

1 DRAFT

2 BOARD OF SELECTMEN

3 TOWN OF SANDOWN, NH

4 SANDOWN, NH 03873

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6 **Meeting Date: April 8, 2019**

7 **Type of Meeting: Regular**

8 **Method of Notification: Public Posting at Town Hall**

9 **Meeting Location: Town Hall**

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12 **Members Present:** Selectman Brown, Selectman Hudgins, Selectman Tombarello and  
13 Selectman Olsen

14 **Not Present:** Selectman Cleveland

15 **Finance Director:** Cheryl Eastman

16 **Recording Secretary:** Sue Reynolds

17 **Town Administrator:** Lynne Blaisdell

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20 Selectman Tombarello called the meeting to order at 7:00pm and the Pledge of Allegiance  
21 was done. A moment of silence was also observed in memory of James Pasinici’s passing  
22 last week. Jim and Pat have been residents of Sandown for the past 45 years and Jim  
23 served as a part time police officer and also a volunteer firefighter with the Sandown Fire  
24 Dept.

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26 **Selectman Tombarello** asked the Board to review the minutes of Monday, March 25, 2019.

27 **Motion by** Selectman Brown to approve these minutes as written.

28 **Seconded by** Selectman Olsen

29 **In Favor,** Selectman Tombarello, Selectman Brown, Selectman Hudgins and Selectman  
30 Olsen.

31 **Motion passes unanimously**

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34 **PUBLIC COMMENT**

35 Chris Longchamps and Shayla McNally, residents of the town are here to talk about the  
36 OHD article being defeated. They are talking the Board to see if the public is interested in

37 holding a smaller scaled event. They will be meeting this Wednesday evening at town hall  
38 at 7pm to see if the residents in town have any interest in holding this event.  
39 Shayla said her family just moved into town and this event was a big draw for them and  
40 their neighbors are looking to hold a smaller scaled event.  
41 Selectman Tombarello said the OHD celebration has been in existence since 1901.  
42 Selectman Brown feels it will be difficult to get a group of volunteers to commit from start  
43 to finish and encourages them to get a commitment from the volunteers. He also said they  
44 may need an insurance policy and police detail in order to hold the event and wishes them  
45 luck. Chris said they aren't looking to spend a lot of money but just to have a family  
46 friendly event. Selectman Hudgins said he has been speaking with Chris Longchamps and  
47 encouraged him to come to public comment to let the town know there is interest in this.  
48 Selectman Tombarello said that Linda and Ed Mencis have offered to have a lower scale  
49 event on their property again this year.

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52 Sue Reynolds – Budget Committee Chairman came to the table to express her concern  
53 regarding the default budget and what the 2020 budget will look like. She stated that she is  
54 not speaking on behalf of the Budget Committee but as an individual of the committee. She  
55 asked that the Board really take a look at the budget before they vote on the default. She  
56 feels the changes that are made today will not only effect next year's budget, but it will also  
57 affect the budget for the next few years. Sue referred to the default as it currently stands  
58 and if only a 3% increase was allowed next year the town will be faced with an increase of  
59 \$122,000.00 and she doesn't think that will pass. She feels that decisions that are made  
60 now by BOS will have a large impact on future year's budgets and will put department  
61 heads and the Budget Committee in a tough spot come this fall. Sue said that once the BOS  
62 make their decision, she would like to call a Budget Committee meeting this Spring so the  
63 Committee can begin to look at what they will be working with. She also stated there is still  
64 an open position on the Committee and anyone that is interested can submit letters of  
65 interest to the town office.

66

67 Lynne stated there was a blood drive last week at Town Hall and they collected 20 units of  
68 blood and thanked everyone that helped with the event or came out to donate.

69

70 Selectman Tombarello read a letter submitted by Chief Gordon regarding an accident that  
71 occurred at 257 Fremont Rd on Friday afternoon. The letter stated that a call was placed  
72 by a UPS driver on Friday afternoon. When first responders arrived, they found it to be a  
73 single car crash into a large rock. Chief Gordon stated that Gerald Weton came upon the  
74 crash and stopped to pull the driver from the vehicle. He saved the driver's life. Chief  
75 Gordon wanted to recognize him for his efforts as it is all too often that people just drive by  
76 and don't stop to help. Gerald will be meeting up with the young man's step mother so she  
77 can thank him for saving her son's life.

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83 **Further discussion of 2019 operating budget**

84 Cheryl handed the Board an update with all of the changes that were discussed previously  
85 and there is \$7,174.000 that can be put back into the operating budget.

86 With these changes the default number will be \$4,058,443.00. Lynne said Cheryl needs to  
87 notify each department as to what they have to spend for the remaining of the year. Cheryl  
88 said the \$7,174.00 needs to be put somewhere in the budget.

