

**HAMPTON BOARD OF SELECTMEN
SELECTMEN'S MEETING ROOM
March 24, 2003 7:00 PM**

PRESENT: Brian C. Warburton, Chairman, Virginia Bridle,
William Sullivan, James A. Workman, Cliff Pratt
James S. Barrington, Town Manager
Karen Anderson, Administrative Assistant

I. SALUTE TO THE FLAG

The Pledge was led by Charles Preston.

A Moment of Silence was held in honor of our country, the service men and their families that are involved with the war in Iraq.

II. ANNOUNCEMENTS AND COMMUNITY CALENDAR

Mr. Pratt told the Board that he has received a request that some American Flags be placed along Lafayette road to honor of our troops. He also said that he spoke with Col. Paul Lessard who explained that residents with family members serving our country can contact him with names and addresses so that cards and letters can be sent from the community. Mr. Sullivan said that the North Hampton Elementary School is doing some nice things with the children to encourage patriotism around town and he said that Hampton could follow that lead with a display of flags and/or bunting in neighborhoods.

Mr. Barrington told the Board that last week he put messages on the town office marquis, Pray for Our Troops and God Bless America; however someone vandalized the sign to read something much less appropriate and the letters have been removed. Mr. Barrington encouraged citizens, regardless of their personal sentiments about the war, to remember that the soldiers are our citizens, friends and neighbors.

Precinct Annual Meeting

The annual Hampton Beach Village District annual meeting will be held on Friday, March 28th at the Precinct Meeting Room at the Fire Station.

Basketball Tournament

Mr. Warburton announced that the Hampton Youth Association will be holding a basketball tournament at the Marston School on April 4 – 6th with proceeds to benefit the Marston School playground.

Hampton School Board

Mr. Warburton said that he was proud to announce that while the Board of Selectmen sits here, another group is holding a historical meeting. The Hampton School Board is meeting and Selectman Ginny Bridle's son, JR will be taking his seat tonight as the youngest School Board member ever to be sworn in. Mr. Warburton noted that JR's late father, Alan Bridle was the youngest Selectmen to ever sit at this table, and this is a proud moment for the Bridle family.

III. APPOINTMENTS

1. Charlie Preston, Re: Beach Parking

Mr. Preston noted that May 1st is coming quickly, that is the date that the state parking meters will be returned to the beach. Mr. Preston reminded the Board that they requested that the State provide free parking to vehicles with town stickers last year and the State's response was that there had not been a full season to evaluate the results of the adjusted dates and new rates. Now that a full season has passed, Mr. Preston requested that the Board of Selectmen make the same request again this year. He explained that in order to change the image of Hampton beach, regardless of the amount of money that is poured into the beach, it needs to be user friendly to the visitors.

Mr. Preston told the Board that the meter season is May 1st to October 1st and he would like the State to offer free parking to residents through May, except for Memorial Day weekend, all weekdays in June and then daily after Labor Day through October 1st, except during the Seafood Festival. Mr. Preston said that he believes that activity creates activity and all of the businesses will make more money if that is done. He noted that he has monitored the CPA lot and it does not operate at full capacity during those time periods. He said that Hampton should not be treated as "second class" by the State and he would like the Board of Selectmen to work with him to accomplish this.

Mr. Workman said that this is an issue the Board has discussed time and time again and it may be worth asking again. Mr. Sullivan said that he agreed with the request but was not optimistic about the results. Mrs. Bridle said that she agrees to write the letter and also agrees that it probably will not do any good, due to the financial constraints the State is in now. Mr. Pratt agreed to send the letter. Mr. Warburton confirmed that the Town Manager should send a letter to Mr. McLeod outlining the request for resident parking at the meters during the time periods Mr. Preston specified. Mrs. Bridle said that a timely response should be requested in the letter. Mr. Preston said that if the State does not agree with those dates, an option could be to match the dates with those of the meters in North Hampton and Rye. Mr. Preston said that he would also like to see if the State could post their hours of operation at every change machine. Mr. Sullivan said that if they do respond to the Town, it would be nice to have Mr. Noel include the letter in the next Chamber mailing. Mr. Preston said that it would be nice to have a public meeting with DRED to share the concerns of the residents.

