

HAMPTON BUDGET COMMITTEE  
MINUTES  
February 21, 2012

Budget Committee Members Present

Eileen Latimer, Chairman  
Mary-Louise Woolsey, Vice-Chairman  
Michael Pierce, Selectman Representative  
Maureen Buckley, Precinct Representative  
Richard Desrosiers  
Brian Lapham  
Dustin Marzinzik  
Mark McFarlin  
Michael Plouffe  
Richard Reniere  
Peter Traynor  
Brian Warburton

Excused

Sandra Nickerson

Absent

Pat Collins

Chairman Latimer called the meeting to order at 7:00 p.m.

The Pledge of Allegiance was said.

NOTE: Chairman will not vote except in the case of a tie vote.

Chairman Latimer said the purpose of this meeting was to review the Hampton Beach Village Precinct budget. She then welcomed Chuck Rage, Chairman & Commissioner, Gary Kubik, Commissioner, and Steve LaBranche, Treasurer of the Precinct.

**Operating Budget**

**Moved** by Ms. Buckley, seconded by Ms. Woolsey, to move forward to the Public Hearing the amount of \$500,699.00 as the operating budget for Hampton Beach Village Precinct.

Commissioner Rage said the 2011 budget was \$491,450.00. The 2012 budget is \$500,699.00. The budget is up approximately \$9,000.00 this year because costs have increased. Commissioner Rage explained that the operating budget is divided into two sections – General Government and Culture & Recreation. Residents with single-family homes can apply for an exemption so they only have to pay their share on the General Government portion. Business owners and those who rent out their properties have to pay their share on the entire operating budget.

Commissioner Rage then discussed the General Government section of the budget which includes Executive, Financial Administration, Legal, General Government Buildings, and Insurance. He said there had been a great deal of legal expenses over the past three years due to the fire station issue. The amount for Legal for 2012 has been reduced. The Treasurer worked very hard to bring Insurance down \$5,000.

Mr. Warburton commented that the marketing of Hampton Beach is very important and he hoped all entities will lend their support.

Mr. Reniere said many single-family home owners elect to not apply for exempt status and pay taxes on the entire operating budget.

Commissioner Rage then discussed Culture & Recreation which includes Advertising, Entertainment, Fireworks, Sand Sculpture, and miscellaneous events. He said advertising is the most important part of the budget and includes the salary for John Kane, Marketing Director. The website is an integral component and received 52 million hits this year vs. 11 million hits last year.

Chairman Latimer, Mr. Warburton and Mr. McFarlin said that they would like to see the amount for Advertising broken down in the future.

Commissioner Rage said the Precinct has hired a new fireworks company this year. There is an increase for Sand Sculpture due to the fact that the sculptures will be kept up for display an extra nine days. The increase is for security. Commissioner Rage said this has become a premier event and it attracts master sculptors from all over the world. New this year is the position of a sponsors' contractor who will work to bring new sponsors for events. This person will work strictly on commission. Other events that will be continued are Children's Week and Movie Night. The Beautification Committee will continue their fine work.

Mr. Warburton questioned whether this budget is high enough considering rumors that the state will be charging for use of the new stage. Commissioner Rage replied that the state does not intend to charge the Precinct. The Commissioners will meet with the state to develop a Memorandum of Understanding outlining that topic and others.

Chairman Latimer asked for a vote on the operating budget.

**Vote:** 11 yes, 0 no. Motion passed unanimously.

### **Revenues**

**Moved** by Ms. Buckley, seconded by Ms. Woolsey, to approve the estimated revenues of \$500,599.00 for the Hampton Beach Village Precinct.

**Vote:** 11 yes, 0 no. Motion passed unanimously.

### **Public Hearing**

Chairman Latimer opened the Public Hearing at 8:04 p.m. There were no comments from the public. The hearing was closed at 8:05 p.m.

Chairman Latimer said that the Precinct's Annual Meeting will take place on Friday, March 30, 2012 at 7:00 p.m. at the Beach Fire Station.

Chairman Latimer thanked Commissioners Buckley and Kubik for attending the Budget Committee meetings as Precinct Reps on a regular basis. She then thanked Commissioners Rage and Kubik and Mr. LaBranche for their presentation.

### **Adoption of the Minutes**

**Moved** by Mr. Warburton, seconded by Ms. Woolsey, to approve the Minutes of January 17, 2012.

**Vote:** 11 yes, 0 no. Motion passed unanimously.

**Moved** by Ms. Woolsey, seconded by Mr. Plouffe, to approve the Minutes of January 26, 2012.

**Vote:** 10 yes, 0 no, 1 abstention (McFarlin). Motion passed.

**Moved** by Mr. McFarlin, seconded by Mr. Traynor, to approve the Minutes of February 4, 2012.

**Vote:** 6 yes, 0 no, 5 abstentions (Desrosiers, Lapham, Plouffe, Warburton, Woolsey). Motion passed.

The next meeting, which will be the reorganization meeting, will be held on Tuesday, March 20, 2012 at 7:00 p.m. in the Selectmen's Meeting Room.

### **Adjournment**

There being no further business, the meeting was adjourned at 8:20 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Joan Rice

Secretary