

**Town of Hooksett
Town Council Meeting Minutes
Wednesday, January 5, 2022**

1
2 The Hooksett Town Council met on Wednesday, January 5, 2022, at 6:51 in the Hooksett Municipal
3 Building.

4
5 **CALL TO ORDER**

6 Chair Sullivan called the meeting of 05 Jan 2022 to order at (6:51) pm.

7
8 **PROOF OF POSTING**

9 Human Resource Coordinator Donna Fitzpatrick provided proof of posting.

10
11 **ROLL CALL**

12 **In Attendance:** Councilor James Sullivan, Councilor Randall Lapierre, Councilor Roger Duhaime,
13 Councilor David Boutin, Councilor Timothy Tsantoulis, and Councilor Alex Walczyk.

14
15 **Absent:** Councilor Clifford Jones, Councilor John Durand, and Councilor Clark Karolian.

16
17 **PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE**

18
19 **AGENDA OVERVIEW**

20
21 J. Sullivan- Chairman Sullivan announced that prior to the start of the meeting while we were waiting on
22 Councilor Lapierre to arrive so that we would have a quorum, the Police Chief recognized Travis
23 Mannon as Police Officer of the year. Also given acknowledgement was Captain Jake Robie whom
24 completed his 21st year with the Town of Hooksett. Members of the Hooksett Police department were
25 present as well as family members of both officers.

26
27 **PUBLIC HEARINGS**

28 Chair Sullivan opened the four Public Hearing as presented in the agenda at 6:53 pm.

29
30 **NOMINATIONS AND APPOINTMENTS**

31
32 John Ward - I am a lawyer by trade, have served on the Hooksett Little League Board, Hooksett Pro
33 Responsibility Board, Hooksett Library Board, I am very active in the community I think this is a good
34 role for me with my background. I've been a resident since 2014.

35
36 ***R. Lapierre motioned to waive the rules of procedure and nominate and appoint on the same
37 night seconded by D. Boutin.***

38
39 ***Vote all in favor 6-0.***

40
41 ***R. Lapierre motioned to nominate and appoint John Ward as a board member of the Trustees of
42 the Trust Funds for a term expiring 6/30/2022, seconded by D. Boutin.***

43
44 ***Vote in Favor 6-0.***

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48

50 **Public hearing to amend Section 11.2 of the Hooksett Town Charter to follow RSA 673:6, I (a)**
51 **and allow five (5) alternates on the Zoning Board of Adjustment.**
52

53 Anne Stelmach- this was an idea that I had and proposed it to the Zoning Board to aid in getting more
54 bodies. From what I can see from the records the law has allowed the option of having 5 alternates. I
55 don't see the harm in having 5 alternates, and not sure why Hooksett has restricted it to 3 in the past.
56 The board is in full support of the decision. Yesterday we learned that Chris Pearson who has served
57 on the board for 17 years is stepping down. Currently we have 3 alternates and one of them will step
58 up, leaving me with 2 alternates making the problem a little tougher. Having more feedback, more
59 opinions and discussion with more people is going to make the Board stronger. I think this will help in
60 many ways, I am trying to help the cause and getting volunteers is hard and it is a commitment.

61
62 R. Duhaime- I agree, we should have as many alternates as we can get.

63
64 David Ross 56 Sherwood Drive- I am big on having multiple larger bodies to make decisions. Alternates
65 however in my opinion is good but not to have as many as there are bodies on the Board. Volunteers
66 are awesome but if they are not going to do the job then they are more harm than good. Seriousness is
67 important. Recruiting is a council job. The council needs to make a more diligent job at getting more
68 members on the Boards. I do not like the idea of too many alternates serving on the Board.

69
70 J. Sullivan- 2 other charter changes that we discussed at previous hearings, the language being
71 proposed was reviewed by Attorney Matt Surge, we did meet the requirements of the PH and posted
72 them. The next step is to have it reviewed by DRA, and if it meets the requirements of state statues this
73 issue to place it on the Ballot will occur on January 19th meeting.

74
75 A. Garron- keep in mind if the Council wishes to move it onto review by DRA and the AG's office the
76 time period might be too tight given how late the Public Hearing is. There might be a chance the
77 response might not be timely to move it onto the warrant. Hopefully everything works out that we get it
78 all back in time.

