

BOARD OF SELECTMEN'S MEETING

Selectmen present: Vahrij Manoukian, Frank Cadwell and Peter Band
Selectmen (via telephone): Mark Le Doux, Chairman and David Petry, Vice Chairman
Staff present: Troy Brown, Town Administrator; James Sartell, Police Chief; Richard Mello, Police Lieutenant and Tom Bayrd, Director of Public Works

COMMUNITY ROOM

Selectman Manoukian convened the August 24, 2015, Selectmen's meeting at 7:04 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

None

MEETINGS**1. Chief Sartell, Police Officer Appointments**

Police Chief James Sartell introduced two new police officers, Kurt Thompson and Lucas Ilges. He requested the Board sign both appointment forms and explained that both officers will officially be sworn in by the Town Clerk next week.

Chief Sartell explained the hiring process stating that it began in April, 2015. Both officers will be attending the police academy next Monday. Lieutenant Mello was pleased to announce that both officers were very qualified.

Officer Ilges and Officer Thompson gave brief descriptions of their personal and professional backgrounds.

Chief Sartell stated that there were now fifteen full time and two part time officers and the department is running at full capacity. The cost to Hollis is approximately \$100,000 to take an applicant from non-hired to taking their first solo call. It takes about six months to bring an officer to the point where he is trained and taking calls.

The Board welcomed both officers and wished them well at the Academy.

MOVED by Frank Cadwell seconded by Peter Band that the Selectmen appoint Lucas Ilges as a Police Officer for the Town of Hollis effective August 24, 2015. Voting in favor of the motion were Le Doux, Petry, Manoukian, Cadwell and Band. No one was opposed. The motion PASSED 5-0-0.

MOVED by Frank Cadwell seconded by Peter Band that the Selectmen appoint Kurt Thompson as a Police Officer for the Town of Hollis effective August 24, 2015. Voting in favor of the motion were Le Doux, Petry, Manoukian, Cadwell and Band. No one was opposed. The motion PASSED 5-0-0.

Police Chief James Sartell swore in both Officer Lucas Ilges and Officer Kurt Thompson.

2. Hollis Energy Committee (HEC)

a. Solar Power Presentation

Venu Rao, Energy Committee Chairman, introduced HEC member Woody Hayes. W. Hayes will discuss the sustainable energy strategy for the Town of Hollis. HEC members are trying to move away from fossil fuels in all Town buildings. The Committee has already conducted a feasibility study for the Hollis Schools.

The HEC intends to conduct another study for the Cooperative School District. V. Rao stated that the schools account for 86% of the energy consumption. Mike Leavitt, HEC member will present additional details regarding this effort at a future date.

W. Hayes approached the Board and introduced HEC members Stacy Diamantini, Christine Furman, Mike Leavitt and Eric Ryherd.

The Committee has spent the last three months researching solar power. They interviewed five solar power vendors to educate themselves on the many solar power programs. The reason to consider solar power is that it will save taxpayer dollars. Last year the Town spent approximately \$340,000.00 to power Town buildings. W. Hayes gave historical and projected rates. In his research, there was never a year when the rate went down more than one cent per kilowatt. Solar Power vendors will sign a fixed rate twenty year contract.

W. Hayes gave the many benefits for switching to solar power. He also debunked many myths surrounding solar power. He presented an energy consumption overview pointing out that the Schools account for 86% while the Town accounts for 14% of the Town's energy consumption.

W. Hayes reviewed the state requirements and regulations for solar power systems. He also outlined the solar power system requirements needed for Hollis. The Committee is in favor of installing panels on the ground. W. Hayes stated that to meet the Town's energy needs they would need 10 acres of land.

W. Hayes stated that the Town could pay cash (loan) for the system for approximately several million dollars. He explained the pros and cons of this option. The Town could also sign a Power Purchase Agreement (PPA) with a solar vendor. The HEC is in favor of signing a PPA. The vendor will install, monitor and maintain the system at no cost to the Town. The vendor will own the system. He explained the pros and cons of this option. He stated that after seven years there will be an option to buy the system.

W. Hayes feels time is of the essence because tax refunds and rebates are only available through 2016. Without the rebates, the project will be more expensive.

