

❧ REPORT OF THE BOARD OF SELECTMEN ❧

As the Chairman of the Hampton Board of Selectmen for the year 2004, it gives me a great deal of pleasure to present to you the annual report of the Town of Hampton New Hampshire. I will keep this brief, for I know that you are all anxious to get to the back of the book to review the salaries of the town employees for the previous year.

There were two major happenings in town in 2004, the completion of our new police facility and the start of the multi-million dollar infrastructure improvement program at Hampton Beach. Both of these projects were sorely needed and will serve our growing community for many years to come.

On behalf of the board, I would like to express our thanks to all town employees for their dedication and hard work in providing you, the citizens, with a high level of public service throughout the year.

Also to those serving their neighbors on such bodies as the Zoning Board of Adjustment, the Planning Board, Recreation Advisory, Conservation and Highway Safety committees, thank you for sharing yourselves with the community for the common good.

Sincerely,

William H. Sullivan, Chairman
Board of Selectmen



Front Row: Virginia Bridle-Russell, Vice Chairman; William Sullivan, Chairman, James A. Workman;
Back Row: Rick Griffin, Cliff Pratt

☘ TOWN MANAGER'S REPORT ☘

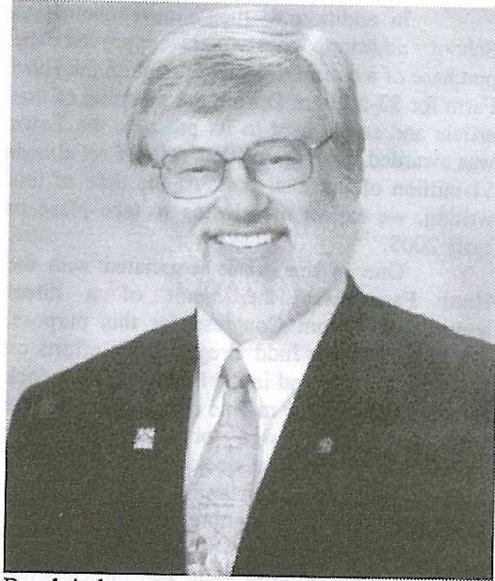
MISSION accomplished on the new Police Station, which was dedicated and occupied in December of 2004. This milestone was reached even as a different contractor was mobilizing for work on the infrastructure project that is building the foundation for a growing tax base at Hampton Beach.

Design work on the infrastructure has involved close coordination with multiple state departments. The Department of Transportation has cooperated with the conversion of Ocean Boulevard to two-way traffic so work can proceed on Ashworth Avenue and the lettered streets through the winter. The Department of Environmental Services has worked closely with the Town on funding, permitting, and design-build issues to help insure a successful project. The Department of Resources and Economic Development has entered into a cooperative agreement with us to provide assistance with planning and to take part in providing staging areas at the State Park for materials and equipment to make the operation more efficient. Not only have the commissioners of these departments been directly involved, but their staffs have contributed significant time and effort to the success of the project. We also recognize and thank our local legislative delegation, particularly Sheila Francoeur, Mike O'Neil, Tom Gillick, and Rusty Bridle for their efforts on our behalf in Concord.

The Town Meeting of 2004 approved a much-needed addition to Winnacunnet High School and the purchase of a conservation easement on the Hurd Farm, but voted a default budget and voted down the Private Detail Special Revenue Fund. These latter two votes created fiscal challenges for the organization in trying to sustain service levels with reduced funding. Dealing with the defeat of the Private Detail Fund while still providing the service was particularly challenging since that vote precluded disbursements from the Fund but still required the private money paid for these details to go into the Fund. In the future, a newly adopted state law prohibits providing services that are defeated on special warrant articles.

In dealing with the effects of the default budget and the failure of the Private Detail Fund, the Selectmen selected cuts in services that they believed would have the least impact on most citizens.

The weather cooperated during the summer, and the tourists came to Hampton



Beach in large numbers. It continued with a mild fall and limited snow until the weekend following Christmas.

Trash collection became a topic of much discussion during the summer as businesses and residents were reminded of the ordinances for enclosed containers and hours in which they can be put curbside. We contended with some serious tourist trash on Ocean Boulevard early in the summer, working with DRED to improve cleanliness. Consequently, we all worked together to produce a cleaner environment for businesses, residents, and visitors.

Homeland Security grant money has considerably enhanced our community's public safety services this year. We have received grants for several different types of equipment, ranging from all terrain vehicles to better provide services on the Beach and in some of our more remote conservation lands, to digital radios that give us interoperability with neighboring law enforcement agencies. Grants also funded Emergency Operations and Disaster Recovery plans as well as bulletproof vests and chemical protection kits. We directly benefited from more than \$200,000 in grant funds expended in 2004, with over \$1.5-million approved for expenditure in 2005.

We enjoyed a second consecutive year in which there were no retirements of any of the town employees in any department. At year end, we have received notices of at least three retirements with several more expected during

2005, but the stability of our employee base has been a blessing to the services being provided to our citizens.

In addition to the Winnacunnet High School addition, the voters approved the purchase of a conservation easement on the Hurd Farm for \$3-million. During the planning of that article and subsequent to its passage, the Town was awarded three grants that will off-set almost \$1-million of the total cost. At the time of this writing, we expect the closing to take place in early 2005.

One of the grants associated with the Hurd Farm was the result of a direct appropriation from Congress for this purpose. We thank Senator Judd Gregg for his efforts on our behalf in this and in the funding for the dock for our public safety marine rescue boat. We are well into the design phase, and expect completion of the boat dock in the summer of 2005, saving the Town thousands of dollars in dock rental fees in the coming years.

In December, we sold \$6-million in bonds to fund a portion of our Infrastructure Project. Having never had a bond rating before, we were pleased to receive an A1 rating, which reflected favorably on the terms of our sale.

On State and National levels, 2004 has been a difficult year for a number of reasons. We have experienced one of the more divisive national political campaigns in recent history. With American service personnel involved in armed conflicts and a rising death toll, the War on Terror continues with violence abroad and raging political debate at home. Our State elected a new Governor, removing a one-term governor for the first time in years. The legislature elected a new Speaker of the House in the midst of controversy.

At home in Hampton, our voters approved major projects for the school and for conservation of open land, but voted a default budget for the Town. We now find ourselves listening to strident voices telling us that times are bad, but we see increasing property values and a growing tax base. We here in Hampton are at a cross-roads at which we can be looking toward the future with optimism and a plan for growth or turning our backs on the progress that holds the promise of greater things for Hampton. That is the choice to be made by our voters in 2005.

In conclusion, I look back on 2004 as a year of challenges that have been faced and overcome. Being a realistic optimist (to the extent that's not a contradiction of terms), I see

many opportunities ahead for Hampton. Hampton continues to be a community that provides superior services through well trained, highly motivated, professional personnel, and a community where people desire to live. There is work yet to be done, and the employees and officers of Hampton join me in looking forward to what we can accomplish in the coming years.

Consider it all joy, my brethren,
when you encounter various trials,
knowing that the testing of your faith
produces endurance. And let
endurance have its perfect result, that
you may be perfect and complete,
lacking in nothing.

James 1:2-4

Respectfully,

James S. Barrington
Town Manager

**TOWN OF HAMPTON
ANNUAL TOWN MEETING
JANUARY 31, 2004
RESULTS OF BALLOTING
MARCH 9, 2004**

Moderator Paul Lessard declared the Deliberative Session of the Town Meeting open at 8:38 AM on January 31, 2004 in the Winnacunnet Community Auditorium. Reverend Deborah Knowlton of the Hampton First Congregational Church delivered the invocation and Selectman William Sullivan led the assembly in the Pledge of Allegiance.

The Moderator introduced the Chairman of the Board of Selectmen, Brian Warburton and the remainder of the Board: Virginia Bridle, James Workman, William Sullivan and Cliff Pratt. Also introduced on the stage were Mark Gearreald, Town Attorney; James Barrington, Town Manager; Edward Buck, Chairman of the Municipal Budget Committee; Karen Anderson, Administrative Assistant and Dawna Duhamel, Finance Director. Other Town officials present were Henry Lipe, Fire Chief; William Wrenn, Chief of Police; John Hangen, Public Works Director and Dyana Martin, Recreation and Parks Director. Moderator Lessard introduced Michael O'Neil who would be Assistant Moderator of the meeting, and Supervisors of the Checklist, Judith Dubois and Marilyn Henderson and announced that their assistants today were Dottie Lessard, Margaret Dennett, Dona Janetos and Martha Williams. The rules were explained, with the Moderator stating that if someone moves a question he would continue to allow those already in line that had not spoken on the article to speak before he called for a vote on moving the question.

