

FINAL

BOARD OF SELECTMEN'S MEETING

March 24, 2008

7:30 P.M. – MUNICIPAL OFFICE BUILDING – HANOVER NH

The meeting of the Board of Selectmen was called to order at 7:30 p.m. by Chairman Brian Walsh. Present were: Brian Walsh, Chairman; Katherine Connolly, Vice Chairman; Peter Christie, Selectman; Bill Baschnagel, Selectman; Athos Rassias, Selectman and Julia Griffin, Town Manager.

1. PUBLIC COMMENT.

Chairman Walsh asked for any public comment. There were no comments from the public.

2. PUBLIC HEARING TO CONSIDER BORROWING \$6,000,000 FROM THE STATE OF NEW HAMPSHIRE, STATE WATER POLLUTION CONTROL REVOLVING FUND PROGRAM FOR NECESSARY IMPROVEMENTS TO THE WATER RECLAMATION FACILITY.

Chairman Walsh opened the public hearing to consider borrowing \$6,000,000 for improvements to the Water Reclamation Facility. Ms. Griffin reported that this item was being considered by the Board and an information sheet had been sent to the Board members that may ultimately be used to educate the residents. Ms. Griffin gave an overview of the work that was needed in 2003 and the way that it was funded at that time including money from the Capital Reserve Fund, State Revolving Loan, Water Reclamation Facility Undesignated Fund Balance, and sewer contributions from Dartmouth and DHMC. Ms. Griffin stated that in 2003, the Town spent \$4.7 million including a State Revolving Fund loan for \$3,000,000 to make the Phase I improvements to the facility.

Ms. Griffin stated that the item that will be brought before Town Meeting, pending Board approval, will be whether to borrow \$6,000,000 and allocate an additional \$242,000 from the WRF Undesignated Fund Balance and \$1.2 million from the Capital Reserve Funds for the Phase II improvements.

Ms. Griffin stated that these projects were proposed to be done in two phases by Underwood Engineers. The Town last did a substantial upgrade of the plant in 1988 – 1989 with an understanding that this would last around 15 - 20 years. Ms. Griffin stated that these improvements should allow the Town to enjoy use of the plant without the need for another significant improvement in the facility for many years to come.

Selectman Baschnagel cautioned that the term “upgrade” might confuse the residents and he wanted to make it clear that they are not increasing capacity but rehabilitating the facility. Ms. Griffin stated that there have been three issues that they have tried to deal with in the last few years. First, to address the “liquids train” coming from the plant which is the liquid that is ultimately discharged into the Connecticut River. The second was to increase the solids handling

capacity of the plant. The last piece that they are looking to address is to overhaul the equipment that is coming to the end of its useful life.

Chairman Walsh would like to make sure that the information being sent out to residents is very simple. He would like to point out that unless the EPA changes their regulations, these improvements should last through the life of the bond.

Ms. Griffin went on to the background portion of the information that was put together. She wanted to point out to residents that most of these facilities in the Upper Valley were constructed in the late '60s early '70s and they were largely funded by the Government at that time. Ms. Griffin reported that the facility was designed to handle 2.3 million gallon per day (mgd) hydraulic capacity and an organic strength of 194 milligrams per liter (mg/l) of BOD. When the Water Reclamation Facility approached its 15 year mark, there was a substantial amount of State money available for upgrades. In 2002, the Town learned that they were in violation due to repeated effluent limits violations for coli form. The decision was made to go with the chlorination/de-chlorination system improvements.

Ms. Griffin stated that they retained Underwood Engineers to do an assessment of the facility for the Phase II project. There were \$11 million in improvements recommended in the Phase II study and the list was brought down on an itemized list.

Chairman Walsh would like to see a graph with this information that will help the residents have a better visual of what is happening versus a lot of wording.

Ms. Griffin pointed out that one of the challenges of this facility is that when the College is closed, the intake drops by over 50% and with the UV system, the facility was constantly seeing system upsets during these particular times. This activity can shock the treatment plant especially with an anaerobic digester when the 'bugs' require a certain amount of food and the intake is depleted. Ms. Griffin stated that they sat down with DHMC and the Hanover Inn to ask that they stop food grinding and sending it down the wastewater pipes.

Ms. Griffin highlighted the proposal for Phase II. The recommendation is to replace aging equipment and initiatives to improve the sustainability of the plant including using methane to heat the plant so that the facility is self sufficient. Ms. Griffin wanted to spell out the projects for residents so that they understand what the equipment does and how the facility operates and what the proposed improvements will accomplish.