The HEC would like to work with town boards to identify a piece of land for the project. The HEC requested permission to draft a Request for Proposal from solar vendors. P. Band stated that if the Board allowed the HEC to draft an RFP that there is not a financial commitment at this time. W. Hayes understood. P. Band asked if the Committee has analyzed the cost of buying the system outright to make sure that it is not a preferable financial investment. V. Rao stated that they have done the analysis and it is more costly. P. Band questioned the land needs. W. Hayes stated that they would need several ten acre parcels. Unfortunately, the regulations prohibit all systems being installed on one parcel. W. Hayes showed a picture of

what solar panels look like when installed on the ground.

F. Cadwell questioned what happens at the end of the twenty year contract if the Board signed a PPA and did not purchase the system after seven years. W. Hayes did not know the answer. V. Rao believed that in twenty years the Town would own the system. F. Cadwell felt that approval from the schools is needed before the Board could make decision as they use 86% of the energy. The HEC will also need to get approval for a site.

M. Le Doux feels the HEC has done an excellent job with the task at hand. He is concerned with the appearance of the solar farm where pasture formally existed. M. Le Doux agreed with F. Cadwell that the schools need to be the body to come up with the resolution.

D. Petry applauded the Committee for a job well done. He is the liaison to the Planning Board and every Planning Board review includes the impact to rural character. D. Petry is concerned with yearly maintenance as well as the long term costs of installing solar farms.

F. Cadwell felt that the solar panels will be easy enough to screen but finding twenty sites to install the panels will be challenging.

V. Rao thanked the Board for their time and would like to give them time to think over their request. He agreed to come back at a later date to continue the discussion.

V. Manoukian thanked the HEC for all of their effort.

b. Wood Pellet Project Update

V. Rao updated the Board on the wood pellet project. The HEC is in the process of getting quotes from vendors. Once the hoppers are filled with pellets they will be able to test the systems. He showed photos of the systems installed at the Police Station and Town Hall. The mechanical and electrical work is complete. Troy Brown is in the process of scheduling the final inspection with the Building Inspector and Fire Chief. T. Brown stated the project will be completed by September 30, 2015. The Town has applied for the grant and will be reimbursed.

NEW /OLD BUSINESS

1. Library/Church Parking Lot Paving Project

Tom Bayrd, Director of Public Works approached the Board. He gave an update on road projects which included grinding Wright Road and Ranger Road. Both roads will be paved next week.

M. Le Doux stated that the parking lot between the Hollis Social Library and the Congregational Church is jointly owned. The Church has set aside \$10,000.00 for the paving project. The Board has earmarked \$30,000.00.

T. Bayrd recommended hiring R & D Paving. He also recommended hiring Hollis Construction for the site work. The total project cost is \$41,943.00, which is \$1,943.00 over budget.

M. Le Doux is in favor of completing the project this year. F. Cadwell would like input from the Church and Library Trustees regarding the parking lot striping. He recommended

approving the project minus the \$475.00 for striping the parking lot.

Don McMillan. Library Trustee reported that he met with the Church Trustees and they preferred angled striping of the parking lot. D. Petry questioned if the Church would eventually reimburse the Town. M. Le Doux stated no. The Church is contributing \$10,000.00 for the paving project.

MOVED by Mark Le Doux seconded by Frank Cadwell that the Selectmen authorize the Director of Public Works to execute contracts with R & D Paving and Hollis Construction in the amount of \$41,943.00. Voting in favor of the motion were Le Doux, Petry, Manoukian, Cadwell and Band. No one was opposed. The motion PASSED 5-0-0.

2. NHDES Used Oil Grant Approval

MOVED by Peter Band seconded by Mark Le Doux that the Selectmen authorize Thomas W. Bayrd, Director of Public Works to sign contracts on behalf of the Town of Hollis with respect to grants with the New Hampshire Department of Environmental Services. Voting in favor of the motion were Le Doux, Petry, Manoukian, Cadwell and Band. No one was opposed. The motion PASSED 5-0-0.

3. MS-1 Extension

MOVED by Peter Band seconded by Mark Le Doux that the Selectmen approve the MS-1 Extension Request Form, as presented. Voting in favor of the motion were Le Doux, Petry, Manoukian, Cadwell and Band. No one was opposed. The motion PASSED 5-0-0.

4. Pennichuck Pond Violation Update

T. Brown stated that the Town received correspondence from the Department of Environmental Service on July 17, 2015 stating that the deficiencies have been taken care of and the case is closed. The cost to remove the dock was \$10,761.70. It would have cost a lot more without the assistance of the Department of Public Works. T. Bayrd worked with the contractor daily. He also worked with his personal equipment on his own time. T. Brown thanked T. Bayrd.

The Board thanked T. Bayrd for his volunteer work.

