

July 25, 2022 – DRAFT MINUTES

Posted: Library, Town Offices, Town website

7:00 p.m. Board of Selectmen's Room

SALUTE TO THE FLAG

PRESENT: Charles Rage, Vice-chairman  
Russell Bridle, Selectmen  
Richard Sawyer, Selectman  
Amy Hansen, Selectwoman  
Jamie Sullivan, Town Manager

Absent: James Waddell, Chairman

I. Public Comment [Time limitation of three (3) minutes]

None

II. Announcements and Community Calendar

Sel. Hansen wished her husband a happy birthday. She discussed signing up and utilizing the program Helpsy and noted how to schedule a pickup. She announced the National Night Out event on August 2<sup>nd</sup>.

Sel. Sawyer offered thanks to Police, Fire, and DPW for all their service and extra calls due to the heat issues.

Sel. Bridle and Sel. Rage agreed with both.

III. RSA 41:14-a Second Hearing

1. 141 King's Hwy Deed Restriction #4 Removal

Public hearing opened at 7:01pm. No one from the public spoke, hearing closed at 7:02.

2. 1062 Ocean Blvd Deed Restriction #4 Modification

Public hearing opened at 7:02pm. No one from the public spoke, hearing closed at 7:03.

IV. Approval of Minutes

1. July 11, 2022

Sel. Sawyer MOTIONED to APPROVE the Minutes of July 11, 2022, SECONDED by Sel. Bridle. VOTE: 3-0-1 (Rage)

V. Consent Agenda

1. Cemetery Deed: Carolyn & Heidi Emmons 27/I-3/2/1&3; John Houle & Dandra Dodier 28/I-3/2/1&3; Jacob Patterson 35/I-2/4/1-4; James & Allison Sovetsky 32/I-3/1/3
2. Donation Acceptances: Aquarion Water to Barkley Fund \$5,000; Friend of the Mounted Patrol for Nation Night Out \$500; Tobey & Merrill Flagpole High Street Cemetery \$2,773
3. Parade & Public Gathering License: Bikes and Beers Hampton Bike Run 7/23

Sel. Hansen MOTIONED to APPROVE the Consent Agenda, SECONDED by Sel. Bridle.  
VOTE: 4-0-0

VI. Appointments

1. Ari Pollack, Esq., Andy Davis, NH Liquor Commission
  - a Wetlands Delineation

TM Sullivan explained the reasoning for the presentation.

Mr. Davis discussed the level of cooperation with businesses regarding licenses and such and thanked the board. He noted being here this evening to discuss a real estate initiative, referencing the two state owned parcels on Rt. 95. He discussed the project. He noted they will be meeting with the Conservation Commission tomorrow. He discussed the many benefits to the project, highlighting tax revenue. He introduced Paul Godfrey.

Mr. Godfrey introduced team members and noted he will be providing updated information regarding the prime wetland boundaries. He noted more areas of developable land. He discussed the RFP and noted the benefits of a strong buyer. He presented a series of slides of prime wetlands and explained them. He noted mapping from different years and different methods of gathering information. He discussed the next steps in the process, working with Conservation and DES.

Sel. Hansen asked if this shows a reduction of buffer and the answer was no, it remains as required.

TM Sullivan noted that Conservation was looking forward to working with them and a possible concern about GIS mapping.

2. Kristi Pulliam, Finance Director
  - a Monthly Financials

Dir. Pulliam noted the reports are up on the website. She noted this is the sixth report of 2022 and the target is 50%. She discussed the June revenue retails are YTD \$3,876,320 and the June amount was \$769,122. She discussed the 2022 revenue is higher than 2021 by \$54,439. The most noticeable difference here is in Parking Lot Revenue, which is higher than 2021 by \$74,225. She explained a slide showing 2021 revenue compared to 2022.

She discussed the expense side, noting we have spent \$16,145,132 and have open purchase orders totaling \$649,791. These figures include amounts spent related to warrant articles. We are under budget by \$1,495,680 or 5.31%. She noted all departments are under budget and offered a slide of the breakdown. She noted we continue to watch utility, gasoline, and diesel costs and 2022 continues to run higher than 2021 in most areas. She discussed that we have reopened state fuel accounts and are monitoring those costs.

She discussed funds outside of the General Fund, and listed amounts of each, noting grants at \$105,378 in revenue & \$333,711 in expenditures.

Sel. Sawyer asked if parking revenues includes parking tickets. Dir. Pulliam answered it is just the lots.

Sel. Rage asked what are the expenditures for the grants that totaled the \$333,711. Dir. Pulliam discussed the ARPA money expenditures noting the piece of equipment at the treatment plant and the DOJ grant, the additional sergeant at the police department.

## VII. Town Manager's Report

1. The Recreation building continues to progress well, with weekly meetings held.
2. On Saturday, August 6<sup>th</sup>, there will be a rededication at the Marine Memorial.
3. We have started to see an increase in Covid infections with employees, particularly DPW. TM Sullivan asked the board for direction for newer employees who have not accrued sick time, to be able to go into arrears for this situation.

Sel. Sawyer referenced someone who had done that and left employment and asked will there be a cap on this. TM Sullivan noted five days, which is current protocol for returning to work.

Sel. Rage noted he is ok with that.

Sel. Hansen asked about submitting test results. TM Sullivan noted we have not done that, explaining home testing, and trusting employees. Sel. Hansen noted the good incentive to stay home and be safe if you will not lose wages.

Sel. Sawyer MOTIONED to APPROVE to Allow Employees to use up to Five Days of Sick Time, for new employees who do not have time on the books, for Covid related illness, SECONDED by Sel. Hansen. VOTE: 4-0-0

4. We are bringing a resident request to the board. There is a family event on August 6<sup>th</sup>, and they are asking for family members to be able to park on the street for the one-time event.