79
80

81 **Public Hearing for Proposed New Zoning Article (Section 3.6 F of Town Charter) for the**
82 **Hooksett Town Council to vote on Planning Board recommended Zoning amendments**
83
84

85 T. Tsantoulis- We started meeting on this issue a couple of months ago with D. Boutin and R. Lapierre.
86 This is not that radical of a change as many may think. The Town Councils zoning change sub-
87 committee recommends amending the Town's charter to allow Town Council to adopt, amend, or
88 repeal zoning ordinances, historic district ordinances, or building codes after the planning board holds
89 at least one public hearing in accordance with RSA 675:7. Presently, Town meeting votes to adopt,
90 amend or repeal zoning ordinances, historic district ordinances, or building codes. If approved by Town
91 Meeting, that responsibility would fall to Town Council. We want to maintain 2 processes that we
92 already have the function of the Planning Board and the Zoning Board. The difference now is that it
93 then passes to the voters, which as you know only occurs 1x a year. The proposal that we are looking
94 at is a current practice in a number of communities with the same type of government that we have in
95 Hooksett and the process has been given good review. The concern is that we are side stepping a
96 body, which we are not. The 2 bodies prior to passing it onto the council will remain the same. Planning
97 will make their recommendation then pass it along to Zoning and zoning will make its recommendation
98 to the council. There is a lot of pluses with that. We will be able to meet the needs of the communities in
99 a more timely fashion, the TC meets roughly 26 times a year giving us 26 times a year to handle issues
100 more quickly and efficiently. The 9-member body is representative of the town, again please
101 understand that we are looking to do is be able to meet the needs of the people that come before the
102 board. The current arrangement does not work well as the authority comes from the voters 1x a year.
103 The authority of the planning and zoning board will not change. All that will change is the final decision.

104 The planning board primarily develops and reviews proposed ordinances, code or district amendments
105 then they hold a public hearing on proposed amendments then the planning board recommends
106 proposed amendments to the warrant for Town Meeting vote. We want to change that and we want to
107 have it come before the town council, understand the TC responsible to their individual district
108 constituents. We will end up with better diversity with 9 votes throughout many times of the year vs 1x a
109 year.

110
111 J. Sullivan- the process will not change for the departments that currently overlook them. They will still
112 hold their own PH and more if needed. Once they complete the review to their satisfactory, it would
113 then go on to us to decide. If this does occur I would suggest that the council come up with certain
114 procedures on how we move forward with this.

115
116 T. Tsantoulis- we didn't want to give the appearance that we are trying to change the procedures of the
117 planning board. We continue to recognize the part that they play in the process. We just want an
118 opportunity to be more efficient and more effective to the residents and business owners in town.

119
120 R. Duhaime- what is the rush. Is a year not enough, is there a big rush for zoning changes? I think that
121 the zoning board is doing enough. How are you going to get anyone to stay? I applauded you for the
122 effort. I don't see the need, was there a petition that came out. Did residents want this? You are saying
123 that the Zoning is not doing enough? I am very surprised that we are hearing this.

124
125 J. Sullivan- if this change occurs, the Zoning Board is going to continue to do what it is still doing. That
126 process will not change. This is not changing the zoning or the planning board roles.

127
128 R. Lapierre- nothing changes in the role's responsibilities or processes that the planning or zoning
129 board does currently. All it does in the RSA:675 is changing that the legislative body have approval to
130 the town council have the approval, so that it can occur more than 1x a year.

131
132 R. Duhaime- tell me why we need this. What can the Town Council do better than the town people. I
133 am trying to understand this. I want to know why this is happening, why this is coming in front of the TC.

134
135 R. Lapierre- we meet more regularly, if you want to vote no, then you can vote no, I do not know why
136 you are taking this so personally.

137
138 J. Sullivan- according to charter. Any charter change can be requested and introduced by a town
139 councilor or by petition. A councilor suggested the change. All this will be doing is we will be sending
140 this charter change to the voters, to decide if they want to keep the process or tweak it. Back in 1988
141 the original charter commission in their minutes did reflect this was one of the issues that they debated.

142
143 D. Boutin- we are not reinventing the wheel here. We learned that there are 9 communities in NH that
144 are similar in size of population and geographically in area. In the town charter that they have the TC
145 has the authority to address zoning ordinances and map changes. They have no problems with it, and it
146 works efficiently. One difference is that planning board holds a PH 30 days after. The planning board
147 will still remain involved until the end.

