

**Town of Hooksett
Town Council Meeting Minutes
Wednesday, March 8, 2023**

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The Hooksett Town Council met on Wednesday, March 8, 2023, at 6:00 in the Hooksett Municipal Building.

CALL TO ORDER

Chair Sullivan called the meeting of 08 Mar 2023 to order at (6:01) pm.

PROOF OF POSTING

Human Resource Coordinator Donna Fitzpatrick provided proof of posting.

ROLL CALL

In Attendance: Councilor James Sullivan, Councilor Timothy Tsantoulis, Councilor Alex Walczyk, Councilor Randall Lapierre, Councilor David Boutin, and Councilor John Durand, Councilor Keith Judge, Councilor Roger Duhaime.

Absent: Councilor David Ross.

PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

Moment of Silence for Margaret Teravainen.

AGENDA OVERVIEW J. Sullivan gave the agenda overview.

SPECIAL RECOGNITION

7.1 Hooksett Municipal Employee - New Hire

A. Garron- no new employees, we do have 1 departure Nicholas Williams the Town Planner.

PUBLIC INPUT - 15 MINUTES

L. Farrell- I'm responding to the summary that T. Tsantoulis responded in regard to our 3 meetings. In his letter he wrote there are more questions, and the subject matter is more complex. I hope you realize that there is a big problem here in how we are taxed and what we get for our tax dollars. We are not letting this go. We are organized, we are paying attention.

P. Scarpetti- I was on the trash committee. I wanted to bring up that it can be a large item or a more direct item. We are one of the few towns that reimburse the residents of condos for trash pickup. As much as we want to pickup trash for everyone we cant. I'm on the Planning Board when we issued the approvals for condos they have dumpsters on site, and they don't make the roads to town spec. They talked about picking up the dumpsters, but those are front load trucks that we do not have. The

42 dumpsters alone are 2-4 thousand dollars each are we going to start buying those? We can't afford
43 that. Then someone talked about doing a separate tax rate for condos. We talked about the
44 reimbursement again and maybe we just stick with that.

45

46 **SCHEDULED APPOINTMENTS**

47

48 **9.1 Carrie Hyde Hooksett Old Home Day September 16, 2023, Update**

49

50 C. Hyde- the date is Saturday 16, 2023. This year I think is my 10th year running OHD last year we had
51 93 vendors. For 2023 we'd like to bring back the parade at 10am. Then we will have opening ceremony
52 after. In 2022 vendors had a good turnout. In 2023 we will have vendors stay till 5:30. The activities will
53 be free to the community. Winter carnival had a good idea of hot air balloon rides, but it was canceled
54 due to weather, so I am going to look into that for OHD. I'd like to bring back trolley tours.

55

56 T. Tsantoulis- if you would clarify a statement you made. You made a statement that you would require
57 them to stay till a specific time.

58

59 C. Hyde- a lot of our vendors are older and only want to do half day and they were starting to pick up
60 around 2, wed ask them to stay till 5:00.

61

62 A. Garron- I think you do a great job with OHD, but as a budget person I ask that you be mindful of the
63 budget as last year we had overages.

64

65 **9.2 Annual Update from the Parks and Recreation Advisory Board - Andy Janosz, Chair**

66

67 ***J. Sullivan motioned to remove from the table Annual Update from the Parks and Recreation***
68 ***Advisory Board seconded by K. Judge.***

69

70 ***Vote in favor 8-0***

71

72 A. Janosz- Lamberts Park, we added 2 projects, we added Horseshoe pits. We will ask the boy scouts if
73 they want to assist. The other project is the brick pavers. Awhile ago we asked Kathy Northrup to do a
74 write up for us on Lamberts Park but do to her passing we have asked the Heritage to do the write up.
75 We felt the conservation commission should deal with the dog park. We will help out if asked.

76

77 R. Duhaime- you came forward to us before that you didn't like that we weren't having a lot of activities
78 on this side of town. Are you looking at any other parks to have activities?

79

80 A. Janosz- we are looking for your direction as to what you want and need.

81

82 R. Duhaime- do you have any items on the CIP or planned improvements other than Lamberts Park?

83

84 A. Janosz- no we don't.

85

86 A. Garron- can that be added to the investigation of the advisory board of looking at the appropriate
87 places to look at possible spaces in the westside.

88
89 R. Duhaime- we have pinnacle park that was donated to us and I'd love to see ideas of how we can
90 make that a park.

91
92 ***R. Duhaime motioned to charge the Parks and Rec Advisory Committee to Investigate what we***
93 ***need to do to get Pinnacle Park into a better park seconded by D. Boutin.***

94
95 A. Garron- I just want to make it clear that the park not be limited to specific athletic fields.

