

**Town of Hooksett
Town Council Meeting Minutes
Wednesday, March 24, 2021**

1 The Hooksett Town Council met on Wednesday, March 24, 2021 at 5:30 in the Hooksett Municipal
2 Building.

3
4 **CALL TO ORDER**

5 Chair Sullivan called the meeting of 24 Mar 2021 to order at 5:30 pm.

6
7 **PROOF OF POSTING**

8 Human Resource Coordinator Donna Fitzpatrick provided proof of posting.

9
10 **ROLL CALL-ATTENDANCE**

11 **In Attendance:** Councilor James Sullivan, Councilor Clifford Jones (via Zoom), Councilor John Durand,
12 Councilor Randall Lapierre, Councilor David Boutin, Councilor Timothy Tsantoulis, Councilor Clark
13 Karolian

14
15 Councilor Roger Duhaime arrived at 5:33 pm.

16 Councilor Alex Walczyk arrived at 5:33 pm.

17
18 **NON-PUBLIC SESSION NH RSA 91-A:3 II (A)**

19
20 ***Chair Sullivan motioned to enter non-public session at 5:30 pm under the provisions of RSA 91-***
21 ***A:3, II (a). D. Boutin seconded the motion.***

22
23 RSA 91-A:3, II (a) *The dismissal, promotion, or compensation of any public employee or the disciplining*
24 *of such employee, or the investigation of any charges against him or her, **unless** the employee affected*
25 *(1) has a right to a public meeting, and (2) requests that the meeting be open, in which case the*
26 *request shall be granted.*

27
28 **Roll Call Vote #2**

29 ***R. Duhaime Not present. Arrived at 5:33 pm***

30 ***J Durand Aye***

31 ***C. Jones Aye***

32 ***R. Lapierre Aye***

33 ***A. Walczyk Not present. Arrived at 5:33 pm.***

34 ***D. Boutin Aye***

35 ***C. Karolian Aye***

36 ***T. Tsantoulis Aye***

37 ***J. Sullivan Aye***

38 ***Voted in favor (7-0).***

39
40 ***Chair Sullivan motioned to leave non-public session and return to public session at***
41 ***6:14 pm. T. Tsantoulis seconded the motion.***

42
43 **Roll Call Vote #3**

44 ***D. Boutin Aye***

45 ***C. Jones Aye***

46 ***A. Walczyk Aye***

TC MINUTES

03-24-2021

47 **J. Durand Aye**
48 **R. Duhaime Aye**
49 **T. Tsantoulis Aye**
50 **R. Lapierre Aye**
51 **C. Karolian Aye**
52 **J. Sullivan Aye**

53 **Voted unanimously in favor (9-0).**

54
55 **Chair Sullivan motioned to seal the minutes of the non-public session. T. Tsantoulis seconded**
56 **the motion.**

57
58 **Roll Call Vote #4**

59 **A. Walczyk Aye**
60 **R. Lapierre Aye**
61 **C. Jones Aye**
62 **R. Duhaime Aye**
63 **J. Durand Aye**
64 **C. Karolian Aye**
65 **T. Tsantoulis Aye**
66 **D. Boutin Aye**
67 **J. Sullivan Aye**

68 **Voted unanimously in favor (9-0).**

69
70 **PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE**

71 Chair Sullivan called for the Pledge of Allegiance.

72
73 **AGENDA OVERVIEW**

74 Chair Sullivan: We have a full agenda, with three scheduled appointments, numerous items of New
75 Business and several sets of minutes to review.

76
77 **PUBLIC HEARINGS**

78 None.

79
80 **SPECIAL RECOGNITION**

81
82 **Hooksett Municipal Employee - New Hires, Promotions and Resignations**

83
84 A. Garron: We welcome one new employee, Peter Miller, who is now the Public Works Assistant Crew
85 Chief for the Recycle & Transfer Division. Ian Tewksbury has been promoted from Firefighter A-EMT to
86 Administrative Captain – Fire Prevention.

87
88 Chair Sullivan: We welcome Mr. Miller and congratulate Mr. Tewksbury on his promotion.

89
90 D. Fitzpatrick: Peter Miller and Ian Tewksbury are here with us tonight.

91
92
93 A. Garron: We have one resignation to announce. Fire Chief James Burkush is leaving Hooksett as of
94 March 28, 2021, after five years as our Fire Chief. I thank him for his five years of service to the Town
95 of Hooksett.

96

97 Chair Sullivan: Best of luck to Chief Burkush, who came to us from Manchester. We thank you for your
98 five years of service. Two weeks ago, we announced the selection of our new Fire Chief. I thank Chief
99 Burkush for his kindness and friendship to me as well.

100
~~101~~ **SCHEDULED APPOINTMENTS**

103 **Gianna Valentino - Town Council Seat**

104
105 Gianna Valentino, 125 Chester Turnpike: I mailed my official grievance to all of you. I am here to
106 discuss some difficulties during the campaign period for the District 1 seat. I am not a sore loser. It
107 bothers me that the person I ran against broke campaign laws. This is about principles; it is not
108 personal. I have nothing against Mr. Tsantoulis. I had a good time running, I got 25% of the vote, and I
109 feel good. However, it feels like someone was cheating here. Campaign signs for Mr. Tsantoulis were
110 nailed to utility poles on February 14th. This is a violation of RSA 664.17. I contacted Janet Bouchard
111 and Mr. Tsantoulis. It took him more than two days to remove the signs. Fliers were mailed out which
112 did not have his address on them, a violation of RSA 664.14. I made a mistake in my grievance report
113 because I said I had brought this up to him, but I had not. Then, someone told me that Mr. Tsantoulis
114 had put fliers on mailboxes, which is illegal unless using postage. Mr. Tsantoulis saved a lot of money
115 on postage. One violation is a mistake; three is not a mistake. I am concerned about the future. This
116 cheats me out of a really good loss. I wouldn't have won anyway, but this is not sending a good
117 message – that the sitting Vice Chair had three illegal campaign activities. Some of these issues have
118 been referred to the election unit of the DOJ. The Hooksett Police Department referred the use of
119 mailboxes to the postal inspector. If this is not addressed, it could encourage others to do it. Three
120 incidents is not a mistake. I am not asking to undo the election and I'm not asking Mr. Tsantoulis to step
121 down. I would like the Council to make a public statement about adhering to the law and/or, within the
122 Council, to reprimand him for breaking the law three times. It is important to say that anyone is
123 expected to adhere to election advertising laws.