(Article 1 was not discussed at the Deliberative Session but for constancy all the articles are reported in order).

On March 9, 2004 the voters met at Marston School to elect officers and vote on all the articles. The number of new voters registering at the polls was 280, making the total number of voters in Hampton 10,528. The number of voters at the polls was 4331 and the absentee vote of 552 brought the total number of votes cast to 4883, for a voter turnout of 46%.

ARTICLE 1

MODERATOR

Robert A Casassa	3350*
Frederick C. Rice	1205

SELECTMAN

Rick Griffin	2999*
Brian Warburton	1644

TOWN CLERK

Arleen E. Andreozzi	3954*
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SUPERVISOR OF THE CHECKLIST

Pauline Dwyer Boyle	2300*
Cari Thompson	1193

TRUSTEE of the TRUST FUND

Salvatore Balsamo	457
Robert V. Lessard	2431*
Warren J. Mackensen	1205

LIBRARY TRUSTEE

Judith A. Geller	2591*
Michael C. Hawley	1308



Gayle Connelly, Richard Berry, Elizabeth Powell, Nils Ohlson, and George Brown waiting for the polls to open.

PLANNING BOARD

Salvatore Balsamo	659
Keith Lessard	2706*
Francis McMahon	1691
Ken Sakurai	1741*

CEMETERY TRUSTEE

Richard Bateman	3481*
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MUNICIPAL BUDGET COMMITTEE (3 years)

William Lally	2032*
Brian W. Lapham	1066
Eileen P. Latimer	1677*
Raymond A. Letourneau, Jr.	1184
Richard E. Nichols	1671
Michael Pierce	1742*
Richard E. Reniere	913
Mary-Louise Woolsey	2353*

MUNICIPAL BUDGET COMMITTEE (2 years)

Jason T. Anderson	930
Charlie Preston	2400*
Charles F. Withee	481

ZONING BOARD OF ADJUSTMENT

Salvatore Balsamo	379
Mark Loopley	1236
Ken Sakurai	967
Matthew Shaw	1360*

* denotes winner

ARTICLE 2

Shall the Town of Hampton vote to raise and appropriate the sum of Three Million (\$3,000,000) Dollars for the acquisition of a conservation easement or other appropriate interest to permanently protect the Hurd Farm (identified as Tax Map 137, Lot 2 and 2A consisting of +/- 145 acres and excluding any outbuildings or structures incidental to such land) as open space in the best interests of the Town, and in connection with such acquisition to authorize the Selectmen to act on behalf of the Town, and to authorize the issuance of not more than \$3,000,000 bonds or notes in accordance with the Municipal Finance Act (RSA Ch. 33) and to authorize the Selectmen to issue and negotiate such bonds or notes and to determine the rates of interest thereon, and to authorize the Selectmen to apply for and accept any funds from the State of New Hampshire, the Federal Government, and private sources, as they may become available? No bonds or notes shall be issued with a term maturity of less than fifteen years, and the authority conferred by the passage of this Article is non-lapsing until its purpose is accomplished, in accordance with RSA 32:7, III. 3/5 vote required.

Recommended by the Board of Selectmen
Recommended by the Budget Committee

Moved by Cliff Pratt
Seconded by Brian Warburton

Selectman Pratt spoke in favor of the article and stated that the Board was in favor. He spoke of Hampton when he was young, with farms everywhere, and now with new developments, there is only one farm left. He said that the Hurd Farm has been in the family for 120 years and this is a unique opportunity to preserve the farm and he hoped all would vote for the article.

Ellen Goethel, Chairman of the Conservation Commission, showed a slide presentation of the Hurd Farm. She explained that the area is 145 acres along the Hampton Falls line and includes over a mile of frontage on the Taylor River. It is an excellent candidate for Federal and State grants. This article is to purchase the development rights and will continue to allow the Hurd's to farm the land and will help Hampton preserve its rural history. The land must remain as open space, and affords the only public access to the Taylor River. She stated that the Conservation Commission is working with State agencies like the Trust for Public Land and the Rockingham County Conservation District to obtain grants to reduce the cost to the Town. She announced that the project received a \$500,000 grant for the protection of water quality. The land, if sold to a developer, would support about 120 residences thereby impacting the tax structure.

Bonnie Searle stated that she appreciates the work of the Conservation Commission in bringing this article forward and supports the article as an investment in the future. William Bowley supports the article 100% and said the Hurd family is not in it for the money and it will be a good thing for our grandchildren.

Gary Patton questioned if there would be public access. Mrs. Goethel responded that the Hurd family would continue to maintain their dairy farm, but have always allowed people to use their property and that will continue. There will also be a boat launch and a parking area to be developed in the future.

Peter Tilton, Jr. spoke in favor of the article and said he has enjoyed the hospitality of the Hurd family for 25 years. Patrick Collins spoke in favor of the article saying Hampton has a history that needs to be protected.

David Lang requested that the written agreement between the Hurd family and the Conservation Commission be made available before Election Day. Mrs. Goethel requested that a representative from the Trust for Public Land respond to that and asked that a non-resident be allowed to speak. The request was approved and Ms. Carol Hall stated she was working on a draft, but there are a number of grants that would impact the agreement and would need to be finalized if the grants come through. Michael Pierce questioned if there is a yearly cost to maintain what it would be. Mrs. Goethel explained there are costs to maintaining the easement and that the Town would be a holder along with the Trust for Public Land. There are no building plans and no further cost to the Town.

Alphonse Webb stated it is a win-win situation as Hampton is on the edge of needing more schools, fire equipment, police and public works employees. The more space we can keep open the more we can keep taxes down. Keith Lessard urged everyone to think about the final chance to save the last dairy farm in Hampton. The alternative would be over 250 homes that could be built.

Elizabeth Webb moved to put the article on the ballot as written.
Bonnie Searle seconded. All approved.

Results of balloting on March 9, 2004

YES: 3427

NO: 1180

The article passed with 74% of the votes.

ARTICLE 3

Shall the Town of Hampton raise and appropriate as an operating budget, not including appropriations by special warrant articles and other appropriations noted separately, the amount set forth in the budget posted with the warrant, or as amended by vote of the first session, for the purposes set forth therein, totaling \$22,099,706? Should this article be defeated, the operating budget shall be \$21,677,472.00 which is the same as last year, with certain adjustments required by previous action of the Town Meeting or by law, or the governing body may hold one special meeting, in accordance with RSA 40:13, X and XVI, to take up the issue of a revised operating budget only. Majority vote required.

Recommended by the Board of Selectmen
Recommended by the Budget Committee

Moved by Edward Buck, Chairman of the Municipal Budget Committee.
Seconded by Virginia Bridle.

Mr. Buck stated that the Budget Committee made a diligent review of all elements of the budget and said the committee overwhelmingly approved this budget. He thanked John Nickerson for televising their weekly meetings.

Mary-Louise Woolsey moved to amend Article 3 by increasing the operating budget in the amount of \$987,875. The new 2004 operating budget figure will then be \$23,087,581.
Seconded by Bonnie Searle.

Mrs. Woolsey referenced the Special Revenue Funds and stated that this amendment would give the voters the true picture of where the money is going. The total amount of money in the special revenue funds was not provided to the budget committee until the public hearing. She said special revenue funds are for normal operating expenses and should be in the regular budget.

Mr. Sullivan spoke regarding the Woolsey Amendment and stated that Mrs. Woolsey supported the special revenue funds in previous years. When the fund is large enough to support various expenditures the department has the money without adding to the tax fund. Mrs. Bridle explained if the money is put in the budget and not used by the end of the year it could be spent by the Selectmen for any expenditure. The money in the special revenue funds can only be used for the purpose for which they are appropriated.

