

**HAMPTON BUDGET COMMITTEE  
MINUTES  
January 6, 2015**

**Budget Committee Members Present**

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

**Excused**

Joe Grzybowski

Chairman Latimer called the meeting to order at 7:02 p.m.

The Pledge of Allegiance was said.

Members of the Committee made self-introductions.

Chairman Latimer said School and Town Warrant Articles would be addressed at this meeting.

**SAU 90**

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

Superintendent Murphy said these warrant articles were unanimously recommended by the School Board.

**Article 1 – Operating Budget**

**Moved** by Mr. Znoj, seconded by Mr. Jones, to move forward to the Public Hearing the amount of \$20,061,260 as the 2015-2016 Operating Budget for the Hampton School District.

Mr. Lunney said this is a 2-1/4% increase over last year.

**Vote:** 13 yes, 0 no, 1 abstention (Reniere). Motion passed.

Article 2 – CBA Agreement Paraprofessionals

**Moved** by Mr. Znoj, seconded by Mr. Jones, to move forward to the Public Hearing the amount of \$23,230 for 2015-16 Collective Bargaining Agreement between the Hampton School Board and the Seacoast Educational Support Professionals Association.

**Vote:** 14 yes, 0 no. Motion passed unanimously.

Article 3 – Long Term Maintenance

**Moved** by Mr. Znoj, seconded by Mr. Jones, to move forward to the Public Hearing the amount of \$300,000 for Long Term Maintenance.

Chairman Latimer said this warrant article comes up every year and is well spent. Mr. Plouffe said this has worked well for a number of years and should be continued.

Mr. Lunney went through improvements proposed for each of the three schools.

Mr. Ladd said he was glad to see the breakdown on this warrant article. Mr. O’Loughlin said it is important to keep up with these maintenance items. Otherwise deterioration will set in. Mr. Reniere said this warrant article takes things in stages and keeps everything current. It is very transparent.

**Vote:** 14 yes, 0 no. Motion passed unanimously.

Article 4 – Owner’s Project Manager, Hampton Academy

**Moved** by Mr. Znoj, seconded by Mr. Jones, to move forward to the Public Hearing the amount of \$86,250 to secure an owner’s project management and architectural support to complete preliminary engineering and establish the project concept and scope for a renovation of Hampton Academy.

Mr. Lunney said he has seen success with the project management approach in other districts. This will help complete a project plan and engineering plans. This is a very first step. There is a possibility that the \$86,250 can be offset with impact fees and therefore there would be no impact on the taxpayer.

Mr. Pierce asked about federal and state funding. Superintendent Murphy said there is still a state moratorium.

**Vote:** 13 yes, 1 no (Lapham). Motion passed.

Article 5 – Child Benefit Services

**Moved** by Mr. Znoj, seconded by Mr. Jones, to move forward to the Public Hearing the amount of \$46,750 for Child Benefit Services for Sacred Heart School.

Chairman Latimer welcomed Teresa Bailey, Principal at Sacred Heart School.

Ms. Bailey said there are 49 Hampton students at Sacred Heart. They do receive support from Seabrook and are pursuing support from Exeter.

Ms. Bailey said this warrant article helps pay for the school nurse, instructional supplies, educational technology and testing services.

Mr. Kravitz said he did not feel the Hampton taxpayers should support a private school.

**Vote:** 11 yes, 3 no (Farrell, Kravitz, Lapham). Motion passed.

Chairman Latimer thanked Superintendent Murphy and Mr. Lunney for their presentation.

A break was taken at 8:45 p.m.

The meeting resumed at 9:00 p.m.

TOWN OF HAMPTON

Article 31 – Conservation Land Acquisition Fund

**Moved** by Mr. Znoj, seconded by Mr. LaBranche, to move forward to the Public Hearing the amount of \$10,000 for Conservation Land Acquisition Fund.

Chairman Latimer welcomed Jay Diener, Chairman of the Conservation Commission.

Mr. Diener said this warrant article has been on the ballot for several years. This is to replenish the fund. Money from this fund is used to purchase conservation easements when the opportunity presents itself.

Mr. Jones said that last year Mike Schwotzer said there was only a Conservation Fund. You cannot put money in a fund that doesn't exist. Fred Welch, Town Manager, said there are two funds. Mr. Jones said he could not support this warrant article.

