

Town of Hampton



TOWN OF HAMPTON BOARD OF SELECTMEN January 25, 2010 Minutes

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

6:30PM Non-meeting with Legal Counsel - RSA 91-A:2., I., (c)

7:00 PM

SALUTE TO THE FLAG

I. Public Comment Period

Kevin Sullivan, 21 Cole St, came before the Board in December to discuss his recycling not being picked up. Since he came before the Board at that time his recycling has only been picked up twice. He wants to recycle and would like to know what it is going to take to get his recycling picked up. Mr. Price will look into this problem.

II. Announcements and Community Calendar

Mr. Bateman announced that the Winnacunnet High School Competitive Team for the Granite State Challenge has won again and moved on. He went on to announce the names of the students competing.

Chairman Griffin reminded everyone that the Deliberative Session will be held this Saturday January 30th beginning at 8:30.

Mr. Lally mentioned the importance of attending the Deliberative Session. He expressed concern for some businesses and the petitioned warrant article in regards to commercial trash.

Chairman Griffin announced that the Beach Precinct Commissioners will not be attending the meeting tonight as scheduled on the agenda item #5.

III. Appointments

1. Chief Silver – Fire Departmental Update

Chief Silver would like to give an update on how the department finished the year. Statistics comparing 2008 to 2009 residential fires increased by 20%, structure fires increased by 28%, 65 total fires with property losses totaling \$368,510 representing an increase of 18%, EMS responses decreased by 2%, transports increased, revenues increased and all other items remained pretty much the same. One interesting statistic is that the Beach District accounted for 47% of responses over the course of the year.

He would also like to express his support for the request to open 12 Ashworth Ave. He shared with the Board how this property has been used over the past 20+ years with several owners. In order for this property to open since it has 6 units they must install a sprinkler system. He shared how important it is to have a sprinkler system and he fully supports this request and anytime someone wants or must install a sprinkler system.

Lastly he would like to talk about Article 9 the request for a new Pumper. He would like to discuss what this Pumper specification means to the Town of Hampton and why they have chosen this model. The NFPA regulations changed significantly, in 2009 safety standards changed causing a significant cost increase and in 2010 omission standards will change increasing cost. He gave some background on the companies and why they choose Pierce Manufacturing to purchase from and how they have the highest quality controls. He explained the different features this Pumper will have and the importance of each.

Discussion

Mr. Znoj has a question about the number of units at 12 Ashworth Ave which will have to be answered later in the meeting when the petitioner comes forward.

Mr. Lally commented that the Chief has the Boards support on the Pumper. He also added that the Chief continues to work with the Precinct Commissioners.

Mr. Bateman pointed out the importance of having a presence at both the Beach and the Town with the calls between the Beach and the Town being almost 50-50.

Mr. Nichols confirmed that the statistics given were for the whole year and would like a copy of the report. He would like to know if he can get a report broken down by month in regards to the number of calls. He also questioned the total dollar value of property losses and wonders why the vehicle fire on 95 accounts for such a large portion being over \$100,000. Chief Silver will have to go back and look at that report to see how the value was determined. The Chief will also see if the software can generate a report by month for Mr. Nichols.

2. John Price – DPW Departmental Update – provided the Board with the update below.

Highway Activities

- Resurfacing and reclamation – Landing Rd, Dumas Ave, Towle Ave, Towle Farm Rd, Sanborn Rd, Carlson Rd, Trafford Rd, Hurd Rd, Tobey St, Gray Ave, Sunsurf Ave, and Cliff Ave.
- Hot top repair – Locke Rd, Leavitt Rd, Library parking
- Hot top patching around town as necessary
- Closed off beach openings at Bicentennial Park and Ancient Highway
- Prepared parking area at library for resurfacing
- Placed temporary pavement markers on Landing Rd and Towle Farm Rd.

- Curbside leaf collection
- Moved park benches from Town Office to Tuck Field for Rec. Dept.