89 Selectman Tombarello said he is not in favor of funding the fireworks as much as he'd like  
90 to see it happen and Selectman Olsen suggested putting money back into the Sanitation  
91 Operation budget maintenance line to pay for the compactor's conversion. Selectman  
92 Hudgins agrees.

93 Lynne brought the Highway Operating budget to the Board's attention because there are  
94 several areas in this budget that have already been overspent. Selectman Hudgins  
95 suggested putting it in this budget as a placeholder and if its not needed then it can used for  
96 the compactors. Selectman Brown is asking what the phases mean and how this will save  
97 the town money and Selectman Tombarello said it will run easier and will save the town  
98 money in the electricity line. It was decided that the total amount of \$7,174.00 will be  
99 placed in this budget.

100 Selectman Brown stated based on Sue's comments regarding the budget during public  
101 comment and the possibility of being faced with a default for a third year in a row, he is  
102 asking the Board to discuss employee raises. He said the first year the town was in a  
103 default budget the Board worked really hard at keeping the increases that were given to  
104 the employees and they did the same for the following year. He said he's not sure if the  
105 entire 3% needs to be revoked, but he feels the Board needs to take action regarding the  
106 raises and solve this problem before it gets worse. He asked the Board for their opinion.  
107 Selectman Olsen said this was discussed last week and he is still in favor of the 3%  
108 increase. Selectman Hudgins said the reason he became a selectman was because he  
109 wanted to put the employees first and keeping the town moving forward. He feels if there  
110 was a higher turnout then the budget would have passed. He feels there are a lot of sleepy  
111 in town and there are a lot of content residents, which is reflective of the low turnout. He  
112 feels the increase should stay at 3% but make other changes throughout the year so they  
113 have a more modest proposed budget next year. Selectman Tombarello stands firm on  
114 giving the employees a 3% increase. He also referred to the way Sandown voted  
115 overwhelmingly against the school budget and the salary increases for TRSD employees.  
116 He feels Sandown employees are underpaid according to what other employees make in  
117 abutting towns. He feels the town spent the money a few years ago to do a salary study and  
118 feels they should keep on track with this. He asked the Board if they would like to revisit  
119 the furloughs for employees instead of looking at the raises. He is suggesting possibly  
120 having employees take 3 days off instead of an entire week.

121 Selectman Brown asked about the effect that furloughs would have on salaried employees  
122 and Lynne said by law and employee can work for 10 minutes in 1 week and they are paid  
123 for the entire week. She said that if she had known there was going to be a further  
124 discussion regarding this, she would have prepped better for it. She said she can reach out  
125 to NH Municipal and have the information for the Board next week. Lynne said this would  
126 not affect the union employees. Lynne said the report that Selectman Brown is looking at  
127 doesn't include the changes that have been made over the past few weeks.

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129 Selectman Hudgins said last year they had a surplus of over \$140,000.00 and feels they  
130 could have extra money again this year, so he is not in favor of reducing the salaries. He  
131 said it would be up to the Board to monitor the spending on a weekly basis to be sure the  
132 departments are on track.

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134 The Board is asking to provide next week what the impact on the budget will be with a 1%,  
135 2% and 3% increase and Lynne will get information on Furlough's for hourly and salary  
136 employees. Selectman Tombarello also asked Cheryl to provide figures on the employee  
137 contribution of 12% and Selectman Olsen suggested looking at 12% to 15%. Selectman  
138 Brown said that he is not in favor of looking at this because not every employee has this  
139 benefit so some employees will be affected, and some won't, and he doesn't think that is  
140 fair.

141 He said he would like to be able to make a motion this evening in reducing the salary  
142 increases, however he doesn't have the true effect on the budget, so he isn't able to do so.  
143 Selectman Tombarello reminded Selectman Brown that not all employees will be affected  
144 because some are in the union and can't be changed. Selectman Brown said he understood.  
145 Selectman Hudgins stated that they have already put over \$60,000.00 back into the budget  
146 with the changes that were proposed over the past 2 weeks and would like to keep the  
147 salary increases as they stand and be done with the budget discussion.

148 Selectman Brown restates that he is very concerned because of the comments that Sue  
149 made during public comment and the future budgets. He feels the only want to control this  
150 is to make unpopular cuts. He feels this way even being married to a town employee  
151 because he is concerned about the budget as it stands and also future budgets and is not  
152 looking forward to having to go through this process again. He said he will be making a  
153 motion next week to reduce the salary increases but needs a number before he does so.  
154 Selectman Hudgins said the only thing the salary reduction will do is allow money to be  
155 moved from one area of the budget to another and doesn't see the need to do this. He said  
156 it doesn't matter where the money sits it can be used for any purpose. Lynne said the  
157 Board should be looking at what projects are left to be done that aren't funded and what  
158 can be done if the raises are rescinded. She said if raises are rescinded in the amount of  
159 \$42,000.00 the Board needs to decide where to put that money. Lynne said there are  
160 definitely items that are needed but there isn't a list of such at this time. Sue suggested  
161 looking at the underfunded highway budget. She stated that the Board offered to give the  
162 Highway Dept more than requested last year, the Budget Committee compromised with  
163 half of some of the amounts and the budget didn't pass so they are working with last year's  
164 numbers, which are way under what they should be operating with. Sue also stated that if  
165 a 3% increase is proposed next year in the amount of \$122,000.00 this is only for the  
166 budget and not any warrant articles.