124
125 Chair Sullivan: I would reference Section 3.2 in the Town Charter regarding qualifications for running for
126 Town Council and Section 3.13, which is about inquiries and investigations. I recommend that we put
127 this on the agenda for our next meeting.

128
129 T. Tsantoulis: I take full responsibility for placing material which may not have been in compliance.

130
131 D. Boutin: Mr. Chair, I fail to understand the necessity of taking this up again at the next meeting. Mr.
132 Tsantoulis has apologized and accepted responsibility. I ask the Chair to withdraw the notion of taking
133 this up at the next meeting. We did give Mrs. Valentino a fair and reasonable opportunity to present her
134 grievance to the Town Council, which is appropriate.

135
136 ***D. Boutin motioned to end this as of tonight.***

137
138 The motion was not seconded.

139
140 C. Karolian: What were the Charter references you mentioned, Mr. Chair?

141
142 Chair Sullivan: Sections 3.2 and 3.13

143
144 ***Chair Sullivan motioned that the Chair send a letter to Mr. Tsantoulis regarding his actions as a***
145 ***reprimand. Mr. Boutin seconded the motion.***

150 **Roll Call Vote #5**
151 **T. Tsantoulis Aye**
152 **C. Jones Aye**
153 **R. Duhaime Aye**
154 **A. Walczyk Abstained because his name was on the same ballot**
155 **R. Lapierre Nay**
156 **C. Karolian Aye**
157 **J. Durand Aye**
158 **D. Boutin Aye**
159 **J. Sullivan Aye**
160 **Motion carried (7-1)**

161
162 **Michelle Goodnow, Troy Laprise, and Karen Provost of Granite State YMCA / YMCA of Downtown**
163 **Manchester - Hooksett Day Camp Program**
164

165 A. Garron: This is the Granite State YMCA's third year running the Hooksett Day Camp Program.
166 Traditionally, we enter into an MOU with the YMCA, outlining the responsibilities of the Town, the
167 YMCA and Hooksett Memorial School, where the camp is held. Troy Laprise is the Executive Director
168 of the YMCA of Downtown Manchester. Michelle Goodnow is the Assistant Director and Karen Provost
169 will be running the day camp in Hooksett.

170
171 K. Provost: This is a nine-week camp, and Hooksett families have priority, being given an opportunity to
172 sign up before non-residents. We have a good sign-up already and are ahead of the final numbers from
173 last year. There is a \$30.00 registration fee and the weekly cost for Hooksett families is \$184.00. For
174 the second child from the same family, there is a \$25.00 discount. Non-residents pay \$204.00 per week
175 and have the same opportunity for a second child discount. To help needy families, because camp is
176 expensive, the Salvation Army is donating \$20,000.00 for scholarships. The Town gave us \$10,000 last
177 year for equipment and supplies.

178
179 Chair Sullivan: Thank you. Kudos to Mr. Winterton for doing the outreach for this. How many years
180 have you been running these day camps?

181
182 K. Provost: Summer camp was established at the YMCA. That was 100 years ago.

183
184 M. Goodnow: I have put together a list of COVID-19 regulations. Mr. Garron is distributing that now.

185
186 D. Boutin: Number 3 says parents must wear cloth masks for drop off and pick up. I think that is
187 unreasonable. Cloth masks are expensive. Can that be changed?

188
189 M. Goodnow: Yes, it can. That is an acceptable change.

190
191 D. Boutin: Can we get revised copies?

192
193 Chair Sullivan: We can get copies, and Mr. Garron can post this on the town website.

194
195 C. Karolian: Is there a cap on the number of children?

196
197 K. Provost: We can have about 150 campers. We had 85ish in 2019 and only about 40 last year, due to
198 COVID. We had only one incident last year because a camper's parents were exposed. We introduce

199 games to make distancing fun. On a national level, engineers were hired to create a field guide for
200 camps. It is 120 pages long and based on guidelines from around the country.

201
202 c. Karolian: The children do not have to be from Hooksett?

203
204 K. Provost: No, but Hooksett families have first priority, and the cost is less.

205
206 C. Karolian: This is \$30,000 of taxpayers' money.

207
208 A. Garron: Actually, \$20,000 is from the Salvation Army and is distributed via our Family Services
209 department.

210
211 T. Tsantoulis: Can you offer some enrollment comparisons?

212
213 K. Provost: I don't have that research. I know we started late the first year, and last year we had
214 COVID.

215
216 M. Goodnow: We have quite a few weeks with close to 60 children. As summer gets closer, we will see
217 enrollment grow. We will also be seeking out families with need, so I expect we will reach or exceed the
218 2019 numbers.