Selectman Baschnagel and Selectman Christie offered Ms. Griffin some suggestions regarding the presentation information for the residents. Selectman Christie suggested providing pictures of the Water Reclamation Facility and the aging equipment. Selectman Baschnagel stated that when he thought of the Facility as a factory with solids coming in and being processed and then the final product ends up at the other end, this was a visual that was helpful to him. Selectman Christie didn't feel that the residents would need or necessarily want too much detail but a general understanding that this equipment is well used and in need of improvement.

Hilary Pridgen, Etna, asked about the impact on the sewer user fees. Ms. Griffin stated that there will not be a change in the fees and by designing the new fees which were adopted last June, they had the ability to fund the principal and interest payments on the borrowing that had already been done. Ms. McClain cautioned that the sewer rates were increased since the last annual bill was sent out so residents have not seen that increase from the last billing cycle. Ms. Griffin stated that the new sewer bills will go out in May. The Board compared the rates in Hanover versus other towns and the rates were right around the State average.

Selectman Christie felt that the Town needs to make residents aware that while they are raising in total enough money to cover all of the costs, the Board is looking at the allocation of who pays those fees; looking at various user groups whether residential, commercial, industrial, institutional etc. and that each of them produce a different burden on the plant.

Ms. Pridgen stated that each taxpayer will be paying for these improvements. Chairman Walsh clarified that this is not the case and the bonds would be general obligation bonds for the Town of Hanover but they would be paid for by the people or businesses that are connected to the facility through sewer fees, not general taxes. Ms. Pridgen asked to clarify that she should not anticipate spending any additional money over her sewer fees to pay for this project.

Chairman Walsh clarified that the Board raised the fees last year because they knew that there was a lot of work that needed to be done. The Board felt it made more sense to borrow now and have the cost of these changes borne by people over time as they use them. Ms. McClain confirmed that the bond will carry an interest rate of approximately 3.75%. Selectman Christie also stated that they are looking at how this money is allocated by user and at this point it is unclear whether the rates will go up or down for the residents or the institutional user, etc. because right now the allocation is done based on meter size.

Ms. Pridgen asked why the Town is taking DHMC's sewage and whether they are increasing the capacity of the plant to benefit this large Lebanon user.

Ms. Griffin stated that when the hospital first moved from Hanover to Lebanon, the Town had just upgraded the plant. The plant had significant additional hydraulic and solids handling capacity before Centerra and expansions on campus. The Town decided to provide Wastewater Treatment services for the Gile watershed. Since that time, DHMC expanded twice, Centerra grew and the Town began to see the increasing complexity of the waste coming from these developments and others; it was clear that the Town needed to change the way they handled both solids and liquids. The decision to serve Centerra and DHMC came at a time when there was plenty of additional capacity and there is an agreement in place that the Town needs to treat the waste coming from those areas and if the Town ever decided not to handle the influx of wastewater, they would be required to give 5 years notice. Ms. Griffin stated that the Town looked into detail at the pros and cons of not taking Lebanon's wastewater and looked at the cost for the sewer users if they eliminated those flows. The cost would increase significantly for residents because it would be spread over a smaller number of users.

Ms. Griffin stated the facilities in Lebanon generate over 30% of the wastewater flows to the plant and discussions about different scenarios prompted a build-out analysis. Ms. Pridgen asked if the build-out only handled the next 20 years. Ms. Griffin stated that they did a maximum/permanent build-out analysis for the entire area that Hanover covers and Lebanon did one for their community. Ms. Griffin stated that they have communicated to Lebanon that there is only so much capacity that the facility can handle and once the work is completed on the plant, there is only so much additional capacity that can be made available to them.

Ms. Pridgen asked how close in-town Hanover is to being at build-out. Ms. Griffin offered to show Ms. Pridgen the build-out analysis which is part of the Master Plan.

Selectman Christie reported that what's driving the need for the renovations is the replacement of old equipment. If they cut back on volume to just Hanover's needs, it would only save a very small percentage but if the flow was eliminated from Lebanon, the rates would be raised by another 25%. Ms. Pridgen stated that her concern was that the Town would be overbuilding the facility.