Sewer & Drains

Activities

- Drainage at beach
- Installed drainage chambers on Dearborn Ave.
- Worked on computer info. for camera unit
- Set out barricades and signage for tidal flooding

Storm Related

- Cleared ice on Drakeside Rd. at RR bridge

WWTP

Activities

- Repaired #3 Aeration blower
- Disconnected all power from limo silo; dismantled silo and hauled metal to Nichols
- Looking for energy grant for oversized aeration blowers

Transfer Station

Activities

- The amount of municipal solid waste (trash) coming into the transfer station from our curbside pickup and materials dropped off has dropped approximately 6% since 2008.
- This year we saw a minor decrease in the amount of our curbside and drop off recycling over 2008. With mandatory recycling instituted in the last quarter of 2009 we should see an overall increase in 2010.
- Single Stream Recycling brochure developed by Waste Management; will start January 18, 2010
- Recycling stickers are available for free at the Hampton Transfer Station. DPW Office and Town Clerk's Office

Other

Mr. Price would also like to speak on behalf of the individuals of 12 Ashworth Ave. They have contacted him for a permit to open up the road within the five year period. He like Chief Silver does not have a problem with this request. The water company does great work when they must do a patch.

Discussion

Chairman Griffin verified that individuals can put the recycling stickers on any container, not to exceed 36 gallons, that they wish to use for recycling and all recyclables can be put together in one container.

Mr. Znoj thanked and applauded his department on bringing his budget in under \$600,000. They discussed tipping fees being down and some reasons for this could be recycling and the state of the economy.

Mr. Lally commented on the plowing with last week's storm and the great job that was done. He also commented on how some Town's are no longer picking up Christmas Trees and leaf pickup and that it is nice we are able to keep providing these services.

Mr. Nichols would echo Mr. Znoj's comments on the \$600,000 savings. Mr. Nichols added that after doing some research he found that the savings came mostly from wages, fuel, electric and heating accounts which represents a true savings. This represents the hard work of a director and department employees.

Chairman Griffin thanked him for a good report.

Mr. Znoj confirmed that they did come close to running out of salt during the last storm. Mr. Price commented that during the first storm in January they were really biting their nails and had to order in some salt. They even had to put down more mix than they would normally have done. There was a discussion to how and where they mix the sand.

3. BETA Group Inc – Road Maintenance

Mr. Price explained that this is a firm that was hired in late Fall to evaluate the roads in the community. Tony from BETA Group explained that the goals of the project were to maximize available funding, reduce long-term maintenance costs, improve road quality, short and long range repair plan and justify capital funds. They have provided the Town with a flexible & user-friendly computerized system. This was a four step process including establish roadway inventory, field inspection program, capital improvement planning and system maintenance. They are currently on step three. They provided a detailed explanation of each step. The system maintenance will be done in the database by Mr. Tilton whenever there is maintenance done to the roadways. To bring all the roads up to 100% at this time it would cost \$8.7M and again this is for 75 miles of roadway that they inspected. Their proposed 3 year CIP plan totals \$1.3M. They provided a summary by miles of repairs to be made crack seal 8.2 miles, mill & overlay 1.6 miles and reclamation 2.27 miles totaling 12.5 miles of repairs. This accounts for 17% of Town roadways. The majority of the repairs are crack seal projects. The majority of the cost will go to reclamation projects.

Discussion

Mr. Lally thinks that this is one of those tools that you can use and look back on.

Mr. Znoj agrees that this is an excellent tool. Mr. Znoj verified that the roads listed in the road improvement warrant article are rated 50% or less. He also spoke about the \$300,000 that was put aside for capital improvements along with the money budgeted in the Public Works Department budget. Mr. Znoj had the gentlemen present give some history on who the BETA Group is. Mr. Price shared some information on how he has worked with this company in the past and the reputation they have both in MA and with NHDOT. He also informed the Board that Steve Tilton will be going down to Norwood to learn how the software works within the next month. Mr. Znoj questioned how long it takes to put a plan together. It takes about 6 months to get from inspections to a capital improvement plan and then it takes another 6 months to get the plan working with the Town. The contract between the Town and BETA is for 12 months.