5. Committee Reports

Historic District Commission (HDC): F. Cadwell reported that the HDC recently approved an application for the installation of solar panels. The applicant engaged in a Power Purchase Agreement.

Heritage Commission: V. Manoukian reported that the calendars will be for sale by September 1, 2015 for \$20.00. The proceeds go directly to serve their mission and the taxpayers.

ADMINISTRATIVE BUSINESS

1. Assessing

Current Use Release & Land Use Change Tax (LUCT)

MBLU	Owner	Location	Acres Removed	LUCT
055-004	Mark S. Walsh & Mildred Mugica	17 Deacon Ln	1.00	\$11,000

MOVED by Frank Cadwell seconded by Peter Band that the Selectmen sign and approve the Land Use Change Tax and Current Use Releases, as presented. Voting in favor of the motion were Le Doux, Petry, Manoukian, Cadwell and Band. No one was opposed. The motion PASSED 5-0-0.

Notice of Intent to Cut Wood or Timber

Operation#	MBLU	Owner	Location
15-223-08	017-002	George & Gloria Burton	157 Proctor Hill Road

MOVED by Frank Cadwell seconded by Peter Band that the Selectmen sign and approve the Notice of Intent to Cut Wood or Timber, as presented. Voting in favor of the motion were Le Doux, Petry, Manoukian, Cadwell and Band. No one was opposed. The motion PASSED 5-0-0.

2. Approval of Warrants**a. Employee Reimbursements - 08/11/2015 (\$3,449.75)**

Moved by Peter Band seconded by Frank Cadwell that the Selectmen approve the employee reimbursement warrant, as submitted. Voting in favor of the motion were Le Doux, Petry, Manoukian, Band and Cadwell. No one was opposed. The motion PASSED 5-0-0.

b. Wages - 08/11/2015 (\$158,026.58)

Moved by Peter Band seconded by Frank Cadwell that the Selectmen approve the wages, as submitted. Voting in favor of the motion were Le Doux, Petry, Manoukian, Band and Cadwell. No one was opposed. The motion PASSED 5-0-0.

c. Wages - 08/14/2015 (\$459.68)

Moved by Peter Band seconded by Frank Cadwell that the Selectmen approve the wages, as submitted. Voting in favor of the motion were Le Doux, Petry, Manoukian, Band and Cadwell. No one was opposed. The motion PASSED 5-0-0.

d. Accounts Payable - 08/13/2015 (\$140,547.04)

Moved by Peter Band seconded by Frank Cadwell that the Selectmen approve the accounts payable warrant, as submitted. Voting in favor of the motion were Le Doux, Petry, Manoukian, Band and Cadwell. No one was opposed. The motion PASSED 5-0-0.

3. Approval Public Minutes 08/10/15

MOVED by Frank Cadwell seconded by Peter Band that the Selectmen approve the public minutes of Monday, August 10, 2015 as submitted. Voting in favor of the motion were Manoukian, Band and Cadwell. No one was opposed. Le Doux and Petry abstained. The motion PASSED 3-0-2.

NON-PUBLIC SESSION

MOVED by Peter Band seconded by Frank Cadwell that the Selectmen enter NON-public session in accordance with RSA 91-A:3-II (a) personnel. Voting in favor of the motion were Le Doux, Petry, Cadwell, Manoukian and Band. No one was opposed. The motion PASSED 5-0-0.

The Board entered non-public session at 8:33PM.

CONCLUSION OF NON-PUBLIC SESSION

MOVED by Frank Cadwell seconded by Peter Band that the Selectmen come out of NON-

public session in accordance with RSA 91-A:3-II (a) personnel. Voting in favor of the motion were Le Doux, Petry, Cadwell, Manoukian and Band. No one was opposed. The motion PASSED 5-0-0.

MOVED by Frank Cadwell seconded by Peter Band that the Selectmen seal the minutes of the NON-public session in accordance with RSA 91-A:3-II (a) personnel. Voting in favor of the motion were Le Doux, Petry, Cadwell, Manoukian and Band. No one was opposed. The motion PASSED 5-0-0.

The Board came out of non-public session and entered into public session at 9:02PM.

ADJOURNMENT:

MOVED by Peter Band seconded by Frank Cadwell that the Selectmen adjourn. Voting in favor of the motion were Le Doux, Petry, Manoukian, Band and Cadwell. No one was opposed. The motion PASSED 5-0-0.

The Board adjourned at 9:02PM.

Respectfully submitted,
Kimberly Dogherty, Asst. Town Administrator