Mr. David Lang rose to oppose the amendment and asked what effect this increase, if passed, would have on the taxes; and if these funds would still exist. The answer given by Mr. Barrington was that it would mean a \$0.44 increase on the tax rate and the special revenue funds would still exist.

Chief Wrenn spoke against the amendment and he explained that when he would put the money in the budget for private details he would not know what would be needed during the year. This would create a budget deficit, while the funds that were being paid by the contractors for the special details was being put into the general fund. The money for drug seizures/forfeitures must go back to the police department by law and it is not allowed to go back to the general fund.

Mr. Fred Rice, who noted that he was a Selectman when the funds were established, said there never was any dissent from either the Board of Selectmen or the Budget Committee. This amendment would raise the tax rate and then prevent the use of the funds from being used.

Mrs. Searle stated, as a former Selectman, that she never voted to establish these funds and assumed Mrs. Woolsey was never told how the funds operated. She questioned how the town would make a profit, and if the fund is used to pay the officers for the details worked why there was a balance. Mr. Barrington stated that there an administrative fee charged to the users. Mrs. Searle stated that funds take away the people's rights to determine on what to spend their money. She feels the Selectmen's salary increase is unwarranted due to the number and length of their meetings.

Mrs. Dyana Martin, Recreation Director, spoke against the amendment stating that the department is using it as it was intended. Mr. Richard Batemen said that this was discussed at the Deliberative Session before the Special Revenue Funds were voted in.

Mrs. Eileen Latimer, member of the Municipal Budget Committee, spoke against the amendment saying that many hours were spent going over the budget by the Department Heads and the Budget Committee. The funds are new and she as a member of the committee, questioned the Town Manager and the Fire Chief about the intent of the funds and she agrees with their use. Regarding the Selectmen's pay raise, she stated there has been no raise in twelve years and dollar-wise it is a small amount considering the amount of time spent by the Selectmen.

Mr. Michael Pierce said he has been in Hampton since 1968 and agrees with Mrs. Woolsey since there is no accounting for these funds. He said all of the details should be going to the budget committee.

Chief Lipe spoke against the amendment saying if the town has a default budget all the money added to the budget by this amendment would be lost and services would be affected.

There was a request for a yes/no ballot on the amendment. The Moderator read the Woolsey Amendment and explained the voting procedure. Assistant Moderator O'Neil detailed what a yes vote and what a no vote would mean.

Total votes cast were 131.

Yes: 17

No: 110

Blank: 4 The Woolsey Amendment failed.

Mr. Moody spoke to the main article saying it was unprecedented that the Selectmen give themselves a raise. It should have been a special warrant article. Mr. Moody further asked the Selectmen to decrease the budget by \$2,250.00 which is the amount that represents the first quarter of the increase.

It was moved to end discussion and put the article on the ballot. All approved.

James Barrington motioned to restrict reconsideration of Articles 2 and 3. Seconded by William Sullivan. So voted.

Results of balloting on March 9, 2004

YES: 2032

NO: 2365

The article failed.

Selectman William Sullivan rose to pay tribute to Moderator Paul Lessard at his final meeting as Moderator. He stated since September 11, 2001 a lot of emphasis has been put on heroes, but heroes have always been with us, just out of the limelight. An example of this is Colonel Paul Lessard who has served his country since enlisting in the Naval Reserves while still in high school in March, 1948. Mr. Sullivan detailed Colonel Lessard's rise through the ranks to full Colonel in 1978.

Mr. Brian Warburton, on behalf of the Board of Selectmen, James Barrington and all the people that have been part of his team, presented Moderator Lessard with a gavel as a token of the town's appreciation. Colonel Lessard received a standing ovation from the assembly and said that it has been a pleasure to serve the town and wished good luck to the two candidates for Moderator.

Assistant Moderator O'Neil substituted for Col. Lessard at this time.

ARTICLE 4

Shall we modify the elderly exemptions for property tax in the Town of Hampton, based on assessed value, for qualified taxpayers, to be as follows: for a person 65 years of age up to 75 years, \$82,000; for a person 75 years up to 80 years, \$115,000; for a person 80 years of age or older \$147,000? To qualify, the person must have been a New Hampshire resident for at least 5 years, own the real estate individually or jointly, or if the real estate is owned by such person's spouse, they must have been married for at least 5 years. In addition, the taxpayer must have a net income of not more than \$30,000 or, if married, a combined net income of less than \$50,000; and own net assets not in excess of \$95,000 excluding the value of the person's residence.

Moved by Virginia Bridle

Seconded by William Sullivan

The purpose of this article is to increase the exemption for the elderly as the taxes increase. Selectman Workman moved to amend the language in the article due to a revision in the statute. The Workman Amendment is as follows: Shall we modify the existing exemptions for property tax in the Town of Hampton in accordance with RSA 72:39-a and b based on assessed value, for qualified taxpayers, to be as follows: for a person 65 years of age up to 75 years, \$82,000; for a person 75 years up to 80 years, \$115,000; for a person 80 years of age or older \$147,000? To qualify, the person must have been a New Hampshire resident for at least 5 consecutive years, own the real estate

individually or jointly, or if the real estate is owned by such person's spouse, they must have been married for at least 5 consecutive years. In addition, the taxpayer must have a net income of not more than \$30,000 or, if married, a combined net income of less than \$50,000; and own net assets not in excess of \$95,000 excluding the value of the person's residence, or if married, combined net assets not in excess of \$145,000 excluding the value of the person's residence. The additional conditions for an elderly exemption set forth in RSA 72:39-a shall also apply. Seconded by Virginia Bridle.

Mr. Richard Bateman asked for the projected number of participants. Mrs. Joyce Sheehan, Tax Collector said about 160 residents would be eligible.

The Workman Amendment passed. It was voted to put Article 4 on the ballot as amended.

Results of balloting on March 9, 2004

YES: 3711

NO: 703

The article passed.

ARTICLE 5

Shall we modify the exemption for the disabled under the provisions of RSA 72:37-c from the assessed value of residential real estate for property tax purposes to the value of \$41,000 to address significant increases in property values? To qualify, the person must have been a New Hampshire resident for at least 5 years and own and occupy the real estate individually or jointly, or if the real estate is owned by a spouse, they must have been married for at least 5 years. In addition, the taxpayer must have a net income of not more than \$21,000 or, if married, a combined net income of not more than \$30,000; and own assets not in excess of \$50,000 excluding the value of the person's residence.

Moved by Virginia Bridle
Seconded by William Sullivan

James Workman moved to amend the language of the article due to a new RSA. Seconded by Virginia Bridle. The Workman Amendment is as follows:

Shall we adopt the provisions of RSA 72:37-b and thereby modify the existing exemption for the disabled under the provisions of RSA 72:37-c from the assessed value of residential real estate for property tax purposes to the value of \$41,000 to address significant increases in property values? In order to qualify, the taxpayer must have a net income of not more than \$21,000 or, if married, a combined net income of not more than \$30,000; and own assets as defined by RSA 72:37-b not in excess of \$50,000, or if married, combined net assets not in excess of \$75,000. The additional conditions for an exemption for the disabled set forth in RSA 72:37-b shall also apply, including but not limited to the requirements of ownership by a resident or the resident's spouse.

The Workman Amendment passed and the article will go on the ballot as amended.

A motion to restrict reconsideration of Articles 4 and 5 was made by James Workman and seconded by William Sullivan. The motion passed and the article was restricted to further discussion.

Results of balloting on March 9, 2004

YES: 3412

NO: 882

The article passed.

Mr. Lessard returned as Moderator.

ARTICLE 6

Shall we modify the exemption for the blind under the provisions of RSA 72:37 from the assessed value of residential real estate for property tax purposes to the value of \$25,000 to address significant increases in property values? This statute provides that every inhabitant who is legally blind shall be exempt each year, for property tax purposes, from the assessed value on a residence in the amount determined by the Town.

There was no discussion and the Moderator said the article would go on the ballot as written.

Results of balloting on March 9, 2004

YES: 3351

NO: 933

The article passed.

ARTICLE 7

Shall the Town of Hampton adopt a \$500 Optional Veterans' Tax Credit pursuant to the provisions of RSA 72:28, II to replace the existing \$100 Optional Veterans' Tax Credit adopted at the 1991 Town Meeting?

