

HAMPTON BUDGET COMMITTEE  
MINUTES  
March 26, 2013

Budget Committee Members Present

Eileen Latimer, Chairman  
Philip Bean, Selectman Representative  
Robert Ladd, Precinct Representative  
Richard Desrosiers  
Tim Jones  
Sunny Kravitz  
Brian Lapham  
Mark McFarlin  
Michael Plouffe  
Richard Reniere

Excused

Pat Collins  
Joe Grzybowski  
Sandra Nickerson

Chairman Latimer called the meeting to order at 7:08 p.m. She said this was the reorganization meeting for the Committee.

Chairman Latimer welcomed new members, Philip Bean, Tim Jones and Sunny Kravitz to the Committee.

The Pledge of Allegiance was said.

Committee members made self-introductions.

**Reorganization**

Chairman Latimer said that Jerry Znoj was elected to two boards and has chosen to take the School Board seat. Therefore, it is necessary to fill an open seat. Victor DeMarco came in very close on the vote and he is still interested in serving. It is necessary for this Committee to make an appointment.

**Moved** by Mr. Lapham, seconded by Mr. Desrosiers, to appoint Victor DeMarco to the Budget Committee.

**Vote:** 9 yes, 0 no, 1 abstention (Jones). Motion passed.

Chairman Latimer then asked for nominations for Chairman.

**Moved** by Mr. McFarlin, seconded by Mr. Plouffe, to appoint Eileen Latimer as Chairman of the Hampton Municipal Budget Committee for the 2013-2014 year.

**Vote:** 10 yes, 0 no. Motion passed unanimously.

Chairman Latimer then asked for nominations for Vice-Chairman.

**Moved** by Mr. Desrosiers, seconded by Mr. Lapham, to appoint Richard Reniere as Vice-Chairman of the Hampton Municipal Budget Committee for the 2013-2014 year.

**Vote:** 10 yes, 0 no. Motion passed unanimously.

Chairman Latimer discussed sub-committees and asked if anyone felt there should be any particular sub-committees.

Mr. Lapham said he would like to be appointed to the CIP sub-committee.

**Moved** by Mr. Jones, seconded by Mr. Desrosiers to appoint Brian Lapham to the CIP sub-committee.

**Vote:** 10 yes, 0 no. Motion passed unanimously.

**Moved** by Mr. Lapham, seconded by Mr. Jones, to appoint Sunny Kravitz as alternate to the CIP sub-committee.

**Vote:** 10 yes, 0 no. Motion passed unanimously.

Chairman Latimer discussed the Education sub-committee. Mr. McFarlin said this sub-committee was very important during the transition year. However, if the CIP is covering what is happening for the Academy there is not a need this year. Chairman Latimer asked Mr. McFarlin if he could be the "go to" person for Education if there is a need. Mr. McFarlin said he would be glad to do that.

**Moved** by Mr. Lapham, seconded by Mr. Reniere, to appoint Mark McFarlin to the Education sub-committee if needed.

**Vote:** 10 yes, 0 no. Motion passed unanimously.

Chairman Latimer said she felt a DPW sub-committee would be necessary.

**Moved** by Mr. Jones, seconded by Mr. Lapham, to appoint Mike Plouffe to the Department of Public Works sub-committee.

**Vote:** 10 yes, 0 no. Motion passed unanimously.

### **2013 Budget Goals**

Mr. Ladd said the Hampton Beach Village District is focusing on communication. Many residents of the District are not really aware of what the District does. They are doing a mailing and also looking into electronic means of communication. The District is trying to support a non-profit use of the facility which had been the state store. They are looking at Blue Ocean.

Chairman Latimer asked if there was anything that would impact the Budget Committee from a dollars and cents standpoint. Mr. Ladd said trash pickup is an issue.

Mr. Bean noted that some warrant articles did not pass. There will be fewer services. The voters have indicated austerity.

Mr. Plouffe said big money items must be well thought out and discussed throughout the year. Right now there are the two fire stations and the pump station.

Mr. Reniere asked Mr. Bean if the Selectmen anticipate any large items coming up in the next year or two. Mr. Bean said he was not aware of any such projects.

Mr. Ladd asked if there is any anticipated increase in revenues. Chairman Latimer said there has been a building surge and home prices have been getting better so this will fall within the equation.

Mr. Jones said he felt the bond payments on the fire stations in 2014 will put a lot of stress on the budget and it is necessary to be realistic about that. In 2014 added costs from certain mandates, i.e., the Affordable Health Care Act, will be coming in. Mr. Lapham said there will be some federal funding for that.

Mr. Desrosiers said utility rates are going up dramatically. This will affect this year and next year. Drainage is also an issue.

Mr. McFarlin said it is time to really streamline expenditures. If there is a capital improvement item and it has the potential to save money in the future, it is necessary to do a better job of educating the public so they understand the issues.

Mr. Kravitz said each issue must be looked at carefully and long-range planning must be done. Mr. Kravitz suggested one free trash pickup for the beach and then a charge for further pickups. Mr. Bean said the Public Works Director follows his budget and it is his job to come up with solutions.

Mr. Jones said it was his understanding that the Board of Selectmen sets policy and the Budget Committee sets the budget. It is important to adhere to that. If the Committee sees

something that needs to be addressed, it should be communicated to the Board of Selectmen.

Chairman Latimer discussed the Right to Know Law. She said everything this Committee does is done in Committee and not on the outside. She cautioned about the use of email. Do not email opinions back and forth. Chairman Latimer said that occasionally she will send an email blast for information only and members should not reply to this.

Chairman Latimer discussed the Agenda. The deadline for adding to the Agenda for the next meeting will be two weeks after the previous meeting.

### **Adoption of Minutes**

**Moved** by Mr. Plouffe, seconded by Mr. Lapham, to approve the Minutes of February 19, 2013.

**Vote:** 6 yes, 0 no, 4 abstentions (Bean, Jones, Kravitz, Ladd). Motion passed.

Mr. Desrosiers said much progress is being made on plans for the 375<sup>th</sup> Anniversary Celebration. Many people are involved. Meetings are held every Thursday at 4:30 p.m. The website for this event is Hampton375th.net.

The next meeting of the Budget Committee will be held on Tuesday, April 16, 2013 at 7:00 p.m. in the Selectmen's Meeting Room.

### **Adjournment**

**Moved** by Mr. Jones, seconded by Mr. Reniere, to adjourn the meeting at 8:11 p.m.

**Vote:** 10 yes, 0 no. Motion passed unanimously.

Respectfully submitted,

Joan Rice  
Secretary