96
97 D. Boutin- this motion is specific to Pinnacle. The councilor is concerned about Pinnacle Park.

98
99 **Roll Call Vote #2**

100 ***R. Duhaime Aye***

101 ***J Durand Aye***

102 ***D. Ross NP***

103 ***R. Lapierre Aye***

104 ***A. Walczyk Aye***

105 ***D. Boutin Aye***

106 ***K. Judge Aye***

107 ***T. Tsantoulis Aye***

108 ***J. Sullivan Aye***

109

110 ***Vote in favor 8-0***

111

112 A. Walczyk- is it possible to get a list of town owned property over to the advisory board.

113

114 A. Garron- yes, we can, and we have so that we can get input for possible town use.

115

116 R. Lapierre- I brought this up in the past. The state of the major's field is unplayable. Most of the games
117 get played in Manchester due to the state of our fields. I don't know if it is on the capital plan and if it is
118 not, it should be.

119

120 **9.3 Trash Subcommittee Update**

121

122 T. Tsantoulis- the council members have background info on the 3 meetings that we had. The comment
123 made earlier, was made due to the fact that the subject matter is beyond the group. Whatever the
124 decision that is going to be made will affect more. There have been remarks been made that we signed
125 for something that can't be changed. I try to present the facts. This is how it states today that it is
126 supported by zoning and planning don't shoot the messenger.

127

128 J. Sullivan- I know part of the challenge that I see is the impact on planning and zoning approval of
129 subdivisions, some of the new were approved additional units because there was no need for trash
130 collection. One individual asked about increasing the reimbursement. The original reimbursement was
131 \$31, and somehow, we moved to \$21. There seems to be a impact to the operating budget as we may

132 need more staff and trucks. My other thought would be if we want to come up with a possible resolution
133 or compromise on this. I live in granite Hills in an individual home where we have trash collection.

134
135 R. Duhaime- this is a complex situation.

136
137 R. Lapierre- what are we doing? Are we just going to talk about it? Are we just going to have 8 opinions
138 and not do anything about it?

139
140 J. Sullivan- the committee needs more guidance and information.

141
142 ***R. Duhaime motioned to supply these residents with trash pickup. No second motion fails.***

143
144 A. Garron- as a result of the committee if you are looking at the next steps we need to know the costs.
145 Right now, we repay \$65,000 a year to those residents. We need to look at what it would take to collect
146 condo trash.

147
148 R. Lapierre- in addition to what you said in regard to the planning board and in most instances these
149 options were bargained away by the developer to get these complexes in. To know that is important to
150 know if the TC has the right to overturn the PB decisions.

151
152 A. Walczyk- the TA brought up a lot of good points that deserve research. Do we have the capacity to
153 handle that much garbage, do we have the employees, the trucks. It is a good start that we go down
154 that path. We should put this on a future agenda to get the ball rolling.

155
156 J. Sullivan- we will put this on a future agenda item.

157
158 D. Boutin- I am confused on this, why is this complicated.

159
160 **BRIEF RECESS**

161
162 ***J. Sullivan motioned that we table this discussion for a future date, seconded by D. Boutin***
163 ***Vote in favor 8-0***

164
165 Comment from the audience- I made this recommendation or proposal why don't we subcontract trash
166 collection to areas that we do not currently pick up trash. It will be cheaper. The issues of barrels and
167 dumpsters would be addressed by the Hauler as they have the means. Lapierre made a comment
168 about condos and that trash is to be collected by the condo association. That is true we had that in our
169 deceleration but were made to change it so that we are not responsible.

170
171 **CONSENT AGENDA**

172
173 ***T. Tsantoulis motioned to accept the consent agenda as presented for items 10.1 and 10.2***
174 ***seconded by D. Boutin.***

175

176 **Vote in favor 8-0**

177
178 10.1 To accept a donation of \$100.00 made by Grace Zacaroli to the Town of Hooksett for the Fire-
179 Rescue Department in gratitude for EMS services rendered per RSA 31:95-b,III (b)

180
181 10.2 Accept State of NH Dept of Safety - Division of Fire Standards & Training & EMS funds
182 reimbursed to the Town of Hooksett, NH in the amount of \$1281.31 for Hooksett Fire-Rescue
183 Department members overtime costs from January 2023 training class, per NH RSA 31:95-b III(b).

