

**HAMPTON BEACH VILLAGE DISTRICT  
MEETING  
October 14, 2015**

**Present**

Chuck Rage, Chairman & Commissioner  
Maureen Buckley, Commissioner  
Robert Ladd, Commissioner  
Stephen LaBranche, Treasurer

Chairman Rage called the meeting to order at 5:30 p.m.

The Pledge of Allegiance was said.

**Police Department Update**

Chairman Rage welcomed Chief Richard Sawyer, Hampton Police Department.

Chief Sawyer said recruitment has been difficult. The number of part-time officers is down significantly. There are presently 28 part-timers and they are allowed 70. They have been in the process of trying to hire and now have 13 candidates for part-time. This is a national problem and in Hampton many of the part-timers leave and go to full time in other towns. Hampton trained officers are in demand.

Chairman Rage asked if there was an incentive to get retired officers from other towns to do part-time. Chief Sawyer said that is very difficult due to changes in the retirement system.

Chief Sawyer discussed crowd control. He said the fence has been widely accepted and might be used on more occasions.

Mr. LaBranche noted that the department is hiring people to issue parking tickets. Chief Sawyer said they are, but they are not regular officers. Parking tickets are up 45%. This money goes to the Town. Chairman Rage asked if the department could use civilian traffic control. Chief Sawyer said regular officers are needed for this.

Chief Sawyer said there is going to be a hospitality meeting to address the over-serving of liquor to patrons.

A resident asked about the mounted patrol. Chief Sawyer said they now have two horses. There is not sufficient personnel to have more. He noted that things have changed for the better at the beach and not as much crowd control is needed as in the past. The mounted patrol is really more of a public relations item.

Commissioner Ladd asked about body cameras. Chief Sawyer said there will be a warrant article for this.

Chairman Rage thanked Chief Sawyer for his update.

### **Fire Department Update**

Chairman Rage welcomed Chief Jamie Ayotte, Hampton Fire Department.

Chairman Rage said the department did an outstanding job at the Beach View fire.

Chief Ayotte said there have been a couple of fires recently. The department is up about 160 calls over last year which had been the highest on record.

A lot of work is being done in the area of fire prevention. Last week was Fire Prevention Week and 394 students from Centre School and Sacred Heart School toured the fire station. There will be an open house with demonstrations at the Winnacunnet Station this weekend.

Recruitment is also a problem for the Fire Department. Presently they have four candidates for 2-1/2 positions.

Chief Ayotte discussed inspections and permits. He said letters are sent to business owners reminding them of inspections. He said he felt the timeliness on inspections has been very good.

Eileen Daboul asked about problems with overdoses and opiate use. Chief Ayotte said there is a problem, but no different from other towns.

Chief Ayotte said he would like to thank the Village District for providing the parking lot for the staging area for the recent exercise.

Chairman Rage asked about warrant articles. Chief Ayotte said there will be one related to the SEB filling station. The present one is very old. Also the two command vehicles are 12 and 13 years old. They will only ask for items that are very much needed.

Chairman Rage thanked Chief Ayotte for his update.

### **HBAC Appointment**

Chairman Rage said there is a need for a new representative from the Village District to the Hampton Beach Area Commission. There is a lot going on with the HBAC including a transportation study.

Commissioner Buckley said that considering his involvement with the flood issue and rating system, she felt that Commissioner Ladd would be a great representative.

**Moved** by Chairman Rage, seconded by Commissioner Buckley, to appoint Commissioner Ladd as the HBVD representative to the Hampton Beach Area Commission.

**Vote:** 2 yes, 0 no 1 abstention (Ladd). Motion passed.

### **Old Business**

Chairman Rage said the new parking lot looks great. The fence is not completed, but will be soon.

### **New Business**

Chairman Rage said traditionally the HBVD meets on the second Wednesday of the month. Next month, however, that day is the celebration of Veterans Day. The November meeting will be held on the third Wednesday, November 18<sup>th</sup>.

Commissioner Buckley said the Commissioners will rotate as reps to the Budget Committee.

Commissioner Buckley brought up the Christmas Parade and whether or not the Village District would participate again this year. It was agreed that they would.

**Moved** by Commissioner Buckley, seconded by Commissioner Ladd, that the HBVD will participate in this year's Christmas Parade.

**Vote:** 3 yes, 0 no. Motion passed unanimously.

**Moved** by Chairman Rage, seconded by Commissioner Ladd, that no more than \$2,000 will be spent on participation in the Christmas Parade.

**Vote:** 3 yes, 0 no. Motion passed unanimously.

**Moved** by Commissioner Ladd, seconded by Commissioner Buckley, that at the next annual meeting the notations “recommended” or “not recommended” by the Budget Committee” not be noted.

**Vote:** 3 yes, 0 no. Motion passed unanimously.

Commissioner Ladd asked if there were available funds in the budget to re-mortar the wall. Chairman Rage said he would get a price on that.

Commissioner Buckley said the Prom Grand March at the Sea Shell Stage is a lovely event and she is going to have a meeting with the people involved to discuss making it even better.

### **Approval of Minutes**

**Moved** by Commissioner Ladd, seconded by Commissioner Buckley, to approve the Minutes of September 9, 2015.

**Vote:** 3 yes, 0 no. Motion passed unanimously.

### **Public Comment**

Cathy Silva, Blue Ocean Discovery Center, said they will be hosting a Halloween party on Saturday, October 24<sup>th</sup>, from 3:00 p.m. to 5:00 p.m. Admission will be \$1.00. They will have snacks, crafts and the touch tank.

Ms. Silva said she attended a workshop sponsored by UNH regarding the dunes and flooding. Representatives from UNH would like to talk with the HBVD about this issue.

### **Closing Comments**

There were no closing comments.

### **Adjournment**

There being no further business, the meeting was adjourned at 6:46 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Joan Rice  
Secretary