



Town of Hudson - Board of Selectmen

Minutes – September 14, 2020

Remote via Zoom 7:00 PM

1. **Call to Order:**

Present were Mr. Durant, Mr. Duplisea, Mr. Lucy, Mr. Parent, Mr. Quinn and Mr. Moses. Also present were Atty. Cipriano and Ms. Santos.

2. **Minutes to be Approved:**

- a) Public session minutes – August 24, 2020.

On a motion by Mr. Duplisea, seconded by Mr. Parent, the Board voted 5-0 by roll call to approve the public session minutes of August 24, 2020.

3. **Meetings and Public Hearings - 7:00 PM:**

- a) Selectmen to hold a joint meeting with members of the School Committee to appoint a new member for a term to expire on May 10, 2021.

Present were Mr. Smith, Mr. Maston, Mr. McDowell, Ms. Ryan, Mr. Tracy and Ms. Dufour. There were five candidates for the position and each one gave a brief statement. Ms. Elizabeth Hallsworth was appointed by a margin of 6-4.

4. **Personnel:**

- a) Selectmen to note the resignation of Rebecca Weksner from the School Committee, effective August 22, 2020.

On a motion by Mr. Parent, seconded by Mr. Duplisea, the Board voted 5-0 by roll call to note the resignation of Rebecca Weksner from the School Committee, effective August 22, 2020.

- b) Selectmen to consider approving the appointment of Linda Fahey as a Temporary Part-Time employee in the Treasurer/Collector Office, effective September 15, 2020 at a rate of \$18.71 per hour.

On a motion by Mr. Parent, seconded by Mr. Duplisea, the Board voted 5-0 by roll call to approve the appointment of Linda Fahey as a Temporary Part-Time employee in the Treasurer/Collector Office, effective September 15, 2020 at a rate of \$18.71 per hour.

- c) Selectmen to consider approval of a conditional appointment of Christopher Davis as Full Time Police Officer Step P-1, effective September 28, 2020.

This item was withdrawn.

- d) Selectmen to consider approval of a conditional appointment of Michael Doran as Full Time Police Officer Step P-1, effective September 28, 2020.

On a motion by Mr. Duplisea, seconded by Mr. Durant, the Board voted 5-0 by roll call to approve the conditional appointment of Michael Doran as Full Time Police Officer Step P-1, effective September 28, 2020.

- e) Selectmen to consider approving the appointment of Maria Markonidis to serve as the Real Estate representative to the Silas Felton Historic District Commission, term to expire December 31, 2021.

On a motion by Mr. Duplisea, seconded by Mr. Parent, the Board voted 5-0 to approve a) the appointment of Maria Markonidis to serve as the Real Estate representative to the Silas Felton Historic District Commission, term to expire December 31, 2021.

- f) Selectmen to consider approval of the promotion of Joe Janeiro from W-2 Maintenance Laborer to W-4 Water Treatment Maintenance Mechanic for the Department of Public Works, effective September 15, 2020.

On a motion by Mr. Duplisea, seconded by Mr. Durant, the Board voted 5-0 by roll call to approve the promotion of Joe Janeiro from W-2 Maintenance Laborer to W-4 Water Treatment Maintenance Mechanic for the Department of Public Works, effective September 15, 2020.

- g) Selectmen to consider approval of the promotion of Mark Griffin from W-4 Mechanic to W-7 Chief Mechanic for the Department of Public Works, effective September 15, 2020.

On a motion by Mr. Duplisea, seconded by Mr. Durant, the Board voted 5-0 by roll call to approve the promotion of Mark Griffin from W-4 Mechanic to W-7 Chief Mechanic for the Department of Public Works, effective September 15, 2020.

- h) Selectmen to consider approval of the promotion of Sergeant Chad Perry to Police Captain for the Hudson Police Department at a grade M9, step 6, effective September 18, 2020.

On a motion by Mr. Quinn, seconded by Mr. Duplisea, the Board voted 5-0 by roll call to approve the promotion of Sergeant Chad Perry to Police Captain for the Hudson Police Department at a grade M9, step 6, effective September 18, 2020.

- i) Selectmen to consider appointing Kristina Johnson as Hudson's Representative to the Metropolitan Area Planning Council (MAPC), effective through September 15, 2023 and Hudson's Representative to the MWRTA.

On a motion by Mr. Parent, seconded by Mr. Duplisea, the Board voted 5-0 by roll call to appoint Kristina Johnson as Hudson's representative to the Metropolitan Area Planning Council, effective through September 15, 2023.