Chairman Walsh stated the capacity is set at 2.3 million gallons/day and the capacity can not change. Ms. Pridgen asked what the plant generally handles each day. Ms. Griffin recalled that it was around 1.5 million gallons/day. Ms. Griffin stated that they do have peak periods where they hit the maximum hydraulic capacity. Chairman Walsh stated in the rest of the country there would be a sewer district and that would have been put in place when the plant was first built and it would probably overlap a number of counties. Chairman Walsh clarified that the Town serves the watershed that naturally flows down to the treatment plant, so if people think about this as a sewage treatment district which is paid for by the people who use the services versus the Hanover Treatment Plant. Chairman Walsh felt that it sounds like Hanover is doing something for Lebanon but that is not the case because the Town has a responsibility of serving the area of the watershed. Chairman Walsh stated that they spent a lot of time talking with Lebanon to discuss what their contribution should be and it became evident that losing those flows was going to be very expensive for those who were users of the plant and there were capital needs that needed to be addressed so it did not work in anyone's best interest.

Ms. Griffin stated that ultimately they felt that to the extent that the Lebanon users contribute to fixed costs of the plant, the Hanover ratepayers are in a better financial position if the Town continues to receive those flows.

Dennis Goodman, Hanover Center, asked the Board whether any of the new equipment will make it easier to increase development over what is now allowed with the zoning. Ms. Griffin stated that the build-out analysis was done and then assumed maximum build-out based on that zoning. There is only so much additional capacity that the facility can take. This is not going to enable more intensive development in the community because there is only so much capacity.

Selectman Baschnagel went to Google Earth and looked at the treatment facility and noted that there is very limited space left in that area. Ms. Griffin stated that the capacity has a great deal to do with the footprint of the plant and what the Connecticut River can handle.

Ms. Pridgen asked what would happen if the College wanted to add 1,000 students to their enrollment. Selectman Baschnagel stated that this would come up in zoning and it was possible that the College could be told that they can not do that.

Ms. Griffin stated that the City of Lebanon also has an aging plant that needs significant improvements. Ms. Pridgen asked about additional development on Route 120 toward Exit 18. Ms. Griffin stated that the Town will not handle anything that is developed over that side of the hill. Chairman Walsh clarified that this is not an investment to increase capacity but rather improvements that will make the facility more cost efficient and more environmentally efficient.

Selectman Christie felt that these same questions will come up by other residents and these are the answers that the Board will need to articulate to the residents.

Chairman Walsh stated that one of the decisions that needs to be made is whether to bring this to this year's Town Meeting or next year's. He also noted that many bond issues around the State have been turned down and he isn't sure that this would necessarily happen at Town Meeting. Ms. Pridgen stated that if residents just receive their sewer bill, they may be inclined to vote no. Chairman Walsh stated that they need to make it clear to residents that there will still be an increase in the bills they are about to receive regardless of these improvements.

Selectman Baschnagel pointed out that the projects could be handled one at a time but he has concerns over the possible change in interest rates for the bond and whether this would cost so much more if it is put off another year.

Ms. Griffin stated when attending meetings with other Town Managers, she learned that a lot of bonds did fail at Town Meetings due to the concerns of the residents about the economy. Ms. Griffin feels that they would get a better rate for the SRF this summer versus next summer.

Selectman Christie confirmed that the residents were informed that the sewer rates would be increased. Ms. McClain stated that residents were informed but they probably will not remember until they receive their new bills. Selectman Baschnagel wanted to reiterate that information to the residents.

Dennis Goodman asked how critical it is that the equipment be replaced now versus next year. Selectman Baschnagel stated that the equipment is failing and staff is having a hard time finding replacement parts, etc. Ms. Griffin added that if they wait, this project will be more expensive in years to come. Selectman Christie stated that part of the appeal of bonding is that the money is received all at once and the project can be done right. The other benefit is that the cost will be spread over 15 years which is when the users are enjoying the benefits of the investment. If the improvements are done in pieces over the next 2 to 3 years, the rates will need to be increased even more.

Chairman Walsh felt that putting this before Town Meeting this year is the right thing to do but he has concerned that the Board may not be able to adequately educate the residents in the next

few weeks before Town Meeting. Ms. Griffin felt that she and Ms. McClain could put the information together to present it to the residents. Chairman Walsh would like to have another public hearing on April 7th.

Chairman Walsh MOVED to continue the public hearing to April 7, 2008 to consider borrowing \$6,000,000 from the State of New Hampshire for necessary improvements to the Water Reclamation Facility. Selectman Baschnagel SECONDED the motion.