Moved by Brian Warburton
Seconded by James Workman

Mr. Warburton spoke on this article and thanked the State Delegation for their help in putting this article forth. There was no other discussion and the article was moved to the ballot as written.

A motion to restrict reconsideration on Articles 6 and 7 was made by James Workman and seconded by Brian Warburton. So voted.

Results of balloting on March 9, 2004

YES: 3448

NO: 942

The article passed.

ARTICLE 8

Shall the Town of Hampton vote to raise and appropriate the sum of \$275,000.00 to construct a vehicle wash down facility to satisfy requirements of the US Environmental Protection Agency? Such appropriation shall include all design, architectural, engineering, demolition, removal, construction, landscaping, and any other work necessary or desirable to complete the project.

Majority Vote Required
Recommended by the Board of Selectmen
Recommended by the Budget Committee

Moved by James Workman
Seconded by Virginia Bridle

Public Works Director John Hangen spoke to the article and said that this is the second year this is coming before the town. The new federal regulations prohibit vehicles from being washed down without proper drainage. The Fire Department will have access to the facility also.

On a question from Mrs. Searle, Director Hangen replied that the facility would be connected to the wastewater treatment plant but the water would not be re-used. Mrs. Searle questioned why the town is not treating this water before it goes into the wastewater treatment plant. Mr. Hangen stated that treatment plant provides a better process. Mr. Rice rose in support of the article stating we cannot vote to preserve our salt marshes and not approve this article.

Mr. Daniel Gangai, member of the Conservation Commission stated that he supported the article. It was moved and seconded to end discussion. All approved and Article 8 will be on the ballot as written.

William Sullivan moved to restrict reconsideration of Article 8 and Cliff Pratt seconded the motion. So moved.

Results of balloting on March 9, 2004

YES: 1517

NO: 2913

The article failed.

ARTICLE 9

Shall the Town of Hampton vote to raise and appropriate the sum of \$100,000 to make repairs to the roof and structure of the Lane Memorial Library? Such appropriation shall include all design, architectural, engineering, demolition, removal, construction, landscaping, and any other work necessary or desirable to complete the project.

Majority Vote Required
Recommended by the Board of Selectmen
Recommended by the Budget Committee

Virginia Bridle motioned to amend the article by adding \$15,000 to the amount requested due to the damage caused by a burst pipe and to deleting after "repairs to" the words "roof and structure of". Seconded by John Lessard.

Ms. Catherine Redden, Library Director explained the process in doing the repairs.

The Bridle Amendment was approved. There was no other discussion and the Moderator declared the article would be on the ballot as amended.

Results of balloting on March 9, 2004

YES: 3024

NO: 1541

The article passed.

ARTICLE 10

On petition of at least 25 voters of the Town of Hampton, shall the Town vote to raise and appropriate \$80,000 for engineering and related professional services to design and prepare design documents and cost estimates for the connection and extension of sewer along Towle Farm Road and providing sewer service to the structures on Towle Farm Road and on streets and roads that intersect with Towle Farm Road in conformance with the 201 Facilities Plan? (By Petition)

Majority Vote Required
Recommended by the Board of Selectmen
Recommended by the Budget Committee

Moved by Mary Boynton
Seconded by Virginia Bridle

Mrs. Mary Boynton, the petitioner, spoke of the need for sewer along Towle Farm Road and then noted the leaching fields show signs of failure. There was no other discussion and the article will be on the ballot as written.

Results of balloting on March 9, 2004

YES: 1731

NO: 2712

The article failed.

Mr. Buck announced that the High School was conducting a fund-raiser "Empty Bowls"; they were selling ceramic bowls made by the students to be filled with soup donated by area restaurants. He encouraged the assembly to support this event.

ARTICLE 11

Shall the Town of Hampton vote to raise and appropriate the sum of \$60,000 for all expenses necessary or desirable to study the space needs, site the location, perform traffic and geotechnical studies, and prepare conceptual design including floor plans and elevations for the Fire Department facilities needed at the Beach and at such other locations as may be desirable? Said plan shall also include recommendations concerning the siting and layout of the headquarters facilities as well as short and long term planning for substations.

Majority Vote Required

Recommended by the Board of Selectmen

Recommended by the Budget Committee

Moved by William Sullivan

Seconded by Cliff Pratt

Speaking on the article Chief Lipe explained the fire station is 80 years old and leased to the Town of Hampton. The article calls for funding to address space concerns at both the beach station and the town station. The funds will provide the foundation to enter into a project that will last us into the future. There was no other discussion and the article will go to the ballot as written. James Barrington moved to restrict reconsideration of the article. Seconded by Brian Warburton. So moved.

Results of balloting on March 9, 2004

YES: 1806

NO: 2766

The article failed.

ARTICLE 12

Shall the Town of Hampton vote to raise and appropriate the sum of \$25,000 for the purpose of continuing restoration of degraded salt marshes? The focus of these restoration projects is to improve natural methods of mosquito control.

Majority Vote Required

Recommended by the Board of Selectmen

Recommended by the Budget Committee

Moved by Brian Warburton

Seconded by James Workman

Mr. Warburton noted the additional focus of the salt marsh project. Mrs. Kaiser, speaking as a member of the Mosquito Control Commission, said mosquitoes breed in the marshes and like the tall grasses that grow there. This article will allow additional money to come into the town to eliminate the phragmites in this marsh area. These phragmites grow in stagnant water and provide an ideal breeding place for mosquitoes. She asked for permission for Mr. Michael Morrison, the contractor who is a non-resident, to answer any questions. So approved. Mr. Morrison explained that Hampton is 30% salt marsh and this is a non-chemical means to control mosquitoes. Chief Lipe said phragmites are a severe fire risk.

Mr. Moody noted the increase of funds and questioned which commission is running the program, Conservation Commission or Mosquito Control Commission? Mrs. Kaiser stated that two groups can work together and since there is an increase in benefits to both, it made sense for them to present the article together. There was no other discussion and Article 12 will be on the ballot as written.

Results of balloting on March 9, 2004

YES: 2846

NO: 1764

The article passed.

ARTICLE 13

On petition of Ginni McNamara, 4 Randall Street, Hampton, New Hampshire, 03842 and at least twenty-five or more registered voters of the Town of Hampton: To see if the town will vote to support the Children's Christmas Parade presented by The Hampton Area Chamber of Commerce and related activities and raise and appropriate the sum of \$3,500.00 to help defray the expense of the 2004 event. Said funds to be paid to the Hampton Area Chamber of Commerce. This article will become void if petition is passed and sum is included in the 2004 operating budget. (By petition)

Majority Vote Required
Recommended by the Board of Selectmen
Recommended by the Budget Committee

Moved by Edward Buck
Seconded by Virginia Bridle

There was no discussion and the article was voted to go on the ballot as written. A motion to restrict reconsideration was made by James Workman and seconded by Edward Buck. So voted.

Results of balloting on March 9, 2004

YES: 2664

NO: 1919

The article passed.

ARTICLE 14

On petition of Victor R. Maloney, and thirty-one legal voters of the Town of Hampton: "To see if the town will raise and appropriate the sum of twenty-five hundred dollars (\$2,500.00) to the Seacoast Diversion Program, a non-profit agency, to support the many services they provide to the Town of Hampton." This includes educational, prevention and intervention opportunities for at risk children and families including drug and alcohol, truancy, anger, or other behaviors as identified by local schools, police, family members or courts. (By petition)

Majority Vote Required
Recommended by the Board of Selectmen
Recommended by the Budget Committee

Moved by Victor Maloney
Seconded by Brian Warburton

Mr. Maloney spoke to the article saying this is the third year of operation and the program has served 197 children in the SAU 21 District. Mr. Pat Collins added his support to the article as he is familiar with the program and stated that this will certainly benefit Hampton children. The article will go on the ballot as written.

James Workman made a motion to restrict reconsideration of Article 14. Seconded by Edward Buck. So approved.

Results of balloting on March 9, 2004

YES: 2637

NO: 1904

The article passed.

Assistant Moderator O'Neil substituted for Moderator Lessard for this article.

ARTICLE 15

Shall the Town of Hampton appropriate only the sum of \$650,000 from the Hampton Emergency Medical Services Fund, a Special Revenue Fund created by Article 15 of the 2000 Town Meeting and funded with revenues generated from ambulance and emergency medical service calls, to provide, improve, and/or enhance ambulance and emergency medical services? Adoption of this article will have no effect on the Town's tax rate.