219
220 ***D. Boutin motioned to authorize the Town Administrator to sign the contract with Granite YMCA***
221 ***for the 2021 Summer Day Camp on behalf of the Council. T. Tsantoulis seconded the motion.***

222
223 **Roll Call Vote #6**

224 ***J. Durand Abstained because a family member works with the YMCA***

225 ***R. Lapierre Aye***

226 ***C. Karolian Abstained because he hasn't run the numbers***

227 ***D. Boutin Aye***

228 ***C. Jones Aye***

229 ***T. Tsantoulis Aye***

230 ***A. Walczyk Aye***

231 ***R. Duhaime Aye***

232 ***J. Sullivan Aye***

233 ***Voted in favor (7-0).***

234
235 **Matthew Barrett - Economic Development Advisory Committee - RSA 72:80 Commercial and**
236 **Industrial Construction Exemption**

237
238 ***Chair Sullivan motioned to remove this item, tabled on October 14, 2020, from the table. D.***
239 ***Boutin seconded the motion.***

240
241 **Roll Call Vote #7**

242 ***C. Jones Aye***

243 ***C. Karolian Aye***

244 ***R. Lapierre Aye***

245 ***R. Duhaime Aye***

246 ***A. Walczyk Aye***

247 ***J. Durand Aye***

248 **T. Tsantoulis Aye**

249 **D. Boutin Aye**

250 **J. Sullivan Aye**

251 **Voting unanimously in favor (9-0).**

252

253 N. Williams: RSA 72: 80-83 is an economic development tool for incentivizing new
254 construction/improvements in the Commercial and Industrial zones via a tax exemption. The statute
255 allows an exemption of up to 50% for up to ten years. EDAC is recommending an exemption of up to
256 25% for up to five years for new construction, renovations, additions, and improvements. The Town
257 Council specifies parcels to which this exemption applies, and EDAC has prepared a proposed list of
258 properties to include. These are listed in the Staff Report in your packets and are displayed on the
259 maps projected on the screen. One of the parcels, Map 13 Lot 73, needs to be removed from the list
260 because it is state-owned. The first four parcels on Map 49 are located off Londonderry Turnpike.
261 Those on Map 18 are a cluster of parcels off DW Highway in the area of Memorial School. Another
262 group is in the area of the dilapidated Animal Crackers property and the former Welcome Home Hotel.

263

264 M. Barrett: The application process includes coming back to the Town Council.

265

266 N. Williams: Applications must be submitted by December 31st of each year for the following year. The
267 review and decision must be completed by February 28th.

268

269 **R. Lapierre motioned to adopt the provisions of NH RSA 72: 80-83 – the Commercial and**
270 **Industrial Construction Property Tax incentive – for the following parcels of land: Map 49 Lot 1-**
271 **8; Map 49 Lot 2; Map 49 Lot 4; Map 49 Lot 48; Map 18 Lot 2; Map 18 Lot 44; Map 18 Lot 47; Map**
272 **18 Lot 48; Map 18 Lot 48-1; Map 18 Lot 49D; Map 14 Lot 18; Map 14 Lot 19; Map 25 Lot 80-3; Map**
273 **35 Lot 7; Map 41 Lot 10; and Map 44 Lot 38. This exemption shall require an application for**
274 **review and approval of the Town Council, with a recommendation by the Economic**
275 **Development Advisory Committee, and shall apply only for municipal and local school property**
276 **taxes assessed by the Town of Hooksett. This exemption shall apply only to those parcels of**
277 **land expressly listed in this motion, and furthermore shall apply only to those deemed either**
278 **commercial or industrial in nature by the designated Town zoning enforcement official. This**
279 **motion shall exempt any increases in real property taxable value as a result of new structures,**
280 **new additions, renovations, or improvements to existing structures up to 25% annually for a**
281 **period of time not to exceed five (5) years from the date of the application approval. No part of**
282 **this motion shall override or supersede the legal requirements of state statutes governing this**
283 **local tax exemption, under New Hampshire RSA 72: 80-83, which provides for the due process**
284 **and impartial review procedures required by both the applicant and the granting governing**
285 **body. Once enacted, this exemption shall remain in effect for a period of five (5) years, at which**
286 **time a motion to extend shall be required by the Town Council, if so desired. A. Walczyk**
287 **seconded the motion.**

288

289 D. Boutin: I am sympathetic to Councilor Lapierre's motion. My concern is listing the existing lots. Will
290 EDAC come back to the Council with additions? We should just adopt the RSA and ask Councilor
291 Lapierre to take the list of parcels out of his motion.

292

293 N. Williams: The Committee identified properties with barriers to development. They have been on the
294 market for many years.

295

296 M. Barrett: We don't want to give away tax revenue on highly valuable lots.

297

298 Chair Sullivan: What is the process for adding to this list?

299
300 N. Williams: It would be a motion and vote of the Town Council.
301
302 C. Karolian: This is commercial and industrial property, correct? This is a list of 17 properties without
303 addresses and locations. I don't have time to go into the tax map to look them up. It would be most
304 beneficial to have a map to look at, not rattling off a list of 17 in a motion without locations. It is difficult,
305 looking at a map to see the future of commercial and industrial property hopefully, being developed.
306
307 Chair Sullivan: Next time, a map should be included with the Staff Report.
308
309 C. Karolian: Did we go through the list?
310
311 Chair Sullivan: Yes.
312
313 T. Tsantoulis: Why was this tabled in October?
314
315 Chair Sullivan: Two members of EDAC owned two of the properties on the list. They recused
316 themselves from the second vote.
317
318 N. Williams: The Town Council may add or remove parcels.
319
320 **Roll Call Vote #8**
321 ***R. Lapierre Aye***
322 ***R. Duhaime Aye***
323 ***T. Tsantoulis Aye***
324 ***A. Walczyk Aye***
325 ***J. Durand Nay***
326 ***C. Jones Nay***
327 ***D. Boutin Aye***
328 ***C. Karolian Nay***
329 ***J. Sullivan Aye***
330 ***Voted in favor (6-3)***
331
332 Chair Sullivan: I would ask that we move up item 17.3 under New Business. Kathie Northrup, Chair of
333 the Heritage Commission, wants to comment on this.
334
335 R. Lapierre: I would ask that we move up item 17.7 after that.
336
337 **Lilac Bridge Memorial Landscaping – Approve of Award of Landscaping Contract to Blue**
338 **Ribbon Property Improvements for \$7,250 and to Fund the Project with Public Recreation**
339 **Facilities Impact Fee funds.**
340
341 A. Garron: This is an ongoing project. Town Engineer Bruce Thomas has identified areas for
342 monuments and landscaping. There have been some concerns about how the landscaping will take
343 place and the pathway for vehicles.
344
345 B. Thomas: In planning for landscaping this area, I was told by a contractor this it should cost less than
346 \$10,000. I requested unit-based quotes from five (5) vendors and two of them responded. Since
347 preparing the Staff Report, I spoke with some residents in the area and with Kathie Northrup. Their