THE BOARD VOTED UNANIMOUSLY IN FAVOR OF CONTINUING THE PUBLIC HEARING TO APRIL 7, 2008 TO CONSIDER BORROWING \$6,000,000 FROM THE STATE OF NEW HAMPSHIRE FOR NECESSARY IMPROVEMENTS TO THE WATER RECLAMATION FACILITY.

3. CONTINUED PUBLIC HEARING TO CONSIDER ADOPTION OF THE FY 2008-2009 PROPOSED BUDGET.

Chairman Walsh opened the public hearing to consider adoption of the FY 2008-2009 budget. Chairman Walsh explained that at the end of the last budget meeting, the effective tax rate increase would be 0% but if the money that was put in for the July, 2005 storm, the effective tax rate increase would be 5.3%. Chairman Walsh reported that one item left for consideration is whether to put any additional money in this year's budget due to the damage to roads over the winter months.

Chairman Walsh asked the other Board members for their input as to where they should go from here. Selectman Rassias felt that adding 1% would not make much of a difference. Selectman Baschnagel referred to a list provided by Peter Kulbacki (Director of Public Works) and asked how these roads would be repaired if they did not appropriate additional money. Ms. Griffin advised that the Town stretches their money the best that they can to fix the roads and if they appropriate \$70,000 they could repair one of the roads on the list. Ms. Griffin noted that the roads may settle down a bit from the heaving that had occurred and pre-mudseason may not be the best time to determine what is needed.

Chairman Walsh felt that this issue could be put on a warrant article to determine how much money the Town should put forward to fix the roads that are used most heavily and have been most damaged by this past season's winter damage. Chairman Walsh didn't feel that \$70,000 would make much of a difference and he's not ready to talk about raising it 2%. Selectman Rassias asked what was being put toward paving in this year's budget. Ms. McClain noted that they have \$351,000 to go into the paving budget. Ms. Griffin gave a list of the roads that are on schedule for repaving this year and noted that they are on the schedule based on their close proximity to each other.

Ms. Griffin stated that the list for overlay this summer (based on the regular schedule) Foxfield Lane, Heneage, Hilton Field Lane, Ledge Road, Meadow, Pine Drive, Rip Road, Rope Ferry Road, Verona Avenue, West Wheelock Street, and Willow Springs Lane.

Selectman Baschnagel did not feel that the Board was in a position to recommend that Public Works does one thing instead of another, he felt that if they were to defer some or all of those roads, they could repair a lot of the roads damaged by the winter season.

Chairman Walsh also stated that they could ask for more information from Peter Kulbacki by April 7th. Selectman Christie advised that although \$70,000 might not sound like a lot, it would double the amount that is currently being budgeted. Selectman Christie recommended adding \$70,000 into the budget. Selectman Baschnagel felt that he would rather do that than put this on a Warrant article.

Selectman Christie MOVED to add \$70,000 to the paving budget. Selectman Baschnagel SECONDED the motion.

THE BOARD OF SELECTMEN VOTED UNANIMOUSLY IN FAVOR OF ADDING \$70,000 TO THE PAVING BUDGET.

Selectman Christie asked what would the impact would be if they reduce the real estate valuation overlay budget and it turns out that they underestimated the amount. Ms. McClain stated that this would mean that they would need to reduce the amount out of the Undesignated Fund Balance.

Vice Chairman Connolly asked about the police facility bond and the addition of over \$60,000 into the budget. Ms. McClain noted that this money went toward the building improvement capital reserve fund including anticipated projects that will come out of the energy audits. Ms. Griffin reported that the Town has been setting aside \$40,000 in overlay for the proposed budget and the suggestion had been to add an additional \$30,000. Ms. Griffin added that the Board could reduce the contribution to \$40,000 and add the additional funding (of \$30,000) to the paving budget. Selectman Christie recognized that the current state of the economy makes this more difficult but question what history has shown to determine what is adequate. Mr. Ryan stated that the amount appropriated for overlay has been quite small and he didn't have the numbers from 2003 as to how much was abated. Selectman Baschnagel does feel that this is the year that people will appeal their taxes. Mr. Ryan was not as concerned about this but if there is a serious problem and they are not adequately funded to handle it, it provides a very tough situation. Ms. McClain noted that the current balance in overlay is \$117,000 prior to adding another \$40,000. Selectman Christie feels that with the knowledge of the issue with the roads, he would suggest diverting the additional \$30,000 to paving which a known need is versus and hypothetical need. Ms. McClain clarified that by making these changes it increases the tax rate 2/3%.

