

Board of Selectmen
Meeting Minutes
November 10, 2021

Present: James C. Bailey, Chairman; Meleny Nagy, Selectwoman; Iris Campbell, Selectwoman; Laura Buono, Town Administrator.

In Attendance: Sara Edie, Riche' Colcombe, Brett Taber, Melissa Taber, Dave Lewis, Peter Mellen, Leigh Bosse, Mary Morehouse Rogers.

Chairman Bailey called the meeting to order at 6:00 p.m.

1. **OPEN SESSION**

There was no public comment during Open Session.

2. **PUBLIC HEARING: ACCPETANCE OF ARPA (AMERICAN RESCUE PLAN ACT) FUNDS**

Chairman Bailey opened the Public Hearing at 6:15 p.m. and asked Ms. Buono to explain a little about the ARPA Funds.

Ms. Buono began by saying that the Town of Hillsborough has been awarded \$628,347. of which half (\$314,173.63) was received this year and the other half will be received in 2022. She outlined what the American Rescue Plan Act was about as well as the fact that these funds are for the purpose of responding to the public health emergency with respect to COVID-19. The variety of ways the funds can be used was reviewed. She said the Board has not discussed how they would like to use these funds yet however, the funds cover costs incurred for eligible projects until December 31, 2024 and must be expended by December 31, 2026.

Chairman Bailey opened the hearing up for public comment.

Brett Taber – Mr. Taber asked what will be done with the funds if they aren't used and are returned to the State? Ms. Buono said she's not sure what the State will do with unused funds and said there were some communities who didn't accept the funds but she hasn't heard if those will be re-distributed or not. Mr. Taber said he is aware that there are some funds that DES has and said he would like to continue conversations with the Town for source water violations since the District wasn't awarded funds. Ms. Buono suggested the District also approach Hillsborough County since the Counties received large pots of money and would hopefully be willing to give some to the village districts who were not given any.

Riche' Colcombe – She asked if there are contingency hooks in the funding. Ms. Buono said she hasn't noticed any yet but she hasn't read it word for word. She said she has attended some trainings on what does and doesn't qualify and said there is a lot of information that came out all at once. She said she will be going to a roundtable of other communities to listen to what projects

they are considering funding. She mentioned that some communities are placing money toward revenue loss.

Sara Edie – Ms. Edie said she noticed sewer systems upgrades are on the Town's long-term projects but these are mentioned in a couple of areas in this information. Chairman Bailey said there are a lot of things to consider and the Board will look at them and prioritize them. Ms. Edie said she knows they have talked about looking into what the Town would need to upgrade the system so that we're ready.

There were two Sewer Commissioners at the hearing (Dave Lewis and Peter Mellen) and Chairman Bailey addressed them and said he understands that they have numbers they will be bringing before the Board at another meeting. Selectwoman Nagy asked them about capacity and said she heard that if a box store comes in there isn't enough capacity to service them and wants to know how to fix that. She then asked them to tell her about the Commission. Chairman Bailey said that since this is a public hearing about the ARPA Funds those can be answered when they come before the Selectboard at a future meeting. Chairman Bailey said he doesn't want to put them on the spot tonight. Mr. Mellen said they came tonight to listen in about the funding because they may have projects as well.

Leigh Bosse – Mr. Bosse said he's going to sound like a broken record but, permissible expenditures is economic development projects. He still feels there is no better project than the Town purchasing the small white house between the yellow building and the Church and make a parking lot out of it. He said he's been pushing that for two years and the expense of the lots was an issue but feels this is necessary to encourage the revitalization of the central business district. Mr. Bosse said if they don't do something more buildings will that turn into the old post office and vacant and it would only take probably a third of the ARPA money. He said he knows the owner is anxious to sell, although he doesn't speak for the owner, and would probably accept much less money than he was previously looking for.

Chairman Bailey closed the public hearing at 6:31 p.m.

Chairman Bailey moved to accept the American Rescue Plan Act Funds. Motion was seconded by Chairwoman Campbell. A vote was taken. Motion passed unanimously.

3. OTHER BUSINESS

Opening of LED Light Conversion Bids – The Board opened up bids for the conversion of the streetlights in Town to LED in order to forward them to the Energy Committee for review and a recommendation. Bids were received from four companies including Affinity LED Lights, Dalkia Energy Solutions, Efficient LED Lighting Systems, and Pine Ridge Technologies.

Granite State Telephone Agreement – Ms. Buono brought forward the written abatement agreement between the Town of Hillsborough and Granite State Telephone which was previously approved verbally by the Board. She said she needs the Board to authorize the Chairman to sign the written version. Selectwoman Nagy moved to authorize Chairman Bailey to sign the

agreement. Motion was seconded by Selectwoman Campbell. A vote was taken. Motion passed unanimously.

