

**Board of Selectmen
Meeting Minutes
September 27, 2023**

Present: James Bailey – Chairman, Iris Campbell – Selectwoman, Richard Pelletier - Selectman and Laura Buono, Town Administrator.

In Attendance: Keith Cobbett, Brett Cherrington, Tim Lacy, Glen Dacy, Riche' Colcombe, Angela Poluchov, James Clough (JT),

Pledge of Allegiance was recited.

Meeting opened at 6:00 pm

1. OPEN SESSION

Zoning Violations: Keith Cobbett, Chairman of the Greater Hillsborough Chamber of Commerce sent a letter to the Code Enforcer on July 28th regarding some zoning violations for clean-up and properly maintaining commercial/residential zones. Mr. Cobbett asked if there were updates to that. One property noted in the letter was Associated Electric, to make it look less abandoned. She said she knew a letter had been sent to the Code Enforcement Officer but hadn't received a copy so she hadn't read it. Ms. Buono said she would follow up.

Solar Array: Brett Cherrington asked what the status is on the solar array. Ms. Buono said plans have been submitted to be approved. Chairman Bailey said the town only leases the property to the solar array. Mr. Cherrington asked if part of the contract was to be able to purchase a reduced rate for electricity. Chairman Bailey said no but there was to be a program for residents to join if they wanted to.

Plastic Recycling: Brett Cherrington asked what the status is regarding plastic recycling. Mr. Cherrington said he read an article that said it is still beneficial for a town to separate the plastic from the trash. Ms. Buono said at this time there is no market for plastic and glass and that the Solid Waste Advisory Board has been trying to get the word out on this in hopes folks would try to reduce their plastic waste.

Class VI Road to Town Road: Tim Lacy and Glen Dacy both live on the portion of Kimball Hill Road that is not maintained by the town. They asked what the process is to turn that section into a town-maintained road. Chairman Bailey said the Road Agent would be able to help them, typically you would need to bring the road up to town standards. Mr. Lacy said there are more homes being built on the unmaintained section and asked because of that would the town help bring the road up to standard? Chairman Bailey said it is still a private road. Ms. Buono said towns are not allowed to spend taxpayers' money on private roads. Chairman Bailey recommended when all the homes are built, then all split the cost of bringing the road up to town specifications. Ms. Buono said the town can also be petitioned for the Town Meeting to accept the road. Ms. Buono then confirmed the portion of Kimball Hill Road Mr. Lacy and Mr. Dacy are talking about is a Class VI Road, not a private road. All Class VI roads in Hillsborough are classified as fire lanes to allow for emergency vehicle passageways. Anyone who builds a home

on a Class VI Road must sign an agreement where The Town neither assumes responsibility for maintenance, including snow plowing, nor liability for any damages resulting from the use of Kimball Hill Road.

The road, however, would still need to be brought up to town specifications before the road can be accepted. It was recommended to sit down with the Road Agent.

2. SOLID WASTE ADVISORY BOARD – TRANSFER STATION STICKERS

SWAB is looking at a new sticker program for the Transfer Station to help limit out-of-town and out state users. SWAB is looking at annual stickers obtainable at the Town Clerk's office. Chairman Bailey said there were stickers at one time, he doesn't see the need for annual stickers, once you have a sticker and you live in town it should remain valid. Selectwoman Campbell asked if there will be different colored stickers for the other towns that use Hillsborough. It was answered that each town office would keep track of the stickers that have been passed out. Ms. Campbell also said there are people that will not place stickers on their cars, what can they do. It was explained that the sticker does not need to be on the vehicle, but visible in some way. Selectman Pelletier asked if there are enough staff for enforcement. Transfer Station Supervisor Angela Poluchov feels the current staff will be able to enforce the sticker and it is understood there will be stronger enforcement the first year until everyone has their sticker, signage will be added as well. SWAB feels the sticker program will provide helpful usage data. The Board is in favor of the new program which will begin in January 2024.

Ms. Buono said Brett Cherrington asked the Board about recycling plastic. It was explained that some towns still choose to recycle plastic, but the reality is there is no market for the material at this time.

3. YOUTH SERVICES

James Clough (JT), Youth Services, met with the Board. The Diversion Program in Youth Services has been moved to the Police Department. JT is proposing changing Youth Services to the Parks & Recreation Department, Project Genesis would continue. Some of the programs that will be offered will be for adults. The Board is in favor of this change, there needs to be more recreation offered to the town.

4. MEETING MINUTES

Chairman Bailey made a motion to approve the work session meeting minutes dated September 6, 2023. Selectman Pelletier seconded the motion, motion passed.

Chairman Bailey made a motion to approve meeting minutes dated September 13, 2023. Selectman Pelletier seconded the motion, motion passed.