184
185 **NOMINATIONS AND APPOINTMENTS**

186
187 **11.1 Matt St. Pierre - Alternate for Zoning Board of Adjustment**

188
189 ***R. Lapierre motioned to nominate and appoint Matt St. Pierre to the Zoning Board of Adjustment***
190 ***as an Alternate with a term expiring June 30, 2026. Seconded by D. Boutin.***

191
192 **Vote in favor 8-0**

193
194 M. St. Pierre- I moved here a year ago, my background is in architecture. I currently work as a data
195 analysisist for Merchants. I think a lot of Board members make emotional decisions on boards, but I
196 think data driven decisions are better. I think that my background in architecture is an asset and I think I
197 will be a good asset to the board.

198
199 T. Tsantoulis- thank you for stepping up to volunteering, does he meet the 1-year residency
200 requirements?

201
202 J. Sullivan- residency requirements only pertain to the Town Council.

203
204 **OLD BUSINESS**

205
206 **13.1 Request to discuss potential Parks & Rec Projects - tabled 2/8/23.**

207
208 **NEW BUSINESS**

209
210 **14.1 Purchase of Kubota Mower**

211
212 ***A. Walczyk motioned to approve and consent the purchase of Kubota Mower from MB Tractor***
213 ***for \$16,989.22, seconded by D. Boutin.***

214
215 T. Tsantoulis- a few years ago a tractor was hit by a vehicle. Is this replacing that?

216
217 B. Berthiaume- This one is a little different than the one we had before.

218
219 R. Duhaime- how many mowers do we have like this?

220

221 B. Berthiaume- We have 6 Kabotas like this one. This is to replace one of the 2003 Kabotas. Highway
222 has a toro that we are going to sell.

223

224 **Roll Call Vote #3**

225 ***D. Boutin Aye***

226 ***D. Ross NP***

227 ***A. Walczyk Aye***

228 ***J. Durand Aye***

229 ***R. Duhaime Nay***

230 ***T. Tsantoulis Aye***

231 ***R. Lapierre Aye***

232 ***K. Judge Aye***

233 ***J. Sullivan Aye***

234

235 ***Vote 7-1***

236

237 **14.2 Petersbrook Clubhouse/Concession and Restrooms**

238

239 ***D. Boutin motioned to approve and consent acceptance of proposal from CXT for a Keystone***
240 ***23' X 26' structure for Petersbrook Clubhouse/Concession and Restrooms in the amount of***
241 ***\$287,799.80 to be funded from ARPA funds; seconded by T. Tsantoulis.***

242

243 T. Tsantoulis- having visited this at another field, I think it will be nice to have this at the field.

244

245 B. Berthiaume- I am developing the RFP's into separate packing. We are looking for a delivery out in
246 late September. When we get those numbers back from electrical and plumbing, we will have a better
247 idea of total costs.

248

249 R. Lapierre- what do we have for impact fees?

250

251 B. Berthiaume- As of January we have \$97,603.

252

253 R. Lapierre- is DPW going to do any of this work?

254

255 B. Berthiaume- I think it would be best to hire a subcontractor as we are not licensed electricians or
256 plumbers. We may be able to do some site work.

257

258 T. Tsantoulis- will this be gravity fed or pump assist?

259

260 B. Berthiaume- It will be pump assist and gravity assist to a well and pumped to the street.

261

262 A. Walczyk-do they have a cancelation policy if this does not move forward?

263

264

265

266 **Roll Call Vote #4**
267 **A. Walczyk Nay**
268 **R. Lapierre Aye**
269 **D. Ross NP**
270 **R. Duhaime Aye**
271 **J. Durand Nay**
272 **K. Judge Aye**
273 **T. Tsantoulis Aye**
274 **D. Boutin Aye**
275 **J. Sullivan Aye**

276
277 **Vote in favor 6-2**
278

279 **14.3 To approve the expenditure of \$8,986.32 of impact fees from the Fire Impact Fee Account**
280 **for the purchase of a base station radio for the Hooksett Emergency Operations Center, per**
281 **RSA 674:21, V and Hooksett's Impact Fee Ordinance.**

282
283 ***D. Boutin motioned to allow the expenditure of the \$8,986.32 of impact fees for the purchase of***
284 ***the radio base for the EOC; seconded by K. Judge.***

285
286 **Vote in favor 7-1**
287

288 **APPROVAL OF MINUTES**

289
290 ***T. Tsantoulis motioned to approve the public minutes of February 22, 2023; seconded by D.***
291 ***Boutin.***

292
293 Correction to line 497 and I don't have all the answers should read and we don't have all the answers.

294
295 **Vote in favor 8-0**
296

297 ***R. Lapierre motioned to approve the non-public minutes of February 22, 2023; seconded by D.***
298 ***Boutin.***

299
300 **Vote in favor 8-0**
301

302 **TOWN ADMINISTRATOR'S REPORT**

303
304 A. Garron presented on the topics below.