Salvage Materials at Library – Ms. Buono said that previously Dave Rogers had approached the Selectmen with regard to purchasing some scrap wood and materials that the Town has stored in the Library and it was approved by the Board at that time. She said that Mr. Rogers had not gone over to pull out exactly what he wanted until now and is still interested in purchasing a small amount of material. Ms. Buono showed the Board the photos. Mary Morehouse-Rogers spoke and said they would like to use these pieces of wood in their home which they will be working on and would like to offer \$100 for them. Chairman Bailey said he remembers the Board at that time had no issues with the Roger's purchasing some of the material since there is so much of it up there. Selectwoman Nagy said she feels it's not fair for these items to be sold to someone who has inside information that other members of the public don't have. She said there may be others who want to purchase some of these materials as well. Ms. Buono said she and the Director of the Library have already talked about having an open house to invite people in to see if some of this can be sold since the third floor needs to be cleaned out. Selectwoman Campbell agreed with Selectwoman Nagy that they shouldn't sell items to anyone until everyone has the same opportunity. Mrs. Rogers thanked the Board.

4. LONG TERM PROJECTS

Woods Woolen Mill – Ms. Buono reported that she received information from EPA that they plan on mobilizing some equipment to the site the week of November 15th and begin preparing the site for the building demolition. She said they anticipate that the demolition will take a few days and they will segregate and stabilize the debris before the winter weather comes.

Manahan Boat Dock – Riche' Colcombe asked the Board what the status was with regard to having the Boat Dock repaired. Chairman Bailey said they are still waiting for the water to go down since we've had quite a bit of rain lately.

5. MANIFEST MOTION

Chairman Bailey moved to authorize the Selectmen to sign check numbers 017132 - 017163 a/k/a Vouchers 44 & 45 in the amount of \$183,732.70 (includes 211 direct deposit stubs) and Accounts Payable Check numbers 026074 - 026150 a/k/a Voucher 30 in the amount of \$857,108.34. Motion was seconded by Selectwoman Nagy. A vote was taken. Motion passed unanimously.

** A/P Checks include payment to Hillsborough County in the amount of \$599,588.00

6. APPROVAL OF MINUTES

Chairman Bailey moved to approve the Selectmen's Minutes of October 27, 2021. Motion was seconded by Selectwoman Nagy. A vote was taken. Motion passed unanimously.

7. NONPUBLIC SESSION

Chairman Bailey moved to go into nonpublic session at 6:40 p.m. under RSA 91A:3II (c) reputation. Motion was seconded by Selectwoman Nagy. A roll call vote was taken. Chairman Bailey – yes; Selectwoman Nagy – yes; Selectwoman Campbell -yes. Motion passed unanimously.

In attendance: Chairman Bailey, Selectwoman Nagy, Selectwoman Campbell, Town Administrator Laura Buono.

Chairman Bailey brought forward a request from a resident to the other Board members with regard to information requested of them from the Town.

Chairman Bailey moved to come out of nonpublic session at 6:52 p.m. Motion was seconded by Selectwoman Campbell. A roll call vote was taken. Chairman Bailey – yes; Selectwoman Nagy – yes. Selectwoman Campbell – yes. Motion passed unanimously.

8. NONPUBLIC SESSION

Chairman Bailey moved to go into nonpublic session at 7:11 p.m. under RSA 91A:3II (a) personnel. Motion was seconded by Selectwoman Nagy. A roll call vote was taken. Chairman Bailey – yes; Selectwoman Nagy – yes; Selectwoman Campbell -yes. Motion passed unanimously.

In attendance: Chairman Bailey, Selectwoman Nagy, Selectwoman Campbell, Town Administrator Laura Buono, Ernie Butler.

Mr. Butler came before the Board to discuss his desire to promote an employee. The situation was discussed with the Board agreeing with the request in the end. Ms. Buono was asked to handle the details as discussed.

Chairman Bailey moved to come out of nonpublic session at 7:34 p.m. Motion was seconded by Selectwoman Campbell. A roll call vote was taken. Chairman Bailey – yes; Selectwoman Nagy – yes. Selectwoman Campbell – yes. Motion passed unanimously.

9. ADJOURNMENT

Chairman Bailey moved to adjourn at 7:37 p.m. Motion was seconded by Selectwoman Campbell. A vote was taken. Motion passed unanimously.

A true record.

Laura Buono
Town Administrator

Approved by:
Hillsborough Selectboard

Date: _____

James C. Bailey III, Chairman

Meleny Nagy, Selectwoman

Iris Campbell, Selectwoman