Selectman Christie MOVED to reduce the appropriation for Overlay in the proposed budget by \$30,000 (from \$70,000 to \$40,000) to help defray the impact of the increased paving appropriation. Selectman Baschnagel SECONDED the motion.

THE BOARD VOTED UNANIMOUSLY IN FAVOR OF REDUCING THE FY2008-2009 OVERLAY APPROPRIATION BY \$30,000 (FROM \$70,000 TO \$40,000).

Chairman Walsh MOVED to adopt the proposed budget for FY 2008-2009. Selectman Christie SECONDED the motion.

THE BOARD VOTED UNANIMOUSLY IN FAVOR OF ADOPTING THE PROPOSED BUDGET FOR FY 2008-2009.

4. RECOMMENDATION TO APPROVE CONTRACT FOR FY 2008-2009, 2009-2010 AND 2010-2011 WITH AFSCME LOCAL 1348.

Chairman Walsh reported that the Board received information on this but asked Ms. Griffin to go over the highlights of this recommendation. Ms. Griffin stated that they have come to a tentative agreement for a contract with AFSCME Local 1348 which represents the Public Works employees for July 1, 2008 through June 30, 2011. The contract includes a 3% cost of living adjustment (COLA) effective July 1, 2008; a 1% to 3% COLA for July 1, 2009; and a 1% to 3% COLA for July 1, 2010. Ms. Griffin clarified that the 1% to 3% amounts are linked to the CPI for December of that fiscal year. There are some major NH Retirement System increases coming effective July 1, 2009 and it was made clear at the bargaining table that the Town is concerned about the increase in costs of the compensation package that the Town is responsible for.

Chairman Walsh noted that there were negotiations regarding co-pays and asked for a summary of these discussions. Ms. McClain noted that the current co-pay formula has 4 tiers. For those employees earning less than \$30,000 there is a 5.5% cost share; employees earning \$30,000-\$45,000 there is an 8% cost share; for \$45,000 to \$55,000 there is a 9% cost share and for employees earning greater than \$55,000 there is a 10% cost share. With the proposed contract there are three tiers (10, 12 and 15). Employees earning less than \$45,000 pay 10%; \$45,000-\$55,000 pay 12 percent; and for those employees who earn over \$55,000, they would pay 15%.

Vice Chairman Connolly MOVED to approve the contract for FY 2008-2009, FY 2009-2010 and FY 2010-2011 with AFSCME Local 1348. Selectman Baschnagel SECONDED the motion.

THE BOARD VOTED UNANIMOUSLY TO APPROVE THE CONTRACT FOR FY 2008-2009, AND 2010-2011 WITH AFSCME LOCAL 1348.

Ms. Griffin noted that the Police Union and the Fire Dept Union are still in negotiations and she has made it clear to the Unions that they are approaching the deadline (April 8th) to get it settled this year.

5. RECOMMENDATION TO SET PRE-TOWN MEETING PUBLIC HEARING ON MONDAY, APRIL 7, 2008 TO REVIEW AND APPROVE THE PROPOSED WARRANT FOR 2008 TOWN MEETING.

Chairman Walsh MOVED to set the pre-Town Meeting public hearing on Monday, April 7, 2008 to review and approve the proposed warrant for the 2008 Town Meeting. Selectman Baschnagel SECONDED the motion.

THE BOARD VOTED UNANIMOUSLY TO SET THE PRE-TOWN MEETING PUBLIC HEARING ON MONDAY, APRIL 7, 2008 TO REVIEW AND APPROVE THE PROPOSED WARRANT FOR THE 2008 TOWN MEETING.

- 6. RECOMMENDATION TO SET A PUBLIC HEARING ON MONDAY, APRIL 21, 2008 TO CONSIDER AND APPROVE THE PROPOSED HOUSING FUND BUDGET FOR FY 2008-2009.**

Chairman Walsh MOVED to set a public hearing on Monday, April 21, 2008 to consider and approve the proposed Housing Fund Budget for FY 2008-2009. Selectman Baschnagel SECONDED.

THE BOARD VOTED UNANIMOUSLY TO SET A PUBLIC HEARING ON MONDAY, APRIL 21, 2008 TO CONSIDER AND APPROVE THE PROPOSED HOUSING FUND BUDGET FOR FY 2008-2009.

