

**HAMPTON BOARD OF SELECTMEN
SELECTMEN'S MEETING ROOM
March 28, 2005 7:00 PM**

PRESENT: James Workman, Chairman, Cliff Pratt, Vice Chairman
Ben Moore, Virginia Bridle-Russell
James Barrington, Town Manager
Karen Anderson, Administrative Assistant

ABSENT: Rick Griffin

I. SALUTE TO THE FLAG

Mr. Maurice Friedman led the audience in the flag salute.

II. ANNOUNCEMENTS

Mrs. Bridle said to the person who threw a letter into her place of business this morning, she has passed it along to Mr. Pratt who it appears it was intended for. She asked that correspondence to her be mailed or handed to her and not thrown onto the floor.

The Recreation Department was congratulated on a successful Easter Egg dig.

III. APPOINTMENTS

Ellen Lavin, Treasurer Re: Tax Anticipation Note

Mrs. Lavin told the Board that this is the line of credit for tax anticipation notes and this year she is borrowing \$4 million, at 3.93%. She noted that because this loan is not bank qualified she is paying about 83 basis points more than if it had been bank qualified. Mrs. Lavin told the Board that she will need to borrow funds in May that will be paid off in June and again in October that will be paid off before the end of the year.

Mr. Pratt MOTIONED that the Board of Selectmen approve the Tax Anticipation note for \$4 million dollars at the interest rate of 3.93%.

Mr. Moore SECONDED

VOTE: UNANIMOUS FOR

The Certificate, Note and the Line of Credit Rider were signed by the Board of Selectmen.

III. OLD BUSINESS

Town Manager's Report

Mr. Barrington informed the Board that he has received letters from both Unitil and Aquarion regarding the requests for a waiver of the fees for this year due to the default. Both utilities have responded that due to PUC regulations they would not be able to waive any fees.

Vacant Positions

In keeping with the Board's vote last week concerning filling positions, Mr. Barrington reported that currently vacant positions that need to be filled immediately include a secretary (minute taker) for the ZBA and a secretary for the Planning Board that includes staff support for Planning Board mailings and the planning office. After discussing the Planning Board situation with their Chairman, Tracy Emerick, the Town Manager proposed to allow the senior Receptionist (whose position has been eliminated) to move into the Planning Secretary slot, giving staff support for correspondence, mailings, notices, and documentation of the plans and documents filed with the Planning Board and Office of Planning. Because of going from a fee per meeting to an hourly basis, this part-time position is within budgeted funds.

For the Public Works Department, Mr. Hangen has reported that he has the following budgeted positions that he is preparing to advertise and/or post to be filled: Up to 14 seasonal employees for rubbish, WWTP, Sewers & Drain, and Transfer Station operations, three permanent positions (Highway Laborer, Transfer

Station Attendant, and Sewer & Drain Laborer), a seasonal engineering intern, and up to 8 individuals for the seasonal beach crew. In Recreation, Mrs. Martin would like to fill the following seasonal positions: 5 parks maintenance workers, 1 summer intern/camp counselor, 10 camp counselors, and 11 parking lot attendants.

Meeting Room Schedule

School Superintendent Gaylord called last week to ask if the Hampton School Board might be able to meet with the Selectmen at a meeting in May. He also asked if they could use the Selectmen's Meeting Room on April 18 due to a special program they are having that evening. In light of that request, the Town Manager has explored the possibility of moving the proposed April 11 meeting with the Exeter Board of Selectmen to April 18 in Exeter.

Transfer Station

The Transfer Station, effective at time of closing on Tuesday, June 14, will be closed to business on Tuesdays for cleanup and maintenance activities at the station and grounds, and effective at close of business on Sunday, June 12, will be closed on Sundays.

Default Budget

The call force of the fire department was discontinued effective March 23 as a part of the budget reductions. Lay off notices have gone out to four firefighters and the part-time fire prevention secretary effective April 6. This is at the end of a pay period and the firefighter 8-week pay cycle. Letters have also gone out to the receptionists eliminating that position effective by April 8. The Town Clerk's office will begin closing on Friday's at 12:30 beginning on April 8th.