Majority Vote Required

Recommended by the Board of Selectmen

Recommended by the Budget Committee

Moved by Virginia Bridle
Seconded by James Workman

It was moved and seconded to take articles 15, 17, 18, 19, 20 and 21 together as they are all special revenue fund articles.

Mr. O'Neil read all the listed articles and stated that discussion would apply to all articles. Mr. David Goethel requested the Selectmen and the Budget Committee provide the public more information on these funds for future years.

Mr. Barrington spoke to clarify misconceptions and alleviate concerns that some might have. Under New Hampshire law these funds can be created to appropriate money to be used for the purpose the fund is established. He gave examples of what they do and the positive effects. He reviewed all the funds and spoke to the benefit of each special revenue fund.

Mr. Pierce said that the statement leaves one to believe that this doesn't come out of the tax fund and that is not entirely accurate. Additional comments and discussion ensued and a motion to move the question to a vote was made and seconded. So voted. Articles 15, 17, 18, 19, 20, and 21 will go on the ballot as written.

A motion to restrict reconsideration on Articles 15, 17, 18, 19, 20 and 21 was made by William Sullivan, with a second by Brian Warburton. All approved.

Results of balloting on March 9, 2004

YES: 2815

NO: 1751

The article passed.

Moderator Lessard declared the meeting recessed for lunch at 12:45 PM to be reconvened at 1:30 PM.

ARTICLE 16

Shall the Town of Hampton appropriate only a sum not to exceed \$350,000 to make improvements on Blake Lane, Brown Avenue, Carlson Road, Cranberry Lane, Huckleberry Lane, Hurd Road, Langdale Drive, Longwood Drive, Merrill Industrial Drive, Milbern Avenue, Moulton Road, Oakdale Avenue, Presidential Circle, Stowcroft Drive, Sweetbriar Lane, Timber Swamp Road, Trafford Road, and Windmill Lane to include street repairs, reconstruction and associated professional services, materials and labor necessary to do the work, and also to include associated drainage system maintenance, upgrades and improvements, and to authorize withdrawal of up to \$350,000 from the Road Improvement Capital Reserve Fund created for that purpose? Adoption of this article will have no effect on the Town's tax rate.

Majority Vote Required

Recommended by the Board of Selectmen

Recommended by the Budget Committee

Moved by Cliff Pratt
Seconded by Brian Warburton

Mr. Barrington offered to amend the article by replacing the word "and" after Trafford Road with the words "and/or" and to the word "maintenance" after "street repairs" in the same line and add the word "immediate" after the word "authorize" in the last sentence. Seconded by James Workman.

Mrs. Searle voiced concerns about the word "immediate" as the Trustees of the Trust Funds hold these funds and might incur a penalty for early withdrawal. Mr. Barrington stated that is not the intention of the article. Mrs. Searle asked what the balance is in the fund. Mr. Moody, Bookkeeper for the Trustees of the Trust Funds stated it is \$976,000 to be used for major road construction. There was no further discussion of the amendment. The Barrington Amendment passed. There was no further discussion and Article 16 will go on the ballot as amended. A motion to restrict reconsideration of Article 16 was made by James Workman and seconded by Brian Warburton. So voted.

Results of balloting on March 9, 2004

YES: 2521

NO: 2050

The article passed.

ARTICLE 17

Shall the Town of Hampton appropriate only the sum of \$350,000 from the Hampton Recreation Fund, a Special Revenue Fund created by Article 19 of the 2000 Town Meeting and funded with revenues generated from recreation department programs and activities, to fund programs and activities through the Recreation and Parks Department? Adoption of this article will have no effect on the Town's tax rate.

Majority Vote Required

Recommended by the Board of Selectmen

Recommended by the Budget Committee

Results of balloting on March 9, 2004

YES: 2845

NO: 1735

The article passed.

ARTICLE 18

Shall the Town of Hampton appropriate only the sum of \$350,000 from revenues generated for the Hampton Private Detail Fund, a Special Revenue Fund created by Article 17 of the 2000 Town Meeting and funded with revenues generated from Police and Fire department private details, to fund Police and Fire Department private details? Adoption of this article will have no effect on the Town's tax rate.

Majority Vote Required

Recommended by the Board of Selectmen

Recommended by the Budget Committee

Results of balloting on March 9, 2004

YES: 1987

NO: 2378

The article failed.

ARTICLE 19

Shall the Town of Hampton appropriate only the sum of \$200,000 from revenues generated from the Fire Alarm Fund, a Special Revenue Fund created by Article 53 of the 2003 Town Meeting to operate, upgrade and maintain the Fire Alarm System in the Town of Hampton? Adoption of this article will have no effect on the Town's tax rate.

Majority Vote Required

Recommended by the Board of Selectmen

Recommended by the Budget Committee

Results of balloting on March 9, 2004

YES: 2565

NO: 1811

The article passed.

ARTICLE 20

Shall the Town of Hampton appropriate only the sum of \$200,000 from revenues generated from the Police Forfeiture Fund, a Special Revenue Fund created by Article 55 of the 2003 Town Meeting to carry out all lawful functions allowed under federal, state and local criminal justice forfeiture programs available in the Town of Hampton? Adoption of this article will have no effect on the Town's tax rate.

Majority Vote Required

Recommended by the Board of Selectmen

Recommended by the Budget Committee

Results of balloting on March 9, 2004

YES: 2278

NO: 2015

The article passed.

ARTICLE 21

Shall the Town of Hampton appropriate only the sum of \$70,000 from revenues generated from the Hampton Cable TV Local Origination Fund, a Special Revenue Fund created by Article 21 of the 2000 Town Meeting and funded with revenues generated from the Cable TV local origination franchise agreement funds, to upgrade, expand, and enhance the development of the local origination channel? Adoption of this article will have no effect on the Town's tax rate.

Majority Vote Required

Recommended by the Board of Selectmen

Recommended by the Budget Committee

Results of balloting on March 9, 2004

YES: 3141

NO: 1207

The article passed.

ARTICLE 22

Shall the Town of Hampton appropriate only the sum of \$27,750 generated from the sale of town-owned cemetery lots, to the Cemetery Burial Trust Fund; the interest from this Fund is withdrawn annually and deposited in the Town's General Fund as an offset to the amount appropriated in the operating budget for the maintenance of the cemeteries? This appropriation will not effect the Town's tax rate.

Majority Vote Required

Recommended by the Board of Selectmen

Recommended by the Budget Committee

Results of balloting on March 9, 2004

YES: 3658

NO: 694

The article passed.

ARTICLE 23

Shall the Town of Hampton authorize the Board of Selectmen to negotiate and enter into an agreement for the lease of Town land for a period of up to 30 years for the purpose of erecting and operating (publicly, privately, or as a joint venture between the Town and private parties) a wireless communications antennae tower? Such negotiations and such agreements shall be with such vendors and under such conditions as determined by the Board of Selectmen to be in the best interest of the Town.

Moved by James Workman

Seconded by Brian Warburton

Mr. Workman said this is a revision of an article that was passed overwhelmingly but the article named the person that was to lease the land and the negotiations fell through. This article allows the selectmen to negotiate with any entity.

Mrs. Searle asked if the town had any land in mind. Mr. Workman said there were sites on town property but none have been determined and they do not have a company in mind. Mrs. Searle stated that the town should have a specific site because the town is exempt from its zoning articles. She asked if the attorney could offer an amendment to that effect. Attorney Gearreald said RSA 41:14 would be in line with that request.

Mrs. Jennifer Kimball, Town Planner, said an outside company would be required to go before the Planning Board and Zoning Board even if it is on town land. William Sullivan moved to amend the article by inserting after "Board of Selectmen" the words "under provisions of RSA 41:14-a". Seconded by James Workman.

Mrs. Woolsey wants to be sure that it is the structure that would require the Planning Board and Zoning Board approval. Mr. Gillick, Chairman of the Planning Board, stated that no one is going to erect a cell tower in the town without getting a site plan approved. The town has a cell-tower zone and any application for a tower outside that zone would need variances and would require public hearings. Mrs. Searle questioned the words "publicly". Mr. Barrington stated that the town, under RSA 41:14-a, already has the authority but would need to go before the town meeting for the funds.