**Vote:** 11 yes, 3 no (Jones, Lapham, Pierce). Motion passed.

Article 13 – CBA Firefighters

**Moved** by Mr. LaBranche, seconded by Mr. Lapham, to move forward to the Public Hearing the amount of \$71,905 in connection with the CBA Agreement with Firefighters.

Mr. Pierce said the Committee should be able to see the Agreement before recommending.

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

Article 14

**Moved** by Mr. LaBranche, seconded by Mr. Lapham, to move forward to the Public Hearing the amount of \$34,610 in connection with the CBA Agreement with Fire Officers.

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

Article 15

**Moved** by Mr. LaBranche, seconded by Mr. Plouffe, to move forward to the Public Hearing the amount of \$615,000 for the purchase of a fire engine.

Chairman Latimer welcomed Acting Fire Chief Jamie Ayotte.

Chief Ayotte discussed the need for this fire engine. He said present equipment is very old and needs to be replaced.

Mr. Znoj said he felt towns should share these services. Every town is asking for new equipment. Mr. Znoj said he could not endorse this warrant article.

Mr. O'Loughlin said this is like the school maintenance. It is important to keep equipment in good condition. There is a definite need for this engine. Mr. Waddell said he agreed with Mr. O'Loughlin. Mr. Ladd and Mr. Plouffe also expressed agreement.

Chairman Latimer said she felt money for this could come from impact fees. Mr. Welch said this would have to be approved by the Planning Board.

**Vote:** 13 yes, 1 no (Znoj). Motion passed.

Article 29

**Moved** by Mr. Jones, seconded by Mr. Lapham, to move forward to the Public Hearing the amount of \$25,000 for Traffic Control for Beach Fire Station.

**Vote:** 14 yes, 0 no. Motion passed unanimously.

Article 24

**Moved** by Mr. Jones, seconded by Mr. Plouffe, to move forward to the Public Hearing the amount of \$126,812 for Improvements to Lane Memorial Library.

Chairman Latimer welcomed Amanda Cooper of Lane Memorial Library.

Ms. Cooper discussed the improvements needed such as carpeting and upgrade of the HVAC system.

Mr. Znoj said he felt this was very expensive. Ms. Cooper said it was the lowest bid received. Mr. Kravitz said he felt this was cosmetic and there are more pressing issues in the town.

**Vote:** 11 yes, 2 no (Kravitz, Lapham), 1 abstention (Znoj). Motion passed.

Article 22

**Moved** by Mr. Jones, seconded by Mr. Plouffe, to move forward to the Public Hearing the amount of \$146,000 for Town-Wide Revaluation.

Chairman Latimer welcomed Ed Tinker, Assessor.

Mr. Tinker discussed the revaluation and the need to engage the services of Vision Governmental Solutions to perform the revaluation.

**Vote:** 13 yes, 0 no, 1 abstention (Jones). Motion passed.

Article 28

**Moved** by Mr. Jones, seconded by Mr. Ladd, to move forward to the Public Hearing the amount of \$37,000 for Animal Control Vehicle.

Chairman Latimer welcomed Police Chief Richard Sawyer.

Chief Sawyer said the present vehicle is old and in disrepair. A new vehicle is very much needed.

**Vote:** 13 yes, 0 no, 1 abstention (Znoj). Motion passed.

Article 26

**Moved** by Mr. Jones, seconded by Mr. Lapham, to move forward to the Public Hearing the amount of \$90,000 for Police Forfeiture Fund.

**Vote:** 14 yes, 0 no. Motion passed unanimously.

Article 25

**Moved** by Mr. Jones, seconded by Mr. Lapham, to move forward to the Public Hearing the amount of \$99,520 for Part-time Special Police Officers Training.

Chief Sawyer discussed the need for part-time officers for the summer season. He discussed training schedules and the fact that more part-time officers are needed.

Mr. Znoj said he felt there was money for this in the operating budget.

**Vote:** 13 yes, 0 no, 1 abstention (Znoj). Motion passed.

**Adjournment**

**Moved** by Mr. Jones, seconded by Mr. LaBranche, to adjourn the meeting at 11:07 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Joan Rice  
Secretary