Mr. Barrington reminded the residents that one of the reductions was the costs of postage and supplies to send automobile registration reminder notices. These can no longer be provided. Anyone with a registration renewal due in April should take note and renew their registrations. The Town Clerk did note that dog registration renewal notices are a matter of state law and will continue to be mailed.

Mr. Barrington noted that the Board has received a note from Attorney Gearreald concerning a few issues with the boat dock that arise from the Board's decision to sell the rescue boat. Finance Director Dawna Duhamel also reports that through February 26th the Town has incurred \$43,376.03 for engineering on the dock. The engineering is currently in a "lull" while the permit application is under review at DES. Mr. Barrington told the Board that he has made the engineers aware of the possibility that the town may need to cancel the project and they have agreed to do no further work on the project until we have reached a determination of whether or not it will proceed. We are attempting to find a federal or state agency that would be willing to take over the maintenance of the completed pier. Attorney Saari has called Attorney Gearreald questioning the \$60,000 contribution made to this project by Mark Maynard. Finance Director Duhamel has initiated contact with the leasing company to determine the extent of the pre-payment penalty that is referenced in the lease-purchase agreement.

Town Planner

Mr. Barrington reported that he received a note from the Town Planner. He is out of the hospital and is now in the Dover Rehab Center. He is expecting that he may be able to return to work in late April. Mr. Barrington thanked Mrs. Perkins for her time to help keep things afloat in the Planning Office during this trying time. Planning Consultant, Mark Fougere reported that 13 new applications had been waiting for him this week.

Waste Collection RFP

Mr. Hangen reported that the development of the RFP for waste collection is going to take a little longer than expected due to some contractual obligations with 53-B.

Questions for the Town Manager

Mrs. Bridle asked how long the full-time positions in Public Works have been vacant. Mr. Barrington

Said that they became vacant some time late last year and he had asked Mr. Hangen to wait to fill them until after the budget was determined.

Mr. Moore asked if the seasonal people proposed in both Public Works and Recreation were the same number as last year. Mr. Barrington said that they were.

Mr. Pratt said that he did not have a problem with the Planning Board secretarial position as proposed. Mr. Pratt asked if the recreation seasonal staff are paid through the SRF fund. Mr. Barrington said that the wages are taken from that account, however the wage the counselor earns has nothing to do with the revenue that they generate. Mr. Pratt confirmed that the full-time positions in Public Works were long standing positions that had not been filled and the money was in the budget. Mr. Barrington said that they were.

Mr. Pratt said that he was not sure he was in favor of turning over the third Monday of each month to the School Board. Mrs. Bridle said that she is very much in favor of allowing the School Board to continue to use the room one Monday per month. It is important to the residents to watch the School Board meetings and over 50% of the residents have children. She noted that the School Board has been very willing to work with this Board and they have been supportive. The Board of Selectmen can meet on that week in public, although not televised. Mr. Moore said that there have been Selectmen's meetings even when the School Board is live and he is not in favor of that. He stated that he would prefer that the Board only meet on camera and if the School Board is going to be allowed to use the room, that the Board of Selectmen not meet that week. Mr. Workman said that he agrees with Mrs. Bridle that 50% of the residents have children, and if we can make accommodations we should do that, but the Board has been taken to task for meeting upstairs, in public but not on television. He agrees that the meetings should be televised when at all possible. Mr. Workman said that allowing the School Board to use the room April 18th would be fine since this Board of Selectmen will likely be meeting in Exeter. On May 18th the Board of Selectmen can hold the non-public session needed for collective bargaining discussions. Mr. Pratt said that the Board of Selectmen can discuss that with the School Board when they meet. Mrs. Bridle suggested that the Exeter Channel 22 give a copy of the video of that meeting to be played on our Channel 22.