148
149 T. Tsantoulis- I don't like to see this body get hung up when a change is proposed. To a certain degree
150 you have to step up and look at the function of government as a business and how efficiently things are
151 running. Just because we haven't done something one way, maybe we need to look at it differently and
152 see if and why it may change. I don't see that resisting change is a viable argument.

153
154 A. Walczyk- so the vote tonight is to decide to put it on the ballot in march and let the voters decide on
155 it.

156
157 J. Sullivan- no the decision on the 19th is to place it on the ballot or not. Then if it moves forward it will
158 go to the voters.

159
160 A. Garron- the only one correction I will say, on the 19th if we get the DRA. AG's office and secretary
161 approval, we will be able to hold the PH.

162
163 Tom Walsh Berry Hill Road- Chairman of the Planning Board. We had a meeting, and we did get a
164 consensus. Tom read a letter from the planning board: dear chair Sullivan and council members,
165 please be advised that the Planning Board is aware of proposed charter amendment currently under
166 review of the town council regarding the process by which the town adopts amendments to the official
167 zoning ordinances and the zoning town map. Please be advised after a period of discussion and
168 deliberation at by the board at its regularly scheduled meeting on 1/3/2022 7 of the 8 members present
169 motion to formally oppose the charter amendment proposed. For the record one of the 8 that voted
170 against it was the council rep. Why would you really want to take this on? This is not an easy task. I
171 was invited to one of the subcommittee meetings. I listened to the discussion and heard the want to
172 streamline the process and make things easier and avoid delays. Can you give me a business that was
173 delayed or denied? You cannot give me any. I disagree, I think that this is a direct major change. When
174 you take away the direct choice and direct change put it in the TC hands I think that is a major change.

175
176 David Ross 56 Sherwood Drive- planning is done by the planning board that's why we have one. You
177 can have an opinion and a recommendation but planning is not your job. Zoning is for the people. You
178 are taking the rights of the residents out of their hands. Don't even put this on the warrant, it is long
179 enough. The people own this town, and your job is to protect their interest. You better increase your
180 legal line and insurance because they will be lining up to sue you. This is watering down the votes. Like
181 what was stated, who got a phone call, where is the petition? We don't have to follow in line with other
182 Towns. We are different. If you want to change zoning, then you do it properly. Let the tax payers
183 decide.

184
185 Anne Stelmach- I to like Mr. Walsh was invited to the subcommittee and was not able to attend for
186 Covid reasons. The Zoning Board we briefly discussed it and to be honest we had more questions than
187 answers. I am not here to speak on behalf of them, but more so personally. Many think that this will put
188 zoning out of business, but I don't think that. As you know we are bound by certain criteria by the law,
189 and the legislature has outlined a process into which we have to follow to grant relief. I really believe
190 that developing the master plan really reflects the communities' priorities and that is a very long and
191 thoughtful process. It is the community's vision and direction they want their community to look like.
192 When a developer comes in, they are going to come in and say that we have a project, but the zoning
193 needs to be changed. It will be for their interests, but it does have a trickle-down effect that starts to
194 impact the master plan as more gets changed. When you remove something from a political process,
195 voters will look at this as voter suppression. I am concerned that there is no guardrail. Please put
196 something in place. I see unintended consequences. I did watch some of the videos, and I did not see
197 the motivation. I have not seen any developers that don't have to wait a year. I am trying to smoke out
198 the motivation. I am not afraid of change, but I am trying to figure out the why as well.

199
200 D. Boutin- it's not true that you have to be a SB2 Town. The reality is that we are giving the voters the
201 chance and that is by giving the question on the ballot. If they don't agree they will vote it down.

202
203 J. Sullivan- the language was reviewed by Town Attorney, we had the PH, the next step with the
204 conditions that Mr. Garron previously explained we will at our next meeting decide if it should move
205 further and move onto the ballot.

206

207 R. Duhaime- it is not broken I don't think it needs to move onto the ballot. It is a huge amount of time
208 that this council does not have time for.

209
210 J. Sullivan- once Planning Board has gone through their thorough review as it has been it will then
211 come to us with their blessing or not. Zoning will still have their part; they can still allow variances. If it is
212 going to give us more work, then yes, I am against this. The Planning and zoning will still control the
213 process. The only difference is that all the recommendations will come to us from the boards, and
214 instead of it going to the ballot in March, we say yes or no based on their recommendation.

