

**HAMPTON BOARD OF SELECTMEN
SELECTMEN'S MEETING ROOM
March 27, 2006 – 8:15 PM**

PRESENT: Virginia Bridle-Russell, Chairman
Ben Moore, Vice-Chairman
James Workman
Bill Lally
James S. Barrington, Town Manager
Maureen Duffy, Administrative Assistant

REGRETS: Rick Griffin

Chairman Virginia Bridle-Russell called the meeting to order at 8:20 pm and introduced those in attendance.

SALUTE TO THE FLAG

I. ANNOUNCEMENTS AND COMMUNITY CALENDAR

Mr. Workman announced that on Friday, March 31 the Precinct Commission is hosting their annual meeting at the Beach Fire Station. The deliberative portion of the meeting starts at 7 PM and Citizens of the Precinct may vote all day.

Mr. Lally reported that the Recreation Department summer event guide is available. Signup for camp will begin April 5th.

Mr. Moore congratulated the Lane Memorial Library on its 125th birthday on April 2. He also thanked Bill Lally for being the Master of Ceremonies at Bill Wrenn's retirement party last Saturday evening.

Mrs. Bridle-Russell announced that the Village Preschool located at 200 High Street is hosting the 10th Annual Easter Bunny Breakfast on Saturday, April 8 from 8 – 11 AM. She also expressed sympathy to the Seabrook Board of Selectmen for their recent loss, of a former Selectmen.

II. APPOINTMENTS

1. ELLEN LAVIN - TAN

Ellen Lavin addressed the Board. She has sought a competitive interest rate of 4.13% for a line of credit from Citizens Bank. She requested that the Board of Selectmen sign the documents to authorize the loan.

Mr. Lally MOTIONED to sign the bank documents to authorize Town Treasurer, Ellen Lavin to borrow a line of credit from Citizens Bank. **Mr. Workman SECONDED.**

DISCUSSION:

Mr. Moore asked if the \$10,000 in the budget will cover the cost of the interest rate. Mrs. Lavin said that it depends on how much she has to borrow throughout the year and hopes that the \$10,000 will be enough.

VOTE: UNANIMOUS FOR

III. OLD BUSINESS

1. TOWN MANAGER'S REPORT

Mr. Barrington announced Barbie Fairytopia on Sunday, April 23. Those interested may contact the Hampton Recreation Department for more information.

Winnacunnet High School

Mr. Barrington announced that Chris Singleton has been elected as the Chairman of the Winnacunnet School Board. He also announced that an Open House will be held at Winnacunnet High School (WHS) on Wednesday, May 3 at 6:00 PM to show off the new addition. Mr. Singleton informed Mr. Barrington that the school will be disposing of the trailers that have been classrooms during the renovations. Mr. Barrington said that the Town may want to consider using the trailers as storage. Mr. Barrington called Fred Engelbach to let him know that the Town is interested. The trailers are free, but there will be cost involved for moving them.

Mr. Barrington is still playing phone tag with Exeter Town Manager Russ Dean regarding the district court.

Coyote

Mr. Barrington received a report from a citizen that there has been a sighting of a coyote in Hampton. Chief Jamie Sullivan reported to the Town Manager that there have been several reports of either a coyote or a gray fox. Animal Control Officer Pete McKinnon has been trying to capture the animal, so any further information on sightings would be appreciated. As spring begins to bring warmer days and longer sunlight, there will be more animal movement, so citizens should also be aware of skunks and larger animals that might pose hazards to children, domestic animals, and to vehicles.

NH Coastal Program

Chris Williams of the NH Coastal Program informed Mr. Barrington that Frank Richardson had met with him and staff from the Department of Transportation (DOT) to discuss moving sand from the main beach to Sun Valley. It is anticipated that a meeting will be held next week to discuss the logistics of the effort.

The Tax Collector's office will be closed on Wednesday, March 29 from 9 AM – 1 PM.

Mr. Barrington also noted that the New Hampshire Charitable Foundation will be hosting a meeting on April 4 at the Newington Town Hall to discuss a transportation plan for the State.

SELECTMEN'S RESPONSE TO THE MANAGER'S REPORT

The Public Works yard and the area behind the Town Hall were considered as potential locations for the WHS trailers.

Mr. Moore asked if the Galley Hatch required a license or an agreement with the Town while they are under construction. Mr. Barrington believes that was an alternate plan that did not require the construction to be on Town property. Mr. Barrington will look into this matter.

2 – ACTION ON LOADING ZONES AND NO PARKING ORDINANCE

Mr. Moore MOTIONED to adopt the recommendations as written for the public hearing held on March 20th. **Mr. Lally SECONDED.**

VOTE: UNANIMOUS FOR

3 – BUDGET

After taking a week to review the status of the default budget figures, the department heads reported to Mr. Barrington. They are able to make the default budget work to operate their departments. Mr. Barrington noted that *virtually* everything worked to our advantage financially during 2005. There was a light season for snow removal. The spring was wet and so our early season for police shifts was very light. The fire department was operating without the Box 7 expense last year, which we do have this year as a result of arbitration. In addition, there were no major structure fires.

