

Town of Hampton



TOWN OF HAMPTON BOARD OF SELECTMEN MINUTES MONDAY, MAY 19, 2008

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

Chairman Lally called the meeting to order at 6:00PM

SALUTE TO THE FLAG

Chairman Lally introduced those in attendance.

I. Public Comment on the Retirement System Changes

Vic De Marco. Hampton Police Department Retiree. Mr. De Marco spoke about the current retirement system and notes that if you were to retire at age 50 you will not receive much medical compensation, and no compensation at all for your family. Mr. De Marco made it clear that he does not support the amendment of Bill 1645 and asks the representatives to look at the Bill carefully and listen to your retirees and employees.

Jamie Sullivan- Hampton Police Chief. The police department is concerned about the impact of the amendments to Bill 1645. Those who work for the department now and those coming; in are who this Bill affects. The biggest concern is keeping people over a period of time, turn over is huge and will only get worse if the incentive to stay for a period of time is lowered. Amendments to the way that retirees are compensated may have a negative impact on the department, and their position is; that the amendments should be cautiously looked at. The Department asks that the representatives and senators take a mindful approach and look at the impact on operations and financials before they make any decisions.

David Lang - Hampton Fire Department Captain. Thanked the Board and the Representatives for the opportunity to speak on this issue. Explained how this Bill affects all town employees and all tax payers. This effects more than just Hampton and it is 52,000 employees, police, fire and teachers. He noted that teachers pay social security where police and fire fighters do not. Mr. Lang explained the details of how the current State of New Hampshire pension program runs. Mr. Lang noted that the state retirement employer contribution is less than the national average already. The average pension in Hampton is around \$1600 a month. This issue will take employees, employers, and the government to work out. Medical costs and compensations are a large concern and need careful attention.

TOWN OF HAMPTON
BOARD OF SELECTMEN
MINUTES MONDAY, MAY 19, 2008

John Nickerson. Hampton Police Department Retiree - 28- year Veteran. Mr. Nickerson explained the way the department worked when he first started and that there was no retirement system, just social security. Then the state came in and mandated that all employees be a part of the retirement program and that they were no longer eligible to contribute to social security. Mr. Nickerson has seen the Town grow from a small community to a much larger town and he asks that it should be considered that the reason for the amount of overtime for fire, police and all employees is that when a shift is open it can't be filled by just anyone off the street so these departments are forced to overwork their employees to fill the gaps.

State Representatives. On Wednesday May 21st the Bill will be back to House for a concurrence or a non concurrence and they will ask for a committee of conference and if it is accepted by the Senate then they will get together and come to a solution for the revisions to Bill 1645.

7:00PM Public Hearings

I. Continuation of the Public Hearing for Emergency Lanes – Francis and Lyons Streets

Sharon Somers- Attorney for Gary and Eddy Pole.

Property owners along William Street have been properly notified. Lots 9 and 18 on Francis Lane were the owners who were concerned with the matter of parking on the road if it were to become an emergency lane. She proposes that the Board designates portions of the selected streets to be emergency lanes.

Kevin Sullivan- 21 Cole Street. Suggested a compromise; to declare the streets to be emergency lanes from November to May. Those who spoke out against Cole Street and other streets being designated for emergency lanes are those who are summer residents and who are concerned with their off street parking being taken away. He notes that there is no need for off street parking during the winter as there is free plowed parking on Ocean Blvd.

II. Public Hearing for Emergency Lane – William Street

Atty. Somers requested that the statements of support made during the Public Hearing for Francis and Lyons Streets be incorporated into the public record as support for William Street to be an emergency lane.

Monsignor Crosby, The Rector of St. Patrick's Church 5 William Street. Monsignor Crosby stated that the concerns expressed from the neighbors about these streets are important to the Church. There is a possibility that someone in need could not get emergency services and fire services, if these streets are not declared emergency lanes and therefore have not been plowed. The Monsignor spoke in favor to take away any obstacles such as snow etc., being removed in order to allow emergency vehicles and personnel to those who are in need of their services.