~~215~~
217 **Tax Increment Finance District (TIF) –Public Hearing to Discuss Amending the Tax Increment**
218 **Finance Plan (see also item 9.1)**

219
220 J. Sullivan- tonight the boundaries are being presented by James Vayo on the increased boundaries for
221 the TIF District.

222
223 A. Garron- the TIF committee has been investigating expanding the district itself, right now it is
224 regulated to the west side of the river between exit 10 and 11. That district was expanded to exit 10
225 from the original one I believe in 2007, then further expanded from exit 10 to exit 11 in 2017. Now we
226 are looking to extend the TIF district to extend to the east side over the river. There are several other
227 lots that are also included that are south of industrial drive. There are several lots that are being
228 included that are going to be included within the existing district. All the lots that are being added to the
229 TIF District have been reviewed by SNPC Mr. Vayo will present that to the Council. The first part of this
230 hearing will be to discuss expanding the boundaries of the TIF district and the second part will be to
231 discuss making changes to the TIF. This is one of the most successful TIF districts that have been
232 implemented, that I have seen.

233
234 James Vayo- AICP Project Manager for SNHPC- gave an overview of what a build out analysis was
235 and how lots were determined to be included in the TIF district. Discussed the current area of the TIF,
236 and why the Town established it, meaning to intended to add sewer and water service improvements to
237 the district. With a total estimated cost of \$21 Million dollars. The amendment is to expand that plan to
238 include more parcels between exit 10 and 11 to capture water and sewer service plans for new
239 development and future development. The idea is to capture these parcels for anticipated capture in
240 future use. Existing and proposed parcels are allowed in the TIF. The expansion will include 123
241 parcels and approx. 1,490 acres. Within the TIF there are 8 land use zones. What exists today is 50
242 parcels that are undeveloped, and 73 parcels that have existing development. There is no expectation
243 that the development of sewer and water will change the character of the area in the future. Some
244 parcels were added to the proposed TIF district in anticipation of non-residential development of
245 residential parcels. Home Depot was also added in the new plan as it was not included in the 2017 TIF
246 district. It meets the original criteria, therefore we added it now. Some parcels were removed due to a
247 conflict in overlap of the TIF district with other pre-existing tax incentives.

248
249 R. Lapierre- is there consideration for land and slope in the FAR?

250
251 J. Vayo- no it does not.

252
253 J. Vayo- in the preliminary build out we have 3.7 million SF of non-residential development. This is a
254 "theoretical maximum" level of new development in the proposed TIF District. Potential TIF revenue is
255 \$8,624,853 based on projected assessed current value and the 2020 tax rate. This level of
256 development may or may not occur in the future and is not subject to any timeline. Final findings are
257 that 8 vacant parcels totaling 117 acres are not zoned for residential uses are not in the existing Route
258 3a TIF district. The buildout of the proposed TIF may look different than envisioned given the secular
259 shift away from bricks and mortar retail, towards e- commerce. Some parcels were excluded from

260 buildout analysis because of parcel geometry, environmental constraints, and uses such as public utility
261 and waterfront homes. Recommendations are to consider rezoning existing low density residential and
262 medium density residential properties within the proposed TIF district parcel set to allow nonresidential
263 uses as envisioned in the TIF district development plan language. In the future, consider the
264 implications of land use percentiles, required inmixed use district-5 for master development plan
265 products. Future developments in MUD-5 may have multiple uses on the same parcel.
266

267 Davis Ross 56 Sherwood Drive- the TIF that we have now should be the only property that is being
268 encumbered to that bond. Expanding the TIF should not be used to pay the bond. Right now, we are
269 seeing the dark side of TIF's. The properties are not producing enough money to cover the bond. What
270 I see from the changes is that we are doing spot changes. What would be the benefit of adding Home
271 Depo to the TIF, when it is a property that is already built out. They didn't need the TIF they already did
272 it on their own. You are going to have to float another bond in my opinion that encompasses the new
273 extended area. You can't just go adding collateral to an existing loan without the towns say so.
274