Default Budget

Mr. Moore asked about the authority the Board of Selectmen has to sell property and the concerns that Attorney Gearreald has raised. Attorney Gearreald explained the statutes that give the Board of Selectmen various powers and he explained the process with RSA 41:14 –a that Hampton adopted to acquire and sell land, with the exception of leased land. Attorney Gearreald said that for personal property the statutes are silent. The practice in Hampton has been that the Town Meeting has been given the opportunity to make purchasing decisions. The Town Meeting article spoke about buying a boat and at the same time enhancing marine rescue provisions. Because this article was adopted by a Town Meeting that explained a method of rescue, his recommendation is to put the discontinuance and disposal of the boat back to the voters. Mr. Moore said that his recommendation raises the question of how we manage other personal property in town. He suggested that it may be appropriate to speak with the Local Government Center for further information on this. Attorney Gearreald agreed that they would be a resource for information. Mrs. Bridle said that this is an interesting point and she had wondered how that could be done because it was a town meeting vote. Attorney Gearreald said that the Board of Selectmen is in a difficult position trying to find \$2.8 million dollars. Mrs. Bridle said that why she voted for selling Marine 1 because if the department is not sure it has enough coverage for the town with the loss of manpower, she has concerns about providing manpower for the boat. Mr. Pratt said that Attorney Gearreald recommendation is to wait until next year to take action on the boat, but he asked if they legally can suspend all operations. Attorney Gearreald said that the operation of the marine rescue program is a different question since there is an operational impact and it is his opinion that the Board of Selectmen can act on that. State law doesn't require a town to have a marine rescue program. Attorney Gearreald said that this program has a history that goes back to 1995. Mr. Moore said that the question is whether it is legal to sell the boat.

Mrs. Bridle MOTIONED that the Board of Selectmen override the motion of March 21, 2005 and suspend the selling of Marine 1 until the after the Town Meeting in March, 2006.

Mr. Pratt SECONDED

Mr. Moore AMENDED the MOTION to add that the town “mothball” the boat until after the decision of the voters in March 2006.

Mr. Pratt SECONDED

Mrs. Bridle asked what the difference is between selling Marine 1 now or not operating it. Attorney Gearreald said that he does not see it as the same thing because curtailing the operation for this season does not impact the governmental pier. The Town can proceed with building the pier because it will be a benefit to other jurisdictional agencies. The pier will have that use whether or not Hampton is in that business. Mr. Barrington said that he would not be in favor of building the pier if the town does not have a firm commitment from another agency to maintain it. There were a number of agencies that were excited about the prospect of the pier and he would hope that they will be willing to take over the maintenance of it. Mr. Moore said that the grant was accepted through a public hearing process, but the voters have not had the opportunity to accept the maintenance costs.

**VOTE on AMENDMENT: 2 FOR (Pratt, Moore)
2 OPPOSED
(Workman, Bridle-Russell)**

Mrs. Bridle-Russell said that decision needs to be put off until Town Meeting.

Mr. Moore AMENDED the MOTION to add that “and that the Town not pay off the boat as quickly as possible in order to avoid a prepayment penalty”.

Mrs. Bridle SECONDED

VOTE: UNANIMOUS FOR

Mr. Barrington said that we don’t know the extent of the prepayment penalty and if it is determined that it is a small amount and there would be an interest savings realized, he will come back to the board with that information and a decision can be looked at.

Mr. Moore said that the intent of last week motion was to save funds, and while there may be a legal and financing issue that causes us to reconsider selling the boat, if we “mothball” it for the season it will accomplish the original intent.

Mrs. Bridle said that the board could discuss the operation of the boat next week with a full board present. Mr. Workman said that he would like to have the totality of the default budget completed as soon as possible. Mr. Moore said that we resolved the concerns of the Attorney and Finance Director by delaying the sale and if we don’t operate it this year we are back to last week’s intent without legal concerns. Mr. Pratt said that he does not have a problem waiting until next week to discuss operation of the boat.