167 Selectman Tombarello asked Lynne and Cheryl to come back next week with more  
168 information in hopes to have a final budget discussion. Cheryl will have information on a  
169 0% increase to a 2% increase and Selectman Tombarello asked for a 12% employee  
170 contribution on the health insurance and Selectman Olsen asked to see a 12 - 15%  
171 employee contribution and what the savings will be for the town.

172 Selectman Olsen asked for Cheryl to provide what the savings would be if raises were  
173 effective July 1<sup>st</sup> instead of April 1<sup>st</sup> as well. Selectman Tombarello said the Board is  
174 working hard to come up with a compromise with the default budget.

175 **NEW BUSINESS**

176 **Appointment of Ballot Clerks**

177 **Motion by** Selectman Brown to appoint Deborah Fitzgerald and Paul Fitzgerald as Election  
178 Officials for a term to expire on August 1, 2020.

179 **Seconded by** Selectman Hudgins

180 **In Favor**, Selectman Brown, Selectman Tombarello, Selectman Hudgins and Selectman  
181 Olsen.

182 **Motion passes unanimously**

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185 **Discussion regarding 911 address changes, Shady Lane and Ridge Road**

186 Lynne said this is part of the E-911 recommended address changes. She stated the process  
187 is to send voluntary address change forms to all effected residents. If all residents agree to  
188 this then nothing else needs to be done except to make the changes. If one person objects,  
189 then the Board can make a decision to change the address through the Public Hearing  
190 process. The consensus of the Board is ok to move forward with this process and have the  
191 letters sent out.

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193 **Initial discussion regarding changing to fiscal accounting period**

194 Selectman Tombarello said he spoke to Selectman Cleveland and he said he would like to  
195 be involved in this but would not be interested in leading the initiative.

196 Selectman Brown asked if the committee should be comprised of residents and members of  
197 the BOS and how many members the committee should be and Selectman Olsen suggested  
198 having the Budget Committee being involved as well. The board decided to table this  
199 discussion until next week.

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201 **Appointment of a Fire Warden**

202 Lynne said she received a request from Chief Tapley to appoint a new Deputy Forest Fire  
203 Warden.

204 **Motion by** Selectman Hudgins to appoint David Farrah as the Deputy Forest Fire Warden as  
205 of April 8, 2019.

206 **Seconded by** Selectman Olsen.

207 **In Favor**, Selectman Brown, Selectman Tombarello, Selectman Hudgins and Selectman  
208 Olsen.

209 **Motion passes unanimously**

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213 **CORRESPONDENCE**

214 Selectman Tombarello said the Board received an anonymous complaint and stated that  
215 Bob Bogosh is working on this. He said that the Board doesn't address anything specifically  
216 that doesn't to the Board signed.

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218 Letter from the Town of Londonderry notifying the town of the design review of a site plan  
219 for construction of a telecommunication facility.

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221 **LIAISON REPORT**

222 Selectman Olsen – nothing to report.

223 Selectman Brown – Heritage Commission meeting – they are planning to do fundraising -  
224 Paranormal New Hampshire fundraiser – (he is from Sandown and has done several of  
225 these events) They are also looking to increase their membership and if you are interested  
226 you can call Pam at 887-5000 or [pgaudreau@sandown.us](mailto:pgaudreau@sandown.us). The commission meets on a  
227 monthly basis.

228 Selectman Hudgins – nothing to report this week.

229 Selectman Tombarello – SSATP has a few new drivers, driving a lot of seniors in town.

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232 **Motion by** Selectman Tombarello to go into non-public session under RSA 91-A:3 II (c)  
233 reputation 2 cases and (a) employee matters.

234 **Seconded by** Selectman Brown.

235 **Roll Call**, Selectman Olsen – yes, Selectman Tombarello – yes, Selectman Brown – yes,  
236 Selectman Cleveland – yes and Selectman Hudgins – yes.

237 **Motion passes unanimously**

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240 **Motion by** Selectman Olsen to seal these minutes.

241 **Seconded by** Selectman Brown.

242 **In favor**, Selectman Tombarello, Selectman Olsen, Selectman Hudgins, Selectman Brown  
243 and Selectman Cleveland.

244 **Motion passes unanimously**

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247 Selectman Brown stated the Board voted to accept the resignation of the Health Officer, Ed  
248 Mencis with regret. The Board thanked him for his service.

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251 Meeting adjourned.

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255 Respectfully Submitted,

256 Sue Reynolds

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