

**Board of Selectmen
Meeting Minutes
June 8, 2022**

Present: Meleny Nagy, Selectwoman; Iris Campbell, Selectwoman; Laura Buono, Town Administrator.

In Attendance: Ernie Butler, Riche' Colcombe, Joyce Bosse.

Selectwoman Nagy called the meeting to order at 6:00 p.m.

1. OPEN SESSION

Riche' Colcombe – Ms. Colcombe thanked the Board for the letter that was sent to the School Board requesting to be reimbursed for the School Resource Officer and said it went well at their meeting.

Joyce Bosse – Ms. Bosse brought forward a complaint about the cable “fence” that runs around Grimes Field and said that she saw on Facebook that a child got scraped over this weekend on an area of the cable which needed repair (a photo was supplied). Ms. Buono said that was repaired this past Monday. Ms. Bosse also showed a photo of both the flagpole at Grimes Field and an area of the playground which has a white painted piece of plywood screwed on an area with “Do not Climb” on it. Ms. Bosse said she feels it’s time to have that piece of equipment fixed since it’s been awhile since the Lions Club had offered to help. She was told that it that has already been repaired and the new slide was already put in at the beginning of the season. The mirror that was taken out isn’t going to be replaced which is the reason for the painted piece of wood. Selectwoman Nagy suggested taking the wording off of the piece of wood. Ms. Bosse then suggested that a flag be placed on the pole since one hasn’t been flying there for a long time. Ms. Buono will speak with the parks department about the flag. Selectwoman Campbell added that HYAA put a memorial sign up on field #2 at Grimes in honor of Rory Bohanan

2. ERNIE BUTLER RE: DEPOT STREET

Ernie Butler came before the Board to speak to them about the angled parking on Depot Street. He explained that he would like to put the street back to the parallel parking that was there prior to the angled parking being put into place. He said he will be doing a project on some pipes and the catch basin in front of Tooky’s and the change would take place after the paving and when the new lines are painted. Mr. Butler said he spoke with the owner of Tooky Mills who wanted the Town to dig on the other side of the road instead but Mr. Butler said there are monitoring wells on that side. Mr. Butler said there will be about three less parking spots on that side once the conversion is done. He also said the rescue squad come up the other end of the road because of how tight it is with the angled parking. This was discussed. Selectwoman Campbell said she hasn’t liked the angled parking since it’s been put in because it’s very tight in that area and people will park extended cab trucks on the right side which stick out too far. It was suggested that perhaps simply placing a sign that says “compact cars only” may be a solution. Selectwoman Nagy explained the meeting the Board had with the Sewer Commissioners to Mr. Butler and said if he is working where there are sewer lines he may want to check with that department to see if some need replacing. He said the sewer lines are beyond where he will be working. Both Selectwoman Nagy and Selectwoman Campbell were comfortable with Mr. Butler’s plan to put the parking back to

parallel parking where the newer angled spots are located. Selectwoman Nagy moved to approve the parking plan as presented by Mr. Butler. Motion was seconded by Selectwoman Campbell. A vote was taken. Motion passed unanimously.

3. OTHER BUSINESS

ARPA Funds Discussion – Ms. Buono said she would like the Board to consider building a new Town Office Building with the ARPA (American Rescue Plan Act) Funds in order to create a more usable space and to be able to serve the community in a more efficient and safe manner. She pointed out that this is a project that is on the Selectmen's Long-term Project List as well. Ms. Buono said that during COVID they were unable to provide indoor customer service and although we used the outside windows as service windows, they were not built for that and customers had to stand outside without protection from the elements (rain, cold, extreme heat, etc.). Once we opened the building back up, we marked the main floor for social distancing but it is a struggle to efficiently provide distancing when there are people who want to go to various offices. A discussion ensued with regard to the need for common meeting room space, perhaps with room dividers, as well as updated technology for the purpose of being able to easily utilize meeting platforms. The Board was in favor of moving forward with this idea.