348 input was very helpful. I learned that people hang out under the bridge and illicit activities occur. It was
349 suggested that I put the curbing back in to deter cars parking down there. Kathie Northrup told me that
350 maintaining flower beds has been a problem in town, so I have eliminated the flower beds and doubled
351 the number of landscape bushes. Financially, this was a wash. I have distributed to you a revised Staff
352 Report including these changes. For the curbing, \$4,500 has been added. We may need a removable
353 bollard as well to keep cars off the path

354
355 ***T. Tsantoulis motioned to award the project to Blue Ribbon Property Improvements and***
356 ***contract with them to do the work for \$12,866.00 and fund the project from the Public Recreation***
357 ***Facilities Impact Fee account. D. Boutin seconded the motion.***
358

359 K. Northrup: The Heritage Commission approves of this project with its revisions. We are agreeable to
360 the changes.

361
362 T. Tsantoulis: What type of curbing will you use?

363
364 B. Thomas: It will be granite curbing.

365
366 T. Tsantoulis: What about irrigation?

367
368 B. Thomas: There is a hydrant. The irrigation is there, but we would have to figure out how to pay for it.
369 It is not part of this project. If metered, it would probably more than double the cost.

370
371 R. Duhaime: This doesn't include irrigation? You should put sleeves in under the walkways to add
372 irrigation later.

373
374 Chair Sullivan: We could approve this now and add irrigation later.

375
376 C. Karolian: The balance in this account is \$123,376.29. It would make sense to install the irrigation
377 now. I suggest we table this until we get an estimate for the irrigation cost. Will the lilac bushes be
378 purple?

379
380 B. Thomas: Yes, they are purple.

381
382 Chair Sullivan: The lilacs are free – from the Governor's Lilac and Wildflower Commission.

383
384 C. Karolian: We should get the cost of irrigation before acting on this.

385
386 ***C. Karolian motioned to table this item. J. Durand seconded the motion.***
387

388 A. Garron: I just want to point out that, if this project goes over \$15,000, and it most likely will, an RFP
389 will be needed.

390
391 Chair Sullivan: We could waive the rules.

392
393 C. Karolian: The Town Engineer, performing his due diligence, would get two or three costs anyway.

394
395
396 **Roll Call Vote #9**
397 ***J. Durand Aye***

398 **D. Boutin Aye**
399 **C. Jones Aye**
400 **R. Duhaime Aye**
401 **C. Karolian Aye**
402 **A. Walczyk Nay**
403 **T. Tsantoulis Aye**
404 **R. Lapierre Nay**
405 **J. Sullivan Aye**
406 **Voted in favor (7-2).**

407
408 **New Hooksett Fire Chief Contract**

409
410 ***D. Boutin motioned to authorize the Town Administrator and the Council Chair to sign the new***
~~411~~ ***Fire Chief's contract. T. Tsantoulis seconded the motion.***

412
413
414 **Roll Call Vote #10**

415 **C. Karolian Nay**
416 **T. Tsantoulis Aye**
417 **R. Lapierre Aye**
418 **C. Jones Aye**
419 **D. Boutin Aye**
420 **J. Durand Nay**
421 **A. Walczyk Aye**
422 **R. Duhaime Nay**
423 **J. Sullivan Aye**
424 **Voted in favor (6-3).**

425
426 R. Lapierre: Point of order. We need to take up the Consent Agenda, item 11.1.

~~427~~
~~428~~
429 **CONSENT AGENDA**

430
431 **Donation of \$500.00 from Donald E. Duval to Fire-Rescue**

432
433 ***T. Tsantoulis motioned to approve the donation of \$500.00 from Donald E. Duval to Fire-Rescue.***
434 ***D. Boutin seconded the motion.***

435
436 **Roll Call #11**

437 **T. Tsantoulis Aye**
438 **R. Lapierre Aye**
439 **J. Durand Aye**
440 **C. Jones Aye**
441 **C. Karolian Aye**
442 **A. Walczyk Aye**
443 **R. Duhaime Aye**
444 **D. Boutin Aye**
445 **J. Sullivan Aye**
446 **Voted unanimously in favor (9-0).**

~~447~~
448
449

450 **TOWN ADMINISTRATOR'S REPORT**

451

452 A. Garron: We have received questions for the Fire-Rescue Department regarding inspection backlog
453 and the hydrant issue at Turf Depot, so I would like to have our new Fire Chief address these.

454

455 Fire Chief Colburn: Mr. Tewksbury has been promoted to Administrative Captain – Fire Protection, so
456 he will begin working the inspection backlog on Monday. If the council wishes, we can provide progress
457 reports throughout the summer. We plan to finish by the end of the summer.