During the budget discussions the ramifications of future funding were considered as well as hiring people one year merely to lay them off the next. There are three positions the Board may consider which will increase productivity with efficiency of operation in the long run.

The first position is the Data Collector job in the Assessor's Office. The intent of this position is to save the cost of periodically having to contract for private companies to perform "re-measure – re-list" calculations. The second position is the part-time Secretary in the Fire Prevention Bureau. Productivity of the Fire Prevention Officer and the Fire Inspector can be greatly enhanced by shifting the clerical tasks to a Secretary and thereby releasing their time for inspections and fire prevention activities. Reinstatement of this position would involve a recall notice being offered to the incumbent who was laid off last year. The third position is the part-time Assistant Building Inspector to assist in the increasing workload within the department.

Mr. Barrington explained that the money originally allocated towards retirement liabilities and court maintenance would cover the vast majority of these three positions for the remainder of 2006. The balance of that can be covered from a reduction in Public Works capital projects.

There was some discussion on utility costs increasing and whether savings could be made by reducing the number of street lights are on.

It was also clarified that the proposed budget adjustments include the current transfer station hours.

Within a couple of weeks a detailed line by line default budget, with adjustments will be presented to the Board of Selectmen for consideration.

There was discussion on the three proposed positions. Many of the Selectmen had difficulty justifying adding new positions in the third default budget year, even when there are possible cost savings in the long run.

Mr. Moore MOTIONED to direct the Town Manager to proceed along the lines of the memo with the exception of the addition of the Data Collector position in the Assessor's Office and the part-time Assistant Building Inspector, yet permit the reinstatement of the part-time Secretary in the Fire Prevention Bureau as soon as possible. **Mr. Lally SECONDED.**

VOTE: UNANIMOUS FOR

Mosquito Control Contract

Mr. Workman MOTIONED to permit the Hampton Mosquito Control Commission to enter into a contract with Dragon Mosquito Control. **Mr. Moore SECONDED.**

VOTE: UNANIMOUS FOR

4 - APPOINTMENTS TO BOARDS & COMMITTEES

The Town Manager's office received two letters from local volunteers interested in serving on committees.

Mr. Lally MOTIONED to appoint Sharon Raymond to the Conservation Commission for a three year term. **Mr. Moore SECONDED.**

**VOTE: 3 FOR
ABSTAINED – Workman**

Mr. Workman MOTIONED to appoint Alfonso (Skip) Webb to the Recreation Advisory Committee for a three year term. **Mr. Lally SECONDED.**

VOTE: UNANIMOUS FOR

IV. NEW BUSINESS

Mr. Moore requested that the agenda be adjusted to include the adoption of minutes before old business and suggested that the Board consider having closing comments after public comments.

Mr. Moore suggested that the Board consider the goals and objectives for the coming year.

Chairman Bridle-Russell discussed the two letters from the Budget Committee requesting information from the Finance Department. Mr. Lally believes that the Committee is seeking clarification on the spending that occurred in December 2005 as well as the purchases of the three police cruisers. There was concern about the amount of

staff time it will take to collect this information. Chairman Bridle-Russell will contact the Chairman of the Budget Committee to discuss the details of this request.

The Budget Committee has invited Finance Director Dawna Duhamel to their next meeting on April 18 to discussed the budget format and impact of the new software program. Assessor Bob Estey was invited to their May 16 meeting to explain the function of the assessing office. The meetings are for informational purposes and are to benefit the Committee's understanding of the Town's financial procedures.

Dog licenses are due in April. Dog owners may get their license at the Town Clerk's office.

The Board received a letter from Hampton citizen Bonnie Searle.

Mrs. Bridle-Russell discussed how the Board of Selectmen receives mail. When it arrives at the Town Manager's office, copies are made and distributed to the Board.

V. MINUTES MARCH 20, 2006

Mr. Workman MOTIONED to accept the minutes as presented. **Mr. Moore SECONDED.**

VOTE: UNANIMOUS FOR

Mr. Moore MOTIONED to reschedule the public hearing for the Conservation Commission Phragmites Control grant to April 10. **Mr. Workman SECONDED.**

VOTE: UNANIMOUS FOR

VI - CONSENT AGENDA

1. 2005 Sewer Abatement
2. National Library Week
3. Raffle Permit
4. MS-2 and MS-5
5. Trench cut on Lafayette Road

Mr. Moore MOTIONED to accept the following consent agenda items: 2005 Sewer Abatement, National Library Week, Raffle Permit, MS-2 and MS-5. **Mr. Lally SECONDED.**

**VOTE: 3 FOR
(ABSTAINED - Workman)**

Mr. Moore asked if the State needed to become involved in the Trench Permit. Mr. Barrington believes that it is part of the urban compact therefore; the State does not need to be involved.

Mr. Moore MOTIONED to accept the Trench cut on Lafayette Road. **Mr. Workman SECONDED.**

VOTE: UNANIMOUS FOR

VII - PUBLIC COMMENT

Vic Lessard addressed the Board. He discussed his concerns on the roadwork in the island area.

VII. ADJOURNMENT

Mr. Lally MOTIONED to adjourn the meeting at 9:25 PM. **Mr. Moore SECONDED.**

VOTE: UNANIMOUS FOR

Chairman