

# *Town of Hampton*



## Board of Selectmen Agenda January 12, 2022

Posted: Library, Town Offices, Town website

3:00 p.m. Board of Selectmen's Room

### SALUTE TO THE FLAG

#### I. New Business

To act on any business that is presented to the Board.

#### II. Closing Comments

#### III. Adjournment

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## SALUTE TO THE FLAG

PRESENT: Russell Bridle, Chairman  
Charles Rage, Vice-chairman  
Regina Barnes, Selectman by Phone  
James Waddell, Selectman  
Richard Sawyer, Selectman  
Jamie Sullivan, Town Manager

Sel. Sawyer MOTIONED to allow Selectman Barnes to participate by telephone, SECONDED by Sel. Waddell. VOTE: 3-0-0

Sel. Barnes noted she is home, alone, and quarantining.

## I. New Business

To act on any business that is presented to the Board.

TM Sullivan noted a number of petition articles that came in before the deadline. He noted there are seven and all have met the requirements. He discussed electronic submissions and that Counsel advised they met the requirements.

He read Article #36, Winnacunnet Road Milling and Overlay.

Sel. Sawyer discussed this being only an overlay. He noted it did not include infrastructure and we are looking to do the full project at a later date. He discussed this funding should be held onto until ready to do the total project. He noted that there is no directive from DPW regarding how this would fit into their schedule. He discussed this is a temporary fix that would be undone to do the full road including infrastructure and can't support it.

Sel. Waddell noted he agreed, and it would be fiscally irresponsible.

Sel. Barnes noted she had discussed this with the petitioner and the petitioner had concerns that Winnacunnet is not on the CIP until 2025 or so, and that prompted the petition. She noted that since it is a taxpayer petition, she would recommend.

Chairman Bridle noted that anytime it is a money article there is a recommendation or non-recommendation from the selectmen and the budget committee. TM Sullivan agreed to that statement and noted that DPW did discuss this as an option and the board did not want to go that way.

Sel. Sawyer reiterated his position.

Chairman Bridle noted he agreed with Sel. Sawyer and explained.

Sel. Barnes recalled that the 2021 quote for milling, and overlay was \$2 million dollars. She noted this is the voters money.

TM Sullivan explained the recommend or not process.

Chairman Bridle MOTIONED to not recommend the petitioned warrant article regarding Winnacunnet Road, SECONDED by Sel. Waddell. VOTE: 3-1-0 (Barnes)

TM Sullivan read Article #37, Mosquito Control Ordinance.

Chairman Bridle mentioned this is not a money article and the board need not approve. He and the town manager discussed. TM Sullivan discussed the potential of enforcement costs.

Sel. Rage just arrived.

Sel. Waddell asked who would normally bring this forward, conservation, or a mosquito commission. TM Sullivan noted we had a Mosquito Commission that has become inactive and noted another article dealing with the same issue.

Sel. Barnes asked does that mean someone would go around to see if people had this in their yard and the answer was that is what this is saying. She noted a possible invasion of privacy.

Sel. Sawyer commented he understands the intent but can't see enforcement happening.

Chairman Bridle noted the intent is well, but premature.

Sel. Waddell MOTIONED to not recommend the petitioned warrant article regarding Mosquito Control Ordinance, SECONDED by Sel. Sawyer. VOTE: 5-0-0

Chairman Bridle fill in Sel. Rage regarding article #36.

Sel. Waddell MOTIONED to RECONSIDER the VOTE on Article #36, SECONDED by Sel. Sawyer. VOTE: 5-0-0

Sel. Sawyer MOTIONED to not recommend the petitioned warrant article regarding Winnacunnet Road, SECONDED by Sel. Waddell. VOTE: 4-1-0 (Barnes)

TM Sullivan read Article #38, Mosquito Management.

Sel. Sawyer noted there is no fiscal note attached, but it sounds like there would be some undetermined costs. TM Sullivan noted that was fair to say and discussed not knowing what this would require. Sel. Sawyer noted this would have been good as a presentation to the board and not in a position to support as it is the first time seeing it.

Sel. Barnes noted thinking this contradicts the article before it and explained, referencing the company we currently use.

Sel. Waddell expressed not having a full comprehension of what this entails and while not supporting now, thinks having Dragon come in would be helpful.

Sel. Sawyer noted we should hear the concerns of the petitioners.

TM Sullivan discussed citizens against the chemicals we are currently using.

Sel. Rage discussed the company we use now should be following state guidelines and rules.

Sel. Sawyer MOTIONED to not recommend the petitioned warrant article regarding Article #38, Mosquito Management, SECONDED by Sel. Waddell. VOTE: 5-0-0

TM Sullivan read, Article #39, Ballot Counting and RSA 656:40.

He discussed a second article that was similar but also included language regarding a special town meeting. He discussed the particulars of special town meetings and the receipt of these two articles. He discussed Sel. Barnes participation in the articles. He discussed what counsel has recommended regarding both. He asked how the board would like to proceed on article #39.

