

Town of Hampton



HAMPTON BOARD OF SELECTMEN SELECTMEN'S MEETING ROOM Minutes of March 24, 2008 – 7:00 PM

PRESENT: William Lally, Chairman
Richard Griffin, Vice Chairman
James Workman
Richard Nichols
Richard Bateman
Fred Welch, Town Manager
Kristina Ostman, Administrative Assistant

REGRETS:

Chairman Lally called the meeting to order at 7:00 p.m.

SALUTE TO THE FLAG

The Salute to the Flag was lead by Boy Scout Troop # 177.

Chairman Lally introduced those in attendance.

7 PM – Public Hearing

\$25,000 Coastal Program Grant to study the Lamprey-Leavitt Ice Pond Dam, Dam Embankment and Pond.

Mr. Welch read the legal notice and explained the purpose of the grant.

Mrs. Ellen Goethel, Chairman of the Conservation also explained that the Grant has two components: Creation of Trails and the study on the Pond Dam, Dam Embankment and the Pond.

Chairman Lally opened the hearing to the public, no public comment and the Chairman closed the hearing.

Mr. Bateman MOTIONED to accept the \$25,000 Coastal Program Grant to study the Lamprey Leavitt Ice Pond Dam, Dam Embankment and Pond and Trails. And to authorize the Town Manager to sign the related documents behalf of the Board of Selectmen. Mr. Nichols SECONDED

VOTE: UNANIMOUS FOR

I. Announcements and Community Calendar

Mr. Bateman thanked the voters for electing him to the seat of the Selectmen.

1. Suggested the idea of using the Old Town Bell in the Belfry of the new Municipal Buildings as planned in the Plan NH.

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2. Letter of Thank you from Mr. Phil McCarthy to the Fireman of the Town of Hampton
3. Community Easter Egg Hunt, commendation to Mrs. Martin for the organization of such a fine event.
4. York, Maine – Creation of a program for the availability of loaner bikes for summer employees.

Mr. Griffin:

1. The Energy Committee will be presenting a series of conversation sessions on “Renewable Energy”. Senator Fuller- Clark will be in Hampton to speak about her legislative petition” on April 3, 2008 7-8PM, in the Selectmen's Room, the Community is invited.
2. Hampton is in the running for one of the four EPA grants to study the Landfill. Shortlist number is #5.

Mr. Workman:

1. March 28, 2008 Hampton Beach Annual Meeting and Vote, held at the Beach Fire Station.
2. Chamber of Commerce had Bikes for Loan
3. Commendation to the Winnacunnet Drama Club for their production of Bye Bye Birdie

Mr. Lally

1. Recycling Committee Meeting on Wednesday, March 26th at 7:00PM, Town Manager's Room.

II. Appointments

1. Michael Schwotzer – Finance Director

Mr. Schwotzer explained what the MS 2 Form was (form that reports to the State the money articles Town Meeting voted) and its purpose to the Board.

Mr. Bateman MOTIONED to certify the MS 2 Form. Mr. Griffin SECONDED

VOTE: UNANIMOUS FOR

2. Director of Public Works – John Hangen

Mr. Hangen passed out an outline to the Board and gave an overview of his departments activities over the last quarter.

Discussion on the gates on Hardardt's Way with respect to the Warrant Article vote to open, deed restrictions and or encumbrances and the Boards authority to legally open the gates.

Mr. Hangen proposes that the Board authorize three stops signs and only allow the gates to be open only when the DPW is open and operating. DPW is experiencing an increase in illegal dumping at the Transfer Station after hours, (paint cans, ballasts) since opening gate last week

Discussion on the legality of the opening of the Gates.

Mr. Welch explained that the Board under RAS 29, 41 the Board has the power to regulate the roads within the town; including private and public roads; the Boards authority only extends to Class V Highways and higher and the opening of said. There maybe encumbrances resulting from when the land was taken by eminent domain, and or there may be a restriction on the deeds may exist that restrict the opening the roadway.

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Mr. Griffin suggested that the Town Attorney research the deeds to the driveway to determine if the Board has the legal right to open the driveway.

Mr. Nichols commented that the legality of the opening should be researched, however, he feels that the Board should follow the will of the voters, and it would be safer if the traffic was directed to Hardardt's Way.

Mr. Lally explained the direction for Mr. Hangen and Mr. Bateman clarified that the gates are to be closed.

The Board directed the Town Manager and the Town Attorney to research deeds on the road.

The Board directed Mr. Hangen to close the gates until and if any deed restrictions on the road are identified that either allows or not the opening of the gates.

Solid waste and Recycling

Discussed recent success in recycling and total volume of solid waste processed and gave the end of year results.

Transfer Station

Mr. Hangen explained the graphs and the fees charged for recycling items at the Transfer Station. Many of the fees are to cover the costs, as mandated by the State; to safely remove the items that are recycled, i.e. fluorescent bulbs, specialty bulbs and ballasts, which all contain mercury.

Discussion on the issues of educating the residents on recycling; charging fees to cover the costs of disposal; and whether to charge more for the commercial entity than to the residents.

Mr. Workman MOTIONED to notice the public hearing on the change in fees for recycling costs for the March 31st meeting date. Mr. Bateman SECONDED

VOTE: UNANIMOUS FOR

Stormwater Inspections – EPA Phase Two & DES Inspections

The inspections went well.

