selectmen approve the wages, as submitted. Voting in favor of the motion were Le Doux, Cadwell, Manoukian and Band. No one was opposed. The motion PASSED 4-0-0.

c. Accounts Payable - 06/18/2015 (\$76,149.45)

Moved by Frank Cadwell seconded by Vahrij Manoukian that the Selectmen approve the accounts payable warrant, as submitted. Voting in favor of the motion were Le Doux, Cadwell, Manoukian and Band. No one was opposed. The motion PASSED 4-0-0.

d. Accounts Payable - 06/19/2015 (\$200.00)

MOVED by Frank Cadwell seconded by Vahrij Manoukian that the Selectmen approve the accounts payable warrant, as submitted. Voting in favor of the motion were Le Doux, Cadwell, Manoukian and Band. No one was opposed. The motion PASSED 4-0-0.

3. Approval Public Minutes 06/08/15

MOVED by Frank Cadwell seconded by Vahrij Manoukian that the Selectmen approve the public minutes of Monday, June 8, 2015 as submitted. Voting in favor of the motion were Le Doux, Cadwell, Manoukian and Band. No one was opposed. The motion PASSED 4-0-0.

4. Approval Non - Public Minutes 06/08/15

MOVED by Frank Cadwell seconded by Vahrij Manoukian that the Selectmen approve the non public minutes of Monday, June 8, 2015 as submitted and keep them sealed. Voting in favor of the motion were Le Doux, Cadwell, Manoukian and Band. No one was opposed. The motion PASSED 4-0-0.

5. Weekly Meetings and Announcements

V. Manoukian announced the board and committee meetings for the week of June 21, 2015 – June 27, 2015.

Hollis Town Band to Perform at the Hollis Strawberry Festival on Sunday, June 28, 2015 from 2:00pm – 4:00pm on the Hollis Town Common.

The Town Hall, Town Clerk and the Hollis Social Library will be closed on Friday, July 3, 2015. The Town Clerk, Transfer Station, Stump Dump and the Hollis Social Library will be closed on Saturday, July 4, 2015.

The next Selectmen's meeting will be held on Monday, July 13, 2015 at 7:00pm.

NON-PUBLIC SESSION

MOVED by Vahrij Manoukian seconded by Peter Band that the Selectmen enter NON-public session in accordance with RSA 91-A:3-II (c) reputation. Voting in favor of the motion were Le Doux, Cadwell, Manoukian and Band. No one was opposed. The motion PASSED 4-0-0.

The Board entered non-public session at 7:48PM.

CONCLUSION OF NON-PUBLIC SESSION

MOVED by Vahrij Manoukian seconded by Peter Band that the Selectmen come out of NON-public session in accordance with RSA 91-A:3-II (c) reputation. Voting in favor of the motion were Le Doux, Cadwell, Manoukian and Band. No one was opposed. The motion PASSED 4-0-0.

MOVED by Vahrij Manoukian seconded by Peter Band that the Selectmen seal the minutes of the NON-public session in accordance with RSA 91-A:3-II (c) reputation. Voting in favor of the motion were Le Doux, Cadwell, Manoukian and Band. No one was opposed. The motion PASSED 4-0-0.

The Board came out of non-public session and entered into public session at 8:05PM.

ADJOURNMENT:

293 *MOVED by Frank Cadwell seconded by Vahrij Manoukian that the Selectmen adjourn. Voting in favor of*
294 *the motion were Le Doux, Cadwell, Manoukian and Band. No one was opposed. The motion PASSED 4-*
295 *0-0.*

296
297 The Board adjourned at 8:05PM.

298
299 Respectfully submitted,
300 Kimberly Dogherty, Asst. Town Administrator