

**HAMPTON BEACH VILLAGE DISTRICT
MEETING
January 20, 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.

Chairman Rage called for a Moment of Silence for three Village District residents who recently passed away.

Hampton Academy Project

Chairman Rage welcomed Kathleen Murphy, Superintendent SAU 90, and Nathan Lunney, SAU 90 Business Administrator.

Superintendent Murphy said Hampton Academy was built in 1939. The outside of the building is very beautiful, but there are many issues inside of the building. A comprehensive renovation is being proposed. The total cost will be \$24,925,000. It will be bonded for 20 years. If the warrant article passes in March, construction will begin in the summer.

Superintendent Murphy said issues that need to be addressed are mechanical systems, plumbing, and safety and compliance. Science labs and a STEM lab will be addressed as well as the kitchen and cafeteria. A gymnasium and auditorium will also be added. The school will also be accessible to the community for other activities. The present 6th grade wing will be demolished and rebuilt. It may be necessary to house 6th graders in another location next year.

Mr. Lunney discussed the phasing of the project. This will be a two-year project. The historic nature of the building will be preserved.

Mr. Lunney talked about cost and the impact on tax bills. He said this is an excellent time to begin this project because there are low interest rates for bonding and the bonds for old

projects are retiring. Also, at this time there are no other major projects planned for the Town.

Chairman Rage suggested having tours of the Academy building so residents can understand the need.

Chairman Rage thanked Superintendent Murphy and Mr. Lunney for attending the meeting.

RS Fireworks

Kristen from RS Fireworks said they have been doing the fireworks for four years. They have worked closely with the Police and Fire Departments. They have really enjoyed working with the Village District.

Kristen presented a proposal for the next three years which would be \$3,250 per show and \$4,850 for the 4th of July. She discussed everything covered by this price.

Chairman Rage asked if they would be willing to do a one-year contract and then extend for the additional two years. Kristen said they would be willing to do this.

Moved by Chairman Rage, seconded by Commissioner Buckley, to sign a one-year contract with RS Fireworks with the possibility of extending for an additional two years if the Commissioners are satisfied.

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

Sand Dune Restoration Project

Alison Eberhart, Coastal Ecosystem Specialist with UNH, said she is leading the sand dune restoration project in Hampton and Seabrook. This project is funded by the NH Coastal Program. The project began last spring and will go through June of 2016. The goal is to increase coastal resilience to storms. They are looking to restore sand dunes at Hampton Beach State Park and Harbor Park in Seabrook.

Ms. Eberhart said they are working with community members and would like the Commissioners to spread the word and help them recruit volunteers. They are doing a lot of planting projects and teaching people how to plant grasses native to NH. They are also working with school groups and the Conservation Commission. They will offer free beach grass to residents who want to plant it on their property.

Mr. Ladd asked if this would count towards points in the Community Rating System. Jay Diener, Chairman of the Conservation Commission, said he felt it would.

Chairman Rage thanked Ms. Eberhart for her presentation.

Old Business

There was no Old Business.

New Business

Commissioner Ladd said the department heads, if available, will attend the Village District meeting in February to explain their warrant articles.

Commissioner Ladd said there will be a meeting with the Student Council at Marston School on February 4th. This meeting will be for the purpose of exploring summer activities at the beach for ages 8-14.

Chairman Rage said there will be a public workshop to go over the budget on February 2nd at 12:30 p.m. in the meeting room at the Fire Station.

Approval of Minutes

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

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

Moved by Commissioner Ladd, seconded by Commissioner Buckley, to approve the Minutes of December 22, 2015.

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

Public Comment

Charlie Preston said the bill for the State Park plates is still going forward. Mr. Preston asked everyone to contact their legislators and ask them to pass this bill.

Kathy Silva, Blue Ocean Discovery Center, said they had 350 attendees during the New Years Eve celebration.

Closing Comments

There were no closing comments.

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Adjournment

There being no further business, the meeting was adjourned at 7:22 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Joan Rice
Secretary