Chairman Lally explained his agreement with the idea of making this a seasonal enactment and that he had asked the Town Attorney to do research and speak on that matter.

Atty. Gearreald, Town Attorney explained that he had looked into the possibility of the Board of Selectmen enacting a seasonal emergency lane designation only. Atty. Gearreald explained to the Board that it would be legal for them to designate the streets with the seasonal emergency lane designation only. Atty. Gearreald noted that these streets are one ways and it will make it more complicated for the tow trucks to only plow the streets that have been designated emergency lanes (Williams & Lyons) and not plow Francis Street. Currently an abutting land owner (Francis Street - Lot 18) has objections, therefore Francis Street

TOWN OF HAMPTON
BOARD OF SELECTMEN
MINUTES MONDAY, MAY 19, 2008

would not be designated an Emergency Lane and the plowing would be stopped at Francis Street. The abutter must be asked to remove the objection now, in order to enact a seasonal emergency designation on Francis Street.

Mr. Tom Angold, 10 Francis Street (Lot 9). Commented that with a seasonal designation he would be withdrawing his objection to the Emergency lane designation.

Elaine M. Czesniuk, 9 and 12 Lyons Street. Stated that the one way signs are not posted on the streets and if they are one ways, then the signs need to be replaced.

Neal Keane, 717 South Main Street, Manchester, NH (8 Lyons Street). Noted that these streets have never been enforced as one way streets and stated that he does not believe that William Street, Francis Street and Lyons Street are one way streets.

The Board agreed that these streets are in fact one ways and the signs will be replaced.

Atty. Somers noted that one of the abutters who objected to the Francis Street proposal; Mr. Angold is now on board with the seasonal designation of the road for an emergency lane. Atty. Somers suggested that the Board delay the decision until the Board contacts the owner of lot 18 (8 Francis Street) asking for their withdrawal of objection.

Dick Bay -11 F. Street- Commented that this will be an issue for all of the letter streets and that they are going to have objections; because if these other streets get seasonal designations so that they can have parking during the summer, than the lettered streets should have the same rules.

Mr. Welch explained that these streets are private and are being considered for emergency lanes where as the lettered streets are public and are regular fire lanes. The lettered streets are plowed all winter with all of the rest of the public roads in Hampton; where as these private roads are not plowed by the town.

Mr. Bateman reminded Mr. Bay of the fire on the 4th of July in 2007 and asked if he observed the fire trucks and emergency vehicles parked on both sides of F Street and asked if he thought this would have been possible if there had been parking on the street.

Mr. Welch commented that the seasonal approach would be a great solution and that he hopes that the owner of lot 18 on Francis Street will withdraw his objection. He also suggested that the Board remove the one way restrictions on all three streets in question and that the Board continue this issue to the next meeting on June 2nd.

Mr. Nichols asked if the seasonal designation of the roads would effect trash collection or repair and maintenance of the road and he suggests that since the Board will have to make this decision about many other streets in town, than a standard request could be written up to be used for all streets asking for this designation.

Mr. Bateman MOTIONED to continue both hearings to June 2nd 2008. Mr. Workman SECONDED.

VOTE: UNANIMOUS FOR

III. Public Hearing – Acquisition of new sewer easement and relinquishment of old sewer easement, pursuant to N. H. RSA 41:14 – a; on 4 Fielding Lane, owned by Michael P. Green and Karyn W. Green.

Michael Green- Explains that this is just relocated the easement and that this should be a simple issue of following procedure.

TOWN OF HAMPTON
BOARD OF SELECTMEN
MINUTES MONDAY, MAY 19, 2008

Chairman Lally noted that they have all of the information, and that if there are no objections, than there should not be any problems.

Mr. Lally continued the Hearing to June 2, 2008.

IV. Public Comment Period

Mike Pierce. 16 Headman Ave. Commended the Board on giving the opportunity for the representatives to meet with the people to discuss Bill 1645 and asks if representatives are coming back for that on June 2nd.

Mr. Lally informed Mr. Pierce that the representatives will be here on June 2nd to discuss school funding issues and not for Bill1645.

V. Announcements and Community Calendar

Mr. Bateman Winnacunnet High School team is in the finals of the Granite State Challenge which is an academic knowledge competition. May 29th at 8pm on Channel 11 will be live broadcast of the competition.

Mr. Workman gives kudos to the Recreation Department on the great job with the Children's Fishing Derby on Saturday.

Memorial Day – 8am Observation and Parade at 11am.

VI. Appointments

1. Fire Chief – Departmental Update

Chief Lipe. The four new Firefighters are now on duty with the last Firefighter beginning May 8th.

Walter (Buddy) Moulton of Hampton has been selected to replace Mark Cook as the new Fire Alarm Operator. Buddy is a retired Air Force Fire Chief and a retired Dispatcher from a large Oregon County Fire and EMS Dispatch Center. He will begin on May 28th.

Early Labor Day morning in 1975, there was a major fire at the Ocean Squire Motor Inn and Giovanni's Restaurant at Ocean Blvd. and K St. Three people were believed trapped in the fire. However, they had escaped the fire and left for their home in Canada without notification.

Firefighters had no more than 500 gallons per minute due to poor water conditions with an old 6-inch main which was then operating like a 4" due to corrosion. Since then, the water mains have been replaced at most of the beach, the latest being a new 16" main running the length of Ashworth Ave.

We have increased the pump capacity of two of our four pumpers from 1500 gallons per minute (gpm) to 2000 gpm.

And yesterday, we loaded the fourth and final engine with brand new five inch hose, which now gives us the maximum capability for water delivery by industry standards from the water system in town.

And finally, as you know, we will have a new storage tank on Mill Rd. doubling our storage capacity.

We've come a long way in 32 years.

Questions from the Board.

Mr. Nichols asked if we had begun to define the process from the May 5th meeting for a Fire Facilities Plan.

TOWN OF HAMPTON
BOARD OF SELECTMEN
MINUTES MONDAY, MAY 19, 2008

Mr. Welch replied that this is not an issue that has been dealt with yet and that it will take a minimum of two more months if not a year. Within the next 15-20 days they will be scheduling a meeting with the Chief to get a grasp as to where this will fall in the financial plan. He states that they can expect feedback after the 4th of July this year.

Mr. Griffin agrees that this could be a multi month or even a year long situation and asked the Chief how things were going with the new construction and inspections at the Beach and if things were going smoothly with the openings for the summer.

Chief Lipe said that to his understanding everything was going smoothly and that there were no problems.

Mr. Griffin asked about the Guido Murphy's location and if they would be opening for the summer.

Chief Lipe commented that he was not sure; as the construction was not complete and that they have not inspected the site, so they can not open for business.

VII. Minutes – May 12, & 15 2008

Mr. Workman MOTIONED to accept of the minutes of May 12, 2008. Mr. Bateman SECONDED.

VOTE: UNANIMOUS FOR

Mr. Nichols MOTIONED to approve of the minutes of May 15, 2008. Mr. Griffin SECONDED.

VOTE: UNANIMOUS FOR

VIII. Old Business

1. Town Manager's Report

Please make note that the forms necessary for filing for Low and Moderate Income Homeowners Property Tax Relief are on the counter in the Town Hall lobby. Completed forms must be postmarked no later than June 30, 2008.

A contract was awarded to Signature Computer Plus, Inc. as the low bidder for 19 desktop computers in the amount of \$1475.00 per system complete.

American Legion Post # 35 invites you to be present for the 2008 Memorial Day Observances on Monday, May 26, 2008.

Observances this year are as follows: 8 AM at the Hampton Beach War Memorial; 9 AM at Weare Common in Hampton Falls; 10AM North Hampton Parade followed by a gathering in front of the North Hampton Town Hall; 11AM Hampton Parade followed by services at the High Street Cemetery. There will be hotdogs, sodas and live music at the North Hampton Gazebo from 12 noon to 2 PM following the last Hampton service to which the public is invited.

The Hampton Community Chorale will present Voices of Spring on May 31, 2008 at 3 PM at the First Congregational Church.

Note that there has been permission granted to create a crosswalk at O Street by the Town thanks to Representative Nancy Stiles.

TOWN OF HAMPTON
BOARD OF SELECTMEN
MINUTES MONDAY, MAY 19, 2008

There have been two requests to approve liquor licenses to TAJ Investments LLC doing business as Ships Inn Store, and to the Whales Tale Restaurant and Pub. The request is also to waive the 15 day waiting period.

Mr. Griffin asked about the crosswalk in front of the Ashworth that is half done.

Mr. Welch commented that the State paints the crosswalks, which they do in steps. The Town does not paint crosswalks on the State highways, unless they are funded by a different entity. He noted that the State usually has it painted by the 4th of July.

Mr. Nichols brings up two issues. First is the Treasurers salary, after looking at the surrounding towns' salaries and the fact that the Treasurer had no pay increase last year, he supports giving the imposed pay increase. Second is the issue of whether or not to send a letter to the Senate on the issue of the Bill 1645, he feels that there needs to be a solution the balances the impact on the retirees and the tax payers.

Mr. Griffin MOTIONED to give the Town Treasurer a 3% pay increase. Mr. Bateman SECONDED.

VOTE: UNANIMOUS FOR

Mr. Griffin MOTIONED to approve a waiver of the 15 day waiting period for liquor licensing for Ships Inn Store and the Whales Tale Restaurant and Pub. Mr. Workman SECONDED.

VOTE: UNANIMOUS FOR

Mr. Bateman noted that on May 15th he attended a meeting at the police station on the plans to revamp Hampton Beach. The ideas and the input that were brought forward will give the beach a new aura and overall feel. He commended the designers on their excellent job and plans. He noted that the plans will be viewable on the State web site at NHStateParks.org and also will be viewable at the Lane Memorial Library starting in June 2008.

IX. New Business

1. Granite State Pedicabs

Mr. John Wright, Granite State Pedicabs. Mr. Wright explained his business which are small (foot powered) transportation vehicles. Mr. Wright would like to operate that at Hampton Beach. He requested of the Board whether this is something that the Board of Selectmen would consider supporting.

The Board gives their blessings and suggested that he move forward with the necessary steps to operate the business.

X. Consent Agenda

1. License for Coin Operated Devices - 815 Lafayette Road
2. License for Coin Operated Devices - 816 Lafayette Road
3. ~~Dance Hall Permit - 225 Ocean Boulevard~~ - *Pulled from Consent Agenda*
4. Dance Hall Permit - 295 Ocean Boulevard
5. Parade License - "Granite State Quest for Cancer" Bike Ride
6. Parade License - "Seacoast Safari" Cystic Fibrosis Foundation
7. Parade License - "Reach The Beach Relay"
8. Parade License - "Town of Hampton Memorial Day Parade"

TOWN OF HAMPTON
BOARD OF SELECTMEN
MINUTES MONDAY, MAY 19, 2008

9. Hawkers Vendors and Peddlers License for Ice Cream Truck

Mr. Griffin MOTIONED to move the balance of the consent agenda. Mr. Bateman SECONDED.

VOTE: UNANIMOUS FOR

Mr. Workman MOTIONED to enter into Non-Public meeting under RSA 91-A: 3, II (a). Mr. Lally SECONDED.

VOTE by Roll Call: UNANIMOUS FOR

XI. Adjournment

Meeting adjourned at 9:30PM


Chairman