

**HAMPTON BUDGET COMMITTEE  
MINUTES  
November 4, 2014**

**Budget Committee Members Present**

Eileen Latimer, Chairman  
Michael Plouffe, Vice-Chairman  
Jerry Znoj, School Board Representative  
Robert Ladd, Hampton Beach Village District Representative  
Glenn Farrell  
Joe Grzybowski  
Timothy Citizen Jones  
Sunny Kravitz  
Stephen LaBranche  
Brian Lapham  
Jim O'Loughlin  
Michael Pierce  
Richard Reniere

**Excused**

David Wood

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

The Pledge of Allegiance was said.

Members of the Committee made self-introductions.

Chairman Latimer gave an update on the secretarial position. She said Joan Rice had sent an email asking to be reconsidered for the position.

**Moved** by Brian Lapham, seconded by Glen Farrell, to bring back Joan Rice to the position of Secretary to the Hampton Budget Committee.

**Vote:** 12 yes, 0 no, 1 abstention (Pierce). Motion passed.

**GENERAL GOVERNMENT (Cont.)**

**Planning**

Chairman Latimer welcomed Keith Lessard who introduced the new Town Planner Jason Bachand and Lori Olivier, Office Manager.

**Moved** by Mr. Plouffe, seconded by Mr. Znoj, to move forward to the Public Hearing the amount of \$138,102 for Planning.

Mr. Lessard said Ms. Olivier has assumed more responsibility and duties and their budget includes an increase for her to \$21.08 per hour. There is no impact on fringe benefits. Mr. Lessard discussed updated software expense. Advertising has dropped for 2015. Mr. Lessard said they are also looking at their fee structure and hope to increase it.

Mr. Lessard said this is the first year with the new copier/scanner. It is possible to reduce something in this area, but he prefers to wait until Mr. Bachand and Ms. Olivier sort everything out.

Mr. Znoj said it appears that this operating budget is \$600 above the default and this department has held the line.

Mr. Lapham asked about impact fees. Mr. Lessard said this was an issue that should be discussed at another time. Chairman Latimer agreed.

Mr. Jones said Planning does a tremendous amount of work and he appreciates their efforts. However, this budget is up 22%. There are two positions on which the voters said no. Mr. Jones said he would have to vote against this budget.

**Vote:** 10 yes, 2 no (Jones, Pierce), 1 abstention (Znoj). Motion passed.

### Zoning

Chairman Latimer welcomed Kevin Schultz, Building Inspector.

**Moved** by Mr. Jones, seconded by Mr. Plouffe, to move forward to the Public Hearing the amount of \$5,310 for Zoning.

Chairman Latimer questioned the \$3,600 for Supplies and Expenses. Mr. Schultz said this is mostly for advertising for their agendas which they are obligated to publish in newspapers.

Mr. O'Loughlin asked if applicants are paying for any of this. Mr. Schultz said there is a standard application fee and a charge of \$8 per abutter to cover the cost of certified mailings. Mr. O'Loughlin said he was wondering if the applicants should cover all of the costs.

**Vote:** 13 yes, 0 no. Motion passed unanimously.

**Moved** by Mr. Plouffe, seconded by Mr. Lapham, to move forward to the Public Hearing the amount of \$143,412 for Total Planning and Zoning.

**Vote:** 10 yes, 2 no (Jones, Pierce), 1 abstention (Znoj).

### Building Department

**Moved** by Mr. Jones, seconded by Mr. Plouffe, to move forward to the Public Hearing the amount of \$221,324 for Building Department.

Mr. Schultz said there is a 4.21% increase under wages and salaries due to contractual obligations as well as some recommended adjustments. Mr. Schultz said the department has collected \$230,811 in revenues from fees as of the end of October.

Mr. Znoj said the cost of gasoline is a big issue. Gas prices are falling and will continue to fall. Mr. Znoj said he would suggest a 10% cut in all departments in this area. Chairman Latimer said this could be looked at when the final review is done and the market is checked at that time.

Mr. Znoj questioned the amount of \$1,800 for vehicle maintenance when the average has been around \$572. Mr. Schultz said that is the number they have had for several years, but it can be looked at down the road. Mr. Sullivan, Acting Town Manager, said you also have to be mindful that an accident or another event could happen.

Mr. Jones asked about DPW doing some of the vehicle maintenance. Mr. Schultz said they do annual inspections and required oil changes and tire rotation. DPW invoices the department for these services.

Mr. Jones asked if staff development and vehicle maintenance could be reduced. Mr. Schultz said he was comfortable with the numbers and did not want to regress.

Mr. Ladd asked if the department is able to do their work in a timely manner. Mr. Schultz said they are trying to accommodate the best they can and have not received any complaints.

**Vote:** 13 yes, 0 no. Motion passed unanimously.

### Mosquito Control

Chairman Latimer welcomed Ann Kaiser.

**Moved** by Mr. Plouffe, seconded by Mr. Jones, to move forward to the Public Hearing the amount of \$103,000 for Mosquito Control.

Ms. Kaiser said she is happy with this budget. However, this is the last year of the 3-year contract to do the work. She said she does not know what will happen in the future.

**Vote:** 13 yes, 0 no. Motion passed unanimously.

### Assessing

Chairman Latimer welcomed Ed Tinker.

**Moved** by Mr. Plouffe, seconded by Mr. Lapham, to move forward to the Public Hearing the amount of \$283,145 for Assessing.

Mr. Tinker said the major change is under wages for a temporary part-time data collector. This will lead into the mandatory 2016 re-evaluation. This position will be for two years only. Workload has increased. The department did have a full-time data collector through 2011. That person left and was not replaced.

Mr. Grzybowski asked if the data collector would have benefits. Mr. Tinker said no. Mr. Znoj said he had a problem with the departments hiring people, entering into contracts, giving substantial pay raises, etc. Mr. Tinker said his department has no pay raises this year. Mr. LaBranche questioned the fact that some departments are giving substantial pay raises and others are not.

Mr. Jones said he may know a contractor and will check to see if they could be of help. Regarding litigation expenses, Mr. Jones said it might be a good thing to have some kind of dedicated fund for that where if it isn't spent it stays in the account.

**Vote:** 12 yes, 0 no, 1 abstention (Znoj). Motion passed.

### Cemeteries

Chairman Latimer welcomed Dan Kenney.

**Moved** by Mr. Plouffe, seconded by Mr. Znoj, to move forward to the Public Hearing the amount of \$125,351 for Cemeteries.

Mr. Kenney discussed the contract labor question posed by the committee. He said over the past several years Sue Irwin, Cemetery Trustee, has sponsored a warrant article for work at Pine Grove and Ring Swamp cemeteries. This year Ms. Irwin has asked if this can be included in the budget rather than in a warrant article. This is the reason for the \$3,000 increase.

**Vote:** 13 yes, 0 no. Motion passed unanimously.

### Approval of Minutes

Chairman Latimer said all Minutes will be reviewed at the next meeting.

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**Old Business**

Mr. Jones discussed the free seminar from NHMA. No one has heard anything and it will soon be too late for this year.

**Adjournment**

**Moved** by Mr. Waddell, seconded by Mr. Pierce, to adjourn the meeting at 9:37 p.m.

**Vote:** 13 yes, 0 no. Motion passed unanimously.

Respectfully submitted,

Joan Rice  
Secretary