Chairman Bridle asked about cost. TM Sullivan noted it is undetermined at this time.

Sel. Sawyer discussed police officers present at the polls and when the count is being done. Chairman Bridle noted also DPW. There was general discussion on poll workers.

Fin. Dir. Pulliam noted that we have very few volunteers and the Town Clerk has computed the additional cost.

Sel. Sawyer noted he respected the concern, but he saw no improprieties in the Hampton elections. He noted he believed there would be greater opportunity for concern with people hand counting. He referenced parking machines, and noted the intent is good but he can't support it.

Sel. Barnes noted one third of towns in NH still count ballots manually. She noted the hundreds of people who have signed this petition, and, noted many of those stated they would volunteer. She noted the Town Clerk stating the significant cost of this at a budget meeting, and her asking for documentation to that, and not receiving it. She discussed this is statewide, and is what the people in the state want, noting a house bill. She noted the people need to decide.

Sel. Waddell noted he understands what they are saying and thinking but sees no evidence of changing. He noted using machines is fine and we should stay with what we have.

Sel. Sawyer clarified that if they vote to not recommend, it will still appear on the ballot.

Sel. Rage noted he has been through recounts and never sees much of a difference.

Sel. Barnes MOTIONED to recommend the petitioned Article #39, Ballot Counting and RSA 656:40, There was not a second.

Sel. Waddell MOTIONED to not recommend the petitioned Article #39, Ballot Counting and RSA 656:40, SECONDED by Sel. Sawyer. VOTE: 4-1-0 (Barnes)

Sel. Barnes asked about evidence and noted her request of the Town Clerk for when the last time was that we compared electronic results with hand counted results. She noted this has nothing to do with the staff or the Town Clerk or Town Moderator, noting the machines.

TM Sullivan referenced a letter from the Moderator regarding auditing the machines prior to every election and discussed.

TM Sullivan read Article #40. He noted the special election wording not included by statute.

Sel. Rage MOTIONED to not recommend the petitioned Article #40, SECONDED by Sel. Sawyer. VOTE: 4-1-0 (Barnes)

TM Sullivan read Article #41, Voting Times.

Sel. Sawyer discussed people getting out of work and travel time and this would reduce votes cast.

Sel. Rage noted it should stay 8pm, he has seen people rushing in last minute.

Sel. Waddell noted he agrees 100%. He noted commuters.

Sel. Barnes noted this would give the Town Clerk an extra hour and we could petition the state legislators, why couldn't election day be a holiday. She noted this is what the people want so she supports it.

Chairman Bridle agreed we should allow people the most opportunity to vote.

Sel. Waddell MOTIONED to not recommend the petitioned Article #41, Voting Times, SECONDED by Sel. Sawyer. VOTE: 4-1-0 (Barnes)

TM Sullivan read Article #42, Puppy Mills.

Sel. Rage asked if this is something we can do. TM Sullivan discussed it opposing a resolution.

Sel. Waddell asked if we have any pet stores in town. There was discussion that there is a pet store that does not sell pets.

Sel. Sawyer noted he respects this but thinks the Board offering an opinion is not what the board is there for. There was general discussion the board take no position and that was the consensus.

TM Sullivan discussed the conflict-of-interest waiver regarding the Conservation Commission land acquisition on North Road. He noted needing a motion.

Sel. Waddell MOTIONED to APPROVE the Town Manager authorization to sign the special conflict of interest waiver and special counsel representation agreement with Morris Law Office, dated December 30<sup>th</sup>, 2021, for work being done on the proposed land acquisition on North Shore Road, by the Town's Conservation Commission, and self, SECONDED by Sel. Sawyer. VOTE: 5-0-0

Sel. Barnes asked if this would affect the warrant article regarding the purchase of the property. TM Sullivan explained the waiver process.

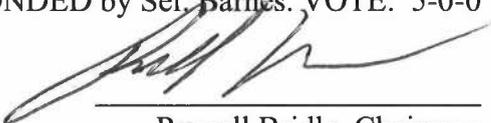
Fin. Dir. Pulliam discussed the vote on Monday regarding the carrying over of warrant articles. She discussed that the Recreation Infrastructure warrant article can not be legally carried forward to 2022. She discussed no lapsing date and according to DRA and legal counsel, it can not move forward. She stated the new total, \$2,359,329.00. There was general discussion on the circumstance.

Sel. Sawyer MOTIONED to APPROVE the List of Warrant Articles to carry forward in 2022 as revised by the Finance Director, SECONDED by Sel. Waddell. VOTE: 5-0-0

TM Sullivan reiterated the Public Hearing for Thursday and Deliberative Session.

## II. Adjournment

Sel. Sawyer MOTIONED to adjourn the meeting, SECONDED by Sel. Barnes. VOTE: 5-0-0

  
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Russell Bridle, Chairman