275 Don Winterton 10 Prescott Heights Hill Road- thank you for hiring a man who has worked with more TIF
276 districts than anyone. The reason why Home Depo was not included was because we were struggling
277 with the percentages and ratios of what could be taxable and what could not. Expanding the TIF district
278 to the east side of the river is the best idea ever. Adding water and sewer to these areas is great as
279 there is so much development potential. Yes, we are struggling but only due to abatements. This will
280 not go to the voters; this is a town council decision. As they are responsible for the TIF area. The voters
281 yes did vote for the bond but that is it. The sewer commission is behind this, the Economic Business
282 Development Commission is 100% behind this. When the TIF is done and the water and sewer is done,
283 the current developments will attach to the water & sewer, more restaurants will develop. I support this
284 completely. These will be commercial properties that will add to your tax base. When the TIF is done
285 and the water and sewer potential is done market basket will join the sewer so will Walmart, bass will
286 put a restaurant in, hotels will build. I do hope that the Board give it due consideration.
287

288 A. Walczyk- what would happen if where Home Depo was not originally included, and it is already built
289 out, why would we include it now? Would it skew the averages and or change the numbers?
290

291 A. Garron- it was included now as it does not skew the percentages. It does allow us to add to the TIF.
292 Including them still keeps us within the parameters. If Home Depot were to make a change, then we
293 can capture those changes in the TIF and collect on the new changes.
294

295 Mike Somers 64 Auburn Road- I also serve as the vice chair of the TIF advisory board. we have been
296 working on this project for several years. We have gone through engineering. We are certainly excited
297 for this discussion; we are in full support of adding to the TIF district. This will increase the zone and our
298 ability to buildout the infrastructure in the future. I and the advisory board are in full support.
299
300

301
302 A. Garron- the 2nd part of this is to look at district plan. The original plan was adopted back in 2017 and
303 obviously it was catered towards identify those parcels between exit 10 and 11 now that we are
304 expanding this district to include parcels on the east side. Financially this is also changing. Much like
305 the original TIF district plan that was started at exit 10 you had a prospect in hand, and I believe it was
306 the developers of the Target Cole area at the time. Based on that there were elements that were
307 incorporated within the written plan around that. Now we have a different proposal which we have a
308 prospect in hand with the opportunity of privately funding this infrastructure plan. The same plan that
309 the council hired Underwood Engineering for, and developed a plan for and also currently has funded
310 the engineering of that plan which is at 60 to 70% complete. We have a unique funding proposal that
311 requires alteration of our plan in order to include or to accept. We did ask our legal counsel to take a
312 look at what the proposal is. This sets up the mechanism for which that MOU can be achieved. I've

313 asked attorney Whitley to join us to discuss the changes that have been made. Once we get to the
314 funding sources that is where the attorney can take over.

315
316 Attorney Whitley- my recommendation given were to expand how the town can use those funds and
317 give more flexibility. The previous one was very limited to only paying off a bond debt and that was
318 about it. The changes will allow for the town to reimburse a private developer who has offered to take
319 on the funding of the improvements privately, so that the town is not having to take out a bond and not
320 having to ask the tax payers to get that money. Previously that plan did not allow for that. These
321 changes if passed would give you that flexibility. On the bottom of page 11 funding sources there is
322 some language included there for sources of funding that it can be from a mixture of sources or from
323 one source, and it adds town reimbursement of private funding of the development program. At the
324 bottom of that page there is a mention of using tax increments for grant match if that opportunity arises
325 the top of the next page again its use of tax increments to reimburse private funding of a development
326 program, document also clearly states that that the development program with a private developer must
327 in the towns opinion be consistent with this plan, and that the terms and conditions of the development
328 program and the work to be done under the program are to be agreed to in writing in advance between
329 the town and the developer. Just making sure that if you are going to have a private party involved in
330 this process that the work being done with private funds to be reimbursed with TIF funds is consistent
331 with this plan. We also added that if you have excess TIF funds, what they can be used for reimbursing
332 private developers. Then at the bottom of page 12 language was added to make it clear that the
333 taxpayers are not to carry any of this burden, that was the way this document was originally set out.
334 Just because you are adding additional sources of funding that should not change. This just clarifies
335 that when you are reimbursing a private developer for that work the taxpayers are not going to flip that
336 bill. There is just one other change that I had recommended, and it again just specifies that the use of
337 tax increments to reimburse needs to be set out in an appropriate development agreement that is
338 consistent with the plan. Those are the changes that I had recommended to give the town more
339 flexibility.