458

459 R. Duhaime: How many do you have in the backlog?

460

461 Fire Chief Colburn: We have about 60 inspections to do for Place of Assembly permits. A couple of big,
462 labor-intensive plan reviews have been pushed off, Dartmouth being one of them, so we are good with
463 plan reviews. We have a week or two of backlog, which has been the normal level during my 21-year
464 career.

465

466 Chair Sullivan: I have heard that you have 800 inspections to do.

467

468 Fire Chief Colburn: We do multiple types of inspections. Anything new has a plan review and an
469 inspection. We have 110 Place of Assembly inspections every year. We also have sprinkler systems,
470 oil burners, and foster care of both children and adults. We are required to do adult foster care
471 inspections every three years, but a new inspection is required for each new placement. We now have
472 80 of these new adult placements to do. All existing buildings must be inspected as well. The priority
473 now is Place of Assembly inspections.

474

475 Chair Sullivan: Some members, including myself, have questions regarding hydrant requirements for
476 the Turf Depot property. There are existing hydrants not far away.

477

478 Fire Chief Colburn: All of this is driven by the State Fire Code. The business is required to provide
479 water flow on the property. This is referred to as a yard hydrant. During the plans review, both for Life
480 Safety and Sprinklers, this was explained, and the owner and the contractor signed off. Apparently,
481 there was some confusion. I had a good conversation with the owner. Because of frost, I offered to
482 work on a plan to install the yard hydrant in the spring. He is planning a second phase of development
483 in the spring. The owner said he would prefer to just install the yard hydrant to avoid an issue with the
484 CO. There are existing hydrants on the street, but they aren't accessible in the winter when there is
485 snow.

486

487 T. Tsantoulis: Doesn't Manchester Water Works clean out its hydrants?

488

489 Fire Chief Colburn: Yes, they do, but the Fire Department Connection(FDC) needs to be on the front of
490 the building, and the code requires that a hydrant be on the property. The property owner has the
491 option and right to appeal to the State Fire Marshall. There is a challenge process.

492

493 T. Tsantoulis: Is this required by the State?

494

495 Fire Chief Colburn: Yes, it is.

496

497 D. Boutin: I want to see a copy of the code. Code isn't regulation or law. I am disturbed that there are
498 three hydrants already there, and the owner was required to install a fourth. You have the authority to
499 be flexible. Why are you making them put in another one? This is a steel building with a sprinkler

500 system. There is a hydrant in the back which could reach every corner of the building. You are scaring
501 businesses from coming to town. The biggest complaint I hear all of the time is about the Fire
502 Department – the lack of getting inspections done and overregulating. We cannot continue this. You are
503 going to send businesses out of town. Maybe you don't care, but the taxpayers do.

504
505 Fire Chief Colburn: We can't be inconsistent with the code. The town will get into litigation and
506 challenges.

507
508 D. Boutin: There are a lot of properties in Hooksett – not old buildings – with no hydrants. The Fire
509 Department hasn't been consistent. I heard that Turf Depot wasn't given the opportunity to appeal. I
510 don't care about the Fire Marshall. You went way overboard and cost the owner a lot of money.

511
512 Chair Sullivan: We have to come up with a way to avoid this happening again.

513
514 D. Boutin: I believe in the Life Safety Code, but it needs to be rationally enforced. This was a poor
515 decision.

516
517 Fire Chief Colburn: Hooksett has not adopted the NFPA. Local regulations can be different, but they
518 must be more stringent than the State code.

519
520 D. Boutin: I want the Chief to provide all of us with copies of the code and come back to the next
521 Council meeting.

522
523 Chair Sullivan: Two weeks might be needed for this.

524
525 R. Lapierre: Chief, can you tell me the name of the code?

526
527 Fire Chief Colburn: It is the NFPA #1.

528
529 C. Karolian: Congratulations on your new position as Chief. My nay vote was not against you; it was
530 against the contract. I looked up this property on Eastpoint Drive. There is one hydrant 16 feet from the
531 southeast corner owned by Manchester Water Works. The new one is ten feet off the southwest corner
532 at the front of the building, and there is another hydrant across the street. The front hydrant feeds off
533 the back one. Does the Code require a yard hydrant for all commercial and industrial structures?

534
535 Fire Chief Colburn: Yes, and our FDC is part of the sprinkler system, so that the Fire Department can
536 boost the sprinklers. We might have only one or two vehicles responding to a fire as compared with a
537 city like Manchester which may have several. All controls – the FDC, the fire panel, the Knox box –
538 have to be together and in the front of the building.

539
540 C. Jones: Why are you beating up on the Fire Chief? He just started in the position, and he has over 20
541 years of experience. I was a fire inspector and am probably the only one on the Council with fire
542 experience. The owner's dispute is with the State Fire Marshall.

543
544 R. Duhaime: You have 1,000 feet of hose on the truck, right?

545
546 Fire Chief Colburn: Yes.

547
548 R. Duhaime: So, you have to be close to boost the sprinkler pressure, right?

