

Annotated Agenda

January 21, 2013

2. FY2014 Budget Deliberations

Guests: None

Enclosures: (1) See all updated budget information on the website:
<http://www.hinesburg.org/budget/index.html>
(2) See last week's Selectboard packet.

Last week the Selectboard did not spend too much time on budget deliberations due to the fact that only 3 members were in attendance. We are down to some of the last minute changes before the budget can be finalized. I met with a Board member this week and a key point we discussed is that estimated grand list growth on its own will increase property tax revenues by about \$20,000 (if you keep the tax flat from 2013 to 2014). The current budget shows an increase of \$50,543 (line 4 – Revenues). Therefore, the estimated tax rate increase shown currently of 0.48¢ 'makes-up' that additional \$30,000+.

Some of the last issues to iron out are: 1) how much fund balance to apply; 2) to fund the paving budget at the same amount as this year or some other amount (currently the paving budget is \$25,000 less than current year); 3) last sweep of line-item expenditures.

Ideally, the Selectboard can come to a consensus on the budget; if not, we will have to get together again during the week because the budget MUST be set next Monday at the Selectboard meeting.

No Official Action Anticipated.

4. Town Forest Committee

Guests: (1) Chuck Reiss
(2) Other TFC Members

Enclosures: (1) Town Forest Committee Town Report Write-Up for 2012.
(2) See TFC webpage: <http://www.hinesburg.org/townforestcomm.html>

The Town Forest Committee has attended a number of Selectboard meetings over the past 12 months. Most notably, the Town Forest Management Plan was adopted back in September by the Selectboard after a number of meetings and public hearings. They are here tonight as part of our rotation of meeting with each Town committee, board, and commission each year. Their report – hot off the press – for the 2012 Town Report is included in the Selectboard packet and they will review the status of their committee and review their future plans.

No Official Action Anticipated.

5. Conservation Commission – Budget Request

Guests: (1) Bill Marks, Chair
(2) Other Commission Members

Enclosures: (1) See FY2014 Expenditures: Line #279 – 289
(2) See Conservation Commission website:
<http://www.hinesburg.org/conservationcomm.html>
(3) October 1, 2012 Presentation from Lake Iroquois Association

- (4) See July 23, 2012 Selectboard Packet Agenda Item #6:
http://www.hinesburg.org/selectboard/meeting_packet/12-0723/
(5) See October 1, 2012 Selectboard Packet Agenda Item #7:
http://www.hinesburg.org/selectboard/meeting_packet/12-1001/

The Conservation Commission will discuss their FY2014 budget. I think they are actually going to ask for a reduction to their 'typical' budget request. However, as the Selectboard knows, their budget also shows an additional \$5,000 for work on the sediment mitigation project the Lake Iroquois Association is managing. I have invited representatives of the LIA to attend for this budget item as well.

Consider a Motion to Accpet the FY2014 Conservation Commisison Budget Request of \$_____ and take the request into strong consideration before finalizing the FY2014 Hinesburg Town budget and setting the Town Meeting Warning on January 28, 2013.

6. CBC Interviews

Guests: (1) Meg Handler

Enclosures: (1) Meg's Information

Meg will be in attendance with the Conservation Commission (see agenda item above) and so the Selectboard will have the chance to officially 'interview' her and, hopefully, appoint her to a seat on the Conservation Commission. Meg has already been very involved in the work of the CC and will transition seamlessly to an official seat on the Commission.

Currently the Commission has four (4) empty seats Commission members serve for a 4-yr term.

Consider Appointing Meg Handler to a 4-year term on the Conservation Commission ending December 31, 2016

7. Lake Iroquois Recreation District Update

Guests: (1) Michelle Fischer

Enclosures: (1) See LIRD website: <http://www.hinesburg.org/lakeiroquois/>

The Lake Iroquois Recreation District beach area, along with its 150 acres of open land, continues to serve the district towns of Hinesburg, Richmond, St. George, and Williston, as well as all non-residents. The district lands provide access to swimming, picnicking, playground equipment, and walking trails.

The beach area is host to birthday parties, individual and group functions, and summertime fun. Costs for septic maintenance and summer staff represent the majority of annual expenses. Water quality sampling continues on a weekly basis.

The beach is area is open for the summer season from Memorial Day to Labor Day and continues to be a beautiful and affordable local recreation area. Annual beach passes are available for a fee at the Town Clerk's Office.

Lake Iroquois Recreation District Representatives

Michelle Fischer	Hinesburg
Bruce Hoar, Chair	Richmond
Susan Bishop, Treasurer	Williston

The municipalities of Hinesburg, Williston, St. George and Richmond border Lake Iroquois. It is these municipalities that make up the Lake Iroquois Recreation District. One resident from each member

municipality make up the Board of Commissioners.

The district exists for the purpose of owning, leasing, developing, maintaining, and managing its property located on Lake Iroquois and vicinity, for public park, conservation, and recreational purposes to serve its member communities.

The District Commission normally meets the first Monday of each month at the Williston Town Office.

Hinesburg's representative to the LIRD, Michelle Fischer, will attend to update the Selectboard on the activities of the LIRD. I also wanted to schedule the LIRD for the same night members of the Lake Iroquois Association were going to be in attendance so there could be some communication between the LIA, LIRD, CC, and Selectboard.