Boston Post Cane Presentation – Ms. Buono said that Gil Shattuck would like to postpone the presentation of his cane until August due to a trip he and his family will be taking but Hope Thomas will still be presented with hers on Saturday, June 18th at 11:00 at the Library.

Butler Park – Ms. Buono said she spoke with Scott Yeaton about the fountain in Butler Park and there is a backflow that needs to be installed in order for the water department to allow for it to be used. The extent of the work to install that isn't something that has been discussed so it's unclear to her as to what the job requires.

Christian Petersen – Mr. Petersen's realtor contacted us with regard to their property located on Red Fox Crossing. When they purchased the property in 2007, there was a mistake made by the Town in that only one out of three of the tracts that were listed on the deed were put into the Petersen's name. The other two remained in Deutsche Banks name who were the previous owners. In 2009 those two tracts were taken by the Town for non-payment of taxes by Deutsche Bank and in 2019 they were merged with two other town-owned parcels so that they could be sold as a larger lot. Due to the fact that the other two parcels they were merged with couldn't be sold until 2020 at the earliest, this merged piece was not part of the 2019 auction. In order to deed back the two tracts that should have been listed as part of the Petersen property, we would need to go before the Planning Board to subdivide the lots and Ms. Buono noted that the Petersen's are anxious to get their property on the market and are asking about a solution. She said in the past, abutters were given the option to purchase town-owned land next to theirs for a minimum of \$500 per lot but they had to be merged with their property and suggested that would be a good solution in this case. The Board discussed this and felt that if the Petersen's can wait for the lots to be subdivided, that would be their preference. Ms. Buono will speak with them about subdivision.

Center Cemetery – Selectwoman Campbell said the new sign for the Center Cemetery depicting it as a historic location has been put up and is set into a piece of granite that the Town had at the Highway Department.

School Resource Officer – Ms. Buono reported that the School Board approved our request for reimbursement for the School Resource Officer so the total will be calculated and sent to Supt. Parenteau.

Welcome Signs – Selectwoman Nagy asked Riche' Colcombe if she had discussed the Welcome to Hillsborough signs with the Chamber with regard to adding some flowers/plants under them. Ms. Colcombe said she hadn't brought it up to the Chamber and added that they really don't have the money to do something at this time and suggested that maybe the 250th Committee could donate toward the project. A brief discussion took place with regard to the ownership of the land the signs were on and all were in agreement that they are most likely on state-owned land. Selectwoman Nagy talked about variegated hostas and said they would be a good choice since they add contrast and they wouldn't need a lot of upkeep.

4. MANIFEST MOTION

Selectwoman Nagy moved to authorize the Selectmen to sign check numbers 017593 – 017624 a/k/a Vouchers 22 & 23 in the amount of \$183,719.92 (includes 207 direct deposit stubs) and Accounts Payable Check numbers 027265 - 027363 a/k/a Voucher 25 in the amount of \$1,099,011.32. Motion was seconded by Selectwoman Campbell. A vote was taken. Motion passed unanimously.

**A/P Checks include payment to HDSD in the amount of \$839,113.78

5. CONSENT AGENDA

Selectwoman Nagy moved to approve the Consent Agenda for June 8, 2022. Motion was seconded by Selectwoman Campbell. A vote was taken. Motion passed unanimously.

- Welfare Lien Discharges – Map 14 Lot 422; Map 14 Lot 477; Map 16 Lot 30
- Cemetery Deed – Tibbetts (Maple Avenue Ash Garden)
- Intent to Cut – Map 7 Lot 119 Windsor Road
- Veterans' Tax Credit – Map 12 Lot 11

6. APPROVAL OF MEETING MINUTES

Selectwoman Nagy moved to approve the Selectmen's Minutes of May 25, 2022. Motion was seconded by Selectwoman Campbell. A vote was taken. Motion passed unanimously.

8. ADJOURNMENT

Selectwoman Nagy moved to adjourn at 7:39 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