340
341 Don Winterton 10 Prescott's Heights Hill Road- I totally support this private public partnership. What's
342 coming down the road is huge warehousing in the e-commerce industry. It is exactly what was
343 predicted and what would be best for the land. As the attorney said the taxpayer is not on the hook for
344 this repayment. If we bonded this and then this project collapsed, we are still on the hook for this. If the
345 developer starts and then walks away, he is still on the hook, and we get free infrastructure for what
346 they have already done. One of the things this development has done is they have adapted the MOU to
347 give a minimum and maximum payback. There was concern that they were going to loan us 7 million
348 and we were going to have to pay them 22 million back. They put it in the MOU that it is between 14
349 and 16 million dollars. This is a project that will jump start that whole area of the district. It can jump
350 start the exit 10 area that has stalled. It does not have a downside of getting into a private public
351 partnership.

352
353 R. Duhaime- the traffic is my concern. Exit 10 back in the day was that we didn't put in the
354 infrastructure. Now if we put in the infrastructure and not tend to the roads. Exit 11 is already a mess.
355 And I see that exit 10 will be to. The traffic is my concern. With the funding we are only paying for a
356 portion of the area not the whole issue.

357
358 J. Sullivan- can you talk to the impact and how this plan change would or would not impact it.

359
360 A. Garron- this is focused on the water and sewer infrastructure. Can funds be used to address the
361 roads, yes it can be it would be an eligible use. Hooksett was successful in getting the route 3a
362 intersection back on the 10-year plan, and it increased the funding from 2.3 million to 4.2 million
363 because it now includes the route 3 main street intersection as well. I am ecstatic about it being re-
364 entered into the 10-year plan, that was a lot of work from a lot of folks to get that back on. That will go a
365 long way to address the traffic issues. As more development takes place and more tax increment is

366 placed in there the TIF committee can look at the issues and see what needs addressing as long as the
367 focus is for the TIF to improve water and sewer infrastructure within the district.

368
369 D. Winterton- we know that the government has passed infrastructure bills, they are looking for shovel
370 ready projects. If we were shovel ready, then we would be the perfect place to get funding grants.
371 There is no guarantee that it will happen.

372
373 J. Sullivan- before we get into 6.4 the council must take action on 6.3 TIF at a special meeting before
374 we can take any agreement on 6.4. Would it make any sense to continue this hearing until we approve
375 the TIF changes, then we would be in the correct boundaries to entertain any possible MOU with Mr.
376 Bartash. We have to approve the option to have this agreement before we can actually discuss this
377 agreement.

378
379 R. Duhaime- it is 9:00 pm I'd like to move on to staff issues and close the PH.

380
381 ***J. Sullivan motioned to close 6.1, 6.2 and 6.3 of the Public Hearing and address 6.4 at the next***
382 ***meeting on January 26, 2022, seconded by T. Tsantoulis.***

383
384 ***Vote in favor 6-0.***

385
386
387 **BICENTENNIAL MOMENT**

388
389 J. Sullivan asked Councilor Tsantoulis to read an excerpt on how Hooksett got its name by Elmer
390 Munson Hunt taken from the Manchester Union Leader.

391
392 T. Tsantoulis- Hooksett, this NH town, which consisted of a rocky ledge surrounded by clay soil,
393 flanking the Merrimack River above Manchester, was not officially named Hooksett until 1822, although
394 it had borne this name for almost fifty years prior to that time, before which it was called Chester
395 Woods. Hooksett's geological formation appears to have suggested its name, because of its having
396 been an island in the Merrimack in the shape of a hook, just as the geographically located town to the
397 north took the name Bow because of its curve. The name Hooksett is also said to have been given to it
398 by early fishermen whose baited hooks heled to bring in a plentiful supply of Salmon, sturgeon, and
399 shad below Hooksett Falls, and who sometimes referred to it as "Hookline Falls". The name Hooksett
400 has been variously elaborated with the prefixes "ana", "Hannah", "Onna", and "ama". Existing records
401 refer to one of its rock formations as Hooksett Pinnacle, and it has been given the French name of "Isla
402 au Hooksett". At one time it was the location of a cross- river ferry, of which there were several in that
403 section, connecting with settlements to the east. The "pinnacle" is nearly five hundred feet above the
404 river level, and the water power created by the falls led to the establishment of early lumber mills.
405 These were later superseded by a prosperous brick making establishment, and in 1794 by the lottery-
406 built Hooksett canal which became a part of the transportation facilities of the Amoskeag cotton mills at
407 Manchester. Prominent in the early settlement of Hooksett was Colonel James Head who fought with
408 the victorious General John Stark at Bennington, and was killed there. His descendant, Natt Head,
409 served as adjutant general of NH, and was the author of a series of reports giving biographical
410 information regarding every NH soldier from 1623 to the close of the Civil War. He became Governor of
411 the State in 1878.