**VOTE on AMENDED MOTION: 3 FOR
1 OPPOSED (Moore)**

Mr. Pratt asked Attorney Gearreald about the default budget as presented on the form published in the Town Report. Attorney Gearreald said that the form is new this year and previously the Board of Selectmen decided on a bottom line for the default budget and included that in the budget warrant article; this year a form was devised by DRA for the Board of Selectmen to itemize the default budget. Mr. Pratt asked if those line items can be modified. Mr. Barrington said that the form takes the prior year’s budget and tracks the additions and subtractions to come up with the new bottom line and once it is voted the Board of Selectmen control the use of the funds. Attorney Gearreald said that the Town Manager is correct and only if the Board of Selectmen was going to make an expenditure for a purpose outside those on the MS 7 could there be a problem.

Mrs. Bridle asked what the difference between selling the boat and doing away with Spring Clean-up, which was also a program approved by Town Meeting. Attorney Gearreald said that would be fine to eliminate because it was an authorization, but not an order to do something and it has since been carried within the operating budget.

Mr. Pratt asked Chief Lipe to come forward to talk with the Board. Mr. Pratt asked who set the standards that he gave the Board of Selectmen copies of. Chief Lipe said that the standards were from the National Fire Protection Association. Mr. Pratt asked as far as the position of Deputy Chief of Operations, what specifically that position does. Chief Lipe said that he appreciated the opportunity to address the board, and he acknowledged that his decision to travel last week was not well timed, but before departing he thought he had handled everything and had briefed the Deputies sufficiently. He said that he is also the Emergency Management Director for the Town and last week he was in Anaheim, California attending a conference about disaster planning that was fully funded through a grant. The trip had to be completed by the end of March in order to meet the grant guidelines. Chief Lipe noted that upon hearing the news last week, he terminated the trip after the last class and returned home.

Chief Lipe explained that the Deputy Chief of Operations assists in the budget preparations, writes and enforces all the daily operations of the department, evaluates and requisition all tools, equipment and apparatus. He has overseen the two newest pieces of apparatus and the boat, recently competed the specifications for the ladder truck and has just finished a complete radio overhaul. He runs the tactical operations at a fire scene and is always on call. This position is second in command, oversees that evaluation of all line officers, reviews incidents, oversees sick leave, vacation and special coverage needs. He is directly responsible for the fleet maintenance, commands and controls special events management and conducts daily briefings with the staff. The position also coordinates the mutual aid plans with other communities and interacts with the water company for hydrant matters. Chief Lipe said that the removal of this position undercuts the whole operation of the fire department.

Mr. Moore asked about the NFPA 1500 and 1561 references in the materials that the chief provided and asked if the Town has established the recommended policies for Hampton. Chief Lipe answered in the affirmative to all of the policies listed by Mr. Moore. Mr. Moore said that it would have been helpful to him if the department specific policies had been provided rather than the generic materials. Chief Lipe will provide a copy to be kept on file at the town office of the checklist and policies. Mr. Moore said that in every business there are times that you have to make do with less and that is the motion that was made last week and hopefully you will be able to get the job done without that position.

Mrs. Bridle-Russell said that this is an important position and the Board has not said to Chief Wrenn that he must operate with one less Captain or tell Mrs. Martin to operate without her Parks Coordinator. Mrs. Bridle-Russell said that it is the deputy and captains that run the day to day operations of the departments and she was on the Board that approved the move from one deputy to two and it has been useful. She expressed her concerns that the Board is asking the fire department to do something that the other departments have not been asked to do. She told the Board that she had asked the Finance Director to determine how much of current firefighter salaries can legally be taken from the SRF for emergency medical related costs and Mrs. Duhamel determined that an additional \$68,000 could be taken from that account. Mrs. Bridle-Russell said that would come close to funding the deputy chief position. Mr. Workman agreed with Mrs. Bridle-Russell that it is an important position.

Mr. Pratt said that as an observation, he went to work this morning and 8 more people were layed off and from his company, some with 25 – 32 years service and he has served with two selectmen who have been layed off from their employment. Mr. Pratt said that he has struggled with this very hard but the voters have spoken and he feels this is the area they have spoken to him about.

