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**Town of Hooksett  
Town Council Meeting Minutes  
Wednesday, February 9, 2022**

2  
3 The Hooksett Town Council met on Wednesday, February 9, 2022 at 6:00 in the Hooksett Municipal  
4 Building.

5  
6 **CALL TO ORDER**

7 Chair Sullivan called the meeting of 09 Feb 2022 to order at 6:05 pm.

8  
9 **PROOF OF POSTING**

10 Human Resource Coordinator Donna Fitzpatrick provided proof of posting.

11  
12 **ROLL CALL**

13 **In Attendance:** Councilor James Sullivan, Councilor Roger Duhaime, Councilor David Boutin,  
14 Councilor Timothy Tsantoulis, Councilor Clark Karolian, and Councilor Alex Walczyk

15  
16 Councilor Lapierre arrived at 6:55 pm.

17  
18 **Missing:** Councilor Jones, Councilor Durand

19  
20  
21 **PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE**

22 Chair Sullivan called for the Pledge of Allegiance.

23  
24 **BICENTENNIAL MOMENT**

25  
26 Chair Sullivan: This Bicentennial moment is about boating on the Merrimack River. Boating was critical  
27 to commercial & industrial development in the 1800's as bricks were brought up the river for mill  
28 construction. As the railroads took over in the late 1800's, boating kept its appeal.as cottages &  
29 summer cabins were built along the river. The Manchester Hooksett Steamboat Company had boats  
30 leaving from the Webster Street dock in Manchester or the Riverside Pavilion and arriving at Robie's  
31 General Store. There were many small passenger boats. The Manchester Hooksett Steamboat  
32 Company's largest boat was the General John Stark, which was almost 90 feet long and carried 100  
33 passengers. They also had the Lone Star, the Lucille and many others. Passengers could stop for  
34 lunch or dinner at Ayers Tavern across from Robie's. The company was dissolved by the legislature in  
35 1950 for failure to make returns to the Secretary of State.

36  
37 **Hooksett Municipal Employee - New Hire**

38  
39 A. Garron: We welcome new employee Samuel Marineau as a DPW truck driver/laborer. He began on  
40 February 2, 2022.

41  
42 R. Duhaime: Could we have pictures of our new hires so we can see what they look like?

43  
44 T. Tsantoulis: A release or waiver would be required before doing that.

45  
46 **NOMINATIONS AND APPOINTMENTS**

47  
48 A. Garron: We are presenting Tony Lacasse for nomination and appointment to the Heritage  
49 Commission. He is already a ZBA alternate member.

51 T. Lacasse: I have been interested in Hooksett history since I was 14 years old. I have been helping  
52 with the preservation of Robie's store. When I heard that Kathie Northrup had passed away, I decided  
53 that I want to give back.

54  
55 ***C. Karolian motioned to waive the rules and nominate and appoint Tony Lacasse as a member***  
56 ***of the Heritage Commission. D. Boutin seconded the motion.***  
57 ***Voted unanimously in favor (6-0).***

58  
59  
60  
61 **February 5, 2022 Deliberative Session Recap - Todd Rainier, Town Clerk & Todd Lizotte, Town**  
62 **Moderator**

63  
64 T. Rainier: Todd Lazott took ill last week. This would have been his first Deliberative Session. Following  
65 state law, he appointed LeeAnn Moynihan as Moderator Pro Tem. She did a great job. The Supervisors  
66 of the Checklist reported that 31 registered voters attended the Session. Everything went smoothly. The  
67 school did a fantastic job with the setup, including professional audio and visual. It was a good event,  
68 and I thank you for your attendance. The Town Election is March 8<sup>th</sup>, with the polls open from 6:00 am  
69 until 7:00 pm. The Library is planning a candidate forum, with details to follow.

70  
71 D. Boutin: When is the filing period?

72  
73 T. Rainier: It was at the end of January, from the 19<sup>th</sup> through the 28<sup>th</sup>. I need all of you to sign up to  
74 spend time at the election. We need at least one Councilor present at all times and three of you at the  
75 end of the night.