William Sullivan moved to further amend the article by striking the word "publicly". That was agreed to by James Workman and he moved the question on the amendment. Seconded by William Sullivan. So voted. The Sullivan Amendment passed. Mrs. Woolsey questioned whether the Selectmen discussed abatements with the Assessor for property owners near a tower. Mr. Barrington said that the Assessor would address that if it occurred. Mrs. Ann Carnaby spoke in favor of the article. She feels it would benefit the town to make money by leasing the land. There was no further discussion and Article 23 will go on the ballot as amended.

Results of balloting on March 9, 2004

YES: 2294

NO: 2005

The article passed.

ARTICLE 24

To see if the Town of Hampton will vote to adopt the provisions of Chapter 162-K of the N.H. Revised Statutes Annotated, which if adopted, will grant the Town authority to establish tax increment financing districts.

Moved by James Workman
Seconded by William Sullivan

Mr. Workman said that this is not an article to create new taxes. Mr. Rice said that this would give the town the authority to establish a tax increment financing district in the future which uses future revenue to pay for improvements made now. Mr. Steven Joyce asked how this would show up on a tax bill. Mr. Barrington answered that this has to be worked out and the town is talking with the City of Keene where they have such a district. He feels the billing will be determined by the software the town uses according to the additional value based on the cost of the improvement. Mr. Joyce said he would like to see a plan before voting for this. Mr. Barrington said that this article gives the town the authority to develop a plan.

Mr. Richard Reniere spoke against the article as the language in the RSA's and explanations given there as to what constitutes improvements troubles him. He added the tax rate will not go up but property values will go up thereby creating an increase to those properties within a district. Mrs. Searle offered to amend the article by adding "Not recommended by the first session of the Town Meeting"" to the end of the article. Seconded by Mrs. Woolsey. The Searle amendment passed by a vote of 33 to 21. The article will go on the ballot as amended.

Results of balloting on March 9, 2004

YES: 325

NO: 3805

The article failed.

ARTICLE 25

On petition of Mary-Louise Woolsey and 68 other registered voters: To see if the Town will vote to rescind the authority granted to the selectmen to negotiate and issue the bonded sum of \$12,000,000 for infrastructure construction at Hampton Beach, such authority having been granted by passage of Article 18 on March 11, 2003. (By petition)

Moved by Mary-Louise Woolsey
Seconded by Bonnie Searle

Mrs. Woolsey spoke to the article and stated the bond article has not been bonded and has not impacted the tax rate and the public has not seen the whole cost to do the beach. We need more information to that effect. William Sullivan moved to amend Article 25 by replacing the word "rescind" with the word "reaffirm". Seconded by Brian Warburton. After some discussion on both sides of the question the amendment was put to a vote. The Sullivan amendment passed.

Mrs. Woolsey stated that she wants her name removed from the article and therefore she moved to amend the article further to eliminate the words "on petition of Mary-Louise Woolsey and 68 other registered voters" Seconded by Bonnie Searle. The Moderator called for a standing vote and the Woolsey Amendment passed with a vote of 28 yes to 24 no. Mr. Bateman moved to further amend the article by adding at the beginning "By vote of the 2004 Deliberative Session, this article is brought to the public" to see if the town will vote to reaffirm the authority. Seconded by James Workman. The Batemen Amendment passed.

Eileen Latimer moved to amend the article by adding, "this article recommended by the Deliberative Session", seconded by James Workman. The Latimer Amendment failed. There was no further discussion and Article 25 will go on the ballot as amended.

James Barrington moved to restrict reconsideration of Articles 22, 23, 24 and 25. Seconded by Brian Warburton. The motion passed and the articles were restricted to further discussion.

Results of balloting on March 9, 2004

YES: 1676

NO: 2487

The article failed.

ARTICLE 26

On the petition of Salvatore Balsamo, Kathleen Balsamo, and at least 25 other legal voters of the Town of Hampton; to see if the Town will vote to remove the deed restriction #4, relating to the erection of structures within 7 feet of any boundary line of the lot at 12 Atlantic Avenue, Map 296, Lot 40 in order to allow the addition of a second floor to an existing structure that requires no change in the footprint of the structure, based on plans already approved by the Town of Hampton Board of Adjustment. Further to authorize and direct the Selectmen to execute, deliver and record notice of this vote at the Rockingham County Registry of Deeds at no cost to the town. This lot was formerly leased by the town and the restriction to be removed was imposed pursuant to Section 5 of the Warrant of the Special Town Meeting held on May 11, 1983. (By petition)

Moved by Salvatore Balsamo
Seconded by Nathan Page

Mr. Balsamo explained that he retired to Hampton and wants to add to his cottage. He has approval from Planning and Zoning Boards but because of deed restrictions he needs to have approval from Town Meeting. The building is there and he is adding another story. He stated the other buildings do not have similar restrictions in their deeds. There was no action on this article and it was voted to place it on the ballot as written.

Results of balloting on March 9, 2004

YES: 1359

NO: 2766

The article failed.

ARTICLE 27

On petition of Christopher Annis and at least 24 other registered voters of the Town of Hampton to see if the Town will vote to remove the fourth restriction from that deed of the Town dated March 25, 1985 and recorded at Book 2538, Page 2034 to the property located at 709 Ocean Boulevard so that the use of the property is regulated through the zoning ordinance, site plan regulations, and all other applicable ordinances and regulations of the Town. (By petition)

Moved by Steve Joyce
Seconded by William Bowley

As the petitioner was not present, John Nickerson moved to add "not recommended by the first session of Town Meeting". Seconded by Arthur Moody. The amendment passed and the article will be on the ballot as amended.

A motion to restrict reconsideration on Articles 26 and 27 was made by James Barrington and seconded by Cliff Pratt. So moved.

Results of balloting on March 9, 2004

YES: 664

NO: 3431

The article failed.

ARTICLE 28

On petition of Gerald M. Dignam and at least 24 other registered voters to see if the Town will vote to authorize the Board of Selectmen to provide for the removal of snow from a section of the sidewalk on the easterly side of Ocean Boulevard between Dumas Avenue (Great Boars Head) and High Street (Kennedy's Corner). (By petition)

Moved by Gerald Dignam
Seconded by Edward Buck

Mr. Dignam explained that the sidewalk is on State property but is part of Hampton and many people enjoy it throughout the year. Many use the area but use the Route 1A roadway to walk when snow is on the sidewalk. The State says they do not have a sidewalk plow and this petition would allow the area to be plowed by the Town.

Mr. Nathan Page asked if that sidewalk can be plowed after the Town sidewalks are done and if the Town assumes the liability if they plow it. Mr. Hangen said that sidewalk would be plowed when the sidewalk plow becomes available. Attorney Gearreald, addressing the question of the Town's liability said that the Town removing snow from someone else's property is a concern but it can be addressed in an agreement with the State.

Mr. Rice spoke in favor of the article and offered to amend the article by inserting after "Board of Selectmen" "to negotiate with the State of New Hampshire to secure an agreement to". Seconded by Brian Warburton. The Rice amendment passed and the article will be on the ballot as amended.

Results of balloting on March 9, 2004

YES: 2023

NO: 2249

The article failed.

ARTICLE 29

Shall the Town of Hampton authorize the Board of Selectmen to waive deed restrictions on an individual basis in deeds of land formerly leased by the Town and/or in current leases from the Town, utilizing the RSA 41:14 -a process?

Moved by William Sullivan
Seconded by Cliff Pratt

Arthur Moody moved to amend the article by adding "as long as abutters as defined in RSA 672:3 are notified prior to the first public hearing by 1st class mail to the name and address on file with the Hampton Assessing Department?" to the end of the article. Seconded by Mary-Louise Woolsey.

The Moody amendment passed and the article will be on the ballot as amended.

Results of balloting on March 9, 2004

YES: 1516

NO: 2686

The article failed.

ARTICLE 30

On petition of twenty-five registered voters to request that the town of Hampton maintain and enforce all current maximum building heights in each and every zone of Hampton, until such time that all residences of Hampton are serviced by municipal sewer service. (By Petition)

Mrs. Bridle declared this an illegal article and offered to amend the article as follows: On petition of twenty-five registered voters to request that the Town of Hampton provide for municipal sewer service to all taxpayers in Hampton. Seconded by Brian Warburton.