549

550 Fire Chief Colburn: Yes.
551
552 R. Duhaime: Even though there are three hydrants right there, the owner had to install a fourth one.
553 There is a new development with four buildings and only one yard hydrant.
554
555 Fire Chief Colburn: They worked with us when setting up the sprinkler system so that one yard hydrant
556 serves all four buildings and satisfies the Code.
557
558 D. Boutin: I want to respond to what Councilor Jones said. I did fire inspections in a community twice
559 the size of Hooksett for many years. And, I have served in the State Senator and worked often with the
560 Fire Marshall.
561
562 C. Jones: Then you should know how the Fire Marshall works. The confusion seems to be because it
563 looks like there are three hydrants available, but they are on town property, not the owner's property.
564
565 A. Garron: I want to be clear about expectations. Is the goal to make changes or to have a better
566 understanding? Our employees are doing their jobs well; I know this because of their performance
567 reviews. The Code is a lot of material. Do you want the whole Code?
568
569 D. Boutin: No, just this part.
570
571 Chair Sullivan: The Councilors can read the Code and address their questions to Mr. Garron.
572
573 Fire Chief Colburn: I just want the Councilors to be aware that the only way to make changes to the
574 Code is through legislation.
575
576 A. Garron: I would ask that this be on the agenda for the second meeting in April to allow time to
577 prepare.
578
579 C. Karolian: Since this may come up in item 17.4, I would like to know how long a driveway can be
580 before needing a turnaround.
581
582 Fire Chief Colburn: That is over 150 feet, and there are grading requirements.
583
584 C. Karolian: Does anyone know how long the driveway is for the private road called Starlight Drive?
585
586 Fire Chief Colburn: I have no idea.
587
588 C. Karolian: What type of turnaround is required or allowed?
589
590 Fire Chief Colburn: It can be a T, a cul-de-sac or a modified Y.
591
592 C. Karolian: I am concerned that the owners won't know about this requirement.
593
594 Fire Chief Colburn: We have provided the Building Department with a 'cheat sheet' for this, so the
595 homeowners will be informed.
596
597 A. Garron: COVID cases are at 15, down from 26 two weeks ago. Cases are increasing, but at a
598 decreasing rate. The Governor's travel policy now coincides with that of Public Health and the CDC.
599 Domestic travel restrictions have been lifted.

600
601 J. Durand: Does this change the travel policy for employees? If so, I will make a motion.
602
603 D. Fitzpatrick: The restriction for domestic travel has been lifted. International travel, including Canada,
604 and cruising still require a quarantine period upon return. The exception for those 14 days past their
605 second shot of Moderna or Fizer now includes those who are 14 days past a Johnson & Johnson shot.
606
607 ***J. Durand motioned to amend the travel policy as presented, effective March 16, 2021. C.***
608 ***Karolian seconded the motion.***
609
610 **Roll Call Vote #12**
611 ***D. Boutin Aye***
612 ***A. Walczyk Not present***
613 ***J. Durand Aye***
614 ***C. Karolian Aye***
615 ***R. Lapierre Aye***
616 ***T. Tsantoulis Aye***
617 ***R. Duhaime Aye***
618 ***C. Jones Aye***
619 ***J. Sullivan Aye***
620 ***Voted unanimously in favor (8-0).***
621
622 A. Garron: Letters were sent to the owner of the logging equipment on Corriveau Drive, both certified
623 and regular mail. The Certified letter was returned and the other one came back opened. I asked for
624 legal clarification and was told that, since the paper streets are now Town rights-of-way, the police can
625 plan to have the equipment removed. They will make plans for a tow company to remove the large
626 vehicles and take them to the DPW. There will be no storage costs, and they will be easy to move from
627 there, if and when necessary.
628
629 J. Durand: We could charge storage costs.
630
631 Chair Sullivan: I like that idea.
632
633 A. Garron: At a minimum, there will be removal costs.
634
635 A. Garron: I had a call from the Office of Congressman Pappas, informing me of a possible grant. The
636 program targets shovel-ready projects, and our sewer/water project for Exit 10 & 11 is a prime project.
637 Bruce Thomas and David Mercier, our consulting engineer, have prepared a letter describing the
638 project. We will see if we make the list.
639
640 A. Garron: We have made the final payment on the Lilac Bridge fine, a portion of which was waived
641 because of our good effort.
642
643 A. Garron: The American Legion is preparing for Memorial Day and is still debating about whether or
644 not to have a parade. The Council will probably be asked for advice and input.
645
646 A. Garron: The Library is now open for public browsing.
647

648 A. Garron: My final item is about the wage study. With Donna Fitzpatrick's help, we have put together
649 an RFP. The project will be awarded on April 14th, and the consultant's findings will be complete by
650 June 23rd. We want the study done as we begin budget preparation.

651
652

653 PUBLIC INPUT

654 Don Winterton, 10 Prescott Heights Road: I would like to give you some information you probably don't
655 know. The case of Valentino versus Hooksett was decided by the State Supreme Court on October 21,
656 2020. Ms. Valentino was challenging the town's plan to put parking spaces in a public way. The case
657 was decided in favor of Hooksett and Ms. Valentino challenged the decision multiple times. In the last
658 challenge, the judge found there was no reversible error. From a Right-to-Know request. I learned that
659 the Town's legal fees totaled \$43,218.00, not including the time of our employees. We incurred another
660 \$29,317.00 in other legal fees, for a total of about \$70,000. This bothers me because it represents ten
661 years of my property taxes

662
663

664 NOMINATIONS AND APPOINTMENTS

665 Chair Sullivan nominated Peter Stoddard to the Economic Development Advisory Committee.

666
667

668 D. Boutin nominated Scott Evans to the Parks & Recreation Advisory Board.

669
670

671 C. Karolian: We are supposed to have five full members and two alternates on the Recycle & Transfer
672 Committee. We have only three full members and two alternates.