- 7. BANNER REQUESTS/STREET CLOSURES:**
 - American Red Cross Blood Drive
 - StreetFest

Chairman Walsh MOVED to approve the Banner Request of the American Red Cross Blood Drive. Selectman Baschnagel SECONDED the motion.

THE BOARD VOTED UNANIMOUSLY IN FAVOR OF APPROVING THE BANNER REQUEST OF THE AMERICAN RED CROSS BLOOD DRIVE.

Chairman Walsh MOVED to approve the Banner Request for StreetFest. Selectman Baschnagel SECONDED the motion.

THE BOARD VOTED UNANIMOUSLY IN FAVOR OF APPROVING THE BANNER REQUEST FOR STREETFEST.

Chairman Walsh asked Ms. Griffin about the free parking request for StreetFest. Ms. Griffin noted that she received an e-mail from Sharyn Amberger and the Town does not typically waive parking throughout the Town for this event. Chairman Walsh suggested asking the DMA and the Chamber to present the Board with some reasons as to why they should change the parking requirements for StreetFest. Selectman Baschnagel noted that the Town still offers 3 hours of free parking in the parking garage.

- 8. APPROVAL OF MINUTES:**
 - March 12 and 13, 2008

Vice Chairman Connolly MOVED to approve the Minutes of March 12, 2008 with minor changes. Selectman Baschnagel SECONDED the motion.

THE BOARD VOTED TO APPROVE THE MINUTES OF MARCH 12, 2008 WITH MINOR CHANGES. FOUR IN FAVOR, ZERO OPPOSED WITH ONE ABSTAINING. CHAIRMAN WALSH ABSTAINED FROM THE VOTE.

Vice Chairman Connolly MOVED to approve the Minutes of March 13, 2008 with minor changes. Selectman Baschnagel SECONDED the motion.

THE BOARD VOTED TO APPROVE THE MINUTES OF MARCH 13, 2008 WITH MINOR CHANGES. FOUR IN FAVOR, ZERO OPPOSED WITH ONE ABSTAINING. CHAIRMAN WALSH ABSTAINED FROM THE VOTE.

9. ADMINISTRATIVE REPORTS.

Ms. Griffin reported that there has been a lot of activity in the Legislature. Regarding the NH Retirement System fun, House Bill 1645 which reflects the recommendation by the Retirement System Study Group/Working Commission, passed in the House by a large margin. The Bill undertakes a fairly significant overhaul of the NH Retirement System. She has been in touch with Senator Burling to express support for adoption of the Bill as proposed. Ms. Griffin reported that two of the labor bills that they were concerned about did pass in the House and she will express her concerns to Senator Burling about the passing of those bills.

The most concerning Bill is the Evergreen Clause Bill which basically states that if a bargaining unit has an agreement that's expired and there is a failure to negotiate a bargaining agreement between the employer and the employee, the cost of living adjustment that existed in the prior bargaining agreement will continue in perpetuity until a new agreement is decided on and removes that decision making ability from the legislative body. Ms. Griffin felt that this would lead to the resolution of fewer bargaining agreements. This Bill also allows for a bargaining unit to form with only 1 person versus the currently required 10 people.

Ms. Griffin reported that the school funding legislation came out of the legislation last week with a vote of 14 to 10 with Senator Burling voting in favor of creating the donor situation again. Hanover and Portsmouth are not on the list of Towns that would be donors but there is still a \$79 million funding gap in the formula.

Ms. Griffin reported that she received a call from a reporter from the Valley News who was working on a story about a petition that was filed in Superior Court which is challenging a possible violation of procedure on the vote for the Grafton County Jail. She is not sure who has initiated this petition.

10. SELECTMEN'S REPORTS.

Peter Christie

Selectman Christie reported that he met with the Affordable Housing Commission and received an update on the Gile Community housing. Although they cannot yet take deposits, there have been a significant number of people who have committed to the units is significant. There is a feeling that less money will be spent on carrying a lot of interest and therefore more money can be put into the project itself.

Selectman Christie reported that the Recycling Committee met and they will be making efforts to educate and discourage people from buying bottled water. They are considering offering for sale re-usable water bottles that are not made out of plastic.

Kate Connolly

Vice Chairman Connolly reported that the Planning Board had a long hearing on Rivercrest which will be continued. There are several issues up for discussion including design of Lyme Road, the use of the northern roundabout and the number of entrances and exits need to be addressed.

