

**HAMPTON BOARD OF SELECTMEN
SELECTMEN'S MEETING ROOM
January 24, 2005 7:00 PM**

PRESENT: William Sullivan, Chairman,
James Workman, Cliff Pratt, Rick Griffin
James Barrington, Town Manager
Karen Anderson, Administrative Assistant

I. SALUTE TO THE FLAG

Captain Jamie Sullivan led the audience in the salute to the flag.

II. ANNOUNCEMENTS

Mr. Pratt thanked Public Works for the nice job on snow removal. He encouraged drivers to be careful at intersections with the high snow banks.

III. APPOINTMENTS

1. Jamie Sullivan, Special Olympics Penguin Plunge

Captain Sullivan and Mary Conroy, Vice-President of Special Olympics were present to answer any of the Board's questions regarding the upcoming Penguin Plunge. Captain Sullivan stated that the goal is to have 800 plungers this year. Mrs. Conroy thanked the Board for inviting them here, and noted that there are 2,900 Special Olympic athletes that take part in their programs throughout the State and this event has made a big difference in the level of the programs that can be offered. The Penguin Plunge began seven years ago and they never anticipated the success it would become. Ms. Conroy said that a major reason the Penguin Plunge has been a success is the result of the support and cooperation they receive from the Town of Hampton.

Captain Sullivan noted that this year the Plunge is on Super Bowl Sunday and the theme of the day is football. The challenges this year will be with the re-routing of traffic on the Boulevard as a result of the construction. New this year is that participants will be registering at the Ashworth Hotel and they will be shuttled back to the Casino. Participants are being strongly encouraged to pre-register prior to the Plunge. The first wave will go into the water at 12:15 PM across from the Casino. Also new this year is an opportunity for participants to be part of a "Chicken Plunge" and have designated seating in a "Chicken Coop".

Selectman Sullivan said that it is great that Hampton Beach can host two events that benefit the Special Olympics, this as well as the Seafood Festival.

Captain Sullivan asked the Board for their continued support in the same manner as past years. The Recreation Department will shuttle people in the bus, Public Works will be assisting with beach management. The Board of Selectmen agreed that the Town could assist in the same manner as previous years.

IV. OLD BUSINESS

Town Manager's Report

Candidate Filings

Mr. Barrington told the Board that the Town's website includes a link to a page listing the positions that are available on the ballot for candidates seeking election. Paul Paquette, the town's Network Systems Engineer, is updating the page at the end of each day with a list of candidates that have filed for each office. The Town's website is www.town.hampton.nh.us

Annual Audit

The annual audit was conducted last week, with the on-site work completed on Thursday afternoon. Plodzik & Sanderson was very complimentary of the Finance Director Dawna Duhamel and her staff, noting that of over 200 municipal audits they perform each year, Hampton is certainly within the top 5 in terms of preparation and thoroughness of documentation.

District Court

Attorney Mark Gearreald and the Town Manager visited the American Legion Hall this past week to review it as a possible site for the temporary location of the district courtroom. The American Legion is interested in exploring the arrangement further with the court. Mr. Barrington said that further visits will be scheduled with court officials. One of the other locations suggested was the Masonic Hall, and Mr. Barrington will continue to look into that site.

201 Facilities Plan Update

Mr. Barrington reported that he met with Meredith Zona, of FST, this week to receive the preliminary draft of the 201 Facilities Plan update. Copies have been left for review and another meeting will be held in three weeks to go over specific details.

Comcast Franchise Fees

The second half franchise payment from Comcast was received on Friday, January 21st. It was for \$92,638.41. \$23,159.60 will go to the Cable TV fund, with the balance going to the general fund.

Deliberative Session

Mr. Barrington reported that he met with Moderator Bob Casassa today in regard to the Deliberative Session. The Moderator will be working with the Cable Committee the night before to get the logistics of the microphones organized and has requested that the Board of Selectmen meet at WHS for a few minutes that evening. Moderator Casassa has some changes that he would like to institute for the meeting and he will be coming to the Board's next meeting to review those.

Mr. Pratt said that he found the memo addressing the Default Budget informative and meeting a default budget will be a difficult task. Mr. Barrington said that there are so many variables at this time, he wanted to try and suggest ways that \$2.8 can be cut from the budget, but needed to show that it can not be painless. Mr. Griffin said that the cuts will affect all employees as well as residents. Mr. Barrington confirmed that if it is necessary to cut \$2.8 from the operating budget, it will not be done without personnel being reduced. Mr. Barrington said that he would like the Board to think about the options and they should be discussed publicly.