Mr. Bateman commented that their presentation solidifies a situation for us allowing us to better understand so that we can then communicate better to the citizens.

Mr. Nichols commented that the perception he got from the bottom line rating of 83% is that this rating is better than average. He wonders what sort of ratings they see in other communities. They usually range upwards from the high 60's with the highest they have seen of 87%. He verified that the improvements made in 2009 are reflected in this rating. He questioned how

many of the 75 miles are part of the Urban Compact Roads that we maintain. They will have to get this number for Mr. Nichols. Mr. Nichols verified that this only includes roads and not sidewalks. Mr. Nichols also wonders about the \$409,000 for 2010. He commented that there is a warrant article for \$300,000 and that the Budget Committee removed \$300,000 from the Road Repairs and Improvements in the Public Works budget. He questioned Mr. Price as to how we are going to keep up with this plan for spending \$409,000 in 2010 if the budget proposed by the Budget Committee is passed. Mr. Price stated that we would not be able to do this. He added that he has informed members of the Budget Committee that they are paralyzing his department when it comes to road repairs and improvements by doing this. He hopes that something is put back into this line item. Mr. Price has asked that the Budget Committee receive copies of this information.

Chairman Griffin also thanks them for the information.

4. Carole A. Campobasso – Senior Citizen’s Discount on Comcast

Ms. Campobasso is here tonight on behalf of the seniors of Hampton aged 62 and older who subscribe to cable television. She has letters from 8 other residents of Hampton. What they are asking for is the Board to authorize a 10% discount for seniors on their Comcast cable television bill. In order for this to happen the existing contract between Comcast and the Town of Hampton must be amended. She explained the pay schedule for Comcast and the prices for the service.

Discussion

Mr. Znoj clarified that the current contract does not contain this discount but he would be in favor of offering the discount.

Mr. Welch only wonders how the discount would be awarded. He is concerned that it might be taken out of the amount that is sent to the Town and is used to run channel 22.

Mr. Nichols verified that Ms. Campobasso was referred to the Town by Comcast to seek this discount. Mr. Nichols is not opposed to offering this discount but would like Mr. Welch to look into where this money is going to come out before the Town is to make any decisions about this.

Mr. Welch will look into this and get back to the Board.

Mr. Nichols spoke about the basic cable and expanded basic cable packages and the changes that Comcast is making to their packages. Therefore Mr. Nichols would suggest that we look into whether the discount would apply to the new packages that they will be offering.

Mr. Bateman commented having dealt with Comcast in the past he is dubious of their intent and the results of what might transpire.

5. Hampton Beach Precinct Commissioners – not in attendance tonight.

IV. Minutes of January 11, 2010

Page 2: Correct the amount of encumbrance to \$1.041M.

Page 7: Insert the word “not” after the word “was” in the first sentence.

Page 10: Add the following comment. “Mr. Gearreald confirmed that is correct; that no further approval of the legislative body will be necessary to open the gates.”

Mr. Znoj MOTIONED to approve the minutes of January 11, 2010 as amend. Mr. Nichols SECONDED.

VOTE: 4-0-1(Griffin)

V. Town Manager's Report

Single Stream Recycling is now in effect with Waste Management. The collection schedule for recyclables is that same as the solid waste collection schedule for your regular trash both will be collected the same day by different vehicles. You may use a standard 36-gallon trash container provided you place on the container a recycling label that is available from the Public Works Office and the Transfer Station. You may also continue to use your Hampton 18-gallon recycling plastic box.