IV. OLD BUSINESS

Town Manager's Report

Mr. Barrington informed the Board that he had a call from Mr. Craig Bulkley of the State Liquor Commission this week. He was exploring the opportunity for the State to tie into the town's sewer system if or when the septic system that currently serves the liquor stores fails. Mr. Barrington said that when the State did the boring under Route 95 to tie in the southbound liquor store, they had to tie into the sewer at that time, but had also asked for funding from the town to assist with extending the sewer. Mr. Barrington said that he told Mr. Bulkley that he would be happy to meet with him, look at the possibilities and discuss what might be mutually advantageous.

Mr. Barrington told the Board that he explained to Mr. Bulkley the current fee arrangement with DRED for sewer service at the beach and said that a similar arrangement would likely be established for the liquor stores. Mr. Bulkley will be talking with the State and will be back in contact in the near future. Mr. Barrington said that if the Board has any concerns about this he would like to know them in advance of any further discussions with the State.

Wastewater Treatment Plant Blower

Mr. Barrington reported that he met with Wright Pierce engineers this week to discuss the situation with the blowers at the wastewater treatment plant. Attorney Gearreald is watching the calendar closely to insure that we do not let the statute of limitations expire. While there is a proposal by Keymont Construction on the table to attempt a solution there are a few concerns about the details.

Mr. Barrington requested that the Board schedule a non-meeting with Attorney Gearreald next Monday to discuss the blower issue and the current status of the Seacoast United Soccer and Brewster suits. The Board agreed to meet at 6:00 PM on Monday, March 31st with Attorney Gearreald.

Rescue Boat

The Board was told that the Town Manager made the trip to Rowley, MA on March 19th to see the progress on the fire department rescue boat. He told the Board that it is taking shape very nicely now, but the detail work lies ahead. Winninghoff has indicated that they believe they are still on schedule for a June delivery date.

Bonair Project

Mr. Barrington informed the Board that he met with Collis Adams with the DES Wetlands Bureau to review the Bonair Project, through Project Impact late last week. Mr. Barrington thanked Representative Francoeur for helping keep this permitting process moving. Mr. Adams indicated that the permit for that project may be available this week.

Police Facility

Mr. Barrington told the Board that he has spoken with Dirk Grotenhuis, the engineer at Kimball Chase, about the site-specific permit for the police station. The Conservation Commission will be conducting a site tour on Saturday and will consider the permit application at their meeting Tuesday, March 25th. Mr. Grotenhuis expects to be able to bring it in for submission to the Wetlands Board as soon as that approval is in place. Copies have been forwarded for the Board's review.

Beach Infrastructure Upgrades

Public Works Director John Hangen has scheduled a meeting with the utilities for next week to begin the planning and coordination for the Beach upgrades. Mr. Barrington explained this is a big project that will need the Selectmen's input on how it should be put together, one of the methods being considered is the use of a design-build process. Mr. Barrington suggested that the Board have a meeting with Mr. Hangen and Mrs. Duhamel to explain the project and financing options for the Board. Mr. Bruce Mayberry, the consultant working on the implementation of the impact fees will also be looking at this project as an aspect of the impact fees.

Kings Highway sewer extension

Mr. Barrington told the Board that he has instructed Mr. Hangen to make sure all the wheels are turning properly to secure SRF funding for the Kings Highway project. With SRF funding, locking in today's interest rates as a maximum amount will help with the cost, and the project is much more "straight forward" than the complexity of the Beach Infrastructure project.

Police Station.

The draft of the bid documents for the police facility are expected next week and Attorney Gearreald will begin his review while the wetlands approval is pending.

Cave Building.

Recreation and Parks Director Dyana Lassonde is researching information for the new cave building so the bid documents can be prepared.

Eel Ditch engineering.

Town Planner Jennifer Kimball has been in touch with Mary Carrier of the Rockingham Conservation District. In order to receive state funding to make the town funds go further on this project, we will be waiting until July 1, the beginning of the state's fiscal year, to pursue the RFP on the Eel Ditch project.

Exeter Road Bridge

Mr. Barrington reported that he has spoken with Florian at Sanel Auto Parts, he is interested in selling his property if the price is right. He would like to have the Town have an independent appraisal done.