Chief Lipe said that taking this position is like taking the finance director away from the Town Manager and it is cutting into the bone of this organization. He understands the fiscal realities but he cannot imagine cutting into senior management staff and removing a position that has been in place for 100 years. Chief

Lipe asked that the Board of Selectmen please take the safety of the firefighters into consideration and not yank this position. Mrs. Bridle-Russell asked Town Manager if there is any other department that has lost four full-time positions. Mr. Barrington said that there was not. Mrs. Bridle-Russell said that last year on the Board of Selectmen she talked about the people that were struggling and she didn't have any support, now she is angry and it not fair to eliminate 5 positions from one department and none from other departments. Mr. Workman agrees with Mrs. Bridle-Russell and thinks that this is an unwise move at best, and he asked if there were any further motions. There were no motions made.

IV. NEW BUSINESS

Appointments to Boards and Commissions

The vacancies on boards and commissions were read and the Board of Selectmen will take action on this next week.

Resolution for Hurd Farm Bond

Mr. Barrington noted that the amount shown (\$2,065,000) is slightly larger than the Bond Anticipation Note because it includes the cost of issuing the bonds.

Resolution

VOTED: That pursuant to and for the purposes stated in the Town Meeting Approval, there is hereby authorized and approved the issuance and sale of up to \$2,065,000 of general obligation bonds of the Town of Hampton to be issued in the form of registered serial bonds or term bonds or a combination thereof and designated "Town of Hampton, New Hampshire, General Obligation Bonds".

VOTED: That the Treasurer be and herby is authorized to prepare, issue, and sell the Bonds at one time, or from time to time, and the Treasurer be and herby is further authorized to fix the date, maturities, denominations, the interest rate or rates, the place of payment, the form and other details of the Bonds, including provisions for early redemption prior to maturity, with or without a premium, the approval of which to be conclusively evidenced by the execution of the bonds.

VOTED: That the Treasurer be and herby is authorized and empowered to prepare, issue, and sell notes in anticipation of the issuance of the bonds authorized hereinabove. The bond anticipation notes hereby authorized shall have a term note to exceed six months from their date of issuance and the Treasurer be and herby is further authorized and empowered to fix the date, maturity, the interest rate, the place of payment, the form and other details of said notes, including prepayment provisions prior to maturity, with or without premium, the approval of which to be conclusively evidenced by the execution of said notes.

VOTED: That the Board of Selectmen finds and determine that the Project to be financed with the proceeds of the bonds has a useful life of not less than 25 years.

VOTED: That the Treasurer be and hereby is authorized and empowered to take all action necessary to designate such of the Bonds and/or notes in anticipation thereof as qualified tax-exempt obligations for purposes of Section 2656(b) of the Code; it being the intention of the Board of Selectmen that the Treasurer, with advice of bond counsel, make the required Section 265(b) election with respect to such bonds and notes to the extent the election may be available and advisable as determined by the Treasurer.

VOTED: That the Finance Director and Treasurer be and hereby are individually authorized and empowered to prepare, or cause to be prepared, a Preliminary Official Statement and an Official Statement for use in offering and sale of the Bonds, to be in such form and contain such information as may be approved by the Finance Director, the distribution of which in the name of and on behalf of the Town in connection with the offering of the bonds be and hereby is approved.

VOTED: That the Finance Director and Treasurer be and hereby are individually authorized and empowered to select the registrar, paying agent and transfer agent for the Bonds and to execute and deliver such contracts and agreements as may be necessary or appropriate to secure such services.

VOTED: That the Finance Director and Treasurer be and hereby are individually authorized and empowered to undertake all acts necessary to provide for the issuance and transfer of such Bonds in book-entry form pursuant to the Depository Trust Company Book-Entry Only System, and the Finance Director and Treasurer be and hereby are individually authorized and empowered to enter into a Letter of Representation or any other contract, agreement or understanding necessary or appropriate in order to qualify the bonds for and participate in the Depository Trust Company Book-Entry Only System.