412
413 J. Sullivan- the first day walk was successful in the rain. The next events will be on the 19th, 27th, 29th.

414
415
416
417 **Hooksett Municipal Employees**

418

419 A. Garron- Fecture Palmer got promoted to the recycling transfer division, Josh Hebert promoted and
420 Christine Jaymond is a new hire as an Administrative Assistant.

421

422 TOWN ADMINISTRATOR'S REPORT

423

424 A. Garron- today we had a strange day with weather wise and how quickly it changed and the damage
425 that it caused today. We had upwards of 24 to 25 accidents that the departments responded to today.
426 DPW responded as quickly as possible. Many calls came into the office as well as DPW. We commend
427 them for what they had to do and addressing the issues.

428

429 Covid- the number of new cases keep going up. Even though we don't have a mask mandate, you see
430 more and more people voluntary wearing masks. We are up to 204 cases in Hooksett. I think in time
431 the town council may need to re look at the mask mandate and the precautions.

432

433 J. Sullivan- I think it is a topic for consideration at our next meeting.

434

435 Community- OHD I know we were discussing a 3-day event, but the OHD committee met and decided
436 that it wants to keep it consistent with the past years and keep it to 1 day.

437

438 Data Verification Area- tax map update- Granite Hill Municipal Services will be starting the next round of
439 Data Verification for maps 8, 9, 10 and 11.

440

441 Town Video- at the last meeting a resident brought up having locally saved records of our meetings
442 kept. We cannot save them locally we would have to save them on a new server. It would need to be
443 tied to an encoder. There would be some steps. We would need to set some parameters. What is not
444 being achieved today, what will be achieved by doing this. They are already saved in the archives.
445 What will doing this solve? The video records started in 2012 and are available on our website. Before
446 that was just paper copies of the minutes. We also have minutes going back to 1974.

447

448 J. Sullivan – do we want the administrator to go further with this?

449

450 T. Tsantoulis- if we are meeting the state requirements and we have written records and minutes in the
451 archives we don't need to do any more.

452

453 A. Garron- back on December 10th the Fire Department held a booster program. About 55 boosters
454 were administered to our employees. There is going to be a booster blitz on Saturday the 8th
455 administered by the State. The Hooksett Library will also be holding a Booster clinic on Friday January
456 7th.

457

458 OLD BUSINESS

~~459~~

461 FY 2022-23 Budget and Warrant Articles

462

463 C. Tewksbury- we are in the home stretch but not finished. We need to move the default to the Budget
464 Committee so that they can have it for their PH on January 13th. Then there is a PH next week to
465 discuss the three wastewater bonding articles. There is also an article on the union contracts. I have
466 not heard that there are any petition warrant articles coming about. Then discussion on the order of the
467 warrant.

468

469 ***D. Boutin motioned to move the FY 2022-23 Default Budget in the amount of \$20,915,015.00 to***
470 ***the Budget Committee. Seconded by T. Tsantoulis.***

471
472 **Roll Call Vote #2**
473 ***R. Duhaime Aye***
474 ***J Durand NP***
475 ***C. Jones NP***
476 ***R. Lapierre Aye***
477 ***A. Walczyk Aye***
478 ***D. Boutin Aye***
479 ***C. Karolian NP***
480 ***T. Tsantoulis Aye***
481 ***J. Sullivan Aye***

482
483 ***Vote in favor 6-0***

484
485 C. Tewksbury- with the default we used the approved FY2021 budget and then we make changes only
486 to items that the voters approved like union contracts or the removal of any expired debt, plus any
487 refinancing in the TIF district then we removed several 1x items like funding for the bicentennial,
488 software upgrades and community development. That's how we come up with the 20 million dollars.

489
490 ***D. Boutin motioned to place a second article on the warrant for the Mid-Management Union***
491 ***Contract to reads: "Shall the town, if ARTICLE # ____ is defeated, authorize the governing body***
492 ***to call one special meeting, at its option, to address ARTICLE # ____ cost items only?" seconded***
493 ***by A. Walczyk.***

494
495 ***All in favor 6-0.***

496
497 C. Tewksbury- first on the warrant is election of officers, then any charter changes then zoning
498 amendments then debt articles, after that it can be whatever we want, typically can be higher to lower.