Mr. Griffin said that he noticed on the news tonight a family that was injured as a result of snow covering an outdoor heater and the family suffered from carbon monoxide poisoning. The roads had not been plowed due to budget concerns. Mr. Griffin noted that Hampton is not alone and it is hard to make specific plans without knowing what is going to happen. Mr. Barrington said that it is important for people to understand that a 10% cut can not happen without people feeling it.

Mr. Sullivan said that if the budget does not pass, there will definitely be a loss of employees and there could be complete departments lost. Mr. Griffin said that he had a resident call him and say that he would like to bring his own trash to the dump; while there are others who will not do that. Mr. Sullivan said that payments are coming due for improvements that were voted in earlier years. He added that an increase in the budget does not automatically result in a tax increase of the same percentage.

The Board of Selectmen has been given a sheet with the projected tax impact of the warrant articles.

Precinct Land Swap

Mr. Griffin mentioned an editorial in the Hampton Union about the Board not discussing the land swap. Mr. Griffin said that the land swap has never been a formal proposal and some parts that were discussing

were withdrawn before they went forward. Mr. Pratt said that the Board decided they didn't want to go forward with it and the issue is closed.

Mr. Sullivan said that if residents have a hydrant in their neighborhood it would be very helpful for residents to try and keep the hydrants exposed and visible. The Fire Department will be shoveling all of the hydrants out.

V. NEW BUSINESS

Assignment of Warrant Articles

The Board members volunteered for actions on the warrant articles at the Deliberative Session as follows:

- Article 7: Mr. Workman will move; Mr. Sullivan will second.
- Article 9: Mr. Pratt will move; Mr. Griffin will second.
- Article 10: Mr. Workman will move; Mr. Sullivan will second.
- Article 13: Mr. Workman will move; Mr. Pratt will second.
- Article 14: Mr. Pratt will move; Mr. Griffin will second.
- Article 15: Mr. Workman will move; Mr. Sullivan will second.
- Article 17: Mr. Griffin will move; Mr. Sullivan will second.
- Article 18: Mr. Pratt Mr. will move; Mr. Workman will second.
- Article 22: Mr. Pratt will move; Mr. Sullivan will second.
- Article 23: Mr. Workman will move; Mr. Pratt will second.
- Article 24: Mr. Griffin will move; Mr. Sullivan will second.
- Article 25: Mr. Sullivan will move; Mrs. Bridle-Russell will second.
- Article 26: Mr. Pratt will move; Mr. Workman will second.
- Article 27: Mrs. Bridle-Russell will move; Mr. Sullivan will second.
- Article 28: Mr. Sullivan will move; Mr. Workman will second.
- Article 29: Mr. Griffin will move; Mr. Workman will second.
- Article 30: Mr. Sullivan will move; Mr. Pratt will second.
- Article 31: Mr. Workman will move; Mr. Pratt will second.
- Article 32: Mr. Griffin will move; Mrs. Bridle-Russell will second.
- Article 33: Mr. Sullivan will move; Mr. Pratt will second.
- Article 35: Mr. Griffin will move; Mr. Sullivan will second.

Certificate for Rich McLeod

Mr. Pratt MOTIONED that the Board of Selectmen sign a Certificate of Recognition for Mr. Rich McLeod on the occasion of his retirement from the State, Department of Resources and Economic Development.

Mr. Workman SECONDED

VOTE: UNANIMOUS FOR

Mr. Sullivan asked about the un-audited budget report for the final year and he asked if there were any large purchases that are able to be made. Mr. Barrington said that Public Works is able to buy the loader they had requested and the Finance Department will be getting the financial software package.

VI. MINUTES

The minutes of January 17th & 18th , 2005 were accepted as written.

VII. PUBLIC COMMENT

Mrs. Yvonne Quagliori, 23 Bittersweet Lane was present to explain that she has a situation recently that required the Town's immediate attention and she wanted to thank Mr. Barrington and Mr. Schultz for their efforts that helped them resolve the situation. She explained that they took the time to meet with them at their home and listened to their concerns and that was appreciated. She thanked the Board of Selectmen for

their efforts and commended them. Mrs. Quagliori offered her volunteer services as a bi-lingual to the Town.

VIII. ADJOURNMENT

Mr. Workman MOTIONED that the meeting be adjourned. (7:45 PM)

Mr. Pratt SECONDED

VOTE: UNANIMOUS FOR

Chairman