On a motion by Mr. Parent, seconded by Mr. Duplisea, the Board voted 5-0 by roll call to appoint Kristina Johnson as Hudson representative to the MWRTA.

- j) Selectmen to note the resignation of Matt Olson as Call Firefighter.

On a motion by Mr. Duplisea, seconded by Mr. Parent, the Board voted 5-0 by roll call to note the resignation of Matt Olson as Call Firefighter.

- k) Selectmen to note the retirement of Thomas Moses as Executive Assistant, effective May 7, 2021.

On a motion by Mr. Durant, seconded by Mr. Parent, the Board voted 4-0-1 by roll call to note the retirement of Thomas Moses as Executive Assistant, effective May 7, 2021. Mr. Lucy opposed.

5. Contracts:

- a) Selectmen to consider approval and authorization to sign a Cleaning Services Contract with New England Cleaning Systems in the amount of \$75,000 for cleaning Town Hall, Library, Senior Center and the Police/DPW Headquarters for September 15, 2020 through June 30, 2021.

On a motion by Mr. Duplisea, seconded by Mr. Durant, the Board voted 5-0 by roll call to approve and authorize the signing of a Cleaning Services Contract with New England Cleaning Systems in the amount of \$75,000 for cleaning Town Hall, Library, Senior Center and the Police/DPW Headquarters for September 15, 2020 through June 30, 2021.

6. General:

- a) Selectmen to consider accepting a grant from the Massachusetts Department of Public Health's Public Health Emergency Preparedness Program for the Board of Health in the amount of \$1237.20 to be used to support cell phone and data service.

On a motion by Mr. Duplisea, seconded by Mr. Durant, the Board voted 5-0 to accept a grant from the Massachusetts Department of Public Health's Public Health Emergency Preparedness Program for the Board of Health in the amount of \$1237.20 to be used to support cell phone and data service.

- b) Selectmen to consider voting in favor of continuing with the Armory acquisition.

Present to represent the Hudson Cultural Alliance were Mr. Horvitz and Mr. Desmond. Mr. Lucy began by asking whether the HCA has the money on hand for the purchase of the Armory, which is \$230,000. He also asked if they have additional monies on hand to cover the operating costs of the building until the project gets financed. Mr. Horvitz said no to both questions. He explained that when they last met with the Board was to initiate the price discovery process as well as to get further BOS support. They now have a price and a target to shoot at and feel now they can begin their fundraising efforts.

Mr. Parent cited some concerns regarding this project. He noted that there are no more extension available from DCAMM. He questioned whether there is a high degree of confidence that this project will be completed in a timely manner. He fears that this is a financial risk for the Town as the Town will purchase this (with HCA funds) and be responsible for it. He stated that HCA could potentially walk away if they find they cannot get the program going the Town is left with the property. Mr. Parent stated that he can not vote to support going forward.

Mr. Lucy stated that one of the biggest issues is that the building cannot be destroyed and the windows cannot be replaced. He also stated that he is not convinced that this will not cost tax payers anything. Mr. Lucy also stated that he also cannot support this.

Mr. Horvitz explained that they cannot go forward without the Board's support. He stated that if they end up not being able to raise the \$230K that the Board can pull the plug of the project and will have not lost anything. Mr. Moses agreed that up until the date of closing the Town can simply walk away.

Mr. Durant stated that he has major concerns with regards to the financial viability of the project. He wanted to make it very clear that by voting to move forward tonight does not mean that he will ultimately support the acquisition.

On a motion by Mr. Duplisea, seconded by Mr. Quinn, the Board voted 3-1-1 by roll call vote to move forward with the acquisition of the Armory. Mr. Lucy opposes. Mr. Parent abstained.

- c) Selectmen to meet with Gabe Singal of Cannect Wellness to consider authorizing the Executive Assistant to draft a Community Host Agreement for a marijuana facility located at 7 Kane Industrial Drive.

Present was Mr. Singal, CEO of Cannect Wellness. He is before the Board to request a Community Host Agreement for a cannabis cultivation and manufacturing business located at 7 Kane Industrial Drive. There will be no retail at this location therefore there will not be a great increase in traffic at this location. He briefly explained his business and business model.

Mr. Lucy asked whether this is the second cannabis manufacturer on Kane Industrial Drive. Mr. Moses explained there are two others.