76  
77 C. Karolian: Are there restrictions for those at the election who are on the ballot?

78  
79 T. Rainier: They cannot handle ballots.

80  
81 R. Duhaime: Did the 31 registered voters include town employees and town officials.

82  
83 T. Rainier: Yes.

84  
85 Chair Sullivan: There must be a controversial issue to draw more than a few residents.

86  
87 **CONSENT AGENDA**

88  
89 **Motion to accept the stipend in the amount of \$4,995 from NH Police Standards and Training for**  
90 **allowing Officer Minihan to serve as Cadre for the current full time police academy.**

91  
92 ***C. Karolian motioned to accept a stipend in the amount of \$4,995 from the NH Police Standards***  
93 ***and Training for allowing Officer Minihan to serve as Cadre for the current full time police***  
94 ***academy. T. Tsantoulis seconded the motion.***

95  
96 A. Garron: I am pleased to announce that Chief Bouchard has received a Master's degree in Criminal  
97 Justice from SNHU, with a 4.0 grade point.

98  
99 Chief Bouchard: The Cadre acts as a mentor for recruits at the Police Academy. This builds relations  
100 with NH Police Standards & Training. I did it once a few years ago. It is an amazing thing to do in one's  
101 career, and it is an honor to be chosen.

102  
103 Chair Sullivan: Congratulations to you on your degree and to Officer Minihan.

104

105 Chair Sullivan called for a vote on the motion to accept the stipend.

106 ***Voted unanimously in favor (6-2).***

107

~~108~~

## 110 TOWN ADMINISTRATOR'S REPORT – A. GARRON

111

112       ▪ COVID numbers are going down, with 162 current cases, compared with over 400 cases on  
113       January 5<sup>th</sup>. The positivity rate is down from 17.4% to 12%.

114       ▪ The 2024 legislative process will begin soon. In your packets is a green handout from NHMA.  
115       They are looking for volunteers to help present legislation which municipalities favor.

116       ▪ A public information session sponsored by NHDOT will be held on Tuesday Feb 22nd here in  
117       the Council Chambers beginning at 6:00 pm. The topic is the improvements proposed for Route  
118       3A from Alice Avenue to Martins Ferry Road/Whitehall Road. This project is now part of the  
119       DOT's 10-year plan. The cost is \$19,917,440 and is scheduled for 2026. I encourage everyone  
120       to attend.

121

122 D. Boutin: Does this include the Route 3A/Main Street intersection?

123

124 A. Garron: Yes, it does.

125

126 C. Karolian: What does the 2026 date indicate? Is it the beginning of the planning or is it the  
127       construction date?

128

129 A. Garron: That would be the construction date.

130

131 C. Karolian: If the TIF project is scheduled to come to fruition two or three years before 2026, should  
132       the DOT be notified? This would change the area dramatically. I am concerned that the left hand might  
133       not know what the right hand is doing.

134

135 D. Boutin: It will take the new development about a year to ramp up. Also, the town might petition the  
136       state to move the project up.

137

138 A. Garron: Whatever needs to be done for the TIF has already been done.

139

140 T. Tsantoulis: I share the concerns of Councilor Karolian. It is true that the buildout might take longer.  
141       Also, the state tends to be reactive, not proactive. This may get their attention.

142

143 D. Boutin: I would say that 99.5% of the traffic will enter and exit via Exit 11. Some of the traffic  
144       problems are going to be mitigated.

145

146 Chair Sullivan: Mr. Garron has discussed having meetings with our state senators, representatives and  
147       executive councilor so they will know about our plans and advocate for us.

148

149 R. Duhaime: We need to have a plan for the town. How many homes will we allow? The traffic situation  
150       is already not great. Other towns have developments which add to the traffic, and we have no control.  
151       The state has dropped the ball. Allentown has a new, large retirement facility.