673
674

675 N. Germain: I will talk with the Chair about making the alternates full members.

676
677

678 OLD BUSINESS

679 **2021 MS-232 Report of Appropriations Actually Voted totaling \$22,818,295**

680
681

682 *J. Durand motioned to sign the "2021 MS-232 Report of Appropriations Actually Voted" totaling*
683 *\$22,818,295. C. Karolian seconded the motion.*

684
685

686 Roll Call Vote #13

687 *C. Karolian Aye*

688 *D. Boutin Aye*

689 *T. Tsantoulis Aye*

690 *R. Lapierre Aye*

691 *A. Walczyk Aye*

692 *R. Duhaime Aye*

693 *J. Durand Aye*

694 *C. Jones Aye*

695 *J. Sullivan Aye*

696 *Voted unanimously in favor (9-0).*

697
698

699 Create Trust Fund for Hooksett's Bicentennial Celebration

700
701

702 *Chair Sullivan motioned to establish a trust fund under RSA 31:19 for the purpose of Hooksett's*
703 *Bicentennial Celebration. D. Boutin seconded the motion.*

704

700 Chair Sullivan said this is like the K-9 trust fund.

701

702 **Roll Call Vote #14**

703 **R. Duhaime Aye**

704 **J Durand Aye**

705 **C. Jones Aye**

706 **R. Lapierre Not present**

707 **A. Walczyk Aye**

708 **D. Boutin Aye**

709 **C. Karolian Aye**

710 **T. Tsantoulis Aye**

711 **J. Sullivan Aye**

712 **Voted unanimously in favor (8-0).**

713

714 **NEW BUSINESS**

715

716 **Granite State YMCA / YMCA of Downtown Manchester MOU with Town of Hooksett / SAU 15**

717

718 This item was moved up during **SCHEDULED APPOINTMENTS.**

719

720

721 **Economic Development Advisory Committee - RSA 72:80-83 Commercial and Industrial**

722 **Construction Exemption (tabled at 10/14/2020 Town Council Meeting)**

723

724 This item was moved up during **SCHEDULED APPOINTMENTS.**

725

726 **Lilac Bridge Memorial Landscaping – Approve of Award of Landscaping Contract to Blue Ribbon Property Improvements for \$7,250 and to Fund the Project with Public Recreation Facilities Impact Fee funds.**

727

728 This item was taken up, and tabled, earlier in the meeting.

729

730

731 **Street Name Approval Request Starlight Drive (Off Goffstown Road)**

732

733 **C. Karolian motioned to approve a new private drive, off Goffstown Road, with the street name of Starlight Drive. D. Boutin seconded the motion.**

734

735 **Roll Call Vote #15**

736 **D. Boutin Aye**

737 **C. Jones Aye**

738 **A. Walczyk Aye**

739 **J. Durand Aye**

740 **R. Duhaime Aye**

741 **T. Tsantoulis Aye**

742 **R. Lapierre Not present**

743 **C. Karolian Aye**

744 **J. Sullivan Aye**

745 **Voted unanimously in favor (8-0).**

746

755 **Town Personnel Plan Updates**

756

757 ***D. Boutin motioned to approve the Town Personnel Plan updates as presented, effective March***
758 ***24, 2021. T. Tsantoulis seconded the motion.***

759

760 **Roll Call Vote #16**

761 ***A. Walczyk Aye***

762 ***R. Lapierre Not present***

763 ***C. Jones Aye***

764 ***R. Duhaime Aye***

765 ***J. Durand Aye***

766 ***C. Karolian Aye***

767 ***T. Tsantoulis Aye***

768 ***D. Boutin Aye***

769 ***J. Sullivan Aye***

770 ***Voted unanimously in favor (8-0).***

771

772 **Town Council Rules of Procedures - Council Chair Discussion of Proposed Amendments**

773

774 ***Chair Sullivan motioned to move the first PUBLIC INPUT session closer to the beginning of the***
775 ***meeting. D. Boutin seconded the motion.***

776

777 Chair Sullivan: Sometimes people wait for a long time to speak. With this plan, we would have one
778 session near the beginning of the meeting and one at the end.

779

780 **Roll Call Vote #17**

781 ***T. Tsantoulis Aye***

782 ***C. Jones Aye***

783 ***R. Duhaime Aye***

784 ***A. Walczyk Aye***

785 ***R. Lapierre Not present***

786 ***C. Karolian Aye***

787 ***J. Durand Aye***

788 ***D. Boutin Aye***

789 ***J. Sullivan Aye***

790 ***Voted unanimously in favor (8-0).***

791

792 Chair Sullivan: This may not need a motion, but I am looking for consensus about moving items up on
793 the agenda. I want to be sure that the Council members are agreeable to doing this at times.

794

795 Chair Sullivan: I would like to make a change to Section 10 on page 70, allowing people to speak even
796 if they are not on the docket. It says this may be allowed by the Chair; I would like it to be the Chair **and**
797 the consensus of the members.

798

799 ***Chair Sullivan motioned to change Section 10 on page 70 of the Town Council Rules of***
800 ***Procedure, allowing the Chair, with the consensus of the Councilors, to grant people not on the***
801 ***docket permission to speak. D. Boutin seconded the motion.***

802

803 **Roll Call Vote #18**

804 **J. Durand Aye**
805 **R. Lapierre Not present**
806 **C. Karolian Aye**
807 **D. Boutin Aye**
808 **C. Jones Aye**
809 **T. Tsantoulis Aye**
810 **A. Walczyk Aye**
811 **R. Duhaime Aye**
812 **J. Sullivan Aye**
813 **Voted unanimously in favor (8-0).**

814
815 **New Hooksett Fire Chief Contract**

816
817 This item was taken up earlier in the meeting.
818
819

820 **APPROVAL OF MINUTES**

821 **Public: 02/06/2021 Special Meeting**

822
823
824
825 **Public: 02/10/2021**

826
827
828 **Public: 03/10/2021**

829
830
831 **Public: 02/24/2021**

832
833
834 **Non-Public: 02/10/2021 #2 unsealed**

835
836
837 **Non-Public: 02/10/2021 #1**

838
839
840 **Non-Public: 02/24/2021 #1**

841
842
843 **Non-Public: 02/24/2021 #2**

844
845
846 **Non-Public: 03/10/2021**

847
848 ***T. Tsantoulis motioned to approve the minutes of the 02/06/2021 Special Meeting; the 02/10/2021***
849 ***Public Meeting; and the 03/10/2021 Public Meeting. D. Boutin seconded the motion.***

850
851 A. Walczyk made a correction to line 27 of the February 06, 2021 Special Meeting minutes.
852 Adjournment was at 10:27 am, not 10.27 pm.