VOTED: That the Finance Director and Treasurer be and hereby are individually authorized and empowered and directed to covenant and certify on behalf of the Town that no part of the proceeds of the Bonds shall be used directly or indirectly in a manner that would cause such bonds to be "arbitrage bonds" within the meaning of Section 148 of the IRS Code of 1986, as amended.

VOTED: That the Finance Director and Treasurer be and hereby are individually authorized and empowered to covenant, certify and agree, on behalf of the Town, for the benefit of the holders of such Bonds, that the Town will file any required reports and take any other action that may be necessary to insure that interest on the bonds will remain exempt from federal income taxation, and that the Town will refrain from any action that would cause interest on the bonds to be subject to federal income taxation.

VOTED: That the Finance Director and Treasurer be and hereby are individually authorized and empowered to covenant, certify and agree, on behalf of the Town, for the benefit of the holders of such bonds, that the Town will file any required reports, make any annual financial or material event disclosure, and take any other action that may be necessary to insure that the disclosure requirements imposed by Rule 15c2-12 of the Securities and Exchange Commission, if applicable, are met.

VOTED: That if any of the officers or officials of the Town who have signed or sealed shall have been actually authenticated or delivered by the Town, such bonds nevertheless may be authenticated, issued, and delivered with the same force and effect as though the person or persons who signed or sealed such bonds had not ceased to be such officer or official; and also any such bonds may be signed and sealed on behalf of the Town by those persons, who at the actual date of the execution of such bonds, shall be the proper officers or officials of the Town, although at the nominal date of such Bonds any such person shall not have been such officer or official.

VOTED: That if the Finance Director, Treasurer, Administrative Assistant or Clerk are for any reason unavailable to approve, execute the bonds or any other document or agreement with respect thereto, the person or persons then acting in any such capacity, whether an assistant, a deputy, or otherwise is authorized and empowered to act for such official with the same force and effect as if such official had himself/herself performed such act.

Mr. Moore MOTIONED that the Board of Selectmen sign the following resolution as shown.
Mr. Pratt SECONDED **VOTE: UNANIMOUS FOR**

V. MINUTES

Mr. Pratt MOTIONED that the minutes be accepted as corrected.
Mr. Workman SECONDED **VOTE: UNANIMOUS FOR**
Page 7: change "an ability" to "inability"
Page 8: add "for collective bargaining"

VI. CONSENT AGENDA

1. Reach the Beach Parade Permit (Road Race)
2. Taxi Permits
3. MS 2
4. MS 5
5. Highway Safety Grant Application

Mr. Pratt requested that Item #1 be removed from the consent agenda.

Mr. Pratt MOTIONED that the balance of consent agenda be approved.

Mrs. Bridle SECONDED

VOTE: UNANIMOUS FOR

Mr. Pratt asked who will cover the police details for this road race. The Board agreed to hold off approval for this event pending review by the police department for any detail needs.

VI. PUBLIC COMMENT

Mr. Gerry Dignam, noted that the Board of Selectmen have had some difficult decisions to make and he understands Chief Lipe's passionate plea for the deputy position. Mr. Dignam said that he remembers Chief Lipe saying that he would have to lay off 8 or 12 firefighter and that they were proud to have a very low supervisor to employee ratio. Mr. Dignam expressed concerns with the finalization of the budget and wanted to know when the Board will make a decision. He stated that as a taxpayer that was looking at a 32% increase in spending in the town he was concerned. He would not like to see any layoffs and doesn't feel that they are necessary since there weren't any last year. Mr. Dignam said that the voters approved an 8% increase from last year's budget and there are things in the budget that should be looked at. Mr. Dignam said that he did not believe the Selectmen could sell the boat and suggested that more effort be put into trying to get the \$150,000 out of the police special detail revenue account.