Mr. Charles Preston, the petitioner, said the intent of the petition was because of talk of developing various building heights and the voters are the caretakers of Hampton Beach. The Master Plan agrees the heights should remain the same and it is the town's job to nurture the beach.

Attorney Gearreald explained the reason for the illegality. He said that precludes the Zoning Board of Adjustment from granting variances and Town Meeting cannot override the Zoning Board. Attorney Gearreald stated that the work request was advisory and would not bind the Town. Virginia Bridle withdrew her motion and the second agreed to withdraw also.

Mary-Louise Woolsey made a motion to postpone a vote to go on the ballot until an amendment can be arranged. Seconded by Charles Preston. The motion carried 23-20 and the Town Meeting proceeded to Article 31 to return to Article 30. When the Moderator returned to Article 30, Mr. Preston stated he wanted the Article to go on the ballot as originally written. So voted.

A motion to restrict reconsideration was made by Virginia Bridle and seconded by Elizabeth Webb. So voted.

Results of balloting on March 9, 2004

YES: 3145

NO: 1243

The article passed.

ARTICLE 31

On petition of at least twenty-five registered voters of the Town of Hampton: That the Town of Hampton vote in favor of not allowing any eminent domain proceedings to occur on Hampton Beach. The term "Public/Private partnerships" will not be tolerated as an excuse for eminent domain land takings. No additional funding is required. (By Petition)

Moved by Michael Scanlon
Seconded by Kim Baroni

The Moderator declared this article illegal and asked the Town Attorney to explain. Attorney Gearreald stated that the article is not specific as to which government entity it is addressing. The Town Meeting has no authority over Federal and State agencies and further has only that authority granted to it by State law.

Michael Scanlon moved to amend the article by adding "this article. If approved, is advisory only" to the end of the article. Seconded by Kim Baroni. The Scanlon amendment passes 34 – 10.

James Barrington moved to further amend the article by adding "Not recommended by the deliberative session of the Town Meeting." Seconded by Brian Warburton. Mrs. Searle spoke against the amendment. The Barrington amendment passed on a hand vote.

A motion to restrict reconsideration on Article 31 was made by James Barrington and seconded by James Workman. The motion passed.

Results of balloting on March 9, 2004

YES: 2216

NO: 2018

The article passed.

ARTICLE 32

On petition of at least twenty-five registered voters of the Town of Hampton: That the Town of Hampton vote to keep all existing two-sided parking on all Hampton Beach Streets including lettered streets and to vote to not allow metering of these streets. No additional funding is required. (By Petition)

Moved by Steven Joyce
Seconded by Virginia Bridle

Mr. Joyce stated that at some meetings the Board of Selectmen discussed ways to raise revenue and parking meters were discussed. He feels the Town should not restrict parking and that residents should not pay to park in front of their house. The article was declared illegal and the Town Attorney explained it is illegal because it seeks to exercise authority on the part of a Town Meeting that is vested in the Board of Selectmen.

Michael Scanlon motioned to amend the article by adding to the end "This is non-binding and advisory only". Seconded by Kim Baroni. The Scanlon amendment passed and the Moderator declared that the article would go on the ballot as amended.

Results of balloting on March 9, 2004

YES: 2386

NO: 1086

The article passed.

ARTICLE 33

On petition of at least twenty-five registered voters of the Town of Hampton: That the Town of Hampton vote to approve any recommendations made by the Hampton Beach Commission for development/improvements in the 2005 Town Warrant. No additional funding is required. (By Petition)

Moved by Michael Scanlon
Seconded by Steven Joyce

Michael Scanlon moved to amend the article by adding after approve the words "or disapprove". Seconded by Steven Joyce. The Scanlon amendment failed.

Attorney Gearreald advised Town Meeting that it is an illegal article and motion because this article is beyond the power of Town Meeting to exercise. Mr. Scanlon stated he wanted to make sure that the Town has a vote on the beach. Mr. Workman took issue with the article in that it propounds to have every proposal go before Town Meeting and would like to amend the article by adding "Not recommended by the Deliberative Session of Town Meeting" at the end. Seconded by Fred Rice. The Workman Amendment passed. Article 33 will go on the ballot as amended.

Results of balloting on March 9, 2004

YES: 2028

NO: 2245

The article failed.

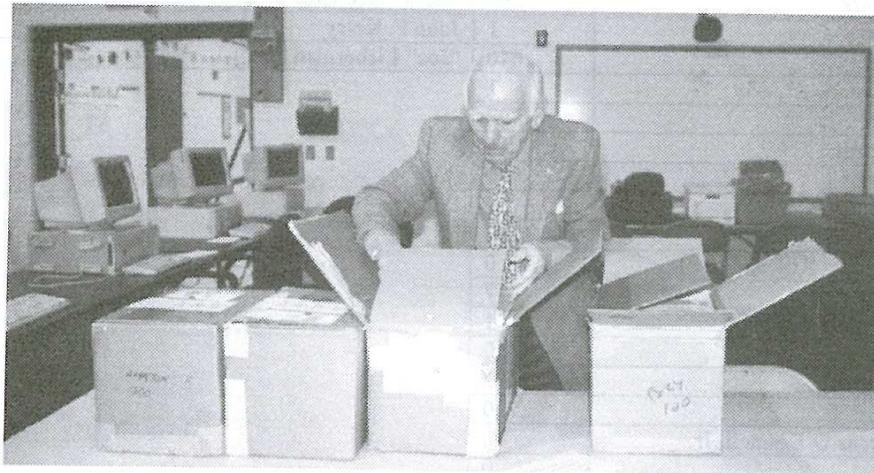
Nathan Page commended Moderator Lessard on his last meeting as Moderator.

As there was no other action to come before the meeting a motion to adjourn was made by Mary-Louise Woolsey and seconded by Alphonse Webb.

The Moderator declared the meeting adjourned at 5:20 PM.

Respectfully submitted,

Arleen Andreozzi
Hampton Town Clerk



Rudy Lavalee prepares to count ballots prior to the polls opening.

PRESIDENTIAL PRIMARY

The Presidential Primary Election on January 27, 2004 held at Marston School was opened at 7:00AM by Moderator Paul Lessard. The polls were declared closed at 8:00PM. There were 833 Republican and 3,250 Democratic ballots cast making the total number votes cast 4083. The Supervisors of the Checklist registered 287 new voters bringing to 10,395 the total number of eligible voters in Hampton. The results are as follows:

REPUBLICAN

PRESIDENT OF THE UNITED STATES		VICE-PRESIDENT OF THE UNITED STATES	
CANDIDATE	TOTAL	CANDIDATE	TOTAL
Blake Ashby	3	Flora Bleckner	57
Richard P. Bosa	18	"Red" Jahncke	52
John Buchanan	10	"Dick" Cheney (write-in)	187
George W. Bush	691	John McCain (write-in)	10
Michael Callis	2		
George Gostigian	0		
Robert Edward Haines	7		
Mark "Dick" Harnes	0		
Millie Howard	1		
Cornelius E. O'Connor	1		
John Donald Rigazio	3		
"Jim" Taylor	0		
"Bill" Wyatt	0		
Wesley K. Clark (write-in)	10		
John F. Kerry (write-in)	31		
John McCain (write-in)	9		

DEMOCRATIC

PRESIDENT OF THE UNITED STATES		VICE-PRESIDENT OF THE UNITED STATES	
CANDIDATE	TOTAL	WRITE IN CANDIDATE	TOTAL
Katherine Bateman	0	Wesley K. Clark	110
Carol Moseley Braun	0	Hilary Clinton	22
Harry W. Braun III	0	Howard Dean	34
Willie Felix Carter	1	John Edwards	279
Wesley K. Clark	299	"Dick" Gephardt	34
"Randy" Crow	1	John F. Kerry	50
Howard Dean	646	"Joe" Lieberman	78
Gerry Dokka	1		
John Edwards	397		
"Dick" Gephardt	14		
Mildred Glover	0		
Vincent S. Hamm	1		
John F. Kerry	1554		
Caroline Pettinato Killeen	0		
Dennis J. Kucinich	17		
Lyndon H. LaRouche, Jr	1		
R. Randy Lee	0		
"Joe" Lieberman	297		
Robert H. Linnell	0		
Edward Thomas O'Donnell, Jr.	0		
Fern Penna	0		
"Al" Sharpton	6		
Leonard Dennis Talbow	0		
(write in votes)	0		