853
854 **Roll Call Vote #19**

855 **C. Jones Aye**

856 **C. Karolian Aye**

857 **R. Lapierre Aye**

858 **R. Duhaime Aye**

859 **A. Walczyk Aye**

860 **J. Durand Aye**

861 **T. Tsantoulis Aye**

862 **D. Boutin Aye**

863 **J. Sullivan Aye**

864 **Voted unanimously in favor (9-0).**

865
866 ***T. Tsantoulis motioned to approve the minutes of the 02/24/2021 Public Meeting. D. Boutin***
867 ***seconded the motion.***

868
869 J. Durand: I have one correction submitted by Councilor Karolian. Lines 370, 371 & 372 should read as
870 follows:
871 Since I was the one that made the motion requesting that it get moved up and I was the one
872 who made the motion to release, I would like to explain.
873 The was no disrespect meant towards any people here, I felt that after receiving our
874 correspondence, and other attorney's correspondence, to be honest with you, I thought it was
875 going to be a "no brainer" and that we were going to move forward. That's why I wanted to
876 expedite it, to save you folks the time from having to sit through until towards the end of the
877 meeting. That was my intent. I thought after receiving the information we had, it was going to go
878 in a certain direction. No ill intent, and you folks obviously know where I stand on this issue.

879
880 **Roll Call Vote #20**
881 **R. Lapierre Aye**
882 **R. Duhaime Aye**
883 **T. Tsantoulis Aye**
884 **A. Walczyk Aye**
885 **J. Durand Aye**
886 **C. Jones Aye**
887 **D. Boutin Aye**
888 **C. Karolian Aye**
889 **J. Sullivan Aye**
890 **Voted unanimously in favor (9-0).**

891
892 **R. Lapierre motioned to approve the minutes of non-public sessions 02/10/2021 #2 (unsealed);**
893 **02/10/2021 #1; 02/24/2021 #1; 02/24/2021 #2; and 03/10/2021. T. Tsantoulis seconded the motion.**

894
895 **Roll Call Vote #21**
896 **J. Durand Aye**
897 **D. Boutin Aye**
898 **C. Jones Aye**
899 **R. Duhaime Aye**
900 **C. Karolian Aye**
901 **A. Walczyk Aye**
902 **T. Tsantoulis Aye**
903 **R. Lapierre Aye**
904 **J. Sullivan Aye**
905 **Voted unanimously in favor (9-0).**

906
907 **SUB-COMMITTEE REPORTS**
908 R. Duhaime: The ZBA did approve the Exit 11 variance. The plan then went to Planning.
909 I also want to ask when we can meet in the chambers again.
910
911 A. Garron: The mask requirement is still in place, as is the distancing requirement. When those change,
912 we can consider that. Also, I would like to replace the tables in the chambers.
913
914 C. Karolian: I agree with the Town Administrator about being able to spread out. It's mostly for the
915 public, when we have public recognitions.
916

917 J. Durand: The Assessors met and we acted on several abatement requests.

918
919 Chair Sullivan: The Heritage Commission met with Mr. Garron and Dana Pendergast. There is an old
920 barn that came down without following the proper procedure. A small fine will probably be imposed. We
921 had a good discussion at the EDAC last Wednesday on what Nicholas Williams presented tonight. We
922 discussed creative, re-adaptive uses of the big box stores, outside of the traditional uses. We also
923 discussed more conducive and welcoming approaches to working with the developers. CEO Dana
924 Pendergast will be in the middle of all of them. We considered branding, similar to what Londonderry
925 does with branding their town – Business is good; life is better.

926
927 T. Tsantoulis: We need some nominations for the Hooksett Youth Achiever Award.
928

929 C. Karolian: At the Recycling and Transfer Committee meeting, we discussed new barrels and trash
930 pickup at Berry Hill. My understanding is that the residents voted last night about trash pickup. The
931 DPW has ordered 400 trash receptacles, and other private HOAs are coming on board. We discussed
932 the front-end loader. Some new equipment is needed. They are fully staffed now, but could use some
933 part-time help on Saturday mornings.
934

935 A. Walczyk: At the Parks & Rec Committee meeting, we learned that the footings for the Pavilion will be
936 set in mid-April. They need at least a month to cure, so construction may start in mid-May. We are
937 working on the sign restoration at Donati Park. We will be replacing 11 signs and adding five new ones.
938 These will cost between \$3,000 and \$4,000. We will also be planting five trees. We welcomed a new
939 member, Nathan Duplessis.
940

941 Chair Sullivan: Christine Soucie will be providing guidance on budget preparation for the Bicentennial
942 Celebration Especially during the four days when the Vietnam Moving Wall is here, we may need help
943 from Police, Fire and Public Works.
944

945 **ADJOURNMENT**

946
947 ***D. Boutin motioned to adjourn at 9:22 pm. C. Karolian seconded the motion.***
948

949 **Roll Call Vote #22**

950 ***C. Karolian Aye***

951 ***T. Tsantoulis Aye***

952 ***R. Lapierre Aye***

953 ***C. Jones Aye***

954 ***D. Boutin Aye***

955 ***J. Durand Aye***

956 ***A. Walczyk Aye***

957 ***R. Duhaime Aye***

958 ***J. Sullivan Aye***

959 ***Voted unanimously in favor (9-0).***
960

961 Respectfully submitted,
962 *Kathleen Donnelly*

963 Kathleen Donnelly

964 Recording Clerk
965
966

967 **Please see subsequent meeting minutes for any amendments to these minutes.**