152

153 Chair Sullivan: As all boards and committees meet, they can have some good discussions.

154

155 R. Duhaime: On Route 3, we should be sure to have all water and sewer work done before the work  
156       between Alice Avenue and Whitehall Road is done.

157

158 B. Thomas: You should make sure this is brought up at the February 22<sup>nd</sup> meeting.

159  
160 D. Boutin: I will definitely do that.  
161  
162 C. Karolian: On the 22<sup>nd</sup>, we should ask the DOT if it would be possible to have a dedicated on/off  
163 ramp.  
164  
165 Chair Sullivan: That is not germane; It is Route 3A, not Route 3.  
166  
167 D. Boutin: It would require federal approval and federal financing.  
168  
169 C. Karolian: I will take your word for that, but we can still ask.  
170  
171 R. Duhaime: Will Mr. Labonte be here until the end of the month?  
172  
173 A. Garron: Yes.  
174  
175 R. Duhaime: What have you done about his replacement?  
176  
177 A. Garron: We have advertised the position and have several good candidates.  
178  
179 D. Fitzpatrick: Mr. Labonte will be recognized on February 23<sup>rd</sup> , and the interview panel for the Director  
180 of Public Works will begin the process on February 24<sup>th</sup>.  
181  
182  
183 **OLD BUSINESS**  
184  
185 **Martins Ferry Road Erosion Repair Project Award to the S.U.R. Construction West, Inc. for**  
186 **\$84,470.00**  
187  
188 ***D. Boutin motioned to award the Martins Ferry Road Erosion Repair Project to S.U.R.***  
189 ***Construction West, Inc. in the amount of \$84,470.00. A. Walczyk seconded the motion.***  
190  
191 A. Walczyk: What is the schedule for the project?  
192  
193 B. Thomas: They have not provided one yet. I am hoping they will start in a couple of weeks,  
194  
195 C. Karolian: Why did this take so long? It was first discussed in April.  
196  
197 B. Thomas: It was sent to the state on November 17, 2021. The state required some adjustments and  
198 gave final approval on December 10, 2021. I want to be transparent about this. A response I got from  
199 an engineer in Keene about this construction company was that they require supervision. I will talk to  
200 them about making sure that supervision is good. Regarding the length of time, it just took them a long  
201 time. I would call be told the person I needed to talk with was on vacation. This is not a fun project. Mrs.  
202 Fitzpatrick has mentioned that this will require a waiver of the three-bid rule because we only had one  
203 bid, even though I sent it to several contractors.  
204  
205 C. Karolian: Kudos to you for being open and transparent.  
206  
207 T. Tsantoulis: I am also concerned about the expressed need for supervision. What oversight will be  
208 provided? Will you and Mr. Labonte be supervising the project?  
209  
210 B. Thomas: The wetlands contractor will provide oversight, and I will go there periodically.  
211

212 T. Tsantoulis: It is better to over-supervise than to under-supervise.

213

214 B. Thomas: I will make sure there is plenty of supervision.

215

216 R. Lapierre: Supervision is needed regardless.

217

218 ***R. Lapierre motioned to amendment the motion, adding that the Council waive the three-bid***  
219 ***rule. D. Boutin seconded the motion to amend.***

220

221 R. Lapierre: This requires a 2/3 vote.

222

223 R. Duhaime: Is there mitigation that can be done at the same time as the other work before it gets to  
224 the river? Are there grants available?

225

226 B. Thomas: That is part of the wetlands permit for this area. This should protect downstream.

227

228 Chair Sullivan called for a vote on the amendment.

229 ***Voted in favor (6-1), with Councilor Karolian voting nay.***

230

231 Chair Sullivan called for a roll call vote on the motion as amended.

232

233 **Roll Call #4**

234 A. Walczyk Aye

235 R. Lapierre Aye

236 C. Jones Absent

237 R. Duhaime Aye

238 J. Durand Absent

239 C. Karolian Aye

240 T. Tsantoulis Aye

241 D. Boutin Aye

242 J. Sullivan Aye

243 Voted unanimously in favor (7-0).

244

245 ***C. Karolian motioned to go back to hard-wired microphones. T. Tsantoulis seconded the***  
246 ***motion.***

247

248 C. Karolian: The microphones are cutting in or out more than ever. My phone is blowing up with people  
249 who are complaining that the mics are cutting out. This is more than embarrassing.