Church Street Pump Station Review

Church Street Pump Station Review – Heart of the system, collects it from the Beach to the wastewater treatment plant. This pump station is very old and will not have the capacity to handle additional new growth at the Beach. Collection and storage problems are occurring and this sewer system does not have the ability in the future to (5 years in the future) to handle the growth at the Beach, in addition to the newer regulations from the State. Recommends that replacement occur as soon as possible.

Skate Board Park

Mr. Hangen and Mrs. Martin, Recreation Department Head.

Discussed the issue of the graffiti at the Skate Board Park, which is has experienced the worst case of graffiti since its construction, pictures were distributed to the members showing the vandalism.

Mr. Hangen suggested that the Board close the park until the park is clean by the kids.

Mrs. Martin does not want to punish the children who are not involved in the graffiti on the skate park. The Boy Scouts are willing to clean the park.

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Discussion on the solution and who will clean the park ensued, the cost to clean it, as it will be the tax payer's money that pays to clean it.

III. MINUTES– March 17, 2008

The March 17, 2008 minutes stand as submitted and approved.

Mr. Bateman MOTIONED to approve the minutes. Mr. Griffin SECONDED

VOTE: UNANIMOUS FOR

IV. Old Business

1. Town Manager's Report

On March 17, 2008 a bid for pumps and mixers for the Department of Public Works valued at \$24,400 was awarded to ITT Flygt Corp. as the only bidder.

Please do not forget the Hampton Rotary Club's Annual Online Benefit Auction. The auction began March 20th and concludes Sunday, March 30th at 6PM. You may participate on line at www.hamptonrotary.org.

The Northeast Resource Recovery Association has on sale 80 gallon backyard compost bins for \$40 each and kitchen scrap pails for \$8 each. Order forms are available on the counter at Town Hall.

Please do not forget to attend the Carbon Challenge at the Lane Library on April 1st at 6:30 PM. Come and learn who to save funds and limit your carbon omissions. It pays you two ways to be part of the challenge.

I received a note from Kellie Sikorski thanking us for allowing her project to collect cell phones for servicemen overseas at the Town Hall. She was instrumental in collecting more than 200 cell phones in her project. I think it is the community and our nation who should be honoring her for a job more than well done.

Please remember to register your dog before April 30th to avoid additional penalties and fees.

Selectmen's Response to the Town Manager's Report

Mr. Nichols requested clarification on the bid items and the process. Mr. Welch explained.

Mr. Bateman.

1. Addressed the issue of raises; that the probationary periods are not ending after the 12 month period; and that the Board should look at all the employees of the Town to adjust the salaries to be in line with market standards for salaries of those positions.
2. The divide within the Town regarding the acceptance of the streets, the Beach vs. Downtown.
3. The negative impact of the issue of Donor Towns, and are we one.

Mr. Welch explained about the Donor Towns. State Mandated Education Property Tax, tax dollars are taken from Hampton and re-distributed to other towns which do not have high property values. Eventually the rich and larger cities and towns will be subsidizing the less fortunate communities in New Hampshire.

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The Town's property tax will be increased for this reason. This is the responsibility of the State of New Hampshire.

Mr. Lally inquired about the Committee appointments. April 07, 2007 is the date set for the Committee Appointments, with the request to be appointed in by March 31, 2008.

V. New Business

1. Boardwalk Inn & Café, Liquor License Extension

Mr. Workman MOTIONED to send to the State Liquor Commission with the recommendation of approval to grant the liquor license. Mr. Griffin SECONDED

VOTE: UNANIMOUS FOR

2. Acceptance of grants to publish the Hampton Handbook, RSA 31:95-b

Mr. Bateman MOTIONED to Acceptance of grants (up to \$5000.00) to publish the Hampton Handbook, RSA 31:95-b; to accept the donation of \$500.00 from Pierce Atwood, LLP Attorneys; to include in future minutes the recognition of all donors to publish the Hampton Handbook. (No ads are to be in the book, just reference to the donation) Mr. Workman SECONDED

VOTE: UNANIMOUS FOR

VI. Consent Agenda

Mr. Bateman MOTIONED to approve consent agenda, which consisted of the 20-mile run parade permit request. This race qualifies the runners for the Boston Marathon. Mr. Workman SECONDED

VOTE: UNANIMOUS FOR

VII. Other New Business

Mr. Nichols spoke to the issue of creating a short list of what the Board would like to accomplish in the next year. Four or five items to have the Board to focus on, which will hopefully educate the voters.

VIII. Public Comments

Ms. Woolsey and Mr. Plouffe discussed the history of Hardardt's Way and how the Town had obtained the land for the driveway. The driveway's purpose (use) is limited to the Transfer Station and Public Works. The restrictions are in the deed.

Mrs. Woolsey explained the history of the land fill and the perimeter road. It was never intend to be a road, it was and is a driveway to the wastewater, transfer station and DPW only.

Mr. Bernstein 12 Tide Mill Road. Is one of the petitioner's of the opening of the gates on Hardnart's way, understand the issues that underline the history of the not opening of the gates. They were advocating that the better road to be used during the hours of operation of the DPW only.

Neil Carnaby 60 Tide Mill Road, a petitioner of the opening of the gates. Would like to see the following two points. 1) Truckers need to understand the truck route to follow. 2) That signage is in place to direct the traffic appropriately.

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IX. Closing Comments

The Board discussed the deed restrictions and what they mean and the past history of the property.

X. Adjournment

Mr. Workman MOTIONED to adjourn. Mr. Bateman SECONDED

Meeting adjourned at 9:56PM

VOTE: UNANIMOUS FOR



Chairman

Non-Meeting with Counsel – RSA 91-A:2,I,c