

# Town of Hampton



## TOWN OF HAMPTON BOARD OF SELECTMEN September 28, 2009 Minutes

PRESENT: Richard Griffin, Chairman  
Richard Nichols, Vice Chairman  
William Lally  
Richard Bateman  
Gerald Znoj  
Frederick Welch, Town Manager

7:00 PM

Chairman Griffin called the meeting to order at 7:00 PM and introduced the members of the Board.

### SALUTE TO THE FLAG

#### I. Public Comment Period

Mike Pierce, 16 Hedman Ave. Mr. Pierce stated that he is not here tonight as representing the Budget Committee. He would like to see some Fire Department Building Plans. Mr. Nichols stated that an update on the station will be given later in the meeting.

#### II. Announcements and Community Calendar

Mr. Bateman mentioned that the Recreation Department has their new brochure available with all the current programs.

Mr. Nichols was asked by the Cable Committee to point out that tonight you will see some new graphics which is available with the new equipment they were authorized to buy.

Chairman Griffin reminded everyone that the Harvest Festival will be taking place at the beach on October 10<sup>th</sup> and 11<sup>th</sup>.

#### III. Appointments

##### 1. Dennis Kepner – Recycling Education Committee

Mr. Kepner introduced members of the Committee in the audience Geannina Guzman-Scanlon, Charlie Preston, Ed MacDonald and Jane Ansaldo-Church. He has provided them with a copy of minutes from the 16<sup>th</sup> of June 2008. He would like to discuss the issue of the name and constitution of the committee. He spoke about the motion that was made on the 16<sup>th</sup> of June 2008 creating the Recycling/Trash Committee. Therefore this has caused some confusion since the current committee has had the name Recycling Education Committee. The motion was made by Mr. Lally and was for a committee of 5 members and 2 alternates. Mr. Lally suggested that this can be fixed tonight by amending the motion made on June 16, 2008.

Mr. Lally MOTIONED in reference to the minutes of June 16, 2008 to rename the Recycling/Trash Committee that was voted for unanimously to change that name to what it should have been in the first place “the Recycling Education Committee” and it is to still remain a permanent part of Town Government. Chairman Griffin SECONDED.

VOTE: 5-0-0

There was an additional discussion in regards to the membership on this Board. It was explained that there will be 5 members and 2 alternates. The REC members will be recommended by the committee and appointed by the Board of Selectmen. They will need to be sworn in by the Town Clerk and their terms will be staggered 1, 2 and 3 years. In the end each member will end up serving a 3 year term but to keep the continuity of the committee this will be the initial process.

Ms. Ansaldo-Church presented the Board with a summary of the things that they have been doing which included: Earth Fair, table at Seafood Festival, recycling brochure put together and available, successful meeting with Ted Austin, huge need for recycling bins at the parks and parking lots and public service announcements ran during Earth Week. They are here tonight because their committee would like to be a part of a cooperative effort to achieve the Town’s goal to recycle 50% of its solid waste. In order to do this it is essential for them to know what the Town’s plan is ahead of time. They often feel that they are finding things out as they watch channel 22 or read the paper. People ask them questions that they do not have the answers to. What they feel they need to have their committee run effectively is to have a Selectperson to be a liaison with them. It would be their job to contact this person. It was agreed that Mr. Lally would be that person.

#### Discussion

Mr. Znoj thanked them for doing the work that they do. He participated in some of the Earth Week activities and he thought they were great. Mr. Znoj asked if they are on the Town’s website. Mr. Kepner explained that he has spoke with Mr. Jett and Mr. Paquette and this is in the works.

Mr. Welch explained that plastic will be in the future but for now we will start with glass, then aluminum and paper. The brochure that the Committee has made is very informative and will help the residents.

Mr. Lally expressed the tremendous amount of work this Committee has done and he thanks them.

Mr. Bateman thinks that their efforts at the Seafood Festival this year were great.

Mr. Kepner pointed out that Ted Austin is the Director of Parks for the State and the success the State has had with recycling at the Beach this year.

Mr. Nichols understands their need to be kept informed and he is in complete support of that. He wonders if in their discussion with Ted Austin from the State they sensed that he was aware of the Town of Hampton’s mandatory recycling that is being put in place. He wonders if they are looking forward to next spring and if they plan to place recycling bins next to the trash cans. Mr. Kepner hates to talk for Mr. Austin but he thinks the best thing he can say is that he was amenable. He thinks that Mr. Austin took away from the conversation that the Town is recycling. Ms. Ansaldo-Church agrees that Mr. Austin is aware and that there is a need to have

the recycling bins out and that they need to remain out pretty much year round since there is traffic year round. Of course cost is always the issue. Mr. Nichols pointed out that the recycling is going to be mandatory and the State should not be handled any differently than any other resident or business.

There was a discussion as to how this recycling is going to be monitored.

Mr. Welch added that there has been a conversation with the State and they are aware of the mandatory recycling. They are putting it in the budget for recycling bins and the manpower needed to empty these bins. He feels that the dialogue will need to continue with the Legislatures when they come in and with the Governor.

Mr. Nichols reiterated that he wants to make sure that the State will not be allowed to be off the hook when it comes to recycling. Mr. Lally agrees that if businesses like the Ashworth have to comply than the State should also. Mr. Kepner and Mr. Welch both agreed that the State will want to comply.

Mr. Bateman pointed out that the State was removing recycling throughout the summer. He believes it can be done but does take time.

Mr. Znoj stated it has been mentioned to him that it might be worth having a truck on the spot that can crush glass or have a facility at the State Park that can do this. This would alleviate the trips to the Transfer Station.

Chairman Griffin thanked them for coming and the work that they do.

#### IV. Minutes of September 14, 2009

Mr. Bateman MOTIONED to approve the minutes as presented of September 14, 2009. Mr. Lally SECONDED.

VOTE: 5-0-0

#### V. Town Manager's Report

The Town currently owns a Lime Storage Tower behind the wastewater treatment plant that is surplus. The lime was used to balance the pH in the treated sludge for disposal. With the Boards permission we would like to bid out its sale and removal.

The PUC will be issuing a new authorized water rate structure for Aquarion Water Company within the month.

State DOT has indicated that they are still waiting for a decision from The State Historical Agency regarding the historic nature of the Drakeside Railroad Bridge. This process still has our request for removal on hold.

We are still working through the problems associated with the so-called West Side Streets. Several of our issues are in part resolved and we trust that we will be making progress to an end result in the very near future.

I would request that the Board appoint our Finance Director as the Acting Town Manager for October 8 & 9, 2009 as I will be on vacation.

Discussion

The Board agreed that the Lime Storage Tower should be sold even if it could be sold as scrap metal.

There was a discussion in regards to rate increase by Aquarion in regards to hydrants. The increase is said to be around 10% and the current amount budgeted for hydrants is \$440,000. Mr. Bateman pointed out that would be a \$40,000 increase. Chairman Griffin added that water along with lights are things that always amaze people he talks to. Mr. Welch stated that they spend around 300,000 on street lights.

Chairman Griffin wonders about the State Historical Agency and the Drakeside Railroad Bridge. Mr. Welch explained that they have to approve the removal and will not do so if they feel that it has some historical value like the bridge on 1A.

Mr. Lally MOTIONED to appoint Michael Schwotzer the Finance Director as Acting Town Manager for the dates of October 8<sup>th</sup> and 9<sup>th</sup>. Mr. Bateman SECONDED.

VOTE: 5-0-0

Mr. Welch also received a communication from Mr. Nichols and he takes it that the Board does not have an objection to making the Town a permanent Silver Star Banner Town. This is to recognize the veterans on a yearly basis on May 1<sup>st</sup>. Mr. Welch will prepare the proclamation for the Board to sign.

We need to thank our State Representatives Mr. Welch has been working with Ms. Kepner in regards to Compact Roads legislation. It does not appear that anything is going to go through the Legislature until the study committee has completed their study on the communities wishing to get out of Compact Roads Legislation. Mr. Welch explained that we are asking for State funding to take care of the State Highways or release us from the Compact District. If we are released the State will have to pay for it all rather than the local property taxes. Ms. Stiles is working on the Court House and Mr. Nevins is drafting legislation to safe guard the system in regards to Town Managers acting as Tax Collectors.

The Fire Chief has given him a list of the repairs that need to be done to his equipment. He has instructed the Chief to do these repairs.

Mr. Nichols would like to confirm that the \$300,000 or \$400,000 year end savings discussed last year is above the \$450,000 placed in the holding account and elimination of the \$650,000.00. Mr. Welch stated that it is since the spiking charge is not in the budget. Mr. Nichols does not have a problem with these repairs to the fire equipment.

Chairman Griffin thinks that the Fire Chief is doing a great job and is very conservative.

Mr. Znoj does not want to get to December and find that all the yearend projected savings have been spent. He would like to be kept informed as to how money is being spent. Mr. Welch explained that the fence behind the Town Office was just replaced since a tree came down, replacing the shed at the Church Street Lot and the fence there. Mr. Znoj thinks that this all sounds reasonable.

Mr. Lally questioned the construction at the Neil Underwood Bridge (Route 1A Bridge) and if things are going well, since he has not heard any complaints. Mr. Welch said that there have been plenty of complaints but they have all been handled. Mr. Lally wonders if signs are going to be made up for the parking lots now that they have been named in honor of veterans from the

different wars. Mr. Welch said that this is going to be done. Mr. Bateman suggested that this might be a good Eagle Scout Project.

Chairman Griffin commented that SPS the company doing the work on the bridge are doing a great job.

## VI. Old Business

1. Hampton Solid Waste and Recycling Committee – Discussion was held under Appointments.

### Other Old Business

Mr. Nichols commented that the Mosquito Control budget request is higher due to the fact that the company doing the work has proposed an increase. He wonders if this is an item that is sent out to bid. Mr. Welch believes that it was when he came here and there are only two companies that do this work. The Board agreed that this is an item that should be sent out to bid. Mr. Welch will contact the Commission to let them know.

Mr. Nichols would also like to bring up the Fire Station planning process and give a little update. The Fire Station Advisory Committee had their first meeting last Thursday. The basic strategy is to have headquarters moved to Winnacunnet Road and to have a sub-station at the beach. Both the Chief and the Architect feel that the only suitable location at the beach is in the Brown/Ashworth Avenue area. The beach station foot print would not allow for a headquarters. They are working on a needs assessment survey. Apparently the Town of Londonderry was awarded a \$1.6M grant Federal Stimulus money for construction of a fire station and it appears that Londonderry was the only community in the State of NH.

Chairman Griffin and Mr. Lally both agree that the location at the beach is the perfect place to be.

Chairman Griffin asked about the individual who had shown interest in being a part of the committee. Mr. Nichols stated that his name is Charles Navin and that he could not attend the first meeting since he was traveling. He has met with the Fire Chief and will be an asset to the committee.

Mr. Lally thinks that was an excellent report.

The Board agrees that things are going to be very different this time and keeping the public informed will be a top priority.

Mr. Nichols thinks that things will happen very quickly this time.

Chairman Griffin received an email from Peter Howe from Faye Spoffard and Thorndike, Engineering Firm. Mr. Howe is willing to come in and answer any questions. Mr. Nichols interpreted the email a little different. The Board agreed to have Mr. Welch invite him to come on the 3<sup>rd</sup> or the 19<sup>th</sup>.

Chairman Griffin also mentioned that someone from the Historical Society would like to know better who is in the cemetery. The Historical Society thinks that they have some volunteers who would be willing to catalog who is in the cemetery. Mr. Bateman believes that this was done as an Eagle Scout Project several years back and presented to the Historical Society. This is something that would need to be brought to the Cemetery Trustees.

## VII. New Business

### 1. Hampton Beach Area Commission – Vacancy

John Nyhan, Chair of the Hampton Beach Area Commission explained to the Board that the term of office for all members of the Hampton Beach Area Commission except for a few representatives will expire on October 31, 2009. The Town has the right to appoint two representatives who are currently himself John Nyhan and Fred Rice. They are both interested in continuing on this Commission. With new legislation these will be staggered terms one for 2 years and one for 3 years. He also explained that the Commission will now be allowed to have one at large member that will be appointed by the Commission in November 2009. The term of this position will be for 1 year and open to any Greater Hampton Citizen.

#### Discussion

Chairman Griffin asked who the other members are and who appoints them. Mr. Nyhan went through all the current members and who they were appointed by. There are a total of nine seats.

Mr. Nichols clarified that there is one seat available to any citizen of the Greater Hampton Area and appointed by the 8 members on the Commission. There was an additional discussion as to who the original appointments were by this Board.

Chairman Griffin mentioned that some feel that someone from the Board of Selectmen should be on this Commission. Mr. Lally agreed.

Chairman Griffin questioned whether or not the Commission was given an original budget from the State and they did not receive one from the State.

Mr. Nyhan stated that he would like to serve on the Commission for another 3-year term. Mr. Nichols appreciates the work Mr. Nyhan and the Commission have done and that the meetings are broadcast on channel 22.

#### Other New Business

Mr. Nichols commented that he feels that there is a disconnect between what is on the CIP report and the warrant articles. He feels that if we are going to spend the time drafting the report then it ought to be a little bit closer to the reality of what ends up at the end of the year. He asked if Mr. Welch could give a little understanding of the process. Mr. Welch explained that there is no reality to the system. What happens here is the Legislature created this idea and it has been successfully amended now so that it doesn't necessarily have to be the Planning Board who drafts the CIP report. The Town could instruct the Selectmen to do it in place of the Planning Board. Currently someone sits down and asks what do you want to buy and that is what is put in the report. There is no requirement that the report come before Town Meeting and there is no requirement to put the items in the report into warrant articles there is no requirements at all. The system is completely disconnected from reality. Mr. Welch feels that the Planning Board, Selectmen and Budget Committee need to get together on this.

Mr. Nichols would like to suggest that looking forward by March or so we should get these three groups together to come up with a process that is more meaningful.

Mr. Lally stated that he has sat in on this process before and he has always thought that each department should come in with one big ticket item and the Selectmen or Budget Committee

could decide if it should be put into a warrant article. He feels that this would move things along.

Mr. Znoj thinks that maybe there should be a list of expectations. Mr. Lally does believe that the Planning Board does have a list.

Chairman Griffin would like to discuss the Hampton Beach Area Commission. He would like to discuss appointing someone from this Board and would like thoughts from the Board.

Mr. Znoj thinks this is a good idea and would nominate Chairman Griffin.

Mr. Lally also thinks it is a good idea and he would agree with Mr. Znoj that Chairman Griffin would be a good member.

Mr. Bateman believes that connectivity between this Board and the Commission is necessary. It will save time and streamline things.

Mr. Nichols agrees and thinks it is critical to have a member of the Board on this Commission.

Chairman Griffin MOTIONED to appoint John Nyhan to the Hampton Beach Area Commission for a 3 year term. Mr. Lally SECONDED.

VOTE: 5-0-0

Mr. Znoj MOTIONED to appoint Mr. Griffin to the Hampton Beach Area Commission. Mr. Nichols SECONDED.

VOTE: 5-0-0

Mr. Nichols wonders if the Board might want to wait a week to see if anyone else has an interest in being a part of this Commission. Mr. Nichols does agree with everything that has been discussed tonight and that John Nyhan has done a great job.

Mr. Lally stated that he is ready to vote tonight because of the work that John Nyhan has done.

Chairman Griffin explained to the Board that there are other ways to get on this Commission.

#### VIII. Consent Agenda

1. MS-1 for 2009
2. Appointment – Edward Tinker to the Hampton Municipal Records Committee (Removal of Bob Estey from the Committee)

#### Discussion

Mr. Nichols has not seen the MS-1 report yet. Mr. Welch stated that if it is tabled we will need to file for an extension. Mr. Nichols suggested that the Board pass the consent agenda with the contingency that he reviews the report first and a meeting will be set up

Mr. Lally MOTIONED to move the Consent Agenda. Mr. Bateman SECONDED.

VOTE: 5-0-0

#### IX. Closing Comments - None

#### X. Adjournment

Mr. Znoj MOTIONED to adjourn. Mr. Lally SECONDED.

Meeting adjourned at 8:58 PM

VOTE: 5-0-0



Chairman