250

251 ***T. Tsantoulis motioned to amend the motion to say we will pursue a better option, not limited to***  
252 ***hardwiring. D. Boutin seconded the motion.***

253

254 A. Garron: This system is set up to have mobile microphones for versatility if we want to meet in the  
255 gym.

256

257 C. Karolian: Do we still have the old system?

258

259 A. Garron: I will check on that but remember that we had some of the same issues with that system.

260

261 C. Karolian: The gooseneck mics are better for not picking up paper shuffling, etc.

262

263 R. Duhaime: When we are not wearing masks, it might be okay.

264  
265 Chair Sullivan called for a roll call vote on the motion to amend the motion.  
266

267 **Roll Call #5**

268 T. Tsantoulis Aye  
269 C. Jones Absent  
270 R. Duhaime Aye  
271 A. Walczyk Aye  
272 R. Lapierre Aye  
273 C. Karolian Nay  
274 J Durand Absent  
275 D. Boutin Aye  
276 J. Sullivan Aye

277 ***Voted in favor (6-1).***

278  
279 Chair Sullivan called for a roll call vote on the original motion.  
280

281 **Roll Call #6**

282 J. Durand Absent  
283 R. Lapierre Aye  
284 C. Karolian Aye  
285 D. Boutin Aye  
286 C. Jones Absent  
287 T. Tsantoulis Aye  
288 A. Walczyk Aye  
289 R. Duhaime Aye  
290 J. Sullivan Aye

291 ***Voted unanimously in favor (7-0).***

292  
293 **NEW BUSINESS**

294 None.

295  
296 **APPROVAL OF MINUTES**

297  
298 **Public: 01/12/2022 Special Meeting**

299  
300 ***D. Boutin motioned to approve the minutes of the 01/12/2022 Special Meeting as written. T.***  
301 ***Tsantoulis seconded the motion.***

302  
303 **Roll Call #7**

304 C. Jones Absent  
305 C. Karolian Aye  
306 R. Lapierre Aye  
307 R. Duhaime Aye  
308 A. Walczyk Aye  
309 J. Durand Absent  
310 T. Tsantoulis Aye  
311 D. Boutin Aye  
312 J. Sullivan Aye

313 ***Voted unanimously in favor (7-0).***

314  
315  
~~316~~

318 **Public: 01/19/2022**

319  
320 ***D. Boutin motioned to approve the minutes of the 01/19/2022 Meeting. T. Tsantoulis seconded***  
321 ***the motion.***

322  
323 **Roll Call #8**

324 R. Lapierre Aye  
325 R. Duhaime Aye  
326 T. Tsantoulis Aye  
327 A. Walczyk Aye  
328 J. Durand Absent  
329 C. Jones Absent  
330 D. Boutin Aye  
331 C. Karolian Aye  
332 J. Sullivan Aye

333 ***Voted unanimously in favor (7-0).***

~~334~~  
~~335~~  
337 **Public: 01/26/2022 Special Meeting**

338  
339 ***D. Boutin motioned to approve the minutes of the 01/26/2022 Special Meeting as written. T.***  
340 ***Tsantoulis seconded the motion.***

341  
342 **Roll Call #9**

343 J. Durand Absent  
344 D. Boutin Aye  
345 C. Jones Absent  
346 R. Duhaime Aye  
347 C. Karolian Aye  
348 A. Walczyk Aye  
349 T. Tsantoulis Aye  
350 R. Lapierre Aye  
351 J. Sullivan Aye