499
500 Consensus of the Council members was to keep it how we have always had it.

501
502 ***R. Lapierre motioned to extend the meeting past 9:30 to go over topics on the agenda of 14.2,***
503 ***15.1, 15.2. seconded by D. Boutin.***

504
505 ***Vote in favor 6-0.***

506
507 A. Garron – we have not heard back from the DRA, AG's office, or Secretary of States office. If it comes
508 in tomorrow, then I suggest we take it up at the next scheduled meeting.

~~509~~
510
511 **NEW BUSINESS**

512
513
514 **Fire Department Staff Car Purchase**

515
516
517 ***R. Lapierre motioned to purchase a 2022 Ford Expedition SSV for the Fire Rescue Department***
518 ***from Colonial Municipal Group for \$42,704.80 under the State of Massachusetts "Mass Buys"***
519 ***state contract which represents the purchase price, seconded by D. Boutin.***

520
521 **Roll Call Vote #3**
522 ***D. Boutin Aye***
523 ***C. Jones NP***

524 **A. Walczyk Aye**
525 **J. Durand NP**
526 **R. Duhaime Aye**
527 **T. Tsantoulis Aye**
528 **R. Lapierre Aye**
529 **C. Karolian NP**
530 **J. Sullivan Aye**

531
532 **Vote in favor 6-0**

533
534 R. Lapierre- I want to point out that the voters have already approved this purchase.
535

536 T. Tsantoulis- I am not happy with the buyback price of \$2,000 that they are giving us for a trade, I think
537 we can get more for it.
538

539 R. Duhaime- can we put it out on the web for auction.
540

541 A. Walczyk- why not stick with the Tahoe?
542

543 Fire Chief Colburn- yes, we can put it on the municipal website to see if it will sell for more. The Tahoe's
544 are not available. The dealer in Nashua who has the contract does not have access to them.
545

~~546~~
547
548 **Ambulance purchase by the Fire Rescue Department**

549
550 **T. Tsantoulis motioned to table agenda item #15.2 until the January 19th or the 26th meeting,**
551 **seconded by D. Boutin.**

552
553 **All in favor 6-0.**

554
555
556 **PUBLIC INPUT- None**

557
558 **NON-PUBLIC SESSION NH RSA 91-A:3 II (a)**

559
560 **J. Sullivan motioned to enter non-public session of January 5, 2022, at 9:43 pm in accordance**
561 **with NH RSA 91-A:3 II a. seconded by R. Lapierre.**

562
563 (a) The dismissal, promotion, or compensation of any public employee or the disciplining of such
564 employee, or the investigation of any charges against him or her, unless the employee affected (1) has
565 a right to a meeting and (2) requests that the meeting be open, in which case the request shall be
566 granted.

567
568 **Roll Call Vote #4**
569 **A. Walczyk Aye**
570 **R. Lapierre Aye**
571 **C. Jones NP**
572 **R. Duhaime Aye**
573 **J. Durand NP**
574 **C. Karolian NP**
575 **T. Tsantoulis Aye**

576 **D. Boutin Aye**
577 **J. Sullivan Aye**
578
579 **Vote in favor 6-0.**
580
581 **J. Sullivan motioned to come out of non-public session of 1/5/2022 at 9:54 pm, seconded by D.**
582 **Boutin.**
583
584 **Vote in favor 6-0.**

585 **J. Sullivan motioned to seal the minutes of 1/5/2022; seconded by D. Boutin.**

586 **Roll Call Vote #6**
587 **J. Durand NP**
588 **R. Lapierre Aye**
589 **C. Karolian NP**
590 **D. Boutin Aye**
591 **C. Jones NP**
592 **T. Tsantoulis Aye**
593 **A. Walczyk Aye**
594 **R. Duhaime Aye**
595 **J. Sullivan Aye**
596
597 **Vote in favor 6-0.**
598
599 **ADJOURNMENT**
~~600~~
602 **Chair Sullivan motioned to adjourn the meeting at 9:55 pm. Seconded by D. Boutin.**
603
604 **Vote in favor 6-0.**
605
606 Respectfully submitted,
607 *Alicia Jipson*
608
609 Alicia Jipson
610 Recording Clerk
611
612
613
614
615
616
617 Please see subsequent meeting minutes for any amendments to these minutes
618