Mr. Richard Reniere said that his concern last week was with Marine 1 and he was happy to hear that the Board of Selectmen will wait until next year to let the voters decide to sell the boat. Next week you will discuss the use of the boat. Mr. Workman said that the board may discuss it. Mr. Reniere said that as a resident of the beach it would disturb him to know that the town has a marine rescue boat and we don't respond because we don't have the manpower to use it. When he hears that decisions have been made to lay off four firefighters and the call force, this is a danger to the public because of the sharp reduction in manpower and then you demolish the command structure of the fire department by eliminating the deputy chief. He asked if a vote had been taken. Mr. Workman said that it was a 3-2 vote last week. He said that he would make an appeal as a private citizen because you are jeopardizing the safety of the town by slashing one department so drastically.

Mr. Brian Warburton stated that he was appalled at the comments toward this Board of Selectmen and the Town Manager last week and he said that many of the voters made their decision based on nasty, misinformation. He applauded Mrs. Bridle-Russell for her statements and noted that he always wanted to let his department heads do their job and they have done a good job. Mr. Warburton commented on the Hampton School Board's use of the meeting room and as far as he is concerned the Board of Selectmen has had a good relationship with the School Board, but he agrees that all the Board of Selectmen meetings should be telecast. He said that there was very little discussion about the public works positions for the summer, he asked about the full time positions and if they were new. Mr. Barrington said that they were not. All the public works and recreation positions will be filled as they were last summer. Mr. Warburton noted that he is a friend of Mr. Pratt and he understands how hard this has been for him. By eliminating the Deputy of Operations, the Board has stripped a department, but then left intact some vacant public works positions. Mr. Warburton said that people still call him and he tells them that we have to run the community. Mr. Warburton asked how much has been spent on training for the four firefighters that have

been let go. He said that he feels badly about what has been done. He urged the Board of Selectmen to reconsider this motion to reinstitute the Deputy Chief of Operations.

Mrs. Bonnie Searle stated that she voted for the default budget based on what is printed in the town report and the health agencies were all funded, all of the positions were funded and she thinks the Board of Selectmen should rethink what they are doing. She thinks that positions are being cut just to make good on the threats that were made before the election. Mrs. Searle asked if Mrs. Bridle-Russell was referring to the letter that she enclosed between the doors of her business this morning. Mrs. Bridle-Russell said that she was and her staff found the letter on the floor. Mrs. Searle said she didn't mean to shun her by not using an envelope. Mrs. Searle told the Board she was happy that they were going to get a tape of the meeting in Exeter so that the "mushrooms" in Hampton can know what is being negotiated for them. She asked if she understands that the Board of Selectmen will have an article next year to propose to sell the "Harbor Watch" boat. Mr. Workman said that based on the vote last week, it is likely that the Board of Selectmen will have an article to sell Marine 1. Mrs. Searle said that the Town Manager mentioned that there is a prepayment penalty, and she asked how much it is. Mr. Workman said that is being determined at this time. Mrs. Searle asked how much will be saved by the town clerk closing at 12:30 every Friday. Mr. Barrington said it will save around \$8,400. She asked if the town had already spent the money that fell out of the sky from the federal government for the boat pier. Mr. Barrington said that as February 26th, \$43,000 has been spent on engineering. She said that she hopes that the town gets rid of the pier as well. People are starting to feel the consequences of the euphoria that has been created for the past few years in Hampton.

Mrs. Judy Dubois said that she is upset and sad she came here tonight. She has done her fair share for public service in this town and is extremely respectful of the departments. Mrs. Dubois explained that she works very hard and she makes \$24,000 for the State of NH and feels that the town budget is out of control. She wanted to see the new police station, but there has to be some common sense, you can't have it all. People are trying to hang on to what they have. Her family has moved in together just to hang onto the family home. Mrs. Dubois said that each situation has to be weighed, and she asked that the Board of Selectmen think about average people like her that are just trying to hang on.

VI. ADJOURNMENT

Mr. Pratt MOTIONED that the meeting be adjourned. (9:10 PM)

Mr. Moore SECONDED

VOTE: UNANIMOUS FOR

Chairman