For FY2013 an allocation of \$600 to the LIRD was voted on and approved as a separate Article at Town Meeting.

No Official Action Anticipated.

8. Public Safety Facility Project

Guests: None

Enclosures: (1) Updated Public Safety Facility Presentation
(2) See updated webpage: <http://www.hinesburg.org/public-safety-building-project/index.html>

This agenda item will be updated over the weekend. In the meantime, review updated information on the website.

No Official Action Anticipated.

9. PACE Financing

Guests: Chuck Reiss

Enclosures: (1) Correspondence from Barlow 1
(2) Correspondence from Barlow 2
(3) Example Petition – Chuck Reiss
(4) On-line Resource:
http://www.encyvermont.com/for_our_partners/PACE/PACE_General_Info/pace.aspx

Chuck Reiss is slated to come before the Selectboard and request an Article placed on the Town Meeting Warning asking voters to approve designating Hinesburg as a Property Assessed Clean Energy (PACE) District, to enter into an agreement with Efficiency Vermont to administer the program, and arrange so that the Town is not required to incur debt as a result of the program. I believe Chuck, in parallel with asking the Selectboard to place this Article on the Warning, is also circulating a petition to capture the signatures necessary to force the item on the Warning by the January 24 deadline. Chuck and I met just this past week on this. I passed along my concern that regardless of the merits of the program I was concerned that the Selectboard did not have proper time to study this request prior to setting the Warning next week. I think this prompted Chuck to consider acquiring the 5% signatures by January 24th.

To be honest, besides going over some of the information provided in the link above and reviewing Barlow's correspondences, I have not had the chance to do much review of my own. The two (2) emails from Barlow are useful to review. First, if an Article for PACE was approved at Town Meeting the Town does not have to immediately implement the program. This would, at the very least, allow citizens, staff and the Selectboard the time necessary to understand the nuances of the program before fully implementing in Hinesburg. Second, unlike the petition regarding residency requirements for service on Town committees, boards, and commissions

which the Selectboard opted NOT to place on the Warning for last year's Town Meeting, it seems as though the Selectboard would have a less compelling argument to do the same if the proper signatures were collected by Mr. Reiss.

Chuck is planning to attend the meeting and present this program to the Selectboard and ask the Selectboard to place this question on the Town Meeting Warning. In my opinion the Selectboard should not place an Article on the Warning for Town Meeting that it does not fully understand and I just don't see how the Selectboard has the proper amount of time between January 21 and January 28 to do that. I'm not arguing the PACE program is not a good program but I do worry about shirking the deliberative process – I think it sets a bad precedent.

Therefore, if this issue is to be included on the Warning, I believe it should happen only as a result of a citizen petition. But I will leave that to the Selectboard to decide.

No Official Action Anticipated.

10. Vt Gas Pipeline Project

Guests: Phil Pouech

Enclosures: See: www.hinesburg.org for information on the project.

Take a moment to review the Public Meeting on January 16th. It was a well-attended event and I a useful exchange of information, thoughts, and emotions. Phil Pouech and I met with VT Gas representatives again Friday afternoon to review their presentation materials for the Tuesday, January 22 meeting between VT Gas and regulators – ANR, Army Corps, etc. Phil and I will not discuss those plans until after the Tuesday meeting to best respect the process; after the meeting on Tuesday, Phil and I will draft a letter to the Selectboard and community outlining the content and outcomes of that meeting.

It would be worthwhile to take a few minutes to debrief on the January 16 meeting and discuss the status of the project.

No Official Action Anticipated.

11a. Continue FY2014 Budget Deliberations if Needed.

11b. Town Administrator's Report

1. **Hannaford Info** – See Alex memo in your packet outlining the current status and the process to expect ahead.
2. **Dollar Store Update** – See email/memo from Alex in your packet
3. **Humane Society Intake** – See contract in your packet. I spoke with Chief Koss about this and seems fine to go. I will sign and send back.
4. **Minutes** – We seemed to have already solved our problems. Draft minutes from last meeting were available online by the following Friday.
5. **Town Meeting Warning** – I will forward to SB members a draft of the Town Meeting Warning by Wednesday. This will need to be signed at the January 28th SB meeting.
6. **Town Report** – Town Report is awaiting a few last minute documents: final budget, Warning, etc. Needs to be to the printers next week.
7. **VLCT Legislative Reports** – <http://www.vlct.org/advocacy/weekly-legislative-reports>

13. State Representatives & Senators

Guests: Confirmed - Bill Lippert, Mike Yantachka
Hopeful - David Zuckerman

Enclosures: non – but you may want to review the three (3) legislative reports with the link above

Like last year, I have invited our local representatives and senators to Montpelier to interact with the Selectboard. This is a good chance to understand some of the issues law makers are dealing with in Montpelier this session. It may be nice to ask the guests to give a quick introduction of the state of affairs and their goals for the year.

Here are a few possible items we could talk about:

- 1) Addison Natural Gas Pipeline
- 2) Complete Streets Legislation
- 3) PACE Financing
- 4) Possible Statewide Property Tax Increase
- 5) Health Insurance Changes – 2014
- 6) Irene Recovery Funds
- 7) TIF Districts

No Official Action Anticipated.