On a motion by Mr. Lucy, seconded by Mr. Parent, the Board voted 5-0 by roll call to begin negotiations for a Community Host Agreement with Gabe Singal of Connect Wellness at 7 Kane Industrial Drive.

- d) Selectmen to consider amending the Traffic Rules & Regulations Under Article IV Stopping, Standing, and Parking, Section 2: No Parking Zones

DELETE the following Felton Street westerly side from Main Street northerly to the intersection of Russell Street and AD the following Felton Street westerly from approximately 7 Felton Street to the intersection of Russell Street.

Under Article IV Stopping, Standing, and Parking, Section 12:

Additional Limited Duration Parking Zones, ADD the following Felton Street – the five spaces on the westerly side northerly from Main Street to approximately 7 Felton Street.

On a motion by Mr. Durant, seconded by Mr. Duplisea, the Board voted 5-0 by roll call to amend the traffic rules & regulations under Article IV (as seen above).

- e) Selectmen to consider amending the Traffic Rules & Regulations Under Article IV Stopping, Standing, and Parking, Section 13 Handicapped Parking.

ADD Handicapped Parking Space immediately in front of 45 Main Street, Southerly side.

On a motion by Mr. Durant, seconded by Mr. Duplisea, the Board voted 5-0 by roll call to amend the traffic rules & regulations under Article IV (as seen above).

7. Citizens' Issues:

- a) Selectmen to discuss the creation of an Equity and Inclusion Committee in Town with Tina Grosowsky and Jane Chertoff.

Ms. Grosowsky, 425 Main Street addressed the Board. She briefly explained that she has been working this past year learning about racism. She would like to explore these ideas in the Town to help promote antiracist ideas. She stated that they are not looking to form an official committee in Town. They are simply asking for the Board's support. Ms. Chertoff explained that the committee would be open to anyone in the community that is interested. She briefly went through a list of what programs they are proposing. They asked if one of the Board members would be willing to join the committee.

8. Town Issues:

Mr. Quinn asked whether a retired police officer can work details after the age of 65. Mr. Moses stated they cannot without a special act, which the Town has not done before. Mr. Quinn would like to see more retired officers from Town instead of out of Town officers.

Mr. Duplisea asked for an update on the rotary paving. Mr. Ryder stated that the paving will begin tomorrow (09/15) morning and once this is complete they will move on to River Street.

Mr. Duplisea noted that the recent 911 ceremony at the Fire Department was great.

Mr. Lucy shared an idea with regard to the next Executive Assistant search. He believes the chair of the BOS should create a search committee. Mr. Lucy would like to move forward at the Board's next meeting to discuss how to go forward. Mr. Parent would like to see the search committee be 7 people. He suggested five of them be designated by the BOS, made up of the BOS Chair, a member of the School Committee, Finance Committee, Planning Board and Zoning Board (or designee) as well as two at large members. He would also like to hire a municipal employee hiring consultant. Mr. Lucy agreed.

Mr. Durant suggested that the Board begin discussion regarding the logistics for November Town Meeting.

9. Correspondence to be Noted by Clerk:

On a motion by Mr. Quinn, seconded by Mr. Duplisea, the Board voted 5-0 by roll call to note the correspondence of its meeting of September 14, 2020.

10. Executive Session:

11. Adjourn:

On a motion by Mr. Durant, seconded by Mr. Lucy, the Board voted 5-0 by roll call vote to adjourn its meeting of September 14, 2020 at 9:00 PM.

Document List – September 14, 2020

Document	Location
Public session minutes – August 24, 2020	BOS Office
School Committee interest cards	BOS Office
Personnel memos: Weksner, Fahey, Davis, Doran, Markonidis, Janiero, Griffin, Perry, Johnson, Moses	BOS Office
Contract documents – New England Cleaning Solutions	BOS Office
Public health emergency preparedness grant	BOS Office
Traffic rules & regulations memos	BOS Office
Letter from Commonwealth regarding search for lease space.	BOS Office
Level 2 Drought flyer	BOS Office
Massachusetts Drought Management Plan	BOS Office
GZA Environmental drinking well water analysis for various properties in Hudson / Stow	BOS Office
Fire leave report for August 2020	BOS Office
Draft November 16, 2020 Special Town Meeting Warrant	BOS Office
August 2020 Ridership Report for Route 15 MWRTA	BOS Office
Water/Sewer Billing Method Debate Memo	BOS Office