- 305 • March 14, 2023, Election Day at Cawley Middle School- everyone get out and vote.
- 306 • Town Planner- Nicholas Williams, Town Planner has submitted his letter of resignation. Last day
- 307 with the town of Hooksett is March 17, 2023.
- 308 • Road Salt level- we purchased an order of salt that was 283 tons. Last few storms we used
- 309 about 262 tons. Leaving 6-7 treatment run in the shed DPW may need to order more salt to not
- 310 only finish this winter season, but also leave Hooksett with salt for the beginning of the next
- 311 winter season. Room within the existing budget for the additional purchase

- 312 • Town Council participation in QBS review for Hackett Hill/Rt. 3A project- we are going to have a
313 quality-based review coming up, I invite all to come and participate.
314 • Date of ARPA Committee Mtg- a date was not established with meeting again.
315 • New Gooseneck Microphone in Chambers- the wireless microphones are gone, and the
316 hardwired ones are in. The sound over the video sounds good. You have to bring them close to
317 you and speak into the mics.
318 • Direct Congressional Spending- I'd like to get permission to allow chair Sullivan to write a letter
319 of support on the behalf of the TC.

320 ***D. Boutin moved to allow that Chair Sullivan write a letter of support on the behalf of the TC.***

321 ***T. Tsantoulis seconded the motion.***

322 ***Vote in favor 7-0.***

323

324 TOWN COUNCIL FUTURE AGENDA ITEMS

325

326 T. Tsantoulis- I think we need to address the lack of attendance of a particular councilor.

327

328 D. Boutin- how many are you allowed?

329

330 J. Sullivan- after 3 consecutive or 25% of all regularly scheduled meetings.

331

332 SUB-COMMITTEE REPORTS

333

334 A. Garron- there was discussion on the Master plan and the housing needs. The last chapter that they
335 are working on. There was a site plan submitted for crane road. One of the sites are being proposed for
336 a 6 bay contractor yard that was tabled because they wanted to get the town engineer to look at the
337 grading.

338

339 J. Sullivan- Charter Review Committee- we met today as the charge was sort of open ended. We talked
340 about the # of council men and stipends and will reach out to the supervisors of the checklist for more
341 information.

342

343 D. Boutin- I would say that if you have any issues if we have districts or no districts, the # of councilors
344 please let us know your input.

345

346 J. Sullivan- also quorum vs super majority

347

348 ***J. Sullivan motioned to enter NON-PUBLIC SESSION #1 NH RSA 91-A:3 II e & I.; seconded by K.***
349 ***Judge.***

350

351 ***Roll Call Vote #5***

352 ***T. Tsantoulis Aye***

353 ***D. Ross NP***

354 ***R. Duhaime Aye***

355 ***A. Walczyk Aye***

356 ***R. Lapierre Aye***

357 **K. Judge Aye**
358 **J. Durand NP**
359 **D. Boutin Aye**
360 **J. Sullivan Aye**

361
362 **Vote in favor 7-0**
363

364 **NON-PUBLIC SESSION NH RSA 91-A:3 II E & L.**

365 (e) Consideration or negotiation of pending claims or litigation which has been threatened in writing or
366 filed by or against the public body or any subdivision thereof, or by or against any member thereof
367 because of his or her membership in such public body, until the claim or litigation has been fully
368 adjudicated or otherwise settled. Any application filed for tax abatement, pursuant to law, with anybody
369 or board shall not constitute a threatened or filed litigation against any public body for the purposes of
370 this subparagraph.

371
372 (f) Consideration of legal advice provided by legal counsel, either in writing or orally, to one or more
373 members of the public body, even where legal counsel is not present.

374
375 **J. Sullivan motioned to seal the minutes of March 8, 2023; seconded by R. Lapierre.**
376

377 **Roll Call Vote #6**
378 **J. Durand NP**
379 **R. Lapierre Aye**
380 **K. Judge Aye**
381 **D. Boutin Aye**
382 **D. Ross NP**
383 **T. Tsantoulis Aye**
384 **A. Walczyk Aye**
385 **R. Duhaime Aye**
386 **J. Sullivan Aye**

387
388 **Vote in favor 7-0**
389

390 **ADJOURNMENT**

391
392 **J. Sullivan motioned to leave non-public session of March 8, 2023, at 8:32 pm; seconded by T.**
393 **Tsantoulis.**

394
395 **Vote in favor 7-0**
396

397 Respectfully submitted,

398
399 *Alicia Jipson*

400
401 Alicia Jipson
402 Recording Clerk
403