Please note that the same products will continue to be collected for recycling. Those are glass bottles and jars, plastic bottles, aluminum and tin cans, cardboard boxes, paper, newspapers, magazines, junk mail, and paperboard boxes. Additionally, you may include metal coat hangers, empty steel aerosol cans, milk and juice cartons, juice boxes, flavored milk boxes, cream and creamer containers, pizza boxes with the greasy liner removed and any type of ridged plastic container numbered 1 through 7.

The Town received a request to investigate flooding in the Bittersweet and Island Path areas of the beach as a result of the projected placement of flood gates that effect Brown and Ashworth Avenues and areas south of that location. Public Works has been requested to review the Island Path area and recommend any appropriate courses of action required. I make note that the culvert that drains the marsh grass area immediately south of the Island Path Parking Lot will remain unrestricted so that flood waters can reach the marsh grass in this area by Federal order.

The Town has also received complaints regarding the snow pile in front of the handicapped parking sign at Marelli Square. This is private property, not Town property so clearance of the snow is a private matter.

In addition tonight the Board should be going over the Warrant Articles for Town Meeting and decide who is going to speak on each article and in what order.

He will also mention that we have received an emergency posting from the Hampton Budget Committee to address the school district article for the Winnacunnet High School Warrant Article 3 and this meeting will be immediately following the Deliberative Session.

Discussion

Mr. Lally commented on the handicap parking space and how it is on private property.

VI. Old Business

1. No Parking Request on Ocean Boulevard – this was discussed a couple of weeks ago but no action was taken. The request was made by Ms. White to restrict parking on the east side from the bridge to the corner of Haverhill Street.

Discussion

Mr. Bateman commented that there was no action taken therefore that was the action. Mr. Welch would just like something to be on record.

Mr. Nichols shared that in the letter there was concern expressed that people pulling out on these streets view will be obstructed by the cars parked on the east side. Mr. Nichols added that although there was not a motion made there was a consensus amongst the Board that they did not want to take away any parking down at the beach.

Chairman Griffin agrees with this.

Other Old Business – How the Warrant Articles will be discussed and moved by the Board.

Article 1 is election of officers, Articles 2 through 7 will be discussed by Planning and Article 8 will be moved by the Chair of the Budget Committee.

Article 9 for the pumper truck will be moved by Mr. Lally and seconded by Mr. Bateman.

Article 10 Human Services will be moved by Chairman Griffin and seconded by Mr. Znoj.

Article 11 for Mosquito Control will be moved by Mr. Znoj and seconded by Chairman Griffin.

Article 12 for Public Works Capital Reserve will be moved by Mr. Lally and seconded by Mr. Nichols.

Article 13 for road improvements will be moved by Mr. Znoj and seconded by Chairman Griffin.

Article 14 for the special revenue fund for the Village Precinct will be moved by Chairman Griffin and seconded by Mr. Znoj.

Article 15 for the Salt Shed will be moved by Mr. Nichols and seconded by Mr. Bateman.

Article 16 for channel 22 will be moved by Mr. Bateman and seconded by Mr. Nichols.

Article 17 is the money from the police forfeiture will be moved by Mr. Lally and seconded by Mr. Bateman.

Article 18 is for the recreation department special revenue fund will be moved by Mr. Bateman and seconded by Chairman Griffin.

Article 19 for the cemetery will be moved by Mr. Bateman and seconded by Mr. Lally.

Article 20 for Rye Sewer will be moved by Mr. Znoj and seconded by Mr. Nichols.

Article 21 is the violations of Town Ordinances will be moved by Mr. Bateman and seconded by Mr. Lally.

Article 22 is for the surviving spouse of veterans will be moved by Chairman Griffin and seconded by Mr. Bateman.

Article 23 for the ambulance special revenue revolving fund will be moved by Mr. Znoj and seconded by Mr. Nichols.

Article 24 is the Solid Waste Ordinance will be moved by Mr. Lally and seconded by Mr. Bateman.

Article 25 is to lease municipal property for up to 5 years will be moved by Chairman Griffin and seconded by Mr. Lally.