Vice Chairman Connolly reported that the proposed Trumbull Nelson parking facility on Trumbull Nelson property has been continued to next month.

Vice Chairman Connolly announced that some legislature passed regarding some new shoreline regulations and there will be a presentation on the Shoreline Protection Acts at the Lake Sunapee Community Building in New London tomorrow night at 6:30.

Bill Baschnagel

Selectman Baschnagel reported that the Transportation Management Association (TMA) met and they are about to launch more aggressive annual re-visit to get more companies and businesses involved in their efforts.

Athos Rassias

Selectman Rassias had nothing new to report.

Brian Walsh

Chairman Walsh reported that the Chamber of Commerce has completed a report of their parking and zoning task force. He feels that they will vote favorably to forward this on to the Select Board.

Chairman Walsh noted that the Board received the Chapter 2 Land Use Draft by the Upper Valley Lake Sunapee Regional Planning Commission (UVLSRPC) and he would like to talk about what the process should be to respond to this and whether they should have the Planning Board respond. Selectman Baschnagel stated that there was limited time since there is a public hearing scheduled for April 16th to adopt the draft. Selectman Baschnagel felt that the Planning

Board needs to read it and this was something that was supposed to be published 10 years ago. Vice Chairman Connolly advised that this is something that was in existence and the RPC is proposing changes. Selectman Baschnagel would encourage the RPC to put a draft together in consultation with the Planning Board of the communities that they are talking about. Ms. Griffin stated that they are looking for comments from the regions stakeholders at the April 16th meeting. Selectman Baschnagel stated that the draft suggestions that for Hanover are not consistent with the Master Plan. Chairman Walsh would like to send them a letter that it was an unreasonable request to ask for a response within 3 weeks on this document and the Planning Board, staff and Select Board will need a chance to look at it and respond after Town Meeting. Ms. Griffin observed that the Regional Plan was something that was done in the past without a lot of active participation from the member communities. Ms. Griffin suggested that they suggest a more dynamic process to have a more profound dialogue. Selectman Baschnagel would recommend that they review the Master Plans of the communities that they serve. Ms. Griffin envisions sending a letter with the concerns brought forth from the Board.

11. OTHER BUSINESS.

Chairman Walsh NOMINATED Selectman Christie to be a Director of the Hanover Water Company representing the Town of Hanover. Vice Chairman Connolly SECONDED the motion.

THE BOARD VOTED IN FAVOR OF THE NOMINATION OF SELECTMAN CHRISTIE AS A DIRECTOR OF THE HANOVER WATER COMPANY REPRESENTING THE TOWN OF HANOVER. FOUR IN FAVOR, ZERO OPPOSED AND ONE ABSTAINING. SELECTMAN CHRISTIE ABSTAINED FROM THE VOTE.

Chairman Walsh noted a request from Penny Hoisington to provide information for the Selectmen's Letter for the Town Report. Vice Chairman Connolly will take the lead and other members will provide information to her.

12. ADJOURNMENT.

Selectman Baschnagel MOVED to adjourn the meeting. Vice Chairman Connolly SECONDED the motion.

THE BOARD VOTED UNANIMOUSLY IN FAVOR OF ADJOURNING THE MEETING AT 10:04 P.M.

Respectfully Submitted,

Athos Rassias, Secretary

Minutes prepared by Elizabeth S. Rathburn.

SUMMARY

1. **Chairman Walsh MOVED to continue the public hearing to April 7, 2008 to consider borrowing \$6,000,000 from the State of New Hampshire for necessary improvements to the Water Reclamation Facility. Selectman Baschnagel SECONDED the motion.**

THE BOARD VOTED UNANIMOUSLY IN FAVOR OF CONTINUING THE PUBLIC HEARING TO APRIL 7, 2008 TO CONSIDER BORROWING \$6,000,000 FROM THE STATE OF NEW HAMPSHIRE FOR NECESSARY IMPROVEMENTS TO THE WATER RECLAMATION FACILITY.

2. **Selectman Christie MOVED to add \$70,000 to the paving budget. Selectman Baschnagel SECONDED the motion.**

THE BOARD OF SELECTMEN VOTED UNANIMOUSLY IN FAVOR OF ADDING \$70,000 TO THE PAVING BUDGET.