Sel. Sawyer referenced the request previously for Green Street, noting a Pandora's box situation. There was general discussion on what was done previously.

There was no motion to approve.

5. There is still a difficulty in attracting candidates for open positions. TM Sullivan asked the board for direction on sign-on bonuses.

TM Sullivan discussed what we are currently doing to advertise.

Sel. Sawyer asked where that would put us with union contracts. TM Sullivan noted if the board wishes to pursue, it would be run through legal. He discussed possible impacts.

Sel. Sawyer noted he does not oppose but wondering about legality and where the funding would come from.

Sel. Rage also asked about the money. TM Sullivan noted the gaps of funding where the position is not filled. He noted many questions needing to be answered and mentioned the frustration of current employees where there is not enough help.

Sel. Rage noted liking the idea of incentives if an employee brings someone in.

TM Sullivan asked about a range.

Sel. Sawyer noted like Sheriff's department, \$3000.00.

Sel. Hansen noted the referrals would be different, like \$500.00 and that both scenarios should have stipulations. There was general discussion.

TM Sullivan noted he is hearing consensus that the board would like to pursue further and work out the details. There was general discussion on the detriment of not having enough employees.

6. We have been informed by the Town Clerk Shirley Doheny of a new RSA on storing records with them having sole access. That has been established.
7. We have resident requesting additional parking in the Church St. pay lot. TM Sullivan is bringing the request to the board but is unsure the need is there.

There was general discussion on the parking situation at the Church St. lot. Consensus was to leave as it is.

8. TM Sullivan discussed he would like the board to consider charging for beach parking resident stickers.

Sel. Sawyer asked if the stickers would be available to non-residents and the answer was no.

Sel. Hansen asked the number of stickers, and the answer was we order 22,000 stickers per year.

Sel. Bridle asked about the dump sticker and the answer was that currently the same sticker does both.

Sel. Sawyer noted he would rather see us work on revenue from the lots than hit taxpayers.

Sel. Bridle discussed vehicles that are left on side streets. Sel. Sawyer discussed enforcement.

Sel. Hansen discussed the cost of the stickers, the recreation scholarship stickers, and getting a ticket for a misplaced sticker. She noted having to pay for enforcement and noted maybe charging a smaller amount and increase incrementally.

Sel. Rage noted we already tax people a lot here and this is another tax, and he doesn't think we should do that.

Sel. Sawyer asked when this would go into place and the answer was next year. He suggested to revisit at the end of summer after seeing what transpires for this year. Sel. Hansen asked what next year means and TM Sullivan noted the stickers are printed for the year and he would like to see it for 2023. He discussed the challenges of the situation and finding revenue.

Sel. Sawyer noted maybe it is time for another parking study. Sel. Rage discussed the possibility of a parking garage.

Sel. Hansen asked what the last available date is to spend ARPA money. TM Sullivan noted he will check on that and discussed everything must be related to COVID in order to expend those funds.

VIII. Old Business

None

IX. New Business

1. High Street Cemetery Report

TM Sullivan noted they have copies of the report in their packets. He highlighted the great job the co-superintendents are doing over there. He noted pipe damage that they have been repairing and noted road repairs will be needed in the future. He noted other miscellaneous items in the report.

Sel. Bridle noted we should start looking at a wall for cremations.

TM Sullivan discussed a cemetery design and expounded on possibilities.

2. Purchasing Policy

TM Sullivan discussed the rewriting of the purchasing policy. He discussed the policy that is currently in place and noted it is a lot of bureaucratic paperwork for nothing. He discussed the big items in the proposed changes to the policy and gave an overview.

Sel. Hansen asked if it comes to the board over \$50,000.00. TM Sullivan reiterated the town manager authority, noting the will of town meeting, and it will come to them if unusual, noting this is day to day stuff.

Sel. Hansen noted unless a surprise purchase. TM Sullivan noted he can't purchase anything that does not have authorization. He gave examples of what would come to them.

Sel. Bridle asked about an example and TM Sullivan explained. There was general discussion on bids.

Sel. Sawyer noted he does not have a problem if we continue to seek competitive bidding.

There was further general discussion on the stipulations of the policy.

Consensus was to take another look and discuss at the next meeting.

3. Labrador Lane Full Bond Release \$73,747.68

TM Sullivan noted the project is complete.

Sel. Hansen asked for further information on the process and TM Sullivan explained.

Sel. Bridle MOTIONED to APPROVE the Labrador Lane Full Bond Release \$73,747.68, SECONDED by Sel. Sawyer. VOTE: 4-0-0

Sel. Bridle asked if Labrador Lane is now a town road and TM Sullivan noted he will check.

4. Approval to purchase check valves for the High Street East pump station from the Wastewater System Development Charge account at a cost of \$8,043.03

TM Sullivan discussed the purchase and the situation of the current original valves.

Sel. Sawyer MOTIONED to APPROVE the Approval to purchase check valves for the High Street East pump station from the Wastewater System Development Charge account at a cost of \$8,043.03 plus shipping costs, to be reimbursed by Rye's requirement to pay a portion of the cost, SECONDED by Sel. Bridle. VOTE: 4-0-0

#### X. Closing Comments

Sel. Hansen discussed the newspaper clipping received from Al Casassa from 1949. She asked about a name for the new Rec. building, and it will be told later.

#### XI. Adjournment

Sel. Rage MOTIONED to adjourn the meeting at 8:02, SECONDED by Sel. Hansen.

VOTE: 4-0-0

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Charles Rage, Vice Chairman