NEW HAMPSHIRE STATE PRIMARY

At 7:00am on September 14, 2004, Moderator Robert Casassa declared the New Hampshire State Primary opened at Marston School. There were 10,843 voters eligible to vote and 1624 voted for a 15 percent turnout. The results are:

REPUBLICAN

Governor

Charles A Tarbell	248
Craig R. Benson	620
John Lynch (write-in)	10

United States Senator

Judd Gregg	841
Michael D. Tipa	31
Tom Alciere	22

State Senator

John E. Lyons, Jr	503
Anne Emily Caplin	342

State Representatives

Russell D. Bridle	527
Sheila T. Francoeur	601
Thomas J. "Tom" Gillick	575
Jane P. Kelley	500
"Mike" O'Neil	553
Nancy F. Stiles	723

Representative in Congress

Jeb Bradley	822
R."Bob" Tillman Bevill	56

Executive Councilor

Ruth L. Griffin	762
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Sheriff

"Dan" Linehan	764
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County Attorney

"Jim" Reams	756
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County Treasurer

Edward R. Buck III	732
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County Commissioner

Katharin "Kate" Pratt	745
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Delegates to the State Convention

Edward R. Buck III	705
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DEMOCRATIC

Governor

John Lynch	465
Paul McEachern	224

United States Senator

Doris R. Haddock	545
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Representative in Congress

Travis Joseph Liles	23
Justin Nadeau	389
"Bob" Bruce	64
Peter J. Duffy	112

Executive Councilor

(no candidate)

County Treasurer

David Ahearn	531
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Register of Probate

Debra Crapo	552
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State Representatives

Beatrice Friedman	427
Richard H. Goodman	443
Susan R. Kepner	509
Sharon V. L. Mullen	434
Daniel Nicholson	441
Nancy Stiles (write-in)	20

Sheriff

Brett Antul-Cabral	499
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County Attorney

(no candidate)

State Senator

Martha Fuller Clark	612
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Register of Deeds

"Herb" Moyer	545
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County Commissioner

Richard T. DiPentima	512
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Respectfully Submitted,
Arleen Andreozzi, Town Clerk

GENERAL ELECTION

November 2, 2004

Moderator Robert Casassa opened the polls at 7:00am on Tuesday November 2, 2004, at Marston School. The Supervisors of the Checklist registered 795 new voters that day, bringing the total number of voters to 12,056. The number of voters at the polls was 8168 and 1323 voters cast their ballots absentee bringing the total number of votes cast to 9491, a 79% voter turnout.

Straight Ticket
REPUBLICAN 1437

Straight Ticket
DEMOCRATIC 1072

President and Vice-President
 George W. Bush / "Dick" Cheney 4645
 John F. Kerry / John Edwards 4729
 Ralph Nader / Peter Miguel Camejo 61

Governor
 Craig R. Benson 4279
 John Lynch 5021

United States Senator
 Judd Gregg 6086
 Doris Granny D. Haddock 3031

Executive Councilor
 Ruth L. Griffin 7452

Representative in Congress
 Jeb Bradley 5449
 Justin Nadeau 3605

State Senator
 John E. Lyons, Jr. 4396
 Martha Fuller Clark 4632

State Representatives
 Russell D. Bridle 4590
 Sheila T. Francoeur 4365
 Thomas J. "Tom" Gillick 4368
 "Mike" O'Neil 4334
 Nancy Stiles 4864
 Beatrick Friedman 2695
 Richard Goodman 3240
 Susan Kepner 3890
 Sharon V. L. Mullen 3041
 Daniel Nicholson 3041

Sheriff
 "Dan" Linehan 5319
 Brett Antul-Cabral 3041

County Treasurer
 Edward R. Buck III 4429
 David Ahearn 3865

County Attorney
 "Jim" Reams 7387

Register of Deeds
 Cathy Stacey 4668
 "Herb" Moyer 3632

Register of Probate
 Andrew Christie, Jr. 4492
 Debra Crapo 3754

County Commissioner
 Katharin "Kate" Pratt 5262
 Richard T. DiPentima 3046



Moderator Lessard runs a zero tape before the election and Robert Ross observes.

Constitutional Amendment Proposed by the 2004 General Court

“Are you in favor of repealing and reenacting part II, article 73-a of the constitution in order to clarify that both the judiciary and legislature have the authority to regulate court practices and procedures and to resolve potential conflicts that may arise so that it reads as follows:

[Art.] 73-a [Court Practices and Procedures.] The chief justice of the supreme court shall be the administrative head of all the courts in the state. The chief justice shall have the power with the concurrence of a majority of the other supreme justices, to make rules of general application regulating court administration and the practice, procedure, and admissibility of evidence, in all courts in the state. The legislature shall have a concurrent power to regulate the same matters by statutes of general application, except that such legislative enactment's may not abridge the judiciary's necessary adjudicatory functions. In the event of a conflict between a rule promulgated by the judiciary and a statute enacted by the legislature, the statute, if not otherwise contrary to this constitution shall prevail over the rule”

Yes	4154
No	2691

Respectfully submitted,
Arleen Andreozzi, Hampton Town Clerk



Network Systems Engineer, Paul Paquette, assists Marilyn Henderson and Betty Moore at the election with the computer operations.

⌘ ASSESSOR'S ANNUAL REPORT ⌘

The 2004 update of property values was conducted to comply with RSA 75:8-a -Five Year Valuation. This law required that at least as often as every five years, the Selectmen shall value all real estate within the municipality so that the assessments are valued in accordance with the market value. Under this law, Hampton is required to perform another revaluation for the 2008 tax year.

Each year between revaluation cycles, the Assessor's Office has to comply with RSA 75:8 – Revised Inventory. This law requires that annually and in accordance with State assessing guidelines, the Selectmen shall adjust assessments to reflect changes so that all assessments are reasonably proportional within the municipality. Assessors and Selectmen shall consider adjusting assessments for any properties that:

- a. They know or believe to have had a material physical change;
- b. Changed ownership;
- c. Have undergone zoning changes;
- d. Have undergone subdivision, boundary line adjustments, or mergers;
- e. Have undergone other changes affecting value.

The N.H. Legislature identified five areas of assessing practices for the Commissioner of the Department of Revenue Administration to review and report on:

- a. Whether the level of assessments and uniformity of assessments are within acceptable ranges as recommended by the Assessing Standards Board;
- b. Whether assessment practices substantially comply with applicable statutes and rules;
- c. Whether exemption and credit procedures substantially comply with applicable statutes and rules;
- d. Whether assessments are based on reasonably accurate data;
- e. Whether assessments of various types of properties are reasonably proportional to other types of property within the municipality.

After careful review by DRA of the assessing practices for the tax year 2003, it was determined that Hampton successfully met the above five guidelines. The review recommended that the Assessor's Office conduct a full review of the Veteran's Credit Applications to ensure that all necessary information was documented. One area of concern for the future is item d. "whether assessments are based on reasonably accurate data". Hampton last had a remeasure and relist of all properties in 1989. Although we have a good building permit program in place, the accuracy of the data on the property record cards will deteriorate over time for many reasons. The Town should be making some plans for the future to remeasure and relist all of its properties to update all property record cards.

TAX RATE STATISTICS

An increase or decrease of \$114,956 in expenditures can change the tax rate 5 ¢.
An increase or decrease of \$6,480,450 in assessed value can change the rate 5¢.

LEASED LAND UPDATE

The town still has 42 lots of leased land. There were 5 sales in 2004 and a few new leases drawn over the year. All sales are paid in full by certified check only and are at 100% of market value. You can look at the Trustees of Trust Funds Report to see the revenues from the sale of leased land that are put into a trust account. The interest from the trust funds is put into the General Fund at year's end to help reduce the tax rate.

Robert A. Estey, Assessor, CAE, CNHA
Angela L. Boucher, Deputy Assessor, CNHA
Arlene Mowry, Assessor's Assistant