3. **Selectman Christie MOVED to reduce the appropriation for Overlay in the proposed budget by \$30,000 (from \$70,000 to \$40,000) to help defray the impact of the increased paving appropriation. Selectman Baschnagel SECONDED the motion.**

THE BOARD VOTED UNANIMOUSLY IN FAVOR OF REDUCING THE FY2008-2009 OVERLAY APPROPRIATION BY \$30,000 (FROM \$70,000 TO \$40,000).

4. **Chairman Walsh MOVED to adopt the proposed budget for FY 2008-2009. Selectman Christie SECONDED the motion.**

THE BOARD VOTED UNANIMOUSLY IN FAVOR OF ADOPTING THE PROPOSED BUDGET FOR FY 2008-2009.

5. **Vice Chairman Connolly MOVED to approve the contract for FY 2008-2009, FY 2009-2010 and FY 2010-2011 with AFSCME Local 1348. Selectman Baschnagel SECONDED the motion.**

THE BOARD VOTED UNANIMOUSLY TO APPROVE THE CONTRACT FOR FY 2008-2009, AND 2010-2011 WITH AFSCME LOCAL 1348.

6. **Chairman Walsh MOVED to set the pre-Town Meeting public hearing on Monday, April 7, 2008 to review and approve the proposed warrant for the 2008 Town Meeting. Selectman Baschnagel SECONDED the motion.**

THE BOARD VOTED UNANIMOUSLY TO SET THE PRE-TOWN MEETING PUBLIC HEARING ON MONDAY, APRIL 7, 2008 TO REVIEW AND APPROVE THE PROPOSED WARRANT FOR THE 2008 TOWN MEETING.

7. **Chairman Walsh MOVED to set a public hearing on Monday, April 21, 2008 to consider and approve the proposed Housing Fund Budget for FY 2008-2009. Selectman Baschnagel SECONDED.**

THE BOARD VOTED UNANIMOUSLY TO SET A PUBLIC HEARING ON MONDAY, APRIL 21, 2008 TO CONSIDER AND APPROVE THE PROPOSED HOUSING FUND BUDGET FOR FY 2008-2009.

8. **Chairman Walsh MOVED to approve the Banner Request of the American Red Cross Blood Drive. Selectman Baschnagel SECONDED the motion.**

THE BOARD VOTED UNANIMOUSLY IN FAVOR OF APPROVING THE BANNER REQUEST OF THE AMERICAN RED CROSS BLOOD DRIVE.

9. **Chairman Walsh MOVED to approve the Banner Request for StreetFest. Selectman Baschnagel SECONDED the motion.**

THE BOARD VOTED UNANIMOUSLY IN FAVOR OF APPROVING THE BANNER REQUEST FOR STREETFEST.

10. **Vice Chairman Connolly MOVED to approve the Minutes of March 12, 2008 with minor changes. Selectman Baschnagel SECONDED the motion.**

THE BOARD VOTED TO APPROVE THE MINUTES OF MARCH 12, 2008 WITH MINOR CHANGES. FOUR IN FAVOR, ZERO OPPOSED WITH ONE ABSTAINING. CHAIRMAN WALSH ABSTAINED FROM THE VOTE.

11. **Vice Chairman Connolly MOVED to approve the Minutes of March 13, 2008 with minor changes. Selectman Baschnagel SECONDED the motion.**

THE BOARD VOTED TO APPROVE THE MINUTES OF MARCH 13, 2008 WITH MINOR CHANGES. FOUR IN FAVOR, ZERO OPPOSED WITH ONE ABSTAINING. CHAIRMAN WALSH ABSTAINED FROM THE VOTE.

12. **Chairman Walsh NOMINATED Selectman Christie to a Director of the Hanover Water Company representing the Town of Hanover. Vice Chairman Connolly SECONDED the motion.**

THE BOARD VOTED IN FAVOR OF THE NOMINATION OF SELECTMAN CHRISTIE AS A DIRECTOR OF THE HANOVER WATER COMPANY REPRESENTING THE TOWN OF HANOVER. FOUR IN FAVOR, ZERO

OPPOSED AND ONE ABSTAINING. SELECTMAN CHRISTIE ABSTAINED FROM THE VOTE.

- 13. Selectman Baschnagel MOVED to adjourn the meeting. Vice Chairman Connolly SECONDED the motion.**

THE BOARD VOTED UNANIMOUSLY IN FAVOR OF ADJOURNING THE MEETING AT 10:04 P.M.