5. MANIFEST

Chairman Bailey made a motion to authorize the Selectmen to sign manifests and order the Treasurer to sign Payroll Check numbers 18856 – 18881 a/k/a Vouchers 38,39,40 and Accounts Payable Check numbers 030242 – 030322 a/k/a Voucher 30 in the amount of \$378,662.71. Selectwoman Campbell seconded the motion, the motion passed unanimously.

6. COMMUNITY POWER

Selectman Pelletier updated the Board about the Community Power Committee. The Committee has had 4 scheduled meetings. They are working on a questionnaire. Two public hearings need to be scheduled, the first will take place in November. Selectman Pelletier mentioned that there were 4 scheduled meetings, the Standard Power representative has not shown up to (2) of the meetings, Selectman Pelletier is very concerned, the committee needs the representative to keep moving forward.

7. 2 BRIDGE STREET

The Board signed the purchase and sales agreement for 2 Bridge St. The owner is waiting for approval for a Community Development Block Grant.

8. TAX DEEDED PROPERTIES

Ms. Buono presented a list of tax deeded properties (mostly land) for the Board to consider selling by sealed bids. She said as is required; she has sent the list to the Conservation Commission for their review. The Selectmen's Office has a list of people who have asked to be notified when the tax lien properties go up for sale. The properties will have a minimum bid established for each property.

Riche' Colcombe asked at what point does the town take land for taxes. Ms. Buono said if the property is behind on paying taxes 3 years or more, they are eligible to be taken. She said there are situations where payment plans have been arranged to help homeowners keep their property.

9. WEBSITE FOCUS GROUP

Ms. Buono reported that there are a few individuals who would like to participate in the Website Focus Group. She said the group will have approximately 20 items to search for on the town website and will provide their feedback on their searches. With that, they can determine if the items are currently listed on the pages where members of the public may look and if not, adjustments can be made to make sure they are easier to locate.

10. BUDGET WORK SESSION SCHEDULE

Ms. Buono said, as has been done in the past, the budget work sessions will take place in November and December. She asked which day of the week would work best for the members, and that there would be at least four meetings. The Board members said they are flexible with regard to day of the week. Ms. Buono will work on a schedule.

11. PERAMBULATION OF THE TOWN LINE – HILLSBOROUGH/HENNIKER

Ms. Buono said she received a letter from the Town of Henniker requesting a perambulation of the town lines and asked the Board if any of them would like to participate in mid-October or early November. She said by law this is completed every (7) years to verify the boundary markers. None of the Board members are able to do the perambulation at this time. Ms. Buono will respond back to Henniker.

12. 45 SCHOOL STREET – ZONING VIOLATIONS

Ms. Buono reported that there is a status conference scheduled for September 28th for the property located at 45 School Street for zoning violations. She said currently the property owner, John Penny, has cleaned up the front of the property but the barn, however, is in worse condition than it was when this process began. Mr. Penny is insisting the repairs needed are cosmetic, but anyone can see that the barn is not structurally sound. She said Mr. Penny is claiming financial hardship with regard to repairing the barn but we are of the opinion the barn cannot be repaired in the condition it's in and needs to be torn down. The Judge may look at the Town to help with a solution. Ms. Buono said a cost was obtained early in the year to take the barn down for \$20,000 and if we pay for the tear down, we will place a lien on the property for that amount. The Board talked about the fact that Mr. Penny's noncooperation has resulted in high legal expenses and dragging it on any further would cost even more money. With that, they were in favor of taking the barn down and placing a lien on the property if the judge so chooses to allow that route.

13. MANAHAN BOAT DOCK

Ms. Buono said the water has been lowered and she is working on obtaining quotes for the already permitted work on the boat dock at Manahan. She said she has also been notified that Hillsborough was approved for the \$15,000 grant that she applied for, for this project. There are certain documents that need to be submitted in order for final approval.

14. POLICE DEPARTMENT

Ms. Buono reviewed an arrest that was made by the PD of a social media personality and some concerning safety issues that the person's followers have created. She also discussed some actions that were recommended as a result of the safety issues to which the Board was in favor of taking.

15. SIDEWALK PROJECT

Ms. Buono reported the property easements are being worked on for the sidewalk project. Letters have been sent to abutters and various meetings with property owners have taken place.

16. NH DOT – 10 YEAR PLAN

Riche' Colcombe reported that on October 10th at 7:00 pm there will be a public meeting held at the police department training room which is an overview of the NH DOT's 10-year plan for the public highways in Hillsborough County.

17. PARK BOARD – ALTERNATE

Selectwoman Campbell brought forward Pat Bradley's name as an interested person to serve as an alternate on the Parks Board. Chairman Bailey made a motion to appoint Pat Bradley as an alternate to the Park Board. Selectwoman Campbell seconded the motion, motion passed.

Meeting adjourned at 8:50 pm

A true record
Mary Whalen
Recording Secretary

Date: _____

Approved by:
Hillsborough Selectboard

James C. Bailey, III, Chairman

Iris Campbell, Selectwoman

Richard Pelletier, Selectman