352 ***Voted unanimously in favor (7-0).***

353  
354 ***R. Lapierre motioned to amend the approved minutes of the 6/9/2021 to include the Ambulance***  
355 ***Billing Rates motion. At Line 435 add “T. Tsantoulis motioned to accept the following***  
356 ***ambulance billing rates to be utilized by the Hooksett Fire Rescue Department and implemented***  
357 ***on 6.14.2021:***

358  
359 ***BLS rate: \$871.46***  
360 ***ALS1 rate: \$1,233.43***  
361 ***ALS2 rate: \$1,640.48***  
362 ***Bariatric Transport Fee: \$400.00 (no change)***  
363 ***Mileage Rate: \$18.42***  
364 ***Paramedic Intercept Rate: \$540.00”***

365  
366 ***D. Boutin seconded the motion.***  
367 ***Voted in favor (6-2), with Councilors Karolian and Duhaime voting nay.***

368  
369 C. Karolian: Who made this correction?  
370

371 R. Lapierre: It came from staff.

372

373 C. Karolian: I thought Council members were the only ones who could offer amendments.

374

375 R. Lapierre: Per Town Council Rules of Procedure, Section 17, paragraph c:

376

Councilors, public or staff identifying corrections to Town Council minutes shall submit their corrections to the Town Council Secretary on or before the start of the meeting scheduled for review. Corrections do not include changing or adding wording not stated at the meeting

377

378

379

380

381 **Roll Call #10**

382 C. Karolian Nay

383 T. Tsantoulis Aye

384 R. Lapierre Aye

385 C. Jones Absent

386 D. Boutin Aye

387 J. Durand Absent

388 A. Walczyk Aye

389 R. Duhaime Aye

390 J. Sullivan Aye

391 ***Voted in favor (6-1).***

392

393 C. Karolian: I opposed because I had no time to review the recommendation. If I received a correction  
394 from staff or a member of the public, I would review it myself.

395

396 ***D. Boutin motioned to adjourn. C. Karolian seconded the motion.***

397

398 Chair Sullivan: We still have the subcommittee reports.

399

400 R. Lapierre: I want to remind Councilor Boutin that he needs to be recognized by the Chair before  
401 speaking to offer a motion.

402

403 D. Boutin: Councilor Lapierre, I don't need your education.

404

405

406 **SUB-COMMITTEE REPORTS**

407

408 R. Lapierre: We held our first ARPA subcommittee meeting. We are working to establish a procedure  
409 for reviewing projects. We will present recommendations to the Council when we have them.

410

411 R. Duhaime: ZBA met last evening. Two items were continued. The NH Housing Authority will make a  
412 presentation at 6:00 pm on the second Tuesday of next month. Everyone is invited. Is there a plaque  
413 for long-serving members of boards and committees?

414

415 Chair Sullivan: Yes, there is. We will get that information.

416

417 Chair Sullivan: Preparations are falling into place with volunteers for the Moving Wall. In addition to the  
418 Bicentennial moments, 36 events have been scheduled. We will be meeting with the schools because  
419 we are working jointly on some projects.

420

421 T. Tsantoulis: A Hooksett Youth Achiever Committee Meeting was scheduled for Thursday, January  
422 27<sup>th</sup>. I inadvertently held the meeting on Wednesday, January 26<sup>th</sup>. This was my error, and we will



423 reschedule the meeting. We have an accomplished 15 year old high school student to approve and  
424 honor.

425  
426 C. Karolian: The Recycling & Transfer Committee is working to change the ordinance regarding fees  
427 charged, allowing the DPW to adjust the fees twice each year. We are also waiting for a response from  
428 Town Counsel regarding language regarding private condos and town trash pickup.

429  
430 **ADJOURNMENT**

431  
432 ***C. Karolian motioned to adjourn at 7:52 pm. T. Tsantoulis seconded the motion.***  
433 ***Voted unanimously in favor (7-0).***

434  
435 Respectfully submitted,

436  
437 *Kathleen Donnelly*

438  
439 Kathleen Donnelly  
440 Recording Clerk  
441

442

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