Merton Group

Mr. Barrington told the Board about a proposal that has been made by the Merton Group to look at the feasibility of the municipality providing fiber optic services. The Merton Group is willing to do the initial survey at no cost and if it is economically viable to move forward, then they could make some money. He explained that the group negotiates with the Internet service providers to have a rebate to the communities to make the infrastructure economically feasible. Mr. Barrington said that he believes the study is a win-win situation for the town, and if the Board of Selectmen would like a presentation on this it can be done next Monday evening. Mr. Warburton suggested that the Town Manager meet with them and determine if this is something the town should explore; if so they can be invited back to meet with the Board.

Boat Dock

Mr. Barrington told the Board that with the addition of the new rescue boat, the town had been looking at the possibility of building it's own pier, adjacent to the Smith & Gilmore restaurant on a parcel that the town acquired from the Coast Guard after WWII. The land is partially under water, but there are access rights to it. Mr. Barrington added that there have been some discussions with the folks developing the area adjacent to that parcel, and while they are willing to provide the town free dockage at a pier they are proposing, their initial agreement that they have sent is unacceptable to the town. Mr. Barrington said that it may be in the best interest of the town to build it's own pier. The State has indicated that it would like to do this project with the Town, using the value of the local land as the match and the State providing the funding to build the pier. Mr. Barrington said that it appears to him that this is something the town should pursue.

Mr. Pratt asked if the pier would be for residential use. Mr. Barrington said that it would be strictly for emergency vehicles, specifically the Town's rescue boat and the Coast Guard. Mrs. Bridle asked if it would cost the town anything. Mr. Barrington said at this point the State has said that they would provide the funding. The alternative is that the Town would be paying a rental fee for a dock. Mrs. Bridle said that there are seven major projects this year and if a pier can be added to that list and the town still accomplish the other projects that the taxpayers funded, she does not have a problem with it. Mr. Sullivan said that the only thing that bothers him about the location is the exposure to the northwest winds. He said he thinks it is a great idea as long as it doesn't cost the town any money. Mr. Barrington said that when Chief Lipe brought in the budget proposal with the increase in the dockage for the boat he asked him to look at the future of that expense. Mr. Barrington said that Mr. Don Bliss and Mr. David Barrett have been involved with this project at the State level. Mr. Workman agreed that there are a lot of projects to do, but we will have a new boat and will need a place to put it. Mr. Warburton said that he understands that the town maybe a recipient of some Homeland Security money that could fund this.

Hobbs Road Sewer

Mr. Sullivan asked if Public Works would be doing the Hobbs Road project themselves. Mr. Barrington said that it is his understanding that the project will be contracted out.

State Sewer Connection Request

Mr. Sullivan asked if the State was talking about the possibility of connecting the north-bound or south bound liquor store. Mr. Barrington said that both sites are served by the same septic system. Mr. Sullivan said that in order to keep the good relationship the Town has with the State, he recommended that the discussions go forward, as long as it is at no expense to the town.

Mr. Pratt said that hooking the State up to the system may not cost the town anything, but servicing them will. Mr. Barrington said that was correct and because Hampton's sewer costs are calculated on an ad-valorem basis, the State would not be paying for that service through taxes. Mr. Barrington explained that for the State Park's sewer usage Commissioner Bald provided their water usage figures and the sewer costs were determined on that basis and if this were to happen, he would propose that a similar calculation be done for the Liquor Commission and that they be charged a similar payment in lieu of taxes.

Adopt-A-Spot Location Sign

Mrs. Bridle said the large sign is still present on the Winnacunnet/Park Avenue adopt-a-spot location. She said that the sponsor of the Winnacunnet/Lafayette Road spot was required to change the larger sign and she wanted the town to remain consistent.

V. NEW BUSINESSCoalition Communities Resolution

Mr. Warburton told the Board that he asked to have this on the agenda for the Board of Selectmen to express their support of HB 717 and CACR 13. The resolution was read aloud.

Mr. Workman said that the Coalition Communities keep fighting and the Town should support HB 717. Mr. Sullivan said that it looks to him that the Targeted Aid Bill is the better of the options. Mrs. Bridle agreed that the resolution should be sent and said that with the upcoming changes as a result of "No Child Left Behind" Hampton needs to keep more of Hampton's money in Hampton. Mr. Pratt said that he does not believe the Constitutional Amendment will pass, but the Board should sign the resolution to indicate their support.

Mrs. Bridle MOTIONED that the Board of Selectmen sign the Resolution of support for HB 717 and CACR 13.

Mr. Sullivan SECONDED

VOTE: UNANIMOUS FOR

Mosquito Control

Mr. Barrington noted that Municipal Pest Management has indicated that they have received their annual permit for mosquito control and larviciding will begin on April 7th and spraying will begin in late May or early June.

Spring Clean-up

Mr. Sullivan asked the Town Manager to check with Mr. Hangen about the plans for spring cleanup.

Board Chairmen

Mr. Sullivan announced that Mr. Tom Gillick was appointed Chairman of the Planning Board and Mr. Vic Lessard is Chairman of the Zoning Board of Adjustment.

Report from Budget Committee Meeting – 3/18/03

Mr. Sullivan said that the Budget Committee welcomed new members Mike Plouffe, Jean Boudreau and Maury Friedman and after a secret ballot, Mary-Louise Woolsey was appointed Chairman and Charlene Carliell is the Vice-Chairman. Mr. Sullivan said that he questioned the appropriateness of the board representatives participating in that vote. Sharleen Hurst is the hired secretary. Mr. Sullivan said that Mrs. Woolsey has requested that all of the meetings be televised and Mr. Nickerson has agreed to do that. There was a request from Mrs. Woolsey that during the meetings in April, May, June and October the Department Heads come in. Mr. Sullivan said that he feels that the Town Manager and Department Heads should not come in until the budget is being presented. He told the Board that the Budget Committee has also requested a list of all department vehicles, including type, condition, who drives them and where they are garaged. Mr. Sullivan said that the vehicle lists should be provided, but who drives them and where they are kept is the purview of the Department Head. The Budget Committee has also requested monthly budget reports. Mr. Workman said that the budget committee is elected to prepare and present a budget to the voters. Mrs. Bridle said that the meeting met for fifteen minutes before being televised and she felt it was very unprofessional, with comments made about the previous secretary that were not true. Mrs. Bridle said that the purpose of the Budget Committee is to approve the budget for the following year, quarterly reports are sufficient and they do not need to be in the daily operating business of the town. She said that they should stay with figures and not get into personalities. Mr. Warburton said that the laws are very specific; they get the budget after the Town Manager meets with the Department Heads and the Board of Selectmen. Mr. Warburton said that he did not think Department Heads need to meet with the Budget Committee prior to budget season.

MS-5 Annual City/Town Financial Report and MS-2 Report of Appropriations Voted

Mr. Sullivan MOTIONED that the Board of Selectmen sign the DRA forms as prepared.

Mr. Pratt SECONDED

VOTE: UNANIMOUS FOR

School Board

Mrs. Bridle said that she would like the Board of Selectmen to consider offering the use of the Selectmen's Meeting Room to the Hampton School Board for one meeting per month, to provide better television reception. Mr. Warburton asked what the Board of Selectmen would do if they normally met on that Monday. Mrs. Bridle recommended that the Board of Selectmen take that Monday off. Mr. Workman said

that the proposal could be explored for the summer months. Mr. Sullivan said that there is no question that there is a lot of interest in the School Board meetings and the Marston School is just not set up for a good broadcast. Mr. Warburton asked permission to talk with the School Board chairman to see what they would like to do. The Board agreed.

VI. MINUTES

The minutes of March 17, 2003 were reviewed with no changes made.

VII. CONSENT AGENDA

- 1. Parade Permit – Reach the Beach Relay 9/12/03

Mr. Workman MOTIONED that the Board of Selectmen approve the consent agenda.

Mr. Sullivan SECONDED

VOTE: UNANIMOUS FOR

The Board of Selectmen will review the Assessor’s contract at the end of the meeting next week.

VIII. PUBLIC COMMENT

Mr. Richard Reniere, 29 Highland Avenue, thanked the Board for announcing the Village District Annual Meeting. He said that the polls will be open on March 28th from 1:00PM to 8:00 PM with the meeting beginning at 8:00 PM. As a Supervisor of the Checklist, he wanted voters to understand that the required purge of the voting list was done this year and if a Precinct resident has not voted within the past two years, they have been purged from the voting list and need to re-register that day, providing proof of residency.

VIII. ADJOURNMENT

Mr. Sullivan MOTIONED that the meeting be adjourned. (8:20 PM)

Mrs. Bridle SECONDED

VOTE: UNANIMOUS FOR

Chairman