Article 26 is to accept the Treatment Plant Public Works road will be moved by Mr. Nichols and seconded by Chairman Griffin.

Article 27 is the Galley Hatch property will be moved by Mr. Lally and seconded by Mr. Bateman.

Article 28 is for the Tree Warden will be moved by Chairman Griffin and seconded by Mr. Znoj.

Article 29 is the Entertainment Ordinance will be moved by Mr. Bateman and seconded by Mr. Lally.

Article 30 is the Taxi Cab License will be moved by Mr. Bateman and seconded by Mr. Lally.

Article 31 is littering will be moved by Mr. Bateman and seconded by Mr. Znoj.

Article 32 for beaches and parks will be moved by Mr. Nichols and seconded by Chairman Griffin.

The remainder of the articles are petitioned articles.

Other Old Business

Mr. Nichols wanted an update in regards to the request for the sewer plans. Mr. Welch does not have an update from legal yet.

Mr. Znoj would like to bring up overtime. After meeting last week Mr. Bateman led him to believe that we will always have overtime because of things like private details and grants and these funds are paid out of special revenue funds. However Mr. Znoj has done some research for 2008 and 2009 and at least 75% of overtime was paid with taxpayer dollars. He brought up once again how the Budget Committee restored \$300,000 in overtime and removed money from drainage and road improvements. He hopes that this will be discussed and resolved at the Deliberative Session. Mr. Bateman does not want him to take it in the context that he wanted the money removed from the Public Works budget. Mr. Znoj added that he believes that there was a conflict of interest when Mr. Bateman voted against the vote to not recommend the Budget Committees budget last week. He believes that since Mr. Bateman works for the Police Department he should have abstained from voting since the Budget Committees budget restored the overtime in the Police Department. Mr. Nichols commented that it had no impact on the vote since the vote was still to not recommend the Budget Committees budget.

VII. New Business

1. Shirin Shaikin, 12 Ashworth Avenue – Request for Street Opening Permission for Water Connection. Chairman Griffin commented that both Chief Silver and Mr. Price recommend this request be granted.

Chairman Griffin MOTIONED to grant the request for permission for the Street Opening for Water Connection at 12 Ashworth Avenue. Mr. Lally SECONDED.

VOTE: 5-0-0

Discussion

Mr. Nichols asked for clarification on the location and prior use of the property. Prior to this it was a pizza place with 4 apartments upstairs.

Mr. Lally questioned if a bond must be put out and Mr. Welch stated that there already is a bond out for utility work.

Other New Business

Mr. Znoj asked about some of the grants that have been put in their mailboxes. Mr. Welch stated that we have applied for these grants.

VIII. Consent Agenda

1. 2010 Board of Selectmen Meeting Schedule
2. Parade & Public Gathering License – Half at the Hamptons Half Marathon
3. Parade & Public Gathering License – Eastern States 20 Mile

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

VOTE: 5-0-0

Mr. Lally pointed out that he received an email in regards to the bridge being closed and having it open for one of these races. The Board discussed that they have no control over opening the bridge since it a State Highway and State project. Mr. Nichols thinks that we should make it clear that we are approving the permit but that the Board does not have control over the walkway on the bridge being closed.

Mr. Nichols commented on the Selectmen meeting schedule and that in the summer when the schedule is every other week the Board is careful to realize when an agenda is to large they need to push some items off and schedule a meeting for the next week when they are not regularly scheduled to meet. Mr. Lally agreed with this and pointed out that there are only 4 Mondays that they are not meeting in the summer.

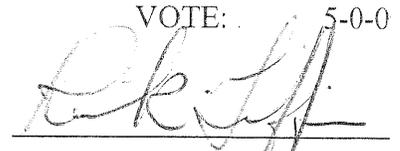
IX. Closing Comments - None

X. Adjournment

Mr. Lally MOTIONED to adjourn the meeting, Chairman Griffin SECONDED.

VOTE: 5-0-0

Meeting Adjourned at 9:12


Chairman

