

**Board of Selectmen  
Meeting Minutes  
May 28, 2025**

Present: James Bailey – Chairman, Iris Campbell – Selectwoman, Richard Pelletier - Selectman and Laura Buono, Town Administrator

Others present: Leigh Bosse, Riche' Colcombe, Ernie Butler, Kim Opperman

Pledge of Allegiance was recited

Meeting opened at 6:00 pm

**1. PUBLIC COMMENT**

Leigh Bosse recommended using the Associated Electric site for a public safety building and then convert the police department for the town offices and the fire department for a community building.

Riche' Colcombe thanked the Board for the discussion at the last Selectmen's meeting regarding the road she lives on and the drainage problem, a solution has been reached. Ms. Colcombe also wanted to thank the police department for their help placing Memorial Day flags.

**2. KIM OPPERMAN - COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT BLOCK GRANT**

Mr. Opperman met with the Board to discuss developing the fourth floor of his apartment building located at 4 Bear Hill Road. He is interested in adding 4 affordable housing apartments with balconies and would like the Board to consider allowing him to apply for a Community Development Block Grant which has to go through the Town. The plans were reviewed by the Board with Mr. Opperman. Ms. Buono said she has questions as to how that is handled when only a portion of an existing apartment building is going to be covered by a CDBG. The Board is in favor of Mr. Opperman pursuing a CDBG if the project is acceptable for this type of funding. Mr. Opperman will contact Donna Lane and discuss it further with her.

**3. MEETING MINUTES**

Chairman Bailey made a motion to accept the meeting minutes dated May 13, 2025. Selectman Pelletier seconded the motion, the motion passed.

**4. CONSENT AGENDA**

Chairman Bailey made a motion to approve the Consent Agenda for May 28, 2025. Selectman Pelletier seconded the motion, the motion passed.

- First Issue Tax Warrant in the amount of \$10,477,968.50
- 2024 Tax Abatement – Map 999 Lot 1 \$9,272.88
- Cemetery Deed – Hoesch, Robin @ Harvey Memorial; Livingston, Eugene & Marianne @ Harvey Memorial

## **5. MANIFEST**

Chairman Bailey made a motion to authorize the Selectmen to sign manifests and order the Treasurer to sign Payroll Check numbers 20145 – 20169 a/k/a Vouchers 21 & 22 in the amount of \$227,549.44 (includes 218 direct deposit stubs) and Accounts Payable Check numbers 033891 – 033952 a/k/a Voucher 19 & 20 in the amount of \$1,128,141.81. Selectman Pelletier seconded the motion, the motion passed.

\*\*A/P Checks include payment to HDSD in the amount of \$905,640.46.

## **6. TOWN OF DEERING WITHDRAW FROM THE SAU**

Ms. Buono said that a Selectmen's representative is needed to sit on the committee to study the Town of Deering's desire to withdraw from the SAU. She said she was contacted by Chris Bober of the School Board requesting that one be appointed so that a meeting can be scheduled later this week. Selectman Pelletier volunteered to serve as the representative for the Board since he had previously served on the School Board.

## **7. SCHOLARSHIPS**

Mr. Baily said that the Board needs to appoint a citizen to represent the town to serve on the Lila Murphy Scholarship Board which pertains to awarding scholarships from that fund. He said that Nancy Egner has previously served and is interested in continuing in that role.

Chairman Bailey made a motion to appoint Nancy Egner as a citizen representative to the Lila Murphy scholarship. Selectman Pelletier seconded the motion, the motion passed.

## **8. VOTING COUNTING DEVICE**

Ms. Buono sad that Chairman Bailey made a motion to approve the purchase of a dominion image cast precinct ballot counting device from LHS Associates. Selectman Pelletier seconded the motion, the motion passed.

## **9. AVANRU DEVELOPMENT WATER/SEWER FEES**

Selectman Pelletier said that Avanru Development met with the commissioners on May 27th to negotiate the cost for water & sewer hookup for the second phase of the development in which they are planning to scale back because of the costs the fees are. He said that he attended that meeting and said if the project goes as originally planned before the scaled back version, the Town could gain approximately \$500,000 to & \$750,000 in aditional tax revenue per year. At that same meeting Selectman Pelletier said he asked about a proposal if Avanru and the town each came up with a third of the fees the Commission is charging, would they then waive the other one-third. The commissioners were receptive to at least talking about it if the Selectmen agree with that proposal. Selectman Pelletier said Avanru owes the Town \$30,000 when they start the second apartment building so if the Board agrees to take the other \$20,000 from the infrastructure fund since that is what the fees are for, then they are able to have Avenru and the Commissioners to each agree to \$50,000, then perhaps the original plan will be reconsidered by Avenru. He said there are too many tax dollars on the line with this project and feels the Selectmen should do something. The Board discussed this and Chairman Bailey had some reservations in setting a

presidence but within that discussion it was noted that they would be using money that the Town only has because of Avenru's development. Ms. Buono brought up the scenario of perhaps putting the money towards the loop that the water department wants the developer to include in this project since that is for the benefit of the Town and not the developer instead. Selectman Pelletier said either way the money still goes to water & sewer. Selectman Pelletier mentioned the \$30,000 the developer owes the Town and asked how that money will be handled. Ms. Buono said she would need to speak to the auditor and ask that the money to be categorized as deferred revenue with the other funds from that project or it can be used toward the \$50,000 proposal. Most of the Board is still open to discussion but no commitment was made.

## **10. GRANTS**

Ms. Buono said she will be meeting with Nancy Merrill who is the consultant for grants which she had previously brought up to the Board so that we can have some assistance on current grants if needed, as well as in applying for the Brownsfield grant for the Associated Electric site. She said that she will be bringing Ms. Merrill to both the sites of Woods Woolen and Associated Electric next week so that she can take a look at the areas.

## **11. NONPUBLIC SESSION**

Chairman Bailey made a motion to go into nonpublic session at 7:22 p.m. under RSA 91-A: 3 II (c) Reputation. Selectman Pelletier seconded the motion. Roll call vote: Bailey – yes, Campbell – yes, Pelletier – yes. The motion passed.

In attendance: Chairman Bailey, Selectwoman Campbell, Selectman Pelletier, Town Administrator Laura Buono, Ernie Butler.

Mr. Butler spoke with the Board about a personnel decision they made at their last meeting.

Chairman Bailey made a motion to come out of nonpublic session at 7:30 p.m. Selectman Pelletier seconded the motion. Roll call vote: Bailey – yes, Campbell – yes, Pelletier – yes. The motion passed.

Meeting adjourned at 7:30 pm

A true record  
Mary Whalen  
Recording Secretary

Date: \_\_\_\_\_

Approved by:  
Hillsborough Selectboard

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James C. Bailey, III, Chairman

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Iris Campbell